

BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

Organ of the British Union
Conference of Seventh-Day
Adventists

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Money Raising or Soul Saving?

By H. W. LOWE

OCCASIONALLY one hears some frank individual expressing the opinion that our campaigns are money-raising efforts. Our enemies are fond of that accusation. The inference is that soul saving is with us a secondary consideration. One can well understand, and even afford to ignore, such a charge from opponents, but from a member it is harder to understand.

It may arise from the frequency of our campaigns, or from their success in bringing means into the treasury. The idea may also arise from the way some of our workers and church officers promote our efforts for God's cause. Or it may be due to our individual attitude to missionary service for the cause of God.

We think the cause lies in the last two of these suggestions.

When we as church officers and workers commence the promotion of Harvest Ingathering, for example, do we begin by talking of money, goals, and the material side of the campaign? Shame on us if we do! We deserve the criticism that we are no more than money-raisers, and we shall not do a work that greatly pleases God.

HOW TO PREPARE

Take the present Ingathering campaign as an example. Weeks before now we should have preached a series of revival sermons embodying, among other things, the essential duty of Christian witness and personal testi-

mony. Accompanying this should be spiritual prayer seasons and instruction classes where timid persons may gain help to put their genuine desires to do something for God into the form of personal service. All this lays a true spiritual foundation.

A church in which this revival spirit prevails is never lacking in any form of service for Christ, whether it be collecting funds for the cause, scattering literature, or any of the multitudinous avenues open to those who love God.

"The church of Christ was organized for missionary purposes. Christian missionary work furnishes the church with a sure foundation, a foundation having this seal, 'The Lord knoweth them that are His.'"—*"Gospel Workers,"* page 464.

THE PERSONAL APPROACH

Having this deeply spiritual experience in my soul, how do I view this matter of Ingathering? Is it a case of "I must get more than Brother So-and-so"? or is it not rather a desire to propagate the truth? I desire to let people know of the faith that means so much to me. I call on them with an interesting piece of literature in which they read the story of the Advent mission enterprises. I give them the opportunity to contribute. I leave behind me the impression

that men still believe in Christ and His glorious Gospel of deliverance.

Having done that, my soul is gratified. My satisfaction in service grows and I follow up the contacts I have made in the hope that they may lead more men to share the Advent hope.

Incidentally I am helping the church to accomplish its desires as expressed in a financial goal.

THE TREMENDOUS NEED

Nations to-day are disclaiming any responsibility to extend knowledge through Christian missions. Christianity is up against the greatest fight in its career. It will be its last fight, for the Saviour is at the door.

We must not fail to support God's church in its hour of need. £10,000 is not a great goal for a church like ours. £2 is really very small for me to collect for the cause in a time like this. The Advent movement has its supreme opportunity at last. We must not fail the Lord in this grand hour.

No, it is not a case of raising money. It is a case of joining in the fight against error, sin, and Satan. It is a question of expressing the joy in our souls, the faith in our hearts. It is a matter of seeking those many souls who, on every side of us in these islands, are earnestly longing for light and truth.

Put these things first, and we shall work for God and get the means which His cause so urgently needs.

Investiture Service at Stanborough Park

THERE was quite a good attendance at the Stanborough Park Church on Sabbath, June 4th, to witness the investiture of those who had met all the requirements for the Class of Friend in the Missionary Volunteer Progressive Courses of Study.

Twenty-eight young people and juniors awaited the service with mixed feelings of trepidation and anticipation. Once the date was announced, it was an easy matter to learn recitations, prepare talks, and, in short, arrange a programme. At last all was in readiness and the church had been tastefully decorated in the Missionary Volunteer colours, blue and gold—lupins for the blue and broom for the gold.

At 7.45 p.m. the meeting opened with hymn No. 534 which put into words the feelings of our hearts.

The usual Scripture reading was replaced by a concerted recital of the twenty-third psalm by the congregation and young people. The programme continued, bringing in all items necessary to become a Friend.

Miss L. Futcher favoured us with a recitation entitled, "Look not back," while Hugh Williams gave a very interesting and original explanation of the twenty-third psalm. Miss G. Clarke spoke about books which, she said, can be real friends to us—talking to us, or keeping silent, as we wish. This, Miss Clarke said, was only the quality of a very experienced human friend.

Norman Tew, one of the younger members, recited "Our Lord's Promise," and Miss Margaret Goodall recited a poem entitled, "Keep Pegging Away," which we felt to be good advice.

Two of the leaders, C. H. Tew and Miss W. Hyde, told of some experiences in connection with their classes. The junior girls, we were told, were so anxious to complete the course faithfully that one of them, upon retiring for the night, remembered that she had forgotten to drink six glasses of water that day. It was impossible, however, to miss them, so she

promptly drank six glasses right away. In the words of Miss Hyde, "She went to bed somewhat drowned."

The Charge was given by Pastor E. R. Warland, and it seemed to us that we were taking on a great responsibility as he urged us to live up to the high standard set before us.

The next item was the climax of the evening, namely, the presentation of badges. Pastor Warland shook hands with each one and hoped, he said, that they would all become Master Comrades.

Following the rendering of the "Friends' Song" entitled, "I would be true," in the form of a duet, Pastor F. W. Goodall spoke on the motto chosen by the class, "Forward." We were reminded of how

the children of the Exodus kept their eyes on the cloud which indicated whether they were to remain where they were or move forward.

The meeting closed with Hymn No. 401, "Forward! be our watchword," and the benediction was pronounced by Dr. Williamson.

JOYCE N. GOODALL.

I Would Be—

- "I would be true, for there are those who trust me;
I would be pure, for there are those who care;
I would be strong, for there is much to suffer;
I would be brave, for there is much to dare.
- "I would be friend of all—the foe, the friendless;
I would be giving, and forget the gift;
I would be humble, for I know my weakness;
I would look up, and laugh, and love and lift."

Progressive M.V. Courses

Six Investiture Services have now been held. Five of these were in North England and one in South England, at Stanborough Park.

The total number of young people meeting all the requirements for the Friend Class is now over fifty, and the first two for the Master Comrade Class have been invested. There is a keen interest everywhere and quite a large number more are almost ready to receive their insignia. Remember there are four classes—*Friend*, *Companion*, *Comrade*, and *Master Comrade*. The first two are essential to qualify for a seat in the great M.V. Congress of 1939.

We now list up the requirements for the *Class of Companion*. Check up and see how far you have already climbed, then keep going and do not stop till you have reached the top.

It is recommended that the following books be used as helps for the *Class of Companion*: *Junior Reading Course Books*, 1938: *Judson of Burma*, 1/-; *Country Friends*, 2/6. *Elementary First-Aid and Bandaging* (Special Folders), *First Aid at a Glance*, 2d. each; *Bandaging Diagrams*, 2d. each.

Astronomy: Stars at a Glance, 1/6.

Birds, Trees, Flowers: Ramblers' Pocket Guide, 1/-.

Name Strips for sewing on tunic or blazer—*Friend*, or *Companion*, 1½d. each.

Order these supplies through your conference M.V. secretary.

Now is the time to take up your Nature studies. Begin with the *Class of Friend* and go right through to *Master Comrade*.

COMPANION REQUIREMENTS

- (a) Be a Friend in good standing.
- (b) Have a Vocational Honour.
- Know and explain:
 - Books of Bible in order.
 - Beatitudes. Matt. 5:1-12.
 - Three Angels' Messages. Rev. 14:6-12.
- Read the Old Testament through.
- Certificates*:
 - Current Junior Reading Course.
 - Christian Help.
- Pass test in Elementary First-Aid and Bandaging.
 - Five Stars.
 - Three Planets.

- (c) Five Constellations.
 - (d) Ten Birds.
 - (e) Ten Flowers.
 - (f) Ten Trees.
 - (g) Five Poisonous Plants.
7. Track or trail one-half mile in twenty minutes, or satisfactor-

- ily describe two out of three store windows after two minutes' observation.
- 8. Swim twenty-five yards.
- 9. Have at least 10/- in savings bank.

F. W. GOODALL.

Blessings of the Sabbath-school

I AM asked to say a few words about the blessings obtained by attending Sabbath-school. To enumerate them in just a formal, impersonal way won't have much effect upon a non-member, I'm sure, so I'm giving you my own experience.

1. The first time I attended Sabbath-school was because of the pressing invitation of Miss Guntrip, who was giving me Bible studies. That was fourteen years ago. I felt very diffident about it. It didn't have a nice sound, as, somehow, I thought of Sabbath-school as something for those up to the age of eighteen. I had attended Sunday-school and Bible Class and had had some good teachers, but if I had interrupted and asked a question, I often wonder what would have happened. Nobody thought of such a thing. You were there to be taught and to take in what was presented to you. If some questions or doubts came into my mind concerning certain subjects in the Bible, I pushed them from me and thought how sinful I was to dare to doubt or question. Certainly I never dreamt of asking my teacher to explain.

Thinking I was going to have much the same rather boring experience, I attended my first Sabbath-school at the Masonic Hall.

What a warm reception I got to start with. Miss Guntrip met me at the door and introduced me to various ones.

2. I had Mrs. M— for my teacher and was won by her personality, to start with.

3. The lesson that morning thrilled and touched me. It wasn't long before I plucked up courage to ask a question and put forth an opinion. Both were received with gladness, to my relief. Now I was in my element. I was encouraged to ask questions. I had never been

to a Bible class like this before. My doubts were dissolved and my questions answered from the Bible, and that was enough for me.

How I studied my lessons from that time on! I have been to Sabbath-school with a question that has puzzled me all the week, but have managed to get that question answered—I *must* have my questions answered.

If you have any questions that are troubling you, bring them to the Sabbath-school and I guarantee you will get them answered to your satisfaction. It may even mean a little study on the part of your

teacher, and a lot of study yourself, which will be good for you both. We must know the truth. How is the Holy Spirit to bring things to our remembrance if we have not learned them first? By the exchange of views and thoughts which is encouraged by the teachers, members get to know each other personally, and it promotes a friendliness and love among the members, which surely is essential to the people of God. The one common tie binds us—the love of truth and the desire to share it; it is the Gospel message.

Now for the social side. The people I came in contact with in my class I began to know personally, and appreciated meeting with them week after week. As already stated, this is a real help to us in our lives, for we all enjoy real friends. And where can we better find them than in the Sabbath-school!

A GRATEFUL MEMBER.

SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE

President: Pastor R. S. Joyce

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London, N.7.

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Triumphs of the Faith

A CALL to come out and be separate from the world has come to ten people in the Southern District. They have been able to realize that the victory that overcometh the world is through faith. Each one has come along with a tale of triumph and victory. Each one has been developing a faith that will establish them for the trials and tests that will surely come to lure them away from Christ. Each one went forward strong in confidence, rich in determination, and were accepted into church fellowship in Bournemouth on Sabbath, June 18th, when Pastor R. S. Joyce conducted the service.

As the candidates were buried in the watery grave the significance of the consecration hymn,

"Take my life, and let it be,
Ever, only, all for Thee,"

was felt by all. Not only were those baptized strengthened in

faith, but others of many years' standing felt the movings of the Holy Spirit of God on their hearts as they witnessed the ceremony.

Souls are hardly wooed and won for the Master. Pray for each one of these new members, that they may experience daily victories in their lives and that when Jesus returns as King of kings and Lord of lords they may be among the sheaves that He will garner in.

G. BELL.

Croscombe Remembers!

FROM near and from very far thirty-five eager men, women, and children were gathered on June 18th to a little chapel resplendent with flowers. They had come to remember with thankfulness the day twenty-four years before when the beautiful village of Croscombe first boasted an Advent church.

The spirit of gratitude and celebration was expressed in the beau-

tiful floral decorations, and in the heartily rendered choir anthems.

Brother Leslie Hardinge, of Torquay, had been invited to give the anniversary message, and in his talks on Sabbath he made clear to us the ways of God in dealing with His children.

During the evening service the infant son of Brother and Sister Nash, Jr., was dedicated to the Lord.

On Sunday evening Brother Hardinge drew attention to the abundance of signs in the political world that point to an end of the present order of things and the beginning of a world without sin.

On Monday evening the celebrations were made in a lighter vein, when recitations, dialogues, and musical items made up an enjoyable social evening in the school-room. There was a large attendance of people of the village who thoroughly enjoyed the evening programme, which was presided over by the captain of the Shepton Mallet Salvation Army Corps, several Salvationists being present.

So ended a happy week-end for the Croscombe church, happy because of the remembrance of what God had wrought in twenty-four years and happy in the thought of being twenty-four years nearer the coming of the King.

F. M. ROLLS.

Trials and Tribulations at Sprowston and Burgh

SPROWSTON first!—just off the beaten track of the Waveney Valley line that serves the London-Yarmouth rail service is Sprowston. It is situated at one end of the Herringfleet Hills.

To this village there cycled two optimistic Missionary Volunteers armed with a supply of *Good Health*. Did two families live in the next villa? Enter M.V. No. 1—success at left-hand door. M.V. No. 2, the writer, enters gate, destination right-hand door—knock—knock—knock—knock. Silence!

Regretfully I prepare to leave. Three or four steps are taken when—alas!—the teeth of the housedog avenge the terrible intrusion. Exit a sorrowful but still optimistic Missionary Volunteer.

On examination the trouser-leg of the abused garment is seen thankfully to be still intact. Then on the bicycles again to more sales at Burgh.

Burgh, the village next to Burgh Castle, is well known as a Roman encampment.

Before the same two canvassing Missionary Volunteers appear two or three cottages in a row. Attempts at sales at these are unavailing. I advance to the gate of the last.

This was a "last but not least"! I walk past the little water-well to the gate. Unfasten string—open—shut—refasten string. The face of the lady member of the worthy household appears at the door.

No! We shan't want it, shall we John? You can't read, can you John? The life companion of the old lady confirms the refusal. Back at the garden gate I inspect the well.

A faint cry is heard, "Come back, young man." Why, it's the old lady! She wants the book. Happy feet retrace that garden path. Change for a shilling brings the inquiry of whether we have gas or the wonderful electric light at Yarmouth. I assured her of both supplies. Bearded John next inquires of the prospect of war. At this point the conversation turned to religion. The two old people spoke of the comfort in their experience of a simple faith in God. As I left that little home the thought came to me that there is in the hearts of that old man and woman a power that cannot be taken away. Such experiences are worth sharing. A. J. TIMOTHY.

A Little Man of Great Faithfulness

TOWARD the end of the Sabbath evening meeting of the South England Conference session I had gone out into the porch to wish farewell to a member who had to leave. A little fellow, just a tiny toddler, was talking with his daddy. "Daddy, I have something serious and important to tell you."

And the story was this. He had started with two pennies for the collections. One he had lost. This loss had preyed on his mind. He had lost a penny he wanted to give to Jesus. He must have unburdened his mind to someone who had given him a penny to make up the loss. And here he was, in the porch about to be taken home, and the collection had not been taken up! So he was burdened with a penny he wanted Jesus to get. When he saw me, he brightened up and asked his daddy to get me to put it in the collection for him.

So when Pastor Joyce had finished his stirring appeal for a "big" collection for evangelism, in went a faithful child's penny and it had all the spirit of true giving to commend it to God.

Have you ever missed a collection? Perhaps at a Sabbath-school or preaching service, now and then, and God did not get a double offering the next meeting. "A little child shall . . ." A small fellow with a worried heart over a collection! What an example for us to follow as we contemplate "the fields whitened for harvest." Be ye also faithful and careful in all things pertaining to God.

H. HUMPHRIES.

NORTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE

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A Few Facts from Darlington

THE Darlington Sabbath-school now has a membership of seventy-five and the prospect of a dozen more becoming members in the near future.

The Senior Missionary Volunteer Society numbers twenty, but

many more of our churchmembers attend the meetings of the society.

The Junior society has a membership of twenty-two bright children who take an active interest and part in all the missionary activities connected with their meetings. Several of them are study-

ing the "Friend" and "Companion" Courses.

The tithe is 500 per cent gain over last year's figures. It is indeed very encouraging to note the way in which the new members respond to this test of their loyalty to God. The budget apportioned to Darlington will soon have been returned to the conference office in increased tithe.

The total for Big Week was about £5 ahead of 1937.

All the other offerings show similarly large gains. The prospects for this year are very encouraging for a second year in a small town. It looks as though we will soon have a new church of about sixty members, where a year ago there were only half a dozen. The organization of this new church is planned for July 16th. All the meetings are well attended, and for this and the other facts stated here we humbly thank God who is the giver of all good gifts.

We also have a very good interest at Counden which is about eighteen miles away from Darlington, and at Aycliffe five miles away.

E. A. BUCK.

Camp

It seems no time since I was enjoying camp life with the Advent Youth Missionary Volunteers last summer. The memories of that happy fortnight still come to mind so vividly—swimming, playing cricket on the beach, mountain climbing, camp-fire singing, participating in the many well-organized trips to renowned beauty spots and, best of all, the association with, and companionship of, other young people of the same age. It was indeed a wonderful fortnight of great physical and mental stimulation, which ended all too soon.

But the camping season is with us once again, and those of us who have attended in previous years are looking forward with eager anticipation to the opportunity of renewing old friendships and becoming acquainted with new recruits.

The Northern Camp is being held, this year, during the first fortnight of August, on the picturesque little Isle of Anglesey,

and a fine sight it is, too—rich in cromlechs, monastic ruins, and memorials of Roman occupation. It is also a splendid centre for a number of hikes to well-known places of interest, such as Carnarvon Castle, Snowdon, the Menai Straits, etc.

W. ELLIS.

Stockport Church Organization

THE week-end of June 18th was indeed an important one for our believers in Stockport. It was the organization of the company which meets there faithfully week by week into a recognized church of the North England Conference.

We were privileged to have with us Pastors H. W. Lowe and O. M. Dorland. Pastor Lowe conducted the Friday night consecration service, and gave a real stirring address on fully consecrating ourselves to the Lord's service. A short season of prayer made a fitting close to the meeting.

On the Sabbath morning the other two Manchester churches—Parkfield Street and Stretford—united with the Stockport company for Sabbath-school, making one large school. It was truly inspiring to see so many Manchester believers met together at one time, and all present felt it was good to meet with the Lord, as one, on His holy day.

The 11.30 a.m. service took the form of the organization service, and this was, indeed, one of great interest. Pastor Lowe explained that our organization is based on similar lines to that used by Moses. The nomination committee was called, retired to do its business, and later brought in its report. Then each member of the Stockport company was voted into church membership. Thus the company of believers at Stockport became an organized church.

In the afternoon Pastor Dorland conducted the closing meeting of the week-end, when the newly-elected elder and deacon were ordained to their sacred work. This was followed by a few minutes spent in giving testimonies, when a number took the opportunity of publicly thanking the Lord for His goodness to them. All expressed their desire to reconsecrate them-

selves to the Lord by rising to their feet.

To a number who will be unable to attend the conference in Nottingham in July, this week-end was a conference in miniature, and quite a good number attended all the meetings, in spite of having to come long distances.

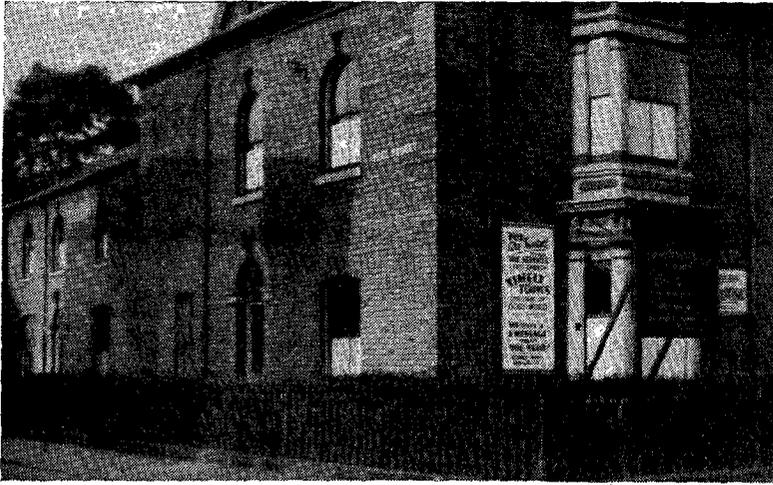
Since January last year thirty-nine brothers and sisters have united with the Advent fellowship in the Manchester district, and we would ask for the prayers of all our members for these newly-won believers, that they may continue to grow in grace as they grow in years, and that when the Lord comes we may be one unbroken family in Him, for Jesus' sake.

D. TAYLOR.

Church Dedication in Hull

"AND the children of Israel, the priests, and the Levites, and the rest of the children of the captivity, kept the dedication of this house of God with joy." Ezra 6:16. This experience of the Israelites in the time of Ezra was duplicated in the experience of the Hull church on Sabbath, July 9th. On the Friday evening Pastor W. L. Emmerson addressed the congregation. He stressed the need for a real dedication of heart and life to the Lord. We were exhorted to submit ourselves to the "Spirit of burning" that God might reveal His glory in us. This deeply spiritual message was a fitting preparation for the Dedication Service conducted by our conference president, Pastor O. M. Dorland, on Sabbath morning.

Brother Dorland drew lessons from the dedication of Solomon's Temple and warmed all our hearts with his picture of God's grace and glory which are to be reflected in the experience of God's children. A solemn moment came when the entire congregation dedicated their hearts to God. This was followed by the dedicatory prayer, offered by Brother Emmerson. The afternoon service of praise and testimony was conducted by Brother Emmerson. The testimonies spoke of the joy and thanksgiving brought to the hearts of the members by the purchase of this fine property. After years of wander-



Hull's newly-dedicated church.

ing from hall to hall, the Hull church is now established in a commodious and central place on one of the main thoroughfares. Truly "they kept the dedication of this house of God with joy."

In addition to the main room which seats over 100, there are seven large rooms. Outside there is a large church notice board, two advertising boards, and an electric sign. With these facilities the church building is as "a city set on an hill, which cannot be hid." One of the joyful experiences connected with the purchase of the

property was the willing and generous spirit which animated the members and interested friends. They not only gave all that was required, but actually, like the Israelites in the time of Moses, they gave more than was required. We now have a small balance after all the fittings and furnishings were obtained. As the work and worship of God go on in this new church, we pray that, to the people of God it may be indeed "the house of God," and to many a weary, sin-burdened soul "the gate of heaven." J. A. McMILLAN.

SCOTTISH MISSION

Superintendent: Pastor L. Murdoch

Address: Old Saughton House, Calder Road, Edinburgh

Victories of Faith

WHAT encouragement and help we as evangelists in this blessed cause have received again and again from the words which we find in Isaiah 55:10, 11: "My word shall not return unto Me void. . . ." Looking back over the past, I can think of over a score of places where I have been privileged to present this Advent message, and always, praise His holy name, I have found this inspired statement to be true. There is something in this third angel's message that turns men and women from their evil habits as nothing else can do; we have had abun-

dant evidence of its transforming power.

Reflecting, there comes to my mind one dear soul who had scoffed at the message, but was persuaded by a friend to attend one of my meetings; that very night, although the subject was, "The change of the Sabbath," that dear soul determined to obey, and has been faithful ever since.

Not only is there power in the Advent message to transform, but also power to keep. I think of a woman who was addicted to strong drink. She had attended many different places of worship in her endeavours to get the victory over it,

but no release came from the evil habit until she heard and yielded to this glorious truth.

In one place where the Lord gave us a goodly number of souls, there was among them a man who had been a very heavy smoker for over forty years. This dear man said that he had never troubled about religion and that he was very hard-hearted by nature, but as he listened to one point after another of the truth, he saw the light, and yielded; his hard heart was softened, and he became a most lovable individual.

Not only did he get the victory over the smoking, but very soon he developed a great abhorrence for the thing he once loved.

Among those who took their stand for the truth in another place was one dear sister who had been, because of the things she had heard, very much prejudiced against all foreign mission work, and had determined never to give a penny to foreign missions. When, however, she yielded to this message and saw that it was destined to go to every nation, tongue, and people, a love for the message filled her heart, and the first thing she did was to give me a cheque for one hundred pounds for foreign missions.

After I had had the privilege of baptizing this dear one, she turned into the treasury of the Lord several hundred pounds title.

When we get a love for this blessed message in our hearts it causes us to give, and to spend and be spent for Him who has given all for us.

Other victories could be mentioned, but space forbids. How thankful we should be for the message which gives victory over scepticism and over the evil habits of smoking and drinking; for a message which has power to change hard and stony hearts and make them tender; for a message which causes us to see that we are debtors to all men, and that we must pass on to others what God has given to us—a message that saves to the uttermost.

At present we are holding an effort in Aberdeen, and although the work here has moved more slowly than in any place I have laboured hitherto, we hold to the

promise, "My word shall not return unto Me void."

A few have started to keep the Sabbath and we hope that others will do the same in the near future. Pray for the work in Aberdeen. D. MORRISON.

Press On

(Dedicated to Our Faithful Ministers)

*O brother, when the path is lone
And thou dost bear the heat of day,
Remember all thy steps are known
To One who watches in the way.*

*Thy Saviour, Lord, is by thy side
To be your help and every stay,*

*For day and night He doth abide
With those who will His word obey.*

*Remember, too, the angel band
Sent forth to bless you as God's
heir,
Eager to do your Lord's command,
To guard and keep you everywhere.*

*So, courage, friend! 'twill not be long
Ere we shall reach that blissful
shore,
To sing, at last, the victor's song,
And dwell with Christ for ever-
more.*

*Work on! for there are souls to save,
For precious souls the Master
waits;
Give Him your best!—His life He
gave,
And press the battle to the gates!
STANLEY COMBRIDGE.*

ness." It was the title of an article in the *Daily Express* by Isabel Pope. The writer says that shyness is sometimes nowadays termed, "inferiority complex." No doubt many of us would prefer to put it down to that physical weakness we call "nerves," or "nervousness." However, we all wish to overcome it. Well, here is Isabel Pope's advice.

"The easiest way to begin is to realize that everyone else is in similar plight to yourself. Other people are lonely, afraid of themselves, anxious to escape from the various cares which press upon them.

"One way to begin is deliberately to set out to speak to one stranger every day. It is surprising how hard some people find this and how much it can help them once they begin. There are many ways of approach—to ask the time, make a purchase, to comment on some detail of a shop, to talk about the weather or the news. A beginning can be made with those of your own sex and those of approximately your own age."

This is good advice. When travelling by train, for instance, it is so easy—though to me, embarrassing—to sit frigidly in your corner, hiding behind your newspaper, or engrossed in your knitting, and treat the other passengers as though they did not exist. Personally, I assume that the other passengers may be as "reserved" or "nervous", as I am, and that it is up to me to "break the ice," and I usually find the others responsive.

Travelling down from Birmingham to Watford recently there were, besides myself, two ladies in the compartment. (Perhaps the "non-smoking" label had kept the gentlemen out!) I got into conversation with them, and was surprised to find that one was going to *Watford* (though not to Stanborough Park), and the other, a nurse, was going to Rugby (though not to Newbold College). I gave them invitations to visit the respective institutions and handed them copies of *Present Truth*. To the older lady, going to Watford, I also gave a Harvest Ingathering booklet, as she was interested in missions and wanted to go to Africa herself. They both gave me their addresses for further literature.

Later, after changing trains,

Field Missionary Department

Secretaries:

Union	...	...	...	...	G. D. King
South England	...	...	...	...	A. W. Cook
North England	...	...	...	...	B. Belton

"My Word Shall Not Return Unto Me Void"

SURELY no promise in the Scriptures holds out so much encouragement to the seed-sower as the above, its very positiveness convinces that no labour in God's name is ever lost.

To no other worker in Christian service is that promise so much an encouragement as to the colporteur-evangelist, who so seldom sees fruit for his labour. As I revisit homes where I have been privileged to place our large bound books, and have replied to the many questions put to me, I am convinced that that promise will be fulfilled.

I possess a file of letters from ministers, teachers, and workers who have purchased books, thanking me for help received. Some day many of those people will be in the kingdom.

In the road in which I live is a large Baptist chapel from which a service was broadcast to the Empire on Whit Sunday. During the past few weeks sixty-four orders for *Our Wonderful Bible* have come from the teachers and others connected with it, and forty copies have already been delivered. Furthermore two young people's

meetings have been conducted, resulting in more friends being made. Two Sundays ago a letter from the Bible-class leader was handed to me containing a list of names to visit and closing with "best wishes for success in your noble calling."

A local doctor, member of this same chapel, paid for two copies, one to be placed in his waiting-room.

At another place of worship the leader invited me to speak on our colporteur work to a group of teachers, resulting in orders to the value of £3 in fifteen minutes. I know that God's "word will not return unto Him void."

JOHN DEAN.

Are You Shy?

It was not written for you or me particularly; but it *might* have been. It was not written for Missionary Volunteers, or Christian helpers—but it *might* have been! Rather because so many are afflicted with what we call "shyness," or "reserve," in the presence of strangers, this recipe for overcoming shyness was written.

Here it is in a "nutshell": "Friendship is the cure for shy-

