

Sunday School Convention.

Minutes of the Eleventh Annual State Sunday School Convention of the Christian church in California, assembled with the Church of Christ in San Francisco, May 24, 1881.

7:30 O'CLOCK P. M.

President J. M. Martin, of Santa Rosa, in the chair.

After singing and prayer, the convention proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year.

On motion, Hon. Wm. Johnston, of Sacramento, was chosen president.

On motion, E. B. Ware, of Napa, was chosen secretary.

On motion, Prof. J. M. Martin, of Santa Rosa, was chosen vice-president.

On Motion, Prof. J. Durham, of College City, was elected treasurer.

The Convention was then favored with a most welcome address of "Welcome," by Elder J. H. McCollough, of San Francisco.

In the absence of Bro. J. W. Webb, the president called upon Prof. Durham, who responded with his usual zeal and energy in the good work.

After singing the enrolment of delegates was called. Under this head the following churches and delegates were reported:

Napa—E. B. Ware, A. D. Butler and Mrs. Marshall.

Woodland—Prof. Elston, Mrs. Sue E. Grant, Miss Emily Grant and J. — Jeanes.

San Francisco—S. S. Slorgie and Lydia F. Luse.

Sacramento—P. H. Cutler.

College City—J. Durham.

Yountville—Florence Ware.

Santa Rosa—Mrs. L. Jordan, Mrs. Eva Hood, J. W. Fulton, Mrs. Angie B. Martin and J. M. Martin.

Franklin—W. W. Johnston and Mrs. W. Johnston.

Vacaville—J. Miller.

On motion, Bros. Durham, Ware and Sister Luse were appointed to fill the vacancies in the programme.

The regular order being finished, the chair called for short addresses, which was responded to by President Elston, Bro. Cutler and Mrs. Grant.

On motion, adjourned to 10 A. M., 25th.

After adjournment several minutes were spent in renewing old acquaintances and forming many new ones, which was enjoyed by all.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25TH, 10 A. M.

Convention assembled, Pres. Johnston in the chair.

Devotional exercises, conducted by Bro. Ware, singing led by Bro. Durham.

The minutes of previous meeting were read and approved.

Committee on programme reported Bro. J. H. McCollough to fill the vacancy occasioned by the absence of Bro. Connell. Bro. McCollough then favored us with an interesting address on the question "Is the Sunday School an individual work or a work of the church?"

The discussion of this question took a wide range, and was participated in by Professors Martin and Elston, Mrs. Luse, Grant, Martin, Mr. President and others.

On motion, members of other churches, attending the convention, were cordially invited to participate in its deliberations.

On motion, convention adjourned to 2 P. M.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

Convention assembled, pursuant to appointment, president in the chair.

Singing from Gospel Hymns combined, Nos. 138, "Draw me Nearer."

Prayer by Prof. Martin.

Singing "Beautiful Words of Life."

Reports of schools being called for, the following reports were handed in and read:

San Jose—No. of scholars, 98; teachers, 5; officers, 2; average attendance, 79. Delegates, H. O. Edson and T. B. Proctor.

Sacramento—No. of scholars, 65; teachers, 7. Use Standard Lesson

Leaves, Child's Paper, Cook's Quartermaster. Mrs. J. A. Morris, superintendent; P. H. Cutler, assistant; Mrs. L. Crader, secretary.

Vacaville—No. of scholars, 53; teachers, 8. Papers used *Little Pearls, Good Words, Teachers' Monthly and Mentor*. W. W. Smith, superintendent, and J. M. Miller, secretary.

The next order on the programme was "How I Manage a Class." On this subject Sister Angie B. Martin, of Santa Rosa, delivered a most interesting address, opening up such a field of thought that the entire session was devoted to the discussion of the subject. The discussion was continued by Bros. Durham, Skien, McCollough, Johnston, Elston and others. On motion, convention adjourned to 7:30 P. M.

7:30 O'CLOCK P. M.

Convention called to order by the president.

Prayer by Bro. Cutler.

Song, No. 79, from Gospel Hymns, "What Shall the Harvest Be?"

The convention was then addressed by Bro. S. S. Sturges, on the subject of "Song Service and Song Books." The address contained many valuable suggestions in reference to the singing in our schools and churches. The speaker was followed by a short but most excellent address from Prof. Martin, presenting some beautiful thoughts on the nature and influence of song. After which there were a number of short speeches in the same direction.

At the conclusion of these exercises the convention joined in singing the first hymn in Gospel Hymns:

"All people that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice."

The question box was then introduced by Prof. Durham. A number of questions were distributed among the members of the convention, which were read and answered by each.

Before this most interesting part of the programme was finished, on motion of Bro. Sturges, the convention adjourned to 10 A. M., May 26th.

THURSDAY, MAY 26TH, 10 A. M.

Convention assembled, Vice-President Martin in the chair.

Prayer by Bro. Durham.

Singing No. 3 Gospel Hymns, "I Need Thee Every Hour."

On motion, a committee of three was appointed on Motions and Resolutions. The chair appointed Bros. Durham, Butler and T. Proctor on the committee.

On motion, the regular order was suspended, and reports from schools were called for.

Written reports were read from the following churches: Woodland, Yountville, Napa, San Francisco, College City and Saratoga; all of which showed a healthy condition of the schools in those localities. Verbal reports were made from Hopeton and Modesto by Bro. McCollough. Bro. Skien reported the school at Lompoc, and thought that its greatest need was competent teachers. Lakeport was reported by Bro. Ware as being in a good condition.

The regular order being resumed.

The convention, in the absence of President Kieth, was addressed by E. C. Ware, on the elements of success in the Sunday school. Quite a lengthy and interesting discussion followed, participated in by many of the delegates.

After singing the next order of business was "Normal Class Instruction." H. D. Connell being absent H. O. Edson was called upon to fill the vacancy, and it was the opinion of all that he filled it full. The address was filled with many wise suggestions in reference to the objects and the manner of conducting Normal Classes. After some remarks by other speakers on the same subject, on motion, the convention adjourned.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Singing "Home of the Soul."

Prayer by H. O. Edson.

On motion, the regular order of business was suspended, and the question of locating the next Annual State Sunday School Convention was taken up. On motion of H. O. Edson Napa City was selected as the location.

An able address was delivered by J. H. McCollough on "Our City Work." The speaker showed that the apostles began in the cities, and from these, as centers, the triumphs of the religion of Christ were won.

Addresses were made by delegates Edson, Martin, Flower, Ware, President Martin, Mrs. Luse and Mrs. Dick.

Next, a very able and touching and eloquent address was delivered by E. B. Ware on "Our State Work."

Short speeches were made on the question by Prof. Durham, Pres. Martin, Pres. Johnston, McCollough and Skien.

Committee on Resolutions offered the following resolutions, all of which were adopted.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That we take great pleasure in expressing our thanks to the brethren and sisters of San Francisco for the hospitable manner in which they have provided for the entertainment of the delegates to this convention.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this convention that we express our grateful thanks to the trustees of the Plymouth church for their kindness in giving us the use of their church during our sittings.

Resolved, That we express our thanks to the press of the city for the kind notices they have made of the programme of this convention.

Resolved, That we, as a convention, individually and collectively, express our sympathy toward the brethren of San Francisco in their earnest efforts to establish the cause permanently in this great metropolis, and we pledge ourselves to give our encouragement in a more substantial form.

Resolved, That each Sunday school be requested to send in a contribution with its annual report, to defray the expenses of the convention.

Resolved, That all our Sunday schools be earnestly requested to send delegates and reports to the Annual State Convention, to be held at Napa City, May, 1882.

On motion, convention adjourned to 7:30 P. M.

7:30 O'CLOCK P. M.

Convention assembled pursuant to notice. President in the chair.

Singing "What a friend we have in Jesus."

Prayer by Bro. Skien.

Singing "I love to tell the Story."

The regular order was varied, and E. B. Ware was called upon to answer the following question: Is it right for individual members to take part in independent efforts to build up Sunday schools and other religious enterprises? The view presented was that it is, when it does not interfere with our own church work.

The regular order being called, Mrs. Sue E. Grant entertained the convention by a most excellent and instructive essay on the subject of "Workers and Shirkers."

The convention then engaged in singing the grand old hymn "Jesus lover of my Soul."

The next in order was an address by President A. M. Elston, of Hesperian College, Woodland. The address was most interesting and able, and held the undivided attention of the audience to the close. The convention declined to discuss the subject, feeling, I have no doubt, that it would be too bad to mar that which they wished to remain in their memories, as a "thing of beauty and a joy forever."

Bro. Durham followed with "Gathered Grains," which was an excellent resume of what had been gone over by the convention.

The minutes were then read and approved.

Then followed the most touching scene of the convention, "Parting Words." Short and touching addresses were made by Bros. Hawkins, Johnston of Sacramento, Edson, McCollough, Martin, and others. The closing hymn was then sung, and many gave each other the parting hand, after which the president declared the convention adjourned.

WM. JOHNSTON, Pres.

E. B. WARE, Sec.

P. S.—Owing to the fact that the Secretary had so many duties to perform the above minutes are not as full as could be desired, and many things were not recorded that should have been.

The committee on programme for next year consists of J. Durham, H. O. Edson, Sue E. Grant, Angie B. Martin and E. B. Ware.

The reports sent in to the convention were very imperfect, some of them giving no statistics at all. I presume this was owing to no blanks having been sent out. I append here a subjoined list of written reports handed in.

No. on roll.	Av. At.	Teachers
San Jose 98	79	5
College City 80	80	—
Woodland 85	70	8
Napa City 211	148	15
San Francisco 79	61	—
Vacaville 53	—	8
Saratoga 80	67	5
Santa Rosa 63	68	12

Bro. Durham reported schools at Red Bluff, Butte City, and one or two other points which were not noted.

E. B. WARE.

What a Mother Did.

Some one who had noticed the influence of wives in promoting the good or evil fortunes of their husband, said: "A man must ask his wife's leave to be rich." We doubt not that a similar observation of the influence of mothers upon their sons would justify the remark: "A man must ask his mother's leave to be great."

Years ago a family of four—a father, a mother and two sons—dwelt in a small house, situated in the roughest locality of the rocky town of Ashford, Conn. The family was very poor.

A few acres of stony land, a dozen sheep and one cow, supported them. The sheep clothed them, and the cow gave milk, and did the work of a horse in ploughing and harrowing. Corn-bread, milk, and bean-porridge was their fare.

The father being laid aside by ill-health, the burden of supporting the family rested on the mother. She did her work in the house and helped the boys do theirs on the farm. Once, in the dead of the winter, one of the boys required a new suit of clothes. There was neither money nor wool on hand. The mother sheared the half-grown fleece from the sheep, and in one week the suit was on the boy. The shorn sheep was protected from the cold by a garment made of braided straw.

The family lived four miles from the "meeting house." Yet every Sabbath the mother and her two sons walked to church. One of these sons became the pastor of the church in Franklin, Conn., to which he preached for sixteen years. Two generations went from that church to make the world better.

The other son also became a minister, and then one of the most successful of college presidents. Hundreds of young men were molded by him.

That heroic Christian woman's name was Deborah Nott. She was the mother of Rev. Samuel Nott, D.D., and of Eliphalet Nott, D.D., LL.D., President of Union College.

"Honor and shame from no condition rise; Act well your part—there all honor lies."

—God made the world to be trampled upon. Let us seek to keep it where he put it, beneath our feet.

Sunday School Convention.

Minutes of the Sunday School Convention of the Christian church, met in the M. E. church, Willows, Colusa Co., Cal., Thursday, May 19, 1881, at 8-30 P. M.

The little band of Sunday school workers having assembled at the above specified time and place, commenced their work promptly. But few were in attendance at the beginning, yet the number was soon increased, and considerable interest was manifested during the evening.

Bro. H. G. Hartley was elected chairman and J. R. Grinstead secretary.

The devotional exercises were conducted by Bro. Logan, after which a committee on arranging programme was appointed. Delegates from different Sunday schools and congregations were then enrolled. Brothers and sisters of all denominations were invited to participate in the meeting. Some encouraging speeches were made by Bros. Hartley, Durham, Logan and Kieth. After singing the soul-stirring melody, "All hail the power of Jesus' name," the meeting adjourned to meet at 9:30 A. M., May 20th.

FRIDAY, MAY 20TH, 9:30 A. M.

After devotional exercises was an address by Bro. Hartley, "How can we best reach the hearts of the people with the Word." Discussion upon same by Bros. Durham, Logan, Broyles and Kieth.

A committee was appointed to consider the propriety of forming a district for Sunday school work, and of having an Annual Sunday School Convention.

Adjourned to meet at 3 P. M.

3 O'CLOCK P. M.

Devotional exercises.

Address by Bro. Broyles, "How to preach to children."

Song, "Home of the Soul."

The following report was made by committee: That a district be laid off composed of Colusa, Tahama, western parts of Butte and Sutter counties, and that an Annual Sunday School Convention be held in May.

Each Sunday school and congregation are requested to send delegates, and also all scattering members within the district are respectfully invited to attend. The report was adopted.

Motion made and carried that the next convention be held in College City.

The question drawer was opened, and considerable time spent in discussing questions relating to Sunday school work.

Adjourned.

SATURDAY, MAY 21ST.

Devotional exercises.

Address by Bro. Logan, "The Sunday School and Church Work." Remarks on same by Bro. Durham.

Address, "Influences of Sunday School on Young Men," by J. R. Grinstead. Remarks by Bros. Logan, Durham, Hartley, Kieth and Broyles.

Question drawer opened, and some important questions answered and discussed.

Song, "Bringing in the Golden Sheaves."

Adjourned to meet at 2:30 P. M.

2:30 O'CLOCK P. M.

Motion made and carried that a managing board of three be appointed, whose duty it shall be to solicit and receive pledges from individuals and churches, and employ one or more evangelists, and otherwise manage the evangelical district above named.

Committee were J. W. Houston, Elk Creek; H. G. Hartley, Butte City, and Gano Kennedy, College City.

The following pledges were received, viz.: J. W. Houston, Elk Creek, \$25; H. G. Hartley, Butte City, \$25; Elder Jas. Logan, evangelical work, 10 days; Elder P. H. Boyles, evangelical work, 10 days.

Reports of Sunday schools.

Adjourned to meet at College City in May, 1882.

H. G. HARTLEY, Chairman.

J. R. GRINSTEAD, Secretary.