

Columbia Union Visitor

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

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No. 30

COLPORTEURS' BIG WEEK, AUG. 5-11

UNION

Colporteurs' Big Week

The book-department of the Columbia Union plans a "Big Week" August 5-11. Marvelous reports as a result of special effort have come during these Big Weeks in other conferences. If some one had said that it was possible for a colporteur to put in eighty (80) hours within the six working days of a single week, we should have thrown up our hands and exclaimed, "Impossible!" But that which seemed to be an impossibility has come to pass.

A colporteur in the Arkansas Conference sends in a report like this, 16 hours on Sunday, 13 Monday, 12 Tuesday, 13 Wednesday, 13 Thursday, 11 Friday and 2 hours the night after the Sabbath. The week's work totals 80 hours, orders \$810, helps \$29.50. Grand total of \$839.50. This work was done with good old "Daniel and Revelation." Reports of \$400 and \$500 are no longer rare, and reports of more than \$200 are becoming quite common. What do these reports mean? We are living in the time of the "loud cry" and the earth is being lightened with the glory of the Lord. We may expect such results more and more. As the power of the Holy Spirit is increased from time to time as we approach the end, so shall we expect our work to increase until it is finished. So fellow-colporteurs let us plan for the biggest week in each of our experiences in point of time and trust to the Lord for the greatest results He has ever given us in orders. Prepare for rainy weather. Let us master the circumstances whatever they may be for the week Aug. 5-11.

This is our day of opportunity. Let us as God's workmen grasp it by the forelock and we shall be happy through all eternity that under God we have been alert and wide awake to our opportunities.

C. V. LEACH.

"No one has a more definite or accurate knowledge of Christ than the person who learns to know Him through daily, self-forgetting service."

New Jersey Camp-meeting

In Trenton, New Jersey, upon the same grounds as those used last year, was pitched this year the New Jersey camp-meeting, June 28 to July 8.

The attendance was unusually large and the interest deep. The arrangements on the camp ground were specially well placed and inviting, and under the kindness of the Lord we were favored throughout the meeting with good weather.

Although the weather was hot, the brethren took a deep interest in the presentation of the truth. All departments of work were well represented. There was a large class of young people on the ground who were well organized and well looked after.

The New Jersey Conference has made considerable growth in the last seven years. The conference membership in that time has doubled itself, while tithes and offerings have increased by leaps and bounds. There is every reason to believe that a good basis is being laid in the work in this conference for a great and prosperous future. We were not there the first part of the meeting, but the last Sabbath meeting witnessed a large and sweeping revival. The Lord came graciously near so that over two hundred young people marched forward in a deep consecration to God. This same spirit showed itself throughout the whole camp. Between forty and fifty baptisms took place on the camp ground.

The last Sunday morning the Lord blessed in an effort to raise the remaining \$1700 due from New Jersey towards the new building of the Washington Missionary College. A little later the Home Missionary Department led in an effort with "World War," and the sales ran up to nearly 17,000 copies of this book. Withal it was a splendid camp-meeting, and will do a great deal towards the advancement of the work in New Jersey this coming year. B. G. WILKINSON.

But be strong, and let not your hands be slack; for your work shall be rewarded. II Chron. 15:7.

A Simple Case in Arithmetic

The average minister finds himself loaded down with work, and sad but true, a large part of it is work that the church members could and should do. One good brother, pastor of a good sized church, recently stated that he had more cottage meetings than he could possibly attend to. Now suppose the minister who finds himself in a like situation should carefully select at least five from among the most competent of his church membership, then do away with one of his cottage meetings and start a weekly training school for these five members. In a very short while, with proper help, they would be able to lead these and other cottage meetings and one or more may be found who could train others to do a similar work. Instead of five or six cottage meetings a week, twenty-five or thirty could now be held and therefore, a five-fold greater work accomplished. After all isn't this (teaching the church members how to labor for souls) the work of the ministry and isn't this kind of service of far greater benefit to the laity?

"There are at least five words descriptive of five well-known occupations in life that are in various places in the Bible used to describe or illustrate the position of the pastor in his relation to his people. They are 'husbandman,' 'shepherd,' 'watchman,' 'captain,' and 'overseer.' The word 'overseer' is, however, the completest word, and most frequently used in the New Testament to describe the work of the pastor. 'Over whom the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers.' Acts 20: 28. What is the business of an overseer in a shop where a hundred men are employed? Manifestly not to do the work of that shop. The hundred men are employed for that purpose. Manifestly, too, his business is not to call his hundred men together once a week and deliver to them a carefully prepared address upon the duties to their employers, etc., and then dismiss them to their homes until he can prepare another address. Nor is it the business of those employees to get out once or twice a week

to hear their overseer's eloquent address, pat him on the shoulder, and say, 'That was a very-encouraging and helpful address,' and then make a contribution toward his salary and the expense of lighting and warming the shop. No, no, each one of these hundred men is employed to do an honest day's work every day in the week, and this overseer is put there to see that he does it. He is to find a place for each one, and to look after his work, to help the beginners, and so have general charge of the work of that shop. And his success as an overseer will be determined, not at all by his own ability to turn off a large amount of work, but by his ability to get the largest amount of work and the best work from each of his hundred men.

"Of course, the illustration of a shop and its overseer cannot be pushed in all directions. God is not running a shop for the pay He gets out of it; nor will He go into bankruptcy if His employees refuse or fail to do their work. And though God Himself cannot become bankrupt, or ultimately fail of accomplishing His great purposes of grace and love, yet more than a thousand million souls are today going into eternal bankruptcy because God's people have failed to hear His trumpet call, 'Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.' God is not willing that anyone of these thousand millions should perish, but, is depending upon His people as His body to go out into the highways and hedges and compel them to come in. And beloved brethren, because God thought He could trust you with so important a mission, He has given you charge of His workmen. Did He make a mistake in the selection of His leaders?" —Extracts from H. M. Series, Tract No. 17. C. E. HOOPER.

OHIO

Let Us Rally to the Work

"The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers." Vol IX, Page 117.

Dear Brethren and Sisters of the Ohio Seventh-day Adventist Conference, these words are spoken to us, who are alive here this day. The word of the Lord to Israel is also a command to us, and it comes ringing down through the ages and saying, "Ye have dwelt long enough in the mount. Turn you and take your journey; for behold, I have the land before you: go in and possess the land which I swore unto your fathers." Brethren, the land spoken of here is to be our eternal inheritance, our home which was

lost through disobedience, but was purchased for us by the shedding of the life-blood of the Son of God. After Jesus died upon the cross of Calvary He ascended to Heaven, there to serve as our high priest while we were doing the work which He left for us to do upon earth; for He gave us the commission, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." This preaching and this going has been carried forward all down through the Christian dispensation until the hour struck, ushering in the "time of the end," bringing the investigative judgment in the courts of Heaven and warning the world to get ready to meet God. This warning comes to us in the form of the "Everlasting Gospel" that must be "preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations and then shall the end come." To accomplish this work the Lord has called out a people, separate and distinct from all other people, and this people comprise the membership above mentioned.

To hasten this work, the Home Missionary Department have perfected a reorganization giving a better opportunity for the church membership to co-operate with ministers and church officers in the finishing of the Gospel Message and bring the coming of Christ. Brethren, let us arise, and while the nations of earth are marshalling troops to the battle of Armageddon, run with haste to our anxious neighbors and tell them the meaning of it all, and hold out to them the only remedy, the only place of refuge in this time of trouble, pointing out to them that "the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men."

Let us rally to the work.

G. C. QUILLIN.

CLYDE

Sabbath, July the 7, was a day that will long be remembered by the church at Clyde.

At the close of the Sabbath School a short service was held, about fifty being present. Nearly all took part in the social meeting. The spirit of the Lord came very near.

Ten willing souls were thoroughly examined in all points of our faith and rejoiced with us. We are grateful to our heavenly Father for the power of the Gospel of Christ, the truth of the Third Angel's Message.

At the close of the meeting we went to a beautiful pond where those who had newly found the faith were buried with their Lord in baptism.

Our people in Clyde are greatly encouraged and with a strong determination are pressing forward in the Master's work.

The work throughout the district is progressing and many who have not taken an active part heretofore are willing to do their best in any way they can to help finish the work.

F. M. FAIRCHILD.

CINCINNATI

Owing to the unusual and solemn events so rapidly transpiring in the world at this time, many of the members of this church realize that the time has fully come for all who look for the soon return of our Lord to experience a very definite relation to God and the great movement of the Third Angel's Message. We fully believe that the church is now entering the experience described in the book "Early Writings" in the chapter on "The Shaking and the Loud Cry" where the course of both faithful and unfaithful is foretold. As a result of these warnings we feel that in order to have the victory over sin and be favored of God, with His Spirit there must be earnest seeking and pleading for the promised blessings. This has led to a voluntary banding together in small prayer bands of many who desire in a special sense to seek the Lord for help for themselves and others for whom they have special interest. We believe this prayer spirit will result in great good to all who continue in it and to the church at large.

In harmony with the plans of the conference, work bands including the entire membership of the church, have been organized to the number of eleven. Plans for more active work with our literature have been made and we hope to accomplish much more than in the past. We have just succeeded in securing our meeting hall for Sabbath afternoon as well as forenoon and are holding a union Young People's Missionary Volunteer and Church Missionary Meeting which is well attended.

We are glad to report that the finances of the church show a gain for the past six months over the corresponding period of last year. This is especially true of the Sabbath School which has increased in membership, one-third in a little more than a year's time.

Last Sabbath it was the writer's privilege to conduct a baptismal service through which ten precious souls were received into the church, making a total of 34 received into the church by baptism since we came to this place a year ago last winter. Another baptismal service will be held in the near future as other candidates are now ready and we trust still others will take their stand with them.

Our courage is good in this work and we press forward determined that the future shall hold brighter experiences for us than the past. J. H. BEHRENS.

News Notes

Elder E. K. Slade spent some time in Akron, Youngstown, and East Liverpool last week, the Sabbath being spent in the latter church.

Elder F. M. Fairchild reports the baptism of six at Clyde last Sabbath.

At a baptismal service in Cincinnati last week, Elder J. H. Behrens baptized ten. This makes 34 that he has thus received into the church.

Brethren E. K. Slade and H. K. Christman spent Sabbath with the two churches in Columbus. Profitable meetings are reported and a good work is in progress there.

All those ordering tent accommodations please bear in mind that the spring cots are all engaged, and only the folding canvas cots are now available.

District of Columbia

The College Building Fund

A new isolated believer, not yet baptized, at Waxpool, Va., has just sent us a good contribution towards the Washington Missionary College Building fund, and is deeply interested in the welfare of that institution and our Foreign Missions work.

HAVE YOU DONE YOUR "BIT?" Of course you know of the calls of the field. There are open doors everywhere, and not only open doors, but there are **HURRY CALLS** for the Great Physician. Heathen nations everywhere are calling loudly for help. Our workers have many times more than they can do, simply because our workers are too few in numbers to meet the demands.

On the other hand, our young people are anxious, as never before, to respond to the calls. Hundreds are willing to go in answer to the urgent calls of heathendom. This is plain from the immense overflow at Washington College last year and the year before.

What is lacking is training facilities. We cannot send our young people out without a thorough knowledge of the message, and training in its presentation and in practical Missionary effort. We must train workers to meet the call of a dying world. We must train them and send them NOW.

Washington Missionary College is dedicated to this purpose. From its short existence it numbers 220 graduates laboring in foreign fields and eight now under ap-

pointment. Its successful experience makes it the best agency we have for turning out missionaries, but its present equipment is far too small to care for the mighty and all-important task committed to it. The present buildings were calculated to accommodate 150 students. The need of greater facilities is best understood by the fact that for the year 1915-16 the enrollment was 276, and for the year 1916-17 it was 315, more than double its intended capacity. There is urgent necessity for the construction of the new building at once.

The call has been liberally responded to in other parts of the field. Pledges of \$50 to \$200 are not uncommon. In West Pennsylvania a cash donation of \$500 is reported. The churches in the District Conference are lifting but most of our isolated members have not been heard from, doubtless because it has not been brought vividly before them. **WILL YOU DO YOUR BIT NOW?** The plan has been to take shares or pledges of from \$12.50 up. A large proportion of the pledges are in amounts of \$50 or more, but the smaller amounts, of \$12.50 or even less, are fully appreciated. Do what you can, but **DO IT NOW.**

Takoma Park Mission Band

The work of this mission band is still going on. Up to the present writing this company, since the first of June, has placed twenty-two thousand copies of the "Present Truth" in the hands of the people of Washington. All this work has been done in the section of the city where the tent is located.

Our brethren and sisters who visit the homes of the people with the literature are having some splendid experiences in meeting and conversing with them, many of whom have become profoundly interested in the study of the subject matter contained in the papers. Also a good percent of the people thus interested are attending the tent meetings which are being conducted at Seventh and Pennsylvania Avenue, S. E. Notices of these meetings, and the subject for each evening during the week always accompany the papers given out. **ALLEN MOON.**

News Notes

We are rejoicing with a number of our churches over the excellent reports of Home Missionary Work that are being turned in for the second quarter, 1917. Many seem to have difficulty in getting the members to report the work they do. We hope that no church officer will underestimate the value of these reports, and what is of more vital importance, that no church service will be conducted

without reminding the members and allowing from two to five minutes for distributing, filling and collecting the individual reports. More important than sermonizing is the encouragement of lay members in distribution of literature and general missionary effort. Do not let the sermon monopolize the meeting.

Of equal importance, but we believe not greater, with the Home Missionary Reports, comes our report covering the twenty-cent-a-week fund for June. Nearly every church in the conference reports a surprise in the 13th Sabbath Offering. Several worked for a \$1.00 per member day, and some reached the mark. Arlington Church reports something more than \$45.00, Memorial reached \$105, and Takoma Park over \$200.

It is our opinion that these two lines, Home Missionary effort and Foreign Mission donations, give us a pretty accurate index or thermometer of the life of a church. We are glad that our June report shows most of our churches to be live ones. We shall probably have our financial report ready for publication next week and our report of Missionary Work shortly following.

Brother C. A. Carter, after spending a week resting up and finishing a few deliveries left over from his work in Washington during last school year, put in a full week in Stafford County and turned in his banner report for the summer thus far, having taken orders for \$115 of Bible Readings.

Brother Carter, last winter, proved that the city of Washington is a very fertile field for student labor with Bible Readings. Working Fridays during the school year he sold and delivered \$233 worth of books and has \$35 worth still to be delivered.

Sabbath, June 14, was observed by several of our churches, as a day for real fasting and prayer. All day services were held and a general season of communion with God brought new hope and inspiration to the believers.

Our tent meetings at Seventh and Pennsylvania Avenues S. E., and the colored effort at twenty-second and E Streets N. W., Washington, both report steady progress! Attendance continues good, despite the superabundance of of rainfall which seems to be due almost every evening at about the hour of service.

One of our isolated sisters, about six months in the message, reports Home Missionary Work for the past six months as follows: 18 missionary letters written,

10 letters received, 8 missionary visits, 80 weekly Signs given away, 3 books loaned, 36 tracts distributed, 8 hours Christian help work, 57 pieces of clothing given, 10 meals provided, and asks for a supply of free literature to distribute. We consider this a fine report and are sure that the Lord will bless the work, both as to seed sown and as to the Christian experience of the sower. We believe many might report a similar effort. Will you look over the report blanks and report all that you can now recall, then keep track and report regularly in the future?

A small tornado seems to have struck our tent at Ballston, Va. last Sabbath afternoon, doing considerable other damage in the way of uprooting large trees and creating general havoc in the vicinity. Our tent was blown down, several stakes and ropes being broken, and was so badly torn and damaged that it was impossible to get it repaired for the Sunday night service. Brother Richards called on the Christian Church friends and was very graciously tendered the use of their meeting house for Monday night, and in the absence of their regular pastor, was asked to speak at their Sunday morning service, which he did. The chairs were arranged in the open air for the Sunday night meeting, and in spite of heavy and ominous clouds, an attentive audience of about 60 is reported. The meeting at the Christian Church on Monday night was also well attended and the hospitality was much appreciated. Necessary repairs were completed in time for resumption of regular services on Wednesday evening. Two are now reported as keeping the Sabbath regularly and others are earnestly debating a decision. A number of the army boys from Fort Meyer attend and are deeply interested.

Elder F. H. Seeney reports six baptisms at First Church last Sabbath and two two weeks before, also several definitely in prospect for the near future.

WEST VIRGINIA

Clarksburg

Hitherto we have given out no statements regarding the work in this city, but with our hearts rejoicing over recently materialized hopes, we desire to report the onward movement of the "Cause" in these parts.

The Clarksburg Church, in every department is showing a steady development. The Sabbath School and church attendance is about double that of a year ago and our offerings have correspondingly increased. The sale of 400 April "Watchman," favoring "Washington Missionary College," seemed to open our Missionary Campaign, then with the coming of "World War" this good work received further impetus. Two hundred and fifty of these little candles have been placed in as many homes to help light this city, and we have ordered one hundred and twenty-five more for July delivery. We have also had good sales of "Watchman" and "Signs of the Times," "Shadow of Bottle," etc.

On Sabbath, July 7, we were favored by having with us Elder Gauterau who conducted baptismal, accession and quarterly meeting services. Five were baptized, three others were reclaimed and united with us on "profession of faith," another by letter. This adds to our strength considerably.

The prospects for the future are encouraging. Many are interested to a greater or lesser degree and of these we hope soon to garner in a good number. We plead your prayerful interest in behalf of the work here, that with the hasty closing of the harvest all may be gathered whose hearts are true to our God.

G. EARL SNYDER.

An Experience

My brethren count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this that the trying of your faith worketh patience. James 1: 2, 3.

Many times we can not see why God permits trials to come upon us; James says it is for the purpose of working patience. I am glad for this text of scripture, for it strengthens me for the trials before me.

At our institute held at Parkersburg in April, we accepted a call to Greenbrier County. On our arrival here we could not get a suitable house in the little town we had picked out for our headquarters, so we located in a quiet little town on the Greenbrier River. Here we began our work for the Master by placing the printed page in the hands of the people.

We soon found it was not all going to be smooth sailing, "For the dragon was wroth with the woman and went to make war with the remnant of her seed." Satan works through every one he can to stir up superstition, he knows there are souls that would accept truth where ever God sends His servants. It was soon known throughout the town and country that we were Seventh-day Adventist bookmen, and were here to circulate our literature.

We, of course, suspicioned the ministers would work against us, so we worked the territory near the town first. In one of the daily papers a statement came out something like this, "Beware of strangers and especially agents, for they may be German spies." This, of course, made it a little hard for us, as many took us for German spies, some thought we were Mormons, some found out we were Adventists, but we worked on, trusting in God for the results. We were very successful in taking orders. On making our delivery we found it had been told nearly all over our territory that we were Adventists. Some of the people did not want to take the books, but by prayer and speaking words that turn away wrath, we were able by the help of the Lord to make a successful delivery. Brother Mays had a runaway; he was thrown out, bruised, and skinned up some, but not serious. This did not discourage him; he got another horse and went on making his delivery. There are honest souls here that are looking for the light of truth. I find some that are somewhat interested in our books. One day I found a very poor family, the mother was dying with tuberculosis, leaving a seven months old baby with several other children. I saw at a glance I could not sell them a book, but was impressed to speak to the lady about her soul. The husband as well as the wife had never made a profession, and were very deeply stirred when I told them of the beautiful home that God had gone to prepare for those that love Him, and how he was soon coming to receive His people. I told them there was no sin so black that Christ's blood could not atone for, if only they would confess, He would forgive. I left the home not knowing what good I had done. A few days later I met the brother of this lady. He told me that about half an hour after I left that home his sister made a profession, and shouted and sang praises to God. She said "she knew I had been sent there by God to tell her the very thing she wanted to know." She had been greatly troubled about her soul's salvation, and thought she had been such a sinner she could not obtain forgiveness.

We enter many such homes; they should not be passed by. Who knows, but just a word spoken in love and pity, telling of God's great power to forgive and save, may be meat in due season for those hungering souls.

We hope our brothers and sisters at home will remember us in their prayers, asking God to water this seed sown. God has promised, "So shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff, they shall part alike." 1 Samuel 30: 24; Psalms 68: 11, 12.

T. M. BUTLER.

C. G. MAYS.

CHESAPEAKE

News Notes

In a letter received from Elder Shadel today he says, "We are working hard, and souls are accepting the truth." Elder H. E. Robinson has gone to Salisbury, Md., to assist in the tent effort there.

The work in Baltimore is also onward. While the work has been hindered to some extent by the storms and rains we have had, yet the people are interested, and some have already decided to keep the Sabbath as a result of the meetings that are in progress.

Word just reached us that Brother N. O. Shaffer, one of our former colporteurs, was thrown from his motorcycle, on his way to work this morning and badly hurt. His foot was partially crushed and he has some lacerations, and his spine is hurt to some extent.

Elder J. O. Miller visited the little church at Church Hill last week, and brings back the report that there are interested persons there. One of the ministers of the town has been reading some of our literature that was sold to him by one of the sisters there and he has become quite interested.

We have had two reports in regard to midsummer offering and the two churches heard from have done quite well. We hope we may have a large offering. If there are any in the conference who did not have the privilege of giving to this offering it is not too late now, but your offering will be accepted at any time.

Shenandoah Valley Academy

In spite of the hail storms, the crops on the academy farm are looking well. The hay will be cut this week.

Professor Forshee has been visiting some of the different churches in the interest of the school. He was accompanied as far as Washington by Mrs. Forshee and children, where they spent a week. The prospects are good for a number of new students to join our numbers for another year. Many letters have been received from parents and students relative to the academy work for another year.

Good reports have been received from those out in the canvassing field. One of the boys declares he will appreciate the

school home better another year, after being among strangers all summer. They are of good courage and expect to keep at the work until near the beginning of the school year.

The music room has been repapered and fitted out with a new rug. Matting has been purchased for the halls on third floor. The culinary and laundry departments will be restocked before the opening of school. The beds are being enameled at the present time.

Mr. C. E. Overstreet, who is with the tent company at Winchester, was a welcome visitor at the academy on Sabbath. He expects to return to school next September.

Elder Dowsett's visit was appreciated by the school family, while he was auditing the academy books.

Mrs. R. D. Hottel and daughter Fern are at the Washington Sanitarium where they have undergone surgical operations. Elder Hottel remained with them a few days. We hope for their speedy recovery.

The standard set for the library has been reached and now we are working toward our goal we set for 1917-18.

The cherry crop throughout the Valley was abundant. One hundred and fifty-one quarts have been canned for the academy.

Special

The Faith That Will Stand the Test

If we look to self, and trust in self, we shall surely fall from our steadfastness. The terrible tempest that is gathering will sweep away our sandy foundation, and leave our house a wreck on the shores of time; but the house that is built upon the rock shall stand forever. We must be "kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation."

The apostle spoke some plain words to his Hebrew brethren, that meet the condition of many of those who profess the truth for this time. "We have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing. (They were not quick to discern the things of the Spirit of God.) For when the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not

of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilled in the word, of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even to those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."

It is positively necessary for those who believe in the truth, to be making continual advancement, growing up unto the full stature of men and women in Christ Jesus. There is no time for backsliding and indifference. Each one must have a living experience in the things of God. Have root in yourselves. Become grounded in the faith, so that having done all, you may stand, with unwavering confidence in God, through the time that will try every man's work and character. Exercise your powers in spiritual things, till you can appreciate the deep things of God's Word, and go on from strength to strength.

There are thousands who claim to have the light of truth who take no step in advance. They have no living experience, notwithstanding they have had every advantage. They do not know what consecration means. Their devotions are formal and hollow, and there is no depth to their piety.

The Word of God offers spiritual liberty and enlightenment to those who seek for it earnestly. Those who accept the promises of God, and act on them with living faith, will have the light of heaven in their lives. They will drink of the fountain of life, and lead others to the waters that have refreshed their own souls. We must have that faith in God that taketh him at his word. We can have no victory without cloudless confidence; for "without faith it is impossible to please" God. It is faith that connects us with the power of heaven, and that brings us the strength for coping with the powers of darkness. "This is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

In order to exercise intelligent faith, we should study the Word of God. The Bible, and the Bible alone, communicates a correct knowledge of the character of God and his will concerning us. The duty and the destiny of man are defined in its pages. The conditions on which we may hope for eternal life are explicitly stated, and the doom of those who neglect so great salvation is foretold in the most forcible language.

Had the Bible been received as the voice of God to man, as the book of books, as the one infallible rule of faith and practice, we would not have seen the law of heaven made void, and the swelling tide of iniquity devouring our land.

As men wander away from the truth into skepticism, everything becomes uncertain and unreal. No thorough conviction takes hold of the soul. No faith is exercised in the Scriptures as the revelation of God to men. There is nothing authoritative in its commands, nothing terrifying in its warnings, nothing inspiring in its promises. To the skeptic it is meaningless and contradictory.

There are many among us who are not cultivating faith. They have a vacillating experience. They are "like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed." Sometimes they seem strong in faith then a blast of unbelief sweeps over them, and they are filled with gloom and doubt. They make no decided effort to recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, but are taken captive by him at his will. There are others who, when assailed by temptations of unbelief, flee to the Word of God and to earnest prayer, and they are not left to the power of the enemy. The day is coming that will reveal whether we are building on the solid rock or on the sliding sand.

If men could realize the blighting influence of doubt upon their minds, if they could but see the future, they would realize the imperative need of cultivating firm trust in God and implicit confidence in his promises. They would not sow one grain of unbelief; for every single grain blossoms into fruit.

Satan is a living, active agent. It is his business to encourage skepticism, and every word of doubt is carefully nourished by the adversary of souls. While men sleep in indifference, suggestions that weaken faith are insinuated into the heart. Influences that confuse the perception of truth are brought to bear upon the life. In every way possible, Satan strives to turn souls from the narrow path that leads to heaven; and because men love darkness, they follow the voice of strangers, and reject the call of the Good Shepherd, who gave his life for the sheep. The plain, authoritative "Thus saith the Lord," is refused for some winding sophistry of error.

Infidelity has increased in proportion as men have questioned the word and requirements of their Maker. They have taken up the work of cheapening character, and lessening faith in the inspiration of the Bible. Men claiming great wisdom have presumed to criticize and cut and cull the words of the living God, and have started questions to make shipwreck of the happiness of their fellow men and to ruin their hopes of heaven. This is a work that is pleasing to the enemy of all righteousness. The arguments that men bring against the Bible are the result of the counsels of the evil one. The door of their minds was opened to his suggestions, and the more they drifted into error, the

Canvassers' Reports

Name	Place	Book	Days	Hrs	Orders	Value	Helps	Total	Del
Ohio, Week Ending July 13, 1917									
R. D. Kline, Allen Co.		BR	5	53	26	106.00	3 75	109 75	3 00
Fred Hannah, Belmont Co.		BR	5	50					104 50
M. B. Ingersol, Erie Co.		BR	5	50	14	54 00	2 50	56 50	10 50
J. H. Stafford, Franklin		BR	5	49	8	33 00	19 85	52 85	
Geo. Carter, Shelby Co.		BR	5	48	16	64 00	3 00	67 00	
Martha Hottes, Dayton,		BF	5	44	30	61 50	1 75	63 25	1 75
W. H. Smith, Delaware Co.		BR	5	40	5	18 50	10 25	28 75	75
Chas. Carter, Paulding Co.		BR	4	39	8	34 00		34 00	
Elsie Haughey, Henry Co.		BR	5	36	11	45-50	75	46 25	75
Mrs. E. Y. Smith, Dayton		BR	5	34	7	24 50	28 55	52 05	7 30
Daisy Wheeler, Lake Co.		BF	5	29	8	21 50	4 00	25 50	4 00
Elmer French, Logan Co.		BR	4	28	13	51 50	2 25	53 75	2 25
Mrs. C. Kelly, Dayton		BR	4	27	4	14 00	4 75	18 75	23 25
Zita Hannah, Knox Co.		BR	10	54	15	53 50	14 00	67 50	
D. McCarthy, Youngstown		BR	5	26	15	56 50	3 85	60 35	3 50
Mary Holder, Henry Co.		BR	4	26	9	33 50	1 25	34 75	1 25
Anna Mooy, Knox Co.		BR	9	50	11	37 50	8 72	46 25	
Clara Weber, Dayton		BR	4	23	5	17 50	5 00	22 50	2 75
G. W. Yingling, Warren		BR	5	22	7	27 50	7 10	34 60	1 25
Mrs. G. Yingling, Warren		BR	4	15	5	18 50	3 00	21 50	75
K. W. Blaylock, Cleveland		Mag	4	28			34 20	34 20	34 20
Totals	21 Agents					107 771 217 \$772 50	\$158 55	\$931 05	\$201 75

East Pennsylvania, Week Ending July 6, 1917

S. Booth, Franklin Co.	GC	4	28	6	21 00	1 75	22 75		
L. W. Mase, Honesdale Co.	GC	3	18	4	14 00	7 65	21 65		
W. P. Hess, Lancaster Co.	BF					7 00	7 00		
C. Booth, Franklin Co.	BR	5	45	18	63 00	4 25	67 25		
Eugene Gloor, Dauphin Co.	BR	4	47	14	59 00	2 25	61 25		
Thos. Beamsderfer, Dauphin Co.	BR	4	40	13	61 50	5 25	66 75		
D. E. Prutzmau, Berks Co.	BR	4	34	12	46 00	6 75	52 75		
J. L. Gerhart, Lehigh Co.	BR	3	28	5	17 50	2 50	20 00		
W. G. Lewis, Luzerne Co.	Misc	2	16		16 35		16 35		69 60
E. E. Gloor, Dauphin Co.	BR	5	58	26	119 50	3 75	123 25		
C. F. Durr, Philadelphia	Misc	2	19			12 30	12 30		
Totals	11 Agents					\$417 85	\$53 45	\$471 30	\$69 60

West Virginia, Week Ending July 14, 1917

T. M. Butler, Alderson	BR	5	35	9	31 50	9 25	40 75	1 25	
C. G. Mays, Alderson Co.	BR	5	33	10	33 00	3 00	36 00	3 75	
Andrew Lessner, Burnsville	BR	4	18	3	10 50		10 50		
W. E. West, Burnsville	BR	3	18	2	7 00	1 00	8 00	1 00	
Marie Snider, Alderson	HM	2	10	5	13 50	9 25	22 75	8 75	
J. M. Morris, Charleston	HM	6	28	7	20 00	3 75	23 75	28 40	
John McHenry McDowell Co.	BF	5	59	51	101 50	13 65	115 15	211 40	
Guy Corder, Raleigh Co.	CK	5	38	45	94 50	7 50	102 00	6 00	
E. R. Corder, Raleigh Co.	CK	5	45	57	138 00	15 00	153 00	14 00	
Total	9 Agents				35 284 189 \$449 50	\$62 40	\$511 90	\$274 55	

West Virginia, Week Ending July 2, 1917

Andrew Lessner, Burnsville	BR	4	17	2	7 00		7 00		
W. E. West, Burnsville	BR	5	23	3	11 50		11 50		
W. A. McElphatrick, Moundsville	BR	2	12						55 00
T. M. Butler, Greenbrier Co.	BR	3	31						123 00
John McHenry, McDowell Co.	BF	5	33	52	105 50	18 25	123 75	31 70	
J. M. Morris, Charleston Co.	HM	5	27	4	10 00	6 20	16 20	84 20	
C. G. Mays, Greenbrier Co.	HM							168 55	
E. R. Corder, Beckley Co.	CK	5	40	53	110 50	27 00	137 50	11 80	
Guy Corder, Beckley Co.	CK	5	41	43	90 50	11 75	102 25		
S. C. Groff, Spencer	DR							75 50	
Totals	10 Agents				34 224 157 \$335 00	\$63 20	\$398 20	\$548 95	

District of Columbia Week Ending July 14, 1917

C. A. Carter, Stafford	BR	10	80	32	115 00		115 00	233 00
Otto Westerhoff, Prince Geo.	BR	4	43					60 50
E. T. Feutz, Fauquier	BR	10	85	24	81 00	22 50	103 50	22 50
D. Atchison, Fauquier	BR	5	39	19	53 00	8 50	61 50	8 50
C. F. Schilling, Washington	WW					10 00	10 00	10 00
C. W. Well4, Colonial Beach	WW					25 00	25 00	25 00
Miscellaneous	Misc				96 00	23 15	119 15	119 15

Totals 6 Agents 29 247 75 \$345 00 \$82 15 \$434 15 \$478 65

MAGAZINES

Mrs. Annie Straub	5 00
Miscellaneous	6 00

Total \$11 00

Chesapeake, Week Ending July 13, 1917

O. C. Weller, Jefferson Co. Md.	BR	5	38	26	98 00	1 00	99 00	5 25
Totals	1 Agents	5	38	26	\$98 00	\$1 00	\$99 00	\$5 25

New Jersey, Week Ending July 14, 1917

Borton Veinot, Passaic Co.	WW	5	54		62 70		62 70	
W. B. Plant, Morris Co.	PG	5	40	4	15 00	5 75	20 75	

Total 2 Agents 10 94 4 \$77 70 \$5 75 \$83 45

Grand Totals: 59 Agents Value of Orders \$2495 55 Deliveries, \$1598 75

greater grew their desire to draw other souls into the same channel of darkness.

Many claim to believe the Bible, and their names are enrolled on the church records, who are among the most influential agents of Satan. The work they are doing they will not consider an honor to them in the day of judgment. It will then be seen that every effort that weakened faith was made at a terrible loss. The tremendous price that must be paid will sink them into everlasting shame and ruin. The only safety is in rejecting instantly every suggestion of unbelief. Do not open your mind to entertain doubts for even an instant; bid them a decided refusal as they come to you for admission. Fasten the mind upon the promises of God. Talk of them, rejoice in them, and the peace of God will rule in your hearts.

The fruits of doubt are not desirable. O, look around you and see what havoc has been wrought by the machinations of the evil one. Error and falsehood and heresy have held high carnival in the deceived hearts of men. From century to century the adversary has repeated his experiments with growing success; for, in spite of the sad records of lives that have gone out in darkness, as moths fly to the fire, so men rush on into the ruinous deceptions that he has prepared to entrap them.

If you desire salvation, I entreat you to shun his insinuations concerning the

truth of God's word. Come to the "sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place." If it is not authoritative, what is? If the word of the Lord of heaven and earth is not solid rock upon which to build, then it is in vain to look for a sure foundation. "Heaven and earth shall pass away," but "the word of the Lord endureth forever;" and unwavering faith in his word is the only faith that will endure through the perils of the last days.

Mrs. E. G. WHITE
(Review and Herald, July 19, 1917.)

A Reminder

Some brother or sister either gave away or sold a copy of the "Signs" magazine to a man in Portland, Oregon, who under date of June 7, wrote to the publishers as follows:

"I had never known Christ until five weeks ago, I accidentally ran across one of these papers, "Signs of the Times," and after reading it I was converted and made up my mind I was going to know more of Him, and at once subscribed for it, and Oh, what help I have gotten from the wonderful truths written therein."

Are your neighbors warned? If not, you would feel better if you faithfully circulated the "Signs Magazine" among them. Begin with the beautiful August number.

Mount Vernon Academy

A little seven pound daughter brightened the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. I. Baker, on the morning of July 18.

Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Taylor returned last Wednesday from a trip to East Pennsylvania, New Jersey and the West Pennsylvania camp-meeting.

Miss Emma Silber has gone to Richmond, Ohio for a week where she will visit some of her old friends.

Mr. and Mrs. D. E. H. Lindsey of Cincinnati, Ohio made a visit to the academy last Sunday.

Mrs. Alderman of Academia, has gone to live with her grandchildren at Madison, Ohio.

Mr. Weaver and Baker left Monday, July 16, for North Carolina, where they will visit the Naples School. They intend to be gone about two weeks.

Reports come from the West Pennsylvania camp-meeting that twenty-six Mount Vernon students were present to enjoy the good meetings.

Miss Ethel Bell left last Tuesday to visit her mother at Bellville, W. Va. She expects to be gone for two weeks.

Professor Robbins returned last Tuesday from a tour in the northeastern part of Ohio, where he was working in the interest of the school. The reports are very encouraging and we are looking forward to a prosperous school year.

The academy farmers are taking advantage of the bright sunny days. They are cutting a ten acre field of fine timothy hay for the horses next winter.

Mr. H. L. Pearsons, of Battle Creek, Mich., on his way to Moline, Ill. visited his sister, Mrs. W. H. Teesdale, at the academy. He entertained the academy family on Tuesday evening with several readings and musical selections.

Mr. E. J. Stipeck returned last Thursday from a visit in Cleveland, Ohio.

The academy garden is supplying the table with beans, peas, carrots, beets, lettuce, onions, spinach and potatoes.

COLUMBIA UNION VISITOR

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

COLUMBIA UNION CONFERENCE

of the Seventh-day Adventists
ISSUED FIFTY TIMES A YEAR

BY THE

Mount Vernon College Press

Mount Vernon, Ohio

Price, 50 Cents a Year in Advance

EMMA SILBER - - - EDITOR

Entered as second-class matter March 25, 1908, at the post-office at Mount Vernon, O., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

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

HEISER.—William J. quietly fell asleep in the Lord on the evening of July 3 at his home in Carthage. During the past eighteen months he suffered from carcinoma which proved the direct cause of his death. He was born in Maysville, Ky. in 1859. His father served as an officer in the army and was killed during the Civil War. From a child Brother Heiser was almost blind but bore his affliction with resignation. During his last days he surrendered his heart to the Lord and died in hope of a part in the first resurrection. A faithful wife and daughter survived to mourn as does also his mother, two sisters and other relatives and friends.

J. H. BEHRENS.

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.

FOR SALE.—First class stereopticon with 200 slides on the message. A bargain. S. T. SHADEL, Salisbury, Md.

Camp-Meeting Dates

Ohio:—Bellefontaine, August 16-26.
West Virginia:—Clarksburag. Aug. 30 to Sept. 9.

"It is not necessary to talk much about our principles. If we shape our lives around them, the world will very soon know what they are."

"PERCY"

He's a splendid fellow,
Brave and stout and strong;
Just the one to lend a hand
To help a boy along.

If you've long examples,
Or a spelling lesson stiff,
Send for Percy; he will come
And aid you "in a jiff."

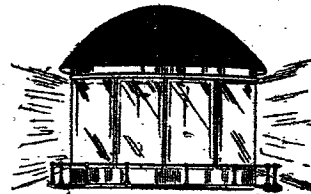
Does a task seem endless?
Overhard for you?
You've a comrade loyal;
Percy'll put it through.

Perhaps you wish to conquer
A habit that is bad.
Here again he'll help you,—
This sturdy little lad.

So make a friend of Percy,
Don't leave him in the lurch;
For Percy's friends all see Success
Upon their banners perch.

Another name? why surely!
He isn't one bit shy.
Perse-verance is the name
Grown folks know him by.

—Pauline Frances Camp, in St. Nicholas.

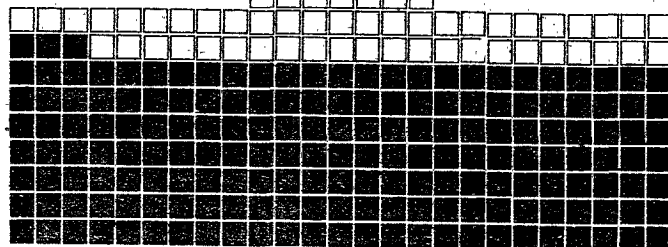


"For a light of the Nations and for salvation to the ends of the earth."

Amount Required
Pledges
District of Columbia
Ohio
New Jersey
East Pennsylvania
Virginia
West Pennsylvania
West Virginia
Chesapeake
Amount Pledged
Cash Paid

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

\$47000 00
7016 00
11774 00
6343 60
8576 14
750 00
3915 25
1584 50
722 66
40682 15
17844 68



A MONUMENT FOR THE FINISHING OF THE WORK
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.
WATCH THE MONUMENT GROW