

FOURTH ANNUAL AMISH MISSION CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Theme: "Witnessing" In Word - In Deed - In Truth - In Power

Matt. 24:14; Acts 20:24; 2 Tim. 1:8; Acts 26:22; 1 John 3:18; Matt. 5:16  
Acts 1:8; John 15:26; Rev. 12:17; 19:10

August 12, 13, 14, 1953

Near Hutchinson, Kansas

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Moderator --- Harvey Graber

Asst. Moderator -- Daniel H. Beachy

----- Wednesday A. M. August, 12 -----

Moderator ----- Harvey Graber

9:00 -- Three Songs Leader - Alvin C. Yoder

9:45 -- Devotions Willie Wagler, Kansas

10:05 -- Welcome and Introduction David Miller, Kansas

10:45 -- Reasons for Witnessing Andrew A. Miller Holmesville, O.

10:30 - The Gospel - God's Plan of Salvation

(1) First Principles: Repentance; Faith; Baptism

Sam Gingrich, Plain City, Ohio  
Sam J. Beachy, Dover, Delaware

10:55 - (2) The Importance of Teaching the "All Things" Commanded by

Christ and the Apostles, Including the Unpopular Doctrines

Alvin Helmuth, Hutchinson, Kansas  
Elam Hochstetler, Goshen, Ind.

11:20 - Thoughts and comments on "Resurrection" "Judgement" and World  
to come. Stephen E. Stultzfus Honey Brook, Pa.

11:45 - Song

Benediction and remember the noon lunch  
Dismissal for noon lunch.

----- Wednesday P. M. -----

1:00 -- Songs \_\_\_\_\_

1:15 -- Devotions \_\_\_\_\_

1:30 -- Some examples of witnessing in the New Testament  
Chris E Swartzmuber Kalona, Iowa  
David L. Yoder Kalona, Iowa

2:00 -- The Anabaptists and Martyrs as witnesses of the truth

Jonas Gingerich Kalona, Iowa

2:30 -- Witnessing opportunities today, in 1953

(1) In the home congregation by a holy and devoted life  
of love, humility, separation, nonresistance, etc.


Yost H. Miller Millersburg, Ohio  
3:00 -- An Unprejudiced Examination of the Language Problem  
~~Some symptoms of a luke-warm church~~  
Amos Yoder Keathley, Okla.  
~~Wesley~~ Mose Beatty Plain City, Ohio

3:20 -- The work of the Holy Spirit in soul winning

Henry Miller Middlebury, Indiana

3:45 -- Songs \_\_\_\_\_

Benediction - \_\_\_\_\_

  
Jerry Yoder Larnett, Kansas

9:30 -- Songs \_\_\_\_\_ Moderator Daniel H. Beachy, Ind.

9:45 -- Devotions Richl, Jonathan Penna,

10:00 -- Witnessing Today (continued)  
(2) By relief and charity work at home and abroad.  
Mahlon Wagler, of this community.  
Tobe Bontreger Kalona, Iowa

10:20 (3)  
~~9:50~~ -- By the printed page: Bibles, Books, Periodicals, and gospel literature  
Andrew A. Miller Holmesville, Ohio

10:40 - The aims and objectives of Herold Der Wahrheit  
Raymond Wagler Partridge, Kans.

10:55 - The aims and objectives of "Witnessing" Bulletin  
Harvey Graber Goshen, Indiana

10:10 - The function of the Amish Mennonite Publication Board  
A. J. Beachy Kalona, Iowa

11:25 - (4) By personal work with the unconverted at home, during travel, and in everyday life contacts, as well as by sending specially appointed missionaries and workers  
Henry Joder Thomas, Okla  
Roy L. Schlabaeh Barna Mills Ohio

11:45 -- Song \_\_\_\_\_

Dismissal for noon lunch

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--- Thursday P. M. ---

1:00 Songs \_\_\_\_\_

1:15 Devotions \_\_\_\_\_

1:30 Experiences in service: Two years with the Gulfport Mississippi people.  
John Bender Gulfport, Miss.

2:00 Two years with the Old People's Home at Gassville, Arkansas  
Menno Nisley Gassville, Arkansas

2:30 Experiences with the Lord, and in His work: testimonies by ministers, laymembers, personal workers, etc; limit 5 minutes

~~3:10~~ 3:30 Conference Sermon David Miller Thomas, Oklahoma

3:30 - Testimony service  
3:55 Song \_\_\_\_\_

Benediction \_\_\_\_\_

----- Friday A. M. August 14 -----

**\*\* Youth's Program \*\***

- 9:30 -- Songs Jonas R. Troyer Sugarcreek, Ohio
- 9:45 -- Devotions Omar Lapp Gap, Pa.
- ~~10:00~~ ~~9:30~~ -- Witnessing by (1) Singing Aden Gingerich Plain City, O.
- ~~10:15~~ ~~9:45~~ -- (2) by tract distribution, "The Way" etc. Geo Beachy  
Jessee Beachy Kalona, Iowa
- 10:30
- ~~10:00~~ - (3) by visiting the sick, etc. Daniel Hochstetler Goshen, Ind.
- 10:45
- 10:15 - (4) in IW service Samuel W. [unclear]
- 10:00 - Testimony period; limit 5 minutes-----
- 11:25
- 10:30 - Summary and conclusion Harry Weirich Middlebury, Ind.
- 11:45 - Song \_\_\_\_\_
- Dismissal for noon lunch \_\_\_\_\_

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Friday P. M.

- 1:00 -- Songs \_\_\_\_\_
- 1:15 -- Devotions Chris Kauffman Belleville, Ohio
- 1:30 -- Financial report by the treasurer David T. Miller
- 1:45 -- Comments and recommendations by committee members and David T. Miller  
representatives David Miller Thomas, Okla. Dan Beachy
- { 2:00 -- Sermon Amos Greber Etna Green, Indiana
- 2:45 -- Testimonies - Confessions - Consecrations; open to all,  
limit 10 minutes-----
- 3:45 -- Gratitude and farewell address A. A. Miller
- Announcements Harvey Greber
- Song \_\_\_\_\_
- Benediction \_\_\_\_\_

Presented to the N.D.C. (1) meeting in Dec. 1953

First, I would like to ask that you forget anything which you may have heard that I have in mind if it conflicts with what I now say.

My amazement continues to grow as I see how easy it is to find good objections to any attitude which one might want to take as being the best in the face of the prevailing conditions in the Amish churches. I have been totally unable to find a solution that does not appear to be possible of just criticism, including that of doing nothing for the time being. It appears to me that in spite of all the difficulties with every possible solution it is our responsibility to interpret the situation under the direction of our Master and proceed with the wisest solution, even though we feel it to be fraught with difficulties. I feel that there are times when it is just as dangerous and just as wrong to do nothing as to do the wrong thing (ex.).

From what I can feel it seems that even though interest is increasing in the mission movement opposition is organizing and increasing faster. And if the present trends continue we might as well admit that we are headed for an inevitable nation-wide split. This might not be so bad if there was any hope that the two segments could someday be re-united. But past experience indicates that this rarely happens. To my knowledge, when a division occurs in the Amish church it becomes permanent even though there may have been hopes of a future reunion at the time of the split. Approximately a century ago when the Amish Mennonites who finally merged with the Mennonites split from the Amish church, according to J.C. Wenger, it split the Amish church nearly in two. But even at that this split left the old block with the same essential nature and character. If a split occurred today we would be a very small minority. In fact when I look over the