

EXTRA.



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### DAILY PROGRAM OF THE SOUTH- WESTERN UNION CONFER- ENCE.

- 8:30-9:00—Social Meeting.
- 9:00-10:00—Bible Study.
- 10:30-12:00—Conference.
- 2:30-3:30—Gospel of Health.
- 4:00-5:30—Conference.
- 7:30-8:00—Song Service.
- 8:00-9:00—Sermon.

### ITEMS FROM THE CONFERENCES.

The Missouri Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is represented at the Southwestern Union Conference by ten regularly elected delegates and a large number of the laity are to follow. The Missouri Conference has a constituency of 2,000. The President, J. M. Reese, of Kansas City, Mo., is present and the majority of the ministers of that state. The Missouri Conference is in excellent working order, having received more than 200 members into their Conference during the past year. They have erected seven new church buildings, and are breaking ground in Kansas City for a large church building.

The Oklahoma Conference is present with its full delegation. A number of visitors are also present from Oklahoma, and bring encouraging news concerning the prosperity of the work in that Conference. The Oklahoma Conference embraces both the Indian and Oklahoma Territories. Elder G. G. Rupert, the President, is present, and gives an encouraging report of the work in that territory. More will appear later in The Bulletin from that field.

The Colorado Conference embraces the State of Colorado, and the Territory of New Mexico. Our constituency is about 2,000. Our work in this Conference is very encouraging. We are carrying on work among the Scandinavian races, the Germans and the negroes. Also the Spanish-speaking people have two earnest workers among them. While our territory is large, it is not very thickly settled, making it very expensive and difficult

to reach all the points. More will appear in other issues of The Bulletin concerning this vast field. Elder G. F. Watson, the President, is present, with other delegates.

Elder A. E. Field, President of the Arkansas Conference, speaks as follows concerning his field: Our territory embraces the State of Arkansas. Our constituency is about 480. We are carrying on the work among the English-speaking people and also among the colored people. All the different departments of the work are in a prosperous condition. We have about ten present here representing the different departments of the work. We expect a representative here from the Sanitarium at Little Rock, and Mrs. Etta Hardesty, Secretary of the Tract Society of that State.

Representatives are present at the meeting from different parts of the State of Kansas. The Kansas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists has a constituency of about 3,000, and fully forty-two of their workers are present at this meeting. We have within the limits of the Conference ninety-six church organizations, and thirty-six church edifices. The Offices of the Kansas Conference are located at 821 West Fifth street. They sell quite a number of subscription books and have a good many trained canvassers in the field.

Elder W. A. McCutchen, President of the Texas Conference, reports that the work is going onward in that State. The increase in numbers and funds, and the sale of the denominational literature, is very encouraging. The educational and health work are especially active, which center in the Keene Industrial Academy and the Lone Star Sanitarium, located at Keene, Texas.

### THE FIRST SESSION OF THE SOUTHWESTERN UNION CON- FERENCE OF SEVENTH- DAY ADVENTISTS.

The first session of the Southwestern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists was held in the Auditorium, at Topeka, Kansas, April 16 to 27, 1902.

The first meeting of the session was called to order at 10:30 o'clock a. m., April 16, Elder C. McReynolds presiding.

After prayer by Elder R. C. Porter, the roll of delegates was called, the following persons responding to represent their respective Conferences:

ARKANSAS—A. E. Field, E. B. Hopkins, C. W. Hardesty.

COLORADO—Dr. W. W. Hills, H. L. Hoover, F. J. Hartman, J. F. Pearson, Malcolm Mackintosh, H. M. J. Richards, George F. Watson and Watson Zeigler.

KANSAS—J. C. Becker, George Becker, C. A. Beeson, I. A. Crane, N. P. Dixon, Mrs. Belle Emerson, T. J. Eagle, T. Godfrey, J. G. Hanhardt, B. E. Huffman, A. E. Johnson, E. T. Russell and W. F. Surber.

MISSOURI—James Cochran, J. M. Reese, E. A. Merrill, W. T. Millman, A. A. Meyer, R. C. Porter, L. W. Terry, H. K. Willis.

TEXAS—T. W. Field, C. C. Lewis, W. A. McCutchen, A. S. McCully, Jacob Riffel.

OKLAHOMA—G. G. Rupert, G. F. Haffner, M. H. Gregory, J. J. Shiffner, C. Sorenson.

Delegates at Large—H. Shultz, B. R. Nordyke.

When the delegates had been seated, Elder E. T. Russell, President of the Kansas Conference, made the following:

#### ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

Mr. Chairmen, Delegates, Brethren and Sisters:

In behalf of the Kansas Conference, and the Topeka church of Seventh-day Adventists, I welcome you to the "Sunflower" State, and to our City. It affords us pleasure to have you in our midst, and we sincerely hope that the few days that we may be privileged to spend together may prove both a pleasant and a profitable season, to all.

We can also assure you that the citizens of Topeka have done all that could be expected of them to show in a substantial way their good will toward you, and that you are thrice welcome. They have opened to you their homes, and the City Council has granted you the use of this grand Auditorium, and the Commercial Club kindly furnishes it with fuel and light. We trust that the God of all grace may grant you spiritual warmth and divine light, that this meeting may prove a pleasant oasis in life's experience, and may also be a stepping stone to eternal blessedness.

We humbly crave God's presence, and that His Spirit may guide in all the deliberations of this Conference. We are especially anxious that our brethren and sisters may deport themselves as Christians as they mingle with the people, whose hospitality they will share, and we desire that your presence in the City may bring sunshine to many homes and hearts.

Elder McReynolds responded briefly, thanking the officials of the City for their generous hospitality, and ex-



pressing his confidence that the blessing of God would attend the meetings of the Conference. He thought it eminently proper that before entering upon the regular business of the Conference, the delegates should engage in a season of earnest prayer.

Accordingly some time was spent in a prayer and social meeting. We have space for only two or three of the many good testimonies that were borne:

E. T. Russell: I praise the Lord this morning for His goodness and wonderful works to the children of men, and that His mercy endureth forever. I praise the Lord that He has spared my life to the present time. I praise Him for this meeting, and especially do I praise Him for the light of the Third Angel's Message. I know that he has brought me out of darkness into light and has made me what I am today. I am especially indebted to the Lord for all of these blessings, and while these meetings are in session I desire to drink deeper of the well of salvation. I desire to refresh my memory on things of God that I may be more fitted for the work that He has given me to do, and by having drunk myself that I may be able to lead others to the fountain, and to be the instrument of bringing light and salvation to other souls.

J. M. Rees: For thirty-six years I have been living the truth of God, the present truth; and I can say that I love Him better today than I have ever loved Him in all my life. I so much desire that my hand may be kept in His wounded hand, that He may lead me over every difficulty and trial and at last into the kingdom of God. The language of my heart is found in the fourth chapter of Philippians and the eighth verse: "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if there be any virtue and if there be any praise think on these things."

C. McReynolds: I praise the Lord this morning for present blessings and for freedom in God. Permit me to express this thought, that while we are here for a little time, a few moments, our voices may be heard in praise to God. With Brother Shultz, I would ask you to pray for the work here,—pray for the work and this meeting, and for ourselves. I ask that I may have an interest in your prayers that I may be able to stand in that day.

#### SECOND MEETING, WEDNESDAY, 2:30 P. M., APRIL 16.

Prayer by E. T. Russell.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted.

President McReynolds called for the reading of a portion of the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held at Ottawa, Kan., November, 1901. The reading of the minutes called forth two important items of business for consideration. The first, pertained to the division of the Colorado Conference. The Committee reported unfavorably regarding the division and the report was adopted, and the committee discharged.

The second question was the matter of incorporating the Southwestern Union Conference in order that its legitimate aims might better be carried out. Elder McReynolds made the report for the Committee appointed to bring about such an incorporation.

Elder McReynolds: There is another point that the minutes reveal to which I wish to call attention; that is the fact that a committee was chosen to incorporate our Conference as a legal corporation. This committee was composed of Elder Russell, Elder Rupert, and myself. I will say for the committee that we have quite carefully looked up the State laws regarding incorporation and we have found that among all the States represented in the Union Conference, Oklahoma seems to be the most liberal and the most convenient one to take into consideration; also that Oklahoma is the most central in the Union Conference. The laws of Oklahoma require one-third of the trustees to be residents of Oklahoma; therefore in order to have a representative from each of the Conferences in the Union, which are six, it became necessary for us to have more than six trustees. So it was decided to have nine. The nine trustees, as I remember them, are, Elders McCutchen, of Texas; Rees, of Missouri; Russell, of Kansas; Watson, of Colorado; Rupert, Sorenson and myself, of Oklahoma, and T. T. Stevenson, of Texas. These are the nine, if I remember rightly. We have proceeded with the organization. The charter is in our possession. By the terms of the charter we are enabled to hold a legal meeting in any State or Territory within the bounds of the Union Conference. The terms of our charter make it perpetually unlimited.

Elder Rupert: If any of our boundary lines should be changed, would that affect the charter any?

Elder McReynolds: You have asked me a hard question. When we incorporated, we did not know of any proposition or plan to change our boundary lines. However, my judgment in the matter is that the charter will not be affected, because it is provided that a legal meeting can be held if we have a majority of the incorporators.

Elder Shultz: If what Brother McReynolds says to us has got to be accepted by this conference to make it legal, we are likely to become confused if this Conference is divided and the part in the South thrown by itself; and this corporation itself may soon fall through. Would it not be better, therefore, to postpone action upon this report until the question of the proposed division is settled?

Elder R. C. Porter: We could recommend that in case the territory is divided the charter be changed, if possible, to release such territory as might be taken from us.

C. McReynolds: So far as changing the charter is concerned, that can be done any way.

R. C. Porter: Then I would say: Let us live under it a little while since we have gone to the trouble and expense of getting it up. We could live under it if it is only twenty-four hours.

W. Ziegler: I think Brother Porter's remarks are right to the point, inasmuch as the expense has been incurred and the Conference organized. There-

fore, I move that we accept the work of the committee and let the committee be discharged.

H. Shultz: I second the motion.

The motion was carried unanimously. Elder McReynolds: We have some business matters that ought to be attended to this afternoon. We expect other brethren every minute now. I have prepared a brief statement of the work that has been done during the past year,—some suggestions that I would like to read to the Conference; and by your permission I will read them, after which we will proceed to the matter of committees, etc.

The President's address will be found in full elsewhere.

The committee on seating of delegates reported the name of Mrs. B. L. Herrell to act as delegate from Colorado in place of Judge Holbrook, who could not be present.

The meeting adjourned to 4 o'clock p. m.

#### THIRD MEETING, WEDNESDAY, 4 P. M., APRIL 16.

Prayer was offered by Elder A. G. Daniells.

The committee on seating of delegates reported the name of C. W. Hardesty as delegate from Arkansas.

The matter of selecting the various committees came up for discussion, and Elder McReynolds expressed himself as follows:

"The time has come for the Conference to select the committees in whatever way they may choose, to act during the session. It seems a very wise provision for the delegates to appoint an advisory committee who shall appoint the standing committees."

A. G. Daniells: I am very glad to meet you on this occasion. We have just come from the Northwestern Union Conference, which has been in session in Des Moines. We bring to you a good report of that meeting. The Lord was with us, and gave instruction in time of need, and gave us harmony and brotherly love all the way through. There was not a discordant note in the Conference. There was not a jarring word spoken during the whole Conference. No important measure was voted down or set aside.

This is the sixth Union Conference that I have had the privilege of attending since the first one held in South Lancaster, Mass., last fall. We have had five good meetings. I do not think any of our reports in The Review have been overdrawn. They have been written by different parties. Those who have written them have expressed their feelings regarding the meetings. I sincerely hope that this, the last of the six to be held in the States, will prove to be one of the best that we shall have,—the best of the wine at the last of the feast.

Now, a word with reference to this matter of selecting and electing an advisory committee. There are a number of benefits to be derived from such a committee. In the first place, it relieves the president of the Conference from taking upon himself what I feel to be a very unpleasant responsibility; in fact, it is so unpleasant to me that I will not do it for anybody. Then again, it relieves any suspicion in the minds



of the people that there is any collusion on the part of the chairman of the meeting with any of the members of the committee he has appointed. Furthermore, it has a tendency to enlarge the circle of management and operation, and that is a vital point. The instruction that came to us at the last General Conference bore upon this point,—that we must broaden our range of operation, and bring in more minds, and get a larger number of men engaged in the management of the work.

Another benefit to be derived from the appointment of this advisory committee is that important questions may be referred to the committee for the purpose of securing their counsel. The results of the work of the committee will bring light into the Conference from the study they give to the large questions before the Conference.

In selecting the members of this committee I think it is well that it should be made up of men from all parts of the field, and men who represent all branches of the work. I do not think it ought to be too small.

Elder H. Shultz: I move that we select a committee of twenty-one to be an advisory committee.

C. A. Beeson: I second the motion.

J. M. Rees: I move to amend by saying we will select four from Kansas, three from Missouri, two from Colorado, two from Texas, two from Oklahoma, one from Arkansas, and that the rest come from the different institutions among us, to make the twenty-one.

The amendment was accepted by the mover of the motion, whereupon the following-named persons were elected from the floor as members composing the Advisory Committee of twenty-one:

R. C. Porter, F. M. Wilcox, G. F. Watson, G. G. Rupert, E. T. Russell, G. F. Haffner, C. A. Beeson, W. A. McCutchen, J. M. Rees, H. Shultz, A. E. Field, C. McReynolds, B. E. Huffman, W. Ziegler, W. T. Millman, T. J. Eagle, Jacob Riffel, B. R. Nordyke, T. W. Field, M. H. Gregory, Mrs. Flora H. Williams.

Adjourned to 10:30 a. m., Thursday.

#### THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

To the Brethren and Delegates of the Southwestern Union Conference, Greeting:

A year has passed since the organization of the Southwestern Union Conference. It has been a year of study and perplexity in many ways, as things in the line of Union Conference work were in a formative state, and much thought was required to adjust such things. There still remain many things that need careful study to get all arranged in the way the Lord has signified that He would have them in the plan of reorganization that was placed before us at the last General Conference. With these things so necessary to study and adjust and many things to plan for, this Conference, convened here at this time, is a most necessary and opportune gathering. And it is with the greatest pleasure that we greet so large a number of delegates and brethren from all parts of the field.

The Southwestern Union Conference was organized during the last session of the General Conference, in April, 1901, in a series of fourteen meetings of the General Conference delegates and the brethren and sisters from all the local Conferences in what was formerly known as District No. 5. The Constitution was adopted April 15; and from that time the Southwestern Union Conference dates its separate life.

Officers were elected to serve until the first regular meeting of the Union Conference should convene, which was, by the provisions of the Constitution, necessarily about one year; and thereafter such officers would serve two years. There were elected at that time a President and a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Auditor, also an Executive Committee of fifteen. The Territory of this Union Conference consists of the Conferences of Missouri, Kansas, Colorado (including New Mexico), Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma and the Indian Territory. It embraces an area of 770,000 square miles, or a little more than one-fifth of the entire United States, with a population of ten and one-half millions, or about one-seventh of the entire population of the United States. It contains ten thousand Sabbath-keepers. It has 268 organized churches; one hundred houses of worship, valued at \$175,000.00. There have been 40 church schools conducted the past winter; 158 workers have been employed by the local Conferences and the Union Conference during the year. Tithes to the amount of \$70,000.00 have been paid into the treasuries of the Conferences. There are 336 Sabbath schools in the Union Conference, with a membership of 7,711.

The value of books and tracts bought by our Tract Societies from the Kansas City house alone, and sold by the canvassers and the churches during the year was over \$59,000.00. The amount purchased from The Review and Herald and other publishing houses, we have not a definite statement of. The offerings for home missions have far exceeded the amount donated any previous year. In three conferences it has more than doubled.

In the Southwestern Union Conference during the months of September, October and November, our canvassers took orders to the amount of \$13,587.55, and actually delivered \$10,218.30 worth of books more than was delivered by all the rest of the United States during the same months.

In most of the Conferences comparatively good results have been seen from the work of the ministry and the Bible workers, but yet not half has been accomplished that should have been done. It is sad to know that our ministry as a whole in the older Conferences of the United States are not accomplishing half as much per year now as was accomplished by less than half as many workers in the same time twenty years ago. The development of a more active and successful ministry is a question that demands the most careful study of the men upon whom is placed the responsibility of leaders in this message. It is a question that should receive much attention at this conference.

At the annual meetings of the local conferences the work of reorganization according to the plan set forth at the General Conference was taken hold of in earnest and was carried as far as the people were ready to receive it. The effort to unify all lines of the work was quite heartily taken hold of, so far as the theory of it was concerned, in almost every Conference. How practically it was received into the life of each individual is to be seen by the results that follow. In most Conferences a church school Superintendent was appointed, and he and the State Missionary or canvassing agent were placed on the Conference Committee; and in those conferences where there is a Sanitarium the head of that institution was also made a member of the committee. Steps were taken to create more interest in the distribution of our health books and journals and other health literature, and a strong effort was made to create a sentiment in favor of carrying forward all lines of the work in a symmetrical manner. Permit me to say here that it is high time that every Seventh-day Adventist, and especially the workers, should know that he is so organized and connected with Christ that he is a missionary, a medical missionary, a canvasser in heart, and, in fact, an advocate of and a helper in the work of Christian Education, and has it in his heart to lift in every branch of the work of the message. Real reorganization will never come to us through plans, but right plans will regulate the work of those who are individually reorganized in the whole message. Christ is not divided, neither is His work to be developed in a one-sided way; and since the Health Work, the Medical Missionary Work, the Canvassing Work and the work of a Christian Education is each a part of the work of the message to prepare a people for that time when Christ will present His church to Himself—"A Glorious church, . . . and it shall be Holy, and without blemish"—each of these lines of work will be developed equally in the hearts and lives of that people, and the workers will be "a band of men whose hearts God has touched," all drawing in even lines.

Provision was made at the time of the organization for the Union Conference to begin a work in the interest of the colored people, and it was voted to employ two colored workers who were in our territory. Brother Scott, accordingly, was encouraged to continue for a short time the work he had in hand in Indian Territory, and later to go to Arkansas and connect with Brother Ryles in an effort in that State. As a result in the first place three or four good substantial souls have accepted the whole truth, and stand firmly today. About the first of August these two workers commenced a work near Van Buren, Ark. They remained there about four months, or till the chaff was sifted out of the wheat; and, as a result, out of quite a large number who professed to accept the message for a time, five adults, the leading people of the community, are today standing firm for the message and are teaching it to others to the extent of their ability. A few have embraced the truth in other parts of the State, and



we now have in Arkansas at least twenty-five earnest colored people, who are beginning to realize that the Lord had laid upon them the burden of doing a work for their own race. There is a demand for colored workers in every part of this territory, and we would recommend each Conference to give special attention to the preparation of colored workers to labor among their own people.

There was also a recommendation made that the new Conference open up the German work in St. Louis. There are about 250,000 Germans in that great city, and for these no effort has ever been made. After much delay we secured one worker who has begun work there since the opening of the present year. The work starts in very encouragingly, and by a proper effort we believe much may be accomplished for these people. We would recommend, however, concerning this work, as well as the colored work, that as soon as possible, the local Conferences should shoulder the burden, and thus leave the Union Conference free to use its means and energies in carrying the work into unorganized territory.

Men were also appointed to lead in the following lines of work: Religious Liberty, Sabbath School, Missionary, and the Development of the Ministry; and later by action of the Executive Committee, an Educational Department was created, also a Missionary Department. Some work has been done along these lines. In promoting the Religious Liberty work a fund has been started for the purpose of procuring suitable literature to use during the great World's Fair in St. Louis next year. The Sabbath School work has received good service from its Field Secretary, who has been very active through correspondence while engaged constantly in general field work in his home Conference. The Missionary Department has done excellent work in many ways. With the co-operation of the conference officers and the membership of the churches there has been a revival of former methods of work, especially the envelope plan of tract distribution. The canvassing work has received much attention. A greater number of canvassers' institutes have been held than in any previous year. Two were held in Oklahoma, which were attended by seventy-five persons, most of whom go into the field as regular workers. Missouri held two institutes, Kansas three, Arkansas two, and Texas has had a three months' course in Keene Academy, and closed with a successful institute. We are glad to say that the time has come when it can be truthfully said that every conference president and every conference committee in the Union Conference, is ready to do anything that will encourage the canvassing work. This spirit of co-operation is shown by the fact that in most of the states the State Agent is a member of the Executive Committee.

The question of relieving our schools of the debt by the sale of "Object Lessons" has been so fully demonstrated as a possibility that we are sure we will be able to sing the jubilee song of freedom before the last of the year 1902. The example of the Oklahoma Conference is a worthy one, and is being fol-

lowed by others. The people have recognized the debt, and have taken the books to sell, but have become responsible for the payment of the debt at a certain date whether the books are sold or not.

A noble missionary enterprise was started at the Kansas campmeeting last summer, and was carried to the other conferences by the sisters. It was the sending of a missionary to India to engage in the Zenana work. A Bible worker was selected, Sister Orr, of the Kansas Conference, and sent under the direction of the Mission Board, but was supported by the funds raised by the sisters of the Union Conference. About forty workers have been sent to other lands from our borders the last year, and some of these are being supported by the conferences from which they are sent; and we long to see the day, which we believe is very near, when the advanced thought expressed in a motion made by some one at the last General Conference, will be carried into effect—that half of the workers and half of the means in this country will be sent into the regions outside of our borders. This message is going to the world, but in many ways we are holding it back and thus delaying the glad day of the Master's coming by our too narrow plans and our failure to see and get our hearts outside of our own conference lines.

#### THE EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

We have within our territory, one large, general school, Keene Academy, and one state, or intermediate school, at Springdale, Ark. Keene Academy has had the best year in its history the past year. The most satisfactory work has been done by both faculty and students, and the most complete harmony has existed in the management. The most encouraging feature in all is that from the Academy have been sent out as missionaries, the past year, sixteen persons, as follows: Two ministers, six foreign missionaries, and eight church school teachers.

The Springdale school, with its two teachers, has done a good work. They have, by much assistance from people not of our faith in the town, secured a nice plot of ground and erected a new two-story building for school purposes. The school has enrolled during the year about sixty pupils, and the work has been very satisfactory to all. As a result of the earnest efforts of the Educational Secretary and the school Superintendents, and with the co-operation of our people who see the importance of the church school work as the means of fitting their children for a place in the great work of the message and finally a home in the kingdom of God. The number of church schools in the Union Conference has increased during the year from about one dozen to forty. This is very encouraging, but yet it is clear to all who are observant that unless there is a renewal of most earnest effort on the part of the management of the conferences there will be a less number of church schools next year than there have been the past year. While it is true that the number should be more than doubled, it requires faith, conse-

cration, and co-operation to make a success of this line of work. God has spoken, and a faithful compliance with His instruction will insure success. As it has been in the past with the canvassing work, it was a constant struggle to keep it up until there was a sentiment created in its favor all through our land, and that sentiment backed by real faith; so it will be with the church school work. Hence, we would most earnestly recommend to this conference the necessity of having an educational board elected to look after all these school interests in our territory. The Sabbath school work has been strictly an educational work, and can very properly be connected as a part of the same, and need not be a separate department.

#### THE SANITARIUM HEALTH WORK.

The demand for sanitariums, bath and treatment houses, and vegetarian cafes or restaurants, was never so great as it is today. Wherever this work has been taken hold of by consecrated workers for the purpose of advancing the truth of the gospel of Christ, almost unprecedented prosperity has attended them. We have in this conference now three sanitariums, two food factories, two bath houses, and three hygienic cafes.

The past year has been the best year of prosperity in the history of the Boulder Sanitarium. The patronage has been nearly, if not quite, double that of any previous year, and its influence is being felt throughout a large field. The blessing of the Lord is with the physicians and helpers and the Spirit of God is in the institution. The Keene, Texas, Sanitarium has been revived, placed upon a firm basis, and has been more than self-sustaining the past year. The Sanitarium at Little Rock, Arkansas, though small, has been a success from the first, and its work is increasing very rapidly. The influence of what has been done there has created a great interest and a demand for more in that line of work. It is proving to be, as it always will be when properly carried on, the entering wedge for other truths of the message. Space will not permit me to speak of the work of the health food factories, in Boulder, Colorado, and Keene, Texas, or of the bath houses in Topeka and Atchison, Kansas, or of the hygienic cafes, in Colorado, only to say that they are doing a good work in the line the Lord has indicated. I must say here that those upon whom responsibility is placed in this conference will be recreant to duty if they fail to give attention to the calls for such institutions at Oklahoma City, Wichita, Kas., St. Louis, Mo., Hot Springs, Ark., and San Antonio, Texas. We might name many more places where the calls are as great as these, and the people stand ready to co-operate with their influence and their money also. The people of Wichita will build a new sanitarium if they can have the assurance that a good corps of nurses, and a good physician from the Battle Creek Sanitarium, will take charge of it. The spirit of God tells us that it is "The very essence of faith to do the right thing at the right time." A committee



should be appointed to look after these interests and to labor for the unifying of all these institutions with the Medical Missionary Board.

At the council of the Executive Committee, held in Ottawa, Kas., the question of forming a legal corporation in the Union Conference was presented on the recommendation of the General Conference Committee Council, which was held just prior to that meeting. It was voted to incorporate, and a Committee was appointed to look up the most favorable place to form the incorporation and to execute the work. After due investigation the matter was agreed upon by the members of the committee, the incorporation was formed, and the charter is on file in the office of the Conference. The name of the legal corporation is "The Southwestern Conference Association of the Seventh-Day Adventists." By the terms of the charter it can hold legal meetings in any place in any State or Territory within the borders of the Union Conference.

One question which should receive consideration at this time is a mission field for this Conference. As the N. W. Union Conference has a favorable field lying on the north of it, and has been operating in that territory, thus relieving the General Conference of much burden, both financially and otherwise, and as the Pacific Union Conference has been able to lift a load of detail work from the General Conference and the Mission Board by taking the direct management of the work in the territory lying adjacent to it, and even reaching out to the islands of the sea, so the Southwestern Union Conference, with Old Mexico, lying on her southwestern border, may lift a like burden. This question has received favorable consideration by the Mission Board, the question of financial strength being the main one to be settled. But when each conference in this Union Conference will do what some of them are doing, pay a second tithe for mission work, that question will be settled. Shall we reach out a hand to save our nearest neighbors across our southern border who are perishing in darkness? Or shall we look only within our own Conference lines? This message is to go to every nation, but that cannot be until we heed the earnest calls coming with loud appeals from outside our land, "Come over and help us."

With this report and these suggestions, we are glad to return to your hands the responsibility which you have entrusted to us during this the first year of the life of the Union Conference, fully realizing that through lack of ability much has not been done that should have been done, and praying the blessings of heaven upon the present Conference upon which the responsibility rests that we now lay down.

C. M'REYNOLDS.

#### REPORT OF THE ARKANSAS CONFERENCE.

I come before you on this occasion to speak in behalf of the Arkansas Conference.

The territory thus represented became a State January 15th, 1836, being the twelfth State taken into the Union,

or the twenty-fifth State. Its area is 53,850 square miles. It is 240 miles long from north to south, with an average of 228 miles broad. There are 3,696,990 acres of public land subject to entry. These lands are covered with valuable timber. There are now several railroads pushing their way out into the timber regions, where men are busy working up this timber which is to be shipped to all parts of the country. It has also many rich mines of zinc, lead, iron and coal. It also is noted for fruit growing.

We have a population of 1,311,564. Out of this number, there are 360,001 colored people. Among this large number of colored people, we have one colored licentiate, and one holding missionary license. There are about forty colored Sabbath-keepers in the State. We believe that more should be done for these people than has yet been done. These Sabbath-keepers are unorganized, and are scattered in different parts of the State, and calls for help are coming in from different places that we are unable to fill.

God has spoken concerning this race of people, and I believe that the time has fully come when greater efforts should be put forth to help them. They should have an ordained minister, so that the work can be finished by administering the ordinance of baptism, and effecting organizations. There are some at the present time desiring baptism. May God move on his people to assist in carrying the truth to this downtrodden race.

No doubt you are aware of the fact that this is the smallest conference in the Union Conference. It was organized August 22, 1888. The work has never yet been self-sustaining. We now have twenty churches, fifty isolated members, with a total membership of four hundred and eighty-six. Three years ago there were only two hundred and fifty.

The tithe in 1898 was only \$985.15. In 1900, it was \$1,714.61; and in 1901, it was \$2,437.35. From this you see that in the last three years the membership has almost doubled, and that the tithe has more than doubled. Two years ago we were about \$700 in debt. But we have met all these obligations, and have our laborers all paid to the close of the last quarter, and enough money in the treasury to begin our summer's campaign. This will enable us to do more work than heretofore; but when we consider our field as compared with our resources, we feel to pray, "Lord give us men and means."

There is Little Rock, the capital city, which is located about the center of the State, with a population of 38,307. And these people have had little or no opportunity to hear the Third Angel's Message until about two years ago, when the Sanitarium was there established. God has blessed the effort, and there has been a steady growth in that line of work. And it has brought the principles of the message before the more wealthy class of people, so that there is a constant demand for our health foods, and calls for a hygienic restaurant. We feel that the time has fully come for this line of work to begin in that city. As a result of the effort put forth, we organized a church of about fifteen members there last

September. We have also had a Bible worker there for some time, and have decided to hold our conference there this year.

Hot Springs, the famous health resort, has a population of 9,973, and there are about 75,000 people that visit it annually from all parts of the world. We feel that there should be a permanent mission established there, but our means will not allow us to take hold of this work. It would be an excellent place to put in treatment rooms and a restaurant. We have a small church near by, and some of the members live in the city.

Then we have Eureka Springs, which also is noted as a health resort, and thousands of people visit it from almost all parts of the world. We should have a mission established there with treatment rooms and a restaurant.

Then there is Pine Bluff, with a population of 11,496 which has had no work done except a few books sold there. Also Fort Smith, which has a population of 11,537 and has had but little done in it. These, with many other places, are calling on us to carry the Third Angel's Message to them.

Last year was a prosperous one in connection with the cause of God in our Conference. We had three tents in the field the most of the year, and we held two local camp meetings besides our Conference meeting. God added his blessing to the efforts put forth, so that there were four new churches organized last year and several members added to the other carrying the message to the world. We intend to hold more of them this year than we did last. We find that they can be held with but little or no expense to the conference.

We have three new church buildings now being erected. We have three ordained ministers and two licentiates that are actively engaged in the work, also the State agent. The tract society was so badly in debt and had so few canvassers that were at work that we have not been able to pay our State agent until the last year. But we are glad to report that the book business is steadily advancing.

In the year 1900 there was a gain in our book sales over the previous year to the value of \$232.22. In the year 1901 there was a gain in our book sales over the previous year amounting to \$774.80. We have a larger corps of canvassers now than we have ever had, and we have reason to believe that the gain will be greater next year than in any previous year.

The Sabbath School Department has also been making advancement. There have been several Sabbath School Conventions held in the last two years, and as a result the Sabbath School work is improving. During this time the donations have about doubled. There is a greater interest among all the schools than ever before. All, both old and young, seem interested in getting the lessons.

We have also begun the work for our young people.

Our first church school was held at Springdale three years ago in the church. Since then we have erected a building which contains two school rooms. The school is steadily growing.



The outlook for the next school year is better than any previous year. We also have a broom shop, thus giving the pupils work to assist them in meeting their expenses while at school. There have been two other church schools held in the State, and we expect to have about five schools the coming winter.

In looking over our work we can see the blessing of God has been with us; but we are not satisfied. We feel that much more could have been done if we had been in a condition to co-operate with God at all times. As we look over the past we can see where we have failed, and it is a wonder that God has blessed to the extent that he has; but we are of good courage and feel like pressing the battle to the front. We believe that our people have some realization of the burden that rests on them as individuals in carrying the message to those who know it not. We have been called to go through some trying experiences in the last three years, but "thanks be to God, which causeth us to triumph in Christ and maketh manifest the savor of His knowledge by us in every place." This text has been our experience, and all the barriers raised against the truth have been broken down, and unity and love prevail among the brethren. The outlook for the work in Arkansas is encouraging, and we have reason to believe that, with the blessing of God, there will be greater growth in the future than there has been in the past.

A. E. FIELD, President.

#### THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MISSOURI CONFERENCE.

The Third Angel's Message in Missouri is represented by forty-two organized churches and ten unorganized companies, with a membership of about two thousand, two hundred.

Our working force in the Conference is twelve ordained ministers, four licentiates, and thirteen missionary licentiates. There are twenty-seven laborers on the pay roll of the Conference.

In the past year more than two hundred people in different parts of the Conference have embraced the present truth, and are now rejoicing in the same.

Four new churches have been organized, with a membership of ninety-three. Five new companies are now awaiting church organization, two of which are colored. The colored members of the St. Louis and Kansas City churches have been organized into separate Sabbath Schools. We find that both classes are getting along much better, and the schools are much better attended than they were previously to their separation. Each company is now ready to be organized into a church.

During the year ending June 30, 1901, the annual offerings amounted to \$707.06; first day offerings, \$450; book sales, \$11,673.00; tithe, \$9,230.21.

Since the organization of the Union Conference, April 1, 1901, to April 1, 1902, the annual offerings amounted to \$90.61; for the Scandinavian work, \$348.95; total offerings, \$1,128.07; book sales, \$9,450.25; tithe, \$10,431.74.

Three institutes have been held, and twenty-four canvassers are in the work.

New church buildings erected, seven; church school buildings erected, three; church schools held the last year, six. A church building is in process of erection in Kansas City.

J. M. REES, President.

#### SERMON BY ELDER DANIELS, 8:00 P. M., APRIL 16.

I will invite your attention to the third chapter of Malachi, verses 1-3: "Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me; and the Lord, whom ye seek shall suddenly come to His temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of hosts.

"But who may abide the day of His coming? And who shall stand when He appeareth? for He is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap:

"And He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; and He shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness."

This scripture presents to us the greatest event of all time, the second coming of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. His coming will mark an epoch indeed. It will close time and will bring eternity; it will bring to an end the reign of sin, and will usher in the eternal reign of grace. The second coming of Christ will remove from the earth the kingdoms of this world, and establish in their place the kingdom of God. The second coming of Christ will blot all the traces of sin, and will restore this earth to its Edenic beauty. It will end all the sorrow and suffering of humanity, and will bring to those who have accepted the grace of the gospel everlasting joy and gladness. My friends, never since creation has there been an event that will compare in any way with the second coming of the Redeemer of men. It is this event that is presented to us in the scriptures I have read, and it is about this that I want to say a few words tonight. I would be glad if I could command language that would adequately place before your minds the grandeur and the glory of the second coming of Christ.

Now just a word with reference to one feature that I have mentioned, the end of the reign of sin, the beginning of the complete reign of grace. It seems to me that anyone who can reason, ought, because of this consideration, to hail the return of Christ with a joyous heart. The reign of sin! In order to realize something of the terribleness of this accursed thing, look around you and see the world as it exists today. Every time I take the train to go from one part of the country to another, I can see wreckage strewn on every hand. As I was coming along from Lincoln this morning I saw a large building. From a distance it looked like a flourishing factory. I asked a fellow-passenger what it was. "Why," he said, "that is the penitentiary; that is the State prison." A little further on was an insane asylum.

And so, my friends, as we travel from place to place, we see here a hospital and there an alms house. On every hand we see evidences of the fact that we are living in the reign of sin.

These trophies are all the devil has to present as the results of his reign. Not a single glorious trophy has he to present to the universe as the result of his reign; it is all wretchedness and wreckage.

I thank our great God in heaven tonight that sin is not to reign forever. I thank God that he has decreed the utter extinction of this accursed thing. He has determined that sin shall be brought to an end, that the world shall be free; that its stains shall be blotted out; that no trace of it shall ever be found any more in God's grand universe. And, oh, when that time comes, it will be a grand day for many hearts. When that comes grace is going to take the place of sin here, and grace has some grand trophies to present as tokens of its reign. Grace has repaired hearts; grace has saved humanity; grace has joy and gladness to present to the universe as trophies of its reign. When that comes and reigns complete everywhere, we shall have a beautiful world here, a place where we shall be glad to dwell, where we shall forever have a different state of things. Sin shall not rise up the second time to grieve and hurt the children of men. Grace will fasten its grip upon this world, and it will never let go. And so throughout the ceaseless ages of eternity, grace will hold its place, bearing sway and ruling all things. And all we shall ever have to remind us that sin has been here, perhaps, will be the print of the nails in His hands.

Now, this is one of the grand changes to be made by Jesus Christ when he comes the second time.

Just a word with reference to the certainty of His coming. I find people who are not just certain about the coming of Christ. They know He has been here. They are certain about that; but they do not know for certain that He is coming again. I wish to call your attention to this. I would like to ask you how much more certain you are that Christ has been here than you may be that He is coming back again?

Let us look at that a moment. How does any man know that Christ has ever been on earth?—By the Bible. None of us have ever seen Him with our natural vision; none of us have come into personal touch with Him physically and visibly. Yet we may affirm our unbounded confidence in the statement that Christ has been here. We do it on the authority of the Book. But the same statement that assures you and me that he has been here assures us that He is coming again. That is worthy of consideration. It has been a marvel to me for a long time how any one could feel so certain that Christ has been here, and be in such uncertainty with reference to His coming again.

Let me read a portion of the scripture on this point found in John 14. "Let not your heart be troubled," said Christ, "Ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many



mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."

Who can have any doubt about the return of Christ after His statement? It is as plain as words can make it. "I go to prepare a place for you. I will come again." That settles it; that is the truth, for that is the word of Jesus Christ, and what he says is true, and we may stand upon His word.

So I have just as much confidence that Christ is coming back as I have that he has been here. I feel just as certain about one as the other; for the same authority that teaches me the one truth teaches me the other also.

If you will get hold of this blessed truth in its fulness, you will find great joy in it. It is a soul-inspiring truth. The whole creation groaneth for the return of Christ. If men only knew it, that is the solution of all the perplexing problems confronting the world today. If men only knew it, that is the hope of the ages. That is the thing to look forward to. It will unite long-broken families; the fondest desires of the heart will be consummated; the highest aspirations of the soul will be realized. So this doctrine is a heart-cheering one. It is soul-inspiring.

The doctrine of the second coming of Christ is a sanctifying truth. The man who knows anything about the doctrine of Christ's return hears a voice saying to him, "Prepare to meet thy God." That is the exhortation that always goes with the doctrine of the second advent. You can not preach the near coming of Christ without proclaiming to the world, "Prepare to meet thy God." There is only one thing that is a preparation to meet God, and that is a clean heart. You may do all the other things that can be suggested in the world, and if you leave your heart unclean, you are not prepared to meet God. Why? Sin can not stand in the presence of Jesus Christ. The Word tells us that our God is a consuming fire. To what? To sin. Let me read a statement found in the book of Isa. 33:14 and onward:

"The sinners in Zion are afraid; fearfulness hath surprised the hypocrites. Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? Who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings? He that walketh righteously and speaketh uprightly; he that despiseth the gain of oppressions, that shaketh his hand from holding of bribes, that stoppeth his ears from hearing of blood, and shutteth his eyes from seeing evil; he shall dwell on high; his place of defense shall be the munitions of rocks."

This shows us what it is that will prepare one to meet God. It is salvation from sin, a clean heart, righteousness before God. This will enable a man to stand in the presence of Jesus Christ when he shall come. And so the query of my text is answered; "Who may abide the day of His coming, and who shall stand when He appeareth; for He is like a refiner's fire." What does the refiner's fire do? It burns out the dross. The dross represents sin, that which is evil. So when Jesus Christ comes, He will be like a

refiner's fire; that is, he will burn up that which is evil, that which is sinful. He will destroy it; so it can not abide in his presence.

And, by the way, that is the only reason any man will ever be destroyed. God has decreed the utter destruction and uprooting and blotting out of sin, all sin. Sin does not exist in the abstract form, separate from man. The citadel of sin, the home of sin, is the heart of man. And so when Christ comes and destroys sin, he will destroy it just where it is, where it exists.

The gospel of salvation has come to us to save us from sin, to take away our sin, to remove it, to make us free from it; so that when Christ comes, we can enter into His presence, and dwell in the midst of devouring fire without being destroyed.

When Christ comes he will find a people who have been saved from sin, and who will, because of this, be able to enter into His glory and see Him face to face. I say again, the doctrine of the second advent of Christ is a soul-purifying doctrine. Nobody can believe in it truly, and go on in known sin.

And there is another beautiful thought in this; it is not only a truth that leads an individual to face his sin, and obtain forgiveness, but it is a truth that conquers the power of sin, breaks the power of sin, and sets a man free from that power. Ah, that is the best part of it. It is good to find the way of repentance; it is good to have forgiveness spoken; it is good to have the cleansing blood applied; but, oh! It is better still to find the hiding of His power that saves from the power of sin, saves from continual sinning.

"Ah," says one "do you think there is a power for a man that will save him from continuing in sin? Do you think so?" Oh, my friends, I know it. I know it by observation, and I thank God, I know it by blessed experience, and I say that without boasting, save in the cross of Christ.

Another thought in this connection. Before Christ comes there will be a time of trouble such as has never been seen in the Great Controversy between good and evil, an awful climax will be reached in the last days of human history. So when we approach the coming of Jesus we shall pass through a period of history during which Satan will make the greatest effort of all his cruel reign to break this grand plan, and to fasten his strong bands upon humanity. But where sin abounds grace will much more abound. So, as the darkness increases, the effulgence of light will be greater; and, as the power from beneath rises up to lay hold of men, the power from above will be sent down to lay a firm grip upon them. I cannot speak to-night of the time that will precede the coming of Christ. It will be the most thrilling period of all human history. It will be a grand thing to him who is prepared, who knows the truth and is saved by it.

#### REPORT OF THE TEXAS CONFERENCE.

Texas, the largest of all the States in the Union, has a population of 3,048,710 and has an area of 265,780 square

miles, an area greater than that of all the New England States, with New York and Pennsylvania thrown in, and then more territory left over than is embraced in the largest State in our Union Conference outside of Texas and Colorado. Taken at its greatest length the State is about 900 miles long by 800 or more at its greatest width.

The Texas Conference has twenty-six churches with a membership of about 1,100. We have ten ordained ministers, five licentiates and five Bible workers. The Conference has had in its employ the past year thirty-three laborers, and there have been sent from our State to other fields, twelve, as follows: Elder J. B. Beckner and wife to Jamaica; George Beckner and wife to Tahiti; Elder A. G. Bodwell and wife to Mexico; L. O. Corwin and wife to the Bay Islands, Central America; J. B. Blosser, our former state agent, to Lake Union Conference; E. S. Taylor to England, and Brother and Sister G. F. Jones, formerly of England, who have been working in our Conference, to the Society Islands. Three churches have been organized in the conference the past year, and several companies raised up, three of which are now waiting for organization. The tithes for the past fiscal year were \$10,800, a gain of more than \$4,000 over the previous year, notwithstanding the almost unprecedented drouth of the last year in our State; and the offerings have more than doubled. We have paid our tithe to the Union Conference and a second tithe to the General Conference since last August, have kept the laborers paid up, and have a nice little balance in the treasury. Our book sales for the year have been \$15,525.56, retail price, exclusive of the more than 3,000 "Object Lessons" recently placed in the hands of the people towards the school debt. The gain in book sales for the year, not counting the "Object Lessons" sold, is \$2,584. The prosperity in this line seems quite encouraging for the present year. The Canvassers' Institute recently had in our Conference had a good attendance. With those already in the field and those who expect start at the close of the school term, there are forty-four agents upon whom we think that we can safely count for service in the field this year. And I am glad to be able to report considerable interest in the "Object Lessons" work. Our churches have taken in the last few weeks a little over three thousand copies, every church visited so far having taken its full quota; and we have no question that the others will do the same, and that Texas will soon be able to sing the song of jubilee.

There has been quite an awakening in the church school work also, eleven such schools having been maintained in the Conference the past year. Doubtless Mrs. Williams will speak more fully of this work in our Conference, and Prof. Lewis, of the work of the Keene Academy; hence I will not enlarge upon these subjects.

The Keene Sanitarium has been doing a splendid work with a fair patronage all the time, and some of the time every room has been filled. The usefulness of this institution could be greatly increased by an increase of



facilities, and its needs for this purpose are great. Another will no doubt speak particularly on the work of this Institution, hence I will not attempt a detailed report of it here. Taken all together, the work in the Conference is encouraging throughout, although we recognized the fact that much more needs to be done. But for what has been accomplished we give thanks and take new courage for the future.

W. A. M'UTCHEEN, President.

#### BOOK WORK IN THE SOUTHWESTERN CONFERENCE.

The management of the Kansas City branch of the Pacific Press Publishing Co. reports that the sale of "Great Controversy" in this district during the past year increased by 350 copies over the previous year; "Daniel and Revelation," by nearly 750 copies, and "Bible Readings" by 250 copies. Dr. Kellogg's large Health Books nearly doubled in sale, also there was an increase of about 3000 copies in the sale of "Christ's Object Lessons." The retail value of books sold in this district during the past year amounts to over \$60,000. A full, detailed report of the book work will appear in some future issue of the Worker.

#### FOURTH MEETING, 10:30 A. M., THURSDAY, APRIL 17.

The Advisory Committee met immediately after the Conference adjourned last night. Elder A. G. Daniells was selected as Chairman and F. M. Wilcox as Secretary of the Advisory Committee. The committee announced the following standing committees, which were accepted by the Conference:

**ON NOMINATIONS**—James Cochran, J. Riffel, H. Shultz, M. H. Gregory, A. E. Field, B. E. Huffman, W. Zeigler.

**ON PLANS**—R. C. Porter, F. M. Wilcox, C. Sorenson, A. S. McCulley, W. A. Spicer, E. R. Palmer, Mrs. Flora Plummer, H. L. Hoover, David Paulson, Mrs. Flora Williams.

**DISTRIBUTION OF LABOR**—Presidents of Conferences, W. S. Cruzan, H. M. J. Richards, E. B. Hopkins, H. K. Willis, G. F. Haffner, I. A. Crane.

**LICENSES AND CREDENTIALS**—C. McReynolds, W. W. Hills, W. T. Millman, Dr. Somerville, C. H. Chaffee, H. B. French.

**DAILY PROGRAM**—A. G. Daniells, C. McReynolds, W. A. Spicer.

The question of consideration at this meeting was with reference to the division of the Northwestern and the Southwestern Union Conferences, upon which Elder A. G. Daniells was invited to speak.

**ELDER A. G. DANIELLS**—The proposal is to divide some of this western and southwestern territory. You are aware that we have had six districts in the United States that have recently been organized into Union Conferences. In addition to these we have organized the Canadian Union Conference. During the year we have studied this question carefully, and various suggestions have been made with reference to the further division of the territory. For instance there has been talk of dividing

the Pacific Union Conference and having a Northern Pacific and Southern Pacific Union Conference? I presume this division will eventually be made.

During the year we have also talked a number of times about the division of territory in central United States, and have studied the different conditions obtaining in this territory; but nothing very serious about an immediate change has been made until we attended the Des Moines meeting. On arriving there I found that brethren to whom I had never spoken had this question in mind, especially some of the brethren connected with Union College, and a number of others in different parts of the field had been thinking about it. They felt that something should be done to make a better division: so the matter was fully presented.

Now, I will state to you the feelings of the brethren who were assembled, what they did and what they have come here to present. The brethren felt that there should be organized a Northern Union Conference that would take in Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota, Manitoba, Assiniboia, Alberta and Saskatchewan. At a later time perhaps Montana will be added to this conference, but this is a question to be studied and submitted to Montana and the Pacific Union Conference. We have not yet learned enough about the railroad travel, and have not studied sufficiently with reference to the division of this territory to speak definitely, and will only say that we do not know whether it will be best to recommend Montana to the Northern Union Conference, or to stay where it is in the territory belonging to the Pacific Union Conference.

It is expected that a conference will be organized in Manitoba this summer and one in North Dakota. That will give to the Northern Union Conference four organized conferences and a large mission field to work. It is proposed to organize a Central Union Conference to be composed of Iowa, Nebraska, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas and Missouri, with headquarters either in Lincoln or Topeka. Then, it is proposed that the Southwestern Union Conference be composed of Texas, Arkansas, Indian Territory, Oklahoma and New Mexico, and that we suggest to Louisiana and the Southern Union Conferences the advisability of transferring Louisiana, which is west of the Mississippi river, to the Southwestern Union Conference, giving to the Union Conference four organized conferences and some mission territory. This is the proposal regarding the division.

Now, with reference to the changes that will come to the cause of God as a whole by the division, I understand that it will place 5,000 members in the Northern Union Conference, 14,000 in the Central Union Conference, and about 2,800 in the Southwestern Union Conference. That will be about the numerical strength. It will give four organized conferences in the Northern Union, five in the Central, and four in the Southwestern, which is about the same number as most of our other Union Conferences.

The financial strength will be about in proportion to the numerical division

that is made. One advantage of this change will be to shorten distance of traveling in the management of the field. It will bring the management to closer range, and this is the principle we are studying. This is the principle that has governed us to some extent in the proposed readjustment of the Union Conferences. We have but little conception of the amount that is paid annually for traveling expenses, and of the number of persons that make these long trips to go from one part of the country to the other. Our camp meetings have caused this denomination an enormous amount for traveling expenses alone. Now we are modifying this whole plan of camp meeting attendance. So far as arrangements have now been made, no man will go to the Pacific Union Conference to attend camp meetings during the season. They will be managed by laborers there. They have men on the ground who know the condition of the people and know how to attend to their business. When the people get to work in this Union Conference in this way, our camp meetings will be more practical.

By having the field broken up in this way it will bring men who are on the ground face to face with the situation and with the people; they will be in close touch with the details of the work and it will save the expense of long distances in traveling. The larger your field the greater your distance for traveling, and the heavier will be the expense of managing the field. But will not two Union Conferences cost twice as much as one Union Conference? A Central Union Conference and a Northern Union Conference will not cost any where near as much when operated on this plan. It is on these grounds that our brethren of the Pacific coast felt that a division must be made, and thus save the President of the Conference and other men holding general positions the expense and loss of time in traveling immense distances.

Another advantage is in the arranging or grouping together the peoples and institutions and fields having certain conditions. It will place the Union College district in only one avangelical organization. At the present the district lies in two Union Conferences.

If this plan is carried out, Minnesota and Dakota will not have a part in the Union College district. They feel that they should have a school building in their district, and an intermediate or preparatory school that will serve their purpose. They will not look upon it as their Institution in the sense that they are a part of the district.

The question may arise, Will this Conference of the North in separating meet their share of the debt on the College? My answer is, Yes. They say that they have never reaped the benefits of that Institution that the states closer by have done. Now they say, If we separate, we shall lose the property. We shall not have a vested dollar in it, and we will build a school for ourselves as Texas has done. Should we, therefore, be liberated or released from helping to pay this debt? They talked the matter over candidly.

(Continued in next issue.)