

Union Conference Record

OFFICIAL REPORTS OF THE AUSTRALASIAN WORK, 1896-97.

"Be strong all ye people, saith the Lord, and work; for I am with you."

VOL. I.

Melbourne, Victoria, January, February, 1898.

Nos. 1, 2.

AUSTRALASIAN UNION CONFERENCE.

Held on Stanmore Camp Ground, N.S.W.,

Oct. 25 to 31, 1897.

THE second biennial session of the Australasian Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists was held on the Stanmore camp ground. The President, A. G. Daniells, occupied the chair. The session consisted of seven meetings, held Oct. 25-31, 1897.

The following were received as delegates:—

From Central Australian Conference, W. A. Colcord, G. B. Starr, A. T. Robinson, N. D. Faulkhead, Wm. Knight, E. R. Palmer, W. D. Salisbury, J. H. Woods, A. W. Anderson, W. E. Wainman, Mrs. A. T. Robinson, Mrs. G. B. Starr, Miss A. L. Ingels, Miss E. M. Graham, Mrs. G. T. Wilson.

From New South Wales Conference, S. N. Haskell, J. Smith, A. M. Jennett.

From New Zealand Conference, W. M. Crothers.

From Queensland Mission, J. Pallant, C. H. Hughes.

From West Australian Mission, R. Hare, J. Hindson.

Delegates at Large, A. G. Daniells, W. C. White, E. W. Farnsworth, D. Lacey, M. Hare, C. P. Michaels, G. T. Wilson, W. L. H. Baker.

REPORTS FROM FIELD.

Queensland Mission.—G. B. Starr gave a report from the Queensland Mission. After a brief reference to the physical features of the colony, and a short account of the early labours in that field, and the work conducted during the past nine months in his absence by J. Pallant, M. Bernoth, and T. Whittle, he presented the needs of the mission as follows:—

1. An experienced minister to act as superintendent of the field.
2. A secretary and treasurer for the mission.
3. The establishment of a Tract and Missionary Depository, with the local management of the book canvassing work.

4. The establishment of the medical missionary work.

West Australian Mission.—R. Hare, the Superintendent of the West Australian Mission, gave a report of his field. He summarised its needs as follows:—

1. A church building in Perth to give prominence to our work.
2. The establishment of the medical work, for which there is an exceptionally good opening.
3. A Book Depository, with local management of the tract and book work.
4. Two or three Bible workers to assist the Superintendent in his labours in the field.

New Zealand Conference.—E. W. Farnsworth spoke of the work conducted in New Zealand during the ten months he has laboured in that field. He stated that prosperity had attended the work in its various phases, and made special mention of the work in Auckland, Christchurch, and Wellington. A good work is being effected in the distribution of our literature by the canvassers, and in the circulation of the *Bible Echo*. He emphasised the need of erecting a church building and Tract Depository at Wellington, and of inaugurating at an early date the health work in New Zealand.

The report was continued by W. M. Crothers, who made especial reference to the necessity of immediately securing a suitable place of worship, and a Tract Depot at Wellington.

Report from W. C. White.—W. C. White spoke briefly of his visit to America, and the steps taken to start the medical work and health foods business in Australasia, where health foods of the most improved kind can be manufactured. He stated that some machinery had already been ordered, and was on the way from America.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED.

On Delegation: M. Hare, A. M. Jennett, A. W. Anderson.

On Nominations: R. Hare, J. H. Woods, W. M. Crothers.

On Resolutions: W. D. Salisbury, C. B. Hughes, W. A. Colcord, Dr. E. R. Caro, E. W. Farnsworth.

On Revision of the Constitution: W. C. White, A. T. Robinson, E. R. Palmer.

On Credentials and Licenses: G. B. Starr, S. N. Haskell, W. L. H. Baker.

On Distribution of Labour: W. C. White, W. L. H. Baker, E. R. Palmer, R. Hare, N. D. Faulkhead.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

WHEREAS, The prospering hand of God has been manifested in the work at Cooranbong during the last school term, both in the attendance and in the spiritual interest of the students, also in the erection of a commodious house of worship, which was built in a brief space of time, and dedicated free from debt; therefore—

1. *Resolved*, That with gratitude we acknowledge God in all this, for He put it into the hearts of His people to donate liberally of their means for this purpose, and has especially blessed the efforts of the teachers in the school.

WHEREAS, The object of the school at Cooranbong is to educate missionary workers for the home and foreign field; therefore—

2. *Resolved*, That we appreciate the efforts put forth by the churches last year in sending students of mature age, and would encourage them to continue the same work the coming year.

WHEREAS, The blessing of the Lord has especially rested upon the efforts to make the cultivation of the soil, and other industries, a part of the education of students; and as an all round education will require still other industries, such as printing, book binding, carpentering, etc., and—

WHEREAS, The growth of the school demands the erection of a Boys' Dormitory before the beginning of the new school year; therefore—

3. *Resolved*, That we pledge ourselves in behalf of our people to raise £1,000 for the said improvements, and that we recommend that this work begin at once.

WHEREAS, The work of the followers of Christ is to "go into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature," and—

WHEREAS, The location and commercial character of the Australasian Colonies places upon us a grave responsibility regarding the unevangelised people in Polynesia, Malaysia, India, China, in addition to our duty to the thousands of Maoris, Malays, Chinese, Indians, Japanese, and Polynesians within our borders; therefore—

4. *Resolved*, That this Conference, through its Executive Committee, appoint a committee of seven, whose duty it shall be to labour for the evangelisation of the aboriginal and alien races in Australasia, and for the encouragement of young men and women to prepare to labour among these people, and in other missionary work.

WHEREAS, There rests upon us a great responsibility in the matter of training our younger children for Christ; therefore—

5. *Resolved*, That this Conference, through its Executive Committee, appoint a committee of nine women, to be known as the Committee on Primary Education,

whose duty it shall be to labour for the establishment and maintenance of primary schools and classes of varied character and form, as the way may open.

6. *Resolved*, That this Conference shall appoint, through its Executive Committee, seven women to act as a committee for finding homes for orphan children, the committee to be known as the Orphans' Committee.

7. *Resolved*, That this Conference appoint a committee of five to labour for the establishment of a benevolent home for aged people.

WHEREAS, The necessities of the sick and suffering constitute a call to all who love their fellow men, to follow the example of the Master, in labouring for the relief of those afflicted; and—

WHEREAS, Experience has proved that Sanitariums, Medical Missions, and other lines of medical and benevolent work, are powerful agencies for the strengthening and prosecution of this work, and physicians, nurses, and other trained labourers will be needed for the furtherance of these enterprises; and—

WHEREAS, Some form of committee will be required to plan for and perfect the organisation of an association for the government and guidance of these agencies, and the International Medical Missionary and Benevolent Association Board has requested us to unite with them in the appointment of such a committee; therefore—

8. *Resolved*, That the Australasian Union Conference shall appoint three persons to act with three already appointed by the Medical Missionary Board, as a Medical Missionary Organising Committee; further—

Resolved, That the letter of advice sent us by the International Medical Missionary and Benevolent Association be referred to said Organising Committee for favourable consideration.

WHEREAS, Great prominence must be given to the educational element of the medical work; therefore—

9. *Resolved*, That we request the Union Conference Committee to take into immediate consideration the advisability of issuing a popular monthly medical journal early in 1898.

WHEREAS, Increasing activity is being manifested in all parts of Australasia on questions which affect the liberties of the people; and—

WHEREAS, the *Southern Sentinel and Herald of Liberty*, which stands in defence of the rights and liberties of the people, now published but quarterly, cannot meet all the issues which are springing up; therefore—

10. *Resolved*, That beginning with January, 1898, the *Southern Sentinel and Herald of Liberty* be published monthly.

Voted, That the Chairman appoint a committee of five to give immediate consideration, and present plans regarding the character, size, and form of the health journal.

The following report was submitted by Dr. E. R. Caro, Chairman of the Committee appointed on the health journal:—

"That a popular monthly journal be issued on the first day of January, 1898, the said journal to be illustrated, and to contain sixteen pages of reading matter, with additional coloured covers,

the price of which journal shall be two shillings and sixpence yearly by subscription, or threepence per copy.

That this journal be placed under the management of the Provisional Committee appointed by the Union Conference, and the International Medical Missionary Board.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND STANDING COMMITTEES.

Officers of the Union Conference: President, A. G. Daniells; Vice-President, W. C. White; Secretary, A. L. Ingels; Treasurer, E. M. Graham.

Executive Committee: A. G. Daniells, W. C. White, E. W. Farnsworth, A. T. Robinson, W. L. H. Baker, S. N. Haskell, E. R. Palmer, W. D. Salisbury, Dr. E. R. Caro.

* Avondale School Board: W. C. White, C. B. Hughes, M. Hare, S. N. Haskell, A. G. Daniells, I. James, W. T. Woodhams.

Book Committee: W. C. White, W. A. Colcord, A. T. Robinson, E. R. Palmer, W. H. B. Miller.

Medical Organising Board: W. C. White, A. T. Robinson, W. D. Salisbury, to act with the three members appointed by the International Medical Missionary and Benevolent Association, namely, S. N. Haskell, Dr. E. R. Caro, A. W. Semmens.

Transportation Agents: General Transportation Agent, E. R. Palmer; Melbourne, N. D. Faulkhead; Sydney, W. C. White; Brisbane, J. Pallant; Adelaide, J. Higgins; Perth, R. Hare; New Zealand, E. W. Farnsworth.

Religious Liberty Secretaries: General Field Secretary, W. A. Colcord; Corresponding Secretary, Anna L. Ingels; Colonial Secretaries: Victoria, N. A. Davis; New South Wales, W. L. H. Baker; Queensland, G. B. Starr; South Australia, J. H. Woods; West Australia, R. Hare; New Zealand, E. W. Farnsworth.

Committee on Evangelisation of Native Races: S. N. Haskell, A. T. Robinson, W. C. White, W. D. Salisbury, A. G. Daniells, E. W. Farnsworth, E. R. Palmer.

Committee on Home for the Aged: A. G. Daniells, W. C. White, S. N. Haskell, W. L. H. Baker, N. D. Faulkhead, G. B. Starr, R. G. Anderson.

Committee on Primary Education: Mrs. C. B. Hughes, Mrs. H. C. Lacey, Mrs. A. T. Robinson, Mrs. E. W. Farnsworth, Mrs. W. A. Colcord, Mrs. S. N. Haskell, Mrs. E. R. Caro, Mrs. N. D. Faulkhead, Mrs. J. S. Reekie.

Orphans' Committee: Mrs. A. T. Robinson, Anna L. Ingels, Mrs. E. W. Farnsworth, Mrs. A. G. Daniells, Mrs. W. L. H. Baker, Mrs. G. B. Starr, Mrs. Blunden.

DISTRIBUTION OF LABOUR.

The Committee on the Distribution of Labour submitted the following report:—

1. That J. Hindson of Perth, W. A., connect with the Australian Tract Society for a sufficient time to become acquainted with that line of work, preparatory to returning to Perth, to take charge of the proposed Tract Depot.
2. That T. H. Craddock and wife be recommended to labour in West Australia.
3. That A. T. Robinson be recommended to labour in the Central Australian Conference.
4. That H. C. Lacey and wife be recommended to labour in the Central Australian Conference.
5. That S. N. Haskell and wife be recommended to labour in the New South Wales Conference.
6. That G. B. Starr and wife labour for a time in connection with S. N. Haskell and W. L. H. Baker in Sydney, and then return to the Queensland mission field.
7. That Miss Annie Higgins be recommended to the Queensland Mission as Secretary.

CREDENTIALS AND LICENSES.

The Committee on Credentials and Licenses submitted the following report, which was adopted:—

Credentials: S. N. Haskell, W. C. White, Mrs. E. G. White, A. G. Daniells, W. A. Colcord, G. T. Wilson, R. Hare, G. B. Starr, C. B. Hughes, H. C. Lacey.

Licenses: J. Pallant, T. Whittle, E. R. Palmer, Dr. E. R. Caro, M. Bernoth, T. H. Craddock.

Missionary Licenses: Gertrude Walker, T. A. Brandstater, Geo. Shannan, Elsie Shannan, Edith Hare Reekie.

The report of the Committee on Revision of the Constitution was adopted. [The Constitution as revised appears on another page.]

The meeting adjourned *sine die*.

A. G. DANIELLS, *President*.

H. C. LACEY, *Secretary*.

"If man loved man as man loves gold, how soon would this world be won for God and the right!"

"Not might, nor fame, nor wealth, nor worldly wisdom gained, but love wrought out, is the measure of a life's success."

"THE best worship man can render his God is service—the living Christ-love transmuted into action."

"THE best way to increase our spiritual strength is to use what we do have in helping someone else. Good works are the most effective preachers in the world."

"It is impossible for that man to despair who remembers that his Helper is omnipotent."

STATISTICAL REPORT OF CONFERENCES IN DISTRICT NO. 7.

For Year Ending September 30, 1897.

Name of Conference or Mission.	Number of Churches.	Membership of Churches.	Number of Sabbath Schools.	Membership of Sabbath Schools.	Average Sabbath School Attendance.	Number of Ministers.	Licensed Preachers.	Bible Workers.	Colporters.	Canvassers.	Tithes Paid.	First Day Offerings to Foreign Missions.	Sabbath School Donations to Missions.	Annual Contributions to Missions.	Miscellaneous Individual Gifts to Missions.	Donations to School.	Sales of Subscription Books. Retail Value.	Sales of Trade Books and Tracts. Retail Value.	Average Number "Echoes" sold Weekly.	"Sentinels" sold during the Year.	Value of Conference Property.	Indebtedness of Conference.
Central Australia ..	12	776	28	899	628	3	4		4	11	f s. d. 1479 16 5½	f s. d. 17 6 10	f s. d. 100 2 10½	f s. d. 11 14 8½	f s. d. 10 6 7	f s. d. 116 3 8	f s. d. 2550 19 11	f s. d. 912 19 11½	f s. d. 119994284	f s. d. 254 17 2	f s. d. 700 0 0	f s. d. 333 19 5½
New South Wales ..	6	309	9	374	253	1	1		2	3	f s. d. 613 8 7½	f s. d. 7 0 8½	f s. d. 28 2 11½	f s. d. 2 16 2	f s. d. 7 6 0	f s. d. 20 0 0	f s. d. 1312 2 0	f s. d. 24 4 4½	f s. d. 13994284	f s. d. 254 17 2	f s. d. 150 0 0	f s. d. 333 19 5½
New Zealand ..	12	413	38	665	504	2	3	3	5	14	f s. d. 1028 6 10	f s. d. 22 13 10	f s. d. 84 12 8½	f s. d. 71 14 4	f s. d. 51 0 0	f s. d. 6 15 0	f s. d. 1866 2 4	f s. d. 351 0 5	f s. d. 15663232	f s. d. 150 0 0	f s. d. 150 0 0	f s. d. 333 19 5½
Queensland ..	2	105	2	182	135	2	1		1	10	f s. d. 331 17 0	f s. d. 17 12 6½	f s. d. 17 12 6½	f s. d. 1 8 0	f s. d. 4 8 0	f s. d. 2 0 0	f s. d. 1933 2 0	f s. d. 18 2 5	f s. d. 209 497	f s. d. 544 716	f s. d. 45 0 0	f s. d. 50 13 9
West Australia ..	1	31	1	34	28	1				5	f s. d. 150 15 2½	f s. d. 2 8 6	f s. d. 8 0 0	f s. d. 2 18 7	f s. d. 4 8 0	f s. d. 2 0 0	f s. d. 1933 2 0	f s. d. 18 2 5	f s. d. 209 497	f s. d. 50 13 9	f s. d. 50 13 9	f s. d. 50 13 9

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE AUSTRALASIAN UNION CONFERENCE.

Article I.—Name.

This organisation shall be known as the Australasian Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, and its territory shall be designated as District Number Seven.

Article II.—Object.

The object of this Conference shall be to unify and extend the work of the Seventh-day Adventist Church throughout Australasia, under the direction of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Article III.—Membership.

SEC. 1. This Conference shall be composed of such local Conferences of Seventh-day Adventists as are, or may be properly organised in any part of Australasia, under the direction of the Executive Committee, such Conference having been accepted by vote at a session of the Union Conference.

SEC. 2. The legal voters of this Conference shall be such duly accredited delegates from local Conferences, and such members of the General Conference and Australasian Union Conference Executive Committees, as may be present at any duly convened regular or special Conference session.

SEC. 3. In addition to its President, each local Conference shall be entitled to one delegate for every fifty church members in the Conference; such delegates shall be elected by the local Conference or appointed by its Executive Committee.

Article IV.—Officers.

SEC. 1. The officers of this Conference shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of nine, of which the President, Vice-President, and the Presidents of the local Conferences in the district, shall be members.

SEC. 2. The President of the Conference shall be the person elected by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists to fill this office. All officers and members of the Executive Committee, other than the President and the Presidents of the local Conferences, shall be elected at the regular session of the Union Conference, and shall hold their offices for the term of two years, or until their successors are elected and appear to enter upon their duties.

Article V.—Sessions.

SEC. 1. This Conference shall hold regular sessions at intervals of about two years, at such date and place as the Executive Committee shall designate by a notice published in the *Bible Echo* at least three weeks before the date of the meeting.

SEC. 2. The Executive Committee may call extra sessions if occasion requires, by a like notice, and the transactions of such sessions shall be equally valid with those of the regular sessions.

Article VI.—Trustees, Committees, and Agents.

The legal voters of this Conference shall, at each regular session, elect the Boards of Management of such institutions and enterprises, as are and may be connected with this organisation, according to the acts governing the same; and this Conference shall employ such committees, agents, ministers, missionaries, and employees as it may deem necessary, according to the By-laws in such cases made and provided.

Article VII.—By-Laws.

The legal voters of this Conference may make By-laws, amend, and repeal them at any session thereof. The scope of such By-laws may embrace all subjects not inconsistent with this Constitution.

Article VIII.—Amendments.

This Constitution may be amended by a three-fourths vote of the legal voters present at any session, provided that if it be proposed to amend the Constitution at a special session, notice of the proposed amendment shall be given in the call for such special session.

BY-LAWS.**President.**

1. It shall be the duty of the President to open all sessions of the Conference, and to appoint all the standing committees of the session. He shall also preside at all meetings of the Conference, and of the Executive Committee, except when another member of that committee is appointed by the President, or the Executive Board, to preside in his place.

Vice-President.

2. In case of the absence or disability of the President, the Vice-President shall discharge the usual duties of the President.

Secretary.

3. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a record of the proceedings of the sessions of the Conference and of the meetings of the Executive Committee, and to conduct the general correspondence of the Conference.

Treasurer.

4. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all money belonging to the Conference, to keep an account of the same, and to disburse it by order of the Executive Committee, and to make a full report thereof at all sessions of the Conference, and at such other time as may be required by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall also collect from the Conferences in the district such financial and statistical reports as are required by the Executive Committee, and forward copies of the same as may be directed.

Powers of the Executive Committee.

5. The Executive Committee shall have full administrative power during the intervals between the sessions of the Conference, and shall exercise a general watch-care over all matters pertaining to the work of the Conference in the district; and shall make a study of, and have a care for, adjacent missionary fields, under the direction of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; and shall fill for the current term any vacancies that may occur in its membership, or in the Boards or Committees which are appointed or elected by the Union Conference. It shall direct the movements of the employees of the Conference, and settle their accounts for labour at regular intervals from the funds of the Society.

Committees.

6. The chair shall appoint at each regular session of the Conference the following committees to serve during the session: 1. On Credentials of Delegates; 2. On Nominations; 3. On Resolutions; 4. On Distribution of Labour; 5. On Credentials and Licenses; and such other Committees as the business of the Conference may demand.

Book Committee.

7. The Conference shall at each regular session elect a Book Committee of five members, whose duty it shall

be to labour for the improvement of Seventh-day Adventist literature.

School Board.

8. At each regular session the Conference shall elect a School Board of seven members, for the management of the Avondale School for Christian Workers.

Field and Corresponding Secretaries.

9. The Conference shall appoint annually, through its Executive Committee, a General Field Secretary, and one or more Corresponding Secretaries for each of the colonies, to labour for the dissemination of the principles of religious liberty.

Transportation.

10. The Executive Committee shall appoint annually one or more agents in each of the colonies, to secure favourable rates of transportation for those in the employ of the Conference, and for those who are travelling in the interests of the Conference.

MEDICAL MISSIONARY WORK.

THE International Medical Missionary and Benevolent Association is an organisation which was effected a few years ago, as the outgrowth of various lines of benevolent work which antedated this Association. Its field of operation, as suggested in the name "International," is confined to no one country, but its aim is to extend its work wherever opportunities present themselves of benefiting suffering humanity. The objects of the Association, as set forth in its articles of incorporation, are to erect and manage homes for orphan children, and for friendless aged persons, also hospitals and sanitariums for the treatment of the sick poor and others, the same to be either self-supporting or supported in whole or in part by funds secured for the purpose; to establish dispensaries in cities, medical missions, visiting nurses' work, Christian Help work; to educate missionary physicians and nurses; to provide for the needy poor; to promulgate the principles of health and temperance; and to do good in a variety of ways, independent of denominational or sectarian interests.

The headquarters of the parent organisation is in Battle Creek, Michigan, U. S. A., in connection with which there is one of the largest and most successful Medical and Surgical Sanitariums in the world, a Medical Missionary College, and a very extensive plant for the manufacture and export of various lines of health food.

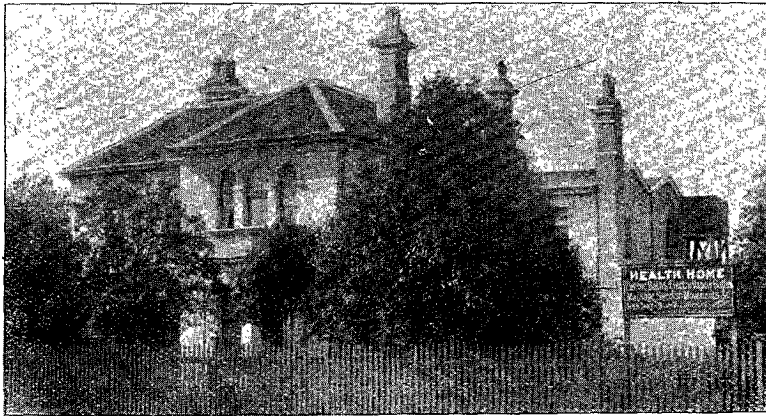
BRANCH INSTITUTIONS.

In addition to the original Sanitarium established at Battle Creek, Michigan, sanitariums based upon the same principles, and employing essentially the same methods, being conducted by persons who have received more or less extensive training at the Battle Creek Sanitarium, are now in operation in the following places: St. Helena, California; Chicago, Illinois; Lincoln, Nebraska; Portland, Oregon; and Boulder, Colorado, U.S.A.;

Basel, Switzerland; Guadalajara, Mexico; Cape Town, South Africa; Apia, Samoa; Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands; and Sydney, New South Wales. In connection with most of the above mentioned institutions are homes for orphan children; for destitute aged persons; working men's homes, etc.

PLANS FOR THE WORK IN AUSTRALASIA.

At the biennial session of the Australasian Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, which convened in Melbourne two years ago, the preliminary steps were taken toward the establishment of these lines of work in the Australasian colonies. The "Health Home" was opened in Sydney, under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Semmens, who had spent several years in preparation in the Battle Creek Training School for Nurses. Pastor W. C. White was requested to visit America to arrange for physicians and nurses, who had received special training for these lines of work, to come to this country; also to purchase various lines of machinery to be used in the manufacture of health foods. Pastor White has recently returned to this country, his mission having proved quite successful. Dr.



HEALTH HOME, SYDNEY.

E. R. Caro, who for several years has been a practicing physician in the Battle Creek institution, has been sent with ten trained nurses to engage in the work in the colonies, and other physicians and nurses are to be sent during the early part of 1898. Three nurses have recently been sent to open up work in Western Australia, and several are working in connection with the Health Home in Sydney.

ORGANISATION.

At the time of the recent session of the Australasian Union Conference held in Sydney, the preliminary steps were taken toward the organisation of an Australasian Medical Missionary and Benevolent Association. A committee of six persons was elected to take the necessary steps in the formation of a permanent organisation, who in the meantime are to act as a provisional government in carrying on the work until such time as the organisation is completed. The committee has taken legal advice, and has ascertained that

the Hospital and Charities Act, of the Colony of Victoria, affords favourable conditions under which the work can be incorporated. We trust that in a few weeks the organisation will be completed, and that all who are friends of the enterprise will become members.

THE WORK IN SYDNEY.

As has already been stated, the work was started in a small way in Sydney several months ago. The Health Home has been taken over by the Medical Missionary Organising Committee. The Home has been newly furnished, and bids fair to be entering upon a prosperous work. At this writing the Home reports twenty regular patients. Many who have taken treatment during the past year have been greatly benefited thereby.

A health food agency has also been established in Sydney, under a local management, for the importation and sale of such lines of health foods as are not to be manufactured in this country.

THE WORK IN MELBOURNE.

A local committee has also been appointed to conduct the work of the Association in Melbourne. Bakery premises have been leased in North-

cote, which, at this writing, are being put in proper condition for the manufacture of several lines of the health foods. This work will be begun under the supervision of the local committee, in a moderate and economical way, and will be enlarged as the demand shall increase. Mr. Halsey, an experienced baker from the Battle Creek, Michigan, Sanitarium, will have charge of the details of the bakery. It was not deemed advisable to put in anything like an extensive plant for the manufacture of health foods, until it should be decided where the contemplated Sanitarium will be located, as it seems desirable that the bakery establishment should be in the same locality.

Dr. Caro's lectures and health talks at the Sydney and Melbourne camp-meetings, also addresses which he was invited to give in Melbourne before the Vegetarian Society, and other organisations, have resulted in a wide-spread interest in, and demand for, the various lines of health foods.

We believe this branch of the work will prove a very important factor in the work of the Association in these colonies.

OUR HEALTH JOURNAL.

At the session of the Union Conference above referred to, it was voted to begin the publication of a health journal at the beginning of 1898. The first number appeared in due course, and all have had an opportunity to examine it. The *Herald of Health*, which is the latest addition to the list of periodicals issued from our publishing house in Melbourne, is designed to meet a long-felt want among us. The journal has come to stay with us as long as we shall be subject to aches and pains. It is the design of the publishers and promoters that it shall contain practical articles on all subjects relating to the care of the body, both in health and disease. This journal, by being pushed out among those not of our faith, may be made a blessing to many.—A. T. ROBINSON.

AVONDALE SCHOOL FOR CHRISTIAN WORKERS. Report for 1897.

THE first regular term of the Avondale School for Christian Workers began April 28, 1897, and continued twenty-five weeks, closing October 19. During the first week there were less than twenty in attendance, but for three months students continued to come in, and the total enrolment was eighty-two. Of this number, forty were boarding students; twenty-five were in the Primary Department, and seventeen were day students. The attendance was excellent, very few leaving before the close of the term.

Our buildings, which appeared to be large enough at the beginning of the term, were far too small to accommodate our work. Building A, which according to our plans will constitute a wing of Bethel Hall, was used as a Ladies' Dormitory. This building will accommodate thirty students, and has in addition two large rooms, one used as a Ladies' Study, and the other as a class room. Building B, another wing of Bethel Hall, has the dining-room, kitchen, and store-rooms, on the ground floor, with a large basement for the storage of fruit and vegetables. The first floor is divided into two nearly equal parts, the west end being the chapel and principal recitation room, and the east end divided into small sleeping rooms for the young men.

Because of our limited accommodations, many inconveniences were borne by teachers and students which will not be experienced in future years. A large room, which will sometime be fitted up as a bath and treatment room for the sick, had to be pressed into the service of the primary school. A part of the large dining-room was cut off for a recitation room, and another

part for the occupancy of two of the teachers. Then as the school grew in numbers, the space left was found to be insufficient, and two tables were set in the serving room.

The Primary Department suffered much for the lack of sufficient room. And sometimes we were compelled to crowd three students into rooms that were intended for the accommodation of but two.

Notwithstanding all the inconveniences on account of insufficient accommodations, there was a spirit of contentment and good will which brought an influence into the school that the most elegant appointments could not give.

The Christian experience of the students was considered of primary importance. The religious interest steadily deepened. Some who had never accepted Christ as a personal Saviour were converted, and others were revived. Several were baptised, and when the term ended, all the students boarding in the school home, excepting two young girls, had professed faith in their Saviour.

The students entered cheerfully into all parts of their work. During the hours devoted to industrial pursuits, the young men cleared land, repaired and built fences, made roads, ploughed, planted, and cultivated the soil, and engaged in many other duties that fall to the lot of the farmer. The young ladies engaged in cooking, sewing, general housekeeping, and sometimes in gardening. It was cheering to the teachers to hear them singing about their work.

Faithful work was done in the class rooms. I was never in a school where better work was done by the students. Altogether the friends of the school have great reason to be encouraged, especially when it is remembered that these young men and women were putting forth those earnest efforts to fit themselves for work in the Master's vineyard. We may be encouraged to hope that the time is not far distant when from the school there will go forth workers to all parts of the Australasian Colonies, also to the needy mission fields to the north, and the east, and the west.

C. B. HUGHES.

THE SCHOOL AND ITS NEEDS.

THE Avondale School for Christian Workers is no longer to be looked forward to as a thing of the future. The last term was very successful in many respects. Most of the students attending the school, who had not previously done so, gave their hearts to God, and were baptised before the close of the term. The enrolment, including the Primary Department, was over eighty. Every Australasian colony, except Western Australia, was represented, and there were two from the Islands of the sea. Of those who were at the school the larger proportion, except the children, are now in

some way directly connected with the work of the third angel's message. Quite a number of these are engaged in the mission work at Stanmore and Balacava, some are in the Echo Office, others are canvassing, and still others are on the school farm.

Our buildings were overcrowded last year, and a new dormitory is now in process of erection, and is to be completed at the opening of the next school term. A meeting-house was also built, and dedicated free from debt, so now there is a suitable place of worship.

THE FARM.

As regards the agricultural work, about ten acres of the swamp land are being thoroughly subdued, and a portion planted for fodder. We have substantial evidence of the productiveness of the soil in a good crop of potatoes and other vegetables. Two and a half acres of maize and large fields of melons and pumpkins are demonstrating that the soil will produce if properly cultivated.

The fruit orchard is doing well, and is in a thrifty condition. Although the trees are only twenty-eight months old, twenty-five boxes of various kinds of fruit have been gathered, and still there is much more on the trees. This indicates that, if properly cared for, the land can and will be self-supporting, and in time contribute towards sustaining the school.

The twelve swarms of bees purchased have increased to twenty-two, and already a quantity of honey is ready for the large family we shall have next winter.

Education is given in each of these lines as well as in book knowledge and music, both instrumental and vocal, the Bible being the foundation of all. It is the aim of the school that those who attend will receive an all-round education, and will be able to follow the instruction of the Lord, "Whosoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might."

A MISSIONARY ENTERPRISE.

The ultimate object of the school is the development of true missionaries. To assist in this work, a printing press to furnish small publications in the different languages for the Islands of the sea will be needed for the next school year. Already a lady from Raratonga is at work translating for her people, and others are expected. This will bring the Islands in touch with the cause of present truth in Australia through the medium of the school. It will also bring into the school a practical missionary spirit.

ADVANCE STEPS.

During the camp-meeting at Stanmore, it was voted by the Union Conference to proceed to raise one thousand pounds during the present year for necessary improvements. A very small amount of this has been raised, one hundred pounds having been pledged at the camp-meeting. We believe if our friends could but realise the advantages of the

school, and the important position it will occupy in the future, everyone would desire to contribute something toward its funds now in the time of its great need. Money now invested in this enterprise will help greatly in the education of missionaries for other parts of the great harvest field, and bring to the donors a rich reward in the kingdom of God. Now is the time to transfer your substance to the other world; to "provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not; for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." Those who now in the closing work of the gospel contribute to these enterprises, are directly aiding God's instrumentalities for carrying the truth to other portions of the earth. All such interest manifested is chronicled in the books above, with a record of the results that will be seen in the kingdom of God.

Workers will be sent forth from this school to establish church schools where our younger children shall be educated, as well as to fill positions in other branches of the work.

OBJECT OF THIS ARTICLE.

The object of this article is to call the attention of the friends to the pressing needs of the school at the present time, that they may have the privilege of contributing to carry forward this enterprise. One pound paid now will count more than many pounds after the buildings which are now needed are built and paid for. Will not our friends take hold at once, and each do something toward the enterprise? There is not one in all our ranks but can give more than the widow's two mites. The same commendation of our Saviour will be said to those who now give of their means in the same spirit. Luke 21:1-3.

Some have given liberally; but shall we not now make a greater effort than ever before? Let the small sums come in with the larger sums, and God will reward the faithful giver. Do not wait until some one comes round to urge you to give, but hand your donation to the librarian of your church at once, and then be prepared to help again if necessary. Let the children give their pennies, and thus be taught to sacrifice for the cause of God. Let the grown people set them an example, and show them how to give. There may be those not of our faith who are interested in the enterprise. Give all an opportunity, and it will be seen what can be done, for "God loveth a cheerful giver."

PRACTICAL OBJECT LESSON.

Let all read the eighth and ninth chapters of 2 Corinthians carefully, also the Saviour's words in Luke 12, and then think what you can do. As an object lesson on giving, we have the giving of the manna. Everyone gathered; some more, and some less. When they brought it in and measured it, it all measured alike; but this gathering was continued each morning, and it

was God that gave the fresh supply. A constant miracle was wrought with each one who gathered. This is referred to by the Spirit of God to encourage those who give of their substance to believe God would work for them.

BLESSINGS PROMISED.

Notice particularly the last part of the ninth chapter of 2 Corinthians: "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work." These are most wonderful words. God makes *all* grace abound, having *all* sufficiency in *all* things, to *every* good work. The following words are also wonderful when carefully considered: "Now he that ministereth seed to the sower, both minister bread for your food and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness." God teaches us by the prosperity which He sends on the seed sown how He multiplies our righteousness by the liberality with which we sow. One grain of wheat sown often produces over a hundred kernels. This illustrates the rate of interest God pays us for every investment we make in His work. If any question this, let them examine the wheat found on one stalk which grows from one kernel, and compare the same with the Saviour's words in Mark 10: 29, 30.

In conclusion we say: Let every one give; give liberally; give cheerfully; give at once, for it is now needed to carry forward the work; give in faith that God's blessing may rest on the school, and upon those who have the burden of it lying upon their hearts. Then in the end we shall have occasion to rejoice in the results of this enterprise.

S. N. HASKELL.

THE AVONDALE SCHOOL.

Prospectus for 1898.

INSTRUCTORS.

- C. B. Hughes, Principal, History.
 S. N. Haskell, General Bible Study.
 Mrs. Hetty H. Haskell, Preceptress, Assistant in Bible.
 H. C. Lacey, Natural Sciences.
 Mrs. Lilian Lacey, Mathematics and Book-keeping.
 Mrs. Ella E. Hughes, English Language.

THE SCHOOL YEAR.

The school will begin March 16, 1898, and will continue twenty-eight weeks.

LOCATION.

The school is located on the Avondale Estate, seventy-six miles north from Sydney, twenty-six miles south from Newcastle, and ten miles west from the Pacific Ocean. The school build-

ings occupy a beautiful knoll which slopes to Sandy Creek on the north-east, and to Dora Creek on the south. These creeks unite and form a beautiful river, flowing into Lake Macquarrie, about five miles away. The situation is both healthful and pleasant.

Our Post Office is Coorabong, about one mile and a quarter to the north-west. Our railway station is Morrissett, nearly four miles to the east.

Students who notify us two days beforehand when they will reach Morrissett, will be met at the train.

THE OBJECT OF THE SCHOOL.

The purpose for which this school has been founded, is to give a thorough and practical education, in which the mental, moral, and physical powers of the students will be harmoniously developed. Special efforts will be made to develop in the youth sound, Christian character, and to awaken a desire to enter some line of Christian work. Large fields of usefulness are open for the young who will give their hearts to God, and train themselves for His service. Parents should carefully consider the difference between schools which are established for the purpose of training the youth to live and labour for God, and the schools which have other ends in view.

THE HOME LIFE.

We are satisfied that the school can be more successfully carried on by having the students board and lodge in the school buildings, with the members of the school faculty, thus constituting a large school family. Young people should receive a much broader training than that which comes merely from the study of books. It is the best time for them to form habits of order, neatness and Christian courtesy; and to obtain that general culture which comes from daily and intimate association with educated Christian teachers. Much care will be given to render the home life not only attractive, but efficient in the cultivation of those habits of life and graces of character which distinguish refined Christian men and women. Teachers and students will share one family life, with common aims and interests. The regulations will be reasonable, and adapted to secure trust, freedom, and happiness. It is intended that every student shall enjoy the pleasant associations, and receive the personal care, of a true home.

THE INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT.

The importance of connecting labour with study may be seen from the following extract from "Christian Education":—

"There should have been in past generations provision made for education upon a larger scale. In connection with the schools there should have been agricultural and manufacturing establishments. There should also have been teachers of household labour. Daily, systematic labour should constitute a

part of the education of the youth even at this late period. Much can now be gained in connecting labour with schools. The students will acquire, in following this plan, elasticity of spirit and vigour of thought, and can accomplish more mental labour in a given time than they could by study alone. And they can leave their school with their constitution unimpaired, with strength and courage to persevere in any position in which the providence of God may place them."

In harmony with the above, the school is located on a large tract of land; and a part of the work of the young men will be the clearing of land to prepare it for tillage and grazing. A fine orchard of about one thousand trees of various kinds affords a good opportunity for practical work in horticulture. There are more than thirty acres of cleared land besides the orchard, on which various lines of gardening and farming will be pursued.

In addition to these lines of work, it is hoped that we shall have a small printing office in operation, where some may be instructed in type-setting.

Carpentry will also be taught. It is expected that students will be employed as far as possible in making repairs, and in the erection of additional buildings.

Hygienic cookery, sewing and cutting, and general housekeeping, will be taught to the young ladies, with gardening, type-setting, weaving and knitting, to some who may be specially interested or adapted for these lines of work.

MINISTERIAL AND MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT.

The study of the Bible, both general and topical; the study of history, interpreted in the light of the Scriptures; language study, including reading, writing, grammar, rhetoric, and literature; sacred music, including voice culture and vocal music; and hygiene, including physiology and simple nursing, will constitute the leading features of this department.

No one will be graduated from this department without passing a satisfactory examination on the following subjects: The fundamental doctrines of the plan of salvation; prophetic history, the leading and essential points in the history of the church; English language, embracing composition and letter writing; elementary and advanced physiology, anatomy, and Bible hygiene. Good spelling, and legible handwriting will be required; also a sufficient knowledge of mathematics and book-keeping for the conduct of ordinary business.

None of the departments are planned on the basis of requiring a certain number of years' study, but rather of giving the student an opportunity to work as rapidly as in the judgment of the faculty his strength and ability will permit. He will be given an opportunity when he enters to pass examination in any subject, and will receive credit for what he actually knows. This throws the responsibility of completing a department on the student himself, rather than upon the faculty,

TEACHERS' DEPARTMENT.

There is no work of greater importance, or requiring more skill, than that of directing the moral, mental, and physical development of children. There are now many openings for Christian teachers both at home and in mission fields. Those wishing to fit themselves for this work will be instructed in most of the lines mentioned in the ministerial and missionary department, and also in the history of education, methods of teaching, child study, and nature study.

MUSICAL DEPARTMENT.

Classes in vocal music will be organised, and will be free to all students. Opportunity will be afforded for the study of instrumental music under competent teachers. Instruments for practice may be furnished by the students, or rented at reasonable rates from the school.

The tuition for lessons on the organ, or piano, one lesson a week (40 minutes), for thirteen weeks, will be one guinea.

COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT.

A knowledge of accounts, and the laws by which they are governed, is of great practical value. Those who desire to gain such a knowledge will have an opportunity to do so in connection with other studies. Single and double entry book-keeping will be taught; also penmanship, business forms, correspondence, typewriting, and stenography.

Tuition in stenography, three lessons a week, thirteen weeks, one guinea.

Individual instruction in typewriting, two lessons a week, thirteen weeks, one guinea. Typewriters for practice may be furnished by the student, or rented from the school for one guinea a term of twenty-six lessons.

PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT.

In this department the primary and lower grades will be taught. It will also serve as a practice school for those who are studying the theory and science of teaching. The tuition in this department will be from one shilling to two shillings a week, according to the advancement of the student.

EXPENSES.

In view of the generally prevailing financial depression, the Board of Managers have placed the price of board and tuition at the lowest possible figure.

For board, use of furnished room, light, plain washing, and tuition in the regular courses of study, the following charges will be made:—

When paid monthly in advance, with two meals per day, £2 14s. per month. When paid monthly in advance, with three meals per day, £3 1s. per month. When paid fourteen weeks in advance, two meals per day, £9 for the term. When paid fourteen weeks in advance, three meals per day, £10 4s. 6d. for the term.

In addition to the cash payment, and the care of his room, each student will be required to work eighteen hours per week as a part of his dues to the school.

These charges are so low that the school will be unable to meet the extra expenses incurred on account of sickness. The actual expense of providing a physician or nurse when necessary will be charged to the student's account. Threepence extra will be charged for each meal sent to student's room, and threepence for each hour of work omitted, and not made up.

In cases of breakage and destruction of property resulting from the carelessness or negligence of students, one half of the loss will be charged to the student's account.

EXPENSES OF DAY STUDENTS.

The charge for tuition of day students will be twelve shillings a month for the regular course. For one study students will be charged half-price; for two studies, three-fourths price.

A discount of five per cent. will be made to day students, who pay for each term in advance. When two students attend from one family, the charge for tuition will be eleven shillings each per month; and for three students from one family, ten shillings each per month.

WHO WILL BE ADMITTED.

The school is open to all worthy persons of both sexes. The moral influence of the school is carefully guarded, and no one who uses indecent, profane, or unbecoming language, or who indulges in the use of tobacco or alcoholic drinks, or who is in any way vicious or immoral, will knowingly be admitted or retained.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Books and stationery will be kept for sale at the school at the usual prices.

The school will not undertake to furnish work to students further than is required in part payment of their expenses.

All students should bring suitable clothing for the work they will do in connection with the farm and the home.

Students not residing with their own families will be expected to board at the school, except where permission is given by the faculty for them to do otherwise.

Each boarder will be expected to furnish his own toilet soap, six towels, three serviettes, three pillow cases, three sheets, and one bed spread. All articles should be plainly and durably marked with the full name of the owner.

Students can avail themselves of cheap railway fares by procuring a certificate on a printed form supplied for that purpose by the railway authorities, and signed by the principal of the school, or by the parent or guardian before a Justice of the Peace. In the case of intercolonial lines, two certificates

are sometimes necessary. Forms can be had on application to the Principal.

Any correspondence regarding finance, or the building operations of the institution, should be addressed to the Treasurer, Mr. Metcalfe Hare, "Avondale," Cooranbong, New South Wales.

All correspondence relating to the educational work of the school should be addressed to the Principal, Professor C. B. Hughes, "Avondale School," Cooranbong, New South Wales.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

New postal rates have come into effect since the beginning of 1898. These materially increase the cost of posting imported papers. To save ourselves from serious loss we are obliged to revise our prices on these papers, adding such an amount as will cover the additional postage. There is now no advantage to us in sending in clubs, hence we can make no reduction for clubs. We give below a list of our new prices. It will be noticed that the rates on several of these papers remain the same. This is owing to the fact that we have obtained better terms for these papers for 1898.

	Price.	Postage.	Total.
American Sentinel	5/-	1/-	6/-
Christian Education	2/-	6d.	2/6
Good Health	4/-	2/-	6/-
Gospel of Health	2/-	6d.	2/6
Home Missionary	2/-	6d.	2/6
Medical Missionary	2/6	6d.	3/-
Little Friend	2/6	6d.	3/-
Pacific Health Journal	2/6	6d.	3/-
Present Truth	6/-	6d.	6/6
Review and Herald	6/-	2/-	8/-
Sabbath School Worker	2/-	6d.	2/6
Signs of the Times	5/-	1/-	6/-
Youth's Instructor	4/-	1/-	5/-
FOREIGN.			
Christlicher Hausfreund	6/-	1/-	7/-
Evangeliets Sendebud	6/6	1/-	7/6
Herold der Wahrheit	4/-	1/-	5/-
Tederns Tegn	4/-	1/-	5/-
Tidens Tecken	4/-	1/-	5/-
Zions Vaktare	6/-	1/-	7/-
Zions Wachter	1/-	6d.	1/6

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ECHO PUBLISHING COMPANY.

The ninth annual meeting of the Echo Publishing Company, Ltd., was held on the Balacalva camp ground, Melbourne, Victoria, Wednesday, Nov. 25, 1897, at 10 a.m.

The President, W. D. Salisbury, was in the chair. Prayer was offered by W. C. White. Eighteen shareholders were present at the meeting.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved.

The Treasurer then presented the Balance Sheet, showing the financial standing of the Company for the past year, ending June 20th. It

showed a net profit for the year of £576 12s. 5½d., or £301 2s. 7¼d. more than the net profits for the preceding year.

Referring to this financial showing, A. G. Daniells stated that he thought we had reason to be devoutly thankful for the prosperity that had attended the work of the Company during the year.

W. C. White said he was profoundly thankful for the showing of the Balance Sheet. It was indeed a surprise to him. He hoped that this might be followed by another year of prosperity.

The Chairman called attention to a number of points. He stated that the commercial work of the Company had materially increased during the past year. The total earnings had been £7,612. An office had been opened up in the city at 343 Flinders Lane, affording more direct communication between the General Office and the business of the city.

The patronage of the Governor of Victoria, he remarked, had been a real thing, no less than five pamphlets having been printed for His Excellency since he gave to the office his card of patronage.

The Company was printing five periodicals, one weekly, three monthlies, and one quarterly. The average weekly circulation of the *Bible Echo* during the year showed an increase of 1,400 copies over the previous year. 110,000 copies of two religious liberty leaflets had been printed, new editions of "Gospel Primer" and "His Glorious Appearing," and a new pamphlet, "Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing," besides over 1,000,000 copies of two pamphlets in the commercial trade. £1,000 worth of calendars had been sold, an increase of £400 over the previous year. There had been an increase in the business of the Company over previous years of about £1,000.

The business was divided into three departments, the manufacturing, book, and calendar.

As the work in the foundry had greatly increased, requiring much of the press-room foreman's time in this department, or the necessity of sending much of our electrotype and stereotype work to the city to be done, it was decided to send to America for a foreman for the press-room, to enable Bro. Romero to spend the whole of his time in the foundry. Accordingly, Bro. R. L. Bond was secured for this position.

Some new machinery had been added to the plant during the year, including two machines for the foundry, one printing press, a large paper cutter, and a stitching machine. There had also been a considerable increase in the number of hands employed.

He was pleased to state that the Company had advanced the necessary money to send one student, an employé, to the Avondale School during its first year.

The present needs of the business he stated were, more room and more consecrated persons to learn the trade.

W. H. B. Miller reported in reference to the work of the city office. He stated that quite an amount of commercial work had been obtained by having an office in the city. Estimates could be more readily given, and the work done quicker. During nine months, estimates had been given on over one thousand jobs, quite a fair per cent. of which had been obtained. The stamp and stationery trade of the office had also amounted to considerable.

J. H. Woods also related his experience in soliciting work for the office among firms and business men of the city.

W. C. White said that while he believed in the commercial work, and believed in it thoroughly, there was a line of work in which he was still more interested than this, and that was our own works.

He believed that if the latter were made of first concern, the Lord would give us as much of the commercial work as would be for our good; but that if the case were reversed, and the commercial work received first attention, then the Lord would blow upon it. He also spoke of the need of a "home" being connected with the Publishing House, for the benefit of the employés;

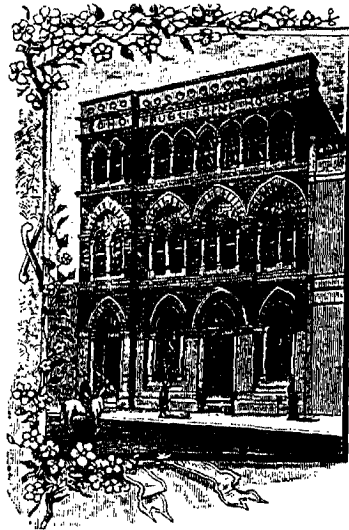
a place where they could be boarded and educated in important studies connected with the publishing and missionary work. We want to have things so that the work will be a blessing to the workers, and that printers shall be educated in our printing houses, so that they will be able to go out into the islands and mission fields and set up and run a small printing plant on their own account, to work for the cause at reasonable rates, and do outside work as well.

The Committee appointed on Nominations was: R. Hare, H. C. Lacey, and W. N. Thom. Upon their nomination, the following persons were elected to act as the Board of Directors for the coming year:—

W. D. Salisbury, A. G. Daniells, N. D. Faulkhead, A. T. Robinson, A. W. Anderson, A. Ballingall, W. C. White.

The meeting then adjourned *sine die*.

W. D. SALISBURY, *Chairman*.
W. A. COLCORD, *Secretary*.



AUSTRALIAN TRACT SOCIETY.

THE tenth annual session of the Australian Tract Society was held on the camp ground at Balaclava, Victoria, Nov. 18 to Dec. 5, 1897. Two meetings were held.

In a brief reference to the work of the Society, the President, A. G. Daniells, spoke of the past year as a prosperous one in many respects. We have been greatly favoured in securing a convenient and commodious building for our Tract Society Office. This has enabled us to enlarge our work, and to increase the staff of workers. The volume of work done has been larger than during any year of the past. He referred to the steps being taken to open depositories under local management in the distant mission fields of Queensland and West Australia, as has recently been done in the New South Wales Conference. While this will materially decrease the territory of the Australian Tract Society, and reduce the volume of business, it is believed that as the result of this division, the territory will be more thoroughly worked, and far more good accomplished.

E. R. Palmer, the general agent, gave an interesting report of the canvassing work. Humanly speaking the year has been an unfavourable one, as the severe drought that has extended over many parts of the country has tended to make the work go hard. Notwithstanding this the agents have continued in the field, with scarcely a loss of one. The sales have been larger, and the percent. of orders taken better, than in past years. This can be attributed only to the blessing of the Lord. The agents have worked more largely on missionary lines, and souls have been added to the truth through their faithful labours.

The report of the Secretary for the year ending June 30, 1897, showed the actual sales of publications by the Society during the year to amount to

£10,175 7s. 5d. This is made up of subscription books, £8,310 14s. 3d.; other books and tracts, £1,024 9s. 5½d.; and periodicals, £840 3s. 8½d. This is an increase of £1,847 19s. 4½d., or twenty-two per cent. over the previous year.

The circulation of the *Bible Echo* has steadily grown. At the beginning of the year the circulation was 4,224 copies weekly, while at the close it reached 5,770. The aggregate number of copies circulated was 268,756, an increase of 44 per cent. over the previous year.

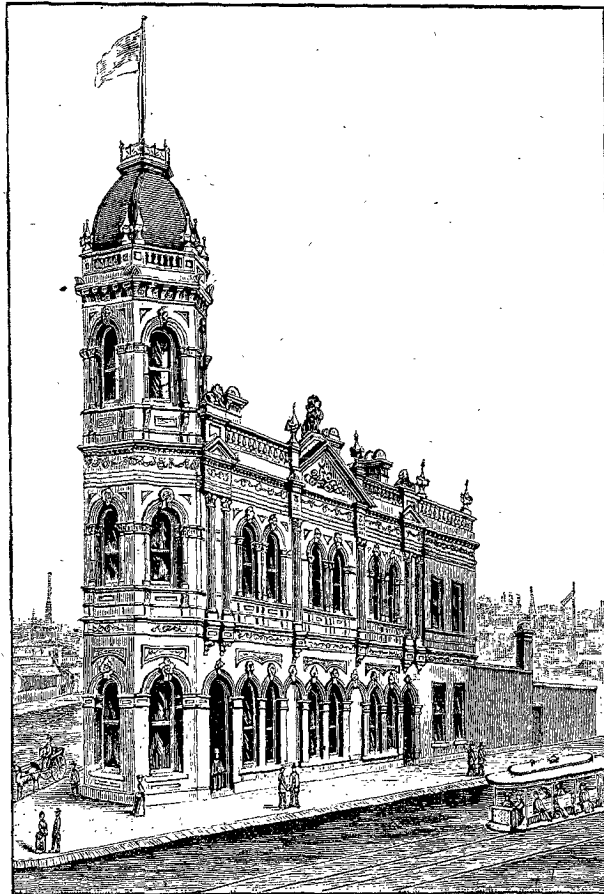
During the past year we have been afforded the

most favourable opportunity to get right principles on religious liberty before the people. The public mind has been agitated upon this subject, and it has been our privilege to sound an alarm against the threatened alliance of church and state. Petitions to the Federal Convention, and to the various Colonial Parliaments, were circulated, and signatures obtained as follows: To the Federal Convention 8,000; Victorian Parliament, 13,000; New South Wales Parliament, 8,500; South Australian Parliament, 6,000; Tasmanian Parliament, 1,000; making a total of 36,500 signatures.

The *Southern Sentinel* proved a very important factor in this crisis. It has been more widely circulated, and become better known during the past year than at any time previous. It has been supplied to all the Members of Par-

liament in Australia and Tasmania, and to about 600 leading newspapers in the Colonies. It has also been sent to public libraries, and to a large number of ministers of various Protestant denominations. This is in addition to the circulation given to the journal by our churches. We have had evidence that the *Sentinel* has been read and highly appreciated by many of influence and standing.

To facilitate the work of securing petitions, two four-paged leaflets were printed and circulated.



OFFICE OF THE AUSTRALIAN TRACT SOCIETY.

Of these together about 100,000 copies were distributed.

There seems to have been a growing desire on the part of our churches to conform more nearly to our Saviour's method of work as revealed in His earthly life. Those engaging most largely in Christian Help work have been richly blessed in an increasing spirituality and brotherly love, and the work has resulted in removing prejudice and winning souls to Christ.

Committees were appointed as follows:—

On Nominations: N. D. Faulkhead, G. Hubbard, Wm. Knight.

On Resolutions: W. D. Salisbury, E. R. Palmer, A. T. Robinson.

The following resolutions were adopted:—

WHEREAS, The special blessing of the Lord has attended the work of this Society during the past year, as shown by the greatly increased sale of our subscription books and helps; by the rapidly extending circulation of the *Bible Echo*; and by the financial prosperity of the Society, notwithstanding the heavy expense it has carried; therefore—

Resolved, That we praise the Lord for His goodness, and endeavour to continue our Tract Society work in harmony with His opening providence.

WHEREAS, We believe that the book and tract work can be greatly strengthened by establishing local management in the various colonies; therefore—

Resolved, That we heartily approve of the recommendation of the Union Conference, that tract depots, with control of all lines of Tract Society work, be established in Queensland, and West Australia; and further—

Resolved, That we do all in our power to assist in this advance step by providing trained workers, and assisting in the organisation of these Societies.

WHEREAS, We believe that Christian Help work is the Lord's way of bringing the suffering and lost to a knowledge of the gospel, and all who engage in this work are greatly blessed; and—

WHEREAS, Experienced labourers have been sent to our field to engage in this and kindred enterprises; therefore—

Resolved, That we give special attention to this method of bringing the blessed gospel of physical, mental, and moral salvation to the needy.

Resolved, That we request the Union Conference to make provision for the publication, as frequently as once a month, of a small leaflet, suitable for wide distribution, to be used by our local Tract Societies, and scattered "like the leaves of autumn."

The following officers were elected:—

President, A. T. Robinson; Vice-President, E. R. Palmer; Secretary and Treasurer, Miss E. M. Graham; General Agent, E. R. Palmer; District Directors: Victoria, A. Ballingall; South Australia, J. Higgins; Tasmania, J. Large.

The meeting adjourned *sine die*.

A. G. DANIELLS, *President*.

A. L. INGELS, *Secretary*.

BIBLE ECHO SALES

During the Year, 1897.

Churches.	Membership.	Echoes.	Unorganised Companies.	Echoes.
Adelaide	.. 159	32,500	Brought Forward	138,385
Ashfield	.. 66	6,344	Balaclava mission	.. 3,000
Avondale	.. 50	2,758	Bendigo	.. 5,390
Ballarat	.. 40	3,068	Brisbane	.. 11,948
Bismarck	.. 56	639	Charters Towers	.. 4,412
Brighton	.. 14	1,092	Croydon	.. 1,592
Broken Hill	.. 18	8,412	Geelong	.. 2,945
Hawthorn	.. 40	2,131	Gonilbourn	.. 120
Hobart	.. 95	6,981	Ipswich	.. 676
Kellyville	.. 16	1,372	Kalgoorlie	.. 1,008
Latrobe	.. 9	312	Kangarilla	.. 533
Melbourne	.. 208	9,013	Kadina	.. 566
Malvern	.. 23	1,480	Launceston	.. 1,174
Parramatta	.. 70	13,352	Melrose	.. 1,828
Perth	.. 31	7,730	Stanmore mission	.. 1,827
Prahran	.. 47	8,256	Townsville	.. 4,436
Prospect	.. 12	600	Traralgon	.. 522
Rockhampton	68	4,648	Zeehan	.. 1,200
Sydney	.. 84	22,029	New Zealand	.. 86,735
Toowoomba	.. 28	2,220	Miscellaneous	.. 35,688
Williamstown	64	3,118		
Carried Forward		138,385	Total	303,985

SUBSCRIPTION BOOK WORK.

"It is the Lord's doings, and marvellous in our eyes." This is the only reason that can be given for the large book sales during the past year by our agents. One of the most prosperous years we have ever had has been enjoyed, while at the same time the country has been passing through a most severe and widespread drought, which is still rapidly ruining many of our finest agricultural districts. In the face of this our agents have persevered, and the Lord has greatly blessed them.

As will be seen in the annual summary, our agents have taken orders to the value of £8,361. Of these they have delivered to the value of £7,400, or 88½ per cent of the orders taken.

Of this total amount delivered, medical books have amounted to £4,144, and religious books to £3,256.

At all times, and during this time of drought and depression in particular, it is a great advantage to our work that we can handle both the medical and religious books. The great droughts often make the good workable territory quite limited, and in order to keep all the agents at work, it is often necessary to go over the same ground frequently. By working a given territory for a religious book, and following it with a medical book, they do not interfere with each other, as would be the case if they were all of one class.

DIVISION OF TERRITORY.

Since the office of the Australian Tract Society was moved from Sydney to Melbourne about three years ago, it has managed the subscription book

business in all the colonies except New Zealand. The Lord has greatly blessed this arrangement, and has brought order and strength into the Tract Department. Now that that point has been achieved, new opportunities for improvement present themselves.

The field is so large and scattered that it is very difficult to keep in close touch with all parts, and do as direct work as is required. This fact has led to a decision to divide the tract work into the same divisions as are arranged for Conference work, viz., The Central Conference, New South Wales Conference, Queensland Mission Field, and West Australian Mission Field. Steps to bring this about have already been taken. The New South Wales Conference has taken over the book work, and Miss L. Gregg was sent from this office to act as their Secretary. The Queensland work is now being transferred to Brisbane, where Miss Annie Higgins, who has been in the Melbourne office for over three years, will act as Secretary. Mr. J. Hindson, who has been canvassing for a long time in West Australia, is now with us preparing to go to Perth to open an office there.

This arrangement will give a local management to all these distant colonies, and a depository from which supplies can be obtained without sending to Melbourne. This will save much expense and long delays, and add much to the strength of the local work in each colony. The sale of books in each of these divisions has been nearly the same for the past year, which indicates that the four Societies will be of nearly equal strength. A field agent, whose time will be divided between canvassing and assisting and instructing agents, will be appointed for each field.

We believe that this division is in harmony with God's will, and that He will greatly bless it. For the blessing of the past year we have great reason for gratitude. E. R. PALMER, *General Agent*.

THE SUMMARY.

It will doubtless be interesting to our agents to compare their work with that of their fellows. In the summary we have placed the names in order in proportion to the value of sales. Many worked only a short time, hence the small report. We would gladly have reported the days worked, but as some did not report the days properly, the record would be incomplete and misleading. This summary will enable each agent to see his work at a glance, and determine how much he has actually done. Nearly all will doubtless feel like driving the New Year's stake a little in advance of the old year's record.

SUMMARY OF AUSTRALIAN CANVASSING WORK.

Year Ending June, 1897.

	No. of Orders.	Value.
Mrs. Faith Johanson	545	£559 11 6
Mr. C. P. Michaels	434	543 8 6
Mr. Arthur Currow	349	523 6 0
Mrs. M. A. Gregg	415	417 11 6
Mrs. J. Hewitt	387	388 17 6
Mr. J. Hindson	274	367 17 6
Mr. Fairly Masters	426	352 17 6
Mr. F. W. Reekie	209	315 12 0
Miss A. J. Ackary	263	276 15 6
Mr. A. S. Hickox	142	255 4 0
Mr. I. J. Turnbull	301	223 10 0
Mr. T. A. Chapman	361	214 12 3
Mr. J. Johanson	188	210 0 0
Mr. T. Whittle	261	209 10 0
Mrs. C. Gooding	206	208 3 0
Mr. J. B. Downs	260	191 16 0
Mr. N. A. Davis	134	188 17 6
Mr. R. S. Bell	232	186 17 0
Mr. Philip Reekie	254	178 18 6
Mr. A. G. McKenzie	132	178 7 6
Mr. P. W. Mills	212	167 7 6
Mr. J. F. Henderson	184	156 6 0
Mr. R. J. Stoate	288	152 5 6
Mr. J. C. Diverall	171	137 13 0
Mrs. M. Mosedale	122	124 2 6
Mr. R. Dean	158	123 0 0
Mrs. N. A. Davis	79	112 12 6
Miss Edith Adcock	150	99 13 0
Mr. W. F. Fisher	154	98 1 6
Mrs. Dean	149	96 9 0
Mr. W. R. Carswell	114	87 14 6
Mr. Louis Currow	42	73 16 6
Mrs. Carswell	104	71 14 6
Miss Gertrude Walker	106	71 2 6
Mr. P. B. Rudge	97	71 0 0
Mr. P. L. Hill	96	69 4 0
Miss M. Gill	75	62 18 0
Miss Lily Oliver	75	61 16 0
Mr. C. Buhler	74	59 15 6
Mr. T. Farraut	102	59 7 3
Mr. J. Innes	64	44 12 6
Mr. J. Hewitt	36	43 17 6
Mrs. Innes	63	42 1 0
Mr. J. Wallace	81	40 10 6
Mr. T. Craddock	50	35 18 0
Mr. G. Blunden	20	35 17 6
Mr. C. Hughes	88	34 0 0
Miss Sumpter	77	28 16 6
Miss L. Gregg	34	24 17 6
Miss Zeibig	66	24 9 0
Mr. Geo. Fisher	16	12 14 0
Miss Olsen	28	9 12 0
Miss M. Hawkins	12	9 8 0
Mr. W. E. Wanman	13	9 5 0
Miss N. Lacey	12	5 14 0
Mr. William Gregg	6	4 6 0
Mr. E. Hoskins	3	3 0 0
Mrs. Patching	3	2 10 0
Mr. H. Herbert	2	1 18 6
Grand Total	8999	£8361 0 6

THE SOUTHERN SENTINEL.

In the providence of God this journal was started four years ago the coming March, to oppose measures and movements in the Australasian colonies for the restriction of the rights of conscience, and to herald the glorious gospel of soul liberty. Without boasting we can truly say, we believe it has done a grand and noble work. Through its pages, thousands, and many, too, in high places, have been enlightened upon this important theme. By it, errors, which have long been cherished as truth, have been exposed, and in their place correct principles presented for the consideration and approval of candid and thinking men and women.

From the first the *Sentinel* has been well received. Not only has the mechanical work on it been such as to commend it to the public, but the doctrines which have been taught in it have been set forth in such a clear, forcible, and logical manner as to win the respect and admiration of many honest and fair-minded men. Scores upon scores of favourable notices of the journal have appeared from time to time in the press all over the colonies. With few exceptions only good words have been said of it by editors and business men in general. We know the Lord has helped those who have had the preparation of the matter for it. The glorious truth it advocates is His, and He has blessed in the presentation of it.

OCCUPIES A DISTINCT FIELD.

The *Sentinel* occupies a separate and distinct field of its own. Many men who are not specially interested in the general subject of religion, become interested in it at that point where it touches legislation, or where the natural and God-given rights of men are contravened. Many who would not otherwise consider whether men ought to keep the seventh day as the Sabbath, will be led to do so by considering whether men have a *right* to keep the seventh day and work on the other six days, in disregard of *Sunday laws*. For the benefit of this class of men—legislators, lawyers, doctors, ministers, editors, teachers, and literary and professional men generally—the *Sentinel* is especially intended; though it sets forth principles with which all, especially those who profess the third angel's message, should be familiar. Having been circulated freely among such men, all can readily see that it moves among a large and influential class.

And we know it has had weight. From conversations with legislators we know its principles have, in more instances than one, found lodgment and taken root. One young man employed in the Victorian Parliament House thought so much of the journal as to copy out portions from the copies sent Members of Parliament. We verily believe

it has been the means of holding in check movements for the restriction of the rights of conscience in these colonies.

EFFECTS OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY LITERATURE.

Referring to the effect of circulating religious liberty literature in America, Brother Allen Moon, President of the International Religious Liberty Association, in a private letter to the writer recently received, says:—

"We have so completely sown this country with our literature that almost every intelligent man of all religious beliefs, as well as those of no particular religious faith, has had an opportunity to study up on this subject, and the sentiment among lawyers, doctors, and professional men generally, is on the side of liberty. It is not difficult at the present time to get twenty men of eminent ability to appear before a Committee of Congress to oppose the passage of any religious measure.

"It would seem from all that has occurred of late that liberty is an element of the very air they breathe all over North America. However, we have not reached a point where we have lost faith in the fulfilment of prophecy, but, on the contrary, we believe that now is the time to labour to save the people from what is coming upon the earth."

Should we not follow this example, and sow this country likewise with religious liberty literature? Will it not be a wise thing and a good thing to do?

Up to the present the *Sentinel* has been issued as a quarterly. Henceforth it is to be issued as a monthly. With the first number of this year, just out, its style and general appearance have been somewhat altered, but not its sentiments. We trust that our people all over the colonies will give it their hearty support. Large clubs of it should be taken and freely circulated. Price in clubs of six copies or more, for one year, 9d. each. May God continue to bless the *Sentinel* and those who circulate it.

W. A. COLCORD.

CENTRAL AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE.

THE tenth annual session of the Central Australian Conference of Seventh-day Adventists was held on the camp ground at Balaclava, Victoria, Nov. 18 to Dec. 5, 1897. Three meetings were held at which the President, A. G. Daniells, presided.

The churches of the Conference were represented by delegates as follows:—

Adelaide 5, Ballarat 3, Brighton 1, Hawthorn 1, Hobart 2, Malvern 2, North Fitzroy 7, Prahran 2, Williamstown 5. Delegates at large, A. G. Daniells, N. D. Faulkhead, Geo. Hubbard, R. G. Anderson, Wm. Knight, and E. R. Palmer.

Pastor R. Hare presented a petition from the little company of Sabbath-keepers recently organised at Geelong for admittance to the Conference. A motion to receive was heartily supported and carried unanimously. This company during the past year has paid tithes to the amount of £97 3s. 6d., an average of £6 9s. 7d. per member.

The balance sheet was presented by the Treasurer, which showed that the receipts during the past year have exceeded the expenses to the amount of £356 5s. 1d.

The President in his brief address outlined the past year's work, and made many encouraging suggestions for the future. In behalf of the Conference he extended a hearty welcome to Pastor and Mrs. Robinson, who had recently arrived from South Africa.

The usual Committees were appointed by the Chair as follows:—

On Delegations: A. Chelberg, G. James, E. A. Shephard.

On Resolutions: A. T. Robinson, J. H. Woods, N. D. Faulkhead.

On Nominations: W. D. Salisbury; John Large, A. Ballingall.

On Credentials: R. Hare, A. W. Anderson, and George Hubbard.

In view of the very large attendance at the meetings, and the pressing need of more seating room for the people, it was moved by N. D. Faulkhead, and supported by George Hubbard, that a thirty-foot centre-piece be procured at once for the pavilion. The motion was unanimously carried, and emphasised by voluntary donations amounting to £111 11s.

Credentials and Licenses were granted as follows:—

Credentials: A. T. Robinson.

Ministerial Licenses: J. H. Woods, G. Hubbard, C. P. Michaels, A. Ballingall.

Missionary Licenses: W. H. B. Miller, N. D. Faulkhead, Wm. Knight, W. D. Salisbury, A. W. Anderson, J. Steed, A. H. Rogers, P. B. Rudge.

The following resolutions were adopted:—

WHEREAS, We may see evidences of the protecting and guiding hand of God over the work of our Conference during the past year, as shown in the success that has attended the work, both spiritually and financially; therefore—

Resolved, That we express our deep gratitude to Him for the innumerable mercies of the past, and renew our consecration to His service for the year before us.

Resolved, That we recommend the Executive Committee to provide, during the coming year, from twenty to twenty-five tents.

Resolved, That we heartily commend the plan that has been followed, to some extent, during the past year, of encouraging lay brethren to visit and labour for the different churches, and that we encourage this plan to be followed.

Resolved, That we recognise the providence of God in the establishment of our school at Cooranbong, N. S. W., and that we express to Him our heartfelt gratitude for the success that has attended the school during its first year.

WHEREAS, There are scores of young men and women throughout the ranks of our people, in the different

colonies of this Conference, who would be greatly blessed and benefited by the advantages which this school has to offer; therefore—

Resolved, That we do all in our power to assist and encourage such young people to avail themselves of the training which this school is prepared to give them.

WHEREAS, There is an absolute need for the erection of a third building in connection with the Institution before the opening of the next school year; therefore—

Resolved, That we complete the raising of the sum which we have already pledged ourselves to do, in order that funds may be provided to meet the cost of another building.

Resolved, That we heartily approve of the efforts being made to meet the cost of another building.

Resolved, That we heartily approve of the efforts being made to establish medical missionary work in its varied phases in our large cities, and that we will give ourselves heartily to this work.

Resolved, That we approve of the action of the Union Conference in the appointment of standing Committees, to work in the interest of orphans and aged people, and that we pledge ourselves to heartily co-operate in doing such lines of gospel work.

The sixth resolution was acted upon in a very substantial way by voluntary donations to the school to the amount of £64 10s.

A motion by N. D. Faulkhead, seconded by A. T. Robinson, that the camp-meeting be extended for one week, was very enthusiastically supported by the delegates.

As we were somewhat delayed in the preparations for the meeting, and as the interest seemed to be steadily increasing and reaching great proportions, it was thought advisable both for the interests of the public, and for our own people, that we follow the example of the children of Israel in the days of Hezekiah, and celebrate this "feast another seven days." The motion was unanimously carried by a rising vote.

Requests for labour:—

Brother Simmons from Bendigo made an urgent appeal in behalf of tent work in that town at an early date.

Sister Higgins requested that further consideration be given the present needs in Adelaide. The church should have help, as well as the towns in other parts of the colony.

The delegates from Ballarat requested that a Bible worker be located there.

The following officers were elected: President, A. T. Robinson; Vice-President, R. G. Anderson; Secretary, Wm. Knight; Treasurer, Cecil Pretzman. Executive Committee: A. T. Robinson, R. G. Anderson, N. D. Faulkhead, E. R. Palmer, W. Knight, J. H. Woods, A. W. Anderson.

Adjourned *sine die*.

A. G. DANIELLS, *President*.

E. R. PALMER, *Secretary*.

REPORT OF THE CENTRAL AUSTRALIAN SABBATH-SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

THE tenth annual session of the above Association was held November 24, 1897, at 9 A.M., on the Balaclava camp ground, Melbourne.

The meeting opened with the President, Pastor W. A. Colcord, in the chair. After singing "Where Are the Reapers," prayer was offered by Pastor A. T. Robinson. The minutes of the meetings of the previous session were read and approved.

The President stated that since the departure from us of the President elected at the previous meeting, that office had fallen on him.

The Secretary's report was then read. It showed that four new schools had been organised during the year, and one discontinued, making in all twenty-eight schools in the Association at the present time, with a total membership of 925 scholars.

The Treasurer's report was read, which showed the amount on hand at the beginning of the year to have been 10s. 4½d. The total amount of money received during the year, £127 6s. 8½d. Amount donated to missions £109 19s. Tithe received by the Association £16 17s. 4d. Tithe paid to the International Association £1 13s. 10d. Amount paid on *Sabbath-school Workers* £5 7s. 9½d. Other expenses for the year £7 15s. 4½d., leaving a balance on hand of £2 10s. 8½d.

The President stated that upon the recommendation of the President of the Conference, Pastor A. G. Daniells, the Secretary had also acted as Treasurer throughout the year in the place of Miss E. M. Graham, who was elected to that office at the last annual session.

A table placed on a blackboard showing the membership of each school, the total amount of contributions of each school for the year, the donations to missions, the average amount contributed by each member in the different schools, and a comparative statement of the statistics of the years 1896 and 1897 were interesting features of the meeting. The latter was as follows:—

Year.	Schools.	Member-ship.	Scholars Church Members.	Classes.	Contributions.			Tithe.			Missions.		
					£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1896	25	803	374	127	172	17	5	15	8	3½	62	13	11½
1897	28	925	390	127	192	9	9½	16	17	4	109	19	0
Gain	3	32	16	0	19	12	4½	1	9	0½	47	5	0½

The following persons were elected as officers for the present year: For President, J. H. Woods; Vice-President, W. H. B. Miller; Secretary and Treasurer, Anna L. Colcord; Executive Committee, J. H. Woods, W. H. B. Miller, Anna L. Colcord, E. M. Graham, and W. A. Colcord.

W. A. COLCORD, *President*.

ANNA L. COLCORD, *Secretary*.

NEW SOUTH WALES CONFERENCE.

THE second annual session of the New South Wales Conference was held on the camp ground, Stanmore, Oct. 21 to Nov. 1, 1897.

The first meeting was called Oct. 24, with the President, W. L. H. Baker, in the chair.

The following were received as delegates from the churches:—

Cooranbong.—M Hare, D. Lacey, G. Tadish, F. Tucker, A. Piper, Miss M. Hawkins.

Newtown.—R. Shannon, E. Appleton, J. F. Hay, A. Sothern.

Ashfield.—A. R. Sherwin, P. Squires, A. B. Cook, T. Patching, Mrs. S. Patching.

Parramatta.—E. Smith, G. Gregory, Mrs. L. Mcleay.

Prospect.—H. Cooper.

Kellyville.—F. Martin, W. Hall.

In his address the Chairman referred to the general progress made during the year in the churches, Tract Society, Sabbath-schools, health work, and the interests centred at Cooranbong. In all these directions advance steps have been taken, and in keeping pace with the message there has been an apparent increase of spirituality among our own people. This was particularly noticeable during the Religious Liberty Crisis and the week of prayer.

The finances showed the Conference to be in a prosperous condition.

A Tract Depository has been established in harmony with a resolution adopted at the last Conference, and is now being carried on in Stanmore, where any of our publications can be obtained.

The Sabbath-schools have received much help from the study of the past year's lessons on the Gospel by John.

Elder S. N. Haskell spoke of the interests at Cooranbong. He referred to the phenomenal growth of the school from two to eighty-seven; of the spiritual blessings received in the baptism of nineteen of the students, and the erection of a church building which, though costing £550, was dedicated free of debt.

The Committees for the session were appointed as follows:—

On Delegation: D. Lacey, G. R. Sothern, C. J. Anderson.

On Nominations: M. Hare, A. R. Sherwin, R. Shannon.

On Resolutions: H. C. Lacey, W. A. Colcord, A. M. Jennett.

On Credentials and Licenses: A. G. Daniells, J. Smith, F. Tucker.

On Auditing: R. Hardy, J. Patterson, F. Martin, and E. Smith.

The following resolutions were adopted by the Conference:—

WHEREAS, Prosperity in a marked degree has attended the work of the Conference in its various branches during the past year; therefore—

1. *Resolved*, That we hereby express our gratitude to God for His blessings and fostering care.

WHEREAS, The advancement of the message in New South Wales demands an increase of labourers in the field; therefore—

2. *Resolved*, That we approve of the employment of more workers in this Conference.

WHEREAS, The determined efforts during the past year to secure by law stricter Sunday observance in this colony, and the introduction of a religious clause into the proposed Federal Constitution, indicate that troublous times are before us, and that freedom of conscience is likely ere long to be restricted. and—

WHEREAS, Such movements should not only be opposed, but afford an excellent opportunity for calling the attention of many to the message of truth for this time; therefore—

3. *Resolved*, That we express our approval of the work that has been done in this line in this Conference, in holding meetings, interviewing Members of Parliament and in circulating petitions, religious liberty leaflets, and the *Southern Sentinel*, and favour the continuance of such work in the future as the occasion presents itself.

WHEREAS, During the past year we have seen successfully established and conducted at Cooranbong the Avondale School for Christian Workers; therefore—

4. *Resolved*, That we show our appreciation of this enterprise by encouraging our young people, and especially those who contemplate entering the work, to attend this school, and receive the benefits of this institution.

WHEREAS, Funds will be needed for the erection of additional buildings to accommodate an increased attendance at the Avondale School; therefore—

5. *Resolved*, That we invite our brethren in this Conference to donate liberally to this enterprise.

6. *Resolved*, That we gratefully acknowledge the success that has attended the Sydney Health Home, and that we encourage all laudable efforts put forth to extend this branch of the work in this Conference.

7. *Resolved*, That we express our approval of the action taken by the Executive Committee in establishing a Book and Tract Depository in this Conference during the past year, and in taking over the subscription book business in this field.

8. *Resolved*, That we take steps to educate our people in the various phases of Christian Help work, and that we encourage them to engage heartily in the lines of missionary labour included in this enterprise.

9. *Resolved*, That during the ensuing year a number of family tents be made for the Conference for future camp-meeting use, and that a tent fund be opened, and donations received and solicited for this purpose.

Before the election of the officers, the Conference Constitution, which required an Executive Committee of seven, was altered to five members. The amended portion now stands, "The officers of this Conference shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of five, of which the President and Vice-President shall be members, and they shall be elected annually."

The officers elected for the ensuing year are as follows:—

President, W. L. H. Baker; Vice-President, W. C. White; Secretary, Miss L. Gregg; Treasurer, pro. tem., W. L. H. Baker.

Executive Committee: W. L. H. Baker, W. C. White, S. N. Haskell, J. Smith, A. W. Semmens,

The Committee on Credentials and Licenses presented the following report, which was adopted:—

Credentials, W. L. H. Baker.

Licenses, A. W. Semmens, M. Hare.

Throughout the entire session the presence of the Lord was with His people, who were specially blessed with unity and freedom. All seemed greatly benefited by the services, and returned to their homes rejoicing that they had been privileged to attend this meeting. A deep and abiding interest was also awakened in the community in which the Conference was held.

W. L. H. BAKER, *President*,

LIZZIE GREGG, *Secretary*,

NEW ZEALAND CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS.

THE eight session of this Conference was held at Napier, December 24-31, 1897. Nine churches were represented by eighteen delegates. The churches at Kaeo and Palmerston North were not represented. The church at Christchurch, with thirty-six members, was admitted to the Conference.

The Chairman announced the Committees as follows:—

On Nominations: A. Mountain, J. Paap, George Johnson.

On Resolutions: George Teasdale, A. G. Daniells, J. H. Camp, Dr. E. R. Caro, Mrs. Emma Steed.

On Credentials: D. Steed, J. R. Nicholson, J. H. Camp.

On Auditing: S. H. Amyes, J. Paap, George Johnson, A. Smith, A. Wilson, S. Berry.

The Committee on Resolutions submitted the following report:—

Resolved, That we approve of the recommendations passed by the Australasian Union Conference Committee in reference to the *Southern Sentinel*.

Resolved, That this Conference subscribe for a club of the *Southern Sentinel*, for 1898, equal to twice its present recorded membership, and that we earnestly request each church to take at least its proportion, that is, two copies for each member.

WHEREAS, The people of New Zealand are in need of thorough medical institutions, medical instruction, healthful foods, and other healthful appliances; therefore—

Resolved, That this Conference approve of the decision of the Medical Organising Committee to form an Australasian Medical Missionary and Benevolent Association.

Resolved, That every effort be made throughout New Zealand to secure life and annual memberships to the Association.

Resolved, That adequate efforts be made to raise funds for the support of medical missionary enterprises in New Zealand.

Resolved, That we heartily approve of the resolution of the Medical Organising Committee, to provide at least one physician and two trained nurses for this colony.

Resolved, That the Medical Organising Committee be petitioned to advise Doctors George and Jessie Hare, and Mr. Arthur Brandstater and wife to make New Zealand their field of labour.

Resolved, That plans be made to commence medical work in one or more of our large cities at an early date.

Resolved, That we are desirous of seeing every church member in this colony engaged in Christian Help work, and will do all we can to secure this desired result.

Resolved, That we invite Dr. Caro, Junr., to assist us by medical lectures in our leading cities, and by special instruction in our several churches, as far as his time and opportunities will permit.

WHEREAS, God has specially blessed camp-meeting efforts in the colonies; therefore—

Resolved, That we earnestly recommend that a camp-meeting be held in New Zealand next year, and that immediate steps be taken to secure the tents that will be required for such a meeting.

WHEREAS, There is immediate need of funds to prepare the Avondale School for the proper accommodation of students; therefore—

Resolved, That we request all our churches to make earnest efforts to raise the remainder of the amount apportioned to this Conference, for the establishment of the Avondale School.

These resolutions were freely discussed, and unanimously adopted. A good interest was manifested in the consideration of all these questions. Three persons signified their desire to become life members of the Medical Missionary and Benevolent Association, by subscribing twenty pounds each; twenty-five persons subscribed themselves as annual members by giving one pound each; and one person paid ten pounds, making the total amount ninety-five pounds pledged at this meeting. Subscriptions were taken for sixty-eight copies of the *Herald of Health*.

The Committee on Nominations presented the following report:—

President, E. W. Farnsworth; Secretary, Mrs. V. J. Farnsworth; Treasurer, A. Mountain;

Executive Committee, E. W. Farnsworth, D. Steed, George Teasdale, J. N. Anderson, S. H. Amys.

The Committee on Credentials and Licenses reported as follows:—

Credentials: E. W. Farnsworth, D. Steed, A. S. Hickox.

Ordination and Credentials: George Teasdale.

Licenses: Mrs. M. Caro, W. M. Crothers.

The business of this session was transacted in five meetings, and was characterised by great unanimity of sentiment, harmony of action, and much of the blessing of God.

E. W. FARNSWORTH, *President*.

MRS. V. J. FARNSWORTH, *Secretary*.

NEW ZEALAND TRACT SOCIETY.

THE eighth annual session of the New Zealand Tract and Missionary Society was held in connection with the Conference at Napier, Dec. 28th and 29th, 1897. Two meetings were held.

On account of the severe illness of the President, Brother W. M. Crothers, E. W. Farnsworth was called to the chair. The Secretary presented the annual report, and copies of the balance-sheet were distributed. The chair appointed the following Committees:—

On Resolutions: G. Teasdale, A. G. Daniells, Dr. E. R. Caro, J. H. Camp, and Mrs. Emma Steed.

On Nominations: A Mountain, J. Paap, George Johnson.

The Committee on Resolutions presented the following report:—

Resolved, That we express our gratitude to God for the very encouraging state of our finances at the present time.

Resolved, That we express our gratitude to the General Conference of America for its generous gift to the New Zealand Tract Society.

Resolved, That we express to Brother W. M. Crothers, the President, our appreciation of his efforts in behalf of this Society; that we regret his inability to be with us at this meeting, and also that we extend to him our heart-felt sympathy because of his illness, and offer to God our united prayers that he may speedily recover.

WHEREAS, The Tract Society of New Zealand has been greatly hindered in its work and standing through the lack of suitable buildings, and whereas a section of land has been purchased for the erection of such buildings in Wellington; therefore—

Resolved, That steps be taken immediately to proceed with the erection of necessary buildings.

WHEREAS, The blessing of God has attended the efforts of our canvassers the past year, and indications show that *now* is the best time to work; therefore—

Resolved, That this Society do all in its power to urge suitable persons to take up this important work, and that it aid them by its prayers and sympathies.

WHEREAS, Healthful foods and healthful appliances are needed in the Colony; therefore—

Resolved, That we accept the offer of the Medical Organising Committee to give temporarily the health food agency to New Zealand Tract Society, the agency not to be considered an exclusive one.

Resolved, That we do our best to support the inter-colonial health journal, *The Herald of Health*, by securing for it as wide a circulation as possible.

These resolutions were enthusiastically discussed and unanimously adopted.

The Committee on Nominations presented the following report:—

For President, W. M. Crothers; Vice-President, E. W. Farnsworth; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. M. H. Tuxford; General Agent, J. H. Camp; Directors, District No. 1, D. Steed; 2, J. N. Anderson; 3, A. Mountain; 4, G. Teasdale.

Meeting adjourned *sine die*.

E. W. FARNSWORTH, *Chairman, pro tem.*

MRS. M. H. TUXFORD, *Secretary*.

NEW ZEALAND SABBATH-SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

THE eighth session of the New Zealand Sabbath-school Association was held in Napier, December 27 to 31, 1897.

Four meetings were held and presided over by Mrs. V. J. Farnsworth. The President, in her interesting address, covered the following subjects: The object we have in leading the children to raise a fund for the famine-stricken children of India; our Sabbath-school lessons; our donations; special lines of work, and the need of the converting power of God in our schools. The President expressed a strong desire that all would gauge the success of their school by what is accomplished in bringing scholars to Christ.

The President appointed the Committees as follows:—

On Nominations: A. Mountain, J. N. Nicholson, Mrs. Codling.

On Resolutions: Mrs. E. Hare, T. Waterworth, Mrs. E. Steed.

Resolutions were submitted and adopted, which expressed thankfulness to God for His blessings during the past year; urged upon all to take advance steps in Sabbath-school work; and to increase the circulation of the *Worker*; the Secretaries of the schools were requested to notify the Secretary of the Association of the removal of members to isolated places; the church officers to set apart a portion of the Sabbath service in which to address the children. It was also recommended that the kindergarten system be adopted; and that all be encouraged to contribute to missions.

The report of the Nominating Committee, which was adopted, was as follows: President, Mrs. V. J. Farnsworth. Vice-President, Mrs. Esther Anderson. Secretary, Mrs. E. Steed.

Executive Committee, Mrs. V. J. Farnsworth, Mrs. Esther Anderson, Mrs. E. Steed, Mrs. M. Caro, Miss M. Cooke.

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QUEENSLAND MISSION.

THE following is a summary of the report of the Queensland Mission Field as presented by G. B. Starr and J. Pallant before the delegates of the Union Conference assembled on the Stanmore camp ground, Oct. 21-31, 1897.

The colony of Queensland has an estimated area of 668,497 square miles, with a coast line of 2,250 miles in length. The population is about 500,000, of which 100,000 is in Brisbane, the

capital city. Brisbane is beautifully situated on the Brisbane River, fourteen miles from Moreton Bay. There are some twenty towns of importance in the colony, varying in population from 1000 to 13,000 inhabitants, besides many smaller villages.

The colony has abundant resources in its agricultural, gold-mining, cattle, sheep, and wool-raising industries, and productive fruit-growing districts. The Darling Downs Range of beautiful tableland, lying 2000 feet above sea level, is one of the finest and richest pieces of land in all Australia. Peaches, pears, apricots, oranges, bananas, pine apples, passion fruit, guavas, mangoes, and abundance of grapes are grown. The climate south of the tropic of Capricorn is a delightful one. In the far north it is rather too warm.

The present truth was introduced into the colony by the canvassers, and some fifteen or twenty persons were observing it when the first ministers, Pastors Starr and Hickox, entered the colony in June, 1894. There are at the present time two organised churches; one at Rockhampton, on the tropic of Capricorn, with a membership of seventy-three, and one at Toowoomba, on the Darling Downs, with thirty members, making a total church membership of one hundred and three. There are also eighty-four adult Sabbath-keepers not yet organised into churches. These embrace a German company at Gatton of eight, an English company at Ipswich of twelve, and two companies at Brisbane, with a Sabbath-school attendance of seventy-five. There are nine Sabbath-schools in Queensland with a membership of two hundred and thirty-seven.

The circulation of the *Bible Echo* has increased from 274 copies weekly to 732 copies. There has been but little ministerial labour in Queensland during the past six months, Pastor Starr having been called to Adelaide in April, leaving the mission without an ordained minister and superintendent. Bro. Whittle has been engaged in Bible work in Charters Towers and Townsville for nine months, and a number of persons are observing the Sabbath as the result of his work. Brother Pallant and Miss Gertrude Walker have been engaged in Bible work in Brisbane, and some thirty-four persons have embraced the truth. Brother M. Bernoth laboured for four months of the year among the Germans. Several Germans have embraced the truth in his neighbourhood, which is a German settlement, and regular Sabbath meetings are held.

The tithe for the year amounted to £331 17s. Other donations increased the total receipts to £360 11s. The colony, with its present force of labourers, is a self-supporting mission, but the labourers must be increased, and new lines of work opened. There are ten canvassers at work in the colony. Their sales for the year were £2,101 6s. 3d. The average tithe paid per member is the highest in Australasia, being £5 10s.

PLANS FOR FUTURE WORK.

Since the foregoing report of the Queensland mission was given, Pastor G. B. Starr has been re-elected to the superintendency of that field, and Miss Annie Higgins has been appointed Secretary of the Queensland Tract Society, and Treasurer of the mission. Steps are being taken to open a Tract Depository at Brisbane. The subscription book work will also be managed by the Queensland Society. A colonial canvassing agent will be chosen for that department. E. R. Palmer, and Miss Annie Higgins are now on their way to Brisbane to open up the above-mentioned lines of work, and to hold a workers' institute at Brisbane beginning about February 1. Brother T. Whittle has been called from Townsville to assist Brother Pallant in a series of meetings at Rockhampton, then to return with Brother Pallant to Brisbane to labour with him in Bible work in that city.

A request for appropriations has been made for the opening of the medical missionary work in Brisbane, and it is hoped that before the close of the year a doctor and nurses will be engaged in active work there.

WEST AUSTRALIAN MISSION.

BROTHER J. HINDSON furnishes us with the following summary of a report of the West Australian mission as presented by R. Hare and himself to the Union Conference delegates assembled at Coorabong, N.S.W., October 14, 1897:—

The Colony of the West, fittingly styled the "Cinderella" of the Australasian group, has at one bound leaped into world-wide prominence, consequent upon the recent marvellous discoveries of gold at Coolgardie and the Murchison. The astonishing finds of the precious metal at "Bayley's Reward," "The Londonderry," "The Wealth of Nations," and the "Great Boulder," caused English capitalists and investors in other lands to turn their attention to this part of Australia. Gold is the magnet which has attracted thousands to her shores, and will attract thousands more.

West Australia seems to have entered upon an era of industrial and commercial greatness, and there are signs which show that in point of activity in gold-mining, she may, at no distant date, equal, and possibly excel, the palmiest days of the Golden Age in Victoria and California.

Its length from north to south is 1,480 miles, and its breadth from east to west 1,000 miles. Its area is 975,920 square miles. The population is about 180,000, of which 30,000 is in Perth, the capital city. Perth is pleasantly situated on the Swan River, eleven miles from the Port of Fremantle. Many important towns are springing

up throughout the colony, ranging in population from 200 to 20,000 inhabitants.

Practically there are only two seasons, the dry and the wet. The climate varies a good deal in the different parts. In the south and south-west it is temperate and cool. To the eastward the climate is dryer. In the north the heat is often excessive, but very dry.

The colony has great possibilities not only in its mineral wealth, but in its vast tracts of territory suitable for agriculture and horticulture. Its forest resources are unsurpassed in Australia.

OPENING OF THE MISSION.

The glad tidings of present truth were carried into the colony four years ago by the canvassers, through whom a great work has been accomplished. Up to the present time about 6,000 copies of our books have been sold. The value of sales for the past year has been £1,865. Throughout the colony are a number of scattered Sabbath-keepers who received the truth through the faithful efforts of the canvassers.

The ministerial part of the work was commenced in the early part of the year 1896 by Pastor J. O. Corliss and J. E. Collins. After opening up the mission, and organising a church, Pastor Corliss left in April of the same year for America, and during the remainder of the year the work was in the hands of J. E. Collins.

At the close of 1896 Pastor R. Hare was sent to West Australia to take charge of the mission. Soon after his arrival J. E. Collins gave up the truth, and since that time Brother Hare has been the only labourer. The title for the past year amounted to £150 10s. 2½d. The church membership is thirty-two; there are also ten scattered Sabbath keepers who are not church members.

The needs of the mission as presented to the Union Conference were, 1. A church building in the city of Perth; 2. A book depository with local management; 3. A minister and two Bible workers; 4. The opening of the medical missionary work.

THE PRESENT STANDING OF THE MISSION.

Since the Conference the force of labourers for the mission has been increased. Brother and Sister Craddock have been sent to engage in Bible work; Brother and Sister Skinner, and Miss Leila Harker have gone to engage in nursing and the health work, and Miss Ruth Jones will soon go to that field to work in these lines. A two-storey brick building has been rented for a Health Home at 253 Fitzgerald St. W., Perth. Here electric baths, massage, and the most approved methods of hygienic treatment are given. The nurses are kept busy, and it is thought that the mission can soon be made self supporting. A physician is greatly needed to superintend this work.

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THE RECORD.

OWING to the division of the Australian Tract Society, it was decided that the Union Conference should assume the responsibility of publishing the *Gleaner*, and since it has become the organ of this body, it will be known as the UNION CONFERENCE RECORD. Knowing that all our people would want the annual reports of our Australasian organisations in convenient form for reference, they have been published in this first issue of the RECORD, constituting it a special number. In future numbers of the RECORD space will be given to the interests of the canvassing work as has been done heretofore in the *Gleaner*. Other valuable matter with reference to the varied interests of the work in this field will also appear. Of the mission of this paper, and the co-operation desired from our workers in the field, we will speak more fully in the next number.

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