

Record –
Of
Syracuse Conference.
Second Session at
Fulton
Oswego County
N.Y.
Commenced April 20. & Adjourned April 22.
1854.
In the year of the Wesleyan Methodist Connection.
Of
America.
II.
Luther Lee.
President.

Marshall Frink.
Secretary.

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First day.

Syracuse Conference second session at Fulton N.Y. April 20 –1854. 9 A.M.
Called to order by Rev. Luther Lee president and opened with usual religious
services conducted by Rev. Marshall Frink reading Scripture Singing and prayer.
On motion M. Frink was appointed Secretary pro-tem. [sic]
Voted to call Roll of Pastors and Charges.

<u>Pastors</u>	<u>Charges</u>
Luther Lee	Syracuse
Lucius C. Matlack	Book Agent & Editor
M. Barnham = a	Manlius & Filer Settlement
G. M. High	Reservation
F. R. Mastin = a	Clay & Hinmanville
Henry Benson	Futon [sic]
Geo Pegler	Green Point
G. M. Jenks	Palermo
Wm. Johnson	Albion
Wm. Dunham	Texas
Levi Wheelock = a	Camden
D. L. Hollis = a	Frankfort
M. Frink	Pipe Creek & Athens
P. S. Slauson	Candor
Isaac Johnston	Taylor
Willard Chase = a	Peruville & Harford
C. F. Barnet = a	Antwerp
Mason A Fairchild Lin e [sic]	Winsor & Triangle

Harvey Lounsbury
Calvin F. Hawley
S. B. Loomis

Apalahin [sic]
Union
Litchfield
Watertown

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Pastors

Charges

Orleans
Boylston
Rickford
Pillar Point

On motion – voted that the conference now elect a president and Secretary.

Lucius C. Matlack and Charles G. Case were appointed tellers by the President.

1st Ballot. 19 votes cast for president.

20 necessary to a choice.

Luther Lee 15. Henry Benson 3. M Frink 1.

For Secretary 18 votes cast. 10 necessary to a choice.

Marshall Frink 16. H. Benson 1. S. B. Loomis 1.

Tellers report Luther Lee President, and Marshall Frink Secretary.

Voted to appoint Committees – on Presidency and Pastoral Relations.

On Presidency –

Ministers
L. C. Matlack
H. Benson
G. M. High

Laymen
G. J. Ward
Charles G. Case

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Pastoral Relations

Ministers
P. S. Slauson
Henry Benson
G. M. High

Laymen
W. G. Wire
H. I. Fritcher
C. G. Case

Voted = to appoint through President Committees on –

Reforms = Home Missions.

And

Sabbath Schools.

Church at Gibson's Corners presented delegate and asked for recognition.

After some discussion – request was laid on table.

Voted – that the Conference meet at 9 A.M. and adjourn at 12. O'clock

On Motion – voted. That

Dryden & Harford

be recognized as a charge and so returned on the list of charges.

Voted that = Florence be recognized as a charge and so returned on the list.

On Motion Adjourned to meet at 2 P.M.

Prayer by

Rev. Isaac Johnson

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First day Afternoon Session

Conference met at 2 P.M. opened with prayer by Rev. Wm Nipper

Minutes of fore-noon session read and approved.

Rolle [sic] Called.

On motion by L. C. Matlack.

Voted – that the charges be called in order, and therein present religious prospects briefly presented by the Pastors and delegates present.

Voted = That Rev. Henry Benson pastor of Fulton Charge constitute committee on Religious Services during the session of the Conference.

Voted = that the President is hereby appointed to prepare and publish an address to the General Churches and charges constituting the Syracuse conference on the importance of appointing and sending delegates to the annual Conference.

The President announced the
Following Committees.

Missions

Ministers

L. C. Matlack

G Pegler

Laymen

Henry I. Fritcher

Sunday Schools

M. Frink

G. M. High

G. L. Ward

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On Reforms.

Ministers

S. B. Loomis

P. S. Slauson

Laymen

A. Hanna

Motion by H. Benson – That the names of Wm Nipper be placed on the Station list.

Motion prevailed

Voted – That a committee of three on Orders be appointed.

Committee on
Elders Orders.

Ministers

Luther Lee

Geo Pegler

Laymen

A. Hanna

Voted – That the Recommendations of Calvin F. Hawley and B. B. Palmer be referred [sic] to Committee on Elders orders.

Motion by S. B. Loomis that Friday evening be devoted to the discussion of the Nebraska phase of the Anti-Slavery Cause. Motion prevailed.

Motion by L. C. Matlack That in all cases of appeal that the appealant [sic] be present in session. Pending this motion Conference adjourned.

Prayer by
Rev. L. Dunham.

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Second day Morning Session

April 21.

Religious services – Reading Scip. Singing and prayer conducted by Rev. G. M. High.

Roll Called = Minutes of previous Session read and approved.

Voted that all motions be presented in writing when requested by the Secretary.

Motion of L. C. Matlack – pending when conference adjourned on appeals put, and carried.

Motion of yesterday in relation to application of church at Gibson's corners taken up.

Moved by L. C. Matlack that said application be indefinitely postponed –

Motion withdrawn – previous question the taken and lost.

Recommend of Mason A. Fairchild for Elders orders was presented and referred [sic] to Committee on Orders.

Voted that Bro. Smith pastor of Detroit Church Mich. Be at liberty to present the subject of his Mission in relation to said church during which Conference adjourned by limitations of time.

Prayer by Bro. C. F. Hawley
No Afternoon Session

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Third Day Morning Session

April 22

Opened with the usual religious services. Conducted by Brother P. S. Slauson

Roll Called – Minutes read corrected, and approved.

Voted – That Wm. B. Halsey who has been labouring [sic] the past year on a border charge under the Supervision of the Rochester Conference be recognized as a member of this Conference.

Voted that an official note from this conference be addressed to the Rochester Conference informing said Conference that Wm. B. Halsey and State Road Charge are now under the Supervision of this Conference

Committee on Reforms.

Reported in part. On

Antislavery.

Report adopted

Whereas there yet exists in this boasted land of the free a System of oppression without parallel [sic] in modern history, and Challenging even the oppression of

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Ancient times in its superlative meanness and high handed atrocity, exhibiting itself a potent and fearful enemy, moulding [sic] into its diabolical image the instrumentalities professing to be the hope of the world; commanding obedience with the one hand to its mandates on the part of Legislatures, and it is done – With the other, wavering an expressive dictation to the religious world, and silence hermetically seals the lips of thousand pulpits, and then in obedience to the law of its being seeks to lock in its vile embrace the two shores of a vast continent and at once appropriate to itself all the energies of a great and growing nation, and all the green acres that should make the future home of an intelligent and free people. Therefoer, [sic]

Resolved, that we see no less reason to urge the distinctive features of our organization upon the notice of the world, than when we first flung our banner to the breeze with the distinctive motto No Union with Slave-holders or their apologists, traced on its undulating folds.

Resolved Second, That we have hope in the final triumph of the principles of freedom notwith-

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standing the struggles made for despotism to sway the destiny of universal empire, as exhibited in the recent attempts to open Nebraska and Kansas to the women-whipping and cradle-plundering knights of the union.

S. B. Loomis
Chairm

Committee on Sunday Schools reported. Report Adopted.

Sunday Schools.

As a conference we deem it essential to the growth and general prosperity of the churches composing our connection, that they exercise a moral, religious and controlling influence upon the minds of the youth and children coming within the sphere of their efforts.

And we can recommend no better plan to create and continue such an influence than to establish and sustain a Sunday School in connection with each church throughout the Conference.

We regret that up to the present time this important matter has been to [sic] much neglected both by pastors and churches.

We would therefore

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enjoin upon all the pastors holding a relation this this body that they engage anew in this holy enterprise. And brethren we mean what we say! Let your labours [sic] tell in this direction.

Lecture preach and pray upon this subject: and wherever it is practicable, establish a Sunday School and see that it is supplied with proper books. And that every teacher and child have an opportunity to read that little Herald of Freedom -- The Juvenile Instructor.

Marshall Frink
Chairman

On Motion – Rev. Ovid Miner of Syracuse addressed the conference on the New York Colportureage [sic] enterprise.

Conference voted that its next session be held in Camden N.Y. commencing on the third Tuesday in April 1855.

Voted that Henry Benson, A. Hanna, S. B. Loomis be a Committee on Book Concern.

Committee on Reforms further Reported, on

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Moral Reform.

Nor can we dismiss the above subject without alluding in connection with it to another which although not awakening so wide-spread and general an interest, is nevertheless, by its silent and unobtrusive efforts, gradually diffusing among the great and often friendless masses of human society, the essential spirit and genius of a pure and undefiled religion and awaking among the homeless and friendless children of want a more just and lively appreciation of the high and noble destiny for which in the Providence of God they are designed.

The subject of Moral Reform though commanding but little, apparent interest among "creation's Lords" and regarded as an impracticable and dreamy enthusiasm among the higher circles of human society has defended under God mainly for its benign and fostering influences to the self-denying and devoted labors of a few pious females, who feeling, that in the great and benevolent designs of the Almighty to our fallen and polluted race, a work had

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been assigned to them, and in the sincere, faithful, and unassuming performance of that work, we have already seen too plainly manifested to admit of doubt, that the blessing of our Heavenly Father is upon it, and while it awakens in the breast of the real friends of our common humanity, encouraging hopes of a nobler, a brighter future, it appears to them also, we think, for a more enlarged and liberal countenance and support in the prosecution of its Heavenly appointed Mission

But it is not alone the restoring to the paths of a commendable virtue the erring daughters of our race, this silent though effective interest has exerted itself under its restless and active benevolence

The lonely and deserted outcasts in many of our larger cities, have been gathered into quiet and comfortable homes, and provided with the means of an honorable and competent subsistence. Little children, left to the cold, charities of a busy and speculative world, are thrown out upon society by the restless hands of intemperate and inhuman parents have been gathered in to little nurseries of the Lord, and while taught the rudiments of a common education have been instructed also in that higher and nobler destiny which awaits

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them in the future. Aged and respectable females, who often by the fortuitous concurrence of circumstances, are left to the cruel experience of penury and want have been surrounded by generous friends and the hours of declining life made bright with the sunshine of cheerful hope.

Gratuitous education to multitudes of the destitute poor gathered into the missions [sic] schools, forms another interesting feature of the mild genius of this heaven inspired work, thus demonstrating to an arrayed and an admiring world, the power of that love, that is constantly seeking not its own but anothers [sic] good, this is emphatically preaching Christ and him crucified to a lost world.

This is a revival of pure religion peculiar perhaps to the present age but yet embodying we trust the distinctive teachings, and manifesting the true spirit of him who came to establish peace on earth and good will to men. Having therefore a deep interest in the success of the above noble enterprise, and recognizing it as a powerful auxiliary in the spread of Christianity be it by this Conference Resolved, that we will on all suitable occasions advocate and

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urge the claimers [sic] of the Moral Reform movement with its collateral influence upon the people.

S. B. Loomis
Chairman

Committee on orders gave notice that they were prepared to Report.

L. C. Matlack acting member of the committee Moved, that as the names of the candidates are called they shall have an opportunity to communicate with the conference if they desire it – After which the examining committee shall report in their usual course.

Calvin F. Hawley presented as a candidate for orders. Committee recommended him – Elected.

Mason A. Fairchild. Presented for Elders orders – Committee recommend him. Elected.

Matthew Presley. Candidate for orders Committee do not recommend him.
Motion by A. Hanna that report of committee be adopted.
Pending this question Conference adjourned by expiration of time

Note previously taken to meet at 2 P.M.

Benediction by President

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Third day Afternoon Session

April 22

Conference opened with prayer by Rev. Wm. Nipper.
Case of Matthew Presley resumed Motion of A. Hanna prevailed.

Herman Streeter – a candidate for Elders Orders – committee do not recommend him. Report of Committee adopted.

Benjamin [sic] Brundage – a candidate for Elders orders Committee do not recommend him

Motion of L. C. Matlack to lay over till next conference was lost.

Motion of A Hanna to Elect to Elders Orders was carried.

Committee on Reforms.

Reported on

Temperance.

Report adopted as follows

In reviewing the question of Temperance, as it presents itself at the present time in our own State, we have but to say, that after the expenditure of years of labour [sic] and toil on the part of its most ardent friends, and when the public mind had so far recognized

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its binding moral force, is in its legislative capacity to have forever prohibited the traffic in alcoholic [sic] liquors among us; it is to be regretted that the Chief Executive of the State should have deemed it incumbent on him and that too few reasons which seem to us of verry [sic] questionable, constitutional propriety. To have refused his sanction to a measure so well calculated to secure to the people of our state that peaceful quiet, happy condition, so ardently hoped and laboured [sic] for by the wise and good among us. And while we see but little apparent encouragement to this cause among the existing power of the State, we must confidently express the hopes we entertain for it in the power of truth, and the moral sense of the good people of our State accompanied as we are by the prayers of the pious few, which are even found to underlie and sustain the progress of every great reform, that has cheered [sic] the abodes of men. Be it therefore,

Resolved, That we as much as ever believe in the necessity of a prohibitory [sic] law to promote the interests of the Temperance cause, and we deeply regret the action of the Chief Magistrate of the Commonwealth, as retarding but not overthrowing the action of the world renowned Maine Law, ~~where~~ [insert: the] beneficent results of which are known and read of all.

S. B. Loomis
Chairman

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Report on Statistics

Charges	Members	Licentiates	Sallery [sic]	Missionary	Pastors	Delegates	Remark
			\$				
Syracuse	100		480		Luther Lee	G. J. Ward	
Manlius & Filer Settlement					M. Barnum*		No report
Clay & Hinmanville [sic]	35		206		F. R. Mastin*	A. Dunham	
Green Point							No report

Fulton	92	2	400	54	H. Benson	A. Hanna	\$190 donation
Albion	20	2	75		Geo. Pegler		
Palermo							No report
Camden	66	2	192		J. M. Jenks		
Texas			25		Wm. Dunham		
Antwerp							No report
Frankfort							No report
Orleans					L. Wheelock*		No report
Watertown	31	2	166		L. Sprague*	J. I Blodget	
Boylston					D. L. Hollis*	Wm. Snyder	No report
Pipe Creek & Athens	57	2	270		M. Frink	H. I. Fritcher	
Candor	45	1	230		P. S. Slauson	J. Robinson	
Taylor	30		233	25	L. Johnston	Wm G. Wire	
Peruville & Harford					W. Choose*		No report
Winsor & Triangle	53		180		(F. Barnett* M.A. Fairchild)		
Apalachin	74		85		H Lounsbury	D Warrick	
Rickford							No report
Pillar point							No report
State Road	220	5	191		Wm B Halsey		No report
Union & Oswego					C. F. Hawley		No report
Reservation	12		175		G. M. High		
					*Not present		

Report of Pastoral Committee

<u>Charges</u>	<u>Pastors</u>	<u>Delegates Present</u>
Syracuse	Luther Lee	G. L. Ward
Editor and Book Agent	L. C. Matlack	
Manlius & Filer Settlement		No Report
Clay and Hinmanville [sic]		A. Dunham To be supplied
Reservation	G. M. High	
Fulton	H. Benson	A. Hanna = G. J. Case. Res.
Albion	Supplied	
Palermo		No report
Camden	J. M. Jenks	
Texas	Supplied	
Antwerp	Isaac Sprague	
Frankfort	Supplied	
Orleans	Supplied	
Watertown	Supplied	L. I. Blodgett
Boylston	Supplied	Wm Snyder
Pipe Cr. & Athens	M. Frink	H. I. Fritcher
Taylor	H. D. Inman	Wm. G. Wire
Candor	C. F. Hawley	J. M. Robinson
Dryden & Harford	A. Kelsey	
Groton & Lanning	Supplied	James Youngs
Windsor	M. A. Fairchild	
Green	Isaac Johnston	
Appalachin [sic]	Wm. B. Halsey	Daniel Warrick
Union & Oswego	B. B. Palmer	
Pillar Point	Supplied	
State Road	Harvey Lounsbury	

Over

<u>Charges</u>	<u>Pastors</u>	<u>Delegates Present</u>
South Auburn	Timothy Coggins	
Fair Dale	G. B. Mints	
Florence	Geo Pegler	
Litchfield	S. B. Loomis	

Above report read by Secretary and unanimously adopted.

M. Frink

Secretary

Luther Lee

Chairman

Report of Committee on Missions.

The missionary cause has been much neglected among us as a people. The cause has been doubtless that our churches are few and feeble. Their means have been scarcely deemed sufficient to sustain the institutions of religion among themselves. This has prevented the Ministry from pressing the claims of Missions and the people from doing anything of importance in that direction. The result is seen in the continued feebleness of the connection. For the want of cultivating the benevolence of those who have had means, the missionary spirit has been lessened among us. And for want of a small

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amount of means systematically raised and carefully distributed not a few of our small societies have utterly failed. Within the ten years past quite a number of weak points, might have been strengthened, and our present condition have been much more powerful for good than it is now, if we had adopted and carried out a plan of Missionary collections and appropriations yearly. Although this has not been done yet it is not too [sic] late. We deem it proper to begin now. The Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions.

1. That the Syracuse yearly conference do hereby [sic] organize itself into a Missionary Society.

2. That the object of this Society shall be to raise funds by yearly subscriptions, and by collections throughout our Societies, to be appropriated by the committee on pastoral relations subject to the action of the conference.

3. That the president and Secretary of the conference shall be ex-officio the President and Secretary of this Society. And the secretary shall act as treasurer for the receipt [sic] of money and disbursement of the same in quarterly payments.

4. That a quarterly report from

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each home Mission be made by the preacher for the Secretary of the Society, who shall embody the facts in an annual report to the society.

5. There shall be a public Missionary meeting at each yearly session of the Conference, at which there shall be a report presented by the Treasurer of the disbursement of monies and of the State of the missions that have been aided.

L. C. Matlack

Above report adopted

Chairman

Report of Committee on
Book Concern

Your committee having charge of the books and periodicals of the connection beg leave to report: --

We have the fullest confidence in the ability integrity and energy manifested by the Agent in conducting the Concern.

Further your committee believe the Wesleyan and Juvenile papers are exerting a large amount of correct influence upon the public mind, and that in

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the present state of the ecclesiastical world they are exerting a power exceedingly favourable [sic] to the cause of true and vital christianity. [sic]

Further your committee have heard with pleasure of a commendable effort now being made by the Agent for the purpose of liquidating the present debt of the concern by the establishment of a sinking fund amounting to over \$20,000, of which over \$10,000 are already pledged; and they heartily concur in the plan proposed and which they deem quite practicable.

We therefore recommend the concern to the cordial attention of the Conference, as one deserving its undiminished regard, and urge the necessity of vigorous and effective support through personal and embodied effort for the coming year [sic], and present for your action the following resolutions

1. Resolved, This conference recommend to the Book committee the propriety of releasing Bro Matlack from the Book Room for two or three months, for the purpose of making private effort to raise the remaining \$10,000 required to perfect the proposed Sinking Fund.

2. Resolved that this conference pledge itself to renew zealous

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effort in cooperating with and sustaining the Agent in the above laudable enterprise.

Henry Benson

Chairman of Com.

Report Adopted.

Committees

Pastoral

Ministers

P. S. Slauson

E. M. High

Henry Benson

Laymen

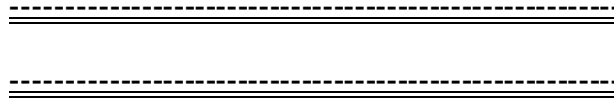
W. E. Wirre

H. I Fritcher

C. G. Case

M Frink Scty

Luther Lee. Chrm



Presidency

Ministers

Laymen

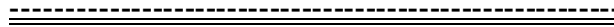
L. C. Matlack

H. Benson

E. M. High

E. I. Ward

C. G. Case



Elders Orders

Ministers

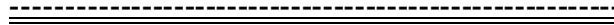
Laymen

Geo Pegler

Act. Min. L. C. Matlack

Luther Lee

A. Hanna



Reforms

Ministers

Laymen

S. B. Loomis

P. S. Slauson

A. Hanna

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Missions

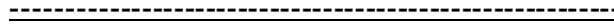
Ministers

Laymen

L. C. Matlack

Geo Pegler

H I Fritcher



Book Concern

Ministers

Laymen

Henry Benson

S. B. Loomis

A. Hanna



Sunday Schools

Ministers

Laymen

M. Frink

E. M. High

E. I. Ward



Conference Questions

1. Who of the Elders are on the Stationed list? Wm Nipper
- A. Luther Lee = Lucius. C. Matlack
- Edgar M. High = Henry Benson
- G. M. Jenks = Isaac Sprague
- Marshall Frink = H. D. Inman
- Calvin F. Hawley = A Kelsey
- Mason A. Fairchild = Isaac Johnston
- Wm. B. Halsey = Harvey Lounsbury
- Timothy Coggins = E. B. Mints
- Geo Pegler = S. B. Loomis = 19

=====

2. Who has retired to the unsta. List?
- A. William Johnson – Levi Wheelock
- D. L. Hollis = C. F. Barnett. 4—

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3. What Licentiates are on the Stationed List?
- A. B. B. Palmer
4. Who are on the reserve list?
- A. None.
5. Who are the superannuated Elders? = None.
6. Who have been deposed this year? = None.
7. Who have withdrawn from the Conference this year?
- A. None
8. Who have joined the Conference this year?
- A. Cavin F. Hawley = M A. Fairchild
- A. Kelsey E. B. Mints Timothy Coggins
- Wm. B. Halsey H. D. Inman
- ☞ [sic] Wm Nipper 8 by special vote of Conference see page of journal = 6
9. Who have died this year?
- A. None
10. What has been contributed on the several circuits and stations for the support of Preaching on the same, and for the support of Missions? –
- A. See page of Journal = 18.
11. What numbers in Connection?
- A. See page of Journal = 18.

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12. How many Sunday schools, superintendents, teachers and scholars are there connected with the several circuits and stations?

A. ☞ But two circuits reported – Secty

Watertown – one school 1 supt 5 teachers 20 scholars = = = 26

Camden = One school = 26 Scholars

13. When and where shall our next conference be held?

A. Camden N. Y. on the third Thursday of April 1855. Commencing at 9 A.M.

Marcellus Barnum = removed without taking certificate of standing or transfer

W. Chase & F. R. Mastin. Removed took certificate of standing from prsd.

P.S. Slauson. Transferred [sic] to the Rochester conference by vote of

Conference.

Wm. Dunham = left without an appoint by his own request.

Rising Vote of thanks to the citizens of Fulton for entertainment of Conference.

Conference adjourned. Closing

Prayer by Bro. C. F. Hawley

Benediction by President.

Marshall Frink
Secretary

Luther Lee
President