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## CONVENTION

### Of The Ford County Sunday School Association.

The annual convention of the Ford County Sunday School Association was held in the M. E. church Sunday afternoon and Monday. The attendance was good and the interest earnest.

Joseph Worker had charge of the song and praise service at the opening Sunday afternoon.

J. H. Engle, of Abilene, Field Secretary and Superintendent of Normal Instruction, was present, and greatly assisted President Prather in the conduct of the convention.

Mrs. R. B. Prenzner, of Lawrence, Superintendent Primary Instruction, delivered some fine addresses.

C. D. Wood, of Hutchinson, of the State Executive Committee, the stand-by of the Sunday School, spoke on several subjects.

After singing and prayer the lesson, "Better Use of the Bible," was taken up. Rev. Wm. Westwood said the thing we are after today is that we need better methods in the use of the Bible. The Bible is one work we must remember; it makes no difference what we are studying; the point we are studying must be interpreted historically, (excepting the commandments and the gospels.) All others must be treated locally—to the time. The first principle is always a historical principle. The second principle is the language of the Scripture in its obvious meaning. Our common sense must be used. We must study prose or poetry as suitable, which is found after diligent search. The third principle is we must compare Scripture with Scripture. No doctrine rests on a single text. A long period of time was used in the transmission of the Scripture. In order to understand the Scriptures intelligently we must compare Scripture with Scripture. It is no small task to interpret the Scripture.

The fourth principle is: The Holy Spirit of God which inspired men of old to write the Bible must be in our hearts. How many of us when we open our Bibles ask God to aid us in interpreting the Scriptures as inspired?

On "Teaching the Bible," Rev. Dugald McCormick said, let us hope and pray that the time may come when teaching scholars will come in the spirit in which it has been presented to us today. Every aid and help to a better understanding must not be displaced in study of word of God. We have not the knowledge we ought to have, but we ought to take the Bible as a whole. With all the teaching we have had, teachers come to the school without the Bible. When we have the proper study of the Bible we do not have to get up into our pulpits and tell the people where they can find a particular book of Scripture. We do not exalt the word of God as we ought to do in our Sunday School lessons. We should use the Bible and not altogether the lesson leaf.

Reference to reference gives us better understanding. A clear insight was given by Mr. McCormick by making special reference to particular passages. If you do not believe in a personal devil you cannot believe in a personal God. He showed the possibilities of using God's word in the Sunday School class lessons.

Rev. E. M. Carr spoke on the personal work of the lesson. The Scripture furnishes us all that is necessary for this life and the life to come. We find that we must have the spirit of Christ or we are not his. The Old Testament was the school master to bring us to Christ. We must find the purpose for which Christ died. It was a too common error to rely too much on quarterlies. We should use the Bible in our class, personal and church work. Age was no bar to attendance in Sunday School. None can be too much "established."

"Our Life Work is Never Ceasing," was sung by the Ladies' Quartette, composed of Mrs. Crumline, Mrs. Milton, Mrs. Villipigue and Mrs. Straulman.

Secretary Engle opened the question drawer and found a number of questions which were answered as he called upon those to answer.

"Class promotion, when and how?" was answered by Mrs. Prenzner, who said the Bible school is a school as much as any school. Promotion to higher grades was made through the cultivation of desire to excellence in learning.

"Should the superintendent use the bell?" was answered by Mrs. Crumline, who spoke of the disadvantages by disturbance and noise.

The voice, organ and bell were considered, but Mr. Wood suggested a system of international bell taps.

Mr. Engle said there was no school for definite system of honor and reward.

Mr. McCormick spoke on "Order and Discipline in Sunday School." We must ask for order three weeks in advance, if necessary. We must have order and attention or we cannot have good work. Teachers must present work so as to command respect.

Miss Mary Imel spoke on the increasing interest of the Sunday School.

Rev. Carr said Sunday Schools cannot

succeed so well without previous teachers' meetings, as preparation had been made.

"How to introduce lesson study." This question was given by Mr. Engle to people promiscuously. In being called upon, Mr. Swinehart said the question should not have been given indiscriminately. Preparation was necessary. He had not given thought to the question. How much better would have been the "preacher choir" had they practiced beforehand. (The preachers had been invited and occupied the choir stand).

On "Derelict Parents," Mr. Scates said father and mother should be induced to attend Sunday School. Children take more interest when parents go. Sunday School business was too mechanical.

Mrs. Whitworth had given no thought to the subject, but she said we ought to set an example, and by this means we may bring others to attend.

Holt, Porter had been a Sunday School teacher since he was converted, but he could not tell how to get parents to Sunday School; but the conversion of parents was necessary. Without salvation there was little interest in Sunday School.

Geo. T. Martin said he was fortunate that such a good foundation had been laid by the preceding speakers. He said respect of teachers was needed by parents. Disrespect was harmful. Children should be taught promptly.

Mrs. Prenzner said interesting exercises prompted parents to attend Sunday School.

Mr. Wood spoke on superintendents and teachers and their duties during the week. He said there should be a definite plan for study, persons, plans and places. A good teacher is familiar with class. Day school methods should be applied to Sunday Schools. Recognition was necessary to make pupil and teacher reciprocal. Sociability should be encouraged.

Mr. Prather said we should take our mistakes to the Lord.

Mr. Worker said this was a splendid thought. We should know the Sunday School child every day in the week.

Mr. Amos gave his experience with the Home Department. He was impressed more this afternoon that people not familiar with Sunday School work were unable to speak intelligently on the subject. A home department should be hitched on to each school.

Mr. Westwood said the Home department was a decided success. Its influence was good for the increase of membership.

Mrs. W. J. Davies said her observation of visiting was good to visitors if there was not much practical benefit to those visited.

"Your experience with cradle roll," was answered by Mrs. Crumline, who told of this new method, and exhibited a doll cradle in explanation of the work. She told what first interested her in cradle roll. Children were not interested in Sunday School because parents induced them to go, but because children wanted to go. The inducements hung on a slender thread, but it stands a terrible strain. A few months ago the cradle roll was started in the Presbyterian church. She told children every Sunday about cradle. Application cards were used for children under three years of age.

The evening meeting was opened by devotional services, conducted by Leroy Martin. The M. E. choir sang a beautiful anthem.

Mr. Engle introduced Mrs. R. B. Prenzner, who is a relative of the celebrated Beecher family. Mrs. Prenzner spoke of the changes in the development of Bible work. The psychology of the child was considered. The child is sent to us according to the plan God had made for him. The child is a unit in the human race and he is at this period until he is ten years of age. She spoke of the three fold nature of the child: His bodily, mental and spiritual. At one year he must first acquire the use of his body, and at three years, the necessity of early training was obvious. Long before he is three years old he knows that he can get things by crying for them; and just so soon must the parents begin to train the child. If the child at three years has had no habits of obedience he is disobedient and unruly and has established habits. At seven the child could be "crowded" in learning. At ten he has use of his senses. He has grown in his mental capacity to a knowledge of all of his senses. Mental growth was developed through the senses up to 45 years, in its full vigor. Spiritual development was more gradual. This continued to grow.

It was the natural instinct of the boy to believe he is grown at 10 years. He does not want to be called a child. We must take a hint that they are not boys and girls at ten years, but they want to be considered as pupils—as students.

All things that seem trite to us are new to children. Mrs. Prenzner spoke of the child's character—in imagination, wonder, seeking causes, power, pursuit. His social nature, imitation, sympathy—social instincts—the ruling passion in worldly pursuit.

You can tell the father and mother of the child by the manners of the child.

Thought, reason and judgment, we do not find in children.

Children change and are in motion, and they need a separate place for the primary classes. A curtain drawn across the room would do. Must have separate place because of mental endowment. His eyes must be controlled. Eighty per cent. of knowledge came by the eyes. The pictorial enlarged the visualized sense, which is becoming more developed by the pictures.

Care and order was the child's desire. The child likes strict teachers, because they can depend upon them. The common feeling of the child is that he wants to know what he can depend on.

Mode of teaching was adopted to the development of the child. The child, when he goes out into the world, he knows of God just as his father and mother knows. If we could teach the child as he knows in his heart he would soon be converted, as his tendency is to worship God.

"May God give us grace to keep his laws as he has given them to us," said Mrs. Prenzner, in closing. Her address was highly appreciated.

Monday morning, President Prather made a report in writing. Ford county was in better condition than last year, and greater interest was in modern methods. Obligations have all been paid and there was a surplus left. Mr. Prather's report was ordered printed in the county papers.

Secretary Amos made his yearly report. There were 23 schools and 19 were open the year round. In comparison with last year there is a large gain in all respects. There are 213 officers and teachers and a total membership of 1447. Average attendance 1246. Joined church from eight schools, 56.

The next convention is to be held in the Christian church, Dodge City, Saturday and Sunday, May 17 and 18, 1901.

The nominating committee, consisting of Mrs. C. A. Hulpien, Mrs. L. K. Van Horn, Mrs. B. F. Milton, Will Davis, T. A. Scates and W. H. Preston, made the following report, which was adopted:

For President—F. H. Prather.  
Vice-Presidents—H. A. Cord, H. R. Marion, Jos. Worker, H. W. Dorsett, C. N. Ridenour, Robert Porter.  
Secretary—W. S. Amos.  
Assistant Secretary—Vincent Ragland.  
Treasurer—I. V. Stewart.  
Executive Committee—S. J. Crumline, Leroy Martin, John Lloyd.

Primary Dept.—Miss Mary Imel.  
Normal Work—Rev. E. M. Carr.  
Superintendent Home Dept.—Mrs. B. F. Milton.

The Committee on Resolutions—N. B. Klaine, Mrs. C. M. Price, J. D. Bailey and S. A. Burrell—made the following report, which was adopted:

1. We recognize the Sunday School as the primary institution in the life and growth of the church. It is the seed life of the Christian. From its germ springs the Christian character. Under the good influences of the Sunday School is nurtured the life and destiny of the Christian.

2. We appreciate the training of the Sunday School and its influence upon the mind of the youth. We realize that impressions made upon youthful minds will bear fruit in after years.

3. We recognize the duty of the parent in the encouragement of all Sunday School work—to the end that children may be led into the way of righteousness.

4. We commend the good offices of the officers and members of the Ford County Sunday School Association, and all others engaged in Sunday School duties, for the faithful and hearty work performed by them, without hope of reward, except the everlasting blessing of our Father in Heaven.

5. This committee finds much to commend in the work of this convention. We recognize that great good has been done in the reading and speaking on the lessons; and that many important suggestions have been made that will find generous response in the future conduct of the Sunday Schools of the county.

6. That the Christian people and all good citizens, without respect to creed or predilection, be asked to co-operate in Sunday School work and in the encouragement of Christian principles, that our county may be relieved from the thrall of sin and the usurpation of the devil.

7. We are thankful to Bro. Engle, Bro. Wood and Sister Prenzner, and to our local clergy and brethren for the part taken in this convention and for the good accomplished.

8. This time has been a benediction. Truly, the Lord has been with the deliberations of this convention. There have been words of inspiration that will carry their joy into the greater activities of our Christian life. For this good we are gratefully thankful to the Lord.

9. Let us ask a more earnest work in the promotion of the Sunday School throughout our county. Let us consider it our duty as Christians in this work—a duty we owe to ourselves, and to the All-wise God, who rules our destinies.

10. Let us not be "clouds without water, carried about of winds; trees whose fruit withereth without fruit, twice dead, plucked up by the roots," but let us multiply the seed sown, and increase the fruits of our righteousness.

F. A. Prather, president of the association, was selected as the delegate to the State Sunday School Convention, next May.

Sunday School workers are much encouraged with the prospects before them, and are pleased with the efficient manner in which Sunday School affairs have been conducted the past year.

## The Catholic Mission.

Sunday morning the first Catholic Mission opened in Dodge City. Father Donohue in charge held mass, and was followed by Rev. Bernadine C. P., of St. Louis. The church was filled and the people listened to an interesting sermon from the visiting priest. The Mission will hold during the week, morning and evening, until Sunday next. Father Donohue said questions on points controverted would be answered during the Mission. It was not intended to give any offense to any one, and all Catholics and non-Catholics are cordially invited to attend the services.

Rev. Bernadine delivered an excellent sermon. He said in part: "These Missions are held once in ten years, sometimes not in ten years. We give a good deal of time of our life to making money. We ought to give some of our time to our Spiritual affairs. It would be neglecting grace to fail to hear instructions given in the Missions."

When we hear the voice of God burden not your hearts. These words were addressed to the people by the prophet. It was at a time when people had avoided the voice of God and followed after the hardness of hearts. There is more reason to heed this warning now than ever before.

Man's mind was in the image of God, but only by sin was his mind darkened, and turned away from the eternal truth. When the people worshipped idols God warned them many times. So much did mankind become perverted that God regretted he created man, and sent the deluge to wipe out man. He sent fire and brimstone on the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah at another time. The warnings of the prophets were not heeded. Man followed the instincts of his own heart, the Jews worshipping the golden calf. In spite of God's warnings man heeded not, but made laws for his own government.

Christ spoke as no man spoke and yet the people would not believe because of their corrupt hearts. All things done by Him were not recognized. He was crucified and suffered death.

Why is all this done to this day? Why does man prefer to walk in darkness? Unless we accept his teaching and light we cannot enter His abode.

With 1900 years of gospel Christ the same error is done. Christ is ignored. Because truth is objectionable. One reason of this is sin—the darkness of heart and perverseness of will. Truth must be the guiding star of our life. It means a curbing of our hearts, and to live a life of charity and penance. We must deny ourselves and live in humility, in the ignominy of the cross, and a follow of Jesus."

He spoke of the opposition that is before the people to prevent them from going to the heavenly home.

Truth was the principle. We are to become truthful, obedient, etc., like Jesus. We see all the world in the struggle to deprive us of the destiny God has created for us.

God calls out to us today as when the prophet called, harden not your hearts. It is by truth that we will be saved. If our lives do not correspond to the truth we believe, we are not received in heaven. In modern christianity there are those who say they believe in Jesus Christ, yet their lives do not correspond to their beliefs.

He said people must use their intellect and prepare for eternity. It is all well enough to speak of advancing christianity, but we are farther away from it than the Pagans, because our sins are greater. It is more ignored today than in Pagan times. The idolaters worshipped God in their ignorant notions, but man today in his enlightenment says he will be his own God. He is like the mule with no intellect. He is ignoring the Holy spirit. As though man was created only for money, and for a little honor among men. There was not that moral degradation in old Pagan days as today. It was not so general then.

He spoke of some of the methods of modern christianity. In Pagan times the putting away of a wife, or disannulling the marriage tie, was not tolerated, but in modern paganism Christ's teaching is ignored in the matter of divorce and the marriage tie.

If God would wipe out iniquity it would be a temporal blessing. The spiritual blindness has made man a horse or mule with no intellect, concentrating on self-pride, envy, etc.—that is the religion of today. Animal excitement is considered sanctification by some. What a horrible example!

The heart of man still hardened with the religion of 1900 years. They who give themselves up to corruption are worshipped, but those who follow the humility of Christ are the "insane!"

In the warning, when the punishment comes, happy day to those who worshipped God, and followed Christ.

There is a place of eternal reward and a place of eternal punishment. God has said it.

How foolish to give over to animal life. We were created for something better. Let us not be like animals, but listen to the voice of God. He will gladly teach us again. He will lighten our minds if

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ask him. As He spoke once of the eternal truth and led to Heaven He will speak again to us today.

Listen to the voice of God and harken to the truth. Our hearts will tell us the truth by the teaching of Christ.

St. Bernard Visits Mt. Moriah. On Tuesday afternoon, 22nd, nearly a score of the members of St. Bernard Lodge No. 222 A. F. & A. M., visited Kinsley in response to an invitation from Mt. Moriah Lodge No. 179, to make a fraternal visit. Upon arrival they were warmly welcomed by an immense crowd of citizens of Kinsley and neighborhood, but when a responsive chord was touched by the magic hand-clasp there arose in the soul of each a music recognized only by "brothers of the mystic tie" and the angels of light.

When Mt. Moriah Lodge was opened in regular communication at her extremely neat and capacious hall, there was a representation from quite a large extent of territory. Nickerson, Great Bond, Greensburg, Pratt, Jetmore, Spearville and Dodge City, all presented delegates.

The ceremonies of conferring the first and third degrees were witnessed under that charmed attention instinctively rendered to skillful work.

At the close of these rites, word was brought to the presiding officer that the ladies of Kinsley Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star had prepared, at a convenient banquet room, what they very modestly designated "a little lunch," and respectfully begged our presence.

No need then to inquire into the origin of the confusion which followed. Probably there were no designs upon the trestle-board but there was a board upon which we all had designs—to wit, the "festive." And promptly we flew to carry them out, but upon arriving at the dining room, movement gave way to paralyzing wonder, and we stood gaping, excusably, at the scene of enchantment.

And such a feast! I venture that since Adam forfeited his lease on the Garden of Eden, there have been but very few such tables spread, before mortal man. Aestheticism and hospitality seemed to have met in this "star-chamber" in friendly emulation to test their powers over hungry humanity—the first appealing to the eye—the other to the palate, but the council of banqueters was a "hung jury"—even after gazing in silent rapture at the loveliness of the festal furniture and then subjecting the edibles to the crucial test of appetite. Impossible to say which produced the more pleasing sense. Beauty and Bounty in antagonism! The one reinforced by choice napery, dazzling ceramics, and bewildering boquets of heaven-hued-flowers, the other secure in all the triumphs of culinary art. Really, it seemed like foul desecrations in the orgies of ogres to disfigure such a magnificent spread by trying to eat it up.

At all events it was a drawn battle. Very nearly one hundred persons ate of the generous supply and yet the overplus would have been an army ration for a regiment.

Before the lodge-closing exercises a unanimous vote of thanks was tendered to the ladies of the Eastern Star for their excellent contribution to the enjoyableness of the evening. Any offer of reward more tangible than that might have

been considered an affront to their everyday kindness.

Long life and more power to the brothers of old Mt. Moriah and their noble sisters! JARVIS BLOOSTEM.

The following named Masons attended the banquet at Kinsley Tuesday night: P. H. Young, A. A. Suideman, C. M. Beeson, C. J. Province, E. B. Goodrich, W. H. Chapman, E. E. Smith, J. C. Baird, W. T. Coolidge, S. P. Reynolds, W. J. Davies, Rev. Wm. Westwood, John Gissel, W. P. Wikoff, Dr. C. A. Milton.

The following were from Spearville: D. M. Kerr, J. R. Baird, J. B. Paige, Rev. H. B. Johnson, M. G. Nuckles. First and second degree work was done. The ladies of the Eastern Star furnished an elegant banquet.

Land Sales. Register of Deeds Connaway reports some sales:

Mrs. Geo. F. McKinney on Tuesday bought of P. H. Young, the house and lots known as the "Chipman property," paying \$475.00.

Mrs. Martha A. Padgett bought n. w. 1/4 22-25-23 of Dr. S. J. Crumline, paid \$300.

R. E. Edwards, of Kinsley, bought three-fourths of one quarter in sec. 11-27-21. Paid \$1500.

Reeves & Kirkpatrick bought sec. 32-29 24. Paying \$2500.

H. E. Clark bought lots 7 & 8, block 3 in Crawford's addition. House on lot. Paid \$500.

Binsonhaler, of St. Louis, bought s. e. 1/4 34-29-21. Paying \$300.

Thos. W. Bell has purchased n. e. 1/4 28-25, paying \$160.

J. M. Fulton has bought a quarter section of land near Wilburn. \$200 paid.

C. M. Moody, of Spearville, bought n. e. 1/4 18-26-22. Price \$250.

S. Stoffer bought lot 4, block 13, Dodge City. Price \$300.

Niles Wiseman bought barn and lot near J. N. Combs' residence. Paid \$50.

We have the best and cheapest harness ever brought to Dodge City. SIMS & SIMS.

CELERY AND SARRAPILLA Compound purifies the blood and cures liver and kidney troubles. Sold only by W. F. PINE, Druggist.

Pneumonia follows influenza, but never follows the use of Foley's Honey and Tar, the great throat and lung remedy. W. S. Amos.

Miss Ella E. Barber, a classical graduate of Campbell University, will be the assistant teacher at the summer school at Soule College. Classes will be offered in all the common branches, High School Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Latin, German, Shortland, Typewriting, Instrumental Music. Any one wishing to pursue any of the studies, or any other school work are invited to call on R. A. LeMaster at the college or by correspondence.

Science has found that rheumatism is caused by uric acid in the blood. This poison should be excreted by the kidneys. No rheumatism with healthy kidneys. Foley's Kidney Cure always makes them well. W. S. Amos.