

Columbia County Annual Interdenominational S. S. Convention.

The twenty-seventh annual Convention of the Columbia County Association met in the M. E. Church at Catawissa on May 28th, and was opened with a song service followed by devotional exercises conducted by Rev. G. M. Klepfer, of Catawissa.

Mr. Low said: "This is a splendid day. Showers of course, but are they not showers of blessing to the dry and parched earth? We need showers of blessing in our hearts. Let us look to our Lord for these showers. Oh, for a sight of Christ by faith! How it lifts up and changes all our desires."

A. W. Spear, Statistical Corresponding Secretary, gave his report for the coming year. The first comparatively full report of statistics was made in 1888. Our last report shows the number of people in the Sunday Schools of Columbia County to be 14,713 a gain of about 3,000 in five years.

The roll of District Vice Presidents was now called and a majority responded with reports from their districts. These presidents assist the secretary very much in furnishing him with information regarding the schools under their care.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

After a song service Rev. D. N. Kirkby, of Bloomsburg, conducted the devotional exercises. The president appointed the following committee:

Committee on nominations: W. R. Kocher, Miss Sue Dechant, Mrs. I. H. Seesholtz, H. G. Supplee, L. A. Remley, R. T. Smith.

Committee on resolutions: Prof. R. Kocher, Miss Verne Jones, Mrs. Thomas Fortner.

Committee on place: Daniel McHenry, J. B. Nuss, J. C. Creveling.

Auditing Committee: John Eves, A. A. Pealer, C. M. Laubach.

Prof. C. H. Albert was then introduced and opened the parliament "How can the Col. Co. Association Help the Individual School?"

He said in connection to this topic unless we can go back to our schools next Sabbath and give to members some help that we have gained from this convention then our visit has been in vain.

There was a convention of farmers a short time since at which the people spent twenty-nine hours discussing the merits of horses, cows and hogs, and but twenty-five minutes to the discussion of boys.

The crying need of to-day is to give more time to the boys and girls. In 1895 45,000 girls, between the age of 12 and 16, were sold to lives of shame in the United States alone.

This is in part the fault of Sunday school teachers. The Sunday school has in its hands the care of the people of the community. We must make the Sunday school pleasant and agreeable.

One way is by thorough preparation. If I go before my class unprepared it is no wonder that it dwindles down to zero.

We must teach the children to make a wise choice in this life; to choose righteousness. Every boy or girl in our classes should feel the benefit of what we receive at the convention. This is a mountain top from which we can get a view of the broad field for work in the valley below.

Next Sunday let us go into the valley and make our schools feel that we have been here and derived some benefit. Quite a number of the delegates responded to the invitation to discuss the question, and several gave instances of times when they had received help from the convention.

Rev. U. Myers, Secretary of the Home Department Work in the State, gave a talk on the Home Department. This is a department of the Sunday School organized for the purpose of Bible study by persons who cannot be in the Sunday School, such as the aged, invalids, mothers with little children and persons whose employment will not allow them to attend the Sunday School.

By means of it many become engaged in studying the Bible who would not otherwise be interested in the work. The plan of operation is so simple that it can be used in any school, small or large.

At the close of his remarks, he presented a resolution to amend the constitution by adding an additional officer, a Home Department Secretary, whose duty shall be "to take general charge of the Home Department Work in the county and by correspondence or visitation or both to urge upon all district presidents and superintendents of schools to organize a Home Department in every school in the county each of these to report to the secretary; and he or she to report to the county conventions as often as held. This amendment was unanimously adopted by the convention.

Miss Amelia Eves, of Millville, read an excellent paper on Temper-

ance. Her ideas were founded on Paul's charge to the keeper of the prison: "Do thyself no harm." In being intemperate we do not break this command through ignorance. All around us are evidences of the fact that alcohol is injurious to the body. We are taught this in the public schools and can see it all around us. If we want the boys to be temperate we must entreat them kindly and work patiently to accomplish our end.

Rev. I. M. Patterson and Rev. C. H. Brandt, of Bloomsburg, were called upon to explain the workings of the Col. Co. Bible Society. They said the object of this society was to place Bibles in the hands of every person in the county and to this end depositories had been placed in several different parts of the county in order that they could be easily reached. The plan is to furnish those who can afford to buy them Bibles at a greatly reduced price, and those who are unable to buy them receive Bibles free of charge. It is hoped that this will lead to more Bible study. After music the meeting closed with the benediction.

THURSDAY EVENING SESSION.

After a stirring song service the devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. C. H. Brandt. Mrs. J. W. Barnes was then introduced and talked on "How to Make Christ Real to the Children." Mrs. Barnes hardly needs an introduction to a Columbia County audience, as she has delighted and instructed the people several times, and this time they were pleased just as much as before. She said: "The question 'How to Make Christ Real to the Children' implies that our children do not realize that Christ is human. If the child does not think of Him as a personal Saviour, it is not the fault of the child, but our own fault as teachers in not having a true conception of the humanity of Christ; because if we had this in our hearts and minds we could not help giving it to the child. One caution to teachers of primary children is that they should be careful not to use abstract things to represent Christ. I know of one person who used to think of Christ as a great eye always watching. A good way to have Christ become real to the children is to have them talk to Him in prayer. A little child's definition of prayer was 'Talking with God as we talk to mamma.' This is the way we want to pray. In the talking with mamma there is the request for things we desire, the confession of sins and asking forgiveness, and a frequent 'thank you.' At all of our sessions we have a number of prayers, the prayer of thanks, the prayer for the offering, the prayer for the lesson, and the closing prayer in which we try to embody the truth of the lesson. We endeavor to have the children take this prayer for the week. Teach that reference is due God at all times during prayer. Everything must be very quiet during this time. Our work must be to give the children a true conception of prayer, teach them how to pray and when to pray and God's Holy Spirit will work in such a way that they cannot fail to have a true conception of the reality of Christ."

Fieldsman, H. R. Bower, gave a report of the work done in the county during the year. He said he found in his going over the county there was still a great deal of land to be possessed for the Master. There were three things he would like to suggest as our line of improvement for the coming year. First, make use of the Home Department; second, have graded schools; third, try to put the Bible in its original place in the Sunday School. Use the lesson leaf and help at home but the Bible in the school.

FRIDAY MORNING.

Friday morning dawned clear and cool after the rain of the previous day and the church filled up rapidly. The song service was followed by devotional exercises led by Rev. H. H. Wissler, of Catawissa. The nominating committee reported that they had nominated the following officers:

President—Myron I. Low, Line Ridge; Vice Presidents—Prof. C. H. Albert, Bloomsburg, R. M. Graham, Catawissa, A. N. Wylie, Bloomsburg; Corresponding Secretary—A. W. Spear, Cabin Run; Recording Secretaries—Miss Eva Rupert and Miss Martha Powell, Bloomsburg; Treasurer—Mrs. Anna McHenry, Stillwater; Fieldsman—H. R. Bower, Berwick; Secretary Home Department—Miss Sue Dechant, Catawissa; Delegates to State Convention—S. D. Neyhard, John Eves, Daniel McHenry, Dr. W. E. Michaels, Thomas Ash, C. M. Laubach, F. B. Rhone, J. H. Henrie, Miss Charlotte Marsh, Mrs. Thomas Fortner.

These officers were unanimously elected as District Presidents for the year: Beaver—N. H. Ney; Benton—R. T. Smith; Berwick—Dr. W. E. Michaels; Bloomsburg—W. R. Kocher; Briarcreek—Dr. L. J. Adams; Catawissa—F. B. Rhone; Centre—Prof. R. Kocher; Centralia—B. J. Dyke; Conyngham—T. J. Reese; Cleveland—W. H. Gable; Fishingcreek—A. A. Pealer; Greenwood E.—I. M. Betz; Greenwood

W.—W. C. Thomas; Hemlock—W. Claude Masteller; Jackson—A. B. Mendenhall; Locust—C. W. Yeager; Madison—J. H. Henrie; Main—J. B. Nuss; Millin—J. W. Wintersteen; Millville—Boyd Trescott; Montour—Arthur Roberts; Mt. Pleasant—L. P. Kline; Orange—W. R. Brunstetter; Pine—R. F. Whitmoyer; Roaringcreek—A. W. Whitmer; Scott—J. C. Creveling; Sugarloaf—C. M. Laubach.

The committee on place reported they had received no invitation for the convention therefore had no further report to make. Dr. J. C. Kephart gave an excellent address on "Bible Schools in Bible Times." He said: "The Jewish children were early taught the book of the law. In a virtuous home no opportunity was lost of teaching reference for God. The children were taught when very young to memorize the law. We need to re-establish the Bible school in the home. We ought to see anew the importance of Bible instruction. Jesus went about all Galilee teaching and preaching. We have the same command for teaching as preaching. In Jewish schools until the pupils had learned, the teacher had not taught. The Jewish school was considered an essential part of the church. We can take a lesson from these Jewish schools and endeavor to have a better superintendent, a better teaching force and better methods."

A service of song preceded the devotional exercises which were conducted by Rev. J. B. Martyn. Dr. H. U. Roop, Normal Department Instructor, gave some "Helpful Hints in Normal Lines." Normal class work helps us. 1. To study the Bible more systematically. 2. It gives us a bird's eye view of the Bible. 3. It supplements our lesson helps. He said there were seven laws to be followed if we want to do the best work possible. They are: the laws of the adaptation, co-operation, definiteness, system, illustration, repetition and variety. In defining the Sunday School he said: "The Sunday School is that department of the church where the word of God is taught for the purpose of bringing souls to Christ."

Dr. Kephart gave a short account of the work that is being done in other counties. He said that although Columbia County was one of the banner counties in Sunday School work, there was still a great deal to be done here. The "Open Parliament" was opened by S. C. Creasy, who gave his idea of what a superintendent should be. "He should be a man that commands the respect of everyone; a man that has everything concerned with the school right under his eye; he should know every pupil in the school, and should realize the responsibility of bringing every pupil in his school to the Master."

John K. Miller said "The teacher must be able to adapt himself to the understanding of the pupil, and be able to lift up their pupils from their own level to a higher plane of existence."

Mrs. Albert Smith gave some of the things that would help to make the Sunday Schools more interesting. 1. The new scholars should be recognized. 2. We should have small classes. 3. Teach a missionary spirit. 4. Have good closing exercises.

The convention having grown to such proportions that it was impossible for any small town to entertain the delegates, it was thought best to change the representation which was done by adopting the following resolution:

Resolved: That article nine of the constitution be amended to read as follows: Each Sunday School in Columbia County is entitled to one delegate, and all schools having a membership of over two hundred to one additional delegate, and each district to one, who shall make a report of the County Convention to the district institute. These delegates together with the district presidents, superintendents and the ministers of the county shall constitute the convention.

The delegate to the State Convention, Boyd Trescott, presented a very excellent report but on account of lack of time was not able to read it. We give however a few extracts:

The convention was held in Williamsport in October and there were about 500 delegates present. Hon. John Wanamaker presided and responded to the address of welcome in his usual inspiring manner, and said among the many good things that the convention had met to learn of the Master's work and not to glorify any man. The presence of so many distinguished men, such as John Wanamaker, Wm. Reynolds, B. F. Jacobs and John R. Sweeney, makes the convention an important for good.

The committee on resolutions reported: WHEREAS, we the delegates of the Sunday Schools of Columbia County, have been permitted to meet in convention at the close of another year of Sunday School work, therefore be it

Resolved: That we express our sincere gratitude to God, our Heaven-

ly Father, for preservation; for advancement in Sunday School work; and for an increase both in the number and in the membership of our schools.

That we recognize the importance of the work accomplished by our executive committee, the willing workers, of Bloomsburg, and the District Presidents in holding institutes, especially in unoccupied territory.

That we urge upon our Sunday School workers to put forth a stronger effort during the coming year to save the young people from the many kinds of intemperance, especially from the use of all spirituous liquors, of tobacco and cigarettes, and of no less dangerous habit of gum chewing.

That we endeavor to live nearer to Christ and to do more to bring the children under his saving power.

That we hereby extend to the good people of Catawissa our heartfelt thanks for our hospitable entertainment during this convention; to the trustees of this church for the use of the building; to the local entertainment for the work done and to all who in any way have helped to make this convention a success.

The music for the convention was in charge of F. B. Hartman, of Bloomsburg, and it is hardly necessary to say that it was excellent and contributed very much to the pleasure of the delegates. Among the solo and duets that were sung, one of the sweetest was a duet by Mrs. Derr, of Catawissa, and Mr. Cyrus Robbins, of Stillwater, a gentleman past sixty years of age.

At the close of the Friday afternoon session the delegates separated with the feeling that they had gained some valuable help, and hoping that all might be spared to meet at our next convention.

ORPHANS' COURT SALE. ESTATE OF ADAM WHITMOYER, DEC'D. By virtue of an order of the Orphans' Court of Columbia County, the undersigned will expose to public sale on the premises in Pine township, Columbia County, Penna., on SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 1896, at 10 o'clock a. m., all that certain piece, parcel or tract of land situated in said township, bounded and described as follows, to-wit: On the north by lands of H. S. Warner, on the east by the public road leading from Pine summit to Millville, on the south by lands of Thomas McGarvey and Isaac Yount, and on the west by lands of William Houghton, containing about TWENTY-ONE ACRES, and twenty-seven perches more or less, whereon are erected a plank DWELLING HOUSE, frame barn and other outbuildings. A good orchard with fruit of all kinds. A well of never failing water at the door. About sixteen acres of the above is cleared and under a good state of cultivation, and the balance is wood land.

TERMS OF SALE.—Ten per cent. of one fourth the purchase money to be paid at the striking down of the property, one-fourth less the ten per cent. at the confirmation nisi, and the balance in one year thereafter, with interest from the confirmation nisi. Deferred payments to be secured by bond and mortgage.

WILLIAM D. WHITMOYER, Administrator of Adam Whitmoyer, dec'd., N. U. FUNK, Atty.

HUGHESVILLE, PA. 6-24

CHARTER NOTICE. Notice is hereby given that an application will be made to the Governor of the State of Pennsylvania, on the 29th of June, 1896, by Monroe H. Sculp, John E. Helgeson, William W. Ryan, Clinton R. Savige, Charles M. Clement, George H. Webb, Robert H. Crosby, Harry K. Smith, Jesse C. Shigman and C. J. Coons, under the Act of Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, entitled "An Act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain corporations," approved April 29th, 1874, and the amendments thereto, for the Charter of an intended corporation, to be called North and West Branch Telephone Company, the character and object of which is for the purpose of constructing, maintaining and leasing lines of telegraph for the private use of individuals, firms and corporations for general business and for public fire alarms or messenger business, and for the transaction of any business in which electricity or through wires may be applied to any useful purpose, and for the purposes to have, possess and enjoy all the rights, benefits and privileges of said Act of Assembly and its supplements.

C. W. MILLER, Solicitor.

6-4-96.

CHARTER NOTICE. Notice is hereby given that an application will be made to the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, on Monday, the 29th day of June A. D. 1896, by A. Z. Schoch, W. S. Moyer, L. E. Walter, Fred Richards, J. L. Dillon, C. C. Peacock and others, under the Act of Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, entitled "An Act to provide for the incorporation and regulation of certain corporations," approved April 29th A. D. 1874, and the supplements thereto, for the charter for an intended corporation, to be called "The Bloomsburg Elevator and Machine Works," the character and object thereof is the manufacture of elevators and doing general foundry and machine work. And for these purposes to have, possess and enjoy all the rights, benefits and privileges of said Act of Assembly and its supplements.

C. W. MILLER, Solicitor.

6-4-96.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. Estate of Susan Bamback, late of Bloomsburg, Pa. Notice is hereby given that letters of administration on the estate of Susan Bamback, late of Bloomsburg, Pa., deceased, have been granted to the undersigned administrator, to whom all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment, and those having claims or demands against said estate to present the same without delay to

C. H. CAMPBELL, Administrator.

6-4-96.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE. Estate of David Vanhorn, deceased. The undersigned auditor appointed by the Orphans' Court of Columbia County to pass upon exceptions and make distribution of the balance in the hands of C. L. Smith, executor, will sit at his office in Bloomsburg, on Friday, June 27th, 1896, at 10 o'clock a. m. to perform the duties of his appointment, when and where all persons interested must appear and prove their claims, or be barred from any share in said fund.

GEO. E. ELWELL, Auditor.

6-14-96.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE. Estate of William Beck, Sr., late of Centre Township. The undersigned auditor appointed by the Orphans' Court of Columbia County, to report distribution of the balance in the hands of William Beck Jr., administrator of said estate, will sit at his office in Bloomsburg, on Saturday, June 27th, 1896, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, when and where all persons having claims against said estate must appear and prove the same or be barred from coming in on said fund.

H. A. MCKILLIP, Auditor.

6-21-96.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

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A. L. FRITZ, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Post Office Building, 2nd floor, BLOOMSBURG, PA.

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B. FRANK ZARR, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW, Clark's Building, cor. Main and Centre Sts., BLOOMSBURG, Pa. Can be consulted in German.

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