

THE WEST MICHIGAN HERALD.

"Watchman, What of the Night?"

VOL. I.

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THE WEST MICHIGAN HERALD.

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Evangelical Department

THE MACEDONIAN CRISIS

"THERE will be trouble in the Balkan states in the spring". This sentiment, dressed in language suited to the taste or the purpose of the writer, has been so often repeated in recent years without the predicted conflict taking place that the average reader has come to regard it as the stock-in-trade expression of the sensational foreign correspondents.

But it is not as sensational as it might at first appear. For some years there have existed in the Balkan countries conditions favorable to war; and with the approach of spring each year the fighting spirit has showed signs of renewed activity. A careful study of the situation has several times convinced the most conservative observers that the long-expected trouble was near at hand; and recent developments have given rise to serious apprehension that it may occur during the current year.

The seat of the present difficulty is in Macedonia. Politically that country is subject to Turkey. The inhabitants are a mixture of Bulgarians, Servians, Greeks and Turks, whose political creed appears to agree in no particular except in opposition to the Turkish government. Dissatisfaction is fostered by the Macedonian Committee, a political organization with headquarters in Bulgaria. This committee and its agents skillfully play upon the religious and race prejudices of the several nationalities which make up the bulk of the Macedonian people.

Alarmed by the gravity of the situation, several of the European powers recently brought considerable pressure to bear upon the sultan for the purpose of inducing him to institute certain reforms with the hope of quieting the Macedonian population and thus avert the threatened uprising. The sultan promptly agreed to the proposed reforms, but there is little confidence placed in the sincerity of his promises. And even if he is honest in his intentions, there is no reason to suppose that

mere reform would materially change the situation, since it is not reform but self-government for which the Macedonians are seeking. It appears to be the plan of the Macedonian Committee to create such a state of unrest in that country that the powers will become convinced that autonomy is the only solution of the difficulty and so will undertake the cause of the Macedonians in the sheer interest of international peace.

THE OUTLOOK.

BUT it is difficult to see how the setting up of an autonomous state in Macedonia could serve the cause of peace, inasmuch as there exists among the population such radical political, religious and racial differences. The downfall of the Turkish authority would be the signal for a struggle between these discordant elements for supremacy. There seems, therefore, to be little hope for permanent peace until Macedonia is attached to some strong power which can and will govern humanely, and which has sufficient strength to quell the unruly elements.

But therein lies what is perhaps the most serious danger of all, considered from an international point of view. European complications have reached such a critical stage that an attempt by any of the powers to take over Macedonia would seriously threaten the peace of the Continent. The powers most interested are Russia and Austria. There is reason to believe that Russia has secretly encouraged if not abetted the discontent in the Balkan states for years, and her actions in the present Macedonian crisis are not above suspicion. All of this is in furtherance of her traditional policy to secure control of Constantinople, and the free navigation of the Black sea, the Bosphorous and the Dardanelles for the ships of her navy. Is Russia convinced that the time has arrived to strike another blow at Turkey for that purpose? That is the question which is agitating the minds of European statesmen in connection with the present Macedonian troubles.

From the standpoint of world politics the Macedonian affair is, in itself, comparatively unimportant, although intolerable in its local aspects. But as a part of the larger question of disturbing the "balance of power" by furnishing

Russia an opportunity to carry out her long-cherished desire of siezing the sultan's European territory it is exciting the interest of all the great powers in that part of the world. To all human appearances a war between Russia and Turkey must result in the downfall of the latter. And in this view it also elicits the keenest interest of the student of prophecy.

S. M. BUTLER.

IN THE CONFERENCE

THE prospect for the work in our conference is encouraging. The division of the state into three conferences and a mission field has had a quickening effect upon the churches. By reducing the magnitude of the work, personal interest in each part has been intensified. Our people have shown a loyal spirit in taking hold of every enterprise that is worthy of attention. The Object Lessons' campaign during the winter was prosecuted with a vigor that is gratifying. While we can not say that all has been accomplished in the sale of the books that we could desire, the result is far from discouraging. Many of the churches have completed their work, a considerable number disposing of more than their quota.

The tract work has also received considerable attention, especially by the churches located in the northern and southern portions of the conference.

Fifteen church schools have been taught all or a portion of the year, and for the most part have been doing good work. With a few exceptions, the schools have been well sustained by the churches where they have been located. The interest in this branch of the work is on the increase. Some excellent and devoted young people are now engaged in teaching our schools.

Something over twelve thousand dollars in tithe have been received up to April 30, or a little more than two thousand dollars per month for the six months since the organization of the conference.

The Sabbath school work is in a healthy condition with seventy-five schools enrolled. Three of these have been organized since the beginning of the conference. Plans are being laid to interest the children especially in a summer's effort for raising missionary funds.

Our ministers and Bible workers are having a good degree of success in their work, and plans are being made for an active summer's work in the field.

There is, however, much yet to be done before the work is finished. The many thousands in our cities must hear the message, and there are several counties in the conference which have scarcely been touched as yet. The church school work must be greatly developed before we shall have made adequate provision for the education of our children and youth. The young people of the conference who are capable and devoted must be encouraged to enter the work, both home and foreign, and young and middle aged men and women are to be enlisted in the canvassing work. All of these things will require an additional outlay of means, to meet which will demand faithfulness in tithes and offerings.

Educational Department

THE HOME DEPARTMENT

THIS is a department of the Sabbath school the object of which is to encourage all of our people to keep up a systematic study of the Sabbath school lesson. It should be carried on by the members of the school as a missionary enterprise, and should include all Sabbath keepers who can not attend the school and any others who may become interested through solicitation and who will promise to study the lesson weekly.

The plan is a simple one. All that is necessary is for some one to take a lesson quarterly and an envelope to those who do not attend the school and see if they will not sign the envelope and promise to keep up a weekly study of the lesson at home, and at the close of the study make a record on the envelope and place their donation within.

Perhaps you will think the plan is too simple to try; or that it is not worth your while, since all of the people are supposed to study the lesson anyway. But we find that all do not keep up a regular study of the lesson when they are deprived of the privilege of attending the school; and, not doing so, after a time they are apt to grow careless and drop out by the way. Then, too, it does those who can not attend the school good to know that they are remembered by their brethren and sisters, and that they are still a part of the school through the Home Department. These things are incentives to continue faithful.

Where this work has been entered into faithfully good results have been seen, the isolated ones are encouraged, and those who have engaged in the work feel that it is time well spent.

They also find that there is an increase in the amount of the donations to missions. We believe this result will be seen wherever the plan is fairly tried. Mučh has been said about this matter, but we are not yet doing as much as we should. When we are told by the Lord that "much more of the missionary spirit should be manifested", do you not think that it means something? Should we be so occupied with our household and farm duties, and the multitude of other things which claim our attention, that we shall have no time for missionary work? We all enjoy the Sabbath school, and feel that it has done us good in the way of instructing us in the truth and in keeping us interested in all lines of the message, but some way we seem to be content to keep these blessings to ourselves too much. Perhaps we think all might attend the Sabbath school if they had the interest which we have. But we can not always tell what causes a brother or sister to remain at home. There may be some good reason, and such need our encouragement.

This is especially true of the churches in the city. It is so easy to remain away from the school, then to drop out altogether; and we find that many are doing this. Something ought to be done, and who could do it as well as the members of our Sabbath schools? They are right on the ground, know where the isolated members are, and can reach them much better than we can by correspondence.

A record should be kept of the work done, a list made of the members in the Home Department of your school, as well as an accurate account kept of the donations received. This information should be sent to us at the close of the quarter, by the secretary of your school. This will enable us to know what is being done.

MRS. S. M. BUTLER.

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE

IN the May number of the *Normal Instructor and Teachers World* Mr. G. D. Free makes some valuable suggestions regarding discipline in the school room. He says:

"Environment has much to do with a well governed school, but the teacher is the most important factor. A school well and successfully governed is one in which unnecessary noise is reduced to a minimum, and this is attained by having the pupils deeply interested in their work. Pupils readily learn the weak points in their government and management and assail those points first, and if successful have no hesitancy in attacking more formidable rules.

None but competent, skilled and

kind teachers should presume to instruct, and in these, certain characteristics should predominate. A melodious voice, an appreciative smile of approbation, genuine sincerity, pretty gestures, an interest in the pupils in and out of school all help to popularize the teacher. Children are proud of a fine teacher.

When the bell rings, the gate opens and pupils file into the building to begin study, they should do it quietly, and the procession should be so thoroughly drilled that symmetry is shown in their movements. When the pupils are seated, work should begin and continue uninterruptedly until the next interval of rest. When they are dismissed for recess, no unnecessary noise in the house should be allowed. The children should join in the aisles with the pupils on the opposite side, and march in an orderly procession to the play grounds accompanied by their teachers, who should supervise their plays.

Kindness and gentleness should be required of all and the seemingly incorrigible will ere long relent and modify his harsh ways, and yield to the refining influences of a master hand."

THE LAST OPPORTUNITY

THIS is the last opportunity that we shall have to speak to you before the collection is taken for the Cedar Lake school on Sabbath, May 16. It is imperative that we have a good donation at that time. There are improvements that must be made before the opening of school in the fall. The dormitory will have to be repaired, and the barn is already in process of remodeling and enlarging to accommodate the stock and produce of the farm. This will require an outlay of means for lumber and labor. A supply of fruit trees and plants have been purchased and set this spring at a cost of something over fifty dollars. We hope our brethren will come to the help of the school at this time in a liberal manner.

ACADEMY BOARD.
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

IF you are a church elder or leader this note is for you. A quantity of blanks have been sent you to take pledges for the Cedar Lake Improvement Fund. You are already familiar with the use to which this fund is to be put. Kindly take the pledge blanks to church Sabbath, May 16, and do what you can to secure a liberal offering.

Send the pledges and cash to the West Michigan Conference, 220 Plainfield Ave., Grand Rapids, Mich.

ACADEMY BOARD.
CONFERENCE COMMITTEE.

Medical Department

GYMNASTICS PRACTICALLY DEMONSTRATED

ONE very pleasing as well as instructive feature of the interesting program of the Medical Missionary Conference was the gymnastic exhibition in charge of Dr. J. F. Morse, held the evening after the Sabbath, April 25th, in the large chapel of the new sanitarium. The first thing on the program was an illustration of acrobatic feats lead by an expert gymnastic. This was followed by some of the medical students and smaller boys, the youngest being not more than ten years of age. It was interesting to note the strength and skill exhibited, which shows what can be accomplished by systematic exercise.

After this a class of girls, mostly nurses all dressed in white, marched into the room to the time of music and went through a very pretty drill, exhibiting much grace and symmetry of movements.

Next came the household gymnastics, showing the correct and the incorrect methods of doing the household work. As an illustration a young lady sat at the sewing machine in a very undignified as well as injurious position, one not at all uncommon, with the back and shoulders bent forward. This position results in compression of the lungs, as well as of the lower internal organs, often causing diseased conditions of those parts. The opposite effect was illustrated by the other young lady who sat at the machine in an easy, graceful position, with the chest out and the back straight, doing the work as well and as rapidly as the other, and with much less effort. Demonstrations were given of correct and incorrect ways of writing, kneading bread, washing, preparing vegetables, knitting, ironing, etc., to illustrate how the ordinary duties of life, if done in a correct position, aid in developing strong muscles, graceful movements and a healthy complexion.

Next came illustrations of farm work, showing how men, as well as women, make hard work of their labor by assuming incorrect positions. Chopping and sawing wood, an irksome task you might think, was very interesting. Two men were using a cross-cut saw, one working with a straight back and chest out, while the other was almost doubled up, making very hard work of it. This work necessarily made a great litter, which called for the sweepers. One young lady came in very hurriedly and leaning forward swept with long strokes, raising clouds of dust with each movement. The one who followed

her carried herself in a graceful manner, keeping the back straight, and handling the broom in such a manner that very little dust was raised.

The sloyd work was demonstrated by both ladies and gentlemen, and was a very pleasing feature; but the crowning event of the evening was the fancy club swinging by one of the lady senior medical students.

Dr. Morse emphasized the fact that in all our labor we should aim to develop all parts of the body equally.

T. CAROLYN LEMONS.

THE MEDICAL MISSIONARY CONFERENCE

THINKING that the readers of the HERALD may be interested to learn something of the medical missionary conference which was held at Battle Creek April 22 to May 2, we will in a very brief manner mention some of the things which impressed themselves upon our mind.

All of the delegates were entertained by the sanitarium. Rooms in the various cottages were furnished, and four tables were reserved for them in the patients' dining room in the West Hall. Between fifty and seventy-five delegates were present. The work of the American Medical Missionary College was discontinued during the time of the conference, and all of the students were invited to attend its sessions.

Dr. E. J. Waggoner spoke six times from seven until eight thirty o'clock in the morning on the general subject of present truth, or a religion that saves. He also occupied the evening hour in discussing the same topic. These talks were very instructive and interesting.

After the Doctor left, Elder A. T. Jones occupied the morning and evening hours. Among the subjects discussed by him was organization.

From nine o'clock until dinner, and from three to six in the afternoon, the time was taken up with the conference meetings. Reports from different sanitariums and workers were given. The interest in the colored sanitarium at Nashville, Tenn., took a very practical turn to assist this very worthy home missionary enterprise.

Dr. A. B. Olsen, former professor in the American Medical Missionary College, and its present secretary, made an urgent appeal for a building to be erected for the college in Chicago. Several thousand dollars were pledged for this purpose, the graduates of the school who were present showing their loyalty to the institution by pledging not less than one hundred dollars each. It is now expected that a small school building and hospital will be erected in Chicago before the end of the year,

Dr. David Paulson gave several talks on dietetics. He related some recent experiments made on the lower animals, and the results obtained. From these experiments practical applications were made showing the relation which they sustain to man. This subject was quite fully discussed by the delegates.

As the reports from the different workers were given many interesting subjects were discussed; such as home and foreign medical missionary work; sanitariums; treatment rooms; medical and evangelical missionary education; the gospel from the medical standpoint, etc.

Saturday evening, May 2, Dr. J. H. Kellogg gave the "Sanitarium Idea," illustrated by stereoptical views.

A full report of the conference will appear in the next issue of the *General Conference Bulletin*.

DR. P. S. BOURDEAU.

THE CURE FOR INTEMPERANCE

THE use of intoxicating drinks is so wide spread as to destroy all hope that the evil can ever be eradicated by present methods of combating it. As long as the appetite remains active, men will find the means of gratifying it, despite the most stringent prohibitive measures. The distillery and the saloon are subject to the economic law of demand and supply. If there were no desire for intoxicants none would be produced, and the saloon would be compelled to close its doors for want of patronage.

The foundation for intemperance is often laid around the family table, and by those habits which are looked upon with toleration if not with indifference. Highly seasoned foods, tea, coffee, the use of flesh foods, and other errors in diet, constitute a predisposing cause of drunkenness. Tea and coffee are capable of producing the same physiological effects as alcohol.

There are on record well-defined cases of intoxication resulting from the excessive use of these beverages, particular the former. Tobacco and opium must also be classed with the intoxicants.

The common use of these unnatural substances acts upon the nervous system in much the same manner as alcoholic beverages, the principal difference being the degree of effect. They constitute "a sort of graduated scale of intoxicants," which prepare for and predispose the user to inebriety. The general discontinuance of these injurious articles would do more to cure the habit of drunkenness than all other measure combined.

S. M. BUTLER.

News From the Field

OSTEGO

THE appearance of the Ostego church has been greatly improved this spring by papering and painting. With a clean and tidy church all feel to put forth greater efforts in telling neighbors and friends of the last great message.

Sabbath and Sunday, April 25, 26, were good days for the Ostego church. Elder Horton and Sister Bertha Snyder were with us. At the close of the Sunday morning service two were baptized.

A goodly number of our citizens attended the lectures on the "Eastern Question". EDITH E. SHEPARD.

ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO

SINCE we began work here sixteen months ago twenty-five have begun keeping the Sabbath. Of these, two have dropped out and four have moved away. We now have several families who are near the deciding point, who we trust will obey.

Our Sabbath school numbers from thirty to forty-five. Nine of this number have moved here from elsewhere. No less than seven families who were very much interested have been compelled to move away, or for some other unavoidable reason stop the readings before they had fully decided to obey. We find there are always more or less who drop the readings as soon as they begin to realize the necessity of bearing the cross.

This is a Campbellite stronghold and we have had stern and stealthy opposition from a dozen ministers of the gospel. However, in the face of all drawbacks, the Lord has certainly blessed our efforts, for which we feel thankful. Truly, "they that be with us are more than they that be with them."

In all we have received \$95.62 tithes. Of this \$55.56 has been sent to the Colorado conference. The remainder, together with what will be paid to us between now and the end of the quarter will be sent in at that time.

MILO D. WARFLE.

KALAMAZOO

SINCE coming to this city in December I have been very busy. Bible work had not been done here for quite awhile previous to my coming, so I am finding more than I can do, as I have no one associated with me in the work. I find many opportunities to work aside from the Bible work, in visiting and caring for the sick.

I have a good class of readers. Three have begun the observance of the Sabbath, and are waiting to be baptized and unite with the church. One lady who was anxious to study about the

Sabbath question and the coming of the Lord has now begun the observance of the Sabbath. When her friends and neighbors learned of this they tried in every way to discourage her, but she said she must obey God, and stood firm. A short time ago her husband joined her, and now both are walking in the light.

Some of the sisters in the church are taking an active part in visiting and caring for the sick, and helping in every way that they can. The church has adopted the plan of each family seeking the Lord at their home at five and nine o'clock in the morning. At the prayer meeting requests are brought in for those who need help, and good results are already seen. The Lord tells us in his word, "that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven." We believe the Lord is verifying this promise to us. I might mention one case. A young lady who had given her heart to God was taken very ill. We did what we could to relieve her sufferings, and then took her case to the Lord in prayer. Her physician says he has never seen a case like hers gain so rapidly. When I saw her last she said she thought the Lord is hearing prayer for her, and she believed that the affliction is for a purpose. She said she wants to give her heart to the Lord fully and serve him. We hope to see her among us soon as a faithful worker. I might mention other interesting cases.

My courage in the Lord is good. He has opened many ways for me since coming here, and I hope to be faithful in pointing many dear souls in this city to the "Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."

BERTHA E. SNYDER.

MUSKEGON AND BENTON HARBOR

IT was the writer's privilege to visit the church at Muskegon, Sabbath, April 25. On account of removals the membership of this church has become somewhat reduced, but those who remain appear to be of good courage, and striving to hold up the light of truth. There are several very bright children in the church who should have the advantages of a church school.

May 9 in company with Elder W. D. Parkhurst and Brother C. N. Christiansen I met with the church at Benton Harbor. This church is also small in numbers owing to removals. But the brethren are trying to be faithful and assist in carrying the message to the world. They listened attentively to the subject of Christian education for our children.

S. M. BUTLER.

News and Notes

—Our telephone number is 1859 One ring.

—Remember the donation for the Cedar Lake Academy next Sabbath.

—Elder A. G. Haughey spent last Sabbath with the church at Wright.

—Brother W. H. Heckman went to Muir Thursday, May 7, to conduct a funeral.

—Elder S. M. Butler spent last Sabbath with the church at Benton Harbor. He reports a pleasant time.

—The Lake Union conference committee held an important meeting at Berrien Springs the fore part of last week. Nearly all of the members were present.

—Twenty-two members of the Allegan church went to Otsego, Sabbath, May 2, to attend service. It is a good plan to meet with one another.

—At a recent meeting of the board of managers of Emmanuel Missionary College Prof. E. A. Sutherland was re-elected president of the faculty and Prof. Magan the financial agent.

—The conference committee and the district superintendents held a meeting at Berrien Springs this week to lay plans for the summer's work. The president will doubtless give an account of the plans next week.

—The Greenville church report that their collections have increased four-fold since the present system was adopted. This speaks well for the plan, as well as for the liberality of the brethren of that church.

A very important meeting of the educational superintendents of Lake Union conference was held at Berrien Springs last week. Many features of the educational work were discussed and plans laid for its advancement.

—There will be a meeting of the leading Seventh-day Adventist educational workers of the United States at Lincoln, Neb., commencing June 12 and continuing five days. The purpose of the meeting is to study the great problems connected with our school work, and devise plans for its rapid extension.

—Brother George B. Woodruff, of Bauer, Mich., has donated one thousand and strawberry plants to the Cedar Lake school farm. These have been received and placed in the ground by the students. We very much appreciate this kindness on the part of Brother Woodruff, and trust that his children may have the privilege of eating of some of the fruit of the plants while attending the school.