

"The Lord is King."  
Psalm 10:16.

"Bind up the testimony, seal  
the law among My disciples."  
Isaiah 8:16.



"To the law —

REVELATION 18:1-4.

— and to the testimony."

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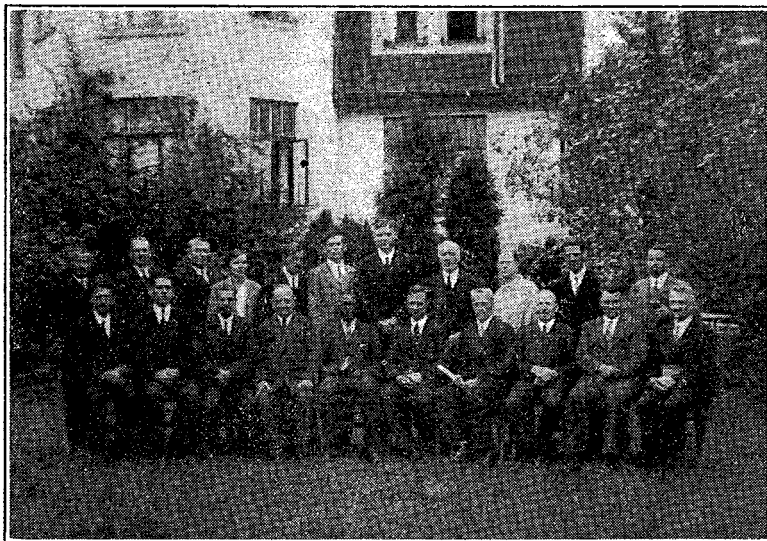
## Report of General Conference Session Held at Hannover, Germany, Aug. 3 to 10, 1931.

(Taken from The "ADVENTWORKER", Organ of The General Conference)

When we consider the days wherein we live, and see the dreadful scenes which sweep over this world day by day, how everything in this earth is in terrible emotion, it is an unspeakable grace of God that He, in this time, made it possible for us to be so numerous assembled in a General Conference. Three years of earnest labor have past since we last met together, and no doubt the experiences gathered during this time are manifold. We are here with one aim in mind—to counsel peacefully, how, in the future, we can best carry on the work of salvation. Great waves of destruction are visiting this earth, and if we look upon these things we may, in our natural heart ask the question: How much good will be derived by the laying of plans for the work of God in the

future? But we know that just now—in this very time of darkness and distress—where trouble is seen on every hand, it is our duty to labor untiringly for lost souls. Probation will soon close, and then there will be no time

for us to labor. The terrible visitation of God's destructive judgments so soon to come upon all those who have not accepted and obeyed the truth for this time, should inspire us with more zeal and earnestness, to do our uttermost part in the great plan of redemption. During all our counsels we



A group of delegates who attended the General Conference

were fully impressed with the seriousness of this time, and one and all were thoroughly convinced that only a few days remain in which we may proclaim the gospel message. It is therefore our aim to labor earnestly today, that we may be found faithful stewards.

The General Conference Committee met on August 3 for the purpose of laying plans for the General Conference order. The General Conference Session was opened by Elder O. Welp, on August 4, and he gave all delegates assembled a hearty welcome.

For the opening service we united in singing the gospel hymn; "We praise thee O God."

The following words of encouragement were spoken by Elder Welp to the delegates:

Dear Brethren in Christ Jesus! I praise God from the depths of my heart that He has made it possible for us to assemble at this place in a General Conference. If I stop and consider for a moment how the Lord has led us as His people so graciously, and so marvelously protected His cause against the fiery darts of the enemy, my heart is deeply moved that God has so wonderfully led us on to victory. We are here as brethren to counsel about the cause of God, and we should use every means at our disposal to carry on this last work of reformation more successfully. When I would speak from a natural heart, no doubt, I would express fears about the finishing of this work, considering the small number of workers who are actively engaged in this movement to carry on the message of reform, but my thoughts are far above the impulses of a natural heart. I dwell in this moment upon the divine promise that God Himself will finish this work in a mighty way, because He has foretold: "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit I will finish the work." I look also up to that wonderful promise of the "latter rain" which will soon be bestowed upon the people of God who have made a thorough preparation for that great event. It brings also great joy to my heart because I know that the Prince of Peace, Christ Himself, is the leader of this movement. He, alone, is directing all its plans, and leading all its affairs to His own glory. Upon this surety that God is with us—and the unity of His church—every plan of the enemy to hinder this work will utterly come to naught. I praise God that His church today is more firmly united in the proclamation of this message than ever before. We believe surely that in the coming days the Lord will work so mightily in behalf of His people, that it will be wondrously to behold, and therefore, dear Brethren in Christ let us, as members of one body, in one spirit, come unitedly into the presence of our Lord.

When I consider the great responsibilities resting upon us as representatives in the General Conference, I look up to God that He may grant wisdom and strength in all our plans and counsels, that everything may be done to the glory of His name. Dear Brethren, I have the assurance that the Lord will bless abundantly in this meeting. Sixteen years have now

passed since this movement began. When I think about the work in its early stages, as the majority of God's professed people so shamefully trampled upon His law, and how only a very small minority were earnestly seeking God that He might sustain them in upholding His divine truth and now consider the work of today, I must praise God with a loud voice, for it is marvelous to behold what He hath wrought.

Then, again, on the other hand, if I think about the wondrous ways in which the Lord has led us during the past, they are also a sure sign to me that the Lord Himself has led us every step of the way. Let us, therefore, in a silent prayer, come before the throne of grace, and ask the Lord that He as in the days of Joshua, might continue to lead us. Especially should we unitedly pray to the end, that God might come near and bless richly this General Conference Session. May He grant that plans may be in harmony with His divine will. May He also grant that at the close of this gathering we shall be able to say: "It was good for us to be here." May we then again be able to go forth with new zeal and power, knowing that Christ has promised to be with us until the end.

After this encouraging message we knelt in prayer, and several brethren sought the Lord earnestly for His special blessings.

It was then our privilege to hear the reports presented by the delegates of different Union Conferences and Mission fields. The present standing of God's cause in all the world was clearly presented.

Brother Korpman from Estonia, was the first one to present his report for the Baltic Union. This Union encountered many difficulties and trials during the past years, but the Lord was always near to overrule and bless. The great economic distress which swept these northern countries was also a hindrance for our work in that field, but it was wonderful to hear how the Lord moved every obstacle out of the way so that His cause could make steady progress. All brethren and sisters in this Union are firmly united in the message of reformation, and they know that God will be with them to bless also in the future. It is especially their desire and aim to reach that perfect Character which was manifested in Christ, so that the power of the Holy Spirit may soon be seen among us in its fulness. To the glory of God we are also able to report that all efforts being put forth by the enemy to hinder this work in this Union were in vain.

Brother Müller from Germany then gave a report for that Union. The Lord permitted different trials to come to pass in this Union for the purpose of purifying His church. We are living in the shaking—testing time.

The Lord's servant has foretold: "That everything that can be shaken will be shaken, that those things which can not be shaken might remain." It is God's desire to have a clean and holy church, and for this purpose trials will also come to pass in the future. All these trials which passed over us left a great blessing behind. Today we praise God for His will which He gave us during the past years. Visibly the Lord has led us onward in this Union. To Him alone be praise, honor, and glory for the spiritual growth which is manifested among us.

For the East Donau Union brother Nicolici from Roumania presented a report. He spoke especially about the great tribulations and persecutions which are very great in this field. Despite the great efforts being put forth by the enemy to hinder this work, the Lord's work is making progress in a miraculous way. During the past three years more than 500 souls were added to our ranks of believers in this Union. This is truly a great reason to praise the Lord, if we consider how the work must be carried forward under great difficulties and trials. In the past we have already given reports that the Lord has blessed this Union especially in the Publishing work of the "Testimonies" in different languages. The enemy sought very emphatically to hinder this blessed work, but God Himself removed every obstacle, so that through the Literature work a great work for good was accomplished. More than 400 souls are now ready to accept the truth, and they are keeping the Sabbath day already. Praise be to God for these blessings.

Brother Rasmussen being represented from Denmark, and brother Leidig from Sweden, then presented their report for the Skandinavian field. The Lord has also in these countries not withheld the blessings from His children. Especially in Sweden the work is making steady progress. Our prayer is that God may bless the workers laboring in that field, and also bless the efforts being put forth by the General Conference to help in the work among them.

It was impossible for brother Janace from Jugoslavia to be present at the General Conference. Different difficulties prevailing in that country made it impossible for him and other brethren to be present. But the reports which we received from them testified to the end that the Lord is blessing them. This Union, in which are represented different nationalities (languages) make it necessary for them to give out a great variety of Literature, and the Lord so blessed this line of work, that they were able to supply all need required in this respect.

Brother Charles from England arrived at the General Conference on August 6. It was

not possible for him to be earlier on account of being requested by the General Conference to meet brother T. Ndhlovu from Africa, who arrived the 4th of August in Southampton, England. After his arrival, brother Charles gave us a report about the work in England, and when we consider, how small the work began in that field, we praise God that He has kept those souls, who have accepted the reform truth, faithful in the message. We were also able to lay down several plans for the work in England, as to how it can best be carried forward in the future. We believe that all these plans will prove a blessing. May the Lord also bless those who have a part in building up the work in England.

Brother W. O. Welp from N. America gave a report about the work of reform in the United States. Several of those who serve the enemy in a special way, have tried very energetically to destroy the work of reformation in that country, but to the glory of God we are here able to report that God's hand has overruled all the works of the enemy, and led this cause on to victory. The spirit of prophecy tells us that "nothing can be done against the truth, but for the truth." In our experiences in the work we have again and again seen this prophecy fulfilled. The work of the enemy has in reality proved a blessing to the cause. Faithful souls are united with us in this message throughout the field of America, and we pray God that in the future He may gather, through His Spirit, many honest souls in this great field.

The brethren from S. America also were unable to attend the General Conference. Very distressing economic conditions exist in S. America, and they, of course have also affected our cause. Despite these conditions we have received most encouraging reports from that field, and we are thankful to God that He is blessing them in the work. Several revolutions and political uprisings have swept over this country, and left economic disaster behind. Satan, of course, is trying through these means to hinder the work in that field, but to the glory of God we are able to say that His cause is making steady progress.

Our great desire to meet some believers from Russia at the General Conference was also not fulfilled. The restrictions of religious liberty, and the persecutions suffered on the part of our believers, make it very hard for them. But we know that God has promised to be with His children, and He will also sustain and bless these dear souls in their heavy trials. Many of our believers in Russia are behind prison bars for the sake of truth, but they are happy in the Lord. According to the reports received from that field the work is making progress in a marvelous way. We should never neglect to pray for those souls

who must carry on the work under great difficulties, and also remember, in our prayers, those who suffer persecution for Christ's sake.

On August 6, as already stated, brother T. Ndhlovu from Africa arrived at the General Conference. It was a special blessing for us to greet this dear brother at this special gathering. In the year 1928 we had already done our very best to have one of our native brethren present at the General Conference being held at that time, but all our efforts to assure his presence seemed to be in vain. It brought therefore special joy to our hearts that the Lord had answered our prayers, and so opened the way that our brother could be present at this time. Already in Dec., 1930, we began to work to the end that brother Ndhlovu might receive permission from the Government in Africa to visit the General Conference, and despite some difficulties which we, and also our brother, had to meet, the Lord has opened the way wonderfully. When brother Ndhlovu told us, in the General Conference about his experiences, our hearts were deeply moved. In the presentation of principles which caused the believers in Africa to step upon the platform of reformation, we saw clearly that only the Holy Spirit had led them into the greater light for this time. One principle after another for which this movement stands, was presented, and it was wonderful to see how marvelously the Lord had enlightened them with the truth of reformation. All arguments that God is not the leader of this movement must come to naught, if one has the privilege to listen to the testimony of a soul from far Africa which never had seen a reformer before, and was thoroughly convinced and established in this truth. This, surely, is the work of the Holy Spirit. This brother was absolutely kept free from all fanaticism, and possessed a strong faith in the three-fold message. The enemy had also tried in Africa to weaken the faith of the believers there in this message, but the Lord kept them strong in the reform truth. The Lord Himself has convinced these souls fully that their stand in this reform message is right. Souls here in Germany who were once with us, but being deceived by the enemy have left this movement, and also the same in other countries, have tried very earnestly through correspondence and Literature to cause the believers in Africa to take their stand against this movement. But we praise God that He gave the believers in Africa a clear understanding of truth and error—light and darkness—so that they were fully able to discern between right and wrong, true and false. They proved everything according to the Bible and the testimonies, and therefore they were held firmly in the truth. We were also able at this General Conference to lay plans for the future work in Africa, and we believe that all these plans will

prove a great blessing. We hope and pray to God that He, through the agency of His Spirit, may do a great work in that dark field.

Surely we see that God is doing at the Present time a mighty work in all the world. All the delegates present at the General Conference were a living testimony to that effect, and much more so the wonderful testimonies which were borne by all these brethren. We see in every way that Jesus is our great Helper in this work. To fight against this movement of God is useless, just as the work of the Pharisees and Scribes in the days of Jesus was of no avail. In the days of the apostle Paul we find also extreme movements trying to hinder the work, but the church at that time went on triumphantly. We know that despite all obstacles which we have to meet the Lord will accomplish His work gloriously. This work which the enemy is doing will only purify the church of God, and make us stronger in the faith. It is clearly seen that the Lord is working in the cause of reformation to the end that His people may soon be ready for the outpouring of the latter rain. The decisions which are made by many today for the truth, reveal that God's children make a preparation for the last great conflict. They know that time is very short. Great trials and tribulations are before us, but we also know where to receive power to be victorious in these trials. The way for power and strength leads to the closet, where by earnest, persevering prayer and by repentance of every secret sin, we receive power to live a closer life with God, and be a living testimony for the truth. All our subjects at the General Conference were to the end that we might reflect the image of Jesus fully. Even if the coming days have a dark outlook, we know that the Lamb of God is leading the way, and He has promised that all those who are called, and chosen, and holy, will triumph with Him in the end.

Jesus is the way, the truth, and the Life. He is the great center of this movement. We know that if He be the center in everything, this movement will make steady progress. It is, therefore, our earnest prayer in this hour, that God may ever be our leader, and take the reins of this cause into His own hands.

It was possible for us to meet during the past years all the needs in this cause. The Lord has, in the past, made souls willing to help with their means, and in this way they have taken a positive part in the great cause of salvation. Through the means given to this cause we have been able to help many a needful field during the past years. The great needs of our mission fields call upon all to help unreservedly with the means the Lord has entrusted unto us. New workers must be sent into the field, Literature published etc., and it is, therefore, our prayer that God may give us

all a willing heart to do our very best in the cause of God.

If we consider the wonderful blessings bestowed upon us during the past, our trust in the help of God is stronger than ever. Jesus will stand by us in every way and will also help us in the work of those fields that are still waiting for us. During the past three years more than 800 new souls were accepted in the church, so that at the present time our membership is more than 5000 souls. These are scattered throughout different parts of the world, and bear a living testimony for this last work of reformation.

About 100 workers are actively engaged in carrying this message, and several hundred more Colporteurs carry the truth for this time through our Literature from house to house. If we, considering our great field, consider the small number of workers who are engaged in this cause, the human heart might fear, and doubt that this work will ever be finished, but with God numbers do not count, and it is just as easy for Him to work by less as by many. If only those who are working for Him are fully consecrated to His service, and truly born again, they can do a mighty work. Jesus sent out 12 disciples, and after they were filled with the Holy Spirit a mighty work was performed through them in a very short time. The gospel of salvation was proclaimed throughout the world. We feel very thankful that the Lord already through His Spirit has raised up faithful souls in different parts of the world. When all these souls who are standing firm in this message will have been filled with the Holy Spirit in the form of the latter rain, a quick work will be done. The message will then be proclaimed with a loud cry. The untiring efforts which are put forth by the enemy against us, prove that the Lord is already today working with power in our midst. The truth for which Christ died the cruel death at Calvary is arousing today all honest souls to leave the fallen churches and take their stand with the remnant.

All those assembled dwelt upon these points, and we considered in every way how we can best further the proclamation of the gospel in the future. Some of the resolutions taken at the General Conference will here follow.

1.

After all reports had been presented by the delegates the following resolution of praise was unamously taken:

As delegates, being assembled before God in this General Conference, we feel after presentation of these reports, our duty to praise God. To Him alone be all honor and glory. The Lord has blessed wonderfully in this cause of reformation. Despite the terrible conditions existing in the world today, and the great trials

and difficulties which we had to meet, His cause has suffered no harm, but made continual progress. If we consider especially the great harvest of souls, how the Lord made them willing to step out in the light, we feel that the Lord has blessed us above our expectations. He alone has kindled the fire of reformation to burn in all the world, and therefore all praise is due unto Him.

We come to Him as those who fully trust in His strength, and we know that He will be the leader of this work in the future. We pray unitedly that soon the fulness of His Spirit might come upon us, that His work may be finished on earth.

2.

While considering the geographic position of the southern Balkan states, we found it best to connect this part of the field with the East Donau Union. We believe that in the future work for that field this unison will prove a great blessing. The Lord may give grace that in the coming days many faithful souls will be gathered in His fold.

3.

The future work of the cause in Africa was especially considered. We were all fully in harmony to send our dear brother E. Frick, with his dear wife, to take up the work in that field. Brother Frick and his wife gladly accepted the call, and expressed their willingness to labor earnestly for the truth of reformation in Africa. Brother T. Ndhlovu, a native of Africa, will work with brother Frick. A nice number of souls in Africa are already united with us in this message, and the good interest prevailing there, gives us assurance that the Lord will do a great work in Africa. Besides Africa, we spoke and counseled about the work in other parts of the world, and we believe that all resolutions taken in this respect are fully in harmony with the will of God, and will prove a blessing. The Lord will finish His work, and cut it short in righteousness.

4.

We also discussed thoroughly the work of education for our young people who might go out as workers into foreign fields in the future. We trust that through the plans laid down for this purpose, a good work might be accomplished. To a certain extent we are a little handicapped in this work, considering the work being so small, but we shall use every means at our disposal, to fulfil our duties in this respect and do more than we have done in the past. The hazardous conditions which exist in the world today make it sometimes hard to carry out all plans successfully, but we know that the Lord will open the way and bless every good plan laid down. We believe that those young people who promise to make good workers, should receive an education

which shall enable them to carry on this message of reformation in foreign fields.

In the future we hope to report more in detail about the progress of this work in the columns of our Literature.

## 5.

Several proposals regarding the principles of our faith were discussed, and different resolutions taken. Especially we dwelt upon the outpouring of the latter rain, and the message of revelation 18:1-4. It is quite generally known that the Seventh-Day Adventist church teaches, throughout their ranks, that the "latter rain" has fallen. This, of course, is a great deception, and entirely against the teaching of the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. There are also such who have left this movement, and now try to deceive souls and becloud minds by telling them that we teach the "latter rain" has fallen. We like to make it plain that we do not believe that the "latter rain" has fallen, and all those who make such statements against this movement, make an untrue statement, for which they have no ground whatsoever. Others again, through a false understanding of revelation 18, try to put this movement in a wrong light, but we know that nothing can be done to hinder this work. Not those who left this movement caused us to speak about those points thoroughly, but the belief of many leaders in the Adventist church, who openly profess that the latter rain has fallen. We praise God that there is a clear understanding on these points among us. We stand firmly on these subjects as the Bible and the testimonies teach. It is our prayer that God may help His church to gain the victory over every besetment, over every wrong word and action, that this blessed promise of the latter rain might soon be a blessed reality.

The great work of health reform was also taken up as a point of discussion. We believe that this is an important work, and the Lord requires us to be faithful in this line of work. The health reform is the right arm of the third angel's message. The laws of health are trampled upon today, and sickness is prevailing everywhere. Many injure their health unknowingly by wrong living, and to them the light of health reform must be presented. We trust through the grace of God to do a great work for good in this line in the future. Problems as to how we can best carry on this work were already discussed previously in the General Conference Committee, and now taken up again before all the delegates. Definite steps were taken for the purpose of carrying on this vital work more successfully. We hope also that through this work many honest souls may be led to accept the truth.

A Committee was appointed to carry out all plans laid down, and we hope to report in

detail about this work also in the future.

## 6.

Because of the high standard placed before us through the Bible and the testimonies—perfection in Christ Jesus—which standard each soul must reach individually, in order to be among those who will receive the latter rain, and be ready for translation, we believe firmly that God's children must reach the highest point in moral purity. In our Fundamental principles, paragraph 18, we teach that God's children in their marriage relationship should live a life of purity. We consider it a great sin to use such means and methods which serve to prevent the multiplying of mankind according to God's plan.

## 7.

Beside these important questions, we took up the subject of organization. There are continually, (the spirit of prophecy declared) some one arising who seek to do away with organization, and to disorganize the work at this time where organization is most necessary. Praise be to God that about these questions of thorough organization there is full unity prevailing among us.

## 8.

It was also possible for us to speak about different questions regarding the need of several mission fields and Unions, and in every way we were able to take those steps which shall prove a blessing for the work in these fields in the future.

We pray earnestly to God that through His Spirit He may help to carry out all plans to His own glory.

As officers of the General Conference the following brethren were selected and unamiably sanctioned by all delegates:

O. Welp, President, W. Maas, Secretary.

## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Brethren: O. Welp, W. Maas, D. Nicolici, W. Korman, A. Miller, A. Riek.

## LITERATURE COMMITTEE

Brethren: W. Maas, D. Nicolici, A. Müller.

May the great and merciful God bless these brethren in a special way during the coming days. May the Lord hold His protecting hand above them that in every step of the way they may walk in humbleness before Him. May everyone fully rely on the strength of God, and not trust in his own power. May they ever be able to lead the cause of God aright. It is a great responsibility which is resting upon them, and every brother and sister in this movement should remember them continually in their prayers. May the fruits of the Spirit in all places, and under all circumstances, be fully revealed in them. May they be kept free from

all delusions and error, and be ever a real blessing to the cause of God on earth.

We closed this General Conference Session on August 9, Sunday evening, and quite a number of brethren and sisters were still present to receive the last blessings. The parting words of several brethren who spoke at the closing service were all to the end, that those present might carry the blessings with them in their different fields, so that everyone might become a partaker of the blessings which we received so abundantly during this conference.

Days of special work, but also of special blessings, are now behind us, and with full trust in God we look upon the days lying before us. May God help us to carry on the work entrusted to our hands in these few days of remaining grace, so that we may be faithful stewards in every way. We desire that the Spirit of God, which was present in all our counsels, may in every step of the way be our continual guide. The Lord has blessed all brethren in their work who were present as delegates from the different mission fields at this conference, and it is our prayer that He might also bless them in the future. May this cause of reformation inwardly and outwardly prosper to the glory of God.

Especially we pray God that He may be near those brethren who in different mission fields carry great responsibilities. May Jesus be their helper, and their strength. When difficulties and trials arise around them, may God help them to stand against all the works of the enemy, and be victorious in every way. We pray God that He might hasten His work that it may soon end in the loud cry of the third angel's message. Since this conference, may the light of reformation shine brighter in all the world than ever before. We pray also that this message may find quickly those souls who are searching and longing for truth, and that the Spirit of God may help them to make their decisions before it is too late.

We praise God for that wonderful promise that He will be with us all the days of our life, even unto the end of the world. As long as we continue to be with God, and walk faithfully in the truth, the Lord will continue to be with us, and we can lay hold upon His promises. Without His divine help we can do nothing. We must in this time of harvest have His help in cutting the sheaves. He must sharpen our knives as we go about and do the work of gathering the sheaves into the barn. When we consider that the fields were never whiter for harvest than now, and that the call for earnest laborers was never more urgent, we should one and all be inspired with more zeal to do our part in the cause of God, and no one should in any way be a hindrance for the work. Nothing in this world should hold us back to

do our uttermost part in the vine-yard. All brethren in responsible positions, all ministers, all evangelists, and every other worker, including all church officers and lay members, should rally to the work, and be a living testimony for the truth of reformation. Only in this way will the living testimony be revived in the church.

Awake, awake, dear brethren! The clock of time is about to strike 12, and then will it be for ever too late. The time of today is our short time of peace, our last opportunity to work for God.

We close this General Conference report with one desire, and that is, that God may strengthen our trust in Him continually. That He might grant strength and courage so that under every condition or circumstance we may fight the good fight of faith. That He might daily revive our Spirit, and help us to reach perfection in Jesus Christ. That our thoughts may ever dwell upon heavenly things, and that we may ever look to Jesus the author and finisher of our faith. That every work which we may perform may be done to the glory of God. That through our life, our words, our actions, our fellowship with others, we may prove to the world that we have been with Jesus, and learned of Him. May we at last have the privilege to reign with Him throughout eternity is our prayer.

The General Conference.

#### MY EXPERIENCES TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

"One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in his temple. . . . Lord, I have loved the habitation of thy house, and the place where thine honor dwelleth. . . . Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." Psalms 27:4; 26:8; 23:6.

In these Scriptures, quoted above, David is expressing the desire of his heart, and this **one** desire, to remain in the house of the Lord forever, should be found in the life of every true Christian. We see in the first place that David desired of the Lord to dwell in His house all the days of his life. The house of God is a place where God's children should abide for ever. Only those who have served Jesus faithfully in His earthly temple—the church of God—will also have the privilege of serving Him in the earth made new. But in order to remain—or abide—in the house of the Lord forever, it is necessary that we are able to say with David: "Lord, I have **loved** the habitation of thy house." If we do not possess this most blessed characteristic of **love**, we shall have **no** desire to be in the house of God. God is love, and only those who love Him will long to be in His presence all the days of their life. The love

of God, which must be manifested in the life of every true Christian, is likened by the apostle Paul as a "bond." (Col. 3:14.) This "bond" is absolutely necessary to unite God's children into one company. Where there is love, there is God, and where God is, there is unity and blessed fellowship. If we now possess this one desire—to abide in the house of the Lord forever and really love His habitation—we shall be able to say these words of assurance: "I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." Even though trials, tribulations, and difficulties may arise, we remain pillars in the church of God. Nothing shall prevail to disconnect us from God's true church, or cause us to leave His habitation. We are then safe in the arms of Jesus. O, may we, one and all, be filled with this one desire to remain in the house of the Lord forever, and serve Him throughout eternity.

It was on July 9, that I left Kalamazoo, Mich., on my journey to the General Conference. On my way to New York I visited our believers in Baltimore, Md., and spent some precious days of blessed fellowship with them. It was also my privilege to be a few days with our dear brethren and sisters in New York City. On July 16, in the morning, I went to the Steamer, and on this occasion several thoughts crossed my mind. I remembered when I had arrived here about 8 years ago, and it seemed to me as a dream that it should now be my privilege to take part in a blessed General Conference. My mind was especially occupied with the thought how precious it will be when we shall take our last journey upon the cloud to the great conference in heaven, and one desire filled my heart, that then not one of our loved ones may be left behind. Here upon this earth it is very often not possible to share all joys and blessings with our loved ones together, but, if we remain faithful to the end, our joy will once be complete.

The Lord also protected me on my way across the Ocean, and when we were nearing the end of the journey my heart, began to beat faster. Now, yes now, everything was to be a blessed reality. Now I should be united with my loved ones here again. O, how unspeakable, how precious, what a feeling of joy, will it be, when we are nearing the goal of our Christian journey. Then the Father, and His Son, and all the angels will await us, and bid us welcome. Should we, therefore, with such a glorious outlook not do our uttermost part to reach that blessed goal? May the Lord help us all to reach it is my prayer.

Brother W. Maas, and several one of of my family were there to meet me, and it was precious to see each other again after such a long time. We then left together on our way to Hannover, and here I had the privilege of seeing for the first time our Mission home,

from where the message is carried into all parts of the world. Despite the Financial difficulties which are prevailing at the present time in Germany, a great number of believers had answered the call to the meetings, and I am sure that not one of them left the place without receiving a great blessing. The Lord was visible among us. His Spirit went from heart to heart, and made us willing to accept and obey the truth. True Christian love, and perfect Unity, which should always characterize the children of God, was with us. Again, and again, we felt that this last great work of Reformation would finally end victoriously.

It brought special joy to our heart when at the General Conference we could greet our dear Brother Thomas T. Ndhlovu from Africa. It was not possible for him to arrive early enough for the German Union Conference, which preceeded the General Conference, but quite a number had remained for the General Conference. As we could listen to the living testimony of this Brother, how the Lord in His own good way had wrought so marvelously in the rise and progress of this Movement in Africa, we could only say: "This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes." These living testimonies were sure proof to us that God in these very days is working through His Spirit in all parts of the world, to gather every honest soul into one true fold. "Not by might, or by power, but by His Spirit, the Lord will finish His work," that no flesh should glory in His presence. In this last Movement of Reform, all honor, praise, and glory, is due our Heavenly Father, and Jesus Christ, His Son. We shall never forget the blessed showers of blessing which the Lord poured upon us, and the sweet fellowship which we had one with another.

The Lord blessed us also marvelously in all our counsels during the General Conference Session. Our main object in mind was how we could best further the cause of God on earth. Different plans were laid, resolutions made, and we believe that all will prove a great blessing to God's cause. Brother E. Frick and his wife were chosen by the General Conference, to take up the work in the African Mission field, and they will leave with Brother Ndhlovu at the beginning of October. Let us pray unitedly that the Lord may bless their efforts in this dark field, that many an honest soul may find Jesus, and accept Him as His personal Saviour. Let us also pray for the work generally that it may soon be finished on earth.

The hour now drew near again when we had to separate from one another. Many a dear soul I learned to know at this conference, but on this earth parting is unavoidable. Now, yes now, our joy is not complete. Today we taste only partly the great blessings which

(Concluded on page twelve)



# The Victorious Life

"Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." I Cor. 15:57.

The heart of the man of God ever cries out for greater light and more of the divine. There is something lacking, yes, radically wrong, in the heart of every one who does not thus yearn for a deeper knowledge of God's perfect will. David said, "As the heart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after Thee, O God." Ps. 42:1. And since there are secrets to learn in this life of faith and victory, the sooner we learn them the better for ourselves, for others, and for the cause of God in the earth. "The secret of the Lord is with them that fear Him."

Before the close of human probation, every true follower of Christ will have gained complete victory over sin. To some, this may seem a very high standard, and very difficult to attain. Inherited and cultivated tendencies to evil have so warped human lives, together with repeated failures to reach desired heights of victory, that the impression is left on many hearts that to be a complete victor is well-nigh impossible. It is well to learn the lesson of our own utter inability to cope successfully with unseen powers of evil and our own depraved natures. But it is a serious mistake to feel that we cannot fully overcome; for, all things are possible to him who believeth.

Human nature cannot perform an unselfish act. It is impossible. It may give alms. It may pray. It may fast twice a week. It may keep the Sabbath. It may pay tithe. It may look after the poor. It may visit the sick in prison. It may do many things which outwardly are good, but with selfish motives it cannot do good.

"Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil." Jer. 13:23.

Jesus said, "None is good, save one, that is, God." There is none that can do good, but one, that is God. Of Jesus we read, He "went about doing good." He did good because He was Emmanuel, "God with us." God was manifested in the Flesh. To do good we must be born from above. Christ in us is the hope of glory. "I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me." Gal. 2:20.

It is useless to attempt to improve the flesh, or to patch up the human heart. It cannot be done. We must be partakers of another nature,—the divine nature,—and obtain a new heart.

"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you. . . and cause you to walk in

my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them." Eze. 36:26, 27.

It is the new nature that leads us to good, not the old one patched up. Something from without has to take possession of the human heart, because there is no good at all within it by nature. It is the new and divine nature that prompts the doing of kindly acts,—not thinking of rewards. It is as natural for it to do this acts unselfishly, as it is for the old nature to do things selfishly. Our only hope is, therefore, in a new birth, and not in the performance of good deeds. Good deeds will be the natural outgrowth of the new and divine nature.

"The carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. . .

„If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His." Rom. 8:7, 9.

It is at this juncture that real faith comes to the rescue. Note the following:

"If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.' It is faith that connects us with heaven, and brings us strength for coping with the powers of darkness. In Christ, God has provided means for subduing every evil trait, and resisting every temptation, however strong."—"The Ministry of Healing," pp. 65, 66.

Our victory is in Christ, who was a complete overcomer. Received by faith, His victory becomes our victory, for He overcame in our behalf. "As many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name." John 1:12. When we receive Him in full faith and make a full surrender, we share His victory, because He lives in us, and His life is manifested in our lives. Then, with Paul, we live "by faith of the Son of God," and that is a faith that never has been defeated.

God is anxious that we be delivered from sin at the earliest possible moment.

"When we pray for earthly blessings, the answer to our prayer may be delayed, or God may give us something other than we ask; but not so when we ask for deliverance from sin. It is His will to cleanse us from sin."—"The Ministry of Healing," p. 70.

It becomes our privilege, then, to pray for deliverance and victory. There is no delay or substitution on the part of God when we pray for victory over sin. Let us then determine in our hearts that we will be victorious. Let us surrender the last known sin. Then with earnest, prevailing prayer, yea, with agonizing prayer, if necessary, let us claim the victory; and according as we have believed, so shall it be. God can save us from every sin, for "He

is equally powerful in every department of His saving grace."

"We must look to Christ; we must resist as He resisted; we must pray as He prayed; we must agonize as He agonized, if we would conquer as He conquered."—Mrs. E. G. White, "Review and Herald," Nov. 8, 1887.

While there is a growth in grace and Christian experience, the victorious life is not secured gradually. It is a gift. "Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." I Cor. 15:57. How do we secure a gift? Gradually? Suppose some one desires to give you a book. How do you get it? Gradually? Oh, no, you reach out and take it. So with the life of victory. You take it by faith through our Lord Jesus Christ. The victorious life is simply righteously by faith lived out in the individual life.

All unrighteousness is sin. Impatience is sin. Have you victory on this point? Or do you get angry when your will is crossed, when your taste is offended, your opinions disregarded, and you do not have your own way? Have you victory over your temper and your tongue, or are you peevish and cross? Do you say sharp, cutting things in the family, and wound with unkind words those with whom you live? If so, you are a sinner, and not a triumphant Christian.

If the gospel of Christ can not save us from those things that have been revealed to us as sin, it is a failure. But there is no failure with God. Christ came to save His people from their sins. The gospel is the "power of God unto salvation." Rom. 1:16.

#### How To Maintain Victory

"Whosoever abideth in Him sinneth not; whosoever sinneth hath not seen Him, neither known Him." 1 John 3:6.

To the beloved disciple it was inconceivable that one should really know Jesus and go on sinning. He wrote: "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not." 1 John 2:1. Evidently he wrote this epistle, explaining the secrets of fellowship with the Father and the Son Jesus Christ, for the very purpose of making plain how Christians can live without sinning. He adds: "And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous."

Having sought and claimed victory by faith, it is to be maintained in the same way that it is received. The words used by the Holy Spirit to describe the relation of the believer to Christ, are submit, commit, yield, abide. "I am the vine, ye are the branches." "Abide in Me, and I in you." The branch did not connect itself to the vine, nor does it struggle to keep connected.

"Commit the keeping of your soul to God, and trust in Him. Talk and think of Jesus. Let self be lost in Him. Put away all doubt; dismiss your fears. Say

with the apostle Paul, 'I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.' Rest in God. He is able to keep that which you have committed to Him. If you will leave yourself in His hands, He will bring you off more than conquerer through him that has loved you.

"When Christ took human nature upon Him, He bound humanity to Himself by a tie of love that can never be broken by any power save the choice of man himself. Satan will constantly present allurements to induce us to break this tie,—to choose to separate ourselves from Christ. Here is where we need to watch, to strive, to pray, that nothing may entice us to choose another master; for we are always free to do this. But let us keep our eyes fixed upon Christ, and He will preserve us. Looking unto Jesus, we are safe. Nothing can pluck us out of His hand."—"Steps to Christ," pp. 76, 77.

Finally, let us remember that surrender, though ever so full and complete, is only half the secret of victory. Many have surrendered all and yet have not been victorious. It is as essential to claim victory in Christ as it is to confess defeat without Him.

"By faith you became Christ's and by faith you are to grow up in Him,—by giving and taking. You are to give all,—your heart, your will, your service,—give yourself to Him to obey all His requirements; and you must take all,—Christ, the fulness of all blessing, to abide in your heart, to be your strength, your righteousness, your everlasting helper,—to give you power to obey."—"Steps to Christ," p. 74.

We would do well to meditate upon those wonderful words—"give all" and "take all." Surely here is abundant provision for the victorious life, with no intimation of long years of agonizing struggle and painful uncertainty.

Your brother in Christ

A. W. DOERSCHLER.

#### WHAT TO BE

Be brave.

Life is a conflict with a host of foes,  
Where friends as well as enemies oppose;  
Faint-hearted, fain are we to quit the field;  
Yet better far it were to die than yield.  
We yet may have the victory we crave.

Be brave.

Be true.

Let no dark tint of falsehood blur the white  
And stainless page on which we write  
The record of our lives; let no dark blot  
Of treachery or baseness leave a spot.  
To God and to his creatures give their due.

Be true.

Be kind.

The whole creation groans in anguish sore;  
Lay not a finger weight of sorrow more  
Upon the suffering heart of man or beast;  
Bind up the broken-hearted, help the least,  
A mission for our love we all may find.

Be kind.

Be good.

The heavenly kingdom lieth deep within,  
Deep are the founts of righteousness and sin.  
Be good, and thou shalt be brave, kind, and true.  
All that thou wouldst, and more than that, shalt do.  
Heaven shall be thine, life's trials all withstood.

Be good.



## The First Dominion

In six days the Creator formed the earth and fitted it up as the home of mankind. When finished it was very beautiful with trees, flowers, and fruits.

Before man was created, God also made the birds, fishes, and all the dumb animals and creeping things. The world was then ready for its master,—man.

“And God said, Let us make man in Our image, after Our likeness. . . . So God created man in His own image.” Genesis 1:26, 27.

Man was the last and most perfect work of the great creation week. He was in the “image of God.” He looked like his Creator.

Some, at least, of the wisdom of God was given him. He could talk, and think, and reason. As we study God’s Word, and learn about Him, He helps us and teaches us. Thus we grow more like Him, and He gives us more of His wisdom.

After creating man, God made for him a beautiful garden which was to be the home of Adam and Eve. This was a sample of what their children were to make the rest of the world.

This home was called “the Garden of Eden.” It was very beautiful, for “out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food.” Genesis 2:9.

“God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of the earth, and every tree, in which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed.” This shows what is the best kind of food for man to eat. “And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat.” Genesis 1:29, 30. This was a perfect diet. The Lord did not intend that His creatures should be killed and eaten for food.

A beautiful “river went out of Eden to water the garden.” The tree of life was also there. This tree had wonderful power. It would preserve life, and so long as one should eat of it he would never die.

“And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.” Genesis 2:15. Man was not to live in idleness, but must care for the beautiful home which God had prepared for him.

After all was completed the Lord gave to man the earth and all that was in it. David said, “The earth hath He given to the children of men.” Psalms 115:16.

Man was also to be ruler of all that was on the earth. For the Lord said, “Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.” Genesis 1:28.

Even the beasts loved man and delighted to obey him. There was no fear in that wonderful home. All was love, and happiness, and peace.

Christ and the beautiful angels from Heaven often visited the happy pair in Eden.

These heavenly visitors taught them about God and His love, and gave them such instruction as would help them to take proper care of their earthly home.

Before Satan could reach them with his temptations, angels were sent from Heaven to warn them of his fall, and of his desire to bring ruin upon them, as he had already done upon the angels who sinned with him. In this the loving, tender care of God for His creatures was manifested.

God is love. He did not wish sin to enter the world; yet He made man free so that he could choose wrong doing if he preferred it to God’s way, after knowing of the dreadful results of sin.

# The Sabbath Watchman

With

The Children's Friend

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Editor . . . . . W. O. WELP

Special Contributors

A. W. DOERSCHLER O. KRAMER O. O. METCALFE

## MY EXPERIENCES TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

(Continued from page eight)

shall once be ours. Now we have still a duty to fulfil, and that is to be a true and shining light in our different places where the Lord has put us. We must be light-bearers in this dark world, as long as probation lasts, that, through us, souls may be won to the kingdom of God. But soon, yes soon, dear reader, if we are faithful, we shall have the privilege of attending that great conference where there will be no separation. It is the separation from our loved ones in this world which causes pain and sorrow. But the comfort and hope of being soon united forever, gives us new strength to press forward, and fulfil our duties in this earth.

It will not be long now until I shall again be back in America. The time is so short that we may never have a General Conference again on this earth, but my only desire is that every soul which attended this last conference, may sometime walk in the city of gold, and that we may greet each other on Mount Sion. May the Lord help His people throughout the world in the preparation for His coming. May we soon all be ready for the special blessing which is to come upon the children of God—the latter rain—is my heart's desire and prayer. With Christian love to all I am your brother in Christ.

W. O. Welp.

## ANNUAL WEEK OF PRAYER

We herewith give the announcement that on December 18, 19, 20, 23, 25, 26, and 27, our annual week of prayer will occur. It is our earnest desire that each soul shall individually, during the intervening days, enter upon a very special work of heart preparation to the end that God may be enabled to pour out upon His church an abundant measure of the Holy Spirit.

May the Lord in the person of the Holy Spirit, be the one Leader in all our meetings during this week of prayer. May He grant that each soul will receive a special blessing from the throne of grace. May He also give us a willing heart to bring a thank offering for the furtherance of His cause on earth.

Union Committee

## IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING FORTH- COMING SESSION OF NORTH AMERICAN UNION CONFERENCE.

At a recent meeting of the North American Union Conference Committee, both the time and place for the session of the 1931 conference were decided upon. The dates selected are November 13 to 15, and the place for the meeting is Detroit, Michigan. All our people and our friends throughout the Union, who can possibly arrange to do so, are not only invited, but are urged to meet with us on this occasion. Let all who love the cause of reformation seek God earnestly and unceasingly to the end that Heaven's richest blessings may be poured out upon this important gathering. All those who plan to attend this special gathering are kindly asked to go first to brother A. Pfaff, 5085 Cadillac Ave., Detroit, Michigan, from where they will be directed to the meeting place.

Union Committee

## ANNOUNCEMENT

It is my privilege to announce herewith that Elder O. Welp from the General Conference is with us in America. Brother W. O. Welp has also returned safely from the General Conference Session. Elder O. Welp plans to remain with us till the first part of December. We plan to visit with him different parts of the field, and it is our prayer that God may bless us abundantly in the work as we go forth to labor for souls. It is also my desire that each soul may remember the work in their prayers.

A. W. Doerschler.

"Those who seek the education that the world esteems so highly, are gradually led farther and farther from the principles of truth until they become worldlings."—Counsels to Teachers," pp. 15, 16.

## DIRECTORY OF UNION CONFERENCES INTERNATIONAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY S. D. A. REFORM MOVEMENT

North America: KALAMAZOO, MICH.  
P. O. Box 432

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