

Columbia Union Visitor

"THEY REHEARSED ALL THINGS THAT GOD HAD DONE WITH THEM"

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No. 13

U N I O N

To Our Brethren and Sisters Throughout the Columbia Union

As there have come to us a number of misstatements concerning the work that is going on here in Philadelphia, we think it is only proper to let you know exactly how things are.

This letter is written on the Monday morning following the fourth Sunday night lecture in the Garrick Theater. Last night we had another audience that crowded the house, with hundreds turned away. Our collection last night was the biggest, being \$108. We also had put in the largest number of names, so that up to date there have been handed us to work with here in the city 1200 names. The workers here feel united in thinking that the interest is deep and wide-spread. Of course, we know that those who really desire to see a beginning made in some new lines will sympathize with us in the tremendous responsibilities resting upon us in this effort, and will not be exacting, yet we know some others will insist that certain definite things shall have to come to us in the way of crowds, collections, and converts, before they will lend a sympathetic attitude toward this work.

Now as to misstatements. There is a statement rumored about that we are spending \$10,000 in Philadelphia. This is not true. The brethren said that if \$10,000 were needed they would stand by the effort to a man; but up to date we have not spent any more than we spent in Pittsburgh, and yet we are doing many times the work we did in the Pittsburgh effort. Those of our brethren who know of the results in Pittsburgh, know that God gave a great blessing to that city and to that conference, so that the West Pennsylvania Conference last year had the greatest increase in tithes she ever had, nearly seven times as much as in other years previous, so that her increase in tithes was about \$7000.

Another misstatement that is being made is, that there are a large number of workers here. With the exception of the addition of two brethren who are here temporarily, Brethren Hirlinger and

Gautereau, we do not have any more men in this Philadelphia effort than are usually used in city efforts such as Brother Westbrook held in Denver, or that some of our Ohio lecturers will use in one of the big cities of Ohio. I could easily demonstrate this to you by levelling off man for man, but I am sure that you will accept the general statement without demanding a long array of facts in proof.

Now about the newspapers. We tried to make it very clear to our brethren in letters sent out that these great metropolitan dailies with a capital of \$20,000,000 do not need Seventh-day Adventist news, and that it is really a great success to have obtained anything at all. Even with the offer of a large number of subscriptions from the Columbia Union Conference, the offer was accepted twice and then turned down, and we believe that it was only through the blessing of God that we finally got a consideration. We told the brethren that though our first thought was that we could obtain the paper for eight weeks for 50 cents, the price of paper had shot up, and between the time of the first proposition and the second, the metropolitan dailies were demanding twice the amount as offered. So we cut the time in half and offered one month for 50 cents.

With regard to the amount of space. We were promised only a half column. This morning's paper, however, came out with a whole column, so that in general the papers have done easily as much as promised, and even more. Everybody thinks it has been a wonderful victory, and the blessing of God has been on it, that in the third city in size in North America we have obtained the recognition we have.

We surely would have been given a cold reception by the newspapers if we had not entered into the proposition with the Press of giving them a definite number of subscriptions which we are now receiving from the Union. Some of our people are complaining about the small amount of space given, but if they really understood how little we are known in this great city, and how an editor values the news he puts in the paper, they would praise the Lord that we are getting such favors.

We trust that these words of information concerning something new we are

trying to do will be acceptable to you. We know full well in our hearts that our brethren throughout the Columbia Union are loyal and would rather see us go ahead and try to blaze a new trail and attempt something, even though we may not make a wonderful hit, than to forever go on in the old routine, treadmill fashion.

Thanking you for your loyalty and support, I am

Very truly your brother,

B. G. WILKINSON.

Promises to Home Missionary Workers

Many say, "I would not mind doing missionary work if I could have the pleasure of seeing souls saved through my efforts." God promises sure results to all who will go and work in His vineyard. They may not be immediate. One may toil long and hard without seeing any visible fruits, but results will follow.

The commission, "Go ye into all the world and teach the gospel to every creature;" "Go ye also into the vineyard;" is to all alike. And the Lord adds, "Whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive." "Cast thy bread upon the waters; for thou shalt find it after many days." (Eccl. 11: 1, 6.) In this instance, the Lord has not promised that we shall see the joy of souls saved until, "after many days." He simply says, "Cast thy bread upon the waters"—meaning peoples, nations, and tongues, Rev. 17:15. "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."

In the early "morning" while the heart soil is moist and fresh, "sow thy seed," and "in the evening," after the people have finished their day's toil of worldly work, and are at rest, "withhold not thine hand." You may be weary with the day's work. You may not see that you have accomplished anything. Your heart may be bleeding and the tears flowing, but the Lord of the vineyard and harvest says, "Go," "Be not weary in well doing, for ye shall reap if ye faint not." "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth bearing precious seed, shall doubtless

come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Ps. 126:5, 6.

The farmer and husbandman of this world sow their seeds and plant their vines and trees in the earth and see no results—no fruits of their labors for months, and, in the planting of vines and trees they see and realize no fruit for years. Yet they are willing to sow, plant, cultivate, and labor on, believing they shall reap. Generally, they realize their anticipations, but they are not always sure of results. Drought, pest, or something of that nature may disappoint them. Yet in the face of all these possibilities of failure, they are willing to risk their all: time, labor, and reputation.

"Be patient, therefore, brethren unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman of the earth waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he shall receive the early and latter reign. Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts; for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh." James 5:7, 8. When the Lord promises us success and there is no possibility of failure in laboring "for the meat that endureth unto everlasting life," ought we not to show as much zeal, yea more zeal and patience than those who are laboring "for the meat which perisheth?" John 6:27.

Many are prone to spend too much time looking for immediate results. All the Lord asks His people to do is to "Go!" "Cast!" "Sow!" He alone can give the increase. Paul planted, Apollos watered, but "it was God that gave the increase." Let all remember that "we are laborers together with God," that we "are God's husbandry"—the ones who have been given the care of God's vineyard—to sow the "precious seed" of truth and to water it by our daily prayers and tears. If we are God's faithful husbandmen—home missionaries—"sowing beside all waters," He, the master workman, says we "shall doubtless—(without doubt or question) come again with rejoicing, bringing sheaves"—souls fitted for the heavenly garner.

Those who will rejoice with Christ over the souls saved when He comes, will labor and travail with Him for souls now. When He comes He will "see of the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied." Isa. 53:11. David, the man after God's own heart, says, "I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied when I awake with thy likeness." Ps. 17:15. Only those who have denied themselves and had a part in soulsaving work, will be satisfied then. The greater the travail for souls now, the more sheaves and the greater the rejoicing then. "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ; if so be that

we suffer with Him, that we may be also glorified together. For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." Rom. 8:16-18. Since "we walk by faith," let us continue to labor for souls all about us in faith, claiming God's promises, and by faith know that when the Lord comes, we shall come with rejoicing, bringing precious sheaves.

J. W. HIRLINGER, *C. U. Home Miss. Sec'y.*

OHIO

Dayton

The plans are well laid for a large and thoroughgoing evangelistic effort to be conducted in the city of Dayton. Memorial Hall, which seats 3,000 people, has been secured for several weeks to come. The first meeting is to be Sunday evening-April 1.

It was my privilege to meet with the Dayton workers on Thursday, March 15, at which time steps were taken to provide the needed help to enter vigorously upon this campaign. It means much to enter Dayton with such an effort at this time, as two great evangelistic efforts have been in progress under the leadership of two very strong, popular evangelists. Since our plans for Dayton were made before we knew of these evangelistic efforts, we have thought it best to go ahead, and the brethren feel that a good hearing will be secured, even though such meetings have been in progress there so long.

We are trying to place in the city of Dayton a good number of colporteurs and missionary workers and those who will be able to help in the music; and we would be pleased to have any who may have a burden to connect with this effort, correspond with our home missionary secretary, Brother H. K. Christman.

Elder T. B. Westbrook will carry the burden of the speaking during this meeting. Elder J. J. Marietta will assist him in having charge of the business part of the work, and in a strong campaign in the use of our literature and in visiting from home to home. Misses Cora B. Gibson and Mary I. Meck are to assist in the Bible work. Brother L. C. Metcalf is to act as music director, having complete charge of the music. Brother Christman will be connected with the effort during a part of the time to help in organizing for work in the use of our literature and to act as press agent. Brother C. R. Fairchild, our field missionary agent, will spend some time with the workers during the first of the effort. Our workers in Dayton should have the earnest pray-

ers of our people as they enter upon this important work. E. K. SLADE.

Prepare for the Work

There never was a time in the history of this world when the words found in Ezekiel 33:7 were more applicable than at the present time. Hundreds are dying every day without a knowledge of the message as taught by us as a people. The majority of the people are making a mad rush for the wealth of this world, which we know will soon perish and will be of no real benefit to them, but will be the means of destroying their chances of getting the gold as described in Rev. 21:18, which will last forever.

Brother, sister, are you satisfied to let the world go on as it is, and not warn people who would be as glad to know this truth as you are, and yet may never hear it unless you give it to them? Can you keep on in the old way you have gone for years, doing the work that the gentile should be doing for you, while the letter from heaven that has been sent to you for delivery, lies in your possession undelivered, and the blessing not obtained?

At the time this truth came to you and you accepted it, it was very dear to you, and you wanted to tell every one. Is the truth less dear to you now just before entering the "Promised Land?" Are you content with just having it in your possession, or do you wish to keep the "channel of blessing" open and thus receive to give? God has made it possible, by modern inventions to tell all the world of the coming of our Saviour in "this generation," and we have books and other literature dealing with every feature of present day conditions, and the requirements of God's will.

Reader, please do not let your circumstances keep you from entering into the true pleasure of working for the Master; but with God's help, so shape the circumstances that you will not be forced to say, at last, "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and I am not saved."

Numerous calls are coming to the office from people who have seen, or have read our books, asking to be permitted to sell them for us, as these books are the best they ever found, and these calls are not to be ignored, as they come from persons who are deeply stirred by the message contained in our literature. If you will read Isa. 61, you will find that it is God's purpose that the gentiles are to be our plowmen and our vine dressers, and not our evangelists, until they have come into a full knowledge of the Third Angel's message, and have identified themselves with God's remnant people. Then they are no more called gentiles, but are of the Israel of God.

We are in the sifting time spoken of by the spirit of prophecy, and unless we are active in the cause of truth, we may be among those who are sifted out. But you say, I have a good job and am paying a good tithe, or I am elder or deacon, and, therefore, I can not leave. Who has a better job than he who works for the Lord? If you are worth \$25.00 per week to a worldly firm, you are worth more to the cause of truth. Perhaps you are a deacon and are filling the office well; so was Phillip, and the Lord used him to give the message to the Samaritans, and to the Eunuch, and many others. I think I hear you say Phillip went down to Samaria because of the persecution at Jerusalem, and so he did; but are you waiting for persecution to get you started? Sometimes we are driven away from the truth by persecution; and although you think you will stand when that time comes, you may be like Peter when he denied his Lord.

Let us "come up to the help of the Lord against the mighty." Let us "Work while it is day, for the night cometh when no man can work." The shades of that night are already falling, and the darkness is getting more and more dense.

The Union will hold a colporteurs' institute at the academy, Apr. 3-12, at which time instruction will be given as is necessary to fit one for work in the field, and while this is held for the students who are unable to attend our regular institute, which was held in January at Cleveland, we are glad to extend an invitation to all who wish to enter the colporteur work. Some have already indicated their intention of attending. I shall be glad to correspond with those in Ohio who are willing to answer the call and want a better preparation. Please address all correspondence to C. R. FAIRCHILD, Field Miss. Sec'y., Mount Vernon, Ohio, Box 8.

News Notes

In a letter just received from Elder R. S. Lindsay, it is reported that Sunday night meetings are being held at the Cleveland Church with a large attendance and splendid interest. The membership of the Cleveland Church has now passed the three hundred mark. With the present interest, it is hoped that a good number will be brought into the church from this effort.

The Fisher Sanitarium of Mount Vernon, has as many patients at present as it can conveniently accommodate. The Lord is blessing in the work, there and people are coming in from other states.

Miss Alice Black of Ohio City, Ohio, is visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Garrarde.

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Chilsen and family of Washington, D. C., have returned to Mount Vernon for a short time.

Mrs. A. D. King and her little granddaughter Arloine, of St. Joseph, Montana, have been visiting the past month at the home of her mother and sister Mrs. Kennedy and Miss Millie Kennedy.

CHESAPEAKE

News Notes

Miss Emma S. Newcomer, the conference secretary, has just returned from a visit to her home in Hagerstown. She reports that Elder Shadel has a good interest there as a result of the meetings he is holding.

Brother M. S. Pettibone, our missionary secretary, has just returned from a visit to some of the churches in the interest of the "Watchman" campaign. He reports that he has orders for about 1000 copies of the April Watchman already.

Elder Booth is nearing the end of his last effort before the coming tent season. The Sunday evening services in the Walbrook Theater are very well attended. The Baltimore No. 1 Church has been faithful as a whole in co-operating with Elder Booth in all of his meetings, having given out over 200,000 announcements since the opening of the tent season July 1916. By consulting the membership of the church, it is evident that "Keeping everlastingly at it" in advertising, brings results.

The Conference Committee will meet Wednesday, March 21. Among the important matters to be considered will be, whether there will be a camp-meeting this year or not. Perhaps the churches will know the decision by reading the next issue of the VISITOR.

We take this opportunity to ask our members to send in their payments for the Philadelphia Press if they have not done so already. Those in charge of this line of work are very anxious to get every thing straightened out, so that they can know just where they stand in this matter.



EAST PENNSYLVANIA

Extract From A Letter

Ketchikan, Alaska, March 2, 1917.

We left Brooklyn, N. Y., by way of Philadelphia and Washington, in December, 1911. We spent eighteen months in Spokane, and more than three years in the towns of northern Idaho. We enjoyed good health, and the blessing of the Lord in our work in Washington and Idaho.

About a year ago we were invited to make Alaska our field of labor, it being in our Union Conference. We at first thought it best to decline the invitation, and did. After a few months' consideration, we offered ourselves for Alaska, and left the States the 30th of August, in the height of the railroad strike scare. Visiting friends in Lewiston, Idaho, Walla Walla, College Place, Takoma and Seattle, we left the latter place on September 11th for Juneau, the capitol of the territory. Later, with Elder Hanson, we returned to Ketchikan and began our first effort here. Elder A. M. Dart, now pastor of the Spokane Church, spent about five years in this part of Alaska, so our work is not entirely new to many of the old-timers. The people are very irreligious, and have little interest in Christianity, but we have had good success in our work, in spite of this. Three of the four principal tribes of the natives are represented near us,—the Tsimshians, the Thlinglets and the Haidahs, and they are scattered over the 600,000 square miles of territory. They are on the islands, the main-land, in villages, in the far interior, and in the coast cities. We have been able to do some work for them too. Many of them speak the English language, but, while this is true, not many of them have escaped the effects of mingling with the bad white man. The natives are, as a rule untrustworthy. It takes much patience and persistent labor for them. We are in hope of having a nice gas-boat,—a gift from one of our sisters in Oregon. It is what we need, for we are shut in, and, like the children of Israel, cannot "go out," as they say here. without a boat. The mountains are back of us, the Tongass Narrows in front, and on the north and south of us. Ketchikan is built on the side of a mountain; the houses—many of them—are built out over the bay. The streets are largely built on piling. We have an excellent view of the bay from our windows, and see all the boats as they go north and south. This town is like a Norway fishing village, especially at the north end of the city where the Norwegians principally live with their fishing boats, and in their small cabins.

We plan to gradually work our way to the north and west, holding two tent efforts in the spring and summer months and hall meetings in the fall and winter. It is not cold in Ketchikan; the coldest we have had this winter was rather mild, not below two or three degrees lower than zero. At Juneau it has reached about 20 below; at Fairbanks, and other interior points, 70 and 80. We have had only about two weeks of cold weather, and one reason for this is the fact that it rains nearly all the time. We are getting used to it, but we miss the beautiful sunny days of Washington and Idaho. But we are here because of duty, and we are thankful that soon the work will close and the Master come. We are striving to do faithful work day by day, and to have a conscience void of offense toward God and toward man at all times.

We are praying for the meetings in Philadelphia, and wish for an abundant harvest of souls. Remember me to inquiring friends.

WILLIAM T. HILGERT.

NEW JERSEY

News Notes

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. J. Richards visited the conference office several days ago. Their friends here were very glad to meet them again.

Elder A. O. Lund has, to the regret of his many New Jersey friends, left this conference and will actively connect himself with the West Pennsylvania Conference.

Elder P. F. Richard visited Elder Sandborn one day this week.

The Sabbath School children in Paterson have \$25 as their goal for the quarter. They are building a miniature church with their weekly offerings. Each block in their little church represents so much money, and they are looking forward with happy anticipation to the time when they shall have reached their goal of \$25.

One of the most successful missionary conventions of the year has just been concluded at Cape May Court House.

VIRGINIA

News Notes

The young people's reading course is fine. Have you read the books yet? There is still a little time left.

Don't forget Church Elders. May 5 is Young People's Day. A special program is to be found in the Gazette. You owe it to the young people to carry it out!

We are glad to say that Brother Dan Fahrner's little boy, who has been ill with pneumonia, is improving nicely and will, we trust, be out in a few days.

Brother Fahrner has had much illness in his family; his wife is very poorly. She had an operation some time ago, but is not improving very much. They ask the prayers of God's people.

Do you know that the Virginia camp-meeting is to be at Gordonsville, May 25 to June 3? You can not afford to miss this important convocation of God's people, even for the sake of planting corn.

Finally, come to camp-meeting.

WEST VIRGINIA

News Notes

Elder French reports that the attendance at the meetings in Huntington has been good from the very first and the interest is splendid. Already, eighteen have asked for admission into the church and eight more are in the valley of decision. He plans to open a new effort in another part of the city April 1. The week night meetings will be held in a hall and the Sunday night meetings in a theatre. A larger theatre has been secured for the Sunday night meetings than was used in the first effort. A larger attendance is also anticipated in this effort, for it will be held in a better territory. The Huntington Church has been doing splendid work along all lines, and since the meetings have been in progress, they have united their efforts with the efforts of the conference workers. It makes them rejoice to see their membership growing so rapidly. We ask that the members of the West Virginia Conference continue to remember the work in Huntington in their prayers.

Elder G. A. Stevens expects to spend Friday, also Sabbath the 24th, with the Parkersburg Church. He has had some very remarkable experiences with leading business men in nearby towns which he wishes to relate to the colporteurs.

The Colporteurs' Institute for West Virginia began March 22. All but two of the regular colporteurs were present at the first meeting, which was a devotional service. Without exception, all expressed

themselves as being of excellent courage, and praised the Lord for the privilege of having a part in this work. There were also in attendance those who feel that the Lord is calling them to the book work. At this writing the institute is just beginning, but everything bids fair for it to be the best Colporteur's institute ever held in West Virginia.

A very neat and attractive bookmark has been prepared for the Young People's Missionary Volunteers. On the bookmark is printed the 1917 Young People's Missionary Volunteer Goal for West Virginia. We want every young person in West Virginia to have one of the bookmarks. If any of the young people have not received one, and will notify the conference secretary, she will see that one is sent to them.

Brother John McHenry has just arrived from McDowell County where he has been canvassing, and will attend the Colporteurs' Institute. His deliveries since January 1, have averaged over \$20.00 a day.

Remember that Sabbath, March 31, the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering will be taken in our Sabbath Schools. The offering this time goes to the South African Missions. This is indeed a very needy field, and perhaps our opportunities for giving to the foreign work will never be better, so shall we not make our offering this Thirteenth Sabbath as liberal as possible? The isolated members should send their offerings to the conference treasurer.

"The heavenly character must be acquired on earth."

Obedience to God's Word is our only safeguard.

Special

What Doest Thou Here?

The Prophet Fled--God Still Regarded Him Tenderly

Elijah's retreat on Mount Horeb, though hidden from man, was known to God; and the weary and discouraged prophet was not left to struggle alone with the powers of darkness that were pressing upon him. At the entrance to the cave wherein Elijah had taken refuge, God met with him, through a mighty angel sent to inquire into his needs and to make plain the divine purpose for Israel.

HAD FLED FROM OPPORTUNITY

Not until Elijah had learned to trust wholly in God could he complete his work for those who had been seduced into Baal worship. The signal triumph on the heights of Carmel had opened the way for still greater victories; yet from the wonderful opportunities opening before him, Elijah had been turned away by the threat of Jezebel. The man of God must be made to understand the weakness of his present position as compared with the vantage-ground the Lord would have him occupy.

God met His tried servant with the inquiry, "What doest thou here Elijah?" I sent you to the brook Cherith, and afterward to the widow of Sarepta. I commissioned you to return to Israel, and to stand before the idolatrous priests on Carmel; and I girded you with strength to guide the chariot of the king to the gate of Jezreel. But who sent you on this hasty flight into the wilderness? What errand have you here?

In bitterness of soul, Elijah mourned out his complaint: "I have been very jealous for the Lord God of Hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken Thy covenant, thrown down Thine altars and slain Thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away."

THE LORD PASSED BY

Calling upon the prophet to leave the cave, the angel bade him stand before the Lord on the mount, and listen to His word. "And, behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind rent the mountains, and brake in pieces the rocks before the Lord; but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake; but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire; but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice. And it was so, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle, and went out, and stood in the entering in of the cave."

Not in mighty manifestations of divine power, but by "a still small voice," did God choose to reveal Himself to His servant. He desired to teach Elijah that it is not always the work that makes the greatest demonstration that is most successful in accomplishing His purpose. While Elijah waited for the revelation of the Lord, a tempest rolled, the lightnings flashed, and a devouring fire swept by; but God was not in all this. Then there came a still small voice, and the prophet covered his head before the presence of the Lord. His petulance was silenced, his spirit softened and subdued. He now knew that a quiet trust, a firm reliance on God, would ever find for him a present help in time of need.

POWER OF THE "STILL SMALL VOICE"

It is not always the most learned presentation of God's truth that convicts and converts the souls. Not by eloquence or logic are men's hearts reached, but by the sweet influences of the Holy Spirit, which operate quietly yet surely in transforming and developing character. It is the still small voice of the Spirit of God that has power to change the heart.

"What doest thou here, Elijah?" the voice inquired; and again the prophet answered, "I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts: because the children of Israel have forsaken Thy covenant, thrown down Thine altars, and slain Thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away."

The Lord answered Elijah that the wrongdoers in Israel should not go unpunished. Men were to be especially chosen to fulfill the divine purpose in the punishment of the idolatrous kingdom. There was stern work to be done, that all might be given opportunity to take their position on the side of the true God. Elijah himself was to return to Israel, and share with others the burden of bringing about a reformation.

COMMAND TO RETURN

"Go," the Lord commanded Elijah, "return on thy way to the wilderness of Damascus: and when thou comest, anoint Hazael to be king over Syria: and Jehu the son of Nimshi shalt thou anoint to be king over Israel: and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abelmeholah shalt thou anoint to be prophet in thy room. And it shall come to pass, that him that escapeth the sword of Hazael shall Jehu slay: and him that escapeth from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha slay."

Elijah had thought that he alone in Israel was a worshiper of the true God. But he who reads the hearts of all, revealed to the prophet that there were many others who, through the long years of apostasy, had remained true to Him. "I have left Me," God said, "seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him."

INVALUABLE FOR TODAY

From Elijah's experience during those days of discouragement and apparent defeat, there are many lessons to be drawn,—lessons invaluable to the servants of God in this age, marked as it is by general departure from right. The apostasy prevailing today is similar to that which in the prophet's day overspread Israel. In the exaltation of the human above the divine, in the praise of popular leaders, in the worship of mammon, and in the placing of the teachings of science above the truths of revelation, multi-

tudes today are following after Baal! Doubt and unbelief are exercising their baleful influence over mind and heart, and many are substituting for the oracles of God the theories of men. It is publicly taught that we have reached a time when human reason should be exalted above the teachings of the Word. The law of God, the divine standard of righteousness, is declared to be of no effect. The enemy of all truth is working with deceptive power to cause men and women to place human institutions where God should be, and to forget that which was ordained for the happiness and salvation of mankind.

HAVE NOT BOWED THE KNEE

Yet this apostasy, widespread as it has come to be, is not universal. Not all in the world are lawless and sinful; not all have taken sides with the enemy. God has many thousands who have not bowed the knee to Baal, many who long to understand more fully in regard to Christ and the law, many who are hoping against hope that Jesus will come soon to end the reign of sin and death. And there are many who have been worshipping Baal ignorantly, but with whom the Spirit of God is still striving.

These need the personal help of those who have learned to know God and the power of His word. In such a time as this, every child of God should be actively engaged in helping others. As those who have an understanding of Bible truth try to seek out the men and women who are longing for light, angels of God will attend them. And where angels go none need fear to move forward. As a result of the faithful efforts of consecrated workers, many will be turned from idolatry to the worship of the living God. Many will cease to pay homage to man-made institutions, and will take their stand fearlessly on the side of God and His law.

Much depends on the unceasing activity of those who are true and loyal; and for this reason, Satan puts forth every possible effort to thwart the divine purpose to be wrought out through the obedient. He causes some to lose sight of their high and holy mission, and to become satisfied with the pleasures of this life. He leads them to settle down at ease, or, for the sake of greater worldly advantages, to remove from places where they might be a power for good. Others he causes to flee in discouragement from duty, because of opposition or persecution. But all such are regarded by Heaven with tenderest pity. To every child of God whose voice the enemy of souls had succeeded in silencing, the question is addressed, "What doest thou here?" I commissioned you to go into all the world and preach the gospel, to

prepare a people for the day of God.
Why are you here? Who sent you?

THE JOY SET BEFORE HIM

The joy set before Christ, the joy that sustained Him through sacrifice and suffering, was the joy of seeing sinners saved. This should be the joy of every follower of His, the spur to his ambition. Those who realize, even in a limited degree, what redemption means to them and to their fellow men, will comprehend, in some measure, the vast needs of humanity. Their hearers will be moved to compassion as they see the moral and spiritual destitution of thousands who are under the shadow of a terrible doom, in comparison with which physical suffering fades into nothingness.

Of families, as of individuals, the question is asked, "What doest thou here?" In many churches there are families well instructed in the truths of God's work, who might widen the sphere of their influence by moving to places in need of the ministry they are capable of giving. God calls for Christian families to go into the dark places of the earth, and work wisely and perseveringly for those who are enshrouded in spiritual gloom. To answer this call requires self-sacrifice. While many are waiting to have every obstacle removed, souls are dying, without hope and without God. For the sake of worldly advantage, for the sake of acquiring scientific knowledge, men are willing to venture into pestilential regions, and to endure hardship and privation. Where are those who are willing to do as much for the sake of telling others of the Saviour?

NO STRANGE DISCOURAGEMENT

If, under trying circumstance, men of spiritual power, pressed beyond measure, become discouraged and desponding; if, at times, they see nothing desirable in life that they should choose it, this is nothing strange or new. Let all such remember that one of the mightiest of the prophets died for his life before the rage of an infuriated woman. A fugitive, weary and travel-worn, bitter disappointment crushing his spirits, he asked that he might die. But it was when hope was gone, and his life work seemed threatened with defeat, that he learned one of the most precious lessons of his life. In the hour of his greatest weakness, he learned the need and the possibility of trusting God under circumstances the most forbidding.

Those who, while spending their life energies in self-sacrificing labor, are tempted to give way to despondency and distrust, may gather courage from the experience of Elijah. God's watchful care, His love, His power, are especially manifest in behalf of His servants whose zeal is misunderstood or unappreciated,

Canvassers' Reports

Name	Place	Book	Days	Hrs	Orders	Value	Helps	Total	Del
West Virginia, Week Ending March 16, 1917									
W. A. McElphatrick, Marshall Co.	BR	5	27	6	23 00	5 50	28 50	4 75	
C. G. Mays, Marshall Co.	BR	5	21	2	10 00	75	10 75	35	
J. W. Brando, Pocahontas Co.	BR	5	34					30 25	
Norman Haye, Kanawha Co.	BR	4	22	9	31 50	3 35	34 85	14 00	
John Fahrner, Kanawha Co.	BR	5	21	13	48 50	17 10	65 60	1 25	
John McHenry McDowell Co.	BF	5	45	74	154 50	29 40	183 90	126 05	
W. E. West, McDowell Co.	BF	5	20	19	38 00		38 00		
Totals	7 Agents		34	190	123	\$305 50	\$56 10	\$361 50	\$176 65

Ohio, Week Ending March 16, 1917									
M. B. Ingersol, Huron Co.	BR	5	44	7	26 50	4 00	30 50	3 25	
Fred Hannah, Belmont Co.	BR	5	44	4	14 00	2 00	16 00	57 00	
J. H. Stafford, Columbus	BR	5	39	7	24 50		24 50		
C. F. Wilcox, Canton	Arm	5	37			13 25	13 25	13 25	
W. H. Smith, Delaware Co.	BR	4	30	2	7 00	4 00	11 00	76 60	
D. McCarthy, Youngstown	BR	5	30	26	98 00	75	98 75		
Chas. Carter, Clinton Co.	BR	4	29	3	11 50	5 75	14 25	2 75	
G. Carter, Clinton Co.	BR	4	29			4 75	4 75	4 75	
Mrs. Kelley, Dayton	CK	4	27	4	14 00	12 95	26 95	20 00	
N. Oancea, Akron	Foreign	5	26			27 85	27 85	27 85	
Mrs. E. Y. Smith, Dayton	BR	4	24	8	31 50	2 15	33 65	90	
C. G. Douglass, Akron	BR	4	20			2 50	2 50	58 50	
Clara Weber, Dayton	BR	4	20	1	3 50	6 60	10 10	6 85	
J. D. Fellabaum, Hancock Co.	BR	3	19	6	22 00	1 50	23 50		
Mrs. Fellabaum, Hancock Co.	BR	3	19	8	29 00	75	29 75		
H. O. Kohr, Columbus	Arm	4	19			35 00	35 00	35 00	
G. Yingling, Niles	BR	4	17	5	21 50	4 25	25 95	81 90	
J. S. Randolph, Morrow Co.	ES	1	5					11 75	
Frank Fultz, Miami Co.	BR	2	4			7 25	7 25	7 25	
Totals	19 Agents		75	481	81	\$303 00	\$132 30	\$435 30	\$407 60

West Pennsylvania, Week Ending March 16, 1917									
A. Brownlee, Allegheny Co.	PPF	10	87	24	66 00	81 85	147 85	112 70	
Geo. Buttermore, Washington Co.	BR	4	33	10	35 00	1 25	36 25	23 75	
Mrs. C. D. Bateman, Cambria Co.	HM	4	26	15	42 00	24 00	66 00		
Solomon Diehl, Mifflin Co.	SP	4	37	7	9 50	17 65	27 15		
W. H. House, Elk Co.	BF	5	40	8	18 00	3 00	21 00	5 25	
A. Holst, Indiana Co.	BR	4	29	8	28 00	3 25	31 25		
John Kmetz, Westmoreland Co.	Misc	3	21	43	16 15		16 15	16 15	
L. C. Mitchell, Allegheny Co.	HM	5	22	1	3 50	3 00	6 50		
Roy L. Powelson, Allegheny Co.	BR	4	27	9	35 50		35 50	28 00	
C. E. Will, Washington Co.	PPF	5	40	14	38 00	26 40	64 40	19 00	
Totals	10 Agents		48	366	139	\$291 65	\$160 40	\$452 05	\$204 85

Chesapeake, Week Ending March 16, 1917									
O. C. Weller, Frederick Co. Md.	BR	1	8	6	21 00	85	21 85	85	
Totals	1 Agents		1	8	6	\$21 00	85	\$21 85	85

East Pennsylvania, Week Ending March 9, 1917									
S. Booth, Franklin	GC	2						25 27	
C. Booth, Franklin	GC	3	15	4	14 00	1 40	15 40		
W. G. Lewis, Luzerne Co.	Misc	4	29			30 50	30 50		
W. G. Lewis, Luzerne Co.		4	30			28 00	28 00		
E. S. Tolliver, Luzerne Co.		1						35 50	
W. P. Hess, Lancaster Co.	BF	3	6	6	12 00		12 00		
Miscellaneous						43 00	43 00		
Totals	7 Agents		17	81	10	\$26 00	\$102 90	\$128 90	\$60 77

District of Columbia Month Ending Feb. 28, 1917

Otto Westerhoff, Washington	BR	146	56	190	00	10	75	200	75
W. C. Welch, Prince Geo. Co.	BR	141	47	166	50	6	25	172	75
Seymour Henson jr., Loudoun Co.	CK	42	46	110	50	5	75	116	25
F. T. Feutz, Washington	BR	79	27	99	00	7	85	106	85
E. R. Corder, Washington	BR	25	7	18	50	2	00	20	50
S. N. Brown, Washington	BFL								17 25
C. A. Carter, Washington	BR	22	18	64	50			64	50
Miscellaneous	Misc			20	00	3	34	23	34

Totals 7 Agents 455 201 \$669 00 \$35 94 \$704 94 \$123 59

MAGAZINES

Mrs. H. M. Cleveland	25	50	Miss Edyth Detwiler	2	60
Miss Irma Gearhart	30	00	Miss Augusta Iliff	5	00
Mrs. Westerhoff	6	70	Miscellaneous	41	50

Total 111 30

Grand Totals: 51 Agents of Orders Value \$1616 15 Deliveries, \$ 974 31

whose counsels and reproofs are slighted, and whose efforts toward reform are repaid with hatred and opposition.

MRS. E. G. WHITE, —*Signs of the Times.*

Washington Missionary College

The interesting program given under the direction of the Foreign Mission Band on Sabbath afternoon, March 10, was proof of keen interest in mission work. "The Call of missions to Adventist young people" was given first by Mr. Rebok. The answer to this was voiced by Elder Lee, recently from China, as he told of the ways in which our young people can prepare to answer this call. A glimpse of our pioneer work was shown by a reading from Elder G. F. Jones, who is now laboring in the Solomon Islands.

The report of Miss Fickes, the band secretary, shows what is actually being done. The band of about thirty-three members is divided into four groups. Mrs. Bruce has charge of the Indian band; Mr. Wheeler, our leader, of the African band; Mr. Trummer that of the Latin American countries; and Elder Lee of the China division.

Our college has a good record for furnishing foreign recruits, and it is our earnest desire that it shall not be changed. The precedent established by all former band leaders in entering active service at once is a good one to follow.

FLORENCE KNEELAND.

Mount Vernon Academy

Miss Ethel Andre spent the week end at her home in Mansfield, Ohio.

Mr. Joseph Beach of Martel, Ohio, was called home last week on account of the death of his father. We greatly sympathize with him in this sad hour and hope he will be able to return soon.

Mr. John Lilley and Mr. George Rapp spent the week end at their home in Hamilton.

A recital was given in the chapel last Saturday evening by Professor H. A. Miller.

We were sorry to have Mr. Erwin F. Tebbe leave our midst, he and his wife having moved to Toledo, Ohio. Mrs. Tebbe, too, will be greatly missed by her friends.

Miss Myrtle Blaine of Pittsburgh, Pa., is visiting friends here.

Mr. John Schmidt, a former student while on his way home to Pittsburgh, Pa., visited at the academy, where he has two sisters and a brother.

Miss Helen Morris, a former student here, and a Bible Worker in Pittsburgh, spent a day at the academy last week. She gave some interesting experiences and timely instruction at the students' prayer meeting on Tuesday evening.

As Miss Morris is on her way to Central America, the girls had a surprise arranged for her in the girls' parlor. A very appropriate program was rendered and she was presented with a gift as a remembrance of the M. V. A. girls.

We all wish her much success in her new field of labor.

A fine team of horses was purchased to do the work on the academy farm.

New officers were elected for the Students' Association of Mount Vernon Academy. Executive committee as follows: Mr. John Brownlee, president; Mr. Earl Hackman, vice-president; Mr. Raymond Kraft, secretary; Mrs. E. J. Stipeck, treasurer; Advisory committee, Elder N. S. Ashton, Miss Elsie Tatman, Miss Anna Schmidt, Mr. J. S. Neely, together with the executive committee.

An interesting meeting of the first, second, and third year mission bands was held Friday evening, March 16. The program was given by the members of the second year band, representing four M. V. A. students returning from their fields, as follows: Miss Helen Beatty, China; Miss Florence Ashley, South America; Miss L. B. Taylor, Africa; and Miss Pearl Taylor, India. They discussed freely various problems met with in these fields.

We were glad to have with us last Tuesday and Wednesday, Professor J. L. Shaw of Washington, D. C. He occupied the chapel hour on Wednesday and Thursday and lectured on Wednesday night on the work in the West Indies.

"Alone with God"

By Erickson

This stirring little book is a timely and stimulating call, first to prayer and then to service, which, of course, is the true order. It is a call to young and old to "Live in the highlands with God," and then go forth with His Spirit to battle for the souls of men in the lowlands of sin.

In her quiet and convincing manner, Miss Erickson reminds us, with well chosen illustrations and intensely interesting bits of biography, that God's mighty men in all ages were those who had been in "the school of God"—in the secret place alone with Himself. And in that solitude, hallowed with Divine Presence, men were and are equipped for battle.

The reader of this genuinely helpful little volume will surely be drawn into closer fellowship with the son of God and have his faith in the power of prayer greatly enlarged. Bound in cloth, price 50 cents postpaid. Order through your tract society office.

"It takes a peaceful man to quell a quarrel as it does water to extinguish fire. 'A soft answer turneth away wrath.' A soft tongue breaketh the bone—the bone of contention."

COLUMBIA UNION VISITOR

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

COLUMBIA UNION CONFERENCE

of the Seventh-day Adventists

ISSUED FIFTY TIMES A YEAR

BY THE

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Mount Vernon, Ohio

Price, 50 Cents a Year in Advance

EMMA SILBER - - - EDITOR

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Address all subscriptions and make all money orders payable to your tract society.

The check mark here indicates that your subscription has expired. Kindly renew at once.

OBITUARIES

OSTRANDER.—Ella D. Ostrander was born in Olean, N. Y., December 31, 1847. She was united in marriage February 28, 1862, to William Petrie. One child (Ida L., now Mrs. V. H. Cook) was born to this union on May 30, 1865. Later in life, she was married to A. H. Ostrander, who preceded her in death some years ago. Since, she has made her home with her daughter. She leaves to mourn one daughter, (Mrs. V. H. Cook), two grandchildren (Mrs. Edna C. Metcalf and Mrs. Nellie L. Hamilton) both of Mt. Vernon, Ohio. She is a member of the S. D. A. Church of Coudersport, Pa., accepting the truth under the labors of Elder C. L. McVagh and Elder Chas. Baierle. She passed away at 7:30 Sunday morning, March 11, 1917. Age 69 years, 2 months, and 11 days. E. K. SLADE.

Advertisements

Approved advertisements will be published in the VISITOR at the rate of twenty-five cents for twenty words or less, and one cent for each additional word. Each group of initials or figures counts as one word. Cash and reference must accompany copy for all advertisements.

WANTED.—Good reliable S. D. A. girls who desire positions in good homes at a good wage, with church privileges. For further information address F. H. Henderson, 87 Fay St., Akron, Ohio.

WANTED.—A young woman and a young man, 21 years old or more to learn mental and nervous nursing. Salary from start. Sabbath privileges extended. Daniel T. Millsbaugh, M. D., 45 Totowa Ave., Paterson, N. J.

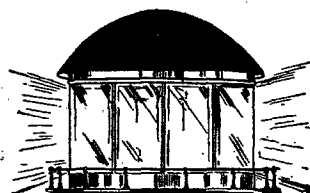
WANTED.—A neat, experienced girl or woman for general house work, in small family. Good home and good wages to the right party. Sabbath privileges. Address Mount Vernon College Press, Mount Vernon, Ohio.

WANTED.—A small farm to rent or do farming by the year, by a Seventh-day Adventist man with family. Near Mount Vernon, Ohio, preferred. Will consider other work. Reference exchanged. Address A. L. Fish, Sutton and Catoma Sts., Pittsburgh, Pa.

"He who becomes a child of God should henceforth look upon himself as a link in the chain let down to save the world, one with Christ in His plan of mercy, going forth with Him to seek and save the lost."

These are perilous times for the church of God, and the greatest danger now is that of self-deception. —Test.

Our evidence to nonprofessors that we have the truth of the Word of God will be given in a life of strict self-denial. —Test.



"For a light of the Nations and for salvation to the ends of the earth."

THE W. M. C. and
M. V. A. EDUCATIONAL FUND

Amount Required
Pledges

\$47000 00

District of Columbia

7016 00

Ohio

11774 00

New Jersey

4241 40

East Pennsylvania

4153 25

Virginia

750 00

West Pennsylvania

3915 25

West Virginia

1584 50

Chesapeake

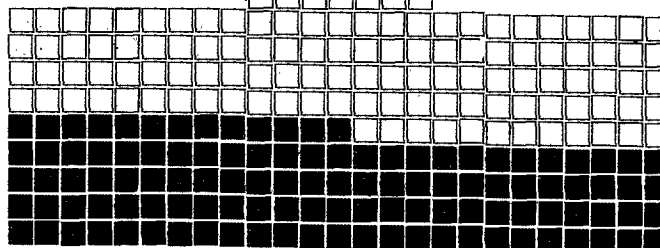
722 66

Amount Pledged

34157 06

Cash Paid

9380 19



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EACH SQUARE REPRESENTS \$100. WHITE SQUARES ARE PLEDGES; BLACK SQUARES CASH

"The God of heaven, He will prosper us; therefore, we His servants will arise and build." Neh. 2: 20.

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