# Union Conference Record

"Be strong all ye people, saith the Lord, and work; for 1 am with you."

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# Christ's Representatives.

MUCH work remains to be done in proclaiming the Third Angel's Message. Notwithstanding the great needs of the cause, there are many workers who are content to do but little for the Master, in comparison with what He has done for them. Why, O why, is man willing to remain so inactive, so helpless, when he could be accomplishing a great work in saving souls? The Saviour is asking us, "Why stand ye here all the day idle?" We should engage in His service, however great a sacrifice this may at first appear. Poor, deluded souls must be aroused from the fatal lethargy of sin. The power of sin over them must be broken, else it will grow stronger and stronger, and at last result in their ruin.

Every one who is truly converted has the spirit of service. When Christ is indeed formed within, the hope of glory, His Holy Spirit works through the human agent to save other souls for whom He has died.

God invites His workers to call upon Him for help, and He promises to hear and answer them. As they take up the cross, fully resolved to do what they can, He gives them strength to bear the burden. Why do we not enlist the help of Omnipotence? In these precious days of probation, let every laborer reach forth the hand in faith for the help and strength that will enable him to be a strong worker in the Lord's vineyard. Let him pray for soundness of judgment and for heavenly wisdom. God is a mighty Helper. He will sustain every laborer who trusts in Him. He is a sure, tried Anchor, holding His children fast to Himself amidst every storm of opposition, every tempest of trial and adversity. When the heavens seem dark, when the strength seems to fail, He will give light and confidence to all who believe in Him. To every troubled heart He will speak peace.

The Lord hears and answers prayer. He lays upon us no burden greater than we can bear in His strength and by His grace. In every time of need He is a present help. O that we might have faith to ask Him for strength according to our great need. Faith is the hand by which we grasp the hand of the mighty Helper. God's promises are sure. Why should we not take Him at His word?

Jesus knows our every weakness; Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Will not the Lord be pleased to let the light of His countenance shine upon us? O that His arm of power might be revealed.

Faith is "the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." But I fear that, with many of us, our faith does not reach any farther than our sight. Let no one allow his strength to be wasted by vain con-

flicts, or his heart wearied or saddened because of unanswered desires. Amidst the fiercest conflicts, there is rest for every weary soul who trusts in Christ. To those who are afflicted with either physical or spiritual maladies, Jesus is saying, "Wilt thou be made whole?" He is ready and willing to do great things for those who trust in Him. With tenderness and pity He is lo king upon His children. He offers help to those who, doing the best they can, plead for capabilities that will enable them to do more for Him.

O that I could impress the members of the church of Christ with the importance of using aright the talents that have been entrusted to them. O that I could make them see what an influence for good they might exert if they would use their powers to God's glory.

We should not allow indifference or carelessness to mark our actions; for Satan is an untiring foe. Paul says, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." Of us is required the fullest consecration, the most earnest devotion. The world is to be warned. The masses of the people will not heed God's solemn warning; nevertheless His message must be proclaimed to "every nation, and kindred, and tongue."

The greatest work, the noblest effort, in which man can engage, is to point his fellow-men to the Lamb of God. O let us urge the importance of this work with greater earnestness than we have manifested in the past. Let our church-members begin to work. Let them reveal Christ in every thought, word, and act. If they represent Him aright, they will receive the reward of life eternal and a home in heaven. MRS. E. G. WHITE.

# Sunday Laws.—A Blessing.

THE time is not far distant when efforts to enforce strict Sunday observance are certain to be made. The true object of this is to suppress the truth and prevent its spread. Will this effort interfere with the spread of the truth?—By no means; for the "Lord makes the wrath of man to praise Him, and the remainder (that would not praise Him) He restrains." He has His way in the whirlwind, although Satan, the prince of the power of the air, is permitted to control these elements. Nothing can prevent or interfere with the spread of the truth but a lack of faith and wisdom on the part of God's people.

When prejudice exists against working on Sunday and even where Sunday laws exist prohibiting work, it is lawful to work on that day in spite of prejudice or laws, but while all things are lawful, all things are not expedient, all things are not profitable. Our work is not to defy the laws, but to spread the truth and save souls.

When prejudice or Sunday laws exist, it would, be well for Sabbath-keepers as a rule to cease from physical work, and in a quiet way, in the meek and compassionate spirit of the Master, go about doing good,-ministering to the minds and bodies of the sick and suffering, carrying the very light the enemy tries to suppress. His object of making and enforcing Sunday laws is to stir up God's people and prevent them from revealing God's character. He knows that the revealing of God's character is the last message of mercy and that it will draw subjects from his kingdom. Sunday laws need not interfere with this revelation. God designs just the opposite. Thus may Satan's efforts be frustrated and the truth spread everywhere, and believers be added to the church. Anciently, when the enemy tried to destroy God's people, it was said, "The more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew." Even so it may be again.

The contest and conflict will be mainly between the enemies of the truth, false religionists, and men who regard neither God nor man. By ceasing to work, we shall not be classed with the latter class as law breakers, or anarchists, and thus give the enemy an opportunity to build up barriers between us and honest souls who do not understand our position-souls that we might otherwise help, and who would receive the truth. "Ye shall not need to fight in this battle. Set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the Lord with you; for the Lord will be with you." Anciently Jehosaphat appointed singers unto the Lord, that should praise the beauty of holiness. So they went out before the army, and sang, Praise the Lord, for His mercy endureth forever. And when they began to sing and praise, the Lord set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, and they were smitten. Everyone helped to destroy another. If God's people stand still and go about their God-appointed work, the contest and battle will be principally among the enemies of the Lord. We may say with Joseph, "Ye meant evil, but God meant it for good." D. H. KRESS, M. D.

# God's Thoroughness.

"As FAR as the east is from the west, so far bath He removed our transgressions from us." Ps. 103 : 12.

We do not all see from the same point of view. We would not all see alike if we did. How different our conceptions of the same fact !

Is a mountain a large object ?—Yes, when compared to a tree, but small when compared to the earth itself, which is, in its turn, insignificant when compared with the sun. And even the sun is small when compared to some other suns. Does a man move rapidly when he walks ?—Not if his motion is compared with that of a fast train, but very rapidly when compared with the glacier in its stately movement down the mountainside. And so with distance, time, or events, all are great or small by comparison, and so, also, are our conceptions, especially in matters we do not clearly understand.

"How readest thou" the text at the head of this article? How far is it from the east to the west? Finite men can not know the infinite, but finite man can, may, and will reason; so "let us reason together" as to how far the east is from the west, not that we may find out, but to realise more fully God's greatness and our littleness.

The fastest thing with which we are generally familiar is an express train, our minds having adopted the speed of "a mile a minute," or eighty-eight feet per second, as the standard. Place two trains into position and bid them to be off on their journey to annihilate space, one to go to the east and the other to the west; when will they reach their destination? Again, start two cannon-balls; the modern high-power gun can give them a speed of 2,500 feet a second,—thirty times faster than an express train,—yet who would be bold enough to say they could ever reach the east and the west?

In the constellation of Orion is the bright blue star Rigel. It is one of the fourteen stars that astronomers have rated as of the first magnitude, and is well up to, but not in, the first ranks. Sirius is the bright leader of all the shining hosts of heaven, while Arcturus, Vega,



A part of the constellation of Orion, showing the stars easily visible to the naked eye. The constellation is visible throughout Australasia on any clear evening.

and Capella are the three great luminaries of the Northern hemisphere. Sirius has often been mentioned in the writings of the ancients, while Arcturus is mentioned in Job, but never a word, so far as I know, has ever been written of Rigel, down to the time of Hipparchus, although Rigel is receding at a very rapid rate, and must have been brighter then than now.

There is something to be learned from this when we carefully examine the facts. Let us see.

Spectroscopic observations indicate that Rigel is moving from us at an enormous velocity,—enormous from even the astronomer's standpoint, some observers placing the velocity at nearly 400 miles a second; but let us cut this in half, and, for sake of the thought, make it 200 miles per second,—more than 400 times faster than our cannon-balls; and yet, after bearing in mind that the star has been flying on its boundless course for these thousands of years, the patriarch Job would probably not notice any less in its brightness if he could see it to-day. Certainly it could not have been greatly brighter when the ancients wrote of Sirius, for Rigel would have been the leader.

Astonishing as this may seem, it is not difficult to

understand; it can easily be explained, although it is entirely beyond our comprehension. Yet the explanation gives us a better conception of the distance from the east to the west, even though it only proves to us our utter inability to grasp the infinite.

(To Be Concluded.)

# Our Present Opportunity.

VE shall . . . proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof. Lev. 25: 10.

"THERE are, in the divine providence, particular periods when we must arise in response to the call of God and make use of our means, our time, our intellect, our whole being, body, soul, and spirit, in fulfilling His requirements." "Test.," Vol. 6, p. 469.

Brethren we are in the midst of an important crisis. Action is being taken by leaders of the various religious bodies to unite, with a view of making their power felt in the government of our country. All who have been watching the trend of events in the religious world, cannot fail to be impressed with the fact that we are solemnly near the time when a union of the church and the State will result in the making of the image to the beast spoken of in Revelation 13: 14.

We are told that when religious liberty is curtailed in America, "the people of every country on the globe will be led to follow her example." "Test.," Vol. 6, p. 18. And again, "It is our duty to do all in our power to avert the threatened danger. We should endeavor to disarm prejudice by placing ourselves in a proper light before the people. We should bring before them the real question at issue, thus interposing the most effectual protest against measures to restrict liberty of conscience." "Test.," Vol. 5, p. 452.

How important, then, that we take steps to bring before the Australian people the true principles of religious liberty. Our work should be to so educate public opinion in these things that when the cause of God in other lands is being hampered by religious legislation, a door may still be open in Australasia for the active promulgation of this message.

The mind of the Australasian people is being exercised as to whether the State should have anything to do with religious affairs. Public opinion is being formed. Ministers are bringing influence to bear upon the people in favor of religious legislation.

As an instance, we will quote the following statements made by different speakers at an annual conference of the Evangelical Council of New South Wales, as reported in the Sydney *Daily Telegraph* of July 17, 1900: "A recognition of God had been made in the preamble of the Constitution Act, and the churches should now set before the people of these colonies their sense of the importance of the political union of the colonies, by bringing about in a more definite way, if possible, the federation of the churches."

They wanted to teach the Legislative Assembly of the colony that the *Protestant Church was a force to be felt*, and they could do that if they liked.

"The Free Churchmen numbered, roughly speaking, about two-thirds of the people of this colony, and if they got into line they could bring about any legislation they might desire." "Rights of Man," p. 170.

In view of the significance of the above statements and also of the testimonies previously quoted, shall we keep still and allow the people to make this fatal mistake? How shall we avert the threatened danger? How can we best bring before them the real question at issue?

## OUR PUBLICATIONS.

For some time we have felt the need of a class of religious liberty literature distinctively Australian. There is no way in which we can meet the present emergency better than by giving a wide circulation to tracts and pamphlets dealing with the question in local terms. Not only is it necessary to bring light to bear upon the subject for, the benefit of the general public, but we ourselves need to become more acquainted with the great principles God has given us.

Previous to his departure from Australia, Pastor W. A. Colcord wrote the book "Rights of Man." This book, with the tract "Religion and the State Schools," has already been published. We have also issued a tract by Pastor G. A. Snyder, called "Sunday Legislation." We desire to secure your co-operation in the circulation of these pamphlets. Quite a good start has been made in working with the tract "Religion and the State Schools." We have already shipped over 20,000 copies to the tract societies. We trust that each one will do something to extend the circulation of this tract.

In next issue of the RECORD we shall endeavor to make helpful suggestions re organisation and methods of work with "Rights of Man," and trust that our brethren will unite with us in placing this book where it will accomplish its mission. W. W. FLETCHER.

Book Dept., Echo Pub. Co., Ltd.

THE obstructions and difficulties we encounter in daily experiences are merely given as calls from God to pray. They are not designed to weaken but to strengthen; not as hindrances, but helps in the development of character. Offences are designed as a blessing to whom they come. "All things are for your sakes." "For their sakes it must needs be that offences come." The woe is upon him through whom they come, not upon him to whom they come. To every child of God the curse of Balaam is converted into a blessing. No one can harm a child of God but he himself. "Who is he that will harm you if ye be followers of that which is good?" Therefore cease to do evil and learn to do well. Return good for evil. D. H. KRESS.

It was in the fiery furnace that the three Hebrew captives met with One who was "like the Son of God," and had the most blessed experience of their lives. That meeting made the fiery furnace the best place they were ever in. And so may we, if we have living faith, meet God in the furnace of "fiery trial."—Selected.

THE Lord wills that we should be "strengthened with all might," but not that we may exhibit it for our own glory, but only that we may manifest it "unto all patience and long-suffering with joyfulness." We need not ask the Lord for strength unless we are willing to meet trials. The strength of the Almighty must be exercised according to the will of the Omniscient.—Selected.

In the rural districts of Sweden a garden is attached to every school. Here the children receive practical instruction in the cultivation of plants, berries, flowers, herbs, and fruits, the management of hot-beds, greenhouses, and so forth.—*Selected*.

# **REPORTS FROM THE FIELD.**

#### BRUNSWICK, VICTORIA.

IMMEDIATELY following the camp-meeting held early in November, 1901, a Sabbath school of about fifty members was organised. A growing membership and increasing interest have been noted ever since. The present number enrolled is about seventy. Some six months later a church was organised, a full quota of officers was appointed to care for its interests, and considerable aggressive work has been done.

A comparison of figures from the State treasurer's report at the late Conference in Footscray, showed that the Brunswick church stands at the head in the matter of tithe-paying, a higher rate per member being recorded for it than for any other church in the State.

The Sabbath-school donations, too, are well worthy of notice, amounting to about  $\pounds 20$  for the year 1902. Of this amount nearly  $\pounds 16$  has been given to missions and the various special objects for which the Sabbath-school offerings have been set apart. When the fact is taken into consideration that all in the school and church are of the working class, and several are sisters whose husbands are not united with them in the truth as yet, these financial facts are truly gratifying.

But while the Sabbath-school has done so well to help others, but little self interest has been shown in the expenditure of money. Now the need of a school library has forced itself upon all. A few friends have donated several copies of our books for this purpose as a start. A committee has been appointed to examine all books received, and admit none which contain undesirable features. A full line of our own denominational books is wanted, and also others which are educational, moral, and untainted with the many errors so common in the literature of the present day.

It has been decided to ask in this manner all friends of the object outlined who have such books that can be spared, to send them to the Echo Office, 16 Best Street, North Fitzroy, for this purpose, prepaying carriage on same. If some have no books to spare, but feel inclined to give something towards the purchase of some, it will be thankfully received. Address all books and communications on this subject to the undersigned at the address given above. H. E. SIMKIN.

#### HEALTH TOPICS ON LAND AND SEA.

WHILE crossing the water to New Zealand, I presented one of the passengers on the boat with a *Good Health*. He replied, "I take this journal, and have taken it for a year; an old man came to my home and took the order." (Meaning Brother Owen.) Then I overheard his conversation with his cabin mate. He said, "This is an up-to-date journal edited by progressive physicians, who present the latest and best thoughts." He told of the help it had been in his home. I think he made a thorough convert of his friend.

A lady I met on the train ordered tea at one of the stations. She was not feeling well, so I talked with her about the evils of tea drinking and pork eating. (She ate pork sandwiches.) As a result, she fully decided to leave them alone.

On the way to Napier, I had the same success with another intelligent lady. She may possibly come to Wahroonga Sanitarium, or go to Christchurch. She is a bad dyspeptic. She said nearly every one had dyspepsia.

In travelling it is gratifying to look through a car containing twenty passengers, and see nearly everyone reading health literature and apparently interested. As a usual thing people are anxious for the information, and devour it all, reading the journal from beginning to close. "Give ye them to eat," the Saviour is still saying. Certainly they are in need of this kind of mental food of saving knowledge. They are as sheep without a shep-herd. They are not fed at the churches to which they belong. Brother Owen is doing well. The last two weeks, including the holidays, he has taken 124 yearly subscriptions, and paid his way by the sale of separate copies of the journal. This gives him about  $\pounds_3$  per week and expenses. What Brother Owen, a feeble old man can do, hundreds may do. If we only had forty or fifty engaged as he is in active work, we should soon have a circulation of 200,000 copies monthly. There is no need of poverty among our people. The wealth of the gentiles will come to us if we only make use of the means God has ordained to accomplish this. The gentiles will be the vinedressers, etc., and Seventh-day Adventists should be called the ministers of the Lord. They should be engaged in imparting saving knowledge, sowing spiritual things, and as a result reaping of their carnal things. To many it might be said, "Why stand ye here idle all the day?" There certainly can be no excuse for idleness. In these days the field is ripe for the harvest. The Lord says, "Go work to-day in my vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you." A man has a right to his commission. If he sells only a few copies and takes only a few orders daily, he has a right to only a little. If, like Brother Owen, he puts his heart and soul into the work, and works hard, and gains an experience that enables him to take more orders, he is entitled to and has a right to much. It is not the length of time put in that is rewarded, but the faithfulness of the worker. "Whatsoever is right I will give," is the promise. "If these things be in you and abound, they make you that ye be neither barren nor unfruitful." Here lies the success of the work. Having put the hand to the plough we are not to look back. "Turn not to the right hand nor to the left, then shalt thou have good success." The thing to do is to everlastingly stick to it. This Brother Owen has learned to do. The experience you pass through at the beginning he has passed through, but instead of throwing off the armour, he buckled it on a little tighter. Do likewise, and your work will be a success.

D. H. KRESS, M. D.

#### THE SANITARIUM AND OUR SICK POOR.

THERE are many afflicted ones among us who are not able to pay the expense connected with the treatments at a sanitarium.

The Sanitarium is not in a financial condition to open its arms and welcome all these. It would not be right to expect a few men and women connected with such an institution to bear the burden of all the sick poor in our ranks. They are willing to do all they can; they are willing to give their time and attention and to co-operate in their restoration. But in some way provision should be made to meet the expenses of those who are not able to pay. The following quotation from the writings of Sister White makes the duty of the churches plain on this point: "Our Sanitarium was erected for the benefit of suffering humanity, rich and poor, the world over. Many of our churches have but little interest in this institution, notwithstanding they have sufficient evidence that it is one of the instrumentalities designed of God to bring men and women under the influence of truth and to save many souls. The churches that have the poor among them should not neglect their stewardship, and throw the burden of the poor sick upon the Sanitarium. All the members of the several churches are responsible before God for their afflicted ones. They should bear their own burdens. If they have sick persons among them whom they wish to be benefited by treatment, they should if able send them to the Sanitarium. In doing this, they will not only be patronising the institution which God has established, but will be helping those who need help, caring for the poor as God requires us to do."

There are, however, isolated members who are in need of treatment who appeal to us and are not able to avail themselves of the help they might obtain because of a lack of means. There are also isolated members who would willingly assist such. Then there are men of sufficient means in our churches who would no doubt be glad to aid these unfortunates. In order that the sick poor may not be denied the privileges for which the Sanitarium was brought into existence, we shall raise a fund for this purpose.

We would ask all who feel impressed to donate toward this fund for the treatment of the sick poor, to send their donations to J. A. Burden, the manager of the institution, stating plainly what the amount is for, and it will be devoted for that purpose only.

D. H. Kress.

## REPORT FROM FIJI.

LETTERS from Fiji give good reports of the work in that part. We have much to be thankful for as we review the work of 1902. The work has now been started in several parts of the group. A number have accepted the truth through reading the *Rarama*, our little native paper. Years ago we were told by Europeans that if our work ever took hold there, white missionaries would be compelled to remain by the work; that if we removed, the natives would apostatise. This may be so with some, but we are glad to state there are some good stable souls among the natives; and more, there are some who have not seen us at all, and who have, through reading alone, commenced to obey the truth.

Last report says that two of our native boys have been out preaching, and both have seen a number accept the truth under their labors.

The Avondale Press has kindly donated us a press. This will be a great help to the work there. We can now print two pages of our little paper at one impression, formerly we could print but one page at a time.

The Avondale Press is now printing an edition of "Great Controversy" in Fijian. Who will assist in paying the expenses of this work? Some have already helped us. We are thankful for this, but we need more help. This is a book that ought to be in the hands of the people. Catholicism is making great progress in Fiji. There is no literature for the people to give them an intelligent idea of the papal power. In the "Great Controversy" the history of the past and the message of the present time are so linked together that we have therein the most valuable information that can be presented. No one will doubt this who knows the message for this time. All who see that this is a worthy object and feel able to assist us, send your donations along. If

we can get a large edition of this book printed, we are sure that the work of the Lord will be materially hastened in that part of the vineyard. Who will have a part in this work?

A young native Fijian is now attending Avondale School, fitting himself to return as a missionary to his people. We are trying to get another boy from Fiji to attend the school. The Lord has helped us wonderfully in the first case. The way was hedged up, but the Lord works wonderfully. As we see the outlook for the year, we are of good courage. May the Lord bless the work in the great island field.

J. E. FULTON.

#### NEW ZEALAND NOTES.

It has recently been my privilege to visit the church at Palmerston North. The neat little building lately finished was dedicated just before Pastor Lacey left for America. At that time the total indebtedness amounted to about  $\pounds_{30}$ . This was not owed to any of the business people of the town, but represented an amount borrowed from one of the members for one year without interest, with which to meet all outside obligations. Considerable of this has already been met by the regular collections.

The members of this church have very nearly finished selling their quota of "Christ's Object Lessons." Only a few more copies remain to be sold. They have now commenced an additional enterprise, the sale of the *Bible Echo* on the streets Saturday nights. Thus far good success has attended their efforts. On the Saturday evening before leaving, there were six of us who went out, and many papers were sold, in fact, all their old stock.

Previous to my leaving this place, a baptismal service was held, in which seven candidates participated. Most of these unite with the church there, one with the Wellington church.

I also had the opportunity of visiting the church at Wanganui, and although the members there are considerably scattered, we had two good meetings well attended. The little company here are also much interested in the sale and circulation of the literature, and so reap its sure results in a harvest of love and unity among themselves.

In visiting Pahiatua, I was pleased to find the few there, notwithstanding some perplexing circumstances, rejoicing in the truth, and apparently making steady progress toward the kingdom. Families at Shannon and Manakau were also visited.

It is a pleasure to observe that in New Zealand there is a growing demand for literature, perhaps there is also an increased activity on the part of the members in its distribution. Of the December number of the *Australasian Good Health* the churches are disposing of 2,525 copies.

Of the little tract "Religion and the State School" something over 7,000 copies have been used in this field. The churches at Napier and Christchurch alone took 2,000 each. Besides, as used by the members, our society has posted a considerable number to school teachers, members of parliament, and to 700 ministers. Pastor Wantzlick in Auckland supplied many of the ministers of that district, and Brother Paap in Dunedin followed a similar course. At present Brother Paap is carrying on a systematic house to house visiting with the little tract "What do these things mean?" and with other literature. Brother Lyndon has lately removed from Gisborne, and has settled in Hastings. The church at Gisborne has been much strengthened during his stay in that place, several new members being added and the courage of all more or less revived. Something over 200 copies of "Christ's Object Lessons" were sold by Brother and Sister Lyndon alone while working with this church. The prospects of Hastings are good for a steady growth of prosperity to the church there.

W. L. H. BAKER.

#### FROM FIJL.

STANDING at the close of another year, our minds revert to the many blessings which God's kind providence has dispensed to us. And as we take up the labors and responsibilities of a new year, it is with confidence that the "I Am" will not fail us.

fidence that the "I Am" will not fail us. It was with trembling that we came back to Fiji, knowing that we could depend upon no human arm for bodily strength. Six months have now passed, and here we raise our Ebenezer, saying, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." Mrs. Parker has better health now, and does more work than when she was in Tasmania. So far as I am concerned and Ramona, we have no complaint to offer. Praise God, for it is "in Him we live and move and have our being."

We are still living in our native house, 12 x 25, reed walls, thatch roof, mat floors, no windows, and two doors. We are hoping that when Brother Gates comes we can make some changes.

After the work started here some time back, a reaction set in, so that it has been difficult to get the confidence of the people again. But we can see some evidences that some of the prejudice is being removed and confidence restored. We are doing everything we can for them. This month I have given seventy-six treatments. We have very few moments to ourselves from five o'clock in the morning till nine o'clock at night. C. H. PARKER.

Mualevu, Lomaloma, Lau, Fiji.

#### WORDS OF APPRECIATION.

TO THOSE who donated furnishings to the Wahroonga Sanitarium: I wish to express our gratitude and thanks to those who contributed so liberally towards furnishing the Sanitarium with articles that make it look homelike.

When the time came to put the building in order to receive patients, Sister Burden took me to the store room where the donations had been stored, and you can imagine something of the happiness I felt on seeing the array of things before me, beginning with a centre table for the drawing room, large oil paintings, sofa pillows, vases, antimacassars, etc., for the same; tablecloths, serviettes, tray cloths, dishes for dining room, blankets, pillows, sheets, pillow cases, towels, mats, and doilies for the bedrooms, and footstools, table and bureau covers, etc.

I wish the little girls who made the holland-covered sofa pillows could see how much the sick folk enjoy them. And if the ones who sent the tea-towels, dish cloths, kettle holders, etc., for the kitchen, could have seen the smiling faces of those appointed to that work, when these articles were presented to them, I am sure they would have felt repaid for their work. There were many more articles, such as work bags, pin cushions, splashers, pictures, and toilet pieces, for which we feel truly grateful. Before closing, I would say that if there are any others who would like to have a part in this good work, we could use more articles, especially serviettes, towels, counterpanes, and pillows. I would not forget the sister in America who sent me

£5, and also the students at Avondale who chopped wood and sold it, and donated the proceeds to the Sanitarium work. We trust that many of the young men in our ranks will act on the suggestion and do likewise, thus materially assisting in the great work here.

Again thanking you for your liberality, and praying that God will bless you in basket and store house, and all spiritual blessings, I remain, your sister in the work, Mrs. G. A. Irwin.

#### A GOOD EXAMPLE

SHOULD be set by the elder of every church. All should feel the responsibility that rests upon them to see that the work with "Christ's Object Lessons" is carried forward zealously by the members of their flock. The very term used by inspiration-overseer-indicates work. The church is to be a working body, and the elder is the one to lead out and guide in this work. Some of the officers in the churches recognise their responsibility. We cull the following from a private letter, hoping that it will stir up some other church officer to do likewise. This officer writes, "I have had a week's holiday to devote to 'Object Lessons.' The books were lying in the treatment rooms, and the people were resting on their oars. I had spoken time and again about selling them, but no one seemed to do any more than to sell an odd copy at odd times. I felt stirred up to get the books sold before the camp-meeting, and so asked the school board to set me free for a week. Some of the parents objected, notably those who have not made a stir at all with the book. Well, Monday I started out, and before I had gone a mile my bike broke down so that I could not ride it. I had to return home and get it mended. By mid-day I was ready again, but I got no orders that day. Tuesday I got ten, Wednesday four, and five yesterday. The numbers are not much, but I have had a good experience, and I was able to have some nice talks with the people about the second coming of Christ, the Bible in the schools, and the Sanitarium.

One of our canvassers has had an interesting experience with "Object Lessons." From the first it occurred to him that to be in harmony with the spirit of the work it was necessary to devote time exclusively to the sale of this book. He has therefore regularly devoted a day and also odd half days to the work. If his canvassing had been at a low ebb before he went out with "Christ's Object Lessons," it always improved after he had been out with it. So now whenever he finds his orders getting few and far between, he breaks right off from his other book and spends a day working with "Christ's Object Lessons." It is needless to tell you that his testimony is constantly one of thankfulness to the Lord for His great goodness.

Here is a splendid recipe for a discouraged canvasser. It is a fact as proved by the experience of many, that a little effort with "Christ's Object Lessons" will increase the sales of the book a canvasser is regularly handling. C. P. MICHAELS.

Statistical Report of Conferences in Australasian Union Conference, Quarter Ending Sept. 30, 1902.

Name of Conference or Mission.	Number of Churches. Membership of Churches.	Number of Sabbath Schools.	Membership of Sabbath Schools. Average Sabbath School Attendance.	Pre- Vor	es Pa	First-Day Offerings to Foreign Missions.	Sabbath School Donations to Missions.	Annual Contribution to Missions.	Miscellaneous Individual Gifts to Missions.	Donations to School.	Sales of Subscription Books. Retail Value.	Sales of Trade Books and Tracts. Retail Value.	Value of Conference Property.	Indebtedness of Con- ference.
Victoria New South Wales. New Zealand Queensland South Australia Tasmania West Australia	. 13 637 . 15 400 . 6 220 . 4 250	23	630 449 699 555 525 391 238 157 311 231 267 202 188 148	4 I 2 12 3 3 2 16 2 4 3 12 I 2 2 11 I 4 7 2 I 2 7 2 I 1 6	$ \begin{array}{c} \pounds & \text{s. d.} \\ 343 & 2 & 4 \\ 486 & 18 & 8 \\ 225 & 9 & 4 \\ 162 & 11 & 1 \\ 120 & 6 & 6 \\ 218 & 8 & 8 \\ 131 & 7 & 7 \end{array} $	£ s. d.  7 6 10 0  5 2 12 0	$ \begin{array}{c} \pounds & \text{s. d.} \\ 26 & 3 & 7 \\ 53 & 9 & 5 \\ 4^2 & 5 & 8 \\ 9 & 16 & 9 \\ 10 & 7 & 0 \\ 13 & 14 & 0 \\ 18 & 16 & 11 \end{array} $	£ s. d.  6 7 2    1 0 0	£ s. d. 2 19 4 1 10 7  1 0 0	£ s. d.  4 0  0 10 11 3 0	$\begin{array}{c} f & s. d. \\ 829 & 10 & 6 \\ 859 & 2 & 0 \\ 718 & 14 & 9 \\ 226 & 15 & 1 \\ 134 & 12 & 6 \\ 428 & 19 & 0 \\ 612 & 4 & 0 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} f_{\pm} & \text{s. d.} \\ 112 & 13 & 0 \\ 119 & 10 & 3 \\ 50 & 1 & 3 \\ 22 & 11 & 3 \\ 32 & 2 & 10 \\ 13 & 10 & 5 \\ 35 & 0 & 0 \end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{c} f_{1} & \text{s. d.} \\ 344 & 6 & 8 \\ 304 & 8 & 9 \\ 150 & 0 & 0 \\ 50 & 13 & 0 \\ 136 & 13 & 7 \\ 122 & 0 & 0 \\ 131 & 12 & 11 \end{array} $	£ s. d 528 15 9 256 3 3  186 3 6  

#### **GLEANINGS FROM VICTORIA.**

GOD has a people in Victoria, and the faithful canvasser is finding them "one here, another there," according to the promise. One agent writes,—

This morning I had rather a peculiar experience. I called on a lady, and knowing her husband was at home, I thought to save two canvasses, and asked if I could show him the book at the same time. She invited me into the dining-room. He received me very abruptly, and told me it was of no use showing him the book, that I was only wasting my time, etc. Still I told him I would like him to see it. He started to talk "science," "the contradiction of the Bible," etc., etc. I could see he was a well read man, and that he could talk poor little me into oblivion. The Lord helped me to answer him intelligently, and I finally told him if he did not believe all the Bible, I was afraid it was of no use my talking to him, as I could only refer him to that. He then asked me my belief, and I told him I was a Seventh-day Adventist. He told me he belonged to the Church of Christ. I did not get a chance to show him one page of my book. Judge of my surprise when he asked me the price of the book, and told me to bring him one of the very best. After he had signed for it, I asked him why he ordered it not having seen it. He said, "I am going to read it through, every word, then I will tell you what I think of it." (The book referred to was "Bible Readings.") I tell you my heart was full; I knew the Lord had sold that book. He asked me to call again and talk with him. When he was showing me out of his house, he said, "I don't believe in you Adventist." "Then why did you order the book?" I asked. He replied, "Because I want to look and find out for myself."

Was not this a cheering experience. Thank God we know what we believe and can speak with confidence.

A few days after, the same agent met a lady who had recently been converted from Roman Catholicism. Whilst canvassing and talking she felt deeply impressed to speak to her of the change of the Sabbath by the Papacy, and call for an entire separation from that apostasy. Tracts on the Sabbath question were posted, and the following letter received in reply :—

Many thanks for the tracts which have done me so much good. I am going to keep the Sabbath on the seventh day from this. Please tell me the rules of your church. I am sure the time of the Lord's coming is close. I would like to follow His commands. What chapters in the Old Testament will especially help me? How strange God's ways are; fancy meeting you as I did. Do tell me how I can work for the Lord. I would like to do something. God bless you for your kindness.

We believe the Lord will lead her and use her in His service. As the agent remarked, "this is worth more than all the orders taken." What joy there is in leading souls to the true light.

Another interesting letter has been received from one we have been laboring with for some time. Extracts as follows read :— I have been convinced for some time that Saturday was the Sabbath, and I held out just as long as I dared, hoping against hope that I could prove you wrong, and so go on keeping Sunday with a good conscience. Deep down in my heart I knew I should not do this, but you know "self dies hard," and I could not give in without a struggle. Will you pray for me that I may have courage given me to go right through. I know I shall have some hard battles to fight, and I know that nothing but the grace of God can keep me true. I feel, too, I want to do something in the Lord's work. I know I cannot do very much, but if there is some little thing I can do, please let me know and I will do it.

Such letters as these encourage us to labor on, knowing that our time is very limited for such work. L. GREGG.

#### PREPARATIONS FOR THE JUBILEE.

THE time has fully come for us to experience something of the jubilee wave now passing over the denomination. Items in our good papers from abroad tell us of the blessings received by those engaged in this work, and give us glimpses of what may be our experiences in this field. Souls are added daily. Hearts are made warm and tender. The reproach of debt is being rolled off our institutions, and God's people are beginning to realise what it means to be the head and not the tail. Is it not time, brethren, for such a wave to pass over Australasia? The beautiful book, "Christ's Object Lessons," was given by the Lord, not only that the debts against our schools should be paid, and the reproach rolled back, but that the Lord may bring His people back to that old time spirit of scattering our literature broadcast. He desires to teach His people that every member of the church, and the children also, can do this work, instead of thinking the regular canvassers are the ones to do it. If as one man we are ready to take hold and do this work, the school debt will soon be lifted. Souls will be added, and God's people will be that light unto the Gentiles that they should be. C. H. HAYTON.

THERE have been sent out from the tract society office in Wellington 2677 copies of "Christ's Object Lessons." The good results of this work we cannot measure, but it is gratifying to note that nearly  $\pounds$ 600 has already been sent from New Zealand to the Avondale School. The good work in this line is not completed, but should gain in extent and influence as it advances.

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# Items of General Interest.

BROTHER OWEN, one of our *Good Health* canvassers of New Zealand, reports sixty-one yearly subscribers in one week's work. He sells single copies besides to pay expenses. Brother Owen is not a mechanical worker. He has his heart in the work and the health principles in his heart—success is sure in every such case. For "if these things be in you and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful." We want one hundred men and women with Brother Owen's spirit to engage in the work of canvassing for the *Good Health*. Other good, encouraging reports are coming in.

An Age of Wonderful Achievements.—Through often hearing of strange discoveries the present generation is ready to believe most anything, excepting, perhaps, the

Word of God. "Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased," wrote Daniel, in speaking of the time of the end. The present generation is continually witnessing the wonderful fulfillment of this prophecy. Through theagency of steam and electricity, one remarkable development has followed hard upon another. By land and sea



rapid modes of travel and instantaneous methods of communication are the order of the day. Wireless telegraphy, submarine, and aerial navigation are receiving much attention at present. From Cape Cod, Mass., U. S. A., President Roosevelt recently sent expressions of greeting over the sea to King Edward. By this wireless system of sound transmission, tourists on different Atlantic liners



are in constant communication with each other. Some assert that, ere long, the man Marconi will establish a system of communication with the antipodes, thus encircling the earth. The recent remarkable performances of the fleet of submarines, which form a part of the French navy, is of a character to startle their enemies and fill the hearts of men with fear. Space forbids further details, but, amid the

coming "wreck of matter and the crush of worlds," there will be hope and safety in God and His promises. Joel 3: 16; Acts 2: 21; Heb. 12: 26-29.

**Special Notice.**—The General Conference has been appointed to be held from March 25 to April 13, 1903, in California. G. A. Irwin, W. D. Salisbury, E. H. Gates, and E. M. Graham have been appointed delegates to this meeting. During G. A. Irwin's absence, E. W. Farnsworth will be acting president, and all letters relating to his work should be addressed to him, c/o Echo Publishing Company, North Fitzroy, Victoria. Mrs. J. Hindson will act as secretary, and all letters relating to the business and other work of the secretary and treasurer of the Union Conference should be addressed to her at 56 George Street West, Sydney.

I desire to thank heartily the conference and tract society secretaries and others who have kindly worked hard to get their reports in early to enable me to prepare for leaving. E. M. GRAHAM, Secretary.

The Man of Sin.—The principles of selfishness which have made the papacy what it was and is are still gaining ground. Prophecy pointed out long ago that such would be the case. Image worship, the confessional and ritualism in the Church of England testify to the decay of Protestant principles. An eminent American recently testified that "infidelity, agnosticism, or absolute indifference is already digging the grave of Protestantism in the United States." Though for a time the powers of darkness triumph, we know that soon the morning cometh, which will bring in everlasting righteousness. Dan. 7: 11-14.

"AND about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle? They say unto him, Because no man has hired us. He saith unto them, Go ye also into the vineyard; and whatsoever is right that shall ye receive." There is no need of any man, woman, or child being idle, for the Lord says to every one, Go ye also into the vineyard. Let me call your attention to a work in which many young men and women might engage. We are in need of canvassers for our Good Health journal. It is not difficult for a person of average intelligence to secure ten yearly subscribers for the journal daily. The canvasser receives a commission of 1/- for each subscription. This means 10/- per day. His wage will be according to the effort put forth. This is right. "Whatsoever is right that will I give." By hard work as many as forty yearly subscribers have been secured in one day. The February number of the Australasian Good Health is a good number to canvass with. Become thoroughly acquainted with the contents and principles of the journal, then go to your work after committing yourself to God, "turn not to the right hand or to the left," and you will find good success.

#### Just From the Press.

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