

last year by the International Branch reached one million copies. Three books, "Great Controversy" in the Russian and the Icelandic, and "Coming King" in Italian will soon be off the press. Smaller books are in preparation in half a dozen languages, and two special editions of 40,000 each, of eight numbers of "Present Truth" are being published in the Bohemian and Polish languages. "Notwithstanding this accomplishment, calls are still pouring in for more tracts, more papers, and more books in other languages. Financial assistance to properly meet these calls is greatly needed.

For the unusual and hearty coöperation accorded us by our brethren of the general and the division, the union and the local conferences, we feel deeply to express our special appreciation, and we confidently hope that during the years before us, our brethren will continue to give us their full coöperation, and lend us that confidence and recognition which is so necessary to the accomplishment of this great task that yet lies before us. We believe that if all of our union and local conference brethren take hold with us in promoting this most important phase of our work, that we shall see it prosper in the years to come in a way that will be a revelation to most of us. The foreigner is by no means barren soil. He is just as eligible to the gospel as his brother abroad. It has been found that wherever earnest efforts have been put forth, the results compare well with the best. To illustrate: Our Italian church in Chicago last year, with a membership of fifty-seven paid a tithe of \$1,400. A Russian church in Canada, with a membership of fifty-three paid \$2,700. Our Bohemian-Slavic church in Irvington, New Jersey, turned in \$2,000. In mission offerings, these churches have also done splendidly. All of them have reached more than their twenty cents a week per member. In fact, some of them have doubled their quota. This is so much the more remarkable as so many of our members among these southeastern European nationalities are poor laborers, earning their living in factories, mills, on streets, or in railroad shops.

Our Needs

Now, the work of the foreign department is well under way. A foundation has been laid, and we have begun building the walls of a house which when completed, will have within it a company of believers out of every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. The conditions for working this field will never be more favorable than they are. The special needs of our foreign work are these:

First: The hearty coöperation of all our brethren.

Second: The creation of more workers through two strong educational centers, one for Slavic races, another for Latin.

Third: The production and circulation of still more literature. To accomplish this at least \$10,000 will be needed in the immediate future.

Fourth: The holding of a foreign worker's convention at an early date for the strengthening and building up of the work in general.

Fifth: Above all, we need a new and fresh baptism of the Holy Spirit, giving power and efficiency to our work. The

outlook in this home foreign field was never better, our courage was never stronger, and our confidence is unlimited in the Master's power to give success to our work.

We know and have seen that these children of the backward nations of Europe will respond to God's special message for to-day. We admit we have a difficult task before us, still we know that the gift of love and truth will bud and blossom in the hearts and souls of those neglected neighbors of ours if we perform our individual duty. It is true many of them are outwardly unlovely, uncultured, and unpolished, but the raw material for a sparkling jewel is there. The privilege is ours to grind, smooth, and polish, the rough surface, and bring out the inner beauty. It therefore behooves us to awaken fully to the realization of this unique opportunity that God is presenting to us in the foreign field right here at our very door. We are responsible for the souls of these peoples, and it is our privilege to give to them the everlasting riches which God has entrusted to our care and stewardship.

STEEN RASMUSSEN.

REPORT OF THE NORTH AMERICAN NEGRO DEPARTMENT

BY THE SECRETARY

THERE are in the United States about 10,000,000 Negroes. Approximately 8,000,000 are located south of the Mason-Dixon line. In the North, they are principally located in the large cities. Washington, District of Columbia, has the largest Negro population of any city in the United States or perhaps in the world; which is 94,000 (1910 census). New York comes next with a population of 91,000. Baltimore and Philadelphia have the same number with the exception of 250 in favor of the latter, which is 84,750. New Orleans has the largest population of any city in the South, which is 89,263. In 1910 the population of forty-three cities in all the United States was 1,341,468, or 13.6 per cent of the Negro population of the United States. About 87 per cent are engaged in agriculture in the South.

Occupation

The total value of farm property operated by the Negroes in 1910 was \$1,141,793,526. Three-fourths of them were tenants, one-fourth owners. The aggregate number of homes occupied by Negro families in the Southern states in 1910 was 1,117,391, of which only 314,340 reported as owning free of encumbrance. The owned free homes constitute 16.4 per cent of all homes. In the cities they are engaged in different lines of work. Some are engaged in professional business,—lawyers, doctors, teachers, musicians. Others as tailors, carpenters, and common workers.

Education

There were 1,670,650 Negroes reported as attending school in the year 1909-10. This number forming 9.3 per cent of the total number of persons attending school in the United States. Of this number 783,869 were males and 886,781 females. The proportion of il-

literate ten years of age and over declined from 70 per cent in 1880 to 30 per cent in 1910. The percentage of illiteracy is lower in the North and West, attributable to better school facilities. There are now many large educational centers throughout the country. The most noted in the South is perhaps the Booker T. Washington Institute, located at Tuskegee, Alabama. I understand over 1,500 students attend this school.

Rise and Progress of the Third Angel's Message

About 1890 the southern missionary society began in a definite way to present the message to this people. Elder J. E. White with a company of missionaries sailed down the Mississippi River on the steamship Morning Star, and established his first mission station at Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Elder O. A. Olsen visited this station in 1895. Elder Olsen was then president of the General Conference. He returned to Battle Creek and wrote an article of some length for the *Review*, in which these words appear:

"I am truly glad to have visited the work in Mississippi. I had the privilege of preaching to colored people. Those in charge informed me that they paid \$50.00 for that year. I think this is commendable for this people. My heart was touched when I saw their devotion, loyalty, and willingness to sacrifice their means to the great cause."

Twenty-seven years have passed since our work began in the South. The following statistics show an encouraging growth. We have now in the Division Conference about 60 colored ministers, 75 school teachers, and a number of nurses and colporteurs. The total number of Sabbath-keepers is about 3,500. Approximately 2500 are in the South. Twenty-five years ago there were about 50 Sabbath-keepers in this country who paid a tithe of \$50.00 a year. The total tithe for five years ending December 31, 1917 in the Division Conference was approximately \$140,000. Offerings to missions during the same period was approximately \$34,000, making a total of tithes and offerings of \$174,000. These funds are handled by the conferences in the usual way. \$200,000 was appropriated by the Division Conference for work among the colored people during the period above mentioned (five years).

Value of church property is approximately \$125,000, which is held by the conference association. In 1891 the colored believers, I understand, owned only \$450.00 worth of church property in the South. This was a lot and plain structure located at Edgefield Junction, a suburb of Nashville, Tennessee. Now, in addition to church property, we have about \$50,000 invested in school property, including the Oakwood Junior College.

Education

Mission schools are conducted in almost every place where there is a church of sufficient membership. These schools accommodate children of Seventh-day Adventists, and at the same time give community children the advantage of a Christian education. These schools are assisted by appropriations by the Di-

vision Conference. Teachers are paid from \$5.00 to \$8.00 a week. A small tuition is charged. We hope, however, in the near future that many of the larger churches will be able to finance their schools. The total enrolment in the Division Conference is about 1,000.

The only training school which the denomination is conducting for the colored people, is the Oakwood Junior College, located on a farm northwest of Huntsville, Alabama. This plant consists of eighteen buildings, all told, 358 acres of land, 200 acres of which are under cultivation. The average enrolment is 125, grades from six to fourteen. The average graduating classes consist of twelve students. Ten teachers are employed. The school receives annually an average of \$10,000 appropriations from the Division Conference. An orphanage with a capacity of twenty children is operated in connection with the school, also a small sanitarium which at the present, however, is not doing full work.

The farm has produced in the last four years, 6,700 bushels of corn, 66 bales of cotton, or approximately 33,000 pounds, 2,500 bushels of sweet potatoes, 400 bushels of Irish Potatoes, 2,800 gallons of sorghum, 600 tons of fodder hay and ensilage, 28,000 quarts of canned goods, 500 bushels of wheat, 200 bushels of turnips, and water-melons in abundance, all of which, except the cotton, is consumed at the school. The farm work is done by student labor under the direction of an experienced superintendent. Students are allowed, for their service, eight to fifteen cents an hour, which enables them to earn about 50 per cent of their expenses. By working the entire year, they can meet all their expenses. We grind our own corn-meal. It requires about 10 bushels a week to supply the boarding club. We have also a small sawmill.

Evangelistic

The evangelistic work is conducted almost entirely by colored workers, most of whom have been graduated from the Oakwood Training School. About 75 per cent of our workers have been trained in this school, and not one of them has apostatized. Those who have withdrawn from the organized work received their education in the schools of the world.

Tent meetings have proved a great success in reaching the people with the message. Almost every effort results in the establishment of a church with a membership from ten to one hundred. Evangelists have been chosen to work the large cities. The results of these efforts are very gratifying. Nice pavilion tents are used with a seating capacity of 600 to 1,000. Large congregations gather to hear the last warning message. As many as 1,500 have attended these meetings on a single night. We have strong churches in all the large cities in the United States where there are a considerable number of colored people, and in many small towns also. The rapid development of the colored work has been made possible by the liberal appropriations made to it by the General and North American Division Conferences. The money has been well invested. The Spirit of Prophecy says, "There is no more fruitful field than the

South." The colored people are naturally a religious people, having much reverence for the Bible. They readily accept the word of God and respond quickly to its teaching. They are loyal to the message, willing to sacrifice the actual comforts of life, in many instances, in order to obey and support the message. If we had the laborers, the membership could quickly be doubled. "Africa, waiting."

Book Work

In recent years our people have been encouraged to sell books, with the result that there are many colporteurs in the field. Many of them have been very successful. Last summer twelve or fifteen boys earned scholarships and more. One student canvassed during vacation last summer, and delivered \$2,400 worth of books, settled up his account with the tract society, and returned to school with a round \$1,000 in his pocket, others did almost as well. Many will soon be engaged in this line of work. At one of the colored camp-meetings last year 36,000 copies of our small books, "World War," and "Return of Jesus" were sold to the members for distribution throughout the state.

Our Needs

First of all, we need more trained workers to meet the demands of a rapidly growing work. To do this it is imperative that we enlarge and strengthen our only training school which is located at Huntsville, Alabama. The primary schools should be strengthened. They are feeders to the college. This people is advancing educationally and therefore demand educated ministers. The time has passed when a minister who has only five or six grades of work can interest them. This is especially true in the large cities where the ministers of the popular churches have college and university training.

Our denominational standard of education for ministers is at least fourteen grades of work. The Oakwood Training School was carrying only twelve grades up to the present year, when by action of the Division Conference Committee it was raised to fourteen grades—to a Junior College. The action also authorized that buildings and equipment be provided for the same. It will be necessary to erect a boys' dormitory of one hundred student capacity and to enlarge the present girls' dormitory to accommodate fifty more students, thus making provision for two hundred students in the homes. The present academy building was planned for the work fifteen years ago, and is at this time inadequate. It is necessary, therefore, to build a college which will accommodate at least 250 students. With a larger student body, the school will turn out a larger number of graduates with practically the same force of teachers, and invite a more advanced class of students to partake of the education it affords.

There are many young people coming into the message who have finished ten or twelve grades of work, who, with a few years of training in our school, could be turned back as laborers to the needy field. Our primary schools are already becoming strong feeders to the college. Our greatest perplexity at the

present time is to supply workers necessary to answer the many urgent calls that come to us. We must develop more workers, and this cannot be done with our present facilities.

We Recommend, That some action be taken at this conference to provide the necessary means to make the Oakwood Junior College all that is necessary to serve the purpose so clearly outlined for it by the servant of the Lord.

In view of 10,000,000 Negroes in this country, and as many more in the West Indies who must hear the message of love and warning for this time, and are depending upon our training school for workers, we urge that the delegates at this conference give this matter your careful and prayerful consideration.

In closing, the Department wishes to take this opportunity to express its deep appreciation of the liberal spirit that has been manifested by the North American Division Conference in providing funds for the development of the work among this people for whom the Spirit of Prophecy has made most earnest appeals.

C. B. STEPHENSON.

THE NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

BY THE SUPERINTENDENT

THE medical branch of this great movement has been, and will to a still greater extent be, a contributing factor in man's redemption. Although facing great obstacles, it has steadily grown, and its principles extend across the seas, and have traveled to the remotest lands. Wherever a missionary representing this movement takes up his abode, there will be found planted the great principles of health and temperance, and its teachings adapted to lift the native to the higher planes of Christian living. While for many years it has been my privilege to observe the results of medical missionary efforts in mission fields, we shall confine this report to conditions of our medical missionary work in the North American Division Conference.

The Chief Objects

to be attained through medical missionary effort may be summarized as follows: (1) To surround men and women with an environment safe to their physical and mental well-being and development. Such an atmosphere contributes to spiritual attainment. Heaven is all health, and this people should begin to breathe the heavenly atmosphere of health in order to stand amidst the epidemics and pestilence raging to-day. (2) We further stand for the great principle of reform in diet, dress, physical development, to provide for the care of sick and invalid classes whose diseases are the result of failure to heed nature's laws, and awaken in them a respect for the fixed laws in the proper regulation of their beings. (3) We plan for the education of physicians, nurses, cooks, and other workers in the skillful care of the sick in harmony with nature's laws, and the inspired principles committed to us as a people, to go into the homes, and labor among natives in heathen lands, where gross ignorance prevails regarding the care of their