

MINUTES - COLORED DEPARTMENT - NOVEMBER 11, 1947

MINUTES OF THE NORTH AMERICAN COLORED DEPARTMENT

ADVISORY COUNCIL

November 11, 1947

PRAYER

T. M. Rowe opened the meeting with prayer.

RIVERSIDE SANI-
TARIUM

1

After much discussion, it was moved and seconded to appoint a committee to work out plans for the Riverside Sanitarium goals.

The chairman with the help of council members appointed the following committee to wait upon the group: E. F. Hackman, C. O. Franz, G. E. Peters, J. J. Nethery, T. M. Rowe, L. H. Bland, H. D. Singleton, H. R. Murphy, J. H. Wagner, W. W. Fordham, J. G. Dasent. Committee members met immediately after the adjournment of the meeting.

DEPARTMENT CHANGE

2

Following an open and candid discussion, it was moved and seconded by committee members to refer the consideration of the re-naming and re-organizing of the North American Colored Department to the General Conference Committee for study and action.

NORTH AMERICAN
INFORMANT

3

It was generally agreed by committee members that the NORTH AMERICAN INFORMANT is serving its purpose. A wider circulation for the periodical was heartily suggested by T. M. Rowe.

LOMA LINDA QUOTA

4

The quota problem for the Loma Linda Hospital was cleared up by Dr. Macpherson of the medical college. He stated positively that no quota exists and that applicants are chosen solely on their scholastic rating, preparation, and recommendations.

RESIGNATION OF
MISS GENEVA BRYAN

5

G. E. Peters brought before the council members the cause of Miss Bryan's resignation and highly commended her services in the department.

PROMOTION OF
HEALTH EDUCATION

6

Whether the department should continue to promote health education was discussed pro and con by committee members, and it was finally moved and seconded that the matter of the health education office in the department be referred to the General Conference Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by L. H. Bland.

N. C. Wilson, Chairman
G. E. Peters, Associate Chairman
Mercedes Moran, Recording Secretary

MEETING OF AVAILABLE MEMBERS OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Held in Pantlind Hotel, 1:00 p. m., Nov. 17, 1947

PRESENT G E Peters, L. B. Reynolds, H. D. Dobbins, J. H. Wagner, F. L. Peterson, H. D. Singleton, V. W. Fordham, H. R. Murphy, J. G. Dasent, O. A. Troy, L. E. Ford. Others present were R. E. Crawford, T. K. Fountain, H. W. Kibble.

PRAYER Prayer was offered by J. H. Wagner.

MESSAGE
MAGAZINE

The MESSAGE MAGAZINE was presented by Elder Reynolds. In discussing its progression, its problems, the feasibility of increasing the magazine's subscription list, which would place it on a sounder financial basis, was presented. Elder Reynolds reported that some of our churches were sponsoring large subscription lists, among them the Chicago Shiloh church taking 740 subscriptions and the New Orleans church 550 copies. Conference presidents and other present leaders were requested to urge all their churches to cooperate in this matter.

INCREASING
SIZE AND
PRICE

Elder Reynolds asked the group to consider the advisability of increasing the size of the magazine to make it more attractive. Such an increase in size as contemplated would require the magazine to sell for twenty-five cents per copy (retail). No vote was taken, but the consensus of opinion seemed to favor the increase in size to 36 pages and the consequent increase in price.

Elder Crawford spoke glowingly of the accomplishments of the MESSAGE under the efficient editorship of Elder Reynolds. He mentioned particularly the wide acceptance of the special temperance issue.

TEMPERANCE
NUMBER

The problem of supplying copies of the temperance number to the colleges making requests was presented to the group. There were commitments by the presidents of conferences and other field representatives. These were turned over to Editor Reynolds.

G. E. Peters, Chairman
O. A. Troy, Acting Secretary

REPORT SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

November 11, 1947

The special committee was called by Elder J. J. Nethery, chairman, to discuss the matter of raising the balance of funds needed for furnishings and equipment for the Riverside Sanitarium.

There was much deliberation concerning ways and means of raising the required conference goals. It was pointed out by the chair that the only way to get anything done is to get right after it and do it.

G. E. Peters reported that the churches had already raised \$47,000, but the total amount now needed is \$120,000.

It was voted to request our colored churches to raise the balance of \$37,000 by February 14, 1948. It was also discussed that the offering that would be taken in all of our churches, including our white congregations, would apply on the over-all goal allotted to our churches.

J. J. Nethery, **Chairman**

G. E. Peters, Secretary

Organization of the Lake Region Conference
September 26, 1944

Organization of the Lake Region Conference Association
August 8, 1947

Constitution and By-Laws

LAKE REGION CONFERENCE

MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE DELEGATES OF THE COLORED CONSTITUENCY
OF THE LAKE UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS

Held at the
Shiloh Church, Chicago, Illinois, September 26, 1944

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Elder Jay J. Nethery, president of the Lake Union Conference, chairman.

Preceding the opening of the meeting, F. N. Crowe of Muncie, Indiana, led the congregation in an inspiring song service. Elder J. G. Dasent read the Scripture Lesson from Revelation 14, and Elder S. E. Wight offered prayer.

The chairman stated that this is the first time in the history of the Lake Union Conference that we have called a colored constituency meeting. Representatives from the General Conference, Lake Union Conference and the colored churches in the four states of the Lake Union Conference make up the delegates to this meeting.

The official notice that was printed in the Lake Union Herald, September 5, 1944, was read by the Lake Union Conference secretary, R. M. Harrison. Following this the official delegate cards were received and 151 delegates were present. This included 25 delegates from the local, Union and General Conferences, as they are delegates at large.

D E L E G A T E S

GENERAL CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVES

1. W. H. Branson
2. G. E. Peters

LAKE UNION CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVES

3. Jay J. Nethery
4. R. M. Harrison
5. V. P. Lovell
6. H. P. Bloum
7. H. F. Brown
8. W. A. Higgins
9. T. E. Lucas
10. F. E. Thompson
11. H. W. Kibble
12. S. E. Wight
13. T. G. Bunch
14. L. E. Lenheim
15. T. E. Unruh
16. A. W. Johnson
17. T. R. Lukens
18. B. C. Marshall

DELEGATES AT LARGE

19. J. Parker Laurence
20. Clarence T. Richards
21. L. B. Baker
22. F. N. Crowe
23. J. G. Dasent
24. C. D. Henri

Delegates at Large Contd.

25. J. W. Allison Jr.
26. W. D. Forde
27. Virgil Gibbons
28. J. E. Johnson
29. Jacob Justiss
30. W. J. Kisack

DELEGATES - REGULAR

Illinois:

31. W. H. Moore
32. S. E. Williams
33. Robert White
34. Mrs. H. W. Kibble
35. Miss Earnestine Wamble
36. Mrs. Christine Thompson
37. Phillip Giddings
38. Mrs. Alice Blanchard
39. Mrs. Grace Proffitt
40. Robert Meaux
41. W. H. Maynor
42. Mrs. Frances Vaughn
43. Mrs. Harriet Hall
44. William Christopher
45. Stephen Lilly
46. Willie Blanchard
47. Mrs. Cristal Ricks
48. Mrs. Helen Maynor
49. Mrs. Maud Gantt

DELEGATES - Regular Contd.

Illinois

50. Miss Millicent Jordan
51. Mrs. Lottie Norman
52. Mrs. Pauline Byrd
53. Mrs. Sallie Washington
54. Cornelius Harris
55. Miss Avis Graham
56. Alfred Williams
57. Mrs. Ruth Blevins
58. Marcus Reid
59. Mrs. Elma Ward
60. Mrs. Mattie Jones
61. Mrs. Joella West
62. Mrs. Bessie L. Shelton
63. C. C. Arburthnot
64. Mary Stover

Indiana

65. George Williams
66. James Smith
67. William Betts
68. William Miller
69. Laura Cartwright
70. Marcella Anderson
71. Avannah Smith
72. Sister Franklin
73. Certha Sanders
74. Miss Mary Christian
75. Mrs. Mary Overstreet
76. Mrs. Eva Bryand
77. Mrs. Christine Banker
78. Mrs. Peggy Baker
79. Mrs. Hattie Hackney
80. Mrs. Cora Mays
81. Mrs. Sydonia Moseley
82. Mrs. Georgia Dodson
83. Mrs. Jane Hill
84. Mrs. Mary Orendorff
85. Mrs. Bertha Bailey
86. Mrs. C. E. Dasent
87. Othelo White
88. Reuben Roberts
89. Spaulding Mills
90. Thomas Dodson
91. A. T. Maycock
92. Herbert Mays
93. L. B. Baker
94. Mrs. V. Rhinehardt
95. Mrs. D. Dodson
96. F. N. Crowe
97. Mrs. Cora Luckey
98. Wilbur Gully
99. Emma Kee
100. Jessie Gulley
101. Charles Lawrence
102. A. L. Coley

Michigan

103. Mrs. Helen Parker
104. Leroy Hemingway
105. Mrs. Mildred Minisee
106. Mrs. Carrie Eaton
107. R. J. Lawrence
108. Myrtle J. Simpson
109. George Baker
110. Ella S. DuiGuid
111. Mrs. Georgia Jefferson
112. Virgil Humphrey
113. Mrs. Aylene Lee
114. Lucinda Ray
115. Mrs. Lila Washington
116. Mrs. Mabel Burke
117. Mrs. Maxine Spencer
118. Mrs. Willis Rush
119. R. Ivan Thompson
120. Mrs. Willie Lee Barner
121. David Bell
122. Jesse Barner
123. Mrs. Dorothy Clark
124. William Ray
125. Herman Thompson
126. Miss N. Skinner
127. Robert Orr
128. Mrs. Anna Lawrence
129. Lafayette Williams
130. Henry Moseley
131. Mrs. Patricia Thompson
132. Mrs. Laura Hollis
133. Mrs. Clara Copening
134. K. E. Foster
135. George Jordan Sr.
136. Elizabeth Auston
137. Clarice Gibbons
138. Francis Bivins
139. Irene Lee
140. Virgil Gibbons
141. Thomas Jimerson
142. E. J. Goodman
143. Mrs. Ethel Harris
144. Mrs. Priscilla Smith
145. Mrs. Bertha Roach
146. Mrs. Edith P. Forde
147. Mrs. Goldie Tarner
148. Mrs. Helen Friend
149. Miss Gwendolyn Jones
150. W. H. Baker
151. Charlie Laurence
152. William E. Clark
152. William E. Clark
153. George Powers
154. Lella Holly
155. Mrs. W. D. Cain
156. W. J. Kisack
157. R. J. Lawrence

It was stated that this meeting was called to study the advisability of organizing our colored constituent members in the Lake Union Conference into a conference organization.

Our chairman read some of the recommendations regarding conference organization from the General Conference minutes taken at the Spring Council, April 10, 1944. These recommendations are as follows:

"WHEREAS, The present development of our work among the colored people in North America has resulted, under the signal blessing of God, in the establishment of some 233 churches with some 17,000 members; and,

"WHEREAS, It appears that a different plan of organization for our colored membership would bring further great advance in soul-winning endeavor; therefore,

"We recommend, 1. That in unions where the colored constituency is considered by the union conference committee to be sufficiently large, and where the financial income and territory warrant, colored conferences be organized.

"2. That these colored conferences be administered by colored officers and committees.

"3. That in the organization of these conferences the present conference boundaries within each union need not be recognized.

"4. That colored conferences sustain the same relation to their respective union conferences as do the white conferences."

Also, recommendations from the Lake Union Conference Committee minutes of July 17, 1944 were read. These recommendations are as follows:

"In harmony with recommendations of the General Conference, We recommend,

"1. That the Lake Union Conference Committee provide for the organization of a separate conference for the members of the churches known as colored churches in the Lake Union Conference.

"2. That the organization of such a conference supersede the present arrangement of having in the Lake Union Conference organization a departmental or field secretary representative of the colored people.

"3. That in order to further the organization of such a conference the Lake Union Conference Committee provide for a meeting of the constituency of the proposed conference and that at that meeting a tentative constitution and by-laws with a suggestive name for the organization be presented by the Union Committee.

"4. That the location of the headquarters of the conference be determined by the newly elected conference committee in counsel with the union conference committee.

"5. That an operating budget for the year 1945 be approved for the proposed conference with the understanding that if, and when, a separate conference organization has been completed, a more detailed working budget will be prepared in harmony with the then existing conditions, this working budget to make provision for a reasonable operating capital to be held in the conference treasury in harmony with the General Conference working policies.

"6. That the amounts of operating funds, resources and reserves on hand at the close of the year 1944 in the several conferences involved be shared with the proposed conference on an equitable basis to be determined by the Lake Union Conference Committee, taking into consideration existing liabilities, obligations and commitments."

We were favored by a vocal solo, entitled "Ready to Walk With Jesus," by Mrs. Frances Vaughn, of Chicago.

CONFERENCE ORGANIZATION:

It was moved and duly supported that we proceed to organize the Lake Union Conference colored church members into a colored conference. The time up until the noon hour was spent in general discussion regarding the advisability of organizing our colored constituency into a conference. Many of the delegates took part in the discussion and the discussion was brought to a close with the speeches of W. H. Branson and G. E. Peters.

Adjourned until 2:30 p. m.

Chairman, Jay J. Nethery

Secretary, F. M. Harrison

MINUTES OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE DELEGATES OF THE COLORED CONSTITUENCY OF THE LAKE UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS

Held at the
Shiloh Church, Chicago, Illinois, September 26, 1944
2:30 p. m.

We opened our meeting by singing "Revive Us Again," and W. D. Forde offered prayer.

The chair stated that, when we adjourned several delegates were on their feet wishing to speak to the motion before us. After another general discussion by a number of the delegates, the question was called and the vote was 140 in favor of organizing a colored conference and 12 negative votes. The motion carried.

POLICY OF ORGANIZATION:

VOTED, That we follow the plan as outlined in the General Conference Working Policy that each church be represented on a large committee to nominate the various standing committees for the conference session.

The meeting was recessed for a few minutes until the various churches could appoint their representatives. Later we reconvened and the following names were submitted and accepted for this large committee:

| | | | | | |
|-----------|--------------|------------------|----------|----------------|------------------|
| ILLINOIS: | E. St. Louis | W. H. Moore | INDIANA: | Burnett | --- |
| | Evanston | Evelyn Williams | | Gary | James Smith |
| | Morgan Park | Robert White | | Ind. Cap. Ave. | Peggy Baker |
| | Shiloh | Phillip Giddings | | Marion | Mrs. D. Dodson |
| | Springfield | C. C. Arburthnot | | Muncie | Mrs. F. N. Crowe |
| | | | | South Bend | Wilbur Gully |
| | | | | Richmond | A. L. Coley |

| | | | | | |
|-----------|---------------|------------------|------------|-------------------|------------------|
| MICHIGAN: | Calvin Center | Leroy Hemingway | WISCONSIN: | Milwaukee | Walter J. Kisack |
| | B. C. Berean | R. J. Lawrence | | | |
| | Det. Hartford | Ivan S. Thompson | | Conference Church | J. P. Laurence |
| | Det. E. Side | Thomas Jimerson | | | |
| | Ecorse | E. J. Goodman | | | |
| | Flint | Gwendolyn Jones | | | |
| | Inkster | William E. Clark | | | |

Again we recessed for this large committee to appoint the various standing committees.

The meeting reconvened at 4:30 p. m.

We sang No. 211, "He Hideth My Soul in the Cleft of the Rock," and Elder L. E. Lenheim offered prayer.

Phillip Giddings, the secretary of the large committee, rendered the report for the standing committees, which is as follows:

Members of the Committee on Constitution and By-laws:

| | | |
|-----------|----------------|----------------|
| Chairman: | S. E. Wight | R. M. Harrison |
| | R. I. Thompson | F. N. Crowe |
| | J. G. Dasent | |

Committee on Plans:

| | | |
|----------|---------------|------------------|
| Chairman | G. E. Peters | C. D. Henri |
| | L. B. Baker | A. T. Maycock |
| | J. E. Johnson | H. P. Bloum |
| | H. W. Kibble | C. T. Richards |
| | W. H. Baker | Phillip Giddings |
| | T. E. Unruh | |

Committee on Nominations:

| | | |
|----------|------------------|----------------|
| Chairman | Jay J. Nethery | T. G. Bunch |
| | L. Mase | Wm. Betts |
| | W. H. Branson | C. R. Lawrence |
| | W. H. Maynor | W. J. Kisack |
| | C. C. Arburthnot | |

Committee on Credentials and Licenses:

| | | |
|----------|--------------|----------------|
| Chairman | G. E. Peters | J. G. Dasent |
| | W. D. Forde | Jay J. Nethery |
| | H. W. Kibble | |

VOTED, That we adopt this report. Carried.

In order that these various committees may have time to do their work, it was

VOTED, to adjourn until 9:00 a. m., Wednesday, September 27, 1944.

Chairman, Jay J. Nethery

Secretary, R. M. Harrison

MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE DELEGATES OF THE COLORED CONSTITUENCY
OF THE LAKE UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS
Held at the

Shiloh Church, Chicago, Illinois, September 27, 1944

Our meeting was opened by the use of hymn, "I Remember Calvary". Prayer was offered by J. G. Dasent, pastor of the Indianapolis Capitol Avenue Church. After this we were favored by a duet by Mrs. Roberts and Mrs. Ryan, of the Indianapolis Capitol Avenue Church.

The minutes of the two previous meetings were read and approved. The Committee on Plans and Resolutions was called for and H. W. Kibble, secretary of the committee, rendered a partial report.

CONFERENCE NAME:

Voted, unanimously to adopt the name, Lake Region Conference, for the newly organized conference.

G. E. Peters took the chair during the absence of Jay J. Nethery.

Report of Committee on Constitution and By-laws was called for and F. N. Crowe, secretary of the committee, rendered the following report, which was adopted unanimously:

CONSTITUTION OF THE LAKE REGION CONFERENCE S. D. A.

ARTICLE I
Name

This organization shall be known as the Lake Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

ARTICLE II
Territory

The territory of this organization shall be the States of Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin and Illinois.

ARTICLE III
Object

The object of this organization is to teach the Everlasting Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

ARTICLE IV
Membership

The constituency or membership of this organization shall be the organized colored churches in the States of Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin and Illinois.

ARTICLE V
Manner of Conducting Its Work

The conduct of the work of this organization and management is as set forth in the By-laws attached hereto.

BY-LAWS OF THE LAKE REGION CONFERENCE S. D. A.

ARTICLE I
Delegates

Section I: Regular Delegates. The delegates to this conference shall be one delegate for each local church without regard to number and one additional delegate for each fifteen members, or major fraction thereof.

Section II: Delegates at Large. Delegates at large shall be the local conference committee members, the local conference ordained and licensed ministers, the Lake Union and General Conference workers present at the session.

Section III: This conference may receive or disfellowship a church for cause at any regularly called conference session. It may also disfellowship any church at any specially called session, providing said church has been given thirty days notice either in writing, or notice printed in the Lake Union Herald.

Section IV: Each church organization will be required to vest the title of its church property in the local conference legal association, unless otherwise voted by the conference in session.

ARTICLE II
Conference Sessions

Section I: This conference shall hold biennial sessions at such dates and places as the Executive Committee shall designate by notice published in the Lake Union Herald at least four weeks before the date of the session, and in the same manner, special meetings may be called when it is deemed advisable by the Executive Committee.

Section II: At each session the conference shall elect an executive committee of seven (7) members for carrying on its work between sessions.

ARTICLE III
Officers

The officers of this Lake Region Conference shall be a president and secretary-treasurer, who shall be elected by the conference.

ARTICLE IV
Duties of Officers

The duties of the president and secretary-treasurer are such as usually pertain to such offices respectively, and such other duties as the Executive Committee may prescribe.

ARTICLE V
Meetings

Section I: Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be called by the president or secretary.

Section II: Any four members present of the Executive Committee, including the president, shall be empowered to transact such routine business as is in harmony with the general plan outlined by the committee, but the concurrence of all four members shall be necessary to pass any measure.

Section III: During the interval between sessions of the conference the Executive Committee shall have full administrative power with authority to grant and withdraw credentials and licenses for cause, and to fill, for the current term, any vacancies that may occur in its offices, boards, committees, or agents, by death, resignation, or otherwise, except in cases where other provision for filling such vacancies shall be made by vote of the conference. The withdrawal of credentials or filling of vacancies on the Executive Committee shall require the consent of two-thirds of the members of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI
Departments and agents

Section I: Such corporations and departments may be created as the development of the work requires.

Section II: At each regular session of this conference the delegates shall elect such trustees of all corporate bodies connected with this organization as may be provided in the statutory laws governing each.

Section III: The conference shall employ such committees, secretaries, treasurers, agents, ministers, missionaries, and other persons, and shall make such distribution of its laborers as may be necessary to execute its work effectively. It shall also grant credentials or licenses to its ministers and missionaries.

ARTICLE VII
Finance

Section I: The Lake Region Conference shall receive a tithe of the income from all its members.

Section II: This conference shall pay tithe of its tithe, sustentation, per cent of tithe, and such other prescribed funds to the Lake Union Conference and General Conference as may be agreed upon by said organizations.

Section III: The Executive Committee shall be authorized to call for such special donations as may be necessary to properly prosecute the work of the conference.

Section IV: All funds received from local churches and members designated for the Union and General Conferences shall be passed on monthly.

ARTICLE VIII
Audits

Section I: The Executive officers shall have the accounts of the conference audited at least once each calendar year, and shall report upon the same to the Executive Committee of the Conference at the annual session of the Committee, and to the constituency at its biennial meeting.

Section II: The Executive Committee, together with four representatives not in their employ, as may be appointed by the Executive Committee (two of these from the Lake Union Conference office) shall constitute an auditing board who shall audit annually the time and expense of the Lake Region Conference employees, and settle all accounts against the conference.

Section III: The Lake Union auditor shall be the auditor of the conference treasurer's books and other organizations under the direction of the Committee.

ARTICLE IX
Committees, Boards & Agents

The voters of this conference shall, at each regular session, elect seven (7) trustees for the legal corporation known as the Lake Region Association of Seventh Day Adventists and the members of such other corporate bodies as are, or may be, connected with this organization according to the state laws governing such corporations and the conference shall employ such committees and agents as it may deem necessary.

ARTICLE X

This Constitution with its By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voters present at any session. Such amendments to be not inconsistent with the constitutions of the Union and General Conferences; and provided further, that, if it is purposed to amend the constitution at a special session, notice of such purpose shall be given in the call for such special session.

It was suggested that a copy of the Constitution and By-laws of the Lake Region Conference be gotten out by the Lake Union Conference and sent to the pastors and elders of each colored church in the Lake Union Conference.

The balance of the resolutions from the Plans Committee were read and the report was unanimously adopted. These resolutions are as follows:

Committee on Plans and Resolutions:

GRATEFULNESS

WHEREAS, Our Heavenly Father has signally blessed and prospered the efforts of our colored workers and constituency in developing the work among the colored people, and

WHEREAS, The time has come when our General and Union brethren have seen fit to authorize a colored conference in order that our work may go forward more rapidly, and

WHEREAS, The delegates here assembled have consummated the organization of such a conference,

Resolved, That we offer our sincere praise and gratitude to God, and dedicate our lives anew to an all-out program of evangelism and loyalty in tithes, and liberality in offerings for foreign missions and home work.

CONFERENCE NAME

We recommend, That the newly formed conference be known as the "Lake Region Conference" of Seventh-day Adventists.

CONFERENCE LOCATION

We recommend, That the location of the conference headquarters be referred to the conference committee in council with the Union Conference Committee.

PLANS AND POLICIES

WHEREAS, This newly formed conference is a part of the Lake Union Conference, and a sister conference to the other four conferences of the Lake Union,

We recommend, That the newly formed conference place itself on record as accepting all the plans and policies now in operation as are handed down by the General and Union Conferences.

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

WHEREAS, This new conference will promote the departmental activities recommended by the General Conference,

We recommend, That provisions be made for the establishment of the following departments: Home Missionary, Sabbath School, Young People's Missionary Volunteer, Educational and Publishing, and provide for the promotion of such other activities as may be recommended.

BOOK AND BIBLE HOUSE

We recommend, The establishment of a central Book and Bible House at such a time as may seem advisable by the conference committee.

"MESSAGE" MAGAZINE

WHEREAS, The "Message" Magazine has become a strong factor in the spreading of the Everlasting Gospel to the colored people,

We recommend, That a renewed effort be put forth to greatly increase its circulation both in subscriptions and in single copies.

BEGINNING DATE

We recommend, That the Lake Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists begin its operation January 1, 1945.

SHILOH CHURCH

RESOLVED, That we, the delegates assembled, express our sincere gratitude to the pastor and church members of the Shiloh Church for the unparalleled hospitality extended to us during this constituency meeting.

Discussion regarding the segregation of the colored students at Emmanuel Missionary College cafeteria was presented.

VOTED, That this item be referred to the Committee on Plans and Resolutions.

Mrs. Lee, the choir leader of the Detroit Hartford Avenue Church, favored us with a solo, entitled, "Love Never Faileth." Mrs. Lee was accompanied by Mrs. Clark, the pianist of the Hartford Avenue Church.

Jay J. Nethery again took the chair.

We adjourned until 1 p. m. and were dismissed by C. D. Henri.

Chairman, Jay J. Nethery

Secretary, R. M. Harrison

MINUTES OF THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE DELEGATES OF THE COLORED CONSTITUENCY
OF THE LAKE UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS
Held at the
Shiloh Church, Chicago, Illinois, September 27, 1944
1:00 p.m.

We sang to open our meeting the hymn, "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder".

Prayer was offered by L. E. Lenheim, president of the Illinois Conference.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Committee on Credentials and Licenses was called for and the following report was unanimously adopted:

Committee on Credentials and Licenses:

We recommend, That all employees of the Lake Region Conference,--ordained and licensed ministers, Bible instructors, teachers, colporteurs, etc., continue to hold conference papers similar to those issued to them by the four conferences of the Lake Union Conference, and that appropriate papers be issued to all additional employees of the conference.

The Plans Committee brought in a resolution recommending that any further resolutions be referred to the incoming committee.

Moved we adjourn until 10 minutes to two.

Reconvened at 2:20 p. m., September 27, 1944.

H. W. Kibble, pastor of the Shiloh Church, led us in prayer.

The secretary of the Nominating Committee, W. J. Kisack, rendered the final report, which is as follows:

CONFERENCE OFFICERS: President, J. G. Dasent
Secretary-treasurer, L. E. Ford
Publishing Dept. Secretary, Virgil Gibbons
Publishing Dept. Assistants, C. Willis and L. B. Baker
M. V. & Educ. Secretary, W. J. Kisack

H. M. & S. S. Secretary to be referred to the incoming conference committee in council with the General and Union representatives.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: J. G. Dasent
L. E. Ford
J. E. Johnson
H. W. Kibble
A. T. Maycock
Virgil Gibbons

That the seventh member of the Executive Committee be referred to the incoming committee. The report was adopted.

A few well-chosen words were spoken by the new conference president, J. G. Dasent. G. E. Peters of the General Conference appealed to the constituent members for their support and hearty cooperation in this new conference. Welcome was given by the president of the Lake Union Conference, Jay J. Nethery, to Elder Dasent to the Union Conference Committee. Local conference presidents also welcomed J. G. Dasent as a new local president in the Lake Union Conference.

V. P. Lovell, our Union Educational Secretary, spoke of his keen interest in the colored youth in this new conference. W. A. Higgins, Publishing Department Secretary, spoke of the book work in this newly organized conference. H. F. Brown, Union Home Missionary and Sabbath School Secretary, assured us of his interest regarding the home missionary and Sabbath school work in these colored churches and his desire to cooperate with them in their endeavors. H. P. Bloum, our auditor, assured the officers of this new conference his full cooperation.

Earnest prayers for the success of this conference were offered by H. W. Kibble, of the Chicago Shiloh Church, J. E. Johnson of the Detroit Hartford Avenue Church, G. E. Peters of the General Conference and Jay J. Nethery of the Lake Union Conference.

Minutes of this fourth and last meeting of the delegates to the colored constituency meeting were read and approved.

Moved that we adjourn sine die.

Chairman, Jay J. Nethery

Secretary, R. M. Harrison

SEP 12 REC'D

ORGANIZATION OF THE LAKE REGION CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION
OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS
Friday, August 8, 1947
10:00 A.M.

Place Shiloh S. D. A. Church, Chicago, Illinois
Present Delegates to the Lake Region Conference Session
J. G. Dasent in the chair
Opening Song "Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken."
Prayer E. L. Green, Secretary-Treasurer, Lake Union Conference

After a few preliminary remarks setting before the delegates the purpose of the meeting, Elder Dasent invited E. L. Green, Sec'y-Treasurer of the Lake Union Conference, to the chair, who later on stepped down in favor of Elder L. E. Lenheim, President of the Lake Union Conference.

The chair took some time to explain to the delegates assembled the difference between the conference organization and that of the conference Association. The first is an unincorporated body; the latter a legal organization. One is dedicated to the preaching of the Everlasting Gospel, the other is a legal body for the holding of real estate, church property, etc.

In order to have some matter pertaining to the Association and its organization to place before the delegates, J. G. Dasent, F. N. Crowe, H. W. Kibble, R. F. Warnick, J. W. Allison, Virgil Gibbons, and William Ray, acting under the advice of Louis E. Johnson of Chicago, Illinois, Attorney at Law, prepared and submitted the following articles:

Article I
Name

The name of the corporation is Lake Region Conference Association of Seventh-Day Adventists.

Article II
Period

The period of duration of the corporation is perpetual.

Article III
Location

The address of its initial registered office in the State of Illinois is 619-621 Woodland Park, in the City of Chicago, Zone 16, County of Cook, and the name of its initial Registered Agent at said address is Elder J. Gershom Dasent.

(Articles continued)

ARTICLE IV
Board of Directors

The first Board of Directors shall be five in number; their names and addresses are as follows:

| | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| J. Gershom Dasent | 619 Woodland Park | Chicago 16, Ill. |
| F. N. Crowe | 621 Woodland Park | Chicago 16, Ill. |
| H. W. Kibble | 6145 St. Lawrence | Chicago 37, Ill. |
| R. F. Warnick | 1464 W. Grand Blvd. | Detroit 8, Mich. |
| J. W. Allison | 2160 N. Capitol | Indianapolis 2, Ind. |

ARTICLE V
Purpose and Territory

The Association is incorporated for religious purposes, and the welfare and benefit of the Lake Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, an ecclesiastical, unincorporated body, without pecuniary profit, or gain to any person or persons, operating in the states of Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois, under the requirements of what is known as the "General Not For Profit Corporation Act," approved July 17, 1943, effective January 1, 1945 in the State of Illinois.

The Lake Region Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists recognizes the Lake Union Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists (Not For Profit) organized under what is known as Act No. 327 of the Public Acts of 1931, the Michigan General Corporation Act, as the "Mother" of all such said Conference Associations of Seventh-day Adventists and will operate in cooperation and compliance with its general policy.

It was moved by William Clark of Inkster, Michigan, and seconded by C. P. Laurence of South Bend, Indiana, "that we the delegates assembled at the Second Biennial Session of the Lake Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in Chicago, Illinois this 8th day of August, 1947, hereby approve and accept these articles as prepared by J. G. Dasent, F. N. Crowe, H. W. Kibble, R. F. Warnick, J. W. Allison, Virgil Gibbons, and William Ray, and filed in the office of the Secretary of State of the State of Illinois on June 27, 1947 as the articles of the Constitution of the Lake Region Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists and that we do hereby approve, accept, and ratify all their actions connected therewith." The motion was carried by a unanimous vote.

It was moved by Mrs. Blanche Young of Detroit, Michigan and seconded by Mrs. Mary Brown of Detroit, Michigan, "that the names of Virgil Gibbons of 619 Woodland Park, Chicago 16, Illinois, and William Ray, 1466 W. Grand Boulevard, Detroit 8, Michigan be added to the Board of Directors, thus increasing the number from five to seven. The motion was carried unanimously. The members of the Board of Directors are as follows: J. G. Dasent, F. N. Crowe, H. W. Kibble, R. F. Warnick, J. W. Allison, Virgil Gibbons, and William Ray.

It was moved by F. N. Crowe of Chicago, Illinois, and seconded by R. F. Warnick of Detroit, Michigan, that the Articles of Incorporation be amended as follows:

AMENDMENTS

- ARTICLE I That Article I, showing the name of this association be amended to read "Seventh-day" instead of "Seventh-Day." The motion to adopt this amendment was made by F. N. Crowe of Chicago and seconded by J. G. Dasent of Chicago. Motion carried unanimously.
- ARTICLE III That Article III, that part showing the name of the registered agent be amended so as to omit the title of "Elder" before the name of J. Gershom Dasent. Moved by F. N. Crowe of Chicago and seconded by H. W. Kibble of Chicago. Motion carried unanimously.
- ARTICLE IV That Article IV referring to the number of the Board of Directors be amended to read "not less than seven and not more than nine in number" instead of "five." Moved by F. N. Crowe of Chicago, and seconded by J. Smith of Gary, Indiana. Motion carried unanimously.

BY-LAWS OF THE LAKE REGION CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION

AMENDMENTS

- ARTICLE V Paragraph I. Insert these words after the word "president..." or in an emergency, after counsel with the Lake Union Conference president, by the secretary of said Board, or by three members thereof." Motion to make this change was made by F. N. Crowe of Chicago, and seconded by J. F. Lee of Ecorse, Michigan. Motion carried unanimously.

The amended article reads as follows: "Meetings of the Trustees, who are also the Board of Directors, may be called by the president, or in an emergency, after counsel with the Lake Union Conference president, by the secretary of said Board, or by three members thereof."

It was moved by R. F. Warnick of Detroit and seconded by R. J. Lawrence of Niles, Michigan, that Paragraphs II and III of Article V be deleted and that the following paragraph be inserted instead: "A quorum to do business shall consist of not less than four Trustees, one of whom shall be the president of the Board, except in an emergency." Motion carried unanimously.

- ARTICLE IX It was moved by C. P. Laurence of South Bend, Indiana and seconded by William Ray of Detroit that a period be placed after the word "session," and the rest of the paragraph be deleted, substituting the following: "If it is proposed to amend the constitution at a special session, notice of such purpose shall be given in the call for such special session."

The amended article reads as follows: "These by-laws may be amended by a majority vote of the members at the regular biennial session. If it is proposed to amend the constitution at a special session notice of such purpose shall be given in the call for such special session."

VOTED, meeting adjourn sine die.

J. G. Dasent, President

F. N. Crowe, Secretary

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE LAKE REGION CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION

OF

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS

Article 1

Name

The name of the corporation is Lake Region Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists.

Article 2

Period

The period of duration of the corporation is perpetual.

Article 3

Location

The address of its initial Registered Office in the State of Illinois is 619-21 Woodland Park in the City of Chicago, Zone 16, County of Cook, and the name of its initial Registered Agent at said address is Elder J. Gershom Dasent.

Article 4

Board of Directors

The first Board of Directors shall be Seven in number.

Article 5

Purpose and Territory

This Association is incorporated for religious purposes and the welfare and benefit of the Lake Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, an ecclesiastical, unincorporated body, without pecuniary profit or gain to any person or persons, operating in the states of Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin; under the requirements of what is known as the "General Not For Profit Corporation Act," Approved July 17, 1943; Effective January 1, 1944; of the State of Illinois.

The Lake Region Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists recognizes the Lake Union Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists (Not For Profit) organized under what is known as Act No. 327 of the Public Acts of 1931, the Michigan General Corporation Act, as the "mother" of all such said Conference Associations of Seventh-day Adventists and will operate in cooperation and compliance with its general policy.

BY-LAWS OF THE LAKE REGION CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION

of

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISTS

Article 1 --- Membership

The members of this Association shall be the accredited delegates to the regular biennial or specially called sessions of the Lake Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, unincorporated.

Article 2 --- Trustees and Board of Directors

The business and affairs of this Association shall be managed by a Board of Trustees, who shall also be the Board of Directors, of not less than five or more than seven members.

Article 3 --- Election of Trustees

The Trustees, who also shall be the Board of Directors, of this Association, shall be elected by the delegates to the Lake Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, unincorporated, and shall serve for two years and until their successors are elected and appear for duty.

Article 4 --- Officers

At the first opportunity after election the Trustees, who also shall be the Board of Directors, shall elect from their members a President, a Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Auditor of the Lake Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists shall be the Auditor of the Lake Region Conference Association. (This refers to the Auditor of the Lake Union Conference Association, etc.)

Article 5 --- Meetings of Trustees and Board of Directors

Meetings of the Trustees, who also are the Board of Directors, may be called by the President or Secretary of said Board, or by three members thereof.

The Board of Trustees, who are also the Board of Directors, is always in session and at any time there are five members present, including the President and secretary, business may be transacted providing at least three members give their consent when the said Board is composed of Five Members and at least five members give their consent when the said Board might be composed of seven members.

When a meeting of the full Board is called a majority vote of those present is required to pass an action.

Article 6 --- Duties of Officers.

Duties of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer, and Auditor shall be such as usually pertain to such officers, respectively, and such other duties as the Board of Trustees, who are also the Board of Directors, may prescribe.

The President and Secretary shall sign for and in behalf of said Association, deeds, mortgages, powers of Attorney, annuity agreements and any other instruments of writing of similar character.

Article 7 --- Interval between Sessions,
Vacancies

During the interval between sessions of the Lake Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, unincorporated, the Trustees, who are the Board of Directors, shall have full administrative power with authority to fill all vacancies that may occur among its officers, committees, or agents by death, resignation or otherwise.

Article 8 --- Seal

The seal of this Association shall consist of an ordinary size circular impression with the words "Lake Region Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists" in the outer circle enclosing the word "Seal."

Article 9 --- Amendments

These by-laws may be amended by a majority vote of the members at the regular Biennial session or any specially called meeting, provided that mention is made of such a proposed amendment in the call.

North -
eastern

Organization of the Northeastern Conference

Constitution and By-Laws

October 3-4, 1944

C O N S T I T U T I O N
NORTHEASTERN COLORED CONFERENCE
of Seventh-day Adventists

ARTICLE I--Name

This organization which is a subsidiary of the Atlantic Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, shall be known as the Northeastern Colored Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

ARTICLE II--Territory

The territory of this Conference shall comprise the following states: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island and New York.

ARTICLE III--Object

The object of this Conference is to teach the everlasting gospel of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

ARTICLE IV--Membership

Section 1. The membership of this Conference shall consist of such colored churches as have been or shall be properly organized, and accepted by vote of the Conference.

Section 2. The voters of this Conference shall be:

- a. The members of the executive committee of the Conference.
- b. The members of the General Conference and the Atlantic Union Conference committees who are present at any session of this Conference.
- c. All ordained ministers and licensed ministers employed by this Conference, who are in good and regular standing, and who hold regular credentials and licenses from the Conference.

d. Such delegates as shall be duly accredited by the organized churches of the Conference, on the basis of one for each local organized church, and one additional for each twenty members or fraction thereof.

e. Such other persons, not exceeding twenty-five in number, as may be recommended by the executive committee and accepted by the delegates in session.

ARTICLE V--Officers and Their Duties

Section 1. The regular officers of this Conference shall be a president, a secretary and a treasurer, it being provided that the offices of secretary and treasurer may be held by one person.

Section 2. President: The president shall act as chairman of the Executive Committee, and labor in the general interests of the Conference in counsel with the Executive Committee.

Section 3. Secretary: It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep the minutes of the Conference sessions, and of the Executive Committee, and to collect such data as may be desired by the president or by the Atlantic Union and local conference committees; and to perform such other duties as pertain to the said office.

Section 4. Treasurer: a. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive all funds and to disburse them in harmony with the actions of the Executive Committee, to audit the books of the local church treasurers at least once each year, and to render such financial statements at regular intervals as may be desired by the president or the local and union conference committees. Where it is found impossible for the treasurer personally to audit all of the books of the local churches, the committee shall arrange with him for such assistance as may be necessary.

b. Bank accounts within this conference territory, approved by the conference committee, shall be operated in the name of the conference by the treasurer and/or the president and/or such other individuals as may be authorized by the Executive Committee.

Section 5. The officers of the conference shall be elected by the constituency at the times of its biennial sessions, and shall be members of the Executive Committee. They shall hold their offices for a period of two years or until their successors are elected and appear to enter upon their duties. All other members of the Executive Committee and the secretaries of all departments shall be chosen by the delegates in the regular sessions of the conference, and shall hold their offices for the period of two years or until their successors are elected and appear to enter upon their duties.

ARTICLE VI--Executive Committee

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of not more than seven members, of which committee the president shall be an ex-officio member and the chairman.

Section 2. During the intervals between sessions of the conference, the Executive Committee shall have administrative power with authority to grant and withdraw credentials and licenses, and to fill all vacancies in the offices of President, Secretary or Treasurer, and in the membership of the Executive Committee, and in the leadership of the departmental work, occurring by death, resignation, or otherwise. Such actions shall require the consent by vote of two-thirds of the members of the committee.

Section 3. Any four members of the Executive Committee, including the president, shall be empowered to transact such conference business as is in harmony with the general plans outlined by the Committee. The concurrence of four members shall be necessary to pass any measure.

Section 4. Meetings of the conference committee may be called at any time or place by the president, or should he be absent from the field, such meetings may be called by the secretary upon the written request of any three members of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII--Sessions

Section 1. This Conference may hold bi-annual sessions at such times and places as the Executive Committee may designate by a notice published in the Review and Herald or the Atlantic Union Gleaner at least three weeks before the date of ^{the} opening ^{of} the session.

Section 2. The Executive Committee may call a special session of the Conference at such times and places as it deems proper by a like notice as of regular sessions, and the transactions of such special sessions shall have the same force as those of the regular sessions.

ARTICLE VIII--Finance

Section 1. The funds of this Conference shall be:

a. The tithes from all colored churches, and such other colored believers as are not members of some other Seventh-day Adventist church organization.

b. Special donations.

Section 2. This Conference shall pass on monthly to the Atlantic Union Conference a tithe of its tithe receipts, all mission offerings, and such other funds as may be called for by the policies of the union and the General Conference organizations.

ARTICLE IX--Audits

The fixing of wages and the auditing of expenses of the workers within this Conference shall be carried out in harmony with the policies fixed by the Atlantic Union and the General Conference organizations.

ARTICLE X--Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by a three-fourth's vote of the delegates present at any session provided that if it is proposed to amend the Constitution at a special session, due notice of the proposed amendments shall be given in the call for such special session.

CONSTITUTION
of the
CONFERENCE
(As adopted

Article No. 1
NAME

This organization shall be known as the Conference of
Seventh-day Adventists.

Article No. 2
OBJECT

The object of this organization shall be to extend throughout the world the
everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ.

Article No. 3
TERRITORY

The territory of this conference shall be the states of North and South
Carolina, Georgia, and all of the state of Florida except that portion
lying west of the Apalachicola River.

Article No. 4
MEMBERSHIP

Sec. No. 1 This Conference shall be composed of such churches consisting of
colored members as are, or may be organized, in any part of its territory,
under the direction of its Executive Committee, said churches having been
accepted by vote of the Conference in session.

Sec. No. 2 The isolated members of this Conference shall be organized into
what shall be known as the Conference Church whose officers shall be the
Conference President, and Secretary-Treasurer, who shall, in each instance,
serve as elder & clerk-treasurer, respectively.

Article No. 5
REPRESENTATION

Sec. No. 1 The voters of this Conference shall be the duly accredited
delegates from the local churches, members of the Executive Committee, all
regularly employed laborers holding ministerial credentials, ministerial
licenses, missionary credentials, or Bible instructor's credentials from the
conference, the conference secretary and treasurer, all departmental secre-
taries of the conference, and such representatives of the Southern Union,
North American Division, and General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
as may be present at any meeting.

Sec. No. 2 Each local church shall be entitled to one delegate in the
sessions of this conference without regard to number, and one additional
delegate for every ten members or major fraction thereof. Delegates must
be members of the church which they represent.

Constitution - 2

Sec. No. 3 The conference churches shall be represented in the conference on the same ratio basis as the regularly organized churches, and shall elect their delegates in connection with the sessions of the conference.

Sec. No. 4 The delegates present at any regular or specially called meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Sec. No. 5 Each church delegation present at the Biennial Session shall select one member of its number who shall act with others, selected in like manner, as a committee to recommend to the session the personnel of such standing committees as may be required. The Union Conference President shall act as Chairman of this special committee.

Article No. 6
OFFICERS

Sec. No. 1 The officers of the conference shall be a president, a secretary and a treasurer, who shall be elected at each biennial meeting. The offices of secretary and treasurer may be held by the same person.

Sec. No. 2 All officers of the conference shall be elected at the regular biennial session of the conference, and shall hold office until their successors are elected, and ready to assume their responsibilities.

Article No. 7
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES - DEPARTMENTS

Sec. No. 1 At each regular session the conference shall elect an Executive Committee of not less than five members, nor more than nine members, including the president, for the carrying on of its work between sessions and such departmental secretaries as may be necessary for the carrying forward of the work of the conference.

Article No. 8
MEETINGS

Sec. No. 1 Meetings of this conference shall be held biennially at such time and place within its territory as the Executive Committee shall determine and designate for the purpose of electing the officers of the conference and to transact such other business as may properly come before the conference. Notice of such meetings shall be published at least two weeks prior to such meetings in the official organ of the Southern Union Conference.

Sec. No. 2 The Executive Committee may call extra sessions as occasion may require, by a like notice, and the transactions of such sessions shall be equally valid with those of the regular sessions.

BY-LAWS
CONFERENCE
(As adopted)

Article No. 1
PRESIDENT

The duties of the president shall be to preside at the session of the conference , and the executive committee, and to attend to all such other duties as usually pertain to the office of President. In the case of extended absence or inability to perform this office on the part of the President of the Conference, the President of the Southern Union Conference shall act in his stead until such time as the executive committee may be called.

Article No. 2
SECRETARY

The duties of the Secretary shall be to keep the records of the conference, to compile statistical reports, to be submitted to the executive committee, or to the General or Union conferences, and to attend to such other duties as usually pertain to the office of Secretary.

Article No. 3
TREASURER

Sec. No. 1 It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all funds of the Conference and to disburse them in harmony with the actions of the Executive Committee of the Conference and to render such financial statements at regular intervals as may be desired by the conference or by the executive committee.

Sec. No. 2 It shall also be the duty of the treasurer to forward monthly all trust funds not intended for use within the conference to their proper destination through the Southern Union Conference.

Article No. 4
AUDITOR

The duties of the Auditor shall be to examine, at least once each year, all accounts of the conference and its departments, and to report same to the Conference Executive Committee annually, and to the conference in session biennially through the President and the Treasurer.

Article No. 5
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to take the general supervision of all labor performed within the territory of and for this conference; to take charge of, and care for, all property belonging to the conference; to exercise a general watch-care over all matters pertaining to the interests of the Third Angel's Message, in its relation to the work in the conference; to fill all vacancies which may occur among the officers of this conference for the current term.

Article No. 6
AUDITING COMMITTEES

Once each year all accounts incurred during the year in connection with any labor performed in this conference shall be examined, adjusted if necessary, and approved by auditing committee which shall consist of the Executive Committee, plus three additional brethren who have not been in the employ of the conference any part of the year to be audited.

Article No. 7
FUNDS

Sec. No. 1 The funds of this conference shall consist of the tithes paid by the churches and individuals in the conference, donations for special and general purposes, and such other funds as it is proper to use for our denominational work.

Sec. No. 2 All funds for general purposes to be used outside of this conference shall be passed on each month to the Southern Union Conference Treasurer.

Article No. 8
LABORERS

It shall be the duty of the laborers in the employ of this conference to make a written monthly report of their labors, together with a statement of receipts and expenditures, and to send the same at the close of the month to the conference officers.

Article No. 9
CHURCHES

Sec. No. 1 Each church of this conference shall render faithful support to the conference work by the prompt payment of its membership tithe, and such other funds as may be set apart for that purpose.

Sec. No. 2 Each church through its clerk shall make a written report every quarter to the conference secretary of its standing, its additions and losses, and such other information as may be required.

Sec. No. 3 Each church through its treasurer shall at the close of each month make a written report and forward all conference moneys to the conference treasurer.

Sec. No. 4 The secretaries of the various departments of the church shall forward promptly and at regular intervals, as requested, to the respective secretaries of the conference, such items and reports as may be called for.

Article No. 9
DEPARTMENTS, AGENTS, COMMITTEES

This conference shall maintain such departments as may be necessary for the carrying forward of its several lines of work, and shall employ such secretaries, committees, agents, ministers, missionaries, and make such distribution of labor as may be necessary to carry on its work effectually.

Article No. 10
CREDENTIALS AND LICENSES

Credentials and licenses shall be granted by the conference at its regular sessions to such laborers as are recommended by the conference in session, and by the Executive Committee during the interval between sessions, when deemed necessary.

Article No. 11
AUDITOR

The Auditor of the Southern Union Conference shall be the auditor of the conference.

Article No. 12
BY-LAWS

The voters of this conference may make by-laws and amend or repeal at any session thereof, and the scope of such by-laws may embrace all subjects not inconsistent with the Constitution.

Article No. 13
AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the delegation present and voting in any session.

Oct. 3, 1944

Report of the Plans Committee

New York Temple Church
New York

GRATITUDE TO GOD

I

WHEREAS, Our heavenly Father has signally blessed and prospered the efforts of our colored workers and constituency in developing the work among the colored people, and

WHEREAS, The time has come when our general and union brethren have seen fit to authorize the organization of a colored conference in order that our work may go forward more rapidly, and

WHEREAS, The delegates here assembled have consummated the organization of such a conference,

Resolved, That we offer our sincere praise and gratitude to God, and dedicate our lives anew to an all out program of evangelism, loyalty in tithes, and liberality in offerings for foreign missions and home work.

II

CONFERENCE LOCATION

We recommend, That the location of the North Eastern Conference headquarters be referred to the conference executive committee in council with the Union Committee.

III

PLANS AND POLICIES

WHEREAS, This newly formed conference is a part of the Atlantic Union Conference, and a sister conference to the other four conferences of the Atlantic Union,

We recommend, That the newly formed conference place itself on record as accepting all the plans and policies now in operation within the other conferences of the Union.

IV

ACTIVITIES

Believing the true purpose of this conference to be expressed in Article III of our constitution, namely "The object of this conference is to teach the everlasting gospel of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ",

We recommend, That the new executive committee lay large progressive plans for the furtherance of all phases of evangelism, carefully fostering our departmental and pastoral work in our churches and among our isolated believers.

V

BOOK AND BIBLE HOUSE

We recommend, The establishment of a Book and Bible House at the conference headquarters at such a time as may seem advisable to the conference committee.

VI

MESSAGE MAGAZINE

WHEREAS, The Message Magazine has become a strong factor in the spreading of the everlasting gospel to the colored people,

We recommend, That a renewed effort be put forth to greatly increase its circulation both in subscription and in single copy sales.

VII

That any church school comeback funds received by the proposed conference from the General Conference through the Atlantic Union Conference be held as a separate fund and disbursed by action of the executive committee of the conference for the support of its church schools in harmony with the provisions and regulations governing the use of such funds.

VIII

That the proposed conference assume its proportionate share of contributions toward the support of the "Voice of Prophecy", "Bible Auditorium of the Air", "Atlantic Union Conference Gleaner", etc., the division of these costs among the conferences of the Union to be determined by the Atlantic Union Conference Committee, it being understood that General provision has been made for a share of these expenses in the financing budget.

IX

That in the operation of the North Eastern Conference and in its building plans the "no debt" policy be followed and that operating and building and improvement budgets be approved in the regular ways provided in the working policies of the General Conference and of the Atlantic Union Conference before commitments are made.

X

That the Harvest Ingathering basic goals of the proposed conference be set annually by the Atlantic Union Conference Committee and that any comeback funds received from the Union Conference to be held as a separate fund in the Conference treasury and disbursed by action of the executive committee of the conference.

XI

That the amounts of operating funds and reserves on hand at the close of the year 1944 in the several conferences involved be shared with the North Eastern Conference on an equitable basis to be determined by the Atlantic Union Conference Committee taking into consideration existing liabilities, obligations and commitments.

XII

That a detailed operating budget be adopted annually by the executive committee and that a reasonable operating capital be held in the conference treasury in harmony with the General Conference working policies.

COMMITTEE:

Chairman - G. E. Peters

Members - R. J. Christian
R. L. Hubbs
J. F. Kent
E. A. Lockett
M. L. Morrison
D. A. Bailey
L. R. Preston
W. C. Raley
W. H. Williams

Organization of Colored Conferences in the Southern Union

It will be remembered that at the Spring Council, April, 1944, the following recommendations were adopted: "WHEREAS, it appears that a definite plan of organization for our colored membership would bring further great advance in soul-winning endeavors; therefore,

"We recommend, That in unions where the colored constituency is considered by the union conference committee to be sufficiently large, and where the financial income and territory warrant, colored conferences be organized.

"That these colored conferences be administered by colored officers and committees.

"That these colored conferences sustain the same relation to their respective union conferences as do the white conferences."

On the morning of December 4, E. F. Hackman, president of the Southern Union, and the members of the union committee, met over 300 delegates from the churches in Florida, Georgia, and North and South Carolina in the Atlanta church building.

E. F. Hackman served as chairman of the constituency meeting, and C. O. Franz as secretary. Present from the General Conference were L. K. Kickson, president of the North American Division and G. E. Peters, secretary of the Colored Department of the North American Division. These brethren participated in the opening exercises and in the forming of the conference organization. A constitution and by-laws in full accord with the policies of the denomination were adopted by the delegates.

This new conference has 3,300 members in 70 churches. It has

been named the South Atlantic Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

The nominating committee presented the following report which was accepted unanimously: President, H. D. Singleton; Secretary-Treasurer, L. S. Follette; Educational and Young Peoples' Secretary, F. A. Jenkins; Home Missionary and Religious Liberty Secretary, H. D. Singleton; Publishing Department Secretary, Richard Robinson; Associate Publishing Department Secretaries, Silas McClamb and W. W. Jones. The office of Sabbath School Department Secretary was referred to the conference committee to be filled. The names of the members of the conference committee are as follows: H. D. Singleton, L. S. Follette, W. S. Lee, F. S. Keitts, W. W. Fordham, F. A. Jenkins, N. B. Smith, and A. J. Bailey. To climax the proceedings, a brief, beautiful ordination service was held to set apart to the gospel ministry Wilmot M. Fordham, of the Carolina Conference.

Leaving Atlanta, the union conference committee accompanied by the representatives of the General Conference, hastened to Birmingham, Alabama, where the delegates from the western half of the Southern Union representing the churches of Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky and the extreme western part of Florida, had gathered at 7:00 o'clock p. m., December 5, in a public building rented for the occasion.

A similar opening meeting was conducted by those who presided at the organization of the South Atlantic Conference, followed by the regular organizational procedure. The constituency unanimously elected the following officers: President, H. R. Murphy; Secretary-Treasurer, V. Lindsay; Educational and Young Peoples'

Secretary, Charles Dickerson; Home Missionary and Religious Liberty Secretary, H. R. Murphy; Publishing Department Secretary, W. E. Adams; Publishing Department Associate Secretaries, B. H. Ewing and E. Brantley. The office of Sabbath School Secretary was left to be filled by the committee. Members of the conference committee elected were H. R. Murphy, V. Lindsay, B. W. Abney Sr., C. A. Lynes, J. G. Thomas, I. H. Hudson. The name chosen for the conference comprising the western half of the Southern Union was the South Central Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. There are forty churches in this conference. The two newly formed conferences comprise a combined membership of 6,000, and will begin functioning January 1, 1946.

We wish for these two conferences and their officers much Divine Guidance as they take up their duties in helping to finish the work of God in the earth.

George E. Peters

COMBINED MEETING OF THE COLORED DEPARTMENTS
OF THE CAROLINA, FLORIDA, AND GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND CONFERENCES
At the Berean Church, Atlanta, Georgia
10:00 A. M., December 4, 1945

OPENING The meeting was opened by the use of hymn No. 97, Elder E. F. Hackman in the chair. Elder G. E. Peters gave the scripture reading which was followed by prayer by Elder L. K. Dickson.

SECRETARY Upon motion it was VOTED, to ask Brother C. O. Franz to act as general secretary of the constituency meeting.

REMARKS Elder Hackman devoted some time to an outline of the growth of the colored work in the Southern Union Conference and of God's leading and guiding in its progress. He explained the steps which have led up to the calling of this meeting to organize a colored conference in the eastern half of the Southern Union.

CONSTITUENCY MEETINGS Under the organization of the colored departments as operating up to this time it was necessary to call the constituencies of the three conferences involved to consider the questions of dropping the present organization and instituting the new. Meetings of the constituencies of the Carolina, Florida, and Georgia-Cumberland Conferences were called by their respective presidents, in each of which it was voted to favor the organization of a colored conference, to discontinue the present plan, and to withdraw from the sisterhood of churches of the white conference. Minutes of these meetings will be filed with the records of each of the conferences involved.

SEATING OF DELEGATES As the first step in organizing the new colored conference it was VOTED, that the delegates of the former colored departments of the Carolina, Florida, and Georgia-Cumberland Conferences, together with delegates at large, constitute the delegates of the new conference organization. The total of delegates present from churches was found to be 398 with the 19 delegates at large.

NAME It was VOTED, that the name of the new conference be the South Atlantic Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

CONSTITUTION A suggested constitution was presented by the secretary and VOTED, as follows:

ORGANIZATION OF COLORED CONFERENCES IN THE

SOUTHERN UNION

G. E. Peters

The eventful days of December 4 - 6, 1945 will long be remembered by our colored workers and members of the Southern Union as well as our people everywhere. The leaders of the General Conference and Southern Union had laid careful plans for the organization of two conferences for our colored believers in the Southern Union. These plans were executed on the above mentioned days.

For some time the general brethren had been convinced that the colored work could be made more effective if it could be directed and supervised by consecrated colored leadership. More than one year ago three conferences of colored believers were organized, one in each of the following unions: Atlantic, Columbia, and Lake. Even with many workers without the special experience needed in some departments, these new conferences have done very acceptable work and their organization has given new life and inspiration to our work in general.

On the morning of December 4 Elders L. K. Dickson and G. E. Peters of the General Conference and Elder E. F. Hackman and the Southern Union Committee met 398 regular and 19 delegates at large from the churches in Florida, Georgia, North and South Carolina in the Atlanta, Georgia church building.

After appropriate opening exercises participated in by the General Conference representatives and the president of the Southern Union the assembly resolved itself into a constituency meeting of the eastern half of the Southern Union Conference. After dealing with the formalities of such a meeting, committees were duly elected and set to work.

The nominating committee presented the following report which was accepted unanimously:

| | |
|---|------------------|
| President | H. D. Singleton |
| Secretary-Treasurer | L. S. Follette |
| Educational and Young People's Secretary | F. H. Jenkins |
| Home Missionary and Religious Liberty Secretary | H. D. Singleton |
| Publishing Dept. Secretary | Richard Robinson |
| Associates | Silas McClamb |
| | W. W. Jones |

The office of Sabbath School Department secretary was referred to the conference committee to be filled.

Conference Committee

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| H. D. Singleton | W. W. Fordham |
| L. S. Follette | F. H. Jenkins |
| E. S. Lee | N. B. Smith |
| F. S. Keitts | A. J. Bailey |

The name chosen for this new conference is THE SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH - DAY ADVENTISTS. A constitution and by-laws were voted and resolutions passed by the delegates.

To climax the proceedings a beautiful ordination service was held to ordain to the gospel ministry Elder Wilmot M. Fordham.

The General and Union Conference leaders hastened to Birmingham, Alabama where the delegates from the western half of the Southern Union representing the churches of Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, and the extreme ^{western} eastern part of Florida had already gathered at 7 P. M. December 5, 1945.

A formal opening meeting was conducted by the same men as presided at the organization of the SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE. Following the regular organizational procedure the constituency unanimously elected the following officers:

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| President | H. R. Murphy |
| Secretary-Treasurer | V. Lindsay |
| Educational & Young People's Secretary | Charles Dickerson |
| Home Missionary and Religious Liberty Secretary | H. R. Murphy |
| Publishing Department Secretary | W. E. Adams |
| " " Associates | B. H. Ewing |
| | E. Brantley |

The Office of Sabbath School Secretary was left* to be filled by the committee.

Conference Committee:

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| H. R. Murphy | C. A. Lynes |
| V. Lindsay | J. G. Thomas |
| B. W. Abney, Sr. | I. H. Hudson |

The name chosen for the conference comprising the western half of the Southern Union is THE SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH - DAY ADVENTISTS.

The newly formed conferences will begin functioning January 1, 1946.

Surely the Lord has led us thus far and He will lead us all the way if we will but trust Him and say with the poet, "The night is dark and I am far from home; Lead thou me on." We sincerely believe that a new and better day has dawned for our colored work. Time is short and much remains to be done. We solicit the earnest prayers of our believers everywhere for these newly formed conferences.

Organization of the South Atlantic Conference
December 4, 1945

Constitution and By-Laws

Organization of the South Central Conference
December 5, 1945

Constitution and By-Laws

CONSTITUTION
of the
SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE
As adopted December 4, 1945

Article No. 1
NAME

This organization shall be known as the South Atlantic Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Article No. 2
OBJECT

The object of this organization shall be to extend throughout the world the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ.

Article No. 3
TERRITORY

The territory of this conference shall be the states of North and South Carolina Georgia, and all of the state of Florida except that portion lying west of the Apalachicola River.

Article No. 4
MEMBERSHIP

Sec. No. 1 This Conference shall be composed of such churches consisting of colored members as are, or may be organized, in any part of its territory, under the direction of its Executive Committee, said churches having been accepted by vote of the Conference in session.

Sec. No. 2 The isolated members of this Conference shall be organized into what shall be known as the Conference Church whose officers shall be the Conference President, and Secretary-Treasurer, who shall, in each instance, serve as elder and clerk-treasurer, respectively.

Article No. 5
REPRESENTATION

Sec. No. 1 The voters of this Conference shall be the duly accredited delegates from the local churches, members of the Executive Committee, all regularly employed laborers holding ministerial credentials, ministerial licenses, missionary credentials, missionary licenses, or Bible instructor's credentials from the conference, the conference secretary and treasurer, all departmental secretaries of the conference, and such representatives of the Southern Union, North American Division, and General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists as may be present at any meeting.

Sec. No. 2 Each local church shall be entitled to one delegate in the sessions of this conference without regard to number, and one additional delegate for every ten members or major fraction thereof. Delegates must be members of the church which they represent.

Constitution - 2

Sec. No. 3 The conference church shall be represented in the conference on the same ratio basis as the regularly organized churches, and shall elect its delegates in connection with the sessions of the conference.

Sec. No. 4 The delegates present at any regular or specially called meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Sec. No. 5 Each church delegation present at the Biennial Session shall select one member of its number who shall act with others, selected in like manner, as a committee to recommend to the session the personnel of such standing committees as may be required. The Union Conference President shall act as Chairman of this special committee.

Article No. 6
OFFICERS

Sec. No. 1 The officers of the conference shall be a president, a secretary, and a treasurer, who shall be elected at each biennial meeting. The offices of secretary and treasurer may be held by the same person.

Sec. No. 2 All officers of the conference shall be elected at the regular biennial session of the conference, and shall hold office until their successors are elected, and ready to assume their responsibilities.

Article No. 7
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES - DEPARTMENTS

Sec. No. 1 At each regular session the conference shall elect an Executive Committee, of not less than five members nor more than nine members including the president, for the carrying on of its work between sessions, and such departmental secretaries as may be necessary for the carrying forward of the work of the conference.

Article No. 8
MEETINGS

Sec. No. 1 Meetings of this conference shall be held biennially at such time and place within its territory as the Executive Committee shall determine and designate for the purpose of electing the officers of the conference and to transact such other business as may properly come before the conference. Notice of such meetings shall be published at least two weeks prior to such meetings in the official organ of the Southern Union Conference.

Sec. No. 2 The Executive Committee may call extra sessions as occasion may require, by a like notice, and the transactions of such sessions shall be equally valid with those of the regular sessions.

Article No. 9
DEPARTMENTS, AGENTS, COMMITTEES

This conference shall maintain such departments as may be necessary for the carrying forward of its several lines of work, and shall employ such secretaries, committees, agents, ministers, missionaries, and make such distribution of labor as may be necessary to carry on its work effectually.

Article No. 10
CREDENTIALS AND LICENSES

Credentials and licenses shall be granted by the conference at its regular sessions to such laborers as are recommended by the conference in session, and by the Executive Committee during the interval between sessions, when deemed necessary.

Article No. 11
AUDITOR

The Auditor of the Southern Union Conference shall be the auditor of the conference.

Article No. 12
BY-LAWS

The voters of this conference may make by-laws and amend or repeal at any session thereof, and the scope of such by-laws may embrace all subjects not inconsistent with the Constitution.

Article No. 13
AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the delegation present and voting in any session.

BY-LAWS
SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE
As Adopted December 4, 1945

Article No. 1
PRESIDENT

The duties of the president shall be to preside at the session of the conference, and the executive committee, and to attend to all such other duties as usually pertain to the office of President. In the case of extended absence or inability to perform this office on the part of the President of the Conference, the President of the Southern Union Conference shall act in his stead until such time as the executive committee may be called.

Article No. 2
SECRETARY

The duties of the Secretary shall be to keep the records of the conference, to compile statistical reports, to be submitted to the executive committee, or to the General or Union conferences, and to attend to such other duties as usually pertain to the office of Secretary.

Article No. 3
TREASURER

Sec. No. 1 It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all funds of the South Atlantic Conference and to disburse them in harmony with the actions of the Executive Committee of the South Atlantic Conference and to render such financial statements at regular intervals as may be desired by the conference or by the executive committee.

Sec. No. 2 It shall also be the duty of the Treasurer to forward monthly all trust funds not intended for use within the conference to their proper destination through the Southern Union Conference.

Article No. 4
AUDITOR

The duties of the Auditor shall be to examine, at least once each year, all accounts of the conference and its departments, and to report same to the Conference Executive Committee annually, and to the conference in session biennially through the President and the Treasurer.

Article No. 5
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to take the general supervision of all labor performed within the territory of and for this conference; to take charge of, and care for, all property belonging to the conference; to exercise a general watch-care over all matters pertaining to the interests of the Third Angel's Message, in its relation to the work in the conference; to fill all vacancies which may occur among the officers of this conference for the current term.

Article No. 6
AUDITING COMMITTEES

Once each year all accounts incurred during the year in connection with any labor performed in this conference shall be examined, adjusted if necessary, and approved by an auditing committee which shall consist of the Executive Committee, plus three additional brethren who have not been in the employ of the conference any part of the year to be audited.

Article No. 7
FUNDS

Sec. No. 1 The funds of this conference shall consist of the tithes paid by the churches and individuals in the conference, donations for special and general purposes, and such other funds as it is proper to use for our denominational work.

Sec. No. 2 All funds for general purposes to be used outside of this conference shall be passed on each month to the Southern Union Conference Treasurer.

Article No. 8
LABORERS

It shall be the duty of the laborers in the employ of this conference to make a written monthly report of their labors, together with a statement of receipts and expenditures, and to send the same at the close of the month to the conference officers.

Article No. 9
CHURCHES

Sec. No. 1 Each church of this conference shall render faithful support to the conference work by the prompt payment of its membership tithe, and such other funds as may be set apart for that purpose.

Sec. No. 2 Each church through its clerk shall make a written report every quarter to the conference secretary of its standing, its additions and losses, and such other information as may be required.

Sec. No. 3 Each church through its treasurer shall at the close of each month make a written report and forward all conference moneys to the conference treasurer.

Sec. No. 4 The secretaries of the various departments of the church shall forward promptly and at regular intervals, as requested, to the respective secretaries of the conference, such items and reports as may be called for.

CHURCH PROPERTIES VOTED, that we recommend to the three white conferences involved the election of the president and treasurer of the South Atlantic Conference as members of each legal association in existence in its territory, these officers to be called to meet with the association committees whenever action is contemplated involving church properties held in trust for members of the South Atlantic Conference.

CREDENTIALS & LICENSES VOTED, that the issuing of credentials and licenses to workers in the South Atlantic Conference be referred to the new conference committee for action.

LARGE NOMINATING COMMITTEE In accordance with Article No. 5, Section 5, of the Constitution, each church delegation present was called to meet and select one of its number to act on a special committee to nominate the nominating committee of the session. This large committee, composed of sixty members with Elder Hackman as chairman, brought in the names of the following persons to act as the nominating committee which was accepted by vote of the constituency: N. B. Smith, M. Green, N. J. Grant, P. H. Morgan, Dr. Portis, J. W. Jones, A. J. Bailey, F. H. Stevens, L. S. Follette.

ELECTION The Nominating Committee named above met and after careful study brought to the session the following report:

President, H. D. Singleton
Secretary-Treasurer, L. S. Follette
Educational and Young People's Secretary, F. H. Jenkins
Home Missionary and Religious Liberty Secretary, H. D. Singleton
Publishing Department Secretary, Richard Robinson
Associate Secretaries, Silas McClamb and F. W. Jones
Bible House Manager, L. S. Follette
That the selection of a Sabbath School Secretary be referred to the Conference Committee.
Conference Committee: H. D. Singleton, L. S. Follette, W. S. Lee, F. S. Keitts, W. W. Fordham, F. H. Jenkins, N. B. Smith, A. J. Bailey.

Upon motion the above nominations were accepted unanimously by vote.

BEGINNING DATE VOTED, that the above named persons take office January 1, 1946, and that the organization of the conference be perfected at as early a date as possible.

SALISBURY CHURCH Inasmuch as the Salisbury, N. C., church has been organized but not as yet accepted into the sisterhood of churches it was VOTED, that this church be accepted into the sisterhood of churches of the South Atlantic Conference.

ORDINATION In accordance with the recommendation of the Carolina Conference and the Southern Union Conference W. M. Fordham was ordained to the gospel ministry, those taking part, being elders, were: L. K. Dickson, E. F. Hackman, G. E. Peters, H. D. Singleton, L. S. Follette, J. G. Thomas, F. S. Keitts, J. H. Wagner, M. Green, P. Morgan.

GRATITUDE

Recognizing that our Heavenly Father has signally blessed and prospered the efforts of our colored workers and the constituency in developing the work among the colored people of the Southern Union,

WHEREAS, The time has come when our General and Union Conference Committees have seen fit to authorize the organization of a colored conference embracing the eastern section of the Southern Union, in order that the work may go forward more rapidly, and

WHEREAS, The delegates here assembled have consummated the organization of such a conference,

RESOLVED, That we offer our sincere praise and gratitude to God, and dedicate our lives anew to an all-out program of evangelism, loyalty in the paying of tithes, and liberality in offerings both for foreign missions and home work.

Also that we express to the General Conference, the Southern Union, and the Southern Publishing Association our appreciation for the part each has had in promoting the organization of this conference and for the financial help which they have given; and to each of our workers and members who have assisted in furnishing meals, rooming accommodations, and in other ways made this meeting a success.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned sine die.

E. F. Hackman, Chairman

C. O. Franz, Secretary

COMBINED MEETING OF THE COLORED DEPARTMENTS
OF THE CAROLINA, FLORIDA, AND GEORGIA-CUMBERLAND CONFERENCES
At the Berean Church, Atlanta, Georgia
10:00 A. M., December 4, 1945

OPENING The meeting was opened by the use of hymn No. 97, Elder E. F. Hackman in the chair. Elder G. E. Peters gave the scripture reading which was followed by prayer by Elder L. K. Dickson.

SECRETARY Upon motion it was VOTED, to ask Brother C. O. Franz to act as general secretary of the constituency meeting.

REMARKS Elder Hackman devoted some time to an outline of the growth of the colored work in the Southern Union Conference and of God's leading and guiding in its progress. He explained the steps which have led up to the calling of this meeting to organize a colored conference in the eastern half of the Southern Union.

CONSTITUENCY MEETINGS Under the organization of the colored departments as operating up to this time it was necessary to call the constituencies of the three conferences involved to consider the questions of dropping the present organization and instituting the new. Meetings of the constituencies of the Carolina, Florida, and Georgia-Cumberland Conferences were called by their respective presidents, in each of which it was voted to favor the organization of a colored conference, to discontinue the present plan, and to withdraw from the sisterhood of churches of the white conference. Minutes of these meetings will be filed with the records of each of the conferences involved.

SEATING OF DELEGATES As the first step in organizing the new colored conference it was VOTED, that the delegates of the former colored departments of the Carolina, Florida, and Georgia-Cumberland Conferences, together with delegates at large, constitute the delegates of the new conference organization. The total of delegates present from churches was found to be 398 with the 19 delegates at large.

NAME It was VOTED, that the name of the new conference be the South Atlantic Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

CONSTITUTION A suggested constitution was presented by the secretary and VOTED, as follows:

CONSTITUTION
of the
SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE
As adopted December 4, 1945

Article No. 1
NAME

This organization shall be known as the South Atlantic Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Article No. 2
OBJECT

The object of this organization shall be to extend throughout the world the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ.

Article No. 3
TERRITORY

The territory of this conference shall be the states of North and South Carolina, Georgia, and all of the state of Florida except that portion lying west of the Apalachicola River.

Article No. 4
MEMBERSHIP

Sec. No. 1 This Conference shall be composed of such churches consisting of colored members as are, or may be organized, in any part of its territory, under the direction of its Executive Committee, said churches having been accepted by vote of the Conference in session.

Sec. No. 2 The isolated members of this Conference shall be organized into what shall be known as the Conference Church whose officers shall be the Conference President, and Secretary-Treasurer, who shall, in each instance, serve as elder and clerk-treasurer, respectively.

Article No. 5
REPRESENTATION

Sec. No. 1 The voters of this Conference shall be the duly accredited delegates from the local churches, members of the Executive Committee, all regularly employed laborers holding ministerial credentials, ministerial licenses, missionary credentials, missionary licenses, or Bible instructor's credentials from the conference, the conference secretary and treasurer, all departmental secretaries of the conference, and such representatives of the Southern Union, North American Division, and General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists as may be present at any meeting.

Sec. No. 2 Each local church shall be entitled to one delegate in the sessions of this conference without regard to number, and one additional delegate for every ten members or major fraction thereof. Delegates must be members of the church which they represent.

Constitution - 2

Sec. No. 3 The conference church shall be represented in the conference on the same ratio basis as the regularly organized churches, and shall elect its delegates in connection with the sessions of the conference.

Sec. No. 4 The delegates present at any regular or specially called meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Sec. No. 5 Each church delegation present at the Biennial Session shall select one member of its number who shall act with others, selected in like manner, as a committee to recommend to the session the personnel of such standing committees as may be required. The Union Conference President shall act as Chairman of this special committee.

Article No. 6
OFFICERS

Sec. No. 1 The officers of the conference shall be a president, a secretary, and a treasurer, who shall be elected at each biennial meeting. The offices of secretary and treasurer may be held by the same person.

Sec. No. 2 All officers of the conference shall be elected at the regular biennial session of the conference, and shall hold office until their successors are elected, and ready to assume their responsibilities.

Article No. 7
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES - DEPARTMENTS

Sec. No. 1 At each regular session the conference shall elect an Executive Committee, of not less than five members nor more than nine members including the president, for the carrying on of its work between sessions, and such departmental secretaries as may be necessary for the carrying forward of the work of the conference.

Article No. 8
MEETINGS

Sec. No. 1 Meetings of this conference shall be held biennially at such time and place within its territory as the Executive Committee shall determine and designate for the purpose of electing the officers of the conference and to transact such other business as may properly come before the conference. Notice of such meetings shall be published at least two weeks prior to such meetings in the official organ of the Southern Union Conference.

Sec. No. 2 The Executive Committee may call extra sessions as occasion may require, by a like notice, and the transactions of such sessions shall be equally valid with those of the regular sessions.

Constitution - 3

Article No. 9
DEPARTMENTS, AGENTS, COMMITTEES

This conference shall maintain such departments as may be necessary for the carrying forward of its several lines of work, and shall employ such secretaries, committees, agents, ministers, missionaries, and make such distribution of labor as may be necessary to carry on its work effectually.

Article No. 10
CREDENTIALS AND LICENSES

Credentials and licenses shall be granted by the conference at its regular sessions to such laborers as are recommended by the conference in session, and by the Executive Committee during the interval between sessions, when deemed necessary.

Article No. 11
AUDITOR

The Auditor of the Southern Union Conference shall be the auditor of the conference.

Article No. 12
BY-LAWS

The voters of this conference may make by-laws and amend or repeal at any session thereof, and the scope of such by-laws may embrace all subjects not inconsistent with the Constitution.

Article No. 13
AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the delegation present and voting in any session.

BY-LAWS
SOUTH ATLANTIC CONFERENCE
As Adopted December 4, 1945

Article No. 1
PRESIDENT

The duties of the president shall be to preside at the session of the conference, and the executive committee, and to attend to all such other duties as usually pertain to the office of President. In the case of extended absence or inability to perform this office on the part of the President of the Conference, the President of the Southern Union Conference shall act in his stead until such time as the executive committee may be called.

Article No. 2
SECRETARY

The duties of the Secretary shall be to keep the records of the conference, to compile statistical reports, to be submitted to the executive committee, or to the General or Union conferences, and to attend to such other duties as usually pertain to the office of Secretary.

Article No. 3
TREASURER

Sec. No. 1 It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all funds of the South Atlantic Conference and to disburse them in harmony with the actions of the Executive Committee of the South Atlantic Conference and to render such financial statements at regular intervals as may be desired by the conference or by the executive committee.

Sec. No. 2 It shall also be the duty of the Treasurer to forward monthly all trust funds not intended for use within the conference to their proper destination through the Southern Union Conference.

Article No. 4
AUDITOR

The duties of the Auditor shall be to examine, at least once each year, all accounts of the conference and its departments, and to report same to the Conference Executive Committee annually, and to the conference in session biennially through the President and the Treasurer.

Article No. 5
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to take the general supervision of all labor performed within the territory of and for this conference; to take charge of, and care for, all property belonging to the conference; to exercise a general watch-care over all matters pertaining to the interests of the Third Angel's Message, in its relation to the work in the conference; to fill all vacancies which may occur among the officers of this conference for the current term.

Article No. 6
AUDITING COMMITTEES

Once each year all accounts incurred during the year in connection with any labor performed in this conference shall be examined, adjusted if necessary, and approved by an auditing committee which shall consist of the Executive Committee, plus three additional brethren who have not been in the employ of the conference any part of the year to be audited.

Article No. 7
FUNDS

Sec. No. 1 The funds of this conference shall consist of the tithes paid by the churches and individuals in the conference, donations for special and general purposes, and such other funds as it is proper to use for our denominational work.

Sec. No. 2 All funds for general purposes to be used outside of this conference shall be passed on each month to the Southern Union Conference Treasurer.

Article No. 8
LABORERS

It shall be the duty of the laborers in the employ of this conference to make a written monthly report of their labors, together with a statement of receipts and expenditures, and to send the same at the close of the month to the conference officers.

Article No. 9
CHURCHES

Sec. No. 1 Each church of this conference shall render faithful support to the conference work by the prompt payment of its membership tithe, and such other funds as may be set apart for that purpose.

Sec. No. 2 Each church through its clerk shall make a written report every quarter to the conference secretary of its standing, its additions and losses, and such other information as may be required.

Sec. No. 3 Each church through its treasurer shall at the close of each month make a written report and forward all conference moneys to the conference treasurer.

Sec. No. 4 The secretaries of the various departments of the church shall forward promptly and at regular intervals, as requested, to the respective secretaries of the conference, such items and reports as may be called for.

CHURCH
PROPERTIES VOTED, that we recommend to the three white conferences involved the election of the president and treasurer of the South Atlantic Conference as members of each legal association in existence in its territory, these officers to be called to meet with the association committees whenever action is contemplated involving church properties held in trust for members of the South Atlantic Conference.

CREDENTIALS
& LICENSES VOTED, that the issuing of credentials and licenses to workers in the South Atlantic Conference be referred to the new conference committee for action.

LARGE
NOMINATING
COMMITTEE In accordance with Article No. 5, Section 5, of the Constitution, each church delegation present was called to meet and select one of its number to act on a special committee to nominate the nominating committee of the session. This large committee, composed of sixty members with Elder Hackman as chairman, brought in the names of the following persons to act as the nominating committee which was accepted by vote of the constituency: N. B. Smith, M. Green, N. J. Grant, P. H. Morgan, Dr. Portis, J. W. Jones, A. J. Bailey, F. H. Stevens, L. S. Follette.

ELECTION The Nominating Committee named above met and after careful study brought to the session the following report:

President, H. D. Singleton
Secretary-Treasurer, L. S. Follette
Educational and Young People's Secretary, F. H. Jenkins
Home Missionary and Religious Liberty Secretary, H. D. Singleton
Publishing Department Secretary, Richard Robinson
Associate Secretaries, Silas McClamb and W. W. Jones
Bible House Manager, L. S. Follette
That the selection of a Sabbath School Secretary be referred to the Conference Committee.
Conference Committee: H. D. Singleton, L. S. Follette, W. S. Lee, F. S. Keitts, W. W. Fordham, F. H. Jenkins, N. B. Smith, A. J. Bailey.

Upon motion the above nominations were accepted unanimously by vote.

BEGINNING
DATE VOTED, that the above named persons take office January 1, 1946, and that the organization of the conference be perfected at as early a date as possible.

SALISBURY
CHURCH Inasmuch as the Salisbury, N. C., church has been organized but not as yet accepted into the sisterhood of churches it was VOTED, that this church be accepted into the sisterhood of churches of the South Atlantic Conference.

ORDINATION In accordance with the recommendation of the Carolina Conference and the Southern Union Conference W. M. Fordham was ordained to the gospel ministry, those taking part, being elders, were: L. K. Dickson, E. F. Hackman, G. E. Peters, H. D. Singleton, L. S. Follette, J. G. Thomas, F. S. Keitts, J. H. Wagner, M. Green, P. Morgan.

GRATITUDE

Recognizing that our Heavenly Father has signally blessed and prospered the efforts of our colored workers and the constituency in developing the work among the colored people of the Southern Union,

WHEREAS, The time has come when our General and Union Conference Committees have seen fit to authorize the organization of a colored conference embracing the eastern section of the Southern Union, in order that the work may go forward more rapidly, and

WHEREAS, The delegates here assembled have consummated the organization of such a conference,

RESOLVED, That we offer our sincere praise and gratitude to God, and dedicate our lives anew to an all-out program of evangelism, loyalty in the paying of tithes, and liberality in offerings both for foreign missions and home work.

Also that we express to the General Conference, the Southern Union, and the Southern Publishing Association our appreciation for the part each has had in promoting the organization of this conference and for the financial help which they have given; and to each of our workers and members who have assisted in furnishing meals, rooming accommodations, and in other ways made this meeting a success.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned sine die.

E. F. Hackman, Chairman

C. O. Franz, Secretary

COMBINED MEETING OF THE COLORED DEPARTMENTS
OF THE KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE AND ALABAMA-MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCES
AND THREE CHURCHES IN EASTERN TENNESSEE
At the Smithfield Court Community Hall, Birmingham, Alabama
7:00 P. M. December 5 and 9:00 A. M. December 6, 1945

OPENING The meeting was opened by the use of the hymn "Lift Up the Trumpet," Elder E. F. Hackman being in the chair. Elder L. K. Dickson gave the scripture reading which was followed by prayer by Elder G. E. Peters.

SECRETARY Upon motion it was VOTED, to ask Brother C. O. Franz to act as general secretary of the constituency meeting.

REMARKS Elder Hackman devoted some time to an outline of the growth of the colored work in the Southern Union Conference and of God's leading and guiding in its progress. He explained the steps which have led up to the calling of this meeting to organize a colored conference in the western half of the Southern Union.

CONSTITUENCY MEETINGS Under the organization of the colored departments as operating up to this time it was necessary to call the constituencies of the two conferences involved to consider the questions of dropping the present organization and instituting the new. Meetings of the constituencies of the Kentucky-Tennessee and Alabama-Mississippi Conferences were called by their respective presidents, in each of which it was voted to favor the organization of a colored conference, to discontinue the present plan, and to withdraw from the sisterhood of churches of the white conference. Minutes of these meetings will be filed with the records of each of the conferences involved.

SEATING OF DELEGATES As the first step in organizing the new colored conference it was VOTED, that the delegates of the former colored departments of the Kentucky-Tennessee and Alabama-Mississippi Conferences, together with delegates from the churches of Morristown, Knoxville, and Chattanooga, Tennessee, and the delegates at large, constitute the delegates of the new conference organization.

NAME It was VOTED, that the name of the new conference be the South Central Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

CONSTITUTION A suggested constitution was presented by the secretary and VOTED, as follows:

CONSTITUTION
of the
SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE
As adopted December 5, 1945

Article No. 1
NAME

This organization shall be known as the South Central Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Article No. 2
OBJECT

The object of this organization shall be to extend throughout the world the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ.

Article No. 3
TERRITORY

The territory of this conference shall be the states of Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, and that portion of the state of Florida lying west of the Apalachicola River.

Article No. 4
MEMBERSHIP

Sec. No. 1 This Conference shall be composed of such churches consisting of colored members as are, or may be organized, in any part of its territory, under the direction of its Executive Committee, said churches having been accepted by vote of the Conference in session.

Sec. No. 2 The isolated members of this Conference shall be organized into what shall be known as the Conference Church whose officers shall be the Conference President, and Secretary-Treasurer, who shall, in each instance, serve as elder and clerk-treasurer, respectively.

Article No. 5
REPRESENTATION

Sec. No. 1 The voters of this Conference shall be the duly accredited delegates from the local churches, members of the Executive Committee, all regularly employed laborers holding ministerial credentials, ministerial licenses, missionary credentials, missionary licenses, or Bible instructor's credentials from the conference, the conference secretary and treasurer, all departmental secretaries of the conference, and such representatives of the Southern Union, North American Division, and General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists as may be present at any meeting.

Sec. No. 2 Each local church shall be entitled to one delegate in the sessions of this conference without regard to number, and one additional delegate for every ten members or major fraction thereof. Delegates must be members of the church which they represent.

Constitution - 2

Sec. No. 3 The conference church shall be represented in the conference on the same ratio basis as the regularly organized churches, and shall elect its delegates in connection with the sessions of the conference.

Sec. No. 4 The delegates present at any regular or specially called meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Sec. No. 5 Each church delegation present at the Biennial Session shall select one member of its number who shall act with others, selected in like manner, as a committee to recommend to the session the personnel of such standing committees as may be required. The Union Conference President shall act as Chairman of this special committee.

Article No. 6
OFFICERS

Sec. No. 1 The officers of the conference shall be a president, a secretary and a treasurer, who shall be elected at each biennial meeting. The offices of secretary and treasurer may be held by the same person.

Sec. No. 2 All officers of the conference shall be elected at the regular biennial session of the conference, and shall hold office until their successors are elected, and ready to assume their responsibilities.

Article No. 7
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES - DEPARTMENTS

Sec. No. 1 At each regular session the conference shall elect an Executive Committee, of not less than five members nor more than nine members including the president, for the carrying on of its work between sessions, and such departmental secretaries as may be necessary for the carrying forward of the work of the conference.

Article No. 8
MEETINGS

Sec. No. 1 Meetings of this conference shall be held biennially at such time and place within its territory as the Executive Committee shall determine and designate for the purpose of electing the officers of the conference and to transact such other business as may properly come before the conference. Notice of such meetings shall be published at least two weeks prior to such meetings in the official organ of the Southern Union Conference.

Sec. No. 2 The Executive Committee may call extra sessions as occasion may require, by a like notice, and the transactions of such sessions shall be equally valid with those of the regular sessions.

Article No. 9
DEPARTMENTS, AGENTS, COMMITTEES

This conference shall maintain such departments as may be necessary for the carrying forward of its several lines of work, and shall employ such secretaries, committees, agents, ministers, missionaries, and make such distribution of labor as may be necessary to carry on its work effectually.

Article No. 10
CREDENTIALS AND LICENSES

Credentials and licenses shall be granted by the conference at its regular sessions to such laborers as are recommended by the conference in session, and by the Executive Committee during the interval between sessions, when deemed necessary

Article No. 11
AUDITOR

The Auditor of the Southern Union Conference shall be the auditor of the conference.

Article No. 12
BY-LAWS

The voters of this conference may make by-laws and amend or repeal at any session thereof, and the scope of such by-laws may embrace all subjects not inconsistent with the Constitution.

Article No. 13
AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the delegation present and voting in any session.

BY-LAWS
SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE
As adopted December 5, 1945

Article No. 1
PRESIDENT

The duties of the president shall be to preside at the session of the conference, and the executive committee, and to attend to all such other duties as usually pertain to the offices of President. In the case of extended absence or inability to perform this office on the part of the President of the Conference, the President of the Southern Union Conference shall act in his stead until such time as the executive committee may be called.

Article No. 2
SECRETARY

The duties of the Secretary shall be to keep the records of the conference, to compile statistical reports, to be submitted to the executive committee, or to the General or Union conferences, and to attend to such other duties as usually pertain to the office of Secretary.

Article No. 3
TREASURER

Sec. No. 1 It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all funds of the South Central Conference and to disburse them in harmony with the actions of the Executive Committee of the South Central Conference and to render such financial statements at regular intervals as may be desired by the conference or by the executive committee.

Sec. No. 2 It shall also be the duty of the treasurer to forward monthly all trust funds not intended for use within the conference to their proper destination through the Southern Union Conference.

Article No. 4
AUDITOR

The duties of the Auditor shall be to examine, at least once each year, all accounts of the conference and its departments, and to report same to the Conference Executive Committee annually, and to the conference in session biennially through the President and the Treasurer.

Article No. 5
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to take the general supervision of all labor performed within the territory of and for this conference; to take charge of, and care for, all property belonging to the conference; to exercise a general watch-care over all matters pertaining to the interests of the Third Angel's Message, in its relation to the work in the conference; to fill all vacancies which may occur among the officers of this conference for the current term.

Article No. 6
AUDITING COMMITTEES

Once each year all accounts incurred during the year in connection with any labor performed in this conference shall be examined, adjusted if necessary, and approved by an auditing committee which shall consist of the Executive Committee, plus three additional brethren who have not been in the employ of the conference any part of the year to be audited.

Article No. 7
FUNDS

Sec. No. 1 The funds of this conference shall consist of the tithes paid by the churches and individuals in the conference, donations for special and general purposes, and such other funds as it is proper to use for our denominational work.

Sec. No. 2 All funds for general purposes to be used outside of this conference shall be passed on each month to the Southern Union Conference Treasurer.

Article No. 8
LABORERS

It shall be the duty of the laborers in the employ of this conference to make a written monthly report of their labors, together with a statement of receipts and expenditures, and to send the same at the close of the month to the conference officers.

Article No. 9
CHURCHES

Sec. No. 1 Each church of this conference shall render faithful support to the conference work by the prompt payment of its membership tithe, and such other funds as may be set apart for that purpose.

Sec. No. 2 Each church through its clerk shall make a written report every quarter to the conference secretary of its standing, its additions and losses, and such other information as may be required.

Sec. No. 3 Each church through its treasurer shall at the close of each month make a written report and forward all conference moneys to the conference treasurer.

Sec. No. 4 The secretaries of the various departments of the church shall forward promptly and at regular intervals, as requested, to the respective secretaries of the conference, such items and reports as may be called for.

CHURCH
PROPERTIES

VOTED, that we recommend to the two white conferences involved the election of the president and treasurer of the South Central Conference as members of each legal association in existence in its territory; these officers to be called to meet with the Association Committee whenever action is contemplated involving church properties held in trust for members of the South Central Conference.

CREDENTIALS
& LICENSES

VOTED, that the issuing of credentials and licenses to workers in the South Central Conference be referred to the new conference committee for action.

LARGE
NOMINATING
COMMITTEE

In accordance with Article 5, Section 5, of the Constitution, each church delegation present was called to meet and select one of its members to act on a special committee to nominate the nominating committee of the session. This large committee composed of thirty-four members, with Elder Hackman as chairman, brought in the names of the following persons to act as the Nominating Committee which was accepted by vote of the constituency: F. L. Peterson, J. F. Chrichlow, I. H. Hudson, B. W. Abney, Sr., C. A. Lynes, Walter Pearson, W. H. Winston.

ELECTION

The Nominating Committee named above met and after careful study brought to the session the following report:

President, H. R. Murphy
Secretary-Treasurer, V. Lindsay
Educational & Young People's Secretary, Charles Dickerson
Home Missionary & Religious Liberty Secretary, H. R. Murphy
Publishing Department Secretary, W. E. Adams
Associate Secretaries, B. H. Ewing and E. Brantley
Bible House Manager, V. Lindsay
That the selection of Sabbath School and Temperance Secretaries be referred to the conference committee.
Conference Committee: H. R. Murphy, V. Lindsay, B. W. Abney, Sr., C. A. Lynes, J. G. Thomas, Pastor of Birmingham church, I. H. Hudson

Upon motion the above nominations were accepted unanimously by vote.

BEGINNING
DATE

VOTED, that the above named persons take office January 1, 1946, and that the organization of the conference be perfected at as early a date as possible.

GRATITUDE

Recognizing that our Heavenly Father has signally blessed and prospered the efforts of our colored workers and the constituency in developing the work among the colored people of the Southern Union,

WHEREAS, The time has come when our General and Union Conference Committees have seen fit to authorize the organization of a colored conference embracing the western section of the Southern Union, in order that the work may go forward more rapidly, and

WHEREAS, The delegates here assembled have consummated the organization of such a conference,

RESOLVED, That we offer our sincere praise and gratitude to God, and dedicate our lives anew to an all-out program of evangelism, loyalty in the paying of tithes, and liberality in offerings both for foreign missions and home work.

Also that we express to the General Conference, the Southern Union and the Southern Publishing Association our appreciation for the part each has had in promoting the organization of this conference and for the financial help which they have given; to the Housing authority for the use of the commodious auditorium, and to each of our workers and members who have assisted in furnishing meals, rooming accomodations, and in other ways made this meeting a success.

Upon motion the meeting adjourned sine die.

E. F. Hackman, Chairman

C. O. Franz, Secretary

Southwest
Region

Organization of the Southwestern Mission
December 16, 1946

SOUTHWESTERN MISSION

On Monday morning, December 16, 1946, at ten o'clock, the colored constituency of the Southwestern Union assembled in Dallas, Texas, to organize that field into a mission. At this time the executive officers of the mission were elected by the constituency.

Delegates were in attendance from every church in the Union. The attendance of delegates was one hundred per cent. It was phenomenal-- none of those elected from the churches were absent. . . .The Dallas colored church was filled to capacity, and there was standing room only. The walls of the church vibrated as all raised their voices in singing the adopted theme song, "Give Me That Good Old Mission Spirit."

The officers elected were:

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Superintendent | W. W. Fordham |
| Secretary-Treasurer | V. L. Roberts |
| Publishing Department | J. H. Jones |
| Sabbath School Secretary | Miss Helen Wiggins |

For the time being the educational, young people's, and religious liberty departments will be carried by the superintendent and the Book and Bible House and home missionary departments will be carried by the secretary-treasurer.

Members of the Executive Committee are:

W. W. Fordham
V. L. Roberts
A. R. Carethers
W. S. Lee
Williams

Provisions have been made for two additional members of the executive committee, making a total of seven.

The mission headquarters will be in Dallas, Texas.

INFORMANT, February 1, 1947

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE
SOUTHWEST REGION) CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Article I- Name

This organization shall be known as the Southwest Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Article II - Object

The object of this conference is to teach the everlasting gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and to make converts to the third angel's message in the territory over which it has jurisdiction and to assist in spreading it to all nations of the world.

Article III - Territory

The territory of this conference shall consist of the states of Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas, and New Mexico, excepting San Juan County in New Mexico.

Article IV - Membership

- Section 1. - The membership of this conference shall consist of such churches consisting of colored members as have been or shall be properly organized in any part of its territory and accepted by vote of the conference in session.
- Section 2. - The voters of this conference shall be designated as follows:
- a. Delegates at large.
 - b. Regular delegates.
- Section 3. - Delegates at large shall be:
- a. All members of the conference executive committee.
 - b. Members of the General Conference and the Southwestern Union Conference executive committees who may be present at any session of the conference.
 - c. Such other persons as may be accepted by vote of the delegates in session.
- Section 4. - Regular delegates shall be such persons as are duly accredited by the organized churches of the conference on the basis of one for each local organized church and one additional for each twenty members or major fraction thereof.
- Section 5. - The delegates present at any regular or duly called special session shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Article V - Officers and Their Duties

-2-

Section 1. - The officers of this conference shall be a president, a secretary, and a treasurer who shall be elected by the conference.

Section 2. - President:

The president shall act as chairman of the executive committee, shall preside at the business sessions of the conference, and labor in the general interest of the conference as the executive committee may advise.

Section 3. - Secretary:

It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep the minutes of the proceedings of the conference sessions and of the meetings of the executive committee and to collect such data concerning the work as may be desired by the conference or by the executive committee and to perform such other duties as usually pertain to such office.

Section 4. - Treasurer:

It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive all funds of the conference and disburse them in harmony with the actions of the executive committee and to render such financial statements at regular intervals as may be desired by the conference or by the executive committee.

Section 5. - Election of officers:

All officers of the conference and members of the executive committee shall be chosen by the delegates at the regular biennial sessions of the Southwest Region Conference and shall hold their offices for the period of two years or until their successors are elected and appear to enter upon their duties.

Article VI - Auditors

Section 1. - The auditor of the Southwestern Union Conference shall be authorized to audit the accounts and records of this conference.

Section 2. - The treasurer of this conference, or such other persons as maybe be designated by the executive committee shall be the authorized auditor of the church treasurers' records within the conference.

Article VII - Executive Committee

At each regular session the conference shall elect an executive committee of seven members, including the president, for the administration of its work between sessions of the conference.

Article VIII - Incorporations, Departments, and Agents

- Section 1. - Such incorporations may be authorized by the conference in session or by the executive committee as the development of the work may require.
- Section 2. - At each regular session the delegates shall elect such trustees of corporate bodies connected with this organization as may be provided in the statutory laws governing each.
- Section 3. - This conference shall maintain such departments as may be necessary for the carrying forward of its several lines of work and shall employ such secretaries, committees, agents, ministers, missionaries, and other persons, and make such distribution of its laborers as may be necessary to effectively execute its work.
- Section 4. - The conference shall grant credentials or licenses to its ministers and missionaries.

Article IX - Sessions

- Section 1. - This conference shall hold biennial sessions at such time and place as the executive committee shall designate for the purpose of electing officers and to transact any other business that may be properly ~~brought~~ before it.
- Section 2. - Special sessions may be called by action of the executive committee.
- Section 3. - Notice of all conference sessions whether regular or special shall be published in the Southwestern Union Record at least three weeks prior to the date of the meeting. The transactions of a special session shall have the same force as those of the regular sessions.

Article X - By-Laws

The voters of this conference may enact by-laws and amend or repeal them at any session thereof and such by-laws may embrace any provision not inconsistent with the constitution.

Article XI - Amendments

This constitution or its by-laws may be amended by two-thirds vote of the voters present and voting at any session provided that if it is proposed to amend the constitution at a special session notice of such purpose shall be given in the call for such special session.

Article I - Executive Committee

- Section 1. - During the intervals between sessions of the conference the executive committee shall have full administrative power, and authority to grant and withdraw credentials and licenses, and to fill for unexpired current term any vacancies that may occur in its officers, boards, committees, or agents, by death, resignation, or otherwise.
- Section 2. - Meetings of the executive committee may be called at any time or place by:
- a. The president
 - b. Should the president be absent from the field, such meetings may be called by the secretary upon a written request of any four members of the executive committee. Proper notice of said meeting being duly forwarded to all committee members.

Article II - Departments

- Section 1. - The conference may organize and maintain such departments as the various branches of the work seem to require in harmony with similar departments in the Union and General Conferences.
- Section 2. - Secretaries in charge of these departments shall be elected at the regular biennial session of the conference.

Article III - Funds

- Section 1. - The funds of this conference shall be the tithe of all of its members which shall be forwarded monthly to the conference treasurer by the treasurer of each local church, and such other donations, offerings, legacies and gifts as it may receive for its work.
- Section 2. - The conference shall pass on monthly ^{to} the Southwestern Union Conference a tithe of its tithe receipts, and all mission offerings, and such other funds as may be called for by the policies of the General Conference organizations.

Article IV - Auditing Committee

- Section 1. - It shall be the duty of the auditing committee to examine the accounts of the employees for the preceding year and to set salary rates for the ensuing year.
- Section 2. - The auditing committee of the conference shall consist of the following:
- a. The executive committee of the conference.
 - b. Three additional members who have not been in the employ of the conference during a period of at least twelve months prior to the time of the audit.
 - c. One or more representatives from the Southwestern Union Conference.

Article V -- Churches

-5-

- Section 1. - Each church, in order to be retained as a member of this conference shall conform to the tenets, general policies and practices of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination.
- Section 2. - This conference may receive or disband a church at any regularly called session without notice or in a special session providing such a church has been given notice of the proposed action at least thirty days previous to the date of the special session, either by letter or through the Southwestern Union Record.
- Section 3. - Each local church organization shall vest the title to its church properties in the legal incorporation of this conference unless otherwise permitted by the conference in session.

Article VI -- Conference Church

- Section 1. - The "Conference Church" shall consist of such baptized believers as may be received into its membership because of their isolation from any regularly organized church.
- Section 2. - The president of the conference shall be the elder of the conference church. The secretary-treasurer of the conference shall likewise serve as clerk and treasurer of the conference church, and the executive committee shall serve as the administrative board of this church.

SOUTHWEST REGION CONFERENCE
REPORT OF
COMMITTEE ON PLANS AND RESOLUTIONS
EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE

The Lord has been very gracious to His work and workers of the Southwestern Mission during the past biennial period. We have all been blessed with good health; no visible expression of God's displeasure rests upon us. The stamp of His approval upon our labors is manifest in the saving of souls, increase in tithes and offerings, and in our contributions to world-wide needs in general. We recognize that without His loving care and assistance such provisions would have been impossible. We do heartily express our thanks and gratitude to God for His tender mercies; especially for the humble part He has given us in His great work on earth, despite our many shortcomings, which we do greatly lament and deplore. At this meeting we re-consecrate ourselves unitedly and individually to His service, to the evangelizing of nearly 3½ million Negroes scattered throughout the southwestern territory, who have been entrusted to our care, and to the speedy finishing of the work in all the world in this generation.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, the servant of the Lord has told us -- "Schools should be established if there are no more than six children to attend." Vol. 6 P 199.

WE RECOMMEND, that the churches of the Southwest Region Conference continue to erect and equip church school buildings and establish schools so that all the children of adventists families can receive a Christian Education.

WE FURTHER RECOMMEND, that definite plans be laid to make the position of our teachers more secure financially by guaranteeing their full salary at the end of each month.

WE RECOMMEND, that each church be encouraged to see the importance of Christian Education through sermons from the pulpit, posters, pamphlets, and whatever promotions found feasible from the education department.

WE FURTHER RECOMMEND, that in harmony with the explicit instruction of the Spirit of Prophecy that all new church buildings erected include plans for a church school.

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER

WHEREAS, the keynote of the Missionary Volunteer Department has been sounded in favor of Evangelism and

WHEREAS, plans have been tried and tested and have proved successful

WE RECOMMEND, that in all our senior Missionary Volunteer Societies, some form of Evangelism for the winning of the youth to this message be sponsored this year, promotional material to be sent out from the Missionary Department of the Conference.

2. We further recommend that plans be made to encourage co-operation of our youth with each other in order to further share their faith and enjoy Christian Association. These plans may include district Rallies, Youth's federations and M. V. Conventions.

3. We further recommend that all of our M. V. Societies encourage the reading of the character classics and the current M. V. reading courses.

PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

WHEREAS, tremendous emphasis is placed upon maintaining a strong colporteur ministry as is brought to our attention by the following statement:

"The canvassing work should no longer be neglected. Many times I have been shown that there should be a more general interest in our canvassing work." Colporteur Evangelist P. 30

WE RECOMMEND

1. That our church officers be requested to provide for proper and consistent promotion of the Literature Ministry.

2. That in churches where a bulletin is issued, that a brief interesting colporteur experience be published in the bulletin as often as space will permit. We believe that this will help stimulate an interest in the Colporteur work and will be the means of helping recruit men and women to take up the work.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF PUBLISHING WORK

WHEREAS, the trend of the general public in recent years is to acquire our books and periodicals in the hands of neighbors and friends;

WHEREAS, the great object of our publications is to exalt God; to call man's attention to the living truths of the Word, and to enlighten the mind regarding world conditions and the solemnity of the times in which we live; and

WHEREAS, there are scores and scores of young men and women in our churches, who, with some encouragement and training would become interested in the book work, and enter the Literature Ministry:

THEREFORE, WE RECOMMEND:

1. That pastors and district leaders take it upon themselves to encourage capable men and women to take up this important line of Missionary work.

2. That for the benefit of these prospective workers, institutes of short duration be held in churches where these workers attend.

3. That we ask all workers and laymen to place special emphasis upon a greatly increased circulation of the Message Magazine and books written by leaders of our group such as "The Hope of the Race", "Thy Dead Shall Live", "Dawn of a Brighter Day", "Eating for Health", "The Lord's Day", "Modern Home Council", "Little Journeys Into Story Land", also that the church missionary secretary make attractive displays of these books.

HOME MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT RESOLUTIONS

Believing that we are very rapidly approaching the end of time, and recognizing that "the work of God on this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers."

1. WE RECOMMEND, that our workers and laity accept the challenge of this mighty hour and unite their forces for a great ingathering of souls by employing among others, the following methods:

- A. A vastly accelerated literature **distribution** endeavor.
- B. Seeking additional enrollments for our Bible Correspondence Courses.
- C. The holding of Bible studies and cottage meetings.
- D. Earnestly endeavoring to bring our neighbors and friends to evangelistic services being held in our community.
- E. Inviting our neighbors and friends not forgetting the children, to our Sabbath Schools and other services of the church.
- F. That we encourage the participation of every church member in the Mid-Century Evangelistic Program of 1950 as recommended by the recent Autumn Council held in St. Louis, Mo.

SABBATH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT RESOLUTIONS

Believing the Sabbath School plan to be of divine origin and believing that if rightly conducted, it can be one of the greatest instrumentalities in bringing souls to Christ,

- A. WE RECOMMEND, A continued effort be made to enroll all church members and their children.
- B. That every Sabbath School give consideration to the developing of Branch Sabbath Schools and Sunday Schools in their respective communities.
- C. A re-emphasis of the recommendation of the General Conference which reads as follows:

WE RECOMMEND:

1. A revival of personal Bible study on the part of all our people.
2. A daily study of the Sabbath School Lessons by all our people. These lessons if adequately studied will furnish a regular and constant supply of spiritual strength and an accumulation of Bible truth for days to come.

TEMPERANCE

WHEREAS, in this country crime, accidents, divorce and arrests for drunkenness have increased in proportion to the amount of liquor that has been consumed during the past few years; and

WHEREAS, last year, many millions of dollars were expended in a nationwide advertising campaign, largely over the radio by the liquor trade, to make liquor attractive as having nutritive value as a food for adults and children; therefore,

WE RECOMMEND:

1. That Seventh-day Adventist members everywhere endeavor to arouse the public conscience against the evil effects of the liquor traffic by carrying on a vigorous campaign of temperance education by the following methods:
 - (a) By means of the circulation of the Message Magazine and of other temperance literature.
 - (b) By temperance lectures in public schools based on scientific and health principles.
 - (c) By giving temperance programs in our churches, colleges, and academics in co-operation with other temperance organizations.

RIVERSIDE SANITARIUM

RESOLVED: That we request pastors and church officers place special emphasis on the annual offering taken each year in behalf of the Riverside Sanitarium and Hospital and that our church leaders properly use their influence in encouraging our people to patronize Riverside when seeking health and rest.

EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION

We hereby extend to the pastor, Rev. Dr. Burk, officers, and members of the New Friendship Baptist Church our sincere appreciation for the use of their Church and all of its facilities.

Also, we extend to those who so ably prepared and served the food we have so much enjoyed and to all who contributed to our comfort our appreciation.

We also extend our thanks and appreciation to the Housing Committee, Sister Yancy, Chairman, who worked untiringly to provide adequate rooms for the delegates.

VICE-PRESIDENTS

L. K. DICKSON, GENERAL
A. V. OLSON, GENERAL
W. B. OCHS, GENERAL
J. J. NETHERY, GENERAL
N. C. WILSON, NORTH AMERICA

W. H. WILLIAMS, UNDERTREASURER
H. H. COBBAN, ASSISTANT TREASURER
J. F. CUMMINS, ASSISTANT TREASURER
ROGER ALTMAN, ASSISTANT TREASURER
E. J. JOHANSON, ASSISTANT TREASURER

H. T. ELLIOTT, ASSOCIATE SECRETARY
A. W. CORMACK, ASSOCIATE SECRETARY
T. J. MICHAEL, ASSOCIATE SECRETARY
J. I. ROBISON, ASSOCIATE SECRETARY
W. P. BRADLEY, ASSOCIATE SECRETARY
E. E. ROENFELT, ASSOCIATE SECRETARY

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

TAKOMA PARK, WASHINGTON 12, D. C.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS
"GENERAL CONFERENCE"
WASHINGTON, D. C.

CABLE ADDRESS
"ADVENTIST" WASHINGTON

To: Union Presidents Council

From: Colored Delegates At The Fall Council

Re: Meeting of the North American Advisory Council

Whereas: The colored work in North America in its newly organized form is making such rapid advancement throughout the field, and

Whereas: There is need of coordinating and unifying this growing work, and

Whereas: The expansion of our denominational work, both at home and abroad, will make greater demands on our colored constituency,

We Request: The General Conference Committee to call a meeting of the North American Advisory Council prior to the Spring Council of 1947 to give study to the promotion and development of the work for the colored people throughout the field.

NORTHEASTERN CONFERENCE CORPORATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I--Name

The name of the corporation is "Northeastern Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists."

ARTICLE II--Object

The particular objects for which this corporation is formed are such as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation.

ARTICLE III--Territory

Section 1. The immediate territory of this corporation includes the states of Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont and Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Section 2. The office of this corporation is located at 560 West 150th Street, New York 31, N. Y.

ARTICLE IV--Membership

The membership of this corporation shall be the accredited delegates to the Northeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, an unincorporated ecclesiastical body. For the purpose of this corporation these delegates shall continue in office until other delegates are chosen to succeed them.

ARTICLE V--Trustees

Section 1. The first Board of Trustees shall be:

Louis H. Bland
Lionel O. Irons
A. E. Webb
A. W. Clarke
S. B. Huddleston
S. J. Hooper
T. Wilson
R. Jeffries

Section 2. The trustees shall have the ordering of all the affairs of this corporation, the management and disposal of all its property, and the execution of all trusts confided to it.

Section 3. The trustees shall elect biennially a president, a secretary, and a treasurer. The president and treasurer shall be members of the Board of Trustees; the secretary may or may not be a member of the Board of Trustees.

Section 4. A quorum to do business shall consist of not less than four trustees, one of whom shall be an officer of the Board.

Section 5. The books of the corporation shall be audited annually by the auditors of the Atlantic Union Conference and they will submit an itemized report to the members of the corporation annually, or at such time that may be appointed by the Board.

Section 6. The trustees shall have power to fill any vacancy occurring in their membership.

ARTICLE VI--Duties of Officers

The duties of the officers of this corporation shall be such as usually pertain to such officers respectively, and such other duties as the Board of Trustees may prescribe. The president and the secretary shall, in behalf of the corporation sign all deeds, mortgages, powers of attorney, annuity agreements, or other instruments of writing of similar character and import.

ARTICLE VII--Seal

The seal of this corporation shall be of an ordinary sized circular impression with the words "Northeastern Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists" in an outer circle enclosing the word "seal".

ARTICLE VIII--Meetings

Section 1. Every regular and special meeting of the members of this corporation shall be called by the Board of Trustees. Notice of any such meeting shall be published in three successive issues preceding the time of the meeting, in THE ADVENT REVIEW AND SABBATH HERALD, a weekly paper published at Washington, D. C., or in the ATLANTIC UNION GLEANER, a weekly paper published at South Lancaster, Mass. or by written or printed notice signed by the secretary of the corporation, which notice shall be deposited in the post office, postage prepaid, directed to each member of the corporation at their last known address, ten days at least before the day of said meeting.

Section 2. Meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be held biennially after the biennial meeting of the corporation, and also at such other times and occasions as may be in accordance with the following provision: Special meetings of the Board may be held at the call of the president of the Board. Special meetings of the Board may be held by request in writing of any three of its members, but notices of such meetings shall be given by notification thereof duly deposited in the post office, postage prepaid, directed to each member of the Board at their last known address, two days before the time fixed for such meetings.

Section 3. The members present at any duly called regular or special meeting of the corporation shall constitute a quorum to transact any business. Only members present shall be entitled to vote, and each member, whether he be trustee or not, shall have but one vote on any question.

ARTICLE IX--Dissolution

If at any time this corporation should be dissolved, or should it otherwise cease to exist, the title to all its property and effects shall at once vest in the General Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists, whose office is now located at Washington, D. C., and the president and secretary of the Board of Trustees last in authority are authorized, empowered, and directed in the name of this corporation to make conveyance of title by such instrument of writing as may be appropriate and necessary.

ARTICLE X--Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended by two-thirds vote of the members of the corporation present at any regular meeting of said members, when the proposed amendment does not conflict with the Articles of the Incorporation of the corporation. When it is proposed to change the By-Laws at any special meeting of the members of the corporation, notice shall be given to this effect in the call of the meeting, and the nature of the proposed amendment shall be stated.

* * * * *

119 delegates voted for the acceptance of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Northeastern Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists. None opposed.

CLOSING REMARKS:

As we came to the closing of this session, we could see the hand of God leading in every way. Elder M. L. Rice said he greatly enjoyed this Conference session. It has proved very interesting to him. He especially stressed the spirit of unity which existed among the delegates, and he is hoping when another Biennial Session comes around, great strides will be seen in the work in this Conference. He also said God has demonstrated what He can do through human instrumentalities.

Elder George E. Peters of the General Conference expressed his joy and satisfaction in attending the session, and admonished us to do everything to safeguard the work of this denomination. The hymn, "Blest Be the Tie That Binds", was then sung. The benediction was offered by Elder M. L. Rice.

L. H. Bland, Chairman

L. O. Irons, Secretary

South
Atlantic

NEGRO SANITARIUM AND NURSES' TRAINING SCHOOL:

A committee of nine was appointed at the Spring Meeting of the General Conference Committee to study the Memorial from the Negro Department regarding the establishment of a Negro Sanitarium and Nurses' Training School, report to be made to the Autumn Council. The following report was presented by this committee, and adopted:

WHEREAS, For many years urgent word has come to us, presenting the need of a sanitarium and a school of nursing for the colored people, and recognizing that with the growing constituency of our colored membership and the increasing number of our colored youth this need becomes all the more imperative,

We recommend, 1. That the General Conference undertake to establish as early as possible, preferably near the city of Nashville, a sanitarium and school of nursing for the colored people.

2. That a committee be appointed by the General Conference Committee to decide on the definite location of the institution, this committee to report to the Minority Committee of the General Conference.

3. That the board of control of this institution be identical with the board of the Oakwood Junior College, such modifications being made in the board personnel, as at present constituted, as may be necessary to meet the needs of both institutions.

Dr. E.A. Sutherland reported on the investigation he had made as to the attitude of the people of Nashville toward the establishment of a Negro Sanitarium and School of Nursing near the city. He has contacted a number of leading doctors, city and state health department officials, lawyers, financiers, and others. All looked with favor upon the establishment of such an institution, and have promised to give their very best support.

Mrs. N.H. Druillard told of the great burden she has carried for years to help the colored people of the South, and of her willingness to turn over to the denomination for ownership and control the buildings and land of what is now known as the Riverside Sanitarium, near Nashville, to be operated as a sanitarium and nurses' training school for the colored people.

VOTED, To express our appreciation to Dr. E.A. Sutherland for his thorough investigation and report, and to

L. E. Froom, E. E. Franklin, T. E. Bowen, E. A. Manry, F. M. Wilcox, H. H. Cobban, J. F. Simon, J. K. Jones, M. E. Cady, M. E. Kern.

Prayer by William Robbins.

SCHOOL FOR COLORED YOUTH IN NORTH:

The committee appointed by the Autumn Council to study the advisability of establishing a training school for colored students in the North reported as follows:

RESOLVED, 1. That we institute a survey through the educational department of the student constituency of the colored believers in the North.

2. That in case the results of this survey will justify it, we undertake to give consideration to the establishment of a school of academic grade for colored students.

3. That as regards the location of such a school, the possibility of using an institution already in existence for this purpose be considered.

4. That the financial support of such an academy be on the regular basis of tuition charges the same as in our white schools, so that the establishment and maintenance be in no way a charge against our mission funds.

5. That we recognize the possibility of using our northern white colleges on a proper basis of distribution for the accommodation of colored college students until late development, and that where necessary separate facilities for rooming and boarding be provided.

VOTED, That the report be adopted, and that the names of S. E. Wight, J. L. Moran, and G. E. Peters be added to the committee which will continue its work of survey.

GEORGE A. HUSE--WASHINGTON COLLEGE:

VOTED, To pass on to the Lake Union and the Chicago Conference the call from the Columbia Union for George A. Huse to connect with the Washington Missionary College.

W. A. SPICER AND J. L. SHAW:

VOTED, That we request W. A. Spicer and J. L. Shaw to respond to the call of the Central Union to visit the Omaha church March 6.

W. W. PRESCOTT--UNION COLLEGE:

VOTED, That we grant the request of the Central Union that W. W. Prescott be permitted to continue his work with Union College for another year.

A. O. TAIT--CENTRAL UNION CAMP MEETINGS:

VOTED, That we invite A. O. Tait to attend camp meetings in the Central Union following the General Conference session.

C. K. MEYERS:

VOTED, That we request C. K. Meyers to respond to the invitation of the Columbia Union to visit churches week ends in East Pennsylvania during March.

C. W. IRWIN:

VOTED, That we request C. W. Irwin to attend meetings at Union Springs, New York, February 16.

DR. A. W. TRUMAN:

THE NEGRO DEPARTMENT

Previous to the creating of the North American Negro Department by the General Conference in 1909, an aggressive work was carried on by the denomination in the field of evangelization and education for the colored people.

Faith, courage, and intelligent optimism in the face of almost insurmountable barriers urged the pioneers of this work forward, until today as we note the achievements of the Seventh-day Adventist Church for the colored race, we say with the psalmist: "The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad." Ps. 126:3

This department occupies a very distinct place in the program of the church, and renders both measurable and immeasurable service. There are still millions from among the colored people who are yet to be warned of the coming of the Lord and of the preparation that must be made in order to meet Him.

During the five years that have passed since the last General Conference session this department has experienced many difficulties, but God has blessed us with such exceptional opportunities for service that today we find our hearts united with the leadership of this movement for the finishing of the work of God in all the world, and we bring you a message of hope and courage.

When the apostle Paul stood on the flinty platform of Mars' Hill and delivered his challenging appeal to the Areopagites, an epoch

was turned in the history of Greece. Among the startling propositions of the sermon that caused the change of attitude of Dionysius and Damaris was the statement, "God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;.....and hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation." Acts 17:24-26.

The grand old story of salvation is still being preached, and many thousands out of every nation, kindred, tongue, and people are being changed until today the prophecy of Zephaniah is being fulfilled: "From beyond the rivers of Ethiopia My suppliants, even the daughters of my dispersed, shall bring mine offering." Zeph. 3:10/

The presence of the Negro upon American soil is the result of the cupidity of commerce. His coming was against his will. Since the landing of that little Dutch trading vessel in 1619 at Jamestown, Virginia, with its small cargo of African slaves, the descendants of these bondsmen have become free American citizens. They have contributed much to American progress and have helped to lay the material foundations of our civilization. Their labor, their songs, and their record of patriotism are evidences of their loyalty and their self-sacrificing spirit.

The leaders of the advent movement, early in the history of its organization, recognized the Negro as an integral element in American life. About the year 1890 definite steps were taken to

carry the third angel's message to the people. It is interesting to note that seven years previous to this, or in 1883, a colored church had been organized at Edgefield Junction, Tennessee, which had been raised up by a colored brother who had received the truth through reading the Signs. Our present church work in Nashville, Tennessee, is the outgrowth of this first church organization.

Since that time evangelistic meetings have been held in almost all the large cities of North America. The colporteur, true to his task, has scattered our truth-filled books and papers in both rural and urban centers, and we are happy to report at this conference that we had 236 churches, with a combined membership of 14,537, at the close of 1940.

Our colored believers are loyal to this movement, and out of their poverty they have given during the last five years with impressive liberality. From the year 1936 to December 31, 1940, the total tithe receipts were \$1,112,189.52. During the same five-year period there was sent on to foreign missions \$703,347.40. The grand total in tithes and mission offerings was \$1,815,536.92. The colored believers have also contributed many thousands of dollars for their own local church needs and home missionary enterprises.

In this department we have fifty ordained ministers, fifteen licentiates, five Bible workers, five assistant field missionary secretaries, one union home missionary and educational secretary, eight interns, one hundred church school and academy teachers, and a small army of colporteur evangelists.

There are approximately 12,000,000 Negroes in North America. The last available figures of the census reveal the astounding fact that more than six million of them are without church membership. Although our race is reputed to be a religious group, for more than a generation there has been a drift away from religion. Here at the home base the Adventist Church should view this situation with serious concern and do all that is within her power to win these people for Christ.

Since we last met in General Conference session three of our workers have been laid to rest--A. J. Evelyn, A Gaynes Thompson, and H. E. Ford.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Christian school has become a virile, positive force in this denomination. What Christian education has meant to our colored boys and girls, and the overwhelming importance of the church school in Negro education, cannot be adequately described within the limits of this report. It is the aim and purpose of the working force in this department to follow the blueprint in education as has been given to this people by the messenger of God. We believe that "Our children should be removed from the evil influences of the public school, and placed where thoroughly converted teachers may educate them in the Holy Scriptures."

--"Counsels to Teachers," p.204.

There are 100 teachers now engaged in giving Christian instruction to our church-school children, who are attending the 66 church school that are being conducted.

Oakwood Junior College, our advanced training school is doing an excellent work for our young people. There is a strong faculty of fifteen members. Each year the school is being improved, and a large number of students can now be accommodated there. During the last three years, approximately \$45,000 has been spent in the erection of new buildings and the purchasing of additional equipment. For the last five years 153 young people have been graduated from the junior college courses, and 73 from the academy. Some of these now in conference employ are graduates of Oakwood. The school enjoys the best financial standing it has experienced in many years. There is, however, a great need for enriching the courses of study that are offered, so that a larger number of our youth will be attracted to the school and so that they may receive a full college training.

LITERATURE MINISTRY

We have a small army of colporteurs who have set themselves to the task of taking our truth-filled literature to the homes of the people. Many thousands of copies of our large and small books and magazines are being sold by these literature ministers. The Message Magazine is filling a longfelt need in our work. It has grown from a quarterly magazine to ten issues a year. More than thirty thousand of the November-December issue for 1940 were sold. Our books and magazines are finding their way into the best homes of our people. There is a determined effort on the part of our workers to increase the circulation of the Message Magazine, and of our other magazines and books as well. It was the message that was published in the Signs that had to do with the organizing of our first colored church in 1883, and who knows but it might be

by the interpretation of the signs through the pages of the Message Magazine, that a larger number of our colored people will yet come into this truth.

In 1940 the Harvest Ingathering number of the Message Magazine proved a great blessing to our colored believers in their solicitation of funds for our foreign mission work, and we believe that the Ingathering number this year will be just as effective.

MEDICAL MISSIONARY WORK

The Riverside Sanitarium and Hospital ^{at Nashville, Tenn.} has gained for itself a good reputation among the colored people as a mess^{cc} of health. More than one thousand patients have been treated at the sanitarium in the last five years. A small clinic is now being operated by the sanitarium, and this is proving a blessing to the people who live in the vicinity of the institution. ✓ Riverside is a struggling institution, and its needs are many.

We are very grateful to our sanitarium training schools for the work that is being done by them in educating some of our young women for nursing service. The Hubbard Hospital of Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee, has also permitted some of our young women to enter their training school for nurses. Sabbath privileges have been granted our girls, and a special diet has been planned for them. Although this arrangement is not the most ideal, we are thankful for what this institution is doing for us. We hope that the time is not far distant when we shall be prepared to conduct a nurses' training school at Riverside.

A large number of our churches are conducting home-nursing classes for the benefit of our church members.

The one great outstanding need of this department is a nurses' training school in connection with the "Iverside Sanitarium, where our young people may receive a medical missionary training.

The General Conference has been very generous in making contributions toward the advancement of the North American Negro Department. Today we wish to express our gratitude and to pledge our loyalty to this cause and our support of it both by giving liberally of our means and by living Godly lives. We realize that this denomination has come face to face with a world tragedy, but we are determined to unite our effort with those of our leaders in the finishing of the work of God in all the world. Though there is a strengthening conviction that much more needs to be done to advance the work among this people, we close this report with full appreciation in our hearts for the growth and development of this department during the last five years.

Central
States

Organization of the Central States Mission

Central States Mission

In 1946 the leaders among the colored people in the United States asked that they be allowed to form their own church-governing bodies, in harmony with the new policy of forming Regional conferences. On January 1, 1947, in the Jefferson Hotel in St. Louis, the Central States Mission was organized, with the Negro members of the Central Union Conference (a membership of 798) forming the constituency. T. M. Rowe was elected president, and J. H. Jones, secretary-treasurer. There followed a tremendous spurt in growth. In five years' time the mission had grown to the stature of a conference, with a membership increase of 76 per cent--from 798 in 1947 to 1,408 in 1952, with baptisms averaging more than 100 a year.

Central States Conference Organized

On November 9, 1952, a constituency meeting held in the Beacon Light Church in Kansas City, Missouri, organized the Central States Conference, with F. L. Bland, president, and H. T. Saulter, Secretary-treasurer.

CENTRAL STATES MISSION - FINANCIAL GAIN - 1950

Lake
Region