

❧ MINUTES ❧

OF THE

Forty-Sixth Annual Session ❧ ❧
❧ ❧ of the Ontario Conference

OF THE

CHURCH OF THE
UNITED BRETHREN
❧ ❧ IN CHRIST ❧ ❧

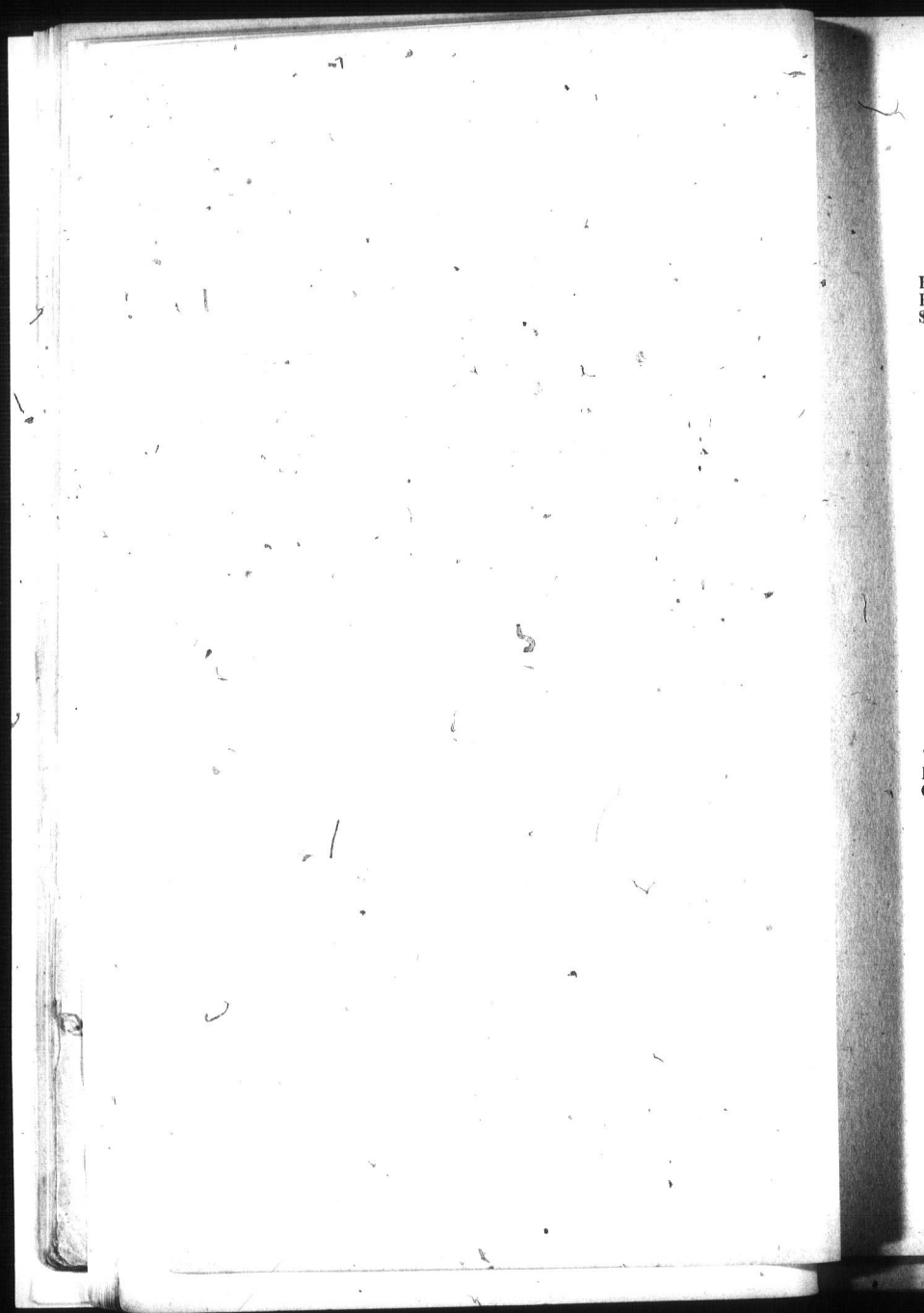
HELD AT

❧ SHELburnE, ONTARIO ❧

OCTOBER 11th, 14th, 1900

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Published by Order of the Conference



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CONFERENCE OFFICIALS.

BISHOP..... REV. E. B. KEPHART, D.D., LL.D.
 PRESIDING ELDER..... REV. I. W. GROH.
 SECRETARY..... REV. W. A. ROBINS.

BRANCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

President Rev. I. W. Groh
 Secretary - J. U. Clemens
 Treasurer - Isaac Hilborn

PREACHERS' AID SOCIETY.

President I. W. Groh
 Secretary - M. I. Comfort
 Treasurer - Wm. Michiner

BRANCH CHURCH-ERECTION SOCIETY.

President - Jos. Showers
 Secretary - J. C. Grenzebach
 Treasurer - J. U. Clemens

TRUSTEES OF OTTERBEIN UNIVERSITY.

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------|------|
| Wm. Michiner..... | Term expires | 1901 |
| L. Stauffer..... | " " | 1902 |
| C. D. Bowman..... | " " | 1903 |

STANDING COMMITTEES.

MISSIONS - D. C. Dafoe
 CHURCH-ERECTION - G. W. Houseman
 PUBLISHING INTEREST - J. C. Grenzebach
 EDUCATION - R. Head
 SABBATH SCHOOLS - C. H. Elliott
 Y. P. C. U. - J. W. H. Newberry
 RESOLUTIONS - M. T. Walker

COURSE OF READING.

FIRST YEAR - Jos. Showers, D. C. Dafoe, C. H. Elliott
 SECOND YEAR - M. I. Comfort, J. F. Durkee, W. A. Robins
 THIRD YEAR - G. H. Backus, R. Head, J. Geach

CONFERENCE ROLL.

| Ministers | First Admitted | Relation | Address |
|--------------------|----------------|----------|------------------------|
| Groh, I. W. | 1889 | I. E. | Berlin, Ont. |
| *Backus, G. H. | 1880 | I. E. | Gobles, " |
| Backus, J. H. | 1880 | S. | Griffin's Corners, " |
| Charlesworth, Wm. | 1881 | Sup. | Vienna, " |
| Comfort, M. I. | 1894 | I. E. | Berlin, " |
| Comfort, G. F. | 1899 | L. 1 | Dayton, Ohio |
| Cooper, A. | 1892 | E. | Vienna, Ont. |
| *Dafoe, D. C. | 1896 | i. E. | Attercliffe Station, " |
| Dafoe, W. H. | 1895 | S. | Trenton, " |
| Davey, J. | 1898 | Sup. | Corinth, " |
| *Durkee, J. F. | 1885 | I. E. | Shelburne, " |
| Dodds, J. H. | 1899 | L. 1 | " |
| *Elliott, C. H. | 1895 | I. E. | Markdale, " |
| Geach, J. | 1889 | I. E. | Forks Roads, " |
| *Grenzebach, J. C. | 1900 | E. | Listowel, " |
| Head, R. | 1892 | I. E. | Westerville, Ohio |
| Houseman, G. W. | 1891 | I. E. | Bloomington, Ont. |
| McCombs, J. | 1864 | Sup. | Franconia, " |
| Michiner, J. | 1859 | S. | " |
| Newberry, J. W. H. | 1898 | L. 2 | Sherkston, " |
| *Robins, W. A. | 1888 | I. E. | Port Elgin, " |
| Root, G. | 1865 | S. | West Montrose, " |
| Showers, Jos. | 1884 | I. E. | Shelburne, " |
| Showers, J. B. | 1899 | L. 2 | " |
| Showers, R. | 1899 | L. 1 | " |
| Walker, M. T. | 1900 | L. 1 | Brookfield, " |

LAY DELEGATES.

| | | | |
|-----------|-------------|------------|------------------|
| Vienna | C. Pratt | Sheffield | J. A. Cornell |
| Blenheim | A. Sims | Listowel | J. R. Richards |
| Niagara | B. Sherk | Port Elgin | Janet Richardson |
| Gainsboro | Wm Michiner | Shelburne | H. Sanderson |
| Waterloo | I Hilborn | Markdale | J. Walker |
| Berlin | L. Stauffer | Zion | Wm. Marr |

Explanation *Present at first roll call; I, Itinerant; E, Elder; S, Superannuated; Sup, Superannuate; Numerals, Course of Reading; L, Licentiate.

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ONTARIO CONFERENCE.

CONFERENCE JOURNAL.

FIRST DAY--Forenoon Session.

The Ontario Annual Conference met in its forty-sixth session at Shelburne, County Dufferin, on the Eleventh day of October, 1900, at the appointed hour, 8.30 a.m. The Conference was opened by Bishop E. B. Kephart, L.L.D., D.D., who announced the 196th hymn, after singing of which, he read as a lesson the Seventeenth Chapter of St. John, following this with a most earnest prayer.

The Bishop then delivered his annual address to the Conference, which was full of inspiring thought, giving a bright and encouraging outline of the work of the Church in Africa and Germany, as well as in the home church.

At the close of this address the Secretary came forward and called the roll, when those marked with a star answered to their names, on this the first roll call.

Balloting for Secretary resulted in the re-election of W. A. Robins.

By general consent it was agreed to meet at 9 a. m. and 2 p. m. and to adjourn on motion.

The Bar of Conference was fixed at the first three rows of seats across the church.

It was moved and carried that the chair appoint the standing, as well as other committees.

At this time the Rev. Wm. McKee, D. D., General Missionary Treasurer of the church, and Rev. Mr. Emery, of the Methodist church, Rev. Mr. Anderson of the Presbyterian church, and also Rev. J. W. Schofield of the Upper Wabash Conference, were introduced to the Conference.

Rev. Wm. McKee at this time desired to present the general Missionary interest of the church, and did so in a very forcible and yet pleasing way.

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J. Walker
Wm. Marr
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The name of Edgar Damute was presented to the Conference and referred to the Committee on Candidates for the Ministry.

The Presiding Elder's report was called for and read. No objections being raised the report was considered passed. See report No. 1.

The names of those without charges were then called for, examined and passed.

The reports of those having charges under their care were then called for, and D. C. Dafoe was examined and passed.

At this juncture a communication from Rev. W. M. Weekly was read by the Presiding Elder, which was full of life and hope, and large requests.

J. C. Grenzebach was appointed Treasurer of the various conference collections, except the Preachers' Aid and Branch Missionary Funds.

The reports of W. A. Robins and Jos. Showers were received and passed, with names.

A motion to adjourn was entertained at this time.

Afternoon Session.

The devotional was led by the Rev. Geo. Backus. The Bishop took the chair and Conference was called to order.

Rev. M. T. Walker was recommended to the Conference by the Rev. I. W. Groh. A motion to refer his name to the proper Committee prevailed.

J. W. Houseman, J. W. H. Newberry, R. Heald, Geo. Backus and C. H. Elliott reported. Reports and names were passed.

A report from the Committee appointed at the Berlin Conference relative to the litigation of our church property on the Niagara Circuit was read by I. W. Groh, and received by Conference. See Report No. 2.

Examination of Ministerial Reports was resumed. J. Geach, R. Jamieson, W. H. Dafoe, J. H. Dodds' reports were examined and names passed. The name J. U. Robins was erased from the roll.

The report of Second Year's Course of Reading was called up. Committee reported that no Candidate appeared before them.

Committee on Third Year's Course of Reading reported J. C. Grenzebach as having passed his examination successfully. See Report No. 3.

A motion was entertained that J. C. Grenzbach be referred to Committee on Elders' Orders.

The address of welcome was read at this juncture. Geo. H. Backus and Bishop Kephart made suitable remarks in response. See Address of Welcome.

Adjourned on motion.

Friday Morning.

The devotional exercises were led by Rev. D. C. Dafeo at the appointed hour. Conference was called to order by the Bishop. The roll was called. The minutes of previous session were read and approved.

The report of Committee on Candidates for the Ministry was called for, read and passed. See Report No. 4.

Report on First Year's Course of Reading was presented by Committee and passed. See Report No. 5.

Committee on Boundaries reported. Discussed by W. A. Robins, Jos. Walker and I. W. Groh. See Report No. 6.

It was moved and carried that M. I. Comfort be put on the Itinerant list.

R. Jamieson asked for his transfer to Alleghany Conference, and it was granted.

On motion J. W. H. Newberry was placed on the Itinerant list.

Balloting for Presiding Elder proceeded at this time, resulting in the election of Rev. I. W. Groh on the fourth ballot.

Balloting for nomination of Ministerial Delegates to the General Conference, to be held at Fredrick City, State of Maryland, in the month of May, 1901, proceeded, resulting in the nomination of Geo. H. Backus, receiving thirteen votes, I. W. Groh thirteen, J. Geach thirteen, J. W. Houseman twelve, Jos. Showers twelve, and M. I. Comfort nine votes.

The report on Church Election was rendered by J. W. H. Newberry. Discussed by G. W. Houseman, D. C. Dafeo and Bishop Kephart, and then passed by the Conference. See Report No. 7.

It was moved and passed that C. D. Bowman be elected as Trustee for Otterbein University.

It was moved and carried that Rev. J. F. Durkee receive \$100.00 out of the Preachers' Aid Fund.

It was moved, and the motion prevailed, that the Secretary publish the minutes the same as last year.

Adjourned on motion.

Afternoon Session.

The devotional services were led by J. W. H. Newberry.

The balloting for Laymen in nomination for Delegates to the General Conference, on the part of the Annual Conference Lay delegates in a separate body, resulted in the nomination of I. Hilborn, Wm. Michiner and J. Walker.

Report of Conference Treasurer, J. C. Grenzebach, was received and passed. See Report No. 8.

It was moved and carried that J. U. Clemens be the Treasurer of the Church-Erection Society.

C. Bowman was re-elected Secretary and Treasurer of the Sunday School Fund.

Report on Publishing Interest was called for and read. Discussed by Geo. H. Backus and D. C. Dafoe, who at this time also presented the interest of the Quarterly Review, also Bishop Kephart spoke some straight and noble truths, regarding the faithfulness of the Ministry as agents of the Publishing House. The report was adopted. See Report No. 9.

The report on Education was read by the Committee. Discussed by M. I. Comfort, Geo. Backus and Bishop Kephart, and then passed Conference. See Report No. 10.

Adjourned on motion.

Saturday Morning.

The devotional services were led by Rev. M. T. Walker. The business of the Conference was opened by the Bishop requesting the roll called. The minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

It was agreed by common consent that M. I. Comfort be Corresponding Secretary.

A motion prevailed that J. U. Clemens, Jos. Showers and L. Stauffer be appointed a Board of Tellers for the November election of Delegates to the General Conference. Alternates for Board of Tellers are J. Bingham, C. D. Bowman, and C. Richart.

Report on Elders' Orders was called for and presented by Committee. Report was adopted. See Report No. 11.

Report on Finance was presented by the Committee. An amendment to raise the assessment for Otterbein University was lost, as was also a motion to refer the item on missions back to Committee.

The report was then adopted with the understanding that the Otterbein item be excepted. A motion to re-consider the Otterbein item then prevailed, as did also a motion to allow the assessment for Otterbein University to remain as last year. See Report No. 12.

Report on Missions was presented by M. I. Comfort. Discussed by the Committee, D. C. Dafoe, I. W. Groh, Geo. H. Backus and Bishop E. B. Kephart, after which the paper was adopted. See Report No. 13.

Report on Sunday Schools was read by J. C. Grenzebach. Discussed by G. H. Backus and the Bishop. The paper then passed. See Report No. 14.

Adjourned on motion.

Afternoon Session.

Devotional led by L. Stauffer.

Report of Y. P. C. U. was read by J. B. Showers, and was adopted. See Report No. 15.

It was moved and passed that the Session of the next Conference be held at Diltz-Road, Gainsboro Charge.

It was moved and passed that Jos. Showers be President of the Church-Erection Society, and also that J. C. Grenzebach be Secretary of the same.

A motion prevailed to the effect that I. W. Groh be President of the Preachers' Aid Society, with M. I. Comfort as Secretary, and Wm. Michiner as Treasurer.

Rev. I. W. Groh was elected to the Presidency of the Branch Missionary Society.

The Committee on Resolutions reported, and it was unanimously adopted. See Report No. 16.

The Branch Missionary Treasurer made his report, and it was adopted, subject to the report of the Auditing Committee of the same. See Report No. 17.

The Auditing Committee reported. See Report No. 18.

The Treasurer of the Preachers' Aid Fund made his report, and it was adopted. See Report No. 19.

At this time the Bishop gave an address to the Ministry and Laymen full of wholesome advice, elucidating the laws governing the successful contact of man with his fellow creatures in his efforts in co-operation with Jesus Christ to lift humanity to the full height of the Gospel plane, reminding us

of the fact, that the sun of our lives will soon set forever, as far as our earth life is concerned.

A motion of thanks to the Branch Missionary Treasurer was passed, for his kindly dealings with the Missionaries on the home fields, as well as for his painstaking work in executing with exactness the accounts of his office.

The minutes were read and approved. A motion to adjourn, to finally adjourn on Sabbath evening, prevailed.

Notes.

The opening Conference sermon was delivered on Wednesday evening, by Rev. J. C. Grenzbach, selecting as the basis of his discourse Dan. 6: 10.

On Thursday evening the pulpit was occupied by Rev. Wm. McKee, D.D., of Dayton, Ohio, who rendered, in his plain and pleasing way, a soul stirring sermon, full of gospel meat. It was a benediction to any honest, hungry soul. The sermon was based on Luke 10: 42.

On Friday evening Bishop Kephart, LL.D., D.D., gave his lecture "Observations in the Orient" to an appreciative audience. This effort was a most profound and scholarly effort in describing the things which he had observed, relative to the people, their customs and works, in his recent journey in the East. The lecture was delivered in the most realistic manner, without a single note or scrap of paper of any kind, carrying his audience with him for one hour and a half, enrapt, until one felt that he was treading his way amid the catacombs of Rome, or visiting with the speaker the noted places of ancient Palestine, made sacred by the footsteps and presence of our Divine Lord, or wandering among the ancient cities of Egypt, with her wonderful pyramids, sphinxes and obelisks, evincing an ancient civilization that is at once a surprise and wonder to the modern traveller.

Saturday evening the Word was preached by the Rev. D. C. Dafoe, who gave a very earnest and impressive discourse. At the close of this service the Bishop read the Stationing Committee's report. See Report No. 20.

Sunday morning, the Presiding Elder led the Love Feast, at the close of which the Bishop preached the Word unto the people, taking for his text John 17: 17. The line of discourse

followed two phases of the subject, the Historical and the Religious. The incorrectness of human history, a fact, was taken and set over against the Scriptures. . . . While the Scriptures have been subject to the severest criticism, . . . yet the universal consensus of opinion is that no other book is so worthy of confidence as the historical statements of the Bible. . . . The historical opens up with creation, passing rapidly on through the ages. . . . Chronologically it rests on opinion and is not perfectly correct. . . . Ancient tablets corroborate Scripture regarding Abraham. . . . Such was the extent of ancient civilization that the people of the Nile and Euphrates, corresponded a thousands years before Abraham's time. . . . When we come to understand that the historical is absolutely correct, . . . no matter who wrote it, . . . hence it becomes the base for a strong presumption of the truth of the statement, or claim of its inspiration. ITS RELIGIOUS PHASE,—Its correctness as regards the corruptness of man is as correct as its statements on the historical phase. . . . The Spirit that knows us so well describes our real character. . . . On the other hand, . . . tells us as truly how we may become better, . . . assuring us of our capacity to be filled with the Truth. . . . The glory of our humanity is the capability we possess of becoming better, . . . not of ourselves, but by the impartation of the Christ Life. . . . Salvation being based upon our willingness to receive it. . . . In this life we need not expect to get where we will bring Heaven under obligation. CONCLUSION —We will be surprised to find so many in Heaven when we get there.

The discourse was a most masterly effort, sparkling with gems of thought, full of Spiritual Life and power, of which this bare outline gives no adequate description.

It was a worthy effort of the great heart and head of an honored Bishop, who holds the respect and affection of the people of a great Church.

At the close of this service Rev. J. C. Grenzbach was ordained to the sacred office of a Minister of the Gospel, by the laying on of hands by the Bishop, assisted by Revs. G. H. Backus and I. W. Groh. Also M. T. Walker was given his license granted by Conference.

The afternoon was improved by holding a Sunday School Convention, when addresses on some of the most interesting and live topics connected with Sunday School work, were

delivered by J. B. Showers, J. W. H. Newberry, M. I. Comfort and the editor of these minutes. The occasion was enlivened by appropriate songs rendered by the Shelburne choir, who also did good work during each evening service. The Convention was presided over by L. Stauffer, of Waterloo, who occupied the chair in his usual genial and happy way, introducing each speaker in the most felicitious manner.

Sunday evening the pulpit was ably filled by Rev. J. W. Schofield, of the Upper Wabash Conference, State of Illinois.

Thus closed the Forty-Sixth Annual Assembly of the Ontario Conference, all returning to their homes, and some to new fields of labor, feeling that it was good to meet with our brethren in the Lord. May the God of all Grace impart the Christ Life in abundance to all the Ministers and Laymen in the Ontario Conference, and give us all a large harvest of Souls.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

To Our Beloved Bishop, Ministers, Delegates and Visiting Brethren to this our Annual Convention :

I have the honor and pleasure of conveying to you the unanimous welcome of our people to their homes and hearts. We are truly thankful to God in the sparing and preserving our lives through another year, and especially the life of our beloved Bishop while travelling to the dark Continent of Africa. There many of our Missionaries sacrificed their lives for the cause of Christ, and to-day, we believe, are enjoying the rest that remains to the people of God. Ten years ago Conference was held in this Church. Many changes have taken place since then, both in the Church, Ministry and homes. Seats that were then filled are to-day vacant. Voices that filled us with delight then, now are silent. We believe they have joined the Church Triumphant. To-day we have met again in Christ's name. Truly our fellowship is with the Father and Jesus our Redeemer. Therefore we would exclaim as the Psalmist, "Unto Thee, Oh, God, do we give thanks, for that Thy name is near Thy wonderous works declare." We as a Circuit are much stronger to-day than ever before. God has done great things for us, whereof we are glad. Again we say to you, Brethren, "Welcome All." We offer you the freedom of our homes, and hope you will drink deep of our hospitality while among us. I am sure your stay and conversation with us in our homes

will leave an imprint that shall long be remembered. Therefore we sincerely hope, and pray, that this Annual Conference will be fruitful in its good works, and that harmony and good will may prevail. That it may prove a greater blessing spiritually to us as a people, church and town than any such previous gatherings. We again take you to our hearts, and say "Welcome All," and hope that this Conference may be replete, not only with benefits to the Ministers, but with supreme delight and satisfaction to all, and that all work done may redound to the Honor and Glory of God.

Signed on behalf of the U. B. Church,

MARY STONE.



REPORTS.



REPORT No. 1.

Presiding Elder's Report.

ONTARIO DISTRICT.

Beloved Bishop and Brethren in Conference Assembled :

In submitting this report I wish first to express my appreciation of the honor bestowed upon me in the three consecutive elections to the office of Presiding Elder. I wish also to express my appreciation of the kindness shown me in the work to which you called me during these years. Criticisms I have received, to be sure, and no doubt most of them have been well deserved, but in spite of my imperfections, I know that I have endeavored to do the best I could, and I also realize that I ought to be grateful for your forbearance and continued kindly treatment as a presiding officer among you.

The labors connected with the office are only to be properly understood by having had a few years' experience. The thought and effort required by one who has a desire to do

his duty may be best understood by regarding the following statements true : When serving a charge your interest is concentrated on one field of labor, but when serving a district you carry the care of from thirteen to fifteen fields on your heart. You rejoice with each in its successes, and grieve with each in its troubles. If there is anything wrong you know it. To aid in righting it is the usual requirement, and if you direct or decide unwisely, then you hear just about how full of imperfections humanity really is, especially that part out of which they make presiding elders. My experience impresses me that the prosperity of the church depends quite a good deal on the right settlement of the inevitable difficulties that arise in all societies from time to time. In this part of his work the Presiding Elder needs the prayers of the Church, as the inclination is to divide up and take sides, and thus make a settlement more difficult, and sometimes impossible.

Rev. W. H. Dufoe was appointed to Parry Sound Mission by our last annual Conference, but resigned at the commencement of the Conference year, and our people there requested the vacancy not to be filled, feeling that they could not support a man.

Markdale Mission was served very acceptably by Rev J. H. Dood for four months, and he was then obliged to resign on account of ill health. I put forth an effort to procure a man for the field, but failed, hence they have only had preaching by myself and Brothers Geach and Durkee since his resignation.

Rev. W. A. Robins was assigned Port Elgin Mission, and has given untiring care to the work, quite materially reducing the indebtedness on the churches, and getting the material on the grounds for a new shed at Aberdour, as well as looking carefully after the general interests of the Church.

Listowel Mission Station has been well served by Rev. J. H. Grenzbach, who arrived on his field on Thursday evening and by Sabbath evening was engaged in special efforts which lasted about three weeks, resulting in eighteen conversions. He, with the assistance of Rev. Wm. Weekly, has succeeded in all but liquidating the debt of two hundred dollars on the church.

Shelburne Circuit had the benefit of an earnest and effective year's labor at the hands of Rev. J. Geach. The debt on Shrigley church has been paid, and the indebtedness on the Maple Grove and Shelburne churches reduced. Brother Geach

has taken up a very promising appointment called Mount Zion, which will necessitate a change in the boundary.

Rev. G. W. Houseman was assigned to Waterloo Circuit, and he gave to the work his best energies. This field is too large, necessitating too much travel. Quite a number of conversions were had on this field, and a good report will be rendered.

Berlin Mission Station has been well served by Rev. R. Head for eleven months. The last month Rev. M. I. Comfort supplied very acceptably. This field has made an advance move along all lines, and will give the best financial report it has given for years.

Sheffield Station was served by Rev. J. Showers, who gave to the work his best energies. Here we have an up-to-date church, and will have a good report.

Blenheim Mission has had a good year under the pastorate of Rev. D. C. Dafoe. He moved the Governor's Road church down to the village called Gobles, and all the expenses incurred have been met. It was a good move.

Rev. J. W. H. Newberry gave his untiring care to Vienna Circuit. This has been a year of anxious toil for both pastor and people. The financial condition has not materially changed during the year, which has caused a burden of anxiety to remain upon them, to the detriment of nearly all the interests of the church.

Niagara Circuit had the benefit of an earnest year's labor at the hands of Rev. C. H. Elliott. This field is too large, and needs a change in boundaries. Brother Edgar H. Damude of this circuit was recommended by the quarterly Conference to the annual Conference.

Rev. R. Jamieson was appointed to Zion Circuit, and went to work with a purpose to succeed. He met with some reverses, yet will render a good report.

Gainsboro Circuit will render its best report for years. Rev. G. H. Backus gave to this field an earnest year of effort, as his report will indicate. The largest number of conversions in the Conference were had upon this field this year. They have also purchased a parsonage.

I received in salary and presents on the district \$421.61; from Parent Board \$150.00; total received \$571.61; paid in travelling expenses, including postage, \$95.15; preached 178 sermons.

The year has been full of labors and a good many anxieties, but God has given grace and physical strength, and the work of the year has been accomplished as I best could.

Again thanking you for kindness shown, and praying God's blessing upon you all, I am, your brother in the Gospel,

I. W. GROH, P. E.

REPORT NO. 2

Report of Committee Appointed by the Berlin Conference.

To the Ontario Conference of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, in session assembled. Greeting:

We, to whom was entrusted the power, and enjoined the duty, of receiving for the use of the Church the properties in the Niagara Circuit, with-held by the Radicals, namely: The church house and parsonage at Stevensville, and the church house at Black Creek, (the church house at Garrison Road being in our possession),—wish at this time to report that duty fulfilled, and to restore the delegated power, as well as the control of all the said properties, to this Conference.

We entered suit in the High Court of Justice at Welland, for possession of the church properties at Stevensville and Black Creek, but pushed to trial only the one against the church house at Stevensville, employing as counsel Wm. M. German, Esq., M.P.P., of Welland.

Arrangements were made by counsel, when by the decision in this case should govern all the properties mentioned. The trial of the case was traversed from Welland to St. Catharines, and finally to Osgoode Hall at Toronto, where the judge decided against us.

Nothing daunted, but relying upon the justice of our cause, our counsel was directed to appeal to the higher court. The case finally came on for hearing before the Court of Appeal, at Osgoode Hall, when the judgment of the lower court was reversed, and a decision, covering all points, recorded in our favor, giving to us the full possession and control of all the said properties, in trust, for the use of the Church, for ever, thus confirming the legality of our election as trustees by our quarterly Conference.

We had hoped—and rejoiced in that hope—that the matter was finally settled, and that we had but to re-establish and to stimulate the growth of our cause at the several appointments in peace. But that hope is doomed to disappointment, as we have learned that at some time during the occupancy by the Radicals, some persons, professing to be trustees, have placed a mortgage upon the church house and lot at Stevensville for a sum amounting, with the interest, to about five hundred dollars, and we are now threatened with a suit for recovery. We believe the mortgage to be invalid, and shall defend the suit, determined that “What we have we will hold.” In accomplishing these results we have incurred an expense of about one hundred and eighty dollars, of which one hundred and fifty stands as a claim against us.

We would recommend to Conference that this field be fully occupied, and that services be re-established at all the appointments.

And now, brethren, in rendering up to you the trust reposed in us, we do so with humble thanksgiving to God for His goodness to us in this, but more, and above all, for the salvation given us through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

In the bonds of faith, we are, your brothers in Christ.

CHARLES SHERK, Chairman.
DAVID S. SHERK, Treasurer.
N. BREWSTER, M. D., Secretary.

REPORT NO. 3

Third Year's Course of Reading.

We, your Committee on Third Year's Course of Reading, beg leave to report that we have examined the candidate, Bro. J. Grenzabach, and found him well prepared in the subjects upon which he was examined, and have graded him very good.

G. H. BACKUS,
J. GEACH,
R. HEAD.

REPORT No. 4.

Candidates for the Ministry.

We, your Committee on Candidates for the Ministry, having had before us J. C. Grenzetch and M. T. Walker, have examined them as per the discipline, and do recommend them to this annual Conference as fit and proper persons to preach the gospel of our Lord.

W. A. ROBINS,
J. SHOWERS,
J. F. DURKEE.

REPORT No. 5.

First Year's Course of Reading.

We, your Committee on First Year's Course of Reading, have examined the following brethren and report as follows:

1. J. Bilmer Showers has written on all the books and is worthy of ninety-eight per cent.

2. J. W. H. Newberry has also written on the prescribed books and is worthy of ninety per cent.

3. We had also before us the name of R. S. Showers, who is attending Lebanon Valley College.

A certificate has been forwarded to us by the president of that institution, H. U. Roop, stating that he is doing excellent work in the school, and his last year's work is more than equivalent to his first year's work in Conference Course.

4. Further, we had the name of Geo. Comfort, who is a student in U. B. Seminary.

A certificate from J. J. Landis, Secretary of the Faculty, was forwarded to us giving his standing in that institution, and we consider it equivalent to the first year in Conference Course.

We therefore recommend that all the above brethren be passed on to the second year's course of study.

J. SHOWERS,
G. W. HOUSEMAN,
D. C. DAFOE.

REPORT No. 6.

Boundaries.

We, your Committee, beg leave to submit the following report:

1. That Freeport be detached from Waterloo Circuit and attached to Sheffield Circuit and that the remaining appointments of Waterloo remain as Waterloo Circuit.
2. That Sherkston be detached from Niagara Circuit and attached to Stevensville Mission, and that Font Hill, Young's and McKinney's appointments be called Niagara Mission.
3. That Shrigley be detached from Shelburne Circuit and be called Shrigley Station.
4. That Vienna Circuit be changed to a Mission.
5. All the other fields will remain as they are.

Respectfully submitted.

I. W. GROH,
G. W. HOUSEMAN,
GEO. BACKUS.

REPORT No. 7.

Church Erection.

When once assured of the need of a church house the questions naturally arise: What kind shall we build? Where shall we build? How shall we build?

To answer these properly and make no mistakes would perhaps put to the test even the wisdom of a Solomon. It is not surprising therefore, that men of a lower grade of wisdom make many mistakes on the line of Church Erection.

As soon as the early church organized she began to build or to acquire buildings for worship. At first she seems to have used the Basilica, or halls of Justice for her services. As long as these consisted of singing, reading and preaching these Basilica answered admirably, but with the advent of ceremony and ritual more ornate buildings made their appearance. Pompous ritual went hand in hand with magnificence of structure.

Martin Luther found the church house of his day a palace fitted for masses and processions, but unfitted for preaching.

The Reformation brought in a plain, even severe, style of church, built for the preaching of God's Word.

In such a church, innocent of carpet or cushion, stove or organ, the preachers of Puritan times delivered their discourses and there the people shivered in winter or sweltered in summer, as the case might be.

Thus we have two possible extremes before us in building. On the one hand the gorgeous cathedral, and on the other, the plain and sometimes uncomfortable meeting house.

It is a foregone conclusion that our object to-day in building is to secure a place for the preaching of God's Word. For this a simple structure is best, but while simple it should also be substantial. No "daubing with untempered mortar" should be allowed in church building. It should be well lighted and heated, have adequate ventilation and good acoustic properties. In a word the church house should be as well furnished and provided for as the homes of the people.

Where shall we build ?

In choosing a site much difficulty is often experienced. Avoid partyism. Take as a rule and motto "the greatest good to the greatest number."

How shall we raise funds ?

By subscriptions from our people, adherents and friends. Start on a business basis. Let everything be above board. Use no doubtful means to secure money. True it is that "the altar sanctifies the gift," but not every gift.

Finally, build for God, and with God. Let us remember with Smeaton, the builder of Eddystone lighthouse, "except the Lord build the house they labor in vain that build." Ps. 127.

The trial day is coming when the untempered mortar shall be exposed and the wood, hay and stubble of church building be reduced to ashes by the Judgment fires.

Respectfully submitted.

J. W. H. NEWBERY

REPORT No. 8.

Report of Conference Treasurer, J. C. Grenzebach.

| NAMES OF FIELDS. | Conference Collections. | General S. S. Fund. | Beneficiary Ed. Fund. | U. B. Seminary. | Church Erection. | Otterbein University. | Totals. |
|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| Berlin | \$7 00 | \$1 00 | \$1 00 | \$1 00 | \$2 00 | \$3 00 | \$15 00 |
| Gainsboro | 8 00 | 50 | 50 | 50 | 50 | ..... | 11 00 |
| Listowel | 6 00 | 1 00 | ..... | 1 00 | 2 00 | ..... | 10 00 |
| Markdale ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Niagara | 8 00 | 1 50 | 35 | 75 | 1 50 | 1 00 | 13 10 |
| Port Elgin | 5 00 | 50 | ..... | 1 00 | 1 00 | ..... | 7 50 |
| Sheffield | 8 00 | 2 00 | 1 00 | 3 00 | 3 00 | 5 00 | 21 00 |
| Shelburne | 8 00 | 2 00 | 1 00 | 2 00 | 3 00 | 1 00 | 17 00 |
| Vienna | 2 50 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 00 | ..... | 3 50 |
| Waterloo | 8 00 | 2 00 | 1 00 | 3 00 | 3 00 | 5 00 | 22 00 |
| Zion | 8 00 | 2 00 | 1 00 | 3 00 | 3 00 | 5 00 | 22 00 |
| Parry Sound ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Blenheim | 4 00 | ..... | 50 | 1 00 | 2 00 | 50 | 8 00 |
| | 72 50 | 12 50 | 6 35 | 16 25 | 22 00 | 20 50 | 150 10 |

* *

REPORT NO. 9

Publishing Interest.

The subject before us is one of great importance. In this age of sharp competition, and scholastic learning on the part of layman, it seems necessary in order to keep abreast of the times, that a church should control a strong publishing plant, capable of issuing a continuous stream of wholesome, up to date literature. In our present constituted society, it is of vast importance that each division of the great army of christian workers be able to supply itself with reading matter. A good publishing

plant is to the church what the supply train is to an army, if this fails there is a flagging of interest all along the line. The press of our land propagates so much that has an evil effect upon the mind, that it behooves the church to put forth every legitimate effort in giving to the public good wholesome literature, that will counteract the evil effects of the carnal and vile stuff that through so many avenues finds its way into the homes of the people, or better still that will so purify, cleanse and elevate the mind, that it will desire that which is good in preference to that which is evil.

That the church has a Publishing House producing just such literature goes without saying. Now and again it is interesting and instructive to give a historical resume of this publishing plant.

All publications, previous to 1834, in the interest of the church were the result of private enterprise. Although these enterprises were rewarded with indifferent patronage and consequent failure, yet they served to call attention to the importance of a church organ of some kind.

The first of these was *Zion's Advocate*, edited and published by Rev. Aaron Farmer, at Salem, Ind., 1829. It had a precarious existence, died in its infancy for the want of support, as did also the *Mountain Messenger*, which first saw the light of journalistic day in 1833, at Hagerstown, Maryland.

The General Conference of 1833 resolved to publish a paper under the auspices of the Church.

The trustees thus appointed bought in the town of Circleville, Ohio, in 1834, a lot with two houses, a printing press, together with some type and other necessary apparatus for which they paid \$1,005. They also purchased Mr. Rinchart's *Mountain Messenger* for \$325, and appointed him editor of the Church Paper.

Thus the *Religious Telescope* was launched upon the sea of religious journalism. For seven years it had a precarious existence, at the end of which time it had a debt of \$600, and a subscription list of only 1450, and only for the strong private financial condition of the trustees, it would have gone the way of its predecessors.

But better management finally prevailed, this induced a stronger support and consequent larger financial income.

As late as 1845, the editor with one man and two boys did the whole work of editing, publishing, printing and mailing.

In 1853, it required fifteen hands to run the business. This is the year in which the whole plant was moved to Dayton, Ohio, where it ever since has remained.

The first few years of its life at Dayton, was a repetition of the Circleville experience. The value of the property in the beginning at Dayton was about \$1,500.

In 1857, the property had increased in value to about \$30,000.

In 1861, the gross assets were \$86,479, at this time twenty-five persons were employed in the establishment.

In 1869, the Agent reported the House to be in a good financial condition, which it has enjoyed with increasing prosperity ever since.

The original form of the Telescope was that of a medium sized folio issued semi-monthly. It was changed to a weekly in 1845, and has remained such every since, while its form became that of a small quarto of eight pages.

In 1850 the form was changed to that of a large folio, but only four pages. In 1866, the business manager once again changed its form and the paper became a medium folio, and the number of pages was increased to eight.

1873 saw another change, and in 1880, the Telescope became a sixteen page paper, quarto in size. Other changes and improvements have come in due time, until to-day we have a thirty-two page paper in its present form.

It is strong in its editorial department, full of grace and truth, choice in its selection of advertisting matter, and is the equal of any religious paper published in the country.

Study School Literature:—This department is well sustained. The Children's Friend began its career in 1854, and the Children's Visitor, under the title The Missionary Visitor, in 1865.

These papers, being ably edited, are pillars of strength, filling with satisfaction their place in the Sabbath School work of the church to-day.

The Woman's Evangel:— This publication first saw the light of day in January 1882, a frosty month for its advent, but has always been a vigorous child. It is owned and managed by the Woman's Missionary Association, but printed by and issued from the Publishing House.

As all know, this is devoted to missionary work as carried on by the women of our church, and there can be said of it

what can be said of no other publication in the Church, it has always paid its way.

Quarterly Review:—This is a scholarly production and should be better sustained by the Church than what it is. It is beautifully printed in large type on an octavo page of heavy paper.

The Search Light:—This is a publication in the interest of missions as represented by the parent board, and the fathers of this enterprise are making heroic efforts to successfully float this paper with but ill success. Its matter is good. Apparently, however, the time in the history of our Church has not yet arrived when such a publication is necessary. Room might easily be found for all its essentials in the columns of the Religious Telescope.

The Watchword:—This, the young people's paper of the Church, is a periodical called into life by the organizing of the Young People of our Church into Christian Societies, and is devoted purely to their interest. It is the equal of any such paper of which we have any knowledge, and is doing its work well under the able management of its editor. It should have a larger support, but we are pleased to note that its circulation is on the increase.

Circulation:—The Telescope crossed the 20,000 line 1899. This is a respectable subscription list in proportion to the membership of the Church. It has undoubtedly entered these homes to stay, a monument to the zeal and energy of those who have helped to push it to the front, and a blessing to its readers.

The Watchword has 16,000 readers, Woman's Evangel 4,800, Quarterly Review 700, Search Light 5,000. The Sunday School Literature has a combined circulation of 365,038. The grand total of books and periodicals issued from the House last year was upwards of 7,101,000 copies.

Summary:—In 1834 the gross assets of our publishing house was \$1,600, to-day it is \$327,992.98

The organization of the House consists of nine trustees, an executive committee of three, together with one publishing agent and a number of editors. The business of the House requires nine foremen of as many departments, and altogether one hundred persons are employed to transact the business as now constituted, while the pay roll cannot be less than \$1,000 per week.

Thus from this brief survey it will be apparent to all that the Church owns an establishment that is sending forth litera-

ture of a high spiritual tone over a large portion of this continent, well adapted to offset the vile trashy stuff that emanates from the secular press. Hence the great importance of a publishing house to the Church.

Therefore Resolved:—That we will, as a Conference, uphold each and every publication of the Church so long as issued, to the best of our ability, consistent with a loyal devotion to our Country and our Queen.

Respectfully submitted.

W. A. ROBINS.

REPORT No. 10.

Education.

Your Committee begs leave to report as follows:

The subject of education may be viewed in its two-fold aspect. First, as a developement of the mental faculties, and second, as a storing of the mind with useful knowledge. It is an established principle that man's mental powers can be developed very much the same as his physical powers. So by proper exercise the mental faculties may be developed and made strong.

God has given to man many mental powers, such as thought, perception, reason, imagination, memory, will. As one advances in the various branches and subjects of study how strong and clear the reason becomes, how much more active his thought, how keen his perception and how fertile his imagination. Let it be remembered, then, that this is one of the chief purposes of education, that the mental powers may become strong and vigorous.

But while the mind is thus developing the student is at the same time furnishing his mind with a store of useful knowledge. The mind of the student then becomes a great reservoir, taking in a thousand facts and principles from the multiple streams that empty there.

These two aspects of education should be kept in mind by the men of the Christian Ministry. They need to exercise their mental powers in study and thus develop them to the fullest possible degree. Ministers are to be leaders of men. If so, they need to be strong men—men who are competent to think and to think correctly, to argue and to argue logically, to will and to will wisely, to remember and to remember accurately.

The Ministry is not in need of intellectual dwarfs, but giants. The Minister is constantly addressing people of learning. These he desires to win and help. But should these hearers discover errors in argument or in statement of historical facts how soon will they lose confidence and feel that their Minister cannot be regarded as competent to teach and lead others.

Just as the reservoir, after receiving its supplies, sends them out again to bless humanity, so the mind of the Minister, having freely received, freely distributes to cheer, to comfort, to persuade and to save the sons of men. But let us not think that when a college course is completed and a degree obtained or a church course finished there is nothing more to do in the matter of education. This is but the beginning. This only prepares for further investigation into the various subjects in which we are concerned. Every Minister should be a student. No congregation should be asked to drink from a stagnant pool, but from a flowing stream. While there is the going out there should also be the coming in so that the supply may be ever fresh and never exhausted.

But we would not so magnify education as a Minister's qualification as to imply that this is the supreme one. It is not. The supreme qualification is the Baptism of Fire.

A Ministry with minds well trained and filled with knowledge and consecrated to God, and with a gracious baptism of the Holy Ghost upon it, will at least have some of the most important elements that tend to make it a power in the world for the ushering in of the glad day of the Saviour's reign.

Respectfully submitted,

C. H. ELLIOTT.

REPORT No 11.

Elders' Orders.

Your Committee on Elders' Orders examined J. C. Grenz-bach according to discipline, and found him accurate in his answers and sound in doctrine. We, therefore, do recommend him for ordination.

M. I. COMFORT,
D. C. DAFOE,
C. H. ELLIOTT.

REPORT No. 12.

Conference Assessments and Appropriations.

| FIELDS OF LABOR. | P. Elder's Assessment | Conference Collection | General | | S. S. Fund | Beneficiary Ed. Fund | Preachers' Aid | U. B. Seminary. | Church Erection | Ortwein University | General Conference | | General Missions | Home Missions | Missionary Appropriation | |
|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------|------------|------------|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------|
| | | | General | S. S. Fund | | | | | | | General | Conference | | | | |
| Berlin | \$24 | \$7 | \$1 | \$1 | \$5 | \$1 | \$2 | 3 | 00 | 5 | 00 | 30 | 00 | 30 | 00 | \$150 |
| Blenheim | 24 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 00 | 3 | 00 | 18 | 00 | 18 | 00 | 100 |
| Gainsboro..... | 48 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 00 | 6 | 00 | 62 | 50 | 62 | 50 | ..... |
| Listowel..... | 28 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 00 | 3 | 00 | 16 | 00 | 16 | 00 | 160 |
| Markdale..... | 24 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 00 | 2 | 00 | 20 | 00 | 20 | 00 | 100 |
| Niagara | 24 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 00 | 3 | 00 | 18 | 00 | 18 | 00 | 25 |
| Stevensville... | 24 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 00 | 3 | 00 | 18 | 00 | 18 | 00 | 100 |
| Port Elgin.... | 28 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 50 | 2 | 00 | 15 | 00 | 15 | 00 | 100 |
| Sheffield..... | 44 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 00 | 6 | 00 | 50 | 00 | 50 | 00 | ..... |
| Shelburne..... | 40 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 50 | 5 | 00 | 65 | 00 | 65 | 00 | ..... |
| Shrigley..... | 16 | 3 | 50 | 50 | 1 | 50 | 50 | 1 | 00 | 1 | 00 | 15 | 00 | 15 | 00 | ..... |
| Vienna..... | 28 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 00 | 2 | 00 | 25 | 00 | 25 | 00 | 20 |
| Waterloo..... | 44 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 00 | 5 | 00 | 50 | 00 | 50 | 00 | ..... |
| Zion..... | 44 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 00 | 5 | 00 | 62 | 00 | 62 | 00 | ..... |
| Parry Sound.. | 25 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 50 | 50 | 3 | 00 | 3 | 00 | 20 | 00 | 20 | 00 | ..... |
| Total..... | 465 | 88 | 19½ | 14½ | 71 | 25 | 31 | 49 | 54 | 484½ | 484½ | 755 | | | | |

REPORT No. 13.

Missions.

The cry, "Come over and help us," has been echoing and re-echoing in the ears of the Christians since the time Paul first caught its sound. The call for help at home and abroad has naturally divided the subject of evangelization into Home and Foreign Missions. God's Kingdom on earth is the same in Africa as it is in Canada. The only difference is in the field of operation. The commission is "To disciple all nations."

In the Home field there are many congregations which are unable to support a pastor, so through the contributions of the Conference money is wisely appropriated to this end in view, that said congregations will soon become self-supporting.

The General Board has been directing its attention to the cities where the masses are collecting. This enterprise has met with wonderful results, and now we have some very strong con-

gregations in the cities, for example, our church at Toledo, O. We are grateful to this Board for the help given to us in this Conference, and we hope that soon they may be released from this duty.

In 1853 this Conference was organized, which was amongst the first efforts to go abroad. Since then we have passed through seasons of prosperity and adversity, but we can say amidst all the turmoil, "Hitherto the Lord hath helped us," and we believe the day is breaking,—joyful news is near at hand.

Since everything is centralizing, we in our operations must concentrate and centralize our efforts. We must move into the larger towns and cities, thus making our name felt as a denomination thoroughly evangelistic in its efforts.

Our Foreign work has received additional forces this last year: Porto Rico has been reinforced with a medical missionary and wife, to be supported by the Sandusky Conference; Rev. J. Edgar Knipp and wife to Japan, supported by the Second Church of Altoona; Dr. Barrakat and wife to Africa.

The Women's Missionary Society is adding three missionaries to their work in Africa, and will reinforce their work in China as soon as the war is over. Their work is a most commendable adjunct to the General Work. They pay as they go, thus incurring no debt. They do not oppose the General Work in the least, but follow as the gleaners, picking up what would otherwise be wasted.

In view of these facts, resolved:

1. That we strengthen and make self-supporting our old fields.
2. That we move toward the towns and cities.
3. That we instruct our people in the work of Missions, especially those of our own beloved Church.
4. That we insist on our Sunday Schools making a special contribution the first Sunday of each month, and a part of this amount at least be sent directly to some foreign field.
5. That we welcome the organization of the Women's Missionary Society in our Conference.

M. I. COMFORT.

REPORT No. 14.

Sabbath Schools.

To the Members of the Ontario Annual Conference :

The proverb has well expressed the work of the Sabbath School in the words, "Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old he will not depart from it." Since the youths of to-day are the men of to-morrow, who teach the rising generation, fill our pulpits, hold governmental offices, fashion national life; then too great importance cannot be placed upon the Sabbath School work. Hence the need of a universal interest—the fathers and mothers go hand in hand with their sons and daughters, never say "Go," but rather "Come." With this unanimous interest in the Sabbath School she is destined to become a prime factor in national moral reform questions, and in materially aiding the Church.

To accomplish this end, be it resolved :

1. That only such teachers be appointed, if at all possible, that can teach as well by example as by precept.
2. That, wherever practicable, teachers' meetings ought to be held, and that the pastors meet with them, and repeatedly refer to the responsibility of the teachers towards their classes' spiritual welfare.
3. That we urge that every S. S. be represented at the next S. S. Convention to be held at Hawkesville.

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. GRENZEBACH.

REPORT No. 15.

Y. P. C. U.

To the Members of Ontario Conference :

We, your young co-workers for the Master, are glad to report of our labors, and the strong desire upon our part, with the help of God, the Lord of the harvest, to bring many more sheaves into the garner the following year.

We held our annual convention at Sheffield, in June, which was a decided success. Some excellent papers were read and discussed, and by the office of the Holy Spirit a deep spiritual conviction aroused us to renewed consecration. One thing the young people deeply regretted was the absence of our beloved

Bishop, who by his timely sayings and apt remarks formerly brought cheer and encouragement to our ranks.

We rejoice in the bountiful harvest the Lord hath given us through the denomination, and pray that He will lead us to greater success.

Our young people are doing much in helping our colleges, and in missionary work, and we believe that this of all ages is the most advantageous to the utilization of the young in Christian work. Whereas, the young people are indispensable in the work of the Church, and realizing that they through the different societies are doing more for the salvation of men and the building up of the Church of Christ than ever before, therefore, resolved :

1. That we devoutly thank God for the blessings of last year and for His abiding presence.
 2. That we, as pastors, give our hearty support to the work of the Y. P. C. U. and the C. E. Societies.
 3. That we, as pastors, make greater use of the Y. P. C. U. Societies in the work of soul-winning.
 4. That we emphasize the "Quiet Hour" as a method for deepening spiritual life.
 5. That we pray the Lord of the harvest to raise up junior leaders, that we may have a junior society at every appointment.
 6. That the circulation of the Watchword (16,000) is encouraging, and that we endeavor to increase its circulation to still larger numbers.
 7. That we pray and organize for more effectual work in the destruction of the evil monster, intemperance.
 8. That we do all in our power to fulfil the motto of our Society, "For the Glory of God and the Salvation of Men."
- Respectfully submitted,

J. BALMER SHOWERS.

REPORT No. 16.

Resolutions.

We, your Committee on Resolutions, desire to submit the following report:

Realizing the importance of more effective work in this branch of the Church, and especially in this Conference,

Therefore, Resolved: That, as a Conference, we will seek more and more the help and direction of the Holy Spirit in our work so that we may be enabled to accomplish greater things.

2. That we put ourselves in opposition to the Liquor Traffic, Sabbath Desecration, and all amusements that dishonor God.

3. That we thank God for the preservation of the life of our beloved Bishop through the dangers of another year, whilst he has been travelling abroad, and having brought him to us again. We receive him with glad hearts, and appreciate the wise counsel given to us, and will endeavor to profit thereby.

4. That we take up a Thank Offering for new work on the first Sunday in January, 1901.

5. That we extend our hearty thanks to the people of Shelburne and vicinity for their great kindness toward us during our stay in their midst.

GEO. BACKUS.



REPORT No. 17.

Branch Missionary Treasurer.

RECEIPTS.

1899.

| | | |
|---------|--|-----------|
| Oct. 14 | Cash on hand with note..... | \$275 78 |
| | Received Collection at Conference..... | 11 23 |
| | " Bro. Karstedt, note returned..... | 15 00 |
| | " Loan from I. Hilborn..... | 200 00 |
| | " Missionary Money..... | 544 29 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$1046 30 |

DISBURSEMENTS.

1899.

| | | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Nov. 16 | Paid Parent Board Cash and Note | \$ 39 56 |
| 1900. | | |
| Oct. 13 | " I. Hilborn, loan..... | 200 00 |
| | " Interest | 5 00 |
| | " Printing Minutes..... | 12 00 |
| | " Ministers during year..... | 526 07 |
| | " Cash on hand | 263 67 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | \$1046 30 |

I. HILBORN, Branch Treas.

REPORT No. 18.

Auditing Committee.

We hereby certify that we have examined the accounts of the Branch Missionary's Books and compared them with the vouchers and found the same correct.

WM. MICHNER,
LEVI STAUFFER.

REPORT No. 19.

Preachers' Aid.

To the Members of the Annual Conference, assembled:

I, your Treasurer, beg leave to submit the following report:

| | |
|--|----------|
| Amount reported last year..... | \$303 94 |
| Amount received last year..... | 36 00 |
| Total Received..... | 339 94 |
| Paid Rev. J. F. Durkee..... | 200 00 |
| Principal in Treasury during the year..... | 139 94 |
| Interest on Principal at 6 per cent. | 11 39 |
| Balance on hand at this date..... | \$151 33 |

WM. MICHNER.

REPORT No. 20.

Stationing Committee.

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Berlin..... | M. I. Comfort | Port Elgin..... | W. A. Robins |
| Blenheim..... | Geo. Backus | Sheffield..... | J. W. Schofield |
| Gainsboro..... | D. C. Dafoe | Shelburne..... | J. Showers |
| Listowel..... | J. C. Grenzsbach | Shrigley..... | J. F. Durkee |
| Markdale..... | C. H. Elliott | Vienna..... | R. Manerd |
| Niagara..... | M. T. Walker | Waterloo..... | C. W. Houseman |
| Stevensville..... | J. W. H. Newberry | Zion..... | J. Geach |
| | | Parry Sound..... | To be Supplied |

Missionary Contributions.



VIENNA CIRCUIT - J. W. H. NEWBERRY, Pastor.

VIENNA CLASS J. Clark, Alex. Cooper, F. A. Cooper, E. W. Gamble and wife, C Pratt, A. M. Newberry, J. E. Pedlow, M. Best, Wm. Charlesworth, J. Newberry, each \$1.00; Adelia Pratt, E. Freeman, M. M. Oatman, J. Davy and wife, each 50c; small sums, 50c.—Total \$12.50.

EBERNEZER CLASS - Elan Snyder, 50c; small sums, 50c.—Total \$1.

FAIRVIEW CLASS Frank Vail, 50c; small sums and collection, \$1.15.—Total \$1.65.

Grand Total \$15.15.

LISTOWEL STATION J. C. GRENZEBACH, Pastor.

Rev J C Grenzsbach and family, \$4.00; John Kain and wife, John Kilgore and wife, John Stewart and wife, Mrs. M. Akins, Y. P. C. U., each \$1.00; John Richards, John Snelling, John Taylor, Wm. Osborne, Henry Lindenschmidt, Mrs. Rathwell, Bertha Peltot, Winnie Smith, Mary Smith, Sam Kilgore, Thomas Kerges, Mr. Nutland, each 50c; small sums and collections, \$3.00. -Total \$18.00.

BERLIN STATION - R. HEAD, Pastor.

J. U. Clemens, \$8.00; Rev. I. W. Groh and wife, Rev. R. Head, Talmon Mager, C. Reichert, each \$5.00; Violet Mager, Armina Mager, each \$4.00; Marcus Donald, Mrs. C. Reichert, L. Stauffer, each \$3.00; Rachel Weaver, Lizzie Weaver, Jacob Gottsleben, Wm. S. Wiegand, Emma J. Reichert, each \$2.50; Menno Turel, \$2.00; Elma Groh, Mrs. J. B. Oberholtzer, Mrs. S. Erb, Mrs. Wolner, Mrs. L. Stauffer, each \$1.00; Verna Weaver, J. C. Albert, Willie Schondelnyer, Will Zeigler, Mrs. L. Shantz, Miss G. Erb, each 50c; small sums and collections, \$3.67. - Total \$71.17.

NIAGARA CIRCUIT C. H. ELLIOTT, Pastor.

SHERKSTON CLASS - Y. P. C. U., \$7.00; Dr. N. Brewster, \$5.00; D S Sherk and wife, \$2.00; Em. Zavitz and wife, Benj. Sherk and wife, J P Zavitz and wife, each \$1.50; C. Noxel and wife, \$1.75; C. Sherk

and wife, Geo Zavitz and wife, each \$1.00; D. Sherk, Frank Sherk, R. L. Oliver, Orval Zavitz, Fletcher Sherk, each 50c; small sums and collections, \$4.34. - Total \$29.09

FONTHILL CLASS - E. H. Damude, Jacob Damude and wife, Bella Damude, each \$1.00; W. A. Damude, Alice Damude, Mrs N Robins, each 50c; small sums and collections, \$3.48. Total \$7.98.

YOUNG'S CLASS - Hester Biggar, Bertha Misner, each 50c; small sums and collections, \$2.24. - Total \$3.24.

Grand Total, \$40.31.

WATERLOO CIRCUIT—G. W. HOUSEMAN, Pastor.

BLOOMINGDALE CLASS - Melissa Snyder and Bulah Shepherd, Collectors. J. Bingham and family, Rev. G. W. Houseman and family, Gertie Bedford (by card) each \$5.00; J. H. Shepherd and wife, \$4.00; Wm Bedford and wife, \$2.50; May Wild (by card) \$3.00; Geo McAllister, Mr Spiceman, each \$2.00; Beulah Shepherd, Irwin Shepherd, each 75c; Florence M. Shepherd (card), \$1.10; Edith Shepherd (memorial), Charles Bedford and family, Geo Carry John Clemens, Melisa Snyder, Alice Snyder, Mrs. T Bedford, A C Oberholtzer, P McNally, S. S., each \$1.00; Mrs Oberholtzer, 75c; Henry Whitmer, Mrs E Thomas, John McAlister, W E Ray, S Wilkey, L Slomsky, each 50c; small sums and collections, \$1.74; for Home Missions, \$11.23; J Bingham, special, \$25.00; for Indian Famine Fund, \$32.87, Alice Bingham (card), 64c. - Total \$118.83.

WEST MONTROSE CLASS Jennie Letson and Edith Bowman, Collectors. Isaac Hilborn and family, \$7.00; C D Bowman and family, \$5.00; Isaac Letson and family, \$2.00, Melvin Hilborn, card, \$1.25; Elida Bowman, by card, \$1.60; Mrs Elselv, Rev G Rott, Mina Hill, Mrs E Hewitt, each \$1.00; Mrs Stuckey, Mrs Reichert, each, 50c; Twentieth Century Fund, \$3.35; small sums and collections, \$1.81. Total \$26.11.

HAWKESVILLE CLASS Maud Peterson and Clara Shelley, Collectors. Wm Woodward and wife, Geo Lackner and wife, Samuel Heisy and wife, each \$2.00; Irwin Hallman and wife, \$1.50; Mrs P Cunningham, Mrs H Schiele, Hanna Peterson, Mrs H Lackner, Alex Anderson, each, \$1.00; P C Shelly, 75c; D A McKenzie, A W Shelly, Annie Peterson, Maud Peterson, Nellie Lackner, Egon Lackner, Walter Martinson, Mrs Ahrens, Ida Reist, Mrs P Donald, Fred Lackner, each, 50c; Indian Famine Fund, \$15.00; Twentieth Century Fund, \$5.79; small sums and collections, \$2.60. - Total \$40.14.

FREEPORT CLASS Wendell Clemens and wife, E Hewitt and wife, Wm Weighand, I W Hilborn, each \$1.00; Mrs E Becher, Ella Lutz, each 50c; Willie Clemens, card, \$1.00; Indian Famine Fund, \$8.55; Twentieth Century Fund, \$2.37; small sums and collections, \$1.57. - Total \$18.67.

Grand Total, \$203.75.

SHEFFIELD STATION—J. SHOWERS, Pastor.

J W Steele and Bertha Culham, Collectors.

SHEFFIELD CLASS—Sr Y P S C E, \$17.38; Jr Y P S C E, \$7.03; India Relief Fund, \$6.36; N Culham, Jas Hay, A Main, J Showers and family, each \$2.00; W Sweet, \$1.50; R Sager, C Hooker, J E McCrimmon, Mrs Geo Misener, Mrs J Main, Levi Schatz, Sylvester Main, J W Steele, Mrs J W Steele, Martin Andrick, each \$1.00; Wm Clark, 75c; Thos Sim, Jas Culham, Wm Clelland, Myrtel Sweet, W Murray, Edith Washburn, Mrs H Washburn, Mrs Lorné, Thos Cornell, Gertie Cornell, S Misener, Wesley Main, J A Cornell, Mrs Thos Clelland, Edith Clelland, Mrs P Greene, J J Clelland, Smith Willard, Blake Washburn, A Humphrey, Mrs Wm Main, Mrs Robert Clelland, Oscar Main, Robert Garroch, each 50c; small sums, \$10.56.—Total, \$73.08.

BRANFITON CLASS—Wm J Mulholland, \$1.00; Wm Mulholland, David Chapman, John Studiman, each 50c; a friend, 25c.—Total, \$2.75.

Grand Total, \$75.83.

GAINSBORO CIRCUIT—GEO. H. BACKUS, Pastor.

Alice Acklin, Collector.

DILTZ ROAD CLASS—John Lint and wife, \$5.00; Wm Michner and wife, \$5.00; Richard McLaughlin and wife, \$2.00; Robert Hart and family, \$1.25; Geo Clark and wife, John Zummer and wife, each \$1.00; G F Sutes, Philip Houser, Martin Michner, Emma Botterill, James Depotty, each 50c; small sums, 75c.—Total, \$16.50.

ELCHO CLASS—Jennie Depotty and Bertha Herrington, Collectors. — Alin Comfort, \$5.00; Lemuel Vaughn and family, \$3.75; Laughlin Depotty and family, \$3.25; Rev Geo Backus and family, \$2.50; Alanson Comfort and wife, \$2.00; Robert Zainstein and family, \$1.50; George Comfort, Albert Mittefehlt, Oscar Clark and wife, Wilfred Vaughn and wife, each \$1.00; Frank Mittefehlt, E Hartnett, Elmes Crosby, Nellie Depotty, Mrs Depotty, Wm Tice, each 50c; small sums, \$2.25.—Total \$27.25; Bethel S S, \$2. 19.

Grand Total, \$45.94.

BLENHEIM MISSION—D C DAFOE, Pastor.

Lillie Sims and Ida Thompson, Collectors.

WINDELL CLASS—G Tuttle and wife, Mrs Alex Sims, S Cornell, Jas Tuttle, each \$1.00; Mrs C Thompson, 50c; juvenile collectors, Mabel Thompson, 60c; Pearl Sims, 50c; Effie Tuttle, 75c; small sums, \$3.35.—Total, \$9.70.

GOVERNOR'S ROAD CLASS—Mrs D C Dafeo, Collector—J Griggs and wife, Jas Robb, Mrs D C Dafeo, Mrs Wm Robb, each \$1.00; John Reed, Julius Rapp, A Brooks, Oriel Kipp, Mrs Seaborn, J R Brooks, D S Dafeo, each 50c; juvenile collectors, D S Dafeo, \$1.10; Ross Gage, 75c; Annie Reed, 50c; small sums, \$2.01—Total, \$11.86.

Grand Total, \$21.56.

SHELburne CIRCUIT—J. Geach, Pastor.

SHELburne CLASS—John Geach, \$2.00; Richard McAllister, E B Dodds, David Rinsley, Joseph Stone, Mrs. Geach, Ezra Hulbert, Robert Watts, Frank Dodds, Nelson Betterby, J C Clayton, H Sanderson, E R Mason, Jonathan Sleightholm, J F Durkee, Mrs. J. F. Durkee, W G Durkee, R Horsley, each \$1.00; C Geach, F McAllister, R Geach, W Dowkes, T. Stephenson, each 50c; small sums, 90c; Juvenile Collector—Roy Geach, \$3.50.—Total, \$25.90.

SHRIGLEY CLASS—Kate Bell and Lizzie Scott, Collectors. Mr Cole and wife, J Spanhouse and wife, Wm Ellis and wife, George Hope, Wm Pearen and wife, Wm Spanhouse and wife, Wm Cameron and wife, Jas Nonis, Mr Kitching and wife, James Spanhouse, R Phillips and wife, Ed Bell, Robert Cole, J Spanhouse, S School, Y P C U, each \$1.00; Eunice Kitching, Innes Allin, Mrs. Crosby, Geo Jamieson, Wm McKenzie, Grace Westicoat, J Phillips, A Kidd, Kate Bell, each 50c; small sums \$2.75. Total, \$26.25.

MAPLE GROVE CLASS—C Cook, Mrs Scott, Wm Cooper, Francis Myers, each \$1.00; Mrs. New, L Bowman, Earnest Myers, G Richardson, J Fennell, A Friend, Mrs W Myers, each 50c; small sums, \$5.50; Total \$13.00.

Grand Total, \$65.15.

PORT ELGIN MISSION—W. A. Robins, Pastor.

ABERDOUR CLASS—W. A. Robins and wife, \$2.00; Archie Pollock, Mrs. Archie Pollock, Mrs. Fleming, Mr A Campbell, D. Campbell, C A Schell, Mrs E Pollock, Tim Stafford, Theo Kelly and wife, George Schell, each \$1.00; Jennie Campbell, Mary K. Pollock, Maggie Fleming, Mrs A Campbell, Mrs Elsie Schell, Mary Pollock, Mrs Gibbons, each 50c, small sums, \$1.57.—Total, \$17.07

EUREKA CLASS—John Roeth and family \$1.50; Mrs Jos Hyde, Geo Downey, Henry Roeth and wife, John Hyde and wife, Mrs. Dent, each \$1.00; Jos Hyde, John Kidd, Geo Baker, each 50c; small sums, \$1.92.—Total, \$9.92.

NORTH BRUCE—John Botteril, \$1.00; Wm Rawn, 50c.

ORANGE HALL—Juvenile Collector, Maggie Dobson, \$2.30.

Grand Total, \$30.79.

STATISTICAL CHART.

| FIELD OF LABOR. | NAME OF PREACHER. | FINANCE. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------|---------------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|--|----------------|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| | | Lit've. | Search Lights | Woman's Evangels | Lessons for Little Ones... | Pastor's Salary | Presiding Elder's Salary. | Collected for Church, Parsonage, and Local Current Expenses... | New Parsonages | Collected for Local Sabbath-School Purposes | General Collection for Missions | Thank-Offering for Missions | Special for Missions | Home Missions | Sabbath Schools for Missions | Y. P. C. U. for Missions | Total for Missions | Church Erection, Assessment |
| Berlin | R. Head | 20 | 1 10 375 | 00 20 00 | 119 27 | 85 00 | 30 00 | 11 25 | 23 51 | 41 17 | 14 00 | 2 63 | 1 00 | 28 64 | 2 00 | 105 93 | 2 00 |
| Blenheim | D. C. Dufoe | ... | 371 | 00 24 00 | 140 21 | 88 14 | 8 01 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 28 64 | 2 00 |
| Gainsboro | G. H. Backus | 12 | 1 401 | 02 44 00 | 509 80 | 58 79 | 22 94 | ... | 33 60 | 23 00 | 2 19 | ... | ... | ... | 81 73 | 50 | ... |
| Listowel | J. C. Grenzsbach | ... | 312 | 82 28 00 | 265 47 | 8 21 | ... | ... | ... | 9 00 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 00 | 18 00 | 2 00 |
| Markdale | J. H. Doidds | ... | 53 | 00 19 00 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Niagara | C. H. Elliott | 35 | 1 369 | 08 50 00 | 41 60 | 27 80 | 19 00 | ... | ... | 21 31 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 40 31 | 1 50 |
| Parry Sound | W. A. Robins | 10 | 256 | 58 26 78 | 407 80 | 3 00 | 7 99 | ... | ... | 7 01 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22 29 | 1 00 |
| Port Elgin | J. Showers | ... | 560 | 10 44 00 | 493 62 | 42 65 | 38 96 | ... | ... | 6 53 | 83 36 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 73 25 | 3 00 |
| Sheffield | J. Geach | 50 | 16 435 | 00 87 10 | 487 72 | 51 78 | 21 45 | ... | ... | 9 50 | 1 65 | 40 00 | 3 40 | 2 80 | 78 80 | 3 00 | ... |
| Shelburne | J. W. H. Newberry | 20 | 174 | 20 10 11 | 52 05 | 35 04 | 7 15 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15 15 | 1 00 |
| Vienna | G. W. Houseman | 50 | 1 975 | 00 44 00 | 177 38 | 120 88 | 50 00 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 206 12 | 3 00 |
| Waterloo | R. Jamieson | 85 | 388 | 76 44 00 | 420 00 | 70 00 | 27 98 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 81 34 | 3 00 |
| Zion | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Totals | | 282 | 1 29 407 | 106 390 99 | 431 581 80 | 00 627 | 19 236 18 41 | 24 17 405 | 292 18 8 22 7 | 30 758 | 07 2500 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |

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| Subscribed Capital | - - - - - | \$257,600 |
| Paid up Capital | - - - - - | \$64,000 |

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