

Zion's Advocate

"And blessed are they who shall seek to bring forth my Zion at that day, for they shall have the gift and power of the Holy Ghost" --1 Nephi 3:187,

VOLUME 14

INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI, MAY, 1937

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Minutes of the General Ministers' Conference of the Church of Christ 1937

FIRST DAY, TUESDAY, APRIL 6.

The first session of the Ministers' Conference met in the church on the Temple Lot at ten o'clock in the morning. The sacrament was served, after which the meeting was devoted to song, prayer and testimony. The service was in charge of Apostles A. M. Smith and James E. Yates, and occupied until noon.

Afternoon Session, 2 O'clock.

H. E. Moler in the chair, J. E. Bozarth assisting.

No. 56 in the Hymnal was sung.

Prayer by J. E. Bozarth.

No. 168 was sung.

C. A. Gurwell moved that the Twelve preside over the conference. The motion prevailed.

Moved and seconded that Sr. Sheidon act as secretary of the conference. Prevailed.

Sr. Anderson was chosen to act as chorister of the Conference, with power to choose her assistant and a pianist.

B. C. Flint and A. M. Smith were selected as Press Committee.

The chair suggested that following a time honored custom, the ministry be heard from. No one objecting, Bro. Moler led out with a few remarks, then called upon Apostles C. L. Wheaton, A. M. Smith, B. C. Flint, James E. Yates, Wm. F. Anderson and J. E. Bozarth, in the order of the length of time they had served in the quorum. Following these, Bishops J. R. McClain and A. O. Frisbey were called upon, then Elders R. M. Maloney and J. T. Overcast.

The meeting adjourned at 4 o'clock by singing No. 216 in the Hymnal, and prayer by Bro. Bozarth.

Evening Session.

7:45. Preaching by James E. Yates, assisted by J. T. Overcast.

SECOND DAY, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7.

Morning.

9:30. Prayer meeting in charge of J. R. McClain and Wm. F. Anderson. An interesting meeting.

11:00. The speaker of the hour was R. M. Maloney. Thos. E. Barton was in charge of the meeting.

Afternoon Business Session, 2 O'clock.

J. E. Bozarth in the chair, assisted by Wm. F. Anderson.

No. 351 in the Hymnal was sung.

Prayer by Bro. Anderson.

No. 354 was sung.

Minutes read and approved.

By permission of the chair Bro. James E. Yates read from the minutes pertaining to rules governing ministers' conferences.

Reports were read from Elders Lewis E. Welch, John A. Daer and F. J. Parkinson.

Tentative program submitted by the Twelve was read and adopted.

A statement from R. M. Maloney was read in which he said that after a year's deliberation, he was ready to accept his call "and submit to ordination."

Bro. Wheaton moved that the statement be spread on the minutes and that provision be made for the brother's ordination in the prayer meeting Thursday morning. After some discussion as to whether it would be proper to submit the matter further to referendum it was decided to have been covered by the last referendum, and by a vote of 8 to 1 it was ordered to proceed with ordination at the time specified in the motion.

The report of the committee on working harmony was read. Bro. Flint moved that action on the document be postponed until the 8th to give T. J. Jordan time to get here. Bro. James Yates seconded the motion.

Bro. Wheaton moved as a substitute that the motion be made special order of business for tomorrow, or Thursday afternoon. Bro. Anderson moved to amend the substitute by striking out "tomorrow afternoon, and make it read, Friday afternoon."

Considerable discussion followed, when the previous question was called.

The substitute carried by a vote of 8 for and 5 against.

The substitute as amended received 12 votes, none voting against.

A bill was read, submitted by the Twelve, to "control promiscuous ordination of irresponsible persons to the priesthood."

Bro. Moler moved to adopt the bill.

Bro. C. A. Gurwell moved that to be more specific article 2 be amended by inserting the words, "the council of twelve apostles, the seventies or general bishopric." The document as amended was adopted by a vote of 13, none voting against. The document follows:

1. Whereas, there has come to our attention evidences of promiscuous ordination of men to the priesthood in this Church of Christ through ill-advised persons who have been motivated by a spirit of enthusiasm and zeal not according to godliness,

2. Therefore, be it resolved that we adopt as a rule to govern such cases the following course of procedure:

Where persons are called to occupy in the council of twelve apostles, the seventies, or the general bishopric, the call must be approved by the church at its conferences and

Bro. Barton.

A number spoke, when Sister C. L. Wheaton offered a subsidiary motion recommending that the report and the recommendations offered by the committee be considered separately. This was seconded.

Bro. Maloney spoke and then Bro. Wheaton moved the previous question on the subsidiary motion. The motion lost by a vote of 6 for and 10 against, and the discussion continued.

Bro. Wheaton rose to speak. Bro. Moler objected on the ground that he had been heard from through the document he had read. The chair took that view of the matter and so ruled. Bro. Wheaton appealed from the decision of the chair. The ruling of the chair was submitted to vote. 7 voted for sustaining the chair and 9 against.

Bro. Wheaton was given the floor, speaking to the subsidiary motion.

Bro. Maloney presented the following preamble and resolution:

"By reason of the nature of this committee's report and the other documents we have heard express evidence of sharp and unyielding opinion in the body, therefore to save the church from unpleasant and unfruitful conflict, I move that this whole matter be laid on the table."

This was seconded by Bro. Wheaton.

By a vote of 14 for doing so, and only 3 against, the whole matter was laid upon the table.

Because the time was needed for quorum meetings, the Twelve recommended that the prayer meeting Saturday morning be moved from 9:30 to 11 o'clock.

Closing song was 216 in Hymnal.

Benediction by Bro. Jordan.

Evening Session.

7:45. Bro. T. J. Jordan was the speaker. Bro. Wm. F. Anderson was in charge of the meeting.

FIFTH DAY, SATURDAY, APRIL 10.

Morning Session.

11:00 A. M. The prayer meeting was in charge of Bro. T. J. Jordan and R. M. Maloney. It was a spiritual meeting. The good Spirit spoke through Bro. Yates, comforting and encouraging the saints and commending those who had made an effort to come to the conference.

Afternoon Business Session, 2:00 O'clock.

Bro. Leon A. Gould in the chair, Bro. Jordan assisting.

132 in Hymnal was sung.

Prayer by Bro. Jordan.

191 in Hymnal.

Minutes of last session read and preamble was added to Bro. Maloney's resolution as he wished.

General Recorder's report was read.

Bro. Wheaton moved that the Recorders' Report be approved, and that Bro. Nicholas Denham be continued in office. This was seconded and carried.

Joint report from the Twelve and Bishopric upon the cooperative enterprise was read. The adoption of this report was moved and seconded, carrying by a vote of 14 for and none against.

Ministerial reports were read from Elders James Evans, David Jenkins, John G. Jenkins and Silas Madden.

Report of General Bishopric was read. Moved to approve the report. A. M. Smith moved as a substitute that the report be considered, paragraph at a time. Carried.

Bro. Anderson moved to approve the first recommendation of the report. Carried.

Bro. Anderson moved to approve the second recommendation.

Bro. Gurwell moved to defer action until Bro. Ford could

communicate with Bro. Johnson. 10 voted for this, 2 against.

The Committee on Working Harmony submitted a revised report, which was read.

There was some question as to the proper course of procedure to reconsider the report of the Committee, and Bro. Wheaton moved that the committee be permitted to withdraw their original report from the table and submit their revised report. By vote this was granted.

Bro. Wheaton further moved that the Recommendations accompanying the report be considered paragraph by paragraph.

Consideration of this motion was interrupted by a request from A. M. Smith, seconded by B. C. Flint, asking that a letter read by Bro. Wheaton in the Quorum of the Twelve be read here. Bro. Wheaton said the letter was a personal matter. Bro. Anderson moved to lay this motion on the table. By vote this was done.

Vote was called on the previous question to take up the recommendations of the Committee on Working Harmony paragraph by paragraph. By vote this was ordered.

Paragraph 1 was read. Its adoption was moved and seconded and carried by a vote of 9 for and five against.

Paragraph 2 was read. It was moved and seconded to adopt. After the discussion had proceeded some ways Bro. A. M. Smith offered the following:

"Whereas, it is still quite apparent that the spirit of this matter is still sharply dividing the body of this conference, I therefore move that this whole matter be layed on the table."

This motion was seconded and carried by a vote of 14 for and one against.

Moved to adjourn business until Monday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock.

No. 223 in the Hymnal was sung.

Benediction was offered by Bro. Jordan.

Evening Session.

7:45. Preaching by Bro. Leon Gould, Bro. R. M. Maloney in charge.

SIXTH DAY, SUNDAY, APRIL 11.

Morning Session.

The twelve called a prayer meeting at 8 o'clock, to which all were invited to attend. The meeting was in charge of T. J. Jordan and A. M. Smith. A splendid meeting was reported.

The local church held Sunday school at the regular time, 9:45 to 10.

At the 11 o'clock hour in the morning H. E. Moler was the speaker, J. R. McClain in charge.

In the afternoon at 2:30, J. E. Bozarth preached, Bro Ray Bryan of Hamilton, Mo., in charge.

In the evening at 7:45, Wm. F. Anderson was the speaker, J. E. Bozarth in charge.

SEVENTH DAY, MONDAY, APRIL 12.

Morning Session.

9:30 Prayer meeting in charge of Bro. Gibbons and Ford.

11:00 Preaching by R. M. Maloney, Bro. T. J. Ford in charge.

Afternoon Business Session, 2:00 O'clock.

T. J. Jordan in the chair; A. M. Smith assisting.

143 in Hymnal opening song.

Prayer by A. M. Smith.

Moved that all matters of business be placed in the hands of the presiding officer. Carried.

Minutes read and approved.

Recommendations from the Twelve advised that business be taken up at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, and at 2:00 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. No new business would be re-

ceived after 2:00 o'clock P. M. April 13th. The morning prayer meeting would meet at 9:00 o'clock under this arrangement. The recommendations were approved by the body.

C. L. Wheaton moved that Thos. E. Barton succeed himself on the Committee for Working Harmony.

J. E. Bozarth moved as a substitute that we defer action.

H. E. Moler moved to amend the substitute by striking out all after that and state instead that "we abolish the Committee on Working Harmony." B. C. Flint seconded.

Several spoke to the question when the Chair asked Bro. Wheaton to yield the floor for the reading of the following resolutions:

"Whereas there has been so much contention over the Working Harmony movement and the committee;

"And whereas we have now spent two days on this matter and are just where we were when we started;

Therefore, be it resolved that this body in conference assembled, by their vote ask this committee to resign, and that contact with the other groups of the Restoration be made through the ministry of the Church of Christ (Temple Lot) which is a continuation of the church restored April 6, 1830.'

These resolutions were signed by sixteen names. (See Ref. Bill No. 10.)

B. C. Flint moved the adoption of the document; J. E. Bozarth seconded.

The chair ruled that this document would be entertained as a substitute for all before it relating to the subject.

Bro. Jordan gave the chair to A. M. Smith that he might speak. Others spoke to the question when R. M. Maloney moved the previous question. It was called by a vote of 9 for and 5 against.

Vote on the substitute carried by 16 for it and 3 against it.

Bro. Ford reported that Bro. Henry Johnson was not prepared to say whether he would serve as one of the seven bishops. Bro. Gurwell moved to defer action on his name until Tuesday morning. Bro. Ford seconded.

Bro. Yates moved as a substitute that this conference authorize the placing of Bro. Johnson in the Bishopric and make provision for his ordination. This lost by 6 for and 7 against.

The original motion carried by 11 for and only 1 against.

Supplying vacancies occurring this year on Boards and Committees was taken up.

It was moved that A. O. Frisbey succeed himself on the Board of Trustees.

C. L. Wheaton speaks, moving as a substitute that we recommend to the whole church the abolishing of the Board of Trustees and that custody and trusteeship of the Temple Lot property as well as all other real estate property coming into the hands of the general church shall be vested in the general bishopric.

Thos. E. Barton moves as a subsidiary motion to defer action on substitute until next year.

Bro. C. L. Wheaton offers his resignation from the Board of Trustees.

The previous question was called but lost by a vote of 5 for and 7 against.

Three spoke, and the subsidiary motion was put to vote. Two were for it and 11 against it.

It was moved to refer the substitute to a committee. This carried.

A. O. Frisbey, C. L. Wheaton and J. R. McClain were nominated for that committee. It was moved that these three constitute the committee.

C. L. Wheaton was given the floor; he spoke, again offering his resignation as a member on the Board of trustees,

to become effective at once, giving as his reason, "I believe that such trusteeship should be vested in the general bishopric of the church."

It was moved to accept Bro. Wheaton's resignation and the body approved.

Bro. Jas. E. Yates obtained the floor and read the following:

"We, the Committee on Working Harmony," appointed to promote as great a harmony with other divisions of the Restoration as might be consistent with the fact that this Church of Christ is the true church, and is now the official organization by Divine appointment, wish upon our part to promote as great harmony with those other organizations as possible and right:

However, since a number of our brethren and ministers of the Quorum of Twelve are so determined against doing these things by committee, and since we feel that harmony within the church is of first importance,

Therefore we, of the committee, hereby resign, in the hope that we may thereby accomplish the greatest good for the church.

We do this, subject to the approval of Referendum.

James E. Yates.

C. L. Wheaton.

Signed:

A. M. Smith moved that we accept the resignation of the Committee on Working Harmony. The motion was seconded. Considerable discussion followed, when the matter was placed to vote, and 13 voted to accept the resignation of the committee, and 2 voted against doing so. (Bill No. 11.)

The session adjourned by singing 221 in the Hymnal and prayer by Bro. A. M. Smith.

Evening Session.

7:45. J. E. Bozarth was the speaker; Rolland Sprague in charge.

EIGHTH DAY, TUESDAY, APRIL 13.

Morning Session.

9:00. Prayer meeting in charge of Bro. Ford and Gibbons.

Morning Business Session, 10 O'clock.

A. M. Smith in charge, B. C. Flint assisting.

199 in Hymnal was sung.

Prayer by B. C. Flint.

Minutes read and approved.

Jas. E. Yates moved that this conference approve of Bro. Johnson taking a place in the General Bishopric of the Church. Carried.

Bro. Yates moved "That in accord with the evident divine call by the Holy Spirit that Bro. Gibbons be ordained an elder, we therefore approve the call, and recommend to the authorities in his home district that provision be made for his ordination."

The body voted to approve.

Committee reported on the question submitted to them yesterday, as follows:

Independence, Mo., April 13, 1937.

To the Ministers' Conference of the Church of Christ, with Headquarters on the Temple Lot, Greeting:

As the committee appointed to draft suitable resolutions to be sent out to the referendum of the whole church relative to the trusteeship of property belonging to the general Church of Christ, such as the Temple Lots, etc., we wish to present the following for your consideration and approval:

Whereas title has been vested in a board of trustees that have continued in custody of the Temple Lot property owned by the Church of Christ under the following terms of conveyance, i. e.,

"As trustees in trust for the aforesaid Church of Christ, and to their official successors as trustees in trust for the said Church of Christ, according to the laws and covenants

of said church . . . and the right of conveyance pertains to no other church of the same name or similarity of name than that which has been specified in this deed of which said Grandville Hedrick is now this day and date the President of said Church of Christ, as being composed of associated members according to the laws and covenants of said Church, wherefore the said Church of Christ is the real party of the second part to this deed of conveyance as represented by the term, 'Trustees in trust' for said Church of Christ."

Therefore be it resolved that this same title under the same conditions shall hereinafter be vested in the General Bishopric of the Church of Christ, as well as the title to all other real estate property of the general church as trustees in trust for said Church of Christ."

Respectfully submitted,

(Committee) A. O. Frisbey, J. R. McClain, C. L. Wheaton.
(This is Referendum Bill No. 13.)

Bro. Flint moved to approve and adopt this report and discharge the committee. It was seconded and carried.

Filling vacancies on the Conference Court was next considered. Some information had to be looked up, and while this was being done the Committee on Complaints was presented.

It was moved to dispense with this committee.

A substitute was offered that Bro. Ford take the place of the outgoing member, Bro. Postma. The substitute prevailed.

The information sought being ready, the subject of the Conference Court was taken up again. It was moved that Brn. Derry, McClain and Bozarth succeed themselves.

An amendment was offered that Bro. Overcast be given a place on the court.

J. E. Bozarth resigned from the court, and Joseph Yates and D. Ray Bryant were nominated.

C. L. Wheaton moved as a substitute for the whole matter that Jos. Yates fill one of the vacancies.

An amendment was offered to this substitute that the names of Chas. Derry and J. R. McClain be included.

On being put to vote the amendment carried and the substitute as amended carried. The committee now proposed consists of Alex Warner, Wm. Postma, Chas. Derry, J. R. McClain and Jos. Yates.

Bro. Anderson moved to discharge the Building Committee and that their duties be taken by the Plans Committee.

C. L. Wheaton moved amendment that all properties as tools, materials, etc., shall be put in charge of the General Bishopric, to make such disposal of the perishable material as their judgment might suggest.

Bro. Jordan moved as a substitute for the whole matter that the General Bishopric take over the work of the Building Committee and that all materials, tools, machinery, etc., be under the jurisdiction of the Bishopric to dispose of as their judgment might suggest. This was seconded.

C. L. Wheaton moved to defer action until recommendations from the Bishopric came in. This carried.

Moved to adjourn until 2:00 o'clock this afternoon.

Closed with 218 in the Hymnal.

Benediction by Bro. Flint.

Afternoon Business Session, 2:00 O'clock.

B. C. Flint in chair. C. L. Wheaton assisting.

Opening song, 118 in Hymnal.

Prayer by Bro. Wheaton.

Minutes read and approved.

The following was presented by the Secretary of the Quorum of Twelve:

"In the Quorum session April 13, 1937, the following was adopted: "That in view of Bro. Wheaton's long and faithful

service, as secretary of the Quorum of Twelve, that we request the Ministers' Conference to authorize him to own the typewriter now in his possession."

Respectfully submitted, Leon A. Gould, Sec.

Bro. Anderson moved that we concur with the recommendation. It was seconded and carried unanimously. (Ref. Bill No. 16.)

The report of the committee on Temporal Plans was read. C. L. Wheaton moved the adoption of the program, and that it be submitted to Referendum. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

The privilege was given the entire assembly of voting on the matter which they did by standing. (This is Referendum Bill No. 17.)

Bro. Gould moved that a committee of three be appointed to form articles of incorporation, provided the Plan is approved by referendum. The body approved this.

Bro. Yates moved that the committee who wrote the Plan be the committee to formulate articles of incorporation. Carried.

Bro. Wheaton moved that 2000 copies of the Plan be printed.

Bro. Anderson amended to make it 1000 copies.

Bro. Wheaton moved as a substitute to the whole matter that the Board of Publication be asked to hold the type until returns from the Referendum come in. The substitute on being put to vote carried.

The Auditor's Report was read. It was moved to approve. Bro. Yates amended to include the work of the Office Manager. The amendment carried. The motion as amended carried.

The Bishops made an additional report as follows:

"In regard to the Office Manager, Bro. Ford moved, 'In matters of a difficult nature, to relieve him of too great a responsibility, that he counsel with the bishop or bishops most convenient, and if need be, all the bishops, that a consensus of opinion may be had. Approved.

2nd. Having a chance to dispose of the church truck which is now in Minnesota at what we consider a fair price, and on reasonable terms, we deem it wise to sell it, and it was so ordered.

3rd. In view of the fact that the lumber on the Temple Lot is deteriorating very fast, the one inch stuff especially, that it be sold for cash, and placed in the temple fund, with which other material may be purchased when needed, if not otherwise provided for by the conference: that the office manager, Brother McClain, and A. S. Wheaton be authorized to sell the lumber. This was concurred in by four bishops present. This to also include the cement that was left on hand by the Building committee.

J. R. McClain, secretary.

It was moved to adopt the above report with its recommendations. Seconded and carried. (This is Ref. Bill No. 21.) Moved to adjourn until tomorrow morning at ten o'clock. Closing song 217 in Hymnal.

Benediction by Bro. Wheaton.

Evening Session.

7:45 Preaching by B. C. Flint. A. M. Smith in charge.

NINTH DAY, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14.

Morning Session.

9:00 Prayer meeting in charge of Brn. McClain and Gurnell.

Business Session 10 O'clock.

C. L. Wheaton in the chair. H. E. Moler assisting.

202 in Hymnal was sung.

Prayer by Bro. Moler.

Minutes read and approved.

Reading of ministerial appointments. (Ref. Bill No. 22.)

of said church . . . and the right of conveyance pertains to no other church of the same name or similarity of name than that which has been specified in this deed of which said Grandville Hedrick is now this day and date the President of said Church of Christ, as being composed of associated members according to the laws and covenants of said Church, wherefore the said Church of Christ is the real party of the second part to this deed of conveyance as represented by the term, "Trustees in trust" for said Church of Christ."

Therefore be it resolved that this same title under the same conditions shall hereinafter be vested in the General Bishopric of the Church of Christ, as well as the title to all other real estate property of the general church as trustees in trust for said Church of Christ."

Respectfully submitted,

(Committee) A. O. Frisbey, J. R. McClain, C. L. Wheaton.
(This is Referendum Bill No. 13.)

Bro. Flint moved to approve and adopt this report and discharge the committee. It was seconded and carried.

Filling vacancies on the Conference Court was next considered. Some information had to be looked up, and while this was being done the Committee on Complaints was presented.

It was moved to dispense with this committee.

A substitute was offered that Bro. Ford take the place of the outgoing member, Bro. Postma. The substitute prevailed.

The information sought being ready, the subject of the Conference Court was taken up again. It was moved that Brn. Derry, McClain and Bozarth succeed themselves.

An amendment was offered that Bro. Overcast be given a place on the court.

J. E. Bozarth resigned from the court, and Joseph Yates and D. Ray Bryant were nominated.

C. L. Wheaton moved as a substitute for the whole matter that Jos. Yates fill one of the vacancies.

An amendment was offered to this substitute that the names of Chas. Derry and J. R. McClain be included.

On being put to vote the amendment carried and the substitute as amended carried. The committee now proposed consists of Alex Warner, Wm. Postma, Chas. Derry, J. R. McClain and Jos. Yates.

Bro. Anderson moved to discharge the Building Committee and that their duties be taken by the Plans Committee.

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Bro. Jordan moved as a substitute for the whole matter that the General Bishopric take over the work of the Building Committee and that all materials, tools, machinery, etc., be under the jurisdiction of the Bishopric to dispose of as their judgment might suggest. This was seconded.

C. L. Wheaton moved to defer action until recommendations from the Bishopric came in. This carried.

Moved to adjourn until 2:00 o'clock this afternoon.

Closed with 218 in the Hymnal.

Benediction by Bro. Flint.

Afternoon Business Session, 2:00 O'clock.

B. C. Flint in chair. C. L. Wheaton assisting.

Opening song, 118 in Hymnal.

Prayer by Bro. Wheaton.

Minutes read and approved.

The following was presented by the Secretary of the Quorum of Twelve:

"In the Quorum session April 13, 1937, the following was adopted: "That in view of Bro. Wheaton's long and faithful

service, as secretary of the Quorum of Twelve, that we request the Ministers' Conference to authorize him to own the typewriter now in his possession."

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Bro. Yates moved that the committee who wrote the Plan be the committee to formulate articles of incorporation. Carried.

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Bro. Anderson amended to make it 1000 copies.

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"In regard to the Office Manager, Bro. Ford moved, 'In matters of a difficult nature, to relieve him of too great a responsibility, that he counsel with the bishop or bishops most convenient, and if need be, all the bishops, that a consensus of opinion may be had. Approved.

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J. R. McClain, secretary.

It was moved to adopt the above report with its recommendations. Seconded and carried. (This is Ref. Bill No. 21.) Moved to adjourn until tomorrow morning at ten o'clock. Closing song 217 in Hymnal.

Benediction by Bro. Wheaton.

Evening Session.

7:45 Preaching by B. C. Flint. A. M. Smith in charge.

NINTH DAY, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14.

Morning Session.

9:00 Prayer meeting in charge of Brn. McClain and Gurwell.

Business Session 10 O'clock.

C. L. Wheaton in the chair. H. E. Moler assisting.

202 in Hymnal was sung.

Prayer by Bro. Moler.

Minutes read and approved.

Reading of ministerial appointments. (Ref. Bill No. 22.)

The body approves.

Selection of a general church auditor was ordered. Nominations were as follows:

A. M. Smith,—declines; R. B. Trowbridge and Riley Wheaton.

Moved as a substitute to the whole matter that the Twelve be authorized to appoint R. B. Trowbridge, if he would accept; if he would not, then Riley Wheaton. The Auditor was to have authority to install an adequate system of bookkeeping. This was seconded and put to vote. 5 voted for, and 4 against.

Bro. A. M. Smith, general superintendent of the Sunday school association, gave an oral report. He recommended the publication and use by our schools of a system of reporting submitted by Bro. Wayne Richardson.

The body approved of the Superintendent's recommendation.

The Secretary of the Sunday school association made a report. The body approved.

The body approved the continuation of A. M. Smith as general Sunday school superintendent.

Sr. Sheldon declined reelection as general secretary because she did not have time for the work, and Bro. Wayne Richardson was elected.

Thomas Maley and Rolland Sprague were nominated for the office of assistant superintendent. Bro Sprague was chosen. He lives in Independence.

By permission of the chair, Bro. Smith spoke on the Quarterly situation. We have over twenty schools. A number use the Cook Quarterlies. Some use other quarterlies, and some use none at all. It would be desirable to have quarterlies of our own, but he saw no way of financing such

a move at the present time.

Bro. B. C. Flint spoke in high terms of the quarterlies published by the Scripture Press, 800 Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill.

It was moved and seconded that Sr. Sheldon continue as general secretary of the church. She expressed her regret that she was compelled to decline because her affairs did not give her time for the work.

C. L. Wheaton, Leon A. Gould and Dorothy Denham were nominated. Bro. Gould received the highest number of votes, so he becomes the general secretary of the Church.

Report from the Dining Committee showed \$10.75 due them for furnishing meals to the ministry who are under conference appointment. It was moved and seconded that this amount be paid from the general funds. The body approved.

Bro. C. L. Wheaton expressed the belief that the church should have a secretary of transportation. The suggestion met with favor, and Bro. Wheaton was nominated for that office; also Bro. R. B. Trowbridge and J. R. McClain. Bro. McClain declined. Bro. Wheaton was chosen by vote of the body. It was moved that Bro. Trowbridge be associated with him, and this was approved.

A. M. Smith moved that the Board of Publication be authorized to appoint the Business Manager of the Advocate. The move was seconded and carried.

Wm. F. Anderson moved that the next general conference of the ministry meet April 6 of 1938 at Independence, Mo. Carried.

Adjourned with the singing of "God Be With You Till We Meet Again," and prayer by Bro. R. M. Maloney.

BUILD YE MY ZION, SAITH THE LORD

(Given to Apostle James E. Yates, Sunday, April 4, at Independence, Mo.)

Lo, age on age the Spirit speaketh,
Showing forth God's Holy will;
Contrite souls who their Savior seeketh,
His commands are hearing still.
By my Spirit, saith your Master,
Speak I still in mine own way;
To warn of sin with it's disaster
Use I yet frail lips of clay.

I give unto you no new commands,
O ye, my people,—wayward ones;
Ye are the creatures of my hands—
My daughters and my noble sons!
Of old my word gave love, the measure—
For mine approval love is the gauge,
What folly that ye spurn my treasure
Witnessed of from age to age!

'Twas My Gospel of the Restoration,
When the apostacy night was o'er,
That bore again the revelation,
My word hath given so long before.
On earth gave I the authority
For ministrations by love alone;
Naught else can hold priority,
And ye must reap as ye have sown.

Fragments of mine heritage broken
Bespeak today your Savior's pain;
Shall this be your constant token—
My love for you is spent in vain?

The gathering, for Zion of mine own,
The Temple, for which my people pray,
The Store-house, as so often spoken,
Are yet the same to me today!

As peoples, my voice to you saith hearken:
Why call ye me, O Lord, our Lord!
While yet ye walk in paths that darken—
Hath sin with light aught in accord?
If ye clasp not hands as brothers
In the great one common cause,
How think ye still that many others
Shall learn of you my Holy laws?

It is not mere the lack of a Temple
That so much your Master grieves,
As it is the lack of love-light
Which that languished labor leaves!
When peoples now who claim my name,
To build my house will first arise,
My light will prove a living flame
Bursting from the very skies!

When ye should have together toiled,
Ye have kept your hands refrained;
Lo, by obedience is satan foiled—
Thus my greatest treasure gained.
The spot for my Temple I do not alter,
The Temple Plans as drawn, are true;
By lack of faith my people falter,
Your Lord awaits my sons, for you.

Brief Review of the Ministers' Conference

By Apostle Leon A. Gould

The 1937 Ministers' Conference is now history. The fruits of its sowing will develop in their time, and we are encouraged with the promise that they will be good and wholesome and life-giving in their nature.

The attendance was somewhat smaller than the year previous, but the spirit of loyalty and sincerity manifested by those in attendance was outstanding. All members of the Council of Twelve were in attendance, there being at the present time but one vacancy. Four of the General Bishops were in attendance, and taking an active interest in their work.

The prayer meetings were of a spiritual character, restful to the soul, and pregnant with the assurance of God's loving watchcare. The voice of the Spirit was heard through Bro. Yates, assuring us that the Master of life was with his people.

"Though you behold not my face, I am known to you in the deepest recesses of your souls; I am in your midst to bless you and to lead you, to comfort those that need comfort, and to strengthen those who need my strength. Verily, ye are the instruments of my rescue when you will love each other and serve me with full purpose of heart; yea, ye are the instruments of my rescue for the spiritual well-being of souls among men." "I am well pleased with those who have come to this conference from a distance, and I have blessed them, and I will continue to bless them. I am well pleased with you my people, therefore, thus saith the Spirit, Be ye comforted in me, and go forth courageously to perform my work, and ye shall be made to know that I am with you all the way."

On another occasion words of comfort were given to Apostle T. J. Jordan as follows:

"Thus saith the Lord to Bro. Jordan: By the power of my Spirit I speak this message to you. You have been able to give to the hearts of others much encouragement. Your work is acceptable to your Lord. Verily, thus saith the Spirit to you, my son, go forward in the work according to the resolves you have in your heart, with courage from me; for I am with you to bless and to sustain you in your ministrations to my people. Thus saith the Spirit unto you, my servant, this morning. Amen."

Many encouraging testimonies were given, and many earnest prayers offered. Sr. Wm. Anderson as chorister for the conference, with her assistants, rendered efficient service, a delight to those who love this part of the service.

The business sessions were marked by friction to some extent, especially in the early part of the conference. These differences of opinion, while not enjoyed on the whole by the personnel of the conference, are no doubt to some extent, at least, a logical outcome of the past year's experiences.

Separated from each other, meeting varying conditions, minds wrestling with contrary-like problems, it seems to be inevitable that we come together with a clashing of ideas. We have not yet learned to apply in full measure the admonition of the Master, "Be ye wise servants, harmless as doves." The miraculous thing about it is, that these same men, the conference over, will go to their fields in a spirit of utmost self-sacrifice and devotion, willing to give their lives if necessary for the gospel's sake.

There were perhaps three outstanding measures before the assembly.

I may mention first, the changing of the trusteeship of the Temple Lots and other properties belonging to the General Church. Having been held heretofore by a board of three as trustees in trust, the conference ordered that title be now transferred to the seven General Bishops as trustees in trust, thus wiping out by enactment, as well as by sentiment, the line of distinction that has been drawn in the past between the so-called original stock of the Church of Christ, and those later received into membership.

The second one I may speak of was in relation to the Committee on Working Harmony. This occupied the center of the stage for the most of three days, and called forth many pointed observations on both sides of the question, and some heated argument at times. However the consensus of opinion of the ministry present finally seemed to crystalize in the thought that better contact with other divisions of the Restoration might be made by the members and the ministry of the Church rather than by a committee, and steps were taken looking toward a discontinuance of the committee.

On the other hand, those favoring the work of the Committee were eloquent in their pleas that the Committee be continued, believing that through this means a better contact could be made than by the individual method. What the reaction of the People's Conference may be to this matter we would hesitate even to conjecture.

The third matter of paramount importance was the report on "Temporal Plans" from the committee appointed by a joint council of the Council of Twelve and the Bishopric. This brought out a unanimity of expression upon the floor of the conference that was unique in the history of conferences, and seems to indicate that without doubt the hearts of the Saints are looking forward with hope to the establishment of those Zionic conditions outlined in our standard books. Provision was made for immediate steps to be taken toward forming articles of association in harmony with these plans, as soon as the Peoples' Conferences shall approve, if they do. A memorable conference, seasoned with heartache it is true, but pointing with hope to the realization of our objective, Zion redeemed, the pure in heart.

GOD'S LIGHT

By Helen Schuyler

*Before the shades of evening fell,
A light shown through the clouds;
Its glory was so beautiful,
My heart cried out aloud.
It seemed the sunshine knew
Of Him who reigned above;
And all the beauty made me feel
The goodness of God's love.*

*And all at once I had a thought
That not far off, somewhere,
There is a God who knows our heart
And sometimes answers prayer.
So as we toil our weary way,
Let's strive with all our might
To let the sun shine in our heart,
And ne'er forget God's light.*

Report of the Temple Plans Committee

Greetings to the Conference, and to the Church:

The Temple Plans Committee respectfully reports that, as known to the Church, there has been no construction work on the Temple during the year, and for that reason there was no occasion for any action by the Plans Committee.

We report our full confidence in the present Plans that have been drafted as a result of Divine revelation and inspiration given to members of the Committees and to others, also, and that as a whole and in particular, these Plans are acceptable unto God. We bear unanimous witness and testimony of that.

When the time arrives that there shall be sufficient means in the treasury to place the necessary cement and steel in the foundation of the Temple, and to bring the basement of the structure to the top of the excavation, we as your Plans Committee stand ready to do our humble part in coordinating the specifications of the Plans as they are drafted with the progress of the work of construction.

Let not our hearts lose faith; the Temple will be erected in this place, and according to the word of the Lord which has been given. But this great work must be achieved in the strength of true Christian unity of those whose souls are lit by the testimony of the Holy Spirit, and to the glory and honor of Him whom we serve.

With constant faith and hope in Christ and His word, and with the prayer that as a people we may qualify to serve acceptably as the Lord shall direct and lead.

Sincerely, The Committee.

C. L. Wheaton.

A. M. Smith.

James E. Yates.

Independence, Mo., April 8, 1937.

GENERAL FINANCES

From the Auditors' Report on the general funds of the church from March 15, 1936, to March 15, 1937,

Receipts

Tithing	\$2,786.74
Free will offerings, oblations, missionary.....	50.75
Advocate subscriptions	273.38
Tracts, sales and donations.....	60.16
Consecrations	6.65
Aid extended and money loaned	
but later returned.....	185.00
Received for paving bill.....	236.35
	<hr/>
	\$3,599.03

Expenditures

Advocate	\$ 477.00
Tracts	19.45
Family allowances.....	1,578.29
Elders' expense	384.82
General office expense.....	263.35
General church expense.....	164.03
Aid extended and money loaned.....	236.50
Paving bill.....	230.10
	<hr/>
	\$3,353.54

The balance on hand for the Temple fund is \$205.38.

REPORT OF GENERAL RECORDER

Gain by baptism and transfer.....	69
Loss by death.....	6
Loss by withdrawal.....	5
	<hr/>
Total loss.....	11
Net gain.....	58
Enrollment April 6, 1936.....	1949
	<hr/>
Total membership April 6, 1937.....	2007
Churches organized.....	1
Children blessed	40

Dr. Geo. L. Keiffer, president of the Association of Statisticians, American Religious Bodies, inquired about the identity and the membership of the Church of Christ, therefore we shall probably be recognized by that association in the near future.

April 9, 1937.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas F. Denham.

"The teaching of the Sermon on the Mount is as adequate to the needs of men and of nations today as when it was first proclaimed among the hills above the sea of Galilee."

FROM THE MAIL SACK

Houston, Missouri.
March 8, 1937.

Dear Sister Sheldon and Advocate:

Often have I thought of you and your work, and truly do I enjoy each word in our beloved little paper. Several times I have thought of writing, but have always felt that the other letters are so interesting and encouraging that my few words would be out of place. I love each one that writes, though I have never met but few of them, I love their names and see them in my imagination. I receive great help from the pieces written by our Elders and wish there were more.

I have been a member of the Church of Christ only three years. Previous to that time the Restoration was new to me. I have stepped out alone to fight the battle as none of my dear ones are members of Christ's Church. Elder S. P. Cox, now of Puyallup, Washington, was the first to preach the gospel here. I agreed with his sermons and thought he could preach and explain the best I had ever heard, but then I couldn't understand why the Church of Christ was so different from the others. I believe I could have, if he had explained the Book of Mormon, but there was so much to tell. He was the first to preach the gospel here. Later, when A. W. Rathbone came to preach to the members here, he explained the Book of Mormon. I began to see and understand, and I truly humbled myself with a contrite spirit before God and asked for knowledge and understanding, which I received in a dream. Altho some believe because they do not see these things take place which are in secret, that it does not happen. They had rather believe in man's doctrine, the mourners' bench. I believe if the Book of Mormon was talked and explained more people would understand better. It surely takes it to be truly converted, for without it you have not the fullness of the Gospel, and as I understand, it is for that purpose in the last days. Am I right in this? I have a lot to learn yet, but without it I feel I would still be in darkness. I truly love the gospel work and tell it whenever opportunity offers.

Elder J. E. Bozarth and Elder A. W. Rathbone have been faithful to us few saints here to keep us encouraged, as we have no church organized here. Sister Stark and I had our afternoon prayer meetings as there are no men members but none attended regularly except she and I. We prayed that God would send us an Elder and strong members. Last year Elder Postma and family and Sister Darrah and family of Independence, located with us, and there are some in the community who are very much interested. I feel that our prayers are being answered.

Last year I became sick. Elder H. E. Moler was here holding meetings. I asked him to administer to me. I had a queer weak feeling in my limbs and that feeling left. I became stronger. Again Elder J. E. Bozarth and Elder Wm. Postma administered and each time I became stronger. I know God heard our prayers. I am not able to walk far. I want the prayers of all the saints that my health may continue to improve, and that my life may be spared to raise my children, and that I may be able to help my husband understand the Gospel of Christ. I pray continually that my home, in time to come may be one pleasing in God's sight.

It fills me with pleasure to say I am interested in the work which I know is the true work of God, and I feel the desire to press forward to do all I can to help this glorious latter day work. I am very happy to be a member of the one and only true Church of Christ. I have often thanked God for

his help n giving me light that I have found the true from the false, but the sad part is I thought my loved ones would receive my help and understand with gladness, but to my sorrow they rejected it with scorn, but these words keep ringing.

How rich is thy blessing the world cannot give
I'm satisfied fully for Jesus to live.

Tho friend may forsake me and trials arise,
I'm trusting in Jesus, his love never dies.

I love him far better than in days of yore,
I'll serve him more truly than ever before,

I'll do as he bids me what ever the cost.
I'll be a true soldier; I'll die at my post.

In gospel bonds, your sister in Christ,
Mrs. Ernest Keeney.

Hamilton, Mo., April 23, 1937.

Editor Advocate:

Apostle James E. Yates and myself are preaching here every evening to small, but interested crowds, and God is blessing us with his Spirit in delivering the message of life. I find Bro. Yates a congenial companion in gospel work, and a man who trusts God to help him and make him an instrument through whom the gospel may reach the people. As the time draws near for us to part I feel that I shall lose the help and association of a true servant of the Master. I would be glad if we could spend the year together in gospel work. I believe we could do more good together than we can traveling alone, but I know that when we do part and the hour comes for each of us to stand and point the few or the many who may come to our separate services to the land of light and love that our thoughts and prayers will be for each other, that God will direct our minds to declare the truth and nothing but the truth without fear or favor.

Mr. Stapleton and daughters are rendering special music each evening. Bishop Ford and Elder John Sweem are assisting us in offering opening and closing prayers.

I send a clipping from the **Hamilton Chronicle**.

My wife is very poorly. If she does not get better it is going to be hard for me to go so far away, so I ask the prayers of all that she may regain her health so that I may go in peace of mind to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

(The following is a clipping to which Bro. Bozarth refers.—Ed.)

A series of gospel sermons are being delivered at the Church of Christ in Hamilton by Apostles J. E. Bozarth of Warrensburg, and James E. Yates, of California, every night this week and over Sunday.

Subjects for the remainder of the week are announced as follows: Thursday night, "The Mother Church and Protestant." Friday night, "I Will Build My Church"—Jesus. Saturday night, "Missionary Experiences Among the Indians."

Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, "Divine Faith vs Human Wisdom." Sunday night, "He That Doeth The Will of the Father."

Mr. Stapleton and daughters are rendering special music in the song service beginning at 7:30 o'clock. Bishop John T. Ford and Elder John Sweem of the local ministry join in extending a cordial invitation to all. Let us "prove all things and hold fast that which is good."

J. E. Bozarth

A Bit of News from Hollywood, California

By the Village Blacksmith

The Lord promised Abraham that he would not destroy the city if only ten righteous ones could be found therein.

If the angel of the Lord came to the twin cities of Los Angeles and Hollywood, how many righteous would he find? I wonder.

For the last fourteen years my wife, Carrie, and I have tried in our weak way to do our part towards warning these cities with the message of the Restoration, given through the choice seer, Joseph Smith. Thus far, in all those years, we have succeeded in converting and baptizing only seven adults who were not members of some other church.

Nothing gives Carrie and me more happiness than to visit our neighbors, sit by their home fireside, and talk the gospel. About three months ago Carrie visited a friend of hers who is on her death bed with that dreadful disease, cancer. Carrie asked me to go with her and explain about the thief on the cross, and salvation in the eleventh hour. This gave me an opening. After an hour's talk this woman, like the eunuch of old, asked for baptism. How could this be done, was the question, when she was so far gone. The best medical aid had told her she could not possibly live. She was unable to sit up in bed. Carrie and I asked the Lord for wisdom. Here is what we did.

I erected a baptismal font in her back yard, 8 feet long, 4 feet wide and 3 feet deep, filled it with clear, running water, went home, waited and prayed for a week to see if the Lord would give her temporary strength to walk to and from the water. We had done our part, done all we could, and felt that "man's extremity is God's opportunity." The power of God prevailed. On the evening of March 31st she sent us a message, "Come and baptize me." We went. She arose from her bed, walked to and from the water. It was a nice baptism. The Spirit of the Lord was with her, and with Carrie, bringing tears of joy to her eyes.

Are we happy? Today, April 11th, we had sacrament and laying on of hands, confirming the sister. Her husband listened and questioned, and is very much impressed with our story, and I look for further results. Whether this sister lives or dies, her name is recorded in the Lamb's Book of Life. When a person is baptized by water and the Holy Spirit by one having authority from God to officiate, his name goes on the Book of Life as a son of God's, a joint heir to His kingdom, and as long as his life lasts, if he is faithful and true, there is no need for rebaptism.

Why I Go to Church

This thought was given to me by our Editor one Sunday evening at the close of service. Since that time I find a multitude of reasons moving through my mind, and find it very hard to put one above another.

To begin with, I truly find no other place that gives me as much pleasure as being in the house of the Lord and helping serve whenever called upon. Then I recall very plainly the promise I made in the waters of baptism, when I buried the old man and took up the newness of life given me by the Saviour. (And by the way, each and every one of us who have embraced this gospel have received the same thing.)

Another very compelling reason is that I know were I to stay away from Church and the duty that is mine I would soon lose the influence of the Holy Spirit, and more than likely go back to the old ways again. That thought reminds me of the scripture that tells us if we once receive the Gospel

of Jesus Christ and then go back to the old ways that our condition is much worse than before. I am sure I don't want to resurrect the old man again.

Here in the center place the struggle that is as old as time itself goes on: Right and Wrong striving for the mastery, and I have joined myself with the force of right, hoping and believing that in the finish, Right will be the victor. There are those faithful Brothers and Sisters that carry on the manful warfare that I am proud to be with, and all of whom I have learned to love and cherish as my own. I have often pictured the joy and peace that would be ours were each member here to remember their promise made in the waters of baptism and come and help this struggling little band on the Temple Lot to carry the burden than sometimes is so very hard. There are none of us but what have our peculiarities, but for the works' sake we must overlook these things and get into the harness. The time is fast drawing near, and signs preceding the end are fast coming upon us on every hand, which is another very good reason why I should go to Church and be found at work for the Master. The time has come and is fast passing when we in charge of the sacred plot of ground and the trust the Lord has given into our hands should be forgetting those petty feelings that cause us to shirk our duty and, instead, be about the building of our souls that we might be one and be able to build that great city Zion to which Christ is to come, to set in order all things.

It seems I have heard a thought expressed something like this, "Those who do not work will never know the joy of achievement." I want to be in that joyous throng with the Master. I realize that the mortal part of me is very weak and that I need those who are trying to follow the Lord to be my companions, so another reason why I go to Church. In the life of each of us comes the necessity of working with the worldly crowds that we might supply the physical needs of our body. In the crowds are those things that are devilish, designed to destroy our soul, so easy to partake of unless helped by the divine strength of God, and how can I get this strength unless I go where the Lord is pleased to be?

Last year at Conference time I hitch-hiked down here from Rockford, Ill. Footsore and very weary I sat on the porch of Bro. Anderson's place to rest, and in looking around I saw the great stone church across the street and then a little south of that and across the street I saw the little white church. Compared as to architectural beauty with the church across the way, it had not a chance, but to me it seemed I had never seen a place as sweet and lovely. I don't believe that anyone can know the joy that swelled up within me; that is, unless they have had the same experience themselves. Since then I have come to regard it as partly mine. I love to think of the privilege I have of taking part in the work of the Master and being in His house.

Most everyone who reads the Advocate will recall the article by Bro. Caviness on Work. In this article he gives us this to think of. "We have only so much time; how are we using it? Unless we work for what we hope for, we will never realize our anticipations." I would like to fit into the parable of the sower who went forth to sow, that I might be like the good ground that the seed fell on; another reason why I go to Church.

In closing I would like to say there are faces absent from our gatherings that we miss, and wish it were not so. Please give heed to this little wish, come meet with us again. Let us pray for one another.

Rolland Sprague,
1101 W. Orchard, Independence, Mo.

SUNDAY SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Lesson 5	Abraham A Man of Faith Genesis 12: 1-9; 13: 14-18.	May 2
Lesson 6	Abraham a Man of Prayer Genesis 18: 17-32	May 9
Lesson 7	The Forebearance of Isaac Genesis 26: 12-25.	May 16
Lesson 8	The Weakness of Esau Genesis 25: 27-34; Genesis 27: 41-45.	May 23
Lesson 9	The Remaking of Jacob Genesis 28: 16-22; Genesis 32: 24-30.	May 30

Officers for the Coming Year

Brother A. M. Smith was reelected as general superintendent.

Sr. Sheldon was compelled to decline reelection as general secretary because of other duties. Bro. Wayne Richardson was elected. He is much interested in Sunday school work, and is the superintendent of the Temple Lot Sunday School.

Another Independence young man was elected on the general staff, Brother Roland Sprague, as assistant superintendent.

The general secretary reported 23 schools, varying from one or two families—a home class, to schools having a membership of 45 and 48.

"THE CHURCH"

By Emina Perkins Kearny

Written from memory by Chas. L. Sessions.
So. Boardman, Mich.

*"I will build my Church, saith the God above,
As he looked on the world below;
I will build it sure, with a mighty hand;
My people their Lord shall know."*

*"Deep down in the bed-rock of solid truth,
My foundation stones I will lay;
And there they shall lay, 'tis my will forsooth,
'Till the time of the judgment day."*

*"Mighty and strong shall my work appear,
The stones I have chosen well,
Naught shall prevail gainst the walls I rear,
Not even the gates of hell."*

*"Stone upon stone I will fit with care,
Each one in its place shall be,
And love's the cement that shall hold them there,
For this is my will saith he."*

*"Then fear ye not, saith the Lord of all,
For the work it is in mine hand,
And what is man? though he rise or fall,
That he should my work withstand?"*

*"His puny strength doth it count for much?
Though he use it for good or harm?
It shall wither, or grow at the slightest touch,
The touch of my mighty arm."*

*"Then fear ye not, for I build with care,
Each stone in its place shall be,
And love's the cement that shall hold them there,
For this is my will, saith he."*

MY FIRST PRAYER

*Each day I grew more weary;
Heavy grew my load of sin;
It seemed, though I tried to do better,
Each day I sank deeper in.*

*I was really afraid of my shadow;
I felt, oh, so wicked indeed;
Instead of a flower, I was growing
A wild and poison weed.*

*It seemed that the world was against me,
Although really I knew not why;
I was sick and tired of living,
And yet was afraid to die.*

*I often heard the Lord calling;
I wanted to answer so bad;
But oh, I was so wicked,
That the thought most drove me mad.*

*I knew not the meaning of His love;
So each day I sank deeper in;
My heart grew hard and bitter,
As I carried my load of sin.*

*One day, in my room, so weary,
I dropped on my knees right there;
I called on my Father in Heaven,
And right then I said a prayer.*

*It wasn't the words I was saying,
Although I know it was part;
But God, He heard the meaning
From away down in my heart.*

*I felt oh, so much better,
As I knelt on my knees there;
For I knew that God forgiveth
And heard my humble prayer.*

*And now I am so happy
As I travel the path he trod;
For when I am the least bit weary
I find sweet rest in God.*

Ethel Gerring.

South Boardman, Mich.

In his talks over the radio Father Sheen has sought to impress the thought that there can be no real social reform without regeneration of the heart; that the gospel of Christ is the first step in true reform. "Social and economic justice are by-products of Christianity," he said.

ZION'S ADVOCATE

Official Publication of the Church of Christ, Headquarters on the Temple Lot, Independence, Mo.

BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

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Send all subscriptions for the Advocate, Tithes, Offerings, Consecrations and Donations to the Temple Fund and Storehouse to Bishop J. R. McClain, Office Manager, Box 472, Independence, Missouri.

PASSED ON

Sister Melissa Christine Frisbey, fifty-two years old died March 15th at the Independence Sanitarium of injuries received in a motor car accident March 6th.

Sister Frisbey was a daughter of the late Elder George D. Cole. She is survived by her husband, Bishop A. O. Frisbey, three brothers, Earl J. Cole, of Independence; Geo. A. Cole and Will A. Cole, both of Los Angeles, and three sisters, Mrs. Lillian Bearden, of Salt Lake City, Mrs. May Salisbury and Mrs. Grace Nace, of Independence.

Funeral services were held at the George C. Carson Funeral Home with Apostle C. L. Wheaton officiating.

Sister Etta May Bohall, widow of Bro. Wiley Bohall, died March 9, 1937. Funeral services were conducted by Elder J. F. Wiles, assisted by Elder Edix, at Fresno, California. Sister Bohall was a sister of our dear Sr. Mina Williams, of San Leandro, California.

Brother Wiley Bohall preceded Sister Etta to the great beyond several years ago. The shock of her good husband's death disturbed our sister's tranquility of mind that she suffered much before her call came. Their membership in the Reorganized Church, then later in the Church of Christ, as well as the good lives they lived, measured up to those high standards of the gospel, which give a guarantee that their spirits have now reached the haven of rest and peace. They will come forth in the resurrection of the just.

CORRECTION

In the funeral notice of the passing of our Brother Williams, of San Leandro, California, as published in the April Advocate, the initials should be E. R. Williams, instead of E. K. Error was due to faulty penmanship of our written report to the Editor. J. E. Y.

ALL DAY MEETINGS

Elder Amos Surbrook of Wyandotte, Michigan, announces an all day meeting there for the first Sunday in June. All who can come are invited.

Address Bro. Surbrook at R. F. D. 1, Penn Ave., Wyandotte, Michigan.

THE NEW SECRETARY

This is to notify all concerned that I was appointed General Church Secretary at the late Ministers' Conference, and was also chosen by the Quorum as secretary of the Council of Twelve. Those having matters to bring to the attention of the secretary in either capacity, please note that my address until further notice will be General Delivery, Bemidji, Minnesota.

L. A. Gould, General Church Secretary, and Secretary of Twelve.

MINNESOTA REUNION

The Bemidji Local of the Church of Christ has set June 19 to 27 inclusive as the time for holding a reunion, to which all who desire a camping out experience in the forest and lake region of Northern Minnesota are invited. Canadian Saints are expected to be with us, and members of every division of the Restoration will be welcomed. While there are other attractions at this season of the year, let us look forward to a rich spiritual experience as our main objective. More detailed information will be published later, and in the meantime those interested may write to the pastor, Elder B. A. Winegar, Turtle River, Minn.

L. A. Gould, for the committee.

Ministerial Appointments

Wm. F. Anderson:—The Eastern Mission, including Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, The Virginias, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, and the New England States.

J. E. Bozarth:—The Southeastern Mission, including Arkansas, Louisiana, and all the states east of the Mississippi River, and below the Mason and Dixon Line.

R. M. Maloney:—Texas and Oklahoma. James E. Yates, Thomas E. Barton:—Associated in charge of the mission comprising Western Kansas, Nebraska, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico.

Clarence L. Wheaton, T. J. Jordan:—Associated in charge of the Western field, including California, Nevada, Arizona, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, and Western Canada.

L. A. Gould, B. C. Flint:—Associated in charge of Minnesota, North and South Dakota, and Iowa.

A. M. Smith:—Michigan and Eastern Canada.

B. C. Flint:—In charge of the British Isles Mission, and of Wisconsin.

H. E. Moler:—Missouri and Eastern Kansas.

Respectfully submitted,

L. A. Gould, Secretary.

PASTORAL

Having been placed in charge of Missouri and Eastern Kansas, I wish to serve notice to the members and friends of the Church of Christ that I am ready to answer calls in the above named territory for preaching services in the interest of the Church of Christ.

May we each do all we can. Yours in Christ.

H. E. Moler, 400 E. 4th St., Holden, Mo.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Bro. Wm. F. Anderson announces his new address—1200 W. Walnut street, Independence, Missouri.

by referendum vote of the church before such ordinations shall take place.

3. When calls are given that would induct men into the Melchisedec Priesthood, the ordination shall not be conferred until the call has been approved by the member of the Council of twelve in charge of the field in which such call originates, as well as by the voice of the local congregation to whom such persons shall minister. A general referendum vote on the call and ordination of an elder is not required.

4. Where the call comes providing for persons to be ordained to offices in the lesser priesthood, such ordinations shall not be conferred except it is approved by the voice of the local church to whom they may minister; such approval shall be given in a regular business meeting of that local congregation, of which due notice has been given, where such things should, by their nature, be considered.

Joint Secretaries { Clarence L. Wheaton, for the Twelve.
J. R. McClain, for the Bishopric.

(This is Referendum Bill, No. 1.)

Bro. McClain moved that speeches be limited to 5 minutes for the rest of the conference. A. M. Smith proposed 15 minutes as a substitute. C. L. Wheaton amended the substitute to limit speeches to 10 minutes. W. F. Anderson moved to lay the whole thing on the table. The vote was a tie, 7 to 7. The chair decided in favor of laying on the table.

Bro. Wheaton then offered the following motion:

"In view of previous action giving unlimited time to speakers I move that after tomorrow (Thursday) business sessions begin at nine o'clock in the morning."

Several spoke objecting to doing away with the prayer service in the morning, and the motion was voted down, 1 for and 10 against.

Bro. Yates then moved to take from the table the proposal limiting speeches to 10 minutes. The motion was seconded and put to vote. This time it carried by 10 and only 3 against.

C. L. Wheaton moved that Thursday's business session be devoted to routine business as reports from boards, committees, etc. There was some discussion and the previous question was called. The motion was put to vote and lost, 4 voting for and 10 against.

Bro. Wheaton moved to fill vacancy on Referendum Committee. Seconded and carried. Bro. McClain was nominated and elected by 9 votes, one opposing.

The meeting adjourned with song and benediction by Bro. Anderson.

Evening, 7:45.

C. L. Wheaton was the speaker, assisted by Jas. E. Yates.

THIRD DAY, THURSDAY, APRIL 8.

Morning.

9:30. The prayer service was in charge of the Quorum of the Twelve. Brother R. M. Maloney was ordained to the office of an apostle by Apostles Yates, Wheaton and Flint, Bro. Yates being the spokesman. Following this the meeting proceeded in the usual order with songs, prayers and testimonies.

11:00. Elder George H. Brimhall, an elder in the Utah church, was the speaker of the hour. Bro. Jas. E. Yates was in charge.

Afternoon Business Session, 2 O'clock.

Wm. F. Anderson in the chair, Jas E. Yates assisting.

Opening song 158 in Hymnal.

Prayer by Bro. Yates.

Song, 145.

Secretary requested that Bro. Gould assist her. The request was granted.

Minutes read and corrected.

A communication from Bro. R. B. Trowbridge was read.

The following committees reported: Board of Publication, Committee on Statistical Report Blanks, Committee on Enactments, and Temple Plans committee.

A report from Elder C. A. Gurwell was read.

Bro. Yates called attention to an error made yesterday when the last place on the Referendum Committee was considered vacant instead of the first place. The chair thought the brother who was elected to fill the vacancy could just as well fill the first place, and the secretary corrected the minutes to that effect. Some believed it would have been desired to have Bro. Yates succeed himself, and he was nominated. He declined. Finally it was decided that Bro. J. R. McClain who was elected yesterday be transferred to the first place on the committee instead of the third place.

Sr. Sheldon was nominated for editor, also Bro. Yates and Bro. Gould. Both brethren declined, expressing the belief that apostles should give their time to traveling missionary work. The present editor was reelected by a vote of 12 for and 1 against.

It was moved to adopt recommendation made by the committee on Enactments. This was seconded and carried. Sister C. L. Wheaton was selected with power to choose assistance.

Bro. Yates offered a resolution to change the time of the Ministers' Conference from April to October on account of weather conditions. Considerable discussion followed. The time honored custom of meeting on April 6 was too strong, and the resolution lost by a vote of 4 for and 12 against.

Bro. Wheaton moved that we fill vacancy on the Plans Committee. This carried. Bro. A. M. Smith was chosen to succeed himself.

Adjourned to meet tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock.

No. 217 was sung and the benediction was offered by Bro. Yates.

Evening Session.

7:45. A. M. Smith was the speaker. Bro. Anderson was in charge.

FOURTH DAY, FRIDAY, APRIL 9.

Morning Session.

9:30 Prayer meeting in charge of Bro. Ford and Gurwell.

11:00. The speaker at this hour was Bishop J. T. Ford with Bro. Bozarth in charge of the meeting.

Afternoon Business Session, 2 O'clock.

James E. Yates in the chair, assisted by T. J. Jordan.

199 in Hymnal was sung.

Prayer by Bro. Jordan.

201 in Hymnal was the second song.

Minutes read and approved.

The special order for the afternoon was called, and accordingly the report of the committee on Working Harmony was reread.

H. E. Moler called for the reading of a protest report, and that was read.

Bro. Moler moved the following: Resolved, That the committee on Working Harmony be abolished and that hereafter contact with factions of the Restoration be made by individual effort of our ministers. This was seconded by A. O. Frisbey.

Thos. E. Barton asked for the reading of a document prepared by C. L. Wheaton. Bro. Jordan yielded the floor for the reading of this document, after which he was given the floor to make some remarks by way of general advice or admonition as one of the presiding officers over the business session.

Bro. McClain moved as a substitute for the Moler resolution that the committee's report be approved. Seconded by