

# Minnesota Conference

Forty-Third  
Annual Session

United  
Brethren in  
Christ

211

1898

On motion Brother Meese was referred to Committee on Elders' Orders.

G. F. Wiltse, Committee on Memoirs, made a report. Adopted.

Remarks by Brother Wiltse on the life of Brother Cain—our own fallen hero in Africa.

Brother Cook led in the song "Oh, think of the home over there."

The second name mentioned in report of Committee on Memoirs, Rev. Edmund E. Clow, one of the pioneer workers in Minnesota, who, together with Brother Fulkerson and Brother Haney who still live, gave the best years of his ministry to the work in Minnesota, passed away in early spring. Our fathers were single minded and determined, and we may well pause to pay this tribute to their memory. God bless them and help us to bring forward the same spirit and with new determination seek to carry our cause forward.

Rev. J. W. Fulkerson tendered his resignation as Preachers' Aid Treasurer. Accepted, and E. E. Todd elected to fill the vacancy.

Report of Committee on the Christian Home was given by Brother Varce, who read an excellent paper. Motion to adopt was carried.

N. S. Hankins made report on Bible cause. Discussion by Brother Fulkerson, who gave an excellent talk containing some very interesting facts about the Bible.

By common consent the time of final adjournment was fixed for the close of the Sunday evening service.

Edith M. Gates, Committee on Education, made report, after which President Bookwalter addressed the Conference in the interest of education and Western College, and received several donations.

Discussion by Brothers Meese, Vine, and Morgan.

Report on education adopted.

On motion W. Haney, of Marion, was reelected trustee of Western College.

The report of Cordova, which had been deferred, as an accommodation to the pastor, was now reported by the pastor, O. D. Koontz. Name passed.

Moved by W. F. Herman—

1. That we publish five hundred copies of the Conference Minutes, and that the work be done by our own Publishing House.

2. That the Conference chart be inserted.

3. That the Conference Secretary be instructed to prepare the Minutes for publication.

4. That W. W. Vine be instructed to secure the funds to pay for publication of same.

The motion was adopted.

On motion N. S. Hankins was elected corresponding member of Union Biblical Seminary.

On motion H. Deal was elected corresponding member of United Brethren Historical Society.

E. J. Reed, Missionary Treasurer, made report. Report adopted and Brother Reed reelected.

On motion W. F. Herman was elected Missionary Secretary.

Rev. U. A. Cook presented the matter of indebtedness on Wykoff church, after which Brother Reed presented the following resolution:

*Resolved*, That we donate to Wykoff church all the claim of our Preachers' Aid Fund treasury against said church, provided that all other claims are paid in full.

On motion, the resolution was adopted.

Moved by E. J. Reed that it is the request of this Annual Conference that the Church-Erection Society donate one-half their claim on Wykoff church, providing the people of Wykoff will pay the other half. Motion adopted.

On motion, Brother Varce was elected to correspond with the Secretary at Dayton concerning the matter.

Report of Committee on Resolutions by E. E. Todd.

Motion to divide the paper, vote on the first five and then the last. Motion carried.

On motion, the first five were adopted.

Moved and seconded to adopt the last resolution. Motion carried. (See report.)

Conference voted to hold the next Annual Conference at Pleasant Prairie.

After the announcements Brother W. W. Vine pronounced the benediction, and Conference adjourned until 7:30 P.M.

#### EVENING SESSION.

At 7:30 a memorial service was held in memory of our martyred missionaries. This service was led by Rev. Delia Todd, of Eyota. The speakers of the evening were U. A. Cook, President Bookwalter, Rev. C. Whitney, of Dayton, and Bishop N. Castle.

Sister Amy Graves, of Spring Valley, read the Scripture lesson, and Mrs. Van Blaricon, of Cordova, offered the opening prayer.

After the closing song, "We'll never say good-bye in heaven," President Bookwalter closed the service with prayer, in which he spoke tenderly of Father Clow, who died during the Conference year.

At the close of the memorial service Bishop Castle called the Conference to order, and the Woman's Missionary Association was granted a few moments in which to hear reports and elect officers.

Reading of the minutes of the day by the secretary. Adopted after corrections.

Announcements for Sunday. Singing and benediction. Adjournment.

#### SUNDAY SERVICES.

At 10 o'clock Rev. C. Whitney, of Dayton, took charge of the Conference love-feast and gave utterance to some

very earnest words found in Isaiah 52:11. "Be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the Lord." At the close of the love-feast Bishop Castle read the Scripture lesson from Joshua 4, after which President Bookwalter offered prayer. After singing, the Bishop preached from these words: "What mean ye by these stones?" Joshua 4:6.

At the close of the sermon, Rev. Ira E. Meese, who in Saturday's session had been referred to Committee on Elders' Orders, was set apart to the office of an elder by the laying on of hands, the newly elected presiding elders assisting the Bishop in the ceremony.

Following the ordination service an offering was taken which amounted in cash and subscriptions to \$250.

Before the closing song the Bishop read the report of the Stationing Committee. (See report.)

The morning service closed with song and the benediction.

At 3 o'clock Rev. W. W. Vine had charge of the Sabbath-school anniversary, for which a program had been prepared.

At the close of this service the Bishop read the appointment of standing committees.

At 7:30 Rev. W. W. Vine conducted a song service, after which Rev. J. W. Fulkerson preached the closing sermon from the words found in Heb. 12:28, 29, "Wherefore, receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us have grace, whereby we may offer service well-pleasing to God with reverence and awe: for our God is a consuming fire."

At the closing of the sermon the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered, Rev. George Harding conducting this service. After all who desired had communed, Brother Harding gave an earnest exhortation to unbelievers, and one arose for prayers.

All joined in singing "God be with you till we meet again," after which Brother Fulkerson pronounced the final benediction.

Final adjournment.

EDITH M. GATES, *Secretary.*

more. This cause has its needs and God has been putting it into the hearts of good men to obey the command "go ye," and the word of life has been and is being sent into the world to lighten its darkness.

N. S. HANKINS, *Committee.*

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLISHING INTERESTS.

In Ezekiel we read of that wonderful vision given the prophet, "A united whole," and, I conceive, it was given to us for a purpose. I look for its meaning in the revealed Word. In the New Testament I read that we are unitedly one body in Christ, "every one members one of another." The Church to-day in its entirety represents that body; all its separate interests going to make a full and complete whole. And perhaps to-day there is no interest more vital to our success than our publishing interest. That time is past when we can or may expect to succeed in the evangelizing of the world unless we study, unless we keep step with the *world* in its crime and murder. To the publishing interests of our Church, then, we should, we must give our support, our undivided support. And in doing so we shall not in any way injure ourselves financially. No church in the land has a better equipped publishing house than has the Church of our choice, with a grand and noble man at its head, looking to the interest of not only its individual welfare but of every member of its extensive territory. To our publishing interest, then, we do pledge our undivided support.

J. W. MORGAN, *Committee.*

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

Success in any calling calls for preparation, and he who without such preparation takes up the work which God has been pleased to give him, however good his talents, or great his diligence, is, as one has said, "galloping upon a steed harnessed with a broken buckle, or like a messenger to a far country who forgets his message and must not marvel if he is left ingloriously in the dust." There is no work so great or important as that of the Christian minister, and if success in other callings demands thorough preparation should not the workman who deals, not with the material interests of men, but their immortal souls, be as thoroughly prepared? God calls men to study to show themselves approved unto God. We look upon the baptism of the Holy Ghost as the essential qualification, but we must seek as earnestly for thorough development of the mind.

Some one has said that "the divine call to the ministry implies, in addition to the one called being a Christian, the two-fold individual requirement, a passion for souls and a genius for moral ideas." True, and we, as a Church, owe it to the world to give special attention to building up our institutions of learning de-

voted to ministerial training. And if we, as God's messengers, covet a fruitful ministry, these institutions must command our respect. Souls are calling not for unequipped workers but for teachers and preachers "thoroughly furnished unto all good works." And when we, as ministers, have secured the preparation which *we do need*, the Church will gladly send us forth clothed with its own authority to preach "the unsearchable riches of Christ."

. . . The fields are white already unto harvest, and God is calling for workmen, but the call is for equipped not unequipped laborers—skillful workmen "rightly dividing the word of truth." We *must* rally around our institutions of learning, support them, endow them with money.

The writer voices the sentiments of the Conference in saying: We appreciate the presence of President Bookwalter, of Western College, and will hear gladly whatever message he may bring. We pledge to him our prayers, support, and cooperation and will let nothing short of honest, earnest, work in behalf of Western College satisfy us. Let each minister say, I will not cease trying until my field is represented in the college. There is nothing which has so widely, deeply, or earnestly, engaged the human mind as the "doctrine relating to God and divine things." The minister of God *needs* to know of them. We are called to "Preach the Word"—nothing but the Word of God—therefore we would testify to our loyalty to Union Biblical Seminary and gladly greet its representative. Believing that college and Seminary together develop the head, the heart, and the life and make ready the individual for the reception of power, we pray God that he will direct the steps of those he calls from the United Brethren Church to be his ministers, to go by way of these institutions into active service, as workmen "that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

In conclusion we heartily endorse the economic financial management of Western College and shall continue to make every effort to collect our college apportionment in full. We shall join freely with the Church of the cooperating territory in the present strong effort to liquidate the debt, and will welcome the representatives of the college among us. We will do our part in practically hastening the day when our college shall be free from debt.

EDITH M. GATES, *Committee.*

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MEMOIRS.

WHEREAS, The hand of death has transferred from the Minnesota Conference to the great conference above two of our beloved brethren, Brothers Clow and Cain; therefore,

*Resolved*, That we, the members of Minnesota Conference, do

hereby express our great sorrow at their removal, and do pray God to inspire our hearts with the same immortal faith that inspired our martyred brother when he watered with his blood the tree of gospel truth, as the dark crime stained the soil of Africa; and we pray God to bless us, that we may so live that we may meet our brothers, Clow and Cain, in the "house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." G. F. WILTSE, *Committee.*

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

*Minnesota Conference.*

Through the providence of our Heavenly Father we are brought together in this forty-third annual conference. Inasmuch as God has blessed us as a Church during the year that has just come to a close, be it

*Resolved,* That we as members of Minnesota Conference, show in a practical way our appreciation for the many blessings received, by going to our respective fields or homes fully resigned to the will of God, that he may work in and through us to the glory of his precious name.

*Bishop Castle.*

WHEREAS, Our beloved Bishop Castle has been permitted to come to us again as our presiding officer, and by his helpful suggestions and wise counsel has enabled us to meet all the problems that have confronted us, in a Christ-like manner, therefore, be it

*Resolved,* That our hearts be often lifted to God in prayer that he may be blessed with health and strength to serve the Church of his choice for many years to come.

*Thanks.*

WHEREAS, We, as a Conference, have been made welcome by the citizens of Cordova, in that they have opened their homes and so kindly entertained us; and especially would we remember the pastor and his wife, who have labored unceasingly for our comfort; be it therefore

*Resolved,* That we express our appreciation of their hospitality by giving a vote of thanks at this time.

*Memoirs.*

Inasmuch as God has been pleased to remove from earth to heaven two of our beloved members during the year, Brother I. N. Cain and Brother Edmond Clow, we desire a copy of the report of the Committee on Memoirs spread on the Conference journal and a copy sent to each of the immediate relatives of the departed ones.

*Ministerial Institute.*

Believing that the work of the ministry is given to man from God, therefore of great importance, we feel that, as ambassadors for Christ, we should seek every opportunity for self-culture, using every means provided for the best preparation for soul winning. And seeing in the Ministerial Institute a great factor for good, its value beyond calculation, therefore, be it

*Resolved,* That, as workers together with Christ, we will use our best influence to secure a good attendance of the ministry at all these annual gatherings.

*Temperance.*

WHEREAS, The liquor traffic is a breeder of vice, crime, and poverty, and knowing that it blights the prospects of those who engage in it, both for time and eternity, knowing also that it is the great stronghold of the deceiver of men and the origin of corrupt politics, and,

WHEREAS, There is but one never-failing way to prevent men from becoming drunkards—total abstinence—be it therefore

*Resolved,* That we pledge ourselves not to vote for a man or party which sustains the traffic by license or otherwise.

Respectfully submitted,

E. E. TODD, *Committee.*

*Week of Prayer.*

In view of the fact that this quadrennium is to have special emphasis in missionary giving and labor, and inasmuch as the Board of Bishops have just issued a proclamation to the Church touching the observance of a week of prayer, fasting, and self-denial; therefore,

*Resolved,* 1. That we express our approval of the proposed observance of said week of prayer, etc., as indicated in the Bishops' address in the *Telescope* of September 7, 1898.

2. That we approve, and pledge ourselves, as ministers, to preach on Sabbath, November 6, and Sabbath, November 13, in all our pulpits upon the duty of fasting, self-denial, and prayer.

3. That we pledge our best efforts to the realization of the largest possible sum toward the fifty-thousand-dollar twentieth century fund by the offerings of our congregations on the above-named Sabbaths.

4. That, as per the advice of the Missionary Executive Committee, we will not present the regular thank-offering this year.

Respectfully submitted,

C. WHITNEY, *Committee.*