Divine Enumerations, or Revelation of Heavenly Secrets

FROM the time of their earliest history Seventh-day Adventists have emphasised the significance of the great time prophecies—the 1260 and 2300 year periods, the latter being the longest in the Bible. Their expirations mark important last-day events. When the 1260 years came to an end in 1798 A.D., the era of modern missions began; and the Bible that for centuries had been neglected, interdicted, insulted, and burned, was from this time forward quickly translated into various tongues; for knowledge was "increased," and men "run to and fro" to every quarter of the globe. The long ages of darkness and papal iniquity were over, and the day of preparation for the great day of God had arrived.

Now, with Seventh-day Adventists the 1260 and 2300 years are great companion periods. They are the two greatest and most wonderful prophetic time prophecies in the Bible. Both are divine enumerations, and the wise watched their fulfilment. Three times in the eighth chapter of Daniel alone, are we told that this vision of the 2300 years reaches to the last days, or for "many days to come." Though Daniel desired to know the meaning, he failed to understand it fully even after several explanations,—the first explanation in chapter eight, a further explanation in chapter nine, references to the vision in chapters ten and eleven, and the final words of the angel in chapter twelve.

Prophets do not always understand their own visions. 1 Peter 1:10-12. The angel plainly told Daniel in chapter twelve that he could not in this life understand it all, for it was to be sealed up till the "time of the end." So he was told to go his way, and "rest" in the grave "till the end be." Dan. 12:9, 13. Only those who live now, when the seals of this mysterious book are broken, can understand the vision of the 2300 years.

When the 2300 years came to their end in A.D. 1844, a special work of God began,—the cleansing of the sanctuary in heaven, and the carrying forward of His work below. This meant the preaching of the judgment message of Rev. 14:6, 7, which was the first of the threefold messages, ushering in the coming of the "Son of man," with the sickle in His hand, reaping the harvest of the earth. Rev. 14:6-15. "The harvest is the end of the world." Matt. 13:39.

So both these periods are of the greatest prophetic significance, establishing in a very special way the advent message. Much reference has been made to them during all our history as a people; and now as the work is near its termination, they are certainly of no less importance than before.

"The Wonderful Numberer"

In Daniel, chapter eight, verse thirteen, the expression for "that certain" is from the Hebrew word, Palmoni, used but this once in the Bible. Palmoni is "the numberer of secrets," or the "wonderful numberer,"—see margin of Authorised Version. And who is the "wonderful numberer"? He who notes the sparrow's fall, and who has numbered the hairs of our head. He also has numbered our years, our "steps," our "words," and even our "tears." He numbers the stars and calls them all by name. He is the "wonderful numberer:"

for His name is "Wonderful." Isa. 9:6.

What a wonderful prophecy is this vision of the 2300 years! What certainty it gives to this last great message! It was revealed by Palmoni, that "certain one," and the divine enumeration is intended to give certainty. He is the "Revealer of Secrets" and "Wonderful Numberer." We have not followed a "cunningly devised fable," but God has broken the seals of the before closed book, and mysteries hid for ages are now made known to the sons of men. What prophets in former ages, like Daniel, so much longed to know, and even angels desired to look into but could not understand, is now open before our eyes; and this subject of the cleansing of the sanctuary, in connection with the 2300 years, is a marvellous unfolding from the "Revealer of Secrets." "There is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets...what shall be in the latter days," Dan. 2:19, 22, 28.

"Such subjects as the sanctuary, in connection with the 2300 days, the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, are perfectly calculated to explain the past Advent movement and show what our present position is, establish the faith of the doubting, and give certainty to the glorious future. These, I have frequently seen, were the principal subjects on which the messengers..."
should dwell."—"Early Writings," page 67.

That being true, let the watchmen carefully review our position in the light of the Bible and Testimonies, and present this wonderful subject of our Saviour's ministration. It is the everlasting gospel. It is a message of power, and it is fully due. The sanc-
tuary is the centre of the hub, and from its spokes, like the spokes in a wheel, every doctrine we hold. And Christ our Saviour is the centre of the hub. It is emphatically a message of the Saviour.

**A Vivid Illustration**

Perhaps no subject illustrates more vividly the marvellous powers of God as the "wonderful numberer" (Dan. 8:13, margin) than the study of the stars. He "bringeth out their host by number: He calleth them all by names. Greatness of His might" (Ps. 40:26). As far as man is concerned the "host of heaven cannot be numbered." Jer. 33:22. Long ago in the early history of the world when no man had been sent to look into the heavens, it was intimated he could not tell the number of the stars; and now, after all these ages, astronomers today, with all the advantage of their most powerful telescopes, must confess that still the "host of heaven cannot be numbered." Only two thousand stars are visible to the naked eye, but early students of the heavens observed there was a background of mottled light which has been termed the Milky Way, which was known to be just beyond the range of vision and yet was obvious enough to sight to be known to be filled with countless myriads of stars too faint to be individually detected.

Modern students of astronomy, aided by powerful telescopes, photographic and other apparatus, have confirmed the statements made in the Bible that the stars are without number. Modern astronomers say that one of the main causes of these powerful telescopes and photography over fifty million stars have been brought into view; but they tell us also that there must be as well the appearance of myriads still beyond, too faint to be detected by the most powerful telescope.

E. W. Maunder, a celebrated English astronomer, in his little book "The Science of the Stars," in speaking of the Milky Way asks this question, "How vast may that structure be—how far is it from wall to wall? That is a question that we can only guess." So from the best authority we have the admission that there is no man, with all the powerful telescopes, who can number the stars. So we are brought back to that expression in the eighth chapter of Daniel to realise that the One who gave the answer to the question, "How long shall the vision of the evenings and mornings be?"

The windows of heaven are waiting to be unraveled from our side that a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit and power may be bestowed upon His waiting people.

**Valuable Astronomical Proof**

And now let us quote from E. W. Maunder, the astronomer referred to earlier in our article. In the "International Encyclopedia of Universal Developments," a recent encyclopedia published in Chicago, a most valuable work, E. W. Maunder has an article on Bible astronomy, and comes to the same conclusion as did the Swiss astronomer. We will quote as follows:

"The luni-solar cycles of Daniel—The season for which the sun and moon were appointed are mentioned in yet another connection. Daniel was asked, 'How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?' and it was answered, 'It shall be for a time, times and an half; and when they have made an end of breaking in pieces the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.' (Dan. 12:5,7.) From the parallel passage in Dan. 7:25, where it is said of the fourth beast, 'He shall think to change the times and the law; and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and half a time; but the judgment shall sit, the transgression that maketh desolate, until the remnant be taken out of the holy place.' (Dan. 12: 4, 3, 12, 6.) And the parallel passages of Dan. 11:2, 3; 12:6, 12; 11:3 13; 15 have caused these years to be taken as conventional years of 360 days, each year being made up of 12 conventional months 30 days, and on the year-end principle it was inferred that mo-ede, the first instance stands, like iddan in the second, for a year; or the period is equivalent to half a week of years. The parallel passages are: Dan. 11:2, 3; 12:6, 12; 13:2, 3; 13:12; 15 have caused these years to be taken as conventional years of 360 days, each year being made up of 12 conventional months 30 days, and on the yearend principle it was inferred that the entire period indicated would be one of 1260 tropical years. This again is a luni-solar cycle, since 1260 years contains 55,854 months correct to the nearest day. To the same prophet Daniel a further chronological vision was given, and yet more perfect cycle indicated. In answer to the question, 'How long shall the vision concerning the continual burnt-offering, and the transgression that maketh desolate, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot?' the answer was returned, 'Unto two thousand and three hundred evenings and mornings; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.' (Dan. 8:13, 14.) Whatever may be the prophetic significance of the passage, its astronomical significance is clear: 360,057 days, or 1, 000,000 ,000 lunar months, or 28,447 anomalistic months, the anomalistic month being the period in which the moon travels from perigee to perigee. It is the most perfect division which must be known, and restores the two great lights exactly to their former relationship. This fullest ‘season’ indicated by the sun and moon is given as that for the cleansing of the sanctuary, for the bringing in as it were, of the full and perfect Jubilee.

It is not possible at present to decide as to whether the Jews had learnt of this cycle and its significance before the astronomers. If so, they must have been far in advance in ma-
thematical science of all other nations of antiquity. If not, then it must have been given to them by Divine revelation, and its astronomical significance has been left for modern science to reveal."

**Written These Numbers in the Heavens**

So it would seem that God has not only written the 1260 years and the 2300 years in the prophecy, but He has also written these same numbers in the heavens above as the sun, the moon, and the stars race on in their orbits year after year through space. There must be something divine about these periods. They must be of the utmost significance, else God would not have written them here below and in the heavens above.

Maunder tells us in this article that the 2300 years constitute "the most perfect luni-solar cycle known," and we can say of all Bible time prophecies that the 2300 year period is not only the longest, but the most important. There is no prophecy that points out so exactly our whereabouts in the stream of time and life. Indeed, certain of these last days, for at the expiration of this period the message of Rev. 14:6-14 was to go forth to the world. God marked off the time, and when the period had expired He gave warning. How wonderful, then, has been the fulfillment of the prophecies of Daniel, especially of this eighth chapter, which has been held to be the period of God's remnant people; and now after all the objections and refutations that this great prophetic outline has had during the last three-fourths of a century, it is seen to shine out brighter than ever, and these astronomical calculations seem to add new lustre to this great prophetic period.

Not only do the words of the prophet Daniel break out vividly to us from the history of the past, but it seems as we view the heavenly bodies above as they speed their course through space, that God has given us a certain clue from the heavens above to remind us, to encourage us, and to give us confidence in the position that we have taken as a people.

J. E. FULTON.

"The windows of heaven are waiting to be unraveled from our side that a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit and power may be bestowed upon His waiting people."
Canvassing

Victory Through Prayer

The pioneer canvasser for our subscription books in Australia was Brother William Arnold, and the work that he first sought to secure orders for was that splendid book by Uriah Smith, "Daniel and the Revelation." This was in the year 1885, or forty years ago. The children of eight or ten who, in those days, followed "mother" to the door to see the strange man with the strange book, are now, if alive at all, grown men and women of past middle age.

At the outset of his work Brother Arnold followed a trying and a very trying experience. He took no orders the first day, and the close of the first week of arduous labour still found him without the least degree of success. At every house he had met with a refusal.

And this lack of orders continued for six long weeks. Any canvasser who has gone a day or two without taking an order can well imagine what an ordeal Brother Arnold must have passed through during this time.

After canvassing for six long trying weeks, and in a measure succeeding in booking out the second order, less determined and persistent canvassers than Brother Arnold might have come to the conclusion that it was impossible to sell books in Australia. But Brother Arnold believed profoundly that God desired the message-filled books sold in Australia as elsewhere, and he believed, too, that the God of Israel could and would enable him to sell these books.

Far from becoming discouraged and giving up, therefore, he made his difficulty a matter of earnest prayer. He remained on his knees until he received the evidence that God would help him. From then on, he had wonderful success.

Brother E. R. Palmer, who once laboured in this field, tells the story of Brother Arnold's trial of faith and his subsequent rich success. Brother Palmer's words are quoted on page 282 of Pastor W. A. Spicer's "Our Story of Australia." They are re-quoted here:

"When William Arnold went out to Australia to canvass for "Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation," he worked six weeks without selling a book. He wrote out on the doorsteps and gave his book; and instead of going to dinner, he would come in and spend the noon hour in prayer. I have heard Elder Hasell tell many times, Brother Arnold worked on in that way for six weeks, until there came a day when he stayed on his knees until he got the evidence that God would help him to sell books in Australia. From that day the sale of books in Australia broke all the records. William Arnold sold books wherever he went, sometimes ten, twelve, fifteen copies in a day, and one day he bought his first printing press, William Arnold came with £240 in gold, earned by the sale of "Daniel and the Revelation" in Australia, to pay for that first press. Ever since that time, God has blessed the colporteur work in that interesting field."

Many a canvasser in Australia and New Zealand has, since those days, found comfort and courage as well as victory and success in prayer. And many a canvasser will still find that the God of Israel is prepared to help His toiling workers, and to give them courage, wisdom, and victory. Through his servant, Sister White, the Lord says in "Testimonies for the Church," Vol. VI, page 349:

"Humble, fervent prayer would do more in behalf of the circulation of our books than all the expensive embellishments in the world. If the workers will turn their atten- tion to that which is true and living and real; if they will pray for, believe for, and trust in the Holy Spirit, His power will be poured upon them in strong, heavenly currents, and right and lasting impressions will be made upon the human heart. Then pray and work, and work and pray, and the Lord will work with you." Some interesting facts about the recent progress of the work in Australia will be given in the next article.

A. L. KING.

Colporturing

UNIQUE indeed are the experiences of the colporteur. He belongs right into the everyday life of the community, and into contact with all sorts of people, professing all sorts of weird beliefs—some as divergent as the poles. His responsibility is as great as the people, the most acceptable—especially on a cold, wet day—being this type: "Come inside, I have read some of your books. Have you had dinner?"

Some of the questions asked are nothing short of amazing. "Do you really believe that such a person as Christ ever lived?" was the second burning query put to the colporteur by a church-going lady. We cited the well-known hymn, "The Church has one foundation, 'tis Jesus Christ, her Lord."

"I remember hearing about somebody dying upon the cross, but forget who He was," said a grown-up lad in reply to a question. We sought out his mother and told the story of Jesus; His love, concluding with a reminder about parental responsibility.

"I am a fatalist," said a man of eighty; "ready always to give an answer to every question. We sought out his mother and told the story of Jesus; His love, concluding with a reminder about parental responsibility.

"Scenes That Are Brightest"

"WOOL, wheat, frozen meat, Butter, hides and wool."

Many school children chant Victoria's proud boast of her exports. The gospel colporteur, however, in the pursuance of his mission discovers something rarer and more valuable in Australia—the heart of the literature, the Bible truth, the salvation of the soul. It is the soul that counts, and not the harvests of wheat, or any of these commodities. The soul of the honest, truth-seeking man or woman is reached by his ministry.

Our next experience was with a Salvation Army officer who, we learned, held a "marked aversion" towards Seventh-day Adventists. During the interview that followed, the writer reminded him of other days when the Salvation Army was less popular and army uniforms served as targets for stale eggs. We also explained that the biased attitude of some church folk today against Adventists was a feature of the same evil spirit that lit the fires of Smithfield, and that those living nearest the truth were very often persecuted the most. Our friend appreciated the chat, as was evidenced from the fact that he confessed he had misjudged, and we parted good friends. He also enquired about our books, but as it was Sabbath no business was done.

A warm tribute was paid to Adventism by a retired Congregational minister living at Beechworth. He spoke in glowing terms of an Adventist family at Cunningham with whom he had quarreled while stationed there, and said that "the teaching that developed the sterling qualities of those young men was certainly the right kind of teaching." He referred to two in the same family who, in their determination to attend the Missionary College, braved the elements in a sixteen-foot rowing boat, all the way from Lakes Entrance to Sydney.

While the writer was canvassing in the district of Miliwa with "Our Day in the Light of Prophecy," a lady declared that she and the rest of her family could not believe, hence did not require another. "May we please see the books?" asked the writer. "Oh, yes, come right in," said the lady, as in a triumphant manner she led the way to her library, only to show us the six volumes of "the Plan of the Ages," the teaching of which alleges that the second coming of Christ and the resurrection of the dead are past events. We explained matters, secured an order for "Our Day," and went on our way rejoicing.

An observant colporteur is impressed with the fact that the world is growing sad and sour for lack of Christ, and that those who deny the divinity of Christ and the inspiration of the Bible fail easy victims to any devilish doctrine which seems to best suit the fancy, thus verifying the Bible truth, "Because they believed a lie they were condemned to their own condemnation."

"Scenes That Are Brightest"

"Wool, wheat, frozen meat, Butter, hides and wool."

Many school children chant Victoria's proud boast of her exports. The gospel colporteur, however, in the pursuance of his mission discovers something rarer and more valuable in Australia—"Wool, wheat, frozen meat, Butter, hides and wool." The scenes that are brightest are not those of the rebuffs, the apparent failures, or the hours of discouragement experienced at times by most bookmen. The spiritual treasures of the scenes that are brightest are quenched with draughts from the ever-flowing fountain, freely offered in his printed page, and his heart rejoices as he counts the privileges of service.

"I have been trying for seven years to judge the harvest..."
get a complete copy of a book I have here." This elderly gentleman, a leader in local church affairs, continued: "The first chapter and part of the last one are missing. I sent my daughter to town last week, but she didn't get one, then she then produced a tattered copy of "World Peace." Delighted that he could get one, and agreeing to take one of the larger books, he added, "Must I wait two months for them?"

Eagerness to gain a knowledge of God's truth is seen on every hand.

"We are keeping the wrong day," frequently stated the lady. Her eyes shone as the good book, "Our Day," was described, especially when the chapters on "The Law of God" and "The Bible Sabbath" were shown. This soul was surprised as she listened to the words of Rev. 14:6-12, and heard of God's globe-encircling message. "Husband and I are keeping the wrong day, and this gentleman says so, too," was excitedly spoken to her husband as he entered the room.

Many such experiences might be related. These are sufficient, however, to help us realise that God's Spirit is actively engaged in His work at this time as never before, to bring to it a speedy close.

West Australia

PRESIDENT: H. E. PIPER
SECRETARY: R. R. GOODING

Seed Sowing in Lonely Places

"In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand; for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good." Eccl. 11:6.

During the 1924 Appeal it was my privilege to visit some of the country districts. The following experience is one of which God cares to the seed sown, and in His time, in His way, He performs the thing whereunto He has sent it:

Leaving the railway at Carnamah, I was cycling out to visit a family whose relatives were Seventh-day Adventists, when I met a lady driving towards me in a sulky. The horse seemed rather un-friendly toward the approach, and consequently the sulky slowed down, and I was impressed to ask the driver how far it was to the home of the family I was seeking. In the middle of two that we had for conversation I told the lady who I was and the object of my visit.

She immediately offered $1 in response to the appeal made, saying that she was on her way to the township to post it to a certain mission of another denomination. I told her I did not want to forestall any of her plans, but she assured me that it would be quite all right, and that she would willingly give me this donation. She also stated that she would be back in an hour or two to her home, which was a few miles further on, and asked me to dine with her and her husband.

In due course I arrived at her home, before she did, and made friends with her husband, and after lunch a cheque was handed to me. The amount had increased to $1 10s. Thinking that he had made a mistake I told him about it, but he assured me that the extra 10s. was his part of the donation. This honest woman opened her heart to me, concerning some Sunday school work that she was doing, and I promised to send her some Little Friends and also the Signs.

A few months afterwards I received a letter from her, and appreciated the papers very highly, and she sent another £1 to be placed to any cause that was worthy. I used £5 as a Signs subscription for her so that she might get the papers regularly and thus free the one that I was sending her for some other missionary use. The balance I placed to various offerings that were of a missionary nature.

I have been in communication with her very frequently, and some little time ago Brother Veitch sold her "Great Contrivance," and had a talk with her. After his visit, in one of her letters, she mentioned that she was unable to clearly see the Sabbath question. I assured her that we would pray for her, and ask the Lord to reveal to her that which she could follow as light. Yesterday and to-day the following letters have been received from this lady:

"Dear Sirs, -

"For some time past I have been taking the Signs of the Times. I find it helps me, or I feel it does. I am enclosing $1 10s. for missionary work, and I wish you to send it to you and the local overseers.

"(Here were the addresses of some of her friends.) "I would like the papers sent anonymously, and I would also like your earnest prayers joined to mine that they may do some good. Though not really an Adventist I think I am growing in a desire to know the truth, and I believe, too, she is ready to receive the truth."

Just recently it was my privilege to visit another person to whom Mrs. Meyers had been posting the Signs, and I believe, too, she is ready to receive the truth.

H. J. MEYERS.

QUEENSLAND

PRESIDENT: A. C. CHRESSON
SECRETARY: P. GLOCKLER

The Motor Car and the Church

The use of the motor car for visiting our isolated people, and also for bringing to the Sabbath services and the prayer meetings, those among us who are aged or unable to walk far, also little children, who live some distance from the place of meeting, is a genuine missionary enterprise, and brings many blessings to the one who is fortunate enough to have a car and who generously uses it on such occasions. Were it not for these kind lifts from our good people in some places, it would be almost impossible for a number of our faithful people to attend, and it is more blessed to give these rides than to receive them. For these reasons alone it would be worth while for any one to own a useful motor car. Who can estimate the result of a loving action of this kind?

During my visits among the churches, seeing this being done has given me great pleasure and encouragement. One young man not long in the truth, ran here and there on Sabbath morning, picking up the old and decrepit members, and away again for a tired mother and a baby, her flock of children, and out to meet another one on the road making towards the church from his distant home. That young brother, you must admit, was a live member of that little company, and was brimful of happiness as a result; and he could not be otherwise. This was the "brotherly love" church that I met with.

I have often been driven twenty or thirty miles to hold a meeting with our isolated people, without some generous brother and his car, could not have been visited. With four very small children, the youngest only a few weeks old, a saintly sister who had a motor car, made her missionary work to drive me around to all our people in the district. She took her four little children always with her, and sometimes the little baby was on her knees when driving. Although she had a busy home to look after, yet, always with a smiling face, she considered that by helping our visiting ministers and workers to call upon our people she was doing an important part of the Lord's work, and how happy she was in doing it. She was repaid a hundred-fold in the blessings of a loving and peaceful home. Her husband, another saint, and leader of a large business firm, was happy to know that his wife was an active member of the Lord's family. Their home was a true Christian home of love, and ever fed by deeds of kindness. This young sister

"Seed Sowing in Lonely Places" by Harold O'Hara
with her husband and very young family never missed the prayer meeting.

These are some of the happy features one meets in visiting our dear people who are getting ready to meet the Lord. There is nothing sweeter in this life to them than helping others, and I feel much privileged and very happy to know them.

G. F. JONES.

PRAYER

I would not pray for gifts or common things,

For fortune's smile or even victory sweet;

I would not ask to be spared the stings

Of cares of life which every man must meet.

However keen its pain; but I would ask

When comes the test, that God shall make me strong,

And grant me courage to complete my task.

Grant me the faith to trust and still keep on,

Despite the darkness and the fearful strain.

To hear life's bitterness, but when 'tis gone,

To keep no bitter memories about.

This I would ask: Not that I shall be spared

Trials or disappointment, loss, or pain,

But that my soul with courage be prepared

To meet the conflict and to stand the strain.

—Edgar A. Guest.

IMPORTANT DATES

Camp-Meetings:

South N.S.W.: October 13-25.
North New Zealand: Dec. 29 to Jan. 10, 1926.
Tasmania: February 4-14.
North N.S.W.: February 4-14.
West Australia: Feb. 23 to Mar. 7.
South Australia: March 2-14.

Religious Liberty Day: November 7, 1925.
Big Week: November 21-27.
Missionary Volunteer Week: Dec. 8-12.
Education Day: January 16, 1926.
Appeal for Missions: Dates between March 6 and May

Week of Prayer: May 22-29.

WEDDING BELLS

HODDER-PHILPS.—A pretty wedding was celebrated at the home of the bride's parents, Castlemaine, Victoria, on September 3. Sister Ethel Marion Philips, a graduate nurse of the Sydney Sanitarium, daughter of Brother and Sister T. W. Philips, was united in marriage with Brother William Hartry Hodder, of West Australia. Both these young people have laboured in the Sydney Sanitarium prior to their marriage and are employed at the Warburton Sanitarium. As the happy couple return to Warburton we pray that their united lives may be greatly blessed.

H. C. HARKER.

BROWN-MUNRO.—A pretty little wedding was celebrated in the Malvern church, Melbourne, on September 1, when Miss M. Jean Munro, who for a number of years worked in the Victorian Conferences, was united in marriage to Brother John H. Brown, an active worker in the Malvern church. The very best wishes of their many friends are extended to them for their future happiness and prosperity in their married life and in the Master's service.

A. W. KNIGHT.

OBLITUARIES

CHIEF.—William Chie, aged sixty-three, died at his residence, Carlingford Road, Epping, on Sunday, September 13, 1925. A brother Chie, a member of the Epping church, has been associated with the message for about twenty years. His health had been somewhat indifferent for some time. He leaves a wife to mourn her loss. We laid him to rest in the Carlingford Cemetery. In the service conducted at his house, his favourite hymn was sung; "Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh! some hymns and read the twenty-third Psalm. Some of our workers in Fiji visited her just a few days before her death and she said her sickness had drawn her nearer to her Saviour. She leaves a husband, little son, a mother, brothers, and sisters as well as many friends to mourn their loss. Her hope in the resurrection of the righteous bore her peacefully to the shadow of that land of silence, where she awaits the dawning of the eternal morn.

A. G. STEWART.

MERTON.—Died on Sabbath, September 5, at Nullil, Victoria, George Merton, aged sixty-nine years. While not a church member, Mr. Merton showed a deep interest in the message and always attended church services when possible. He is survived by his devoted wife and six children. Our beloved Brother Will Merton, has lately commenced to keep the Sabbath through the influence of his godly parents and Sister Florence Gurnuch of South Australia and his later beloved wife. We laid our brother to rest in the Rainbow cemetery to await the call of the Lifegiver. The writer officiated at the graveside.

R. J. BURNS.

DAWKINS.—Brother Joseph Dawkins was born in the year 1840 in Hertford, England, and passed peacefully away September 6, 1925, at the home of his sons in Cessnock, N.S.W., having passed his eighty-fifth birthday. He accepted the truth in York, W.A., about seventeen years ago and was since remained faithful and true to his convictions. Truly a father in Israel has fallen. Testimony to the genuineness of Brother Dawkins' religion is found in the fact that his sons and daughters as well as grandchildren, who were gathered at the graveside on Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 8, had given their hearts to God and were enlisted in active service for Christ, some as workers in the Seventh-day Adventist ranks and others in the Salvation Army. Pastor J. M. Cole spoke words of comfort to them to the bereaved, and appealed to all to be ready when their call shall come. Commandant Smith of the Salvation Army and the writer assisted in the service. To the large circle of relatives and friends, among whom are Sister E. Martin of Mornington, Victoria, Miss M. Dawkins of the Auburn church school, N.S.W., and Brother W. Dawkins of York, W.A., we extend our sincerest sympathy.

R. E. G. BLAIR.

RETURN THANKS

SISTER H. A. Skinner takes this opportunity to thank her many friends for their expressions of sympathy in her recent sad bereavement, and also to express her appreciation to the doctors, nurses and staff of the Sydney Sanitarium for their kind attention to her little son in his recent fatal illness.
We are pleased to be able to report that the Sydney Sanitarium is having a splendid patronage at the present time, practically all the rooms being occupied.

Did You Ever Hear Anything Like This?

A LITTLE while ago one of the leading men from Brother Gray's mission came along with the idea of purchasing the iron for the roof of a new church. Although these people have always lived in leaf houses they think that houses of this kind are not good enough for white people, and not only that, they have decided that leaf is not good enough for their church. For this reason, after three years' saving, the sum of forty pounds was brought along to secure the iron and timber to put on the roof. But listen to this: another four pounds was handed over. What was this for? Oh, that is for tithing! The forty pounds that was given to buy the roofing material. Did you ever hear anything like this before? How many of our good people reckon out tithes like that? A straight gift of four pounds paid in as tithing because they want to spend the former amount on the place where they sing praises to God. Do we always pay tithes on gifts we receive? What a lesson these people have who have paid tithes even on what they have given! Such lessons as these from our dark-skinned brethren ought to help us to be more careful in the paying of tithes and offerings.

HILDA J. BARRETT.

Debates on Evolution

On Saturday night, June 13, in San Francisco, long before the doors of the Native Sons' Hall were opened, the street was so blocked that extra police were called to direct traffic. A few moments after the doors opened the hall was filled, and upwards of a thousand people surging desperately outside, unable to secure admission.

The honourable Maurice E. Harrison, Dean of the Hastings College of Law, University of California, who presided at both nights, opened the meeting, stated briefly the subjects, and referred to the principles of the debate and their positions.

Mr. Shipley spoke for the first hour on the first night on the scientific phase of the teachings of evolution, declaring for the most part that because scientists say it is a fact, it is, but giving no proof connected line of evidence.

For the next hour Pastor Francis D. Nichol [associate editor of the American Signs of the Times] carried his audience with him in a thorough investigation, from a scientific standpoint, on the three connected line of evidence.

The debates were eminently jurists representing the United States Circuit Court, the Federal District Court and the Supreme Court of California, long before the doors of the Native Sons' Hall were opened. Did all the judges of the debates were eminently jurists representing the United States Circuit Court, the Federal District Court and the Supreme Court of California, long before the doors of the Native Sons' Hall were opened? Did you ever hear anything like this before? How many of our good people reckon out tithes like that? A straight gift of four pounds paid in as tithing because they want to spend the former amount on the place where they sing praises to God. Do we always pay tithes on gifts we receive? What a lesson these people have who have paid tithes even on what they have given! Such lessons as these from our dark-skinned brethren ought to help us to be more careful in the paying of tithes and offerings.

FURTHER WORD FROM OUR FRIEND IN THE MALAY STATES

In a recent issue we gave correspondence from a new convert to the faith residing in the Malay States, whose interest was first awakened by our health food work in Sydney. We have since received another letter from her, from which we quote:

"Thank you for the literature sent. I find that since I have become interested in the movement, there is no time for other reading. I have been much interested in Oliver Lodge's works and Conan Doyle's, and I think, every book in the library here dealing with those questions. They resolve themselves very simply in the light of Seventh-day Adventist teaching. At present I am studying "Prophets and Kings," and never thought to find Old Testament history so interesting. My husband, I believe, is taking some interest now. He sees that many little things I tell him are true and is beginning to look on the Bible differently. I read a really wonderful book in defence of the Bible, "Will the Old Book Stand?" and have told him bits at different times. . . . We hope to have our church finished by the end of the year. I do not know of one white person here who is an S.D.A. except Pastor and Mrs. Leedy. Brother Leedy's work lies amongst the Chinese principally. I met an English lady who reads the Bible every day and knows it well but who had never considered the fourth commandment. She asked me for some books as she was very much interested. I hope to arrange for her to have studies. There is also an Englishman here, retired from government service, who is interested. We have given him "History of the Sabbath" to read. I think if people only knew they would accept these truths gladly."