

Central Union Reaper

Official Organ of the Central Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

VOLUME I

COLLEGE VIEW, LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, AUGUST 16, 1932

NUMBER 24

Shall a Century's Progress Be Lost?

AGGRESSIVE temperance work was started in this nation about the year 1820. For a long century the forces of sobriety fought against the entrenched and legalized liquor traffic, and finally put it to rout in the year 1920. But never in the long fight has the cause of temperance been in such jeopardy as it is in this year 1932. Unless something speedily is done all the labor of more than one hundred years will be lost, every effort at regulation and prohibition will have been frustrated, for this nation will go "wide open" again, and the liquor traffic will reign supreme from sea to sea and as wet as the Atlantic and Pacific put together. If prohibition is lost, the outlook is that we shall go back to conditions even worse than they were in the final years of the saloon, for the "wets" with the bridle in their teeth will run away with any "moderates" who might want a "decent" liquor system.

What is the chief reason for the present crisis in the cause of temperance? The chief reason is that the "drys" lay down on the job after they passed the Eighteenth Amendment. When prohibition became a part of the fundamental law of the land, the temperance forces thought the battle was all over, and promptly went to sleep on the job. Particularly have they failed during this period to keep up their educational work of telling the public what alcohol does to a man economically, physically, morally, and spiritually. While the "drys" slept the "wets" have been intensely active, pushing their propaganda that liquor after all is not a bad thing, and that any attempt to curb it is futile.

This lamentable failure on the part of the "drys" to keep up their educational propaganda, added to the moral slump along all lines since the War, has brought us to this critical moment. Men and women are becoming rebellious against anything and everything that seeks to hold up high moral standards. The real conflict is in reality between those who believe in righteousness and those who face toward any easy-going morality and an hedonistic philosophy of life.

But the more acute the crisis the greater the opportunity for Seventh-day Advent-

ists to go forth with their clear message along temperance lines. We as a people have never become entangled in the political aspects of the prohibition question, and the public therefore will hear what we have to say unprejudicedly. There never was a time in the history of our denomination when we have had such an opportunity for contacting ministers, temperance leaders, and church workers in other denominations as right now. Everywhere we find them eager for any help and direction in this confused time. They grasp our temperance literature most eagerly. They are anxious for us to appear before their groups to talk on the temperance work.

Will we as a people step through the great open door of opportunity that God has set for us now, or will we because of lethargy "fiddle while Rome burns"? We verily believe that if we as a people do not take advantage of the marvelous opportunity God in His providence has given us, that He will hold us to account for those who are misled by the mischievous and devilish propaganda that is flooding the nation, and which is demanding that beer and whisky be reenthroned in the United States. If we believe that we are our brothers' keepers, and that God expects His people to be in the front ranks on the temperance education, now is the time to enter the conflict and fight on the side of God.

ALONZO L. BAKER.

A Faithful Old Lady of Sinum

THE way was long and treacherous to the walled city of Dong Ah, in Western Shantung. Our two-wheeled cart bumped over the rough roads from daylight till dark for two days. Covered with dust and weary we entered the battered old gate of an ancient city. Down the apparently deserted "Main Street" we rumbled, and finally came to the city chapel.

It was a gloomy, dilapidated old city, shut away in the hills. On numerous occasions it had been raided by bandits who infested the countryside. It seemed impossible that any good thing could come out of this place. But it was here that I learned a most astonishing lesson of faithfulness to a religious duty. Even in this dark spot a ray of light shown into my heart that remains with me today.

Sabbath morning came bright and fair. The evangelist was early in the chapel seeing that all was in readiness for the sacred services of the day. Suddenly a bell resounded and echoed over the tile roofs of the city. "That's the half-hour bell for Sabbath school," announced the evangelist, and as he said it in trudged an elderly woman, her face wreathed in smiles. I bowed low and answered her kindly salutation.

The hour had come for Sabbath school. The little chapel was filled with an earnest group of people,—men, women, and

children. There were to be special exercises. After the children had sung their songs and repeated their verses, the superintendent stated that he had perfect attendance cards to give out. All eyes were eager to see who would receive the little yellow cards of honor for perfect attendance for one quarter. After a number of single cards were handed out to several children and one or two grown people, the leader said, "Now I would like to have Lady Djang come forward."

Down the narrow aisle trudged the old lady, her hands trembling. "I have four of these yellow cards and one nice large certificate that I am going to give to Lady Djang. She has been faithful in attendance at Sabbath school for one year. She is a good example to us all." Claspng her treasures, Lady Djang returned to her seat and placed the cards and certificates carefully in her worn Bible.

I was much interested, and after church services I sat down beside the old lady. "You have done well to come to Sabbath school on time for one whole year," I said.

"I love the Sabbath and look forward to Sabbath school all during the week."

"You must live near here," I remarked.

"Oh, no," she said, "I live about thirty li from here."

I was astonished. Ten miles to Sabbath school and then ten miles back home again, every week for fifty-two weeks without a break, rain or shine, summer and winter! It seemed impossible.

"And how do you always get here on time?" I asked.

"I start out early in the morning. And sometimes I come the day before, and sleep on a bench," she answered simply.

I looked down at her feet. Little, bound, broken feet they were. "How could she do it?" I thought. She saw me looking at her feet.

"Yes, my feet used to ache when I walked long distances. Before I knew Jesus I used to worship the Goddess of Mercy. Her temple is up there on the hill just outside the West Gate. You must have been up there to see it. Did you notice the many pairs of little shoes placed before the goddess? I have placed many pairs of shoes up there when my feet would ache so badly, and I would pray the goddess to help me. I would place the shoes in her hands where she could look at them and see how small they were. I did not know any better then. I wanted help, but she could not help me. How foolish I was."

"Do you know, Pastor Lee," she said, "since I have learned about Jesus and pray to Him, my feet do not pain me. I can walk, and walk as good as any man. I go about the villages now during the week telling others about Jesus, and every Sabbath I come here to services. Jesus has brought much light and happiness into my life."

And as this old lady of sixty years talked to me the little chapel seemed like a haven of rest and the dreary old city seemed to shine with a glorious light. I said to my self, "It is good to be here. I love my Lord better for what this old lady has taught me. I must hasten on with the good news of salvation from suffering, sorrow, and superstition. I want to help kindle other lights in these dark places. By the grace of Him who changed the life of this humble woman I determine to be more faithful in my task."

FREDERICK LEE.

Colorado Conference

Jay J. Nethery, President
W. I. Montanye, Secretary
1112 Kalamath St. Denver

Special Notice to Church Officers And Conference and Institutional Workers

By ACTION of the Union Conference Committee, our union conference brethren, located at College View, were re-

quested to arrange a program for temperance rallies to be held in all our churches September 1 to 10. I am in receipt of information from our union president that this program is going out to all our churches and isolated members, printed on a supplement to the CENTRAL UNION REAPER bearing the date of August 16. This will reach all the readers of the REAPER by August 19, or thereabouts.

We are sending out this special plea to our church officers and workers to give careful consideration to what may be done in your church in putting on this program. We realize, to some degree, the great importance of temperance and the need of education to be offered, not only to our friends and neighbors in the world, but to our own members. All of us need to recognize anew the importance of becoming informed on the great issue and of doing what we can to give light to others.

Our conference and institutional workers will be in readiness to give what help they can to churches, in the conducting of this program, and we hope that the press of work as it comes to our churches will not crowd out the presentation of this program. If, for any reason, the program cannot be conducted within the period designated, September 1 to 10, let us urge that it be done immediately following that period.

Let us request our church officers to proceed in the giving of this program and do not wait for a worker to come and visit the church for this occasion.

Yours in behalf of the great temperance cause.

JAY J. NETHERY.

District Meeting at Boulder

ARRANGEMENTS have been made with the Chamber of Commerce and the Chautauqua Association, of Boulder, for the use of the Chautauqua Auditorium, at Boulder, for a district meeting, beginning the evening of September 1 and running over to September 4.

We have the promise of our Union Conference staff being with us, also Elder Montgomery, and perhaps others of the General Conference workers. We trust that all our people within reach of Boulder will plan to attend this important district meeting.

Those wishing to take advantage of the cottage accommodations of the chautauqua will be able to secure accommodations at quite a reasonable figure. The cottages are equipped with kitchenette, bath, living room, and bedrooms. A one-bedroom cottage may be secured at \$2.00 a night, or \$6.00 for the four nights. A cottage with two bedrooms will cost

\$2.50 for one night, and \$8.50 for the four nights. Those who may wish to secure a sleeping room may do so for \$1.00 each, or for 75 cents each if two occupy the same room. If there are those from any section of the conference wishing to make reservation for rooms or cottages, kindly send your request to our secretary-treasurer, W. I. Montanye.

Those attending the Pueblo and Greeley district meetings expressed themselves as being greatly blessed, and we are confident that this last district meeting, in the fine little city of Boulder, will be a pleasant and profitable one. Let us pray that the Lord will help us in our gathering together that we may see what needs to be done in these days of opportunity.

Notice Regarding Opening Date Of Church Schools

THE official date for all of the church schools to open in the Colorado Conference has been set for Tuesday morning, Sept. 6, 1932. Unless boards inform the writer and their teachers otherwise, it shall be understood that all of our schools will open on this date.

A few changes have been made in text books this year so that parents and school boards should not purchase any books until they receive the new official list from the educational superintendent.

G. M. MATHEWS.

Junior Missionary Volunteer Program

SABBATH, July 23, Miss Gertha Barnes gave a very interesting and profitable program for the Juniors of the Greeley church.

The Juniors met in the school room, where a badge was placed on each. They had chosen as their motto, "Live Wires." Their badges represented this, and eight sparks from the wire represented the eight points in the Junior law. They

Central Union Reaper Official Organ of the Central Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Vol. I August 16, 1932 No. 24

Published by the Central Union Conference. Issued weekly at College View, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Subscription price.....50 Cents a Year

Entered as second-class matter June 6, 1911, at the post office at Lincoln, Nebr., under the Act of Congress of March 8, 1879.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Section 1103, Act of Oct. 8, 1917, authorized Aug. 20, 1920.

In changing address, give both old and new address.

All copy for publication should reach the Reaper office by Friday morning (earlier if possible), preceding date of issue.

Make all checks and money orders payable to the Central Union Reaper.

marched into the church auditorium in perfect order and took seats on the rostrum. The church was decorated for the occasion, and the motto was suspended from a wire and hung above them.

"I Will Early Seek the Saviour," was the opening song. After prayer, Miss Barnes gave a talk, telling of the recommendation of the General Conference for Junior work. She explained the meaning of the motto and told where live wires get their power, and said, "We get our power from God. Our deeds show our connection with heaven."

The progressive classes for Juniors are: Friend, Companion, Comrade, and Master Comrade. Those finishing the requirements for J. M. V. Friends, are Fern Johnson, Mary Johnson, Alberta Glover, Betty Glover, Hope Kinnison, Virginia Almond, and Lucile Jannsen, Fern Johnson and Alberta Glover finished also the requirements for J. M. V. Companions.

The program showed the work done by these seven girls in meeting the requirements. The song, "O Friends of Mine and Comrades Dear," was made very impressive by action.

Pins and certificates were given by Miss Barnes.

The program made such an impression upon the Juniors who had not studied, that they are now busy, and it looks as though Miss Barnes will need to give another program soon.

BEULAH SOPER.

Iowa Conference

C. F. McVagh, President

G. F. Nystrom, Secretary

734 Main St. - - - Nevada

Church Dedication at Exira

MEETINGS in connection with the dedication of the West Exira new church building began with a preaching service Friday evening, August 5. Rain interfered with the Sabbath program, but on Sunday, August 7, the building was filled to overflowing with the members of our nearby churches and numerous visitors not of our faith. Elder J. F. Piper, president of the Central Union Conference, delivered the dedicatory sermon, which was followed by a dedicatory prayer by the writer. The building, a model of neatness and convenient arrangement, replaces the old church which burned last winter. In many ways it is more in keeping with present needs than the building which was destroyed.

By careful planning and faithful cooperation on the part of members, workmen, and business men, the building was dedicated free from debt. Elder A. G. Christiansen was in charge of the pro-

gram. A. P. Hanson read an interesting history, showing that the church was organized in 1886 as a result of a series of meetings conducted by Elder O. A. Olsen in the homes of the Danish people in the then sparsely settled Audubon County. Since then the church has given freely of its children to the work of this message in home and foreign fields and has also been a strong financial support to the cause. Dan E. Larson, treasurer of the building committee, rendered a financial report, showing a cash expenditure of over \$2,800 beside donations of labor and material.

Professor E. Christiansen led the music, being assisted by Mrs. Piper, a local male quartet, and other local talent. The free-will offering taken for conference evangelistic work amounted to over \$15. As a fitting close, Elder Christiansen buried six candidates in a watery grave in the new baptistry. Two other candidates will go forward in the near future.

All present seemed impressed and pleased with the message, the memory of which will be lasting in many lives. The West Exira people have much to be thankful for.

C. F. McVAGH.

Colporteur Experiences

"A few days ago, when delivering a copy of 'Return of Jesus' to a lady, I inquired as to how their business was coming along? To my amazement and delight she gave this reply. 'Well, our business is better than one month ago. Since we ordered that book, our business has been improving, so my husband and I feel that it is the Lord's work, when He prospers us for ordering the book.' How wonderful to receive such blessings even before the book is read. May the Holy Spirit impress the truth upon their hearts as they read and study this good book."

—H. G. Biggers.

Brother Biggers reported an interest found in Ames, Iowa, to Elder Sheldon, the pastor of the Nevada church, which has resulted in several Bible studies with the lady. She had heard of the truth before, and from the interest manifested we believe she will soon be a member of the church.

Sister Simmons just sent a card saying Mrs. Atkinson is ready to be baptized. Sister Simmons found this good lady while canvassing in Centerville this spring.

Sister Rasmussen, who is one of our star colporteurs, sold \$179.75 worth of books in June and in the same month delivered \$153.20. In July, due to sickness, she was not able to work full time, but her record is one hundred hours, \$93.25 in sales, and \$85.25 delivery. Is not this evidence that the Lord has not

forsaken his faithful colporteurs, and the more faithful, the greater the results?

"I came to a Catholic home about 11:30 o'clock and did not get away until about 3:00. The wife has really broken away from the Catholic church and has been attending other churches, and studying Russelite and Christian Science books. She said that there seemed, however, to be something that she wanted but had not found. I went into details about other churches, telling how they could not prosper without obeying all the commandments. She said, 'There must be only one church that is right, and that is the Seventh-day Adventist church.' I told her I thought so too. Then I gave her a Bible study on the Sabbath, and showed how the Catholic church was prophesied of and described in the Bible. She gave me her order and then we knelt down and had prayer. When she got up, she was crying and deeply moved. I thank God for this, and pray that the book may be the means of this poor soul's finding Jesus."—Faye C. Smith.

As you read these soul-winning results, I trust you will send up a silent prayer to God for these humble, consecrated, self-supporting workers. We are told by the pen of inspiration that the canvassing work is the most successful way of winning souls. Will you not try it? Come to camp meeting, and don't forget the colporteur meetings. They are more than merely book selling. The colporteur work is one of the most important branches of God's work. Have you noticed the mention made of it in the Sabbath school mission readings? Look for the colporteur tent at camp meeting. The morning meetings, held in the big tent, will be a feast that will fill your hungry soul with good things and reveal the power of God in our literature ministry.

L. P. KNECHT.

Iowa News

ELDER A. L. MILLER, superintendent of the Southeastern District, baptized ten at Davenport, his home church, Sabbath, August 6. One of these was a re-baptism, and the other nine were added to the church.

Monday morning many of the conference workers were busy on the camp ground. They will have everything ready for you when you come, and you will miss much if you are not here. Bring the children. Their tent will be good to behold again this year, and the lessons each day will be helpful. The meeting should be an inspiration to young and old, and such help is needed in these depressing times.

Elder J. C. Christiansen met with the members at State Center on Sabbath, August 6.

Elder J. C. Nixon was with the church at Muscatine on Sabbath, August 6.

Elder J. R. Nelson baptized ten at Hawarden, Sabbath, July 30.

Elder McVaugh was with the Sioux City church on Sabbath, July 30, and spoke at the Hawarden church on Sunday evening. The interest there is still active. He spoke at Council Bluffs the evening of August 3, and at Charlton the following evening. He, with Elder J. F. Piper, president of the Central Union, and Elder A. G. Christensen, was at Exira for the church dedication over the week-end of August 6.

Elder J. R. Nelson and family have moved from Hawarden to Sioux City. Their address is 2102 South Magnolia, Sioux City.

Mrs. Bert Rhoads, of Chariton, wrote for Sabbath school supplies, and reported forty-five present at Sabbath school on the previous Sabbath. Members from nearby churches are encouraging them with their presence, and this is appreciated.

Don't miss the camp meeting this year. You need its help. We are living in trying times which only serve to tell us that we are on the right road and nearly to the end. Camp meeting date, August 18 to 27.

Nebraska Conference

T. B. Westbrook, President
W. F. Field, Secretary
1115 W. Charles St. Grand Island

Omaha

TO OUR many friends and the readers of the REAPER, I want to say that we are happy to be with you again in this great field. Since coming here from Oregon, where we have labored the past nine years, we find ourselves in the midst of many activities that remind us of what Jesus said would vividly display the combined days of Noah and Lot. But in this environment I find a wonderful encouragement, and that is a people, composed of old and young, who are fostering the spread of the third angel's message among the many nations represented here. And my heart is filled with joy as I am privileged to be here to assist our brothers and sisters in this great program.

We are now in our Harvest Ingathering campaign. Some already have reached their goals, and others are working. One singing band has worked one week and has nearly \$50, and two more are getting ready to start. The listeners ask for special songs to be sung, and others have asked us to pray for their sick. Yesterday

Mrs. Langberg and Mrs. Steinhofel, while soliciting, called at a small place, and were gladly given \$10. It certainly proves that what is written comes to pass, as recorded in a verse found in Eccl. 2:26. "For God giveth to a man that is good in His sight wisdom, and knowledge, and joy, but to the sinner He giveth travail, to gather and to heap up, that he may give to him that is good before God."

May God help us all to go out into the highways and byways and gather up these gifts for Him.

T. M. LANGBERG.

Scottsbluff

AFTER a period of two months itinerating among our churches in District VIII, we are now definitely located in this city. Our address is 798 East Overland Street, and since this is a large district with several churches and scattered believers, we would suggest that our people of the district avail themselves of the opportunity now to communicate with us by writing and directing correspondence to the above address here in this place. We are endeavoring to give equal attention to all matters that pertain to the advancement of the work of the Lord, which constantly arise in connection with progressive work among the churches.

We would urge that our people keep the missionary work for neighbors and friends going strong, by using *Present Truth*, which has been the means, where used, of creating a very live interest. The Nebraska conference cooperates with our churches by going fifty-fifty in handling the cost of this wonderful little paper. Let the church members rally with church officers, and we shall hear of interested people throughout the field. When the interest is aroused, then the minister can go on the ground, and the Lord will be pleased to reward our laymen with definite results.

Just now let every church board definitely plan to engage strongly in the Harvest Ingathering campaign, organizing the church into working bands, with a definite report each Sabbath as to the results obtained. Do not be dismayed because of the word "depression," just take the "die" out of the word and you have "press on." So let us press on with united effort and we shall soon have "pain" all taken out of the "campaign." Work and courage will help to do this. We have the promise of a permit from the Chamber of Commerce in this city, and next week we plan to make a strong drive for our mission work right here in Scottsbluff. We shall be glad to keep in touch with our churches in this district.

ROSCOE T. BAER.

Elder Hay Sends Greetings from Oregon

I TAKE this means of sending greetings to our many friends in Nebraska and the Central Union. We are very pleasantly settled four and a half miles from Medford, and only a short distance from the Rogue River Junior Academy. Although it is not quite two months since we came here, we feel at home and are greatly enjoying our work. This is a beautiful valley nestled among the mountains.

As district leader I have five churches to foster, four of them within twenty-five miles of our home, and the fifth is farther west near the coast. I find splendid work has been done here in the past by Elder Langberg, whom I had the privilege of meeting for a few minutes before he left for Omaha to take the pastorate of the work there. As I visit in the homes of the people I hear grateful mention of the special revival meetings held by Elder Westbrook, Elder Langberg, and others. I earnestly pray that this good influence may grow deeper and stronger until the work is finished.

Many times I have thought of the workers in Nebraska, and I shall always gratefully remember the splendid cooperation given by the church officials and members in making the Harvest Ingathering and other missionary endeavors a success. I shall not forget the unstinted hospitality which I often enjoyed at the homes of our brethren during the nearly eight years we labored in Nebraska.

Donald, Conrad, and Maty-Eleanor are at home this summer, and Royal is working in Colorado. Mrs. Hay finds plenty to keep her busy in our little mountain home.

We shall continue to pray that God's blessing may remain with the work and workers in Nebraska.

ROY E. HAY.

Kansas Conference

C. S. Wiest, President
J. H. Nies, Secretary
Box 605 - - - - - Topeka

Kansas News Notes

BROTHER M. H. JENSEN had a baptism in his district in which he baptized three adults. He has closed his effort, but there are others who are keeping the Sabbath, and who will join later.

The Chanute church reports \$125 in the Harvest Ingathering.

Elder Wiest spent Sabbath, August 6, with the Topeka II church in the morning, and with the Lawrence church in the afternoon.