

THE GOSPEL HERALD

Volume X

HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA, JANUARY, 1916.

Number 1

The Week of Prayer

HAVING spent a few days at my office after returning from the council, catching up with my correspondence, etc., I was glad to be able to get out among the churches during the week of prayer.

December 17, 18, and 19, I spent with the Atlanta church. The Lord came near and added his blessing in every service. On Sabbath, I think every one present testified to the blessings received during this prayer season. Faith and confidence in God seemed to have been the experience of all. About fifteen new members have been added during 1915. It is very encouraging to note the new faces in the congregation and to hear them testify to their appreciation of the light so recently found.

The mission school is doing good work in teaching and training the young people. Monday night I met with the church in Chattanooga, Tuesday night I was in Athens, Tenn., Wednesday night at Lenoir City, reaching Knoxville Thursday. Remained there over Sabbath. The brethren in all of these churches enjoyed the readings and instructions given. Sabbath at Knoxville was indeed a profitable as well as a busy day in the church, as the services began at 10.00 o'clock with Sabbath school, followed by the sermon at 11.00, taking a short recess until 2:00 when the reading for the day was conducted. This was followed by a season of prayer, after which Elder Branson delivered a very helpful discourse on the Christian Church. He very forcefully presented Faith in Christ as the principal upon which the church is founded, referring to Peter's confession of Him as the Christ. He said, "The work of the church is truly an Emanuel Movement, being interpreted, "God with us."

Truly it was a day long to be remembered. Confidence in the third angel's message was very evident, judging from the testimony of the brethren.

While some who have held prominent places in the message have left us, our faith in the message has been strengthened nevertheless. We have been told that even some of the brightest lights would go out. One aged brother said in his testimony,—"I received this message twenty-one years ago. My faith in it was not based upon what the minister said, but on the evidence I found in the Bible for myself. I know this is the truth because it is God's word. It seems clearer to me today than ever before. I think I would be faithful if every other person in the world should give up the

Oakwood's Mission

Oakwood school trains men for Jesus,
Also girls His work to do.
Soon the harvest will be over,
And soul winning will be thru.

Now let every soul be earnest,
Being faithful day by day,
Gath'ring from the hedge and highway
Those who will the call obey.

Life's fair tree is heavy laden
With its lovely fruits and flowers
Waiting for the glad home-coming
Of the saints to Eden's bowers.

May we here be getting ready
For the morning now so near,
When the Saviour with the angels
In His glory shall appear.

MRS. MARY A. LEWIS.

truth. I am in this message to stay till death, or until Jesus comes."

Such testimonies as this certainly do our hearts good. This is the kind of faith and confidence in God that will take every one who has it to Mount Zion at last. It seems to me, after visiting through the Department the past summer and fall, that confidence as a whole in the third angel's message was never so good. Harmony and brotherly love, with a desire to be more faithful and active, seems to prevail throughout Israel.

The week of prayer is now in the past, but its blessings are still with us. We shall soon enter upon a new and untried year. We can not tell what it has in store, but one thing is sure to the Christian,—while in the world there is disappointment and failure, in Christ there is success and victory. He who has so graciously led us thru the past years is the God of the future. He will keep that which we have committed to him against that day. So let us take up the work with renewed courage and a sanctified determination to make 1916 the best year of our experience.

C. B. STEPHENSON.

A Letter to the Robber

DEAR Brother:—

You believe in paying tithe, or so you said when you joined the church. I have been asking myself whether or not it can be possible that you are not being fair with yourself and honest with the Lord. For I notice by looking over the treasurer's books that your tithe for the half-year lately closed was \$6.30. Of course if this is a real tithe of your income, you have lived on \$63.00. I thought possibly the larger part of your income might have been realized in the half-year preceeding, so I looked to see. The half-year previous you had paid \$9.40. This makes a total for the year of \$15.70, or, if you have paid a tithe, suggests for you an annual income of \$157.00. Do you really live on this amount, Brother Robber? Or have you been robbing the Lord of a part of the tithe? I certainly do not want to scold you. I have no spirit of criticism,—no desire to offend. I would, if I dared, hold my peace; for it is not pleasant to incur the displeasure of our friends. But I can not be still. You are in danger. You are losing. By withholding from the Lord, you are starving your own soul, and placing yourself outside the channel of the free grace of God.

To the Golden Gate.

THE Panama-California exposition at San Diego in general character is essentially Spanish. Many of its buildings are planned after the style of the old Spanish missions and cathedrals. There are courts, piazzas, and colonades surrounded or bordered with banks of flowering shrubbery punctuated with great palms or tropical plants. Many of the clean white walls or arches of these buildings were covered over with the blooming Mexican Bouganvillea vine. Spanish mis-



Pioneer mission life of early California could not be well represented at San Diego without the great number of pigeons flying about the buildings.

sion life would not be completed without the domestic pigeon. We understand that a year ago the exposition authorities purchased four thousand pigeons and released them to build their nests among the domes and cupolas of the exposition buildings. They come down in great flocks and feed about the visitors in the courts.

All of the guards were uniformed as Spanish infantry, and all of the guide book sellers and venders of different kinds upon the grounds wore the broad rim Mexican sombreros and loose fringed Mexican pantaloons.

The San Diego fair was not nearly so large as the one at San Francisco. We understand that the cost of its buildings etc., was about seven and a half million dollars as compared with fifty million of dollars, the cost of improvements at the San Francisco fair. However, the San Diego fair was very unique and complete within itself. The state of California was well represented. Its products were shown in lavish abundance. There were rare displays showing the life and civilization of the early Indians of Mexico and Yucatan. There were great galleries filled with cases showing casts of cranial devel-

opment of men and women of different nations and races.

I was especially interested in the California model ranch. It contained eighteen acres of land carefully planted with blocks of all the different fruits and vegetables that grow in this latitude. There were smaller orchards, all bearing citrus fruits. The gardens were exceptionally productive and ideal. In the middle of the ranch was a model bungalow house typically furnished in every detail. The barn, horses, carriages, poultry pens were all there. The laying records of the hens were registered daily on the card at the gate of each pen, and the turkeys had their little plot of alfalfa to feed upon.

The walks were carefully laid out and the lawns were nicely edged. This was an ideal home. One could stroll about its grounds and be continually reminded of the home which the "Book" tells about that is being prepared for the faithful in the earth made new. Leaving San Diego

we started on our long trip homeward.

Stopping off at San Bernardino, we took an auto across the country six miles to Loma Linda and spent just an hour and a half at our sanitarium there. I called upon four different friends, either for a visit or business, and so had little time for much sight seeing. However, I was impressed with the magnitude of this institution, its beautiful and spacious grounds, terraced hill sides, beautiful walks and drives, and great banks of beautiful flowers and luxuriant plants that are "pleasant to the sight."

I was very much pleased to find one of our former Oakwood graduates, Miss LaCotte Green. She had finished her post-graduate nurses' course at Loma Linda.

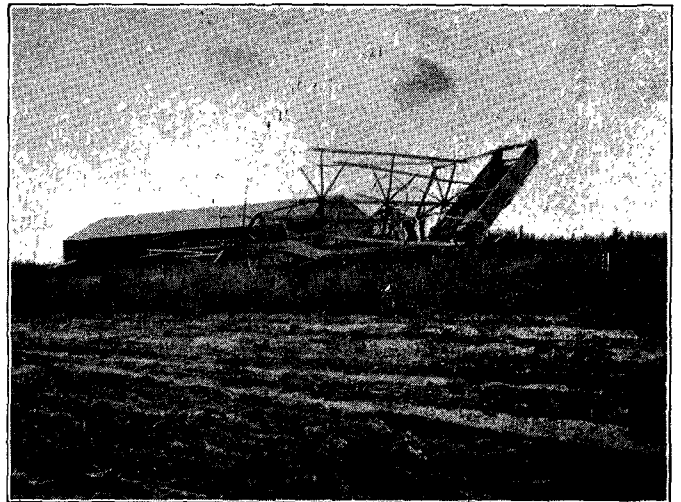
We departed on the "California Limited," one of America's best trains. From the Pacific coast it makes Chicago in a run of three days and nights. We were

soon leaving the fruitful regions of Southern California and found ourselves in the great desert. There is vegetation in spots peculiar to this region. We passed an occasional clump of desert pine, aged, dwarfed from lack of moisture. These trees were only twelve or fifteen feet high.

Their clubby limbs were bare and twigless, and a bunch of needles grew out of the stubby end. There are great areas of sage and cactus, and an occasional yucca plant with its tall white flowering spike studded about here and there over the lonely waste.

At Needles, we crossed the Colorado river into the state of Arizona. At Albuquerque, New Mexico, we found a beautiful little city, modern in every detail, surrounded with beautiful farms made green by irrigation. It is an oasis in the desert, made possible by the Rio Grande river.

A great many Indians live in the state of New Mexico. As our train made an occasional stop, the Indian women would quickly gather thick around the rear of our train with various articles to sell to the tourist. They manufacture a great variety of pottery from clay and decorate it with their paint in an attractive manner. After having been aboard this train for two nights and parts of three days, I left it at Dodge City, Kansas. I



The large header used to harvest Kansas grain. When it is in use, the horses work at the rear end of the machine.

spent one day with relatives near this place. It was an interesting time to see Kansas. It was just before harvest time and this particular part of the state is practically one vast wheat field. I rode for miles across the country with some cousins. All the fences and low improvements every where were hidden by the waving, ripening grain.

C. J. BOYD.

What Is Man?

The Question Stated

Is the soul of man immortal?
Where does he go when he dies?
Does he step thru death's dark portal
To a home beyond the skies?
1 Tim. 6:16.

Does the good man go to heaven
When his life-trials are no more?
Are rewards and guerdon given
When his works on earth are o'er?
Job. 14:14, Job 17:13.

Do the wicked writhe in torment
In a present, burning hell?
Is God's love and pity dormant?
Do such things delight him well?
Eze. 33:11.

Will he resurrect the people
Who in ages past have died?
Whether good or whether evil,
Shall they all alike be tried?
Jno. 5:29.

And, if so, and one's in heaven,
And another is in hell,
Will the call to each be given?
Can we from the Bible tell
Rom. 4:3.

And, if some are gone to glory,
And have been there many years,
In the land of song and story,
Where are known no sighs nor tears,

What would be the use of bringing
Back these saints to earth again?
What the use to stop the singing
Of these saved and holy men?

But, if judgment lies beyond them,
And their case is not yet done,
How shall their reward surround them
When decision's yet to come?

Or, if evil men are punished
E're decision has been given,
Mayhap some are suffering torture
Who should be instead, in heaven.

Does the Bible tell about it?
Does it tell us where or when?
Can we find out aught without it?
Can it all our doubts end?
Jno. 5:39.

Man is Mortal

Reader, come and let us study
What the Book of books will tell;
Put away our own opinions,
Hear the truths it speaks so well.
Jno. 17:17.

Satan's lie of the beginning
He has nursed and nourished well;
Each succeeding age has heard it,
As from many lips it fell.
Jno. 8:44.

Well it suits his fiendish purpose,
Thus he doth our God belie;
Saying as he said in Eden,
"Thou shalt never surely die."
Gen. 3:4, 5.

For as soon as men believe him,
Failing to believe the Lord,
They have neither chart nor compass,
For they do not have the Word.
Ps. 119:105.

Thus it is that Satan triumphs,
Misconstrues the Word to man,
Makes him think our God is cruel,
Blinds men's eyes to heaven's plan.
Ps. 50:21.

God made man to live in Eden,
Not to die, as dies the brute.
No, he brot his death upon him
As he took forbidden fruit.
Gen. 3:6.

But, tho death is now our portion,
Jesus died that we might live;
Passed thru death's dark, gloomy portals,
That true life He still might give.
Jno. 10:10.

But the man who spurns His offer,
Holds to sin's deceit and strife,
Wastes his only hope of comfort,
Closes up his chance for life.
Jno. 3:36.

Out of Christ there is no living;
In Him, life for ever more.
Ceaseless life He's ever giving
From His boundless, endless store.
1 Jno. 5:12.

Sinners cannot live forever,
From the fold of Christ away.
They reject the one Life Giver
When they from the Saviour stay.
Obad. 16.
To be continued

Florida.

AFTER a two month's absence, Elder M. C. Strachan has resumed the tent effort in Tampa, one block south of the former location, being located at Nebraska Ave. and Ruby St.

The opening service was held Sunday night, Oct. 31, 1915, with a good attendance. Beginning with Nov. 14, Elder Strachan has been illustrating his lectures with the aid of a stereopticon.

The subjects "The European War," "Coming of Christ," "Signs of His Coming," have attracted considerable attention from thinking people. Some have

called in person, others out of town have written letters of appreciation for the sermons as reported in the press.

The believers, fruit of the summer's effort, have been organized into a Home Missionary society, under the leadership of Sister M. L. Strachan. Our Harvest Ingathering goal was thirty dollars, but we have raised nearly fifty dollars. In six weeks time four-hundred-fifty Signs have been sold.

The Lord is blessing our efforts and we expect great results from the winter's campaign. Brother Floyd H. Stevens is giving valuable assistance as tent-master.

MAGGIE M. CLARKE.

A Dialog

Jesus:—"I was naked and ye clothed me."

Children:—"When saw we thee naked, and clothed thee?"

Jesus:—"I was hungry and ye gave me meat, thirsty, and ye gave me drink, I was a stranger and ye took me in."

Children:—"Lord, when saw we thee hungry and fed thee, or thirsty and gave thee drink; when a stranger and took thee in, or sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?"

Jesus:—"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Jesus:—"I was hungry, and ye gave me no meat."

Children:—"When saw we thee hungry and gave not unto thee?"

Jesus:—"I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink."

Children:—"When saw we thee thirsty and gave thee no drink?"

Jesus:—"I was naked and ye clothed me not."

Children:—"When saw we thee naked and clothed thee not?"

Jesus:—"I was a stranger and ye took me not in."

Children:—"When saw we thee a stranger and took thee not in?"

Jesus:—"Inasmuch as ye did it not unto one of the least of these my brethren ye did it not unto me."—Adapted from Matt. 25 by W. H. Sebastian.

Huntsville, Ala.

PLEASE spare a small space in your paper for the Huntsville church, and the Harvest Ingathering campaign. There never was such a working spirit manifested among us, since we began. We are thankful for this experience. Every member has reported, and turned in something in the campaign except one, who is and has been feeble. Last year only one reached the goal. The total for the church was \$9.05. At this time three have reached the goal. Three more are near it. More than \$30.00 has been gathered, and the work has not ceased. We were also thankful for the visit, and good instruction of Elder Wright, and hope to carry out his plans. We have distributed many of our papers. One member put out over 50. Some tell us they thought we were just a hand full. Since reading our papers they can see that we are not so small as they thought. Our people put out papers so rapidly that several times we were out of them. To keep from being idle, they found some of the Review of last year, and worked until new ones came.

G. W. POWERS, *Clerk.*

Doing Better

THE financial condition in our churches is growing better, also the missionary zeal is on the increase.

Tithes and offerings Corsicana church paid in the past month was \$75.33. Our Waco church paid in \$51.50. This is quite a gain over the months of August and September. We hope that all our people will allow the Spirit of God to work on their hearts in paying unobscured tithes.

The churches at Waco and Corsicana have laid quite a missionary plan to be carried out during the winter.

The writer has been stirring the people on missionary endeavor from the stand point of the Spirit of Prophecy. The results have been good.

November 13 was set aside for a day of fasting and prayer for the colored department of the North Texas Conference.

We are trying to get our people to be more loyal to the good old Review. Last week we received 5 subscriptions for the Review, from the Waco church, and one from Clebourne. We realize that the reading of the Review will keep up spiritual interest as no other one means will do.

Monday November 22, the Clebourne

colored mission school will open with Miss J. E. Montgomery as teacher. We need the prayers of all, that God's blessing may rest with teacher and pupils.

We need means to help on this school. While we solicit means, we are doing all we can to help ourselves. The time has come when our people must do more self help. In the past we have been too dependent. We are grateful for all help, but we must shoulder more responsibility.

Those who are impressed to help the only colored school in the large state of Texas, send remittances to the secretary A. M. Woodall, Keene, Texas., or Miss J. E. Montgomery, 107 E. 2nd St, Clebourne, Texas.

M. G. NUNES.

Charleston, S. C.

THE work here is onward, for which we thank the Lord. The church has gone forward and purchased a lot for \$300.00, and paid \$100.00 and the interest, leaving \$250.00 yet to be paid.

The church has also erected a building on the lot and entirely finished ceiling it overhead and are almost thru lining the walls. Probably by the time this article is read we may be thru. Now we are planning to pay this other \$250.00 by the 15th of next August because we do not like the idea of being in debt, and the interest and taxes are burdensome things for a church to have to pay. We have to pay taxes because the property is not in the name of church property and cannot be until the entire debt is paid. We have 54 members, and a large percent are children. We have no wealthy members, all are ordinary livers. I hope you now can see our real condition, and we want to appeal to the loyal members of South Carolina, who can possibly do so, to lend us a helping hand by sending us a donation, be it little or much, to help us in our struggle to get free from this little debt of \$250.00. You may send your donation to the writer at No. 10 Short Court, Charleston S. C., or thru the South Carolina Conference. Remember we hope to be able to pay this between now and April 15, 1915. The work is progressing also along other lines and we hope to see souls gathered into the fold of God as a result of the efforts of this church.

B. W. ABNEY.

Pensacola, Fla.

OCTOBER 3, I visited Pensacola. I remained over five weeks assisting Bro. M. McAllister to get hold of the work. The church was in need of ministerial help and we found much to do by prayer and careful planning to bring all to see what was needed. The Lord drew very near us, especially at our early Sabbath morning prayer meeting. The practical Bible studies and discourses delivered were thankfully received, not as the words of men, but as coming from him who loves us with an everlasting love. Before leaving, the ordinances of baptism and Lord's supper were celebrated, and attention was given to the selection of officers for the ensuing term. The brethren and sisters of Pensacola are once more of good courage, keeping all the commandments of God. Faithfulness in tithes and offerings and activity in home missionary endeavors are three great essentials to the upbuilding and keeping of a church. It is impossible for a church ever to attain to perfection without a practical recognition of these things.

J. G. DASENT.

The "Two" Plan

JESUS our great and wise teacher while on earth, developed plans and saw that they were put into effect. Learn of me said he. "I will teach you how to catch men." His ways are past finding out. He will teach us his way.

A Successful Plan

"And when he had called the twelve disciples, he gave them power; and he sent them forth by two and two before his face into every city and place, whether he himself would come."

Another "Two" Plan

"And when they came nigh to Jerusalem unto Bethphage and Bethany at the mount of Olives, he sendeth forth two of his disciples."

"Calling the twelve about him, Jesus bade them go out two and two thru all the towns and villages. None were sent forth alone, but brother was associated with brother, friend with friend. Then they could help and encourage each other, counseling and praying together, each one's strength supplementing the other's weakness. In the same manner he afterward sent forth the seventy. It was the Saviour's purpose that the messengers of the gospel should be associated in this way. In our own time all

evangelistic work would be more successful if this example were more closely followed." *Desire of Ages*, p. 350.

Those who have followed this plan have found it worked with good success.

W. H. SEBASTIAN.

Talks to My Students

Courtship

I SUPPOSE you have all heard the story of the mother who told Mary to go see what Johnny was doing, and tell him to stop it. And I suppose also that some of you may imagine that is what I am going to do—tell you to "Stop it."

So far from that being the case, I am going to tell you when to do it. I have never yet been able to understand fully why people persist in treating as a joke that which is of most far reaching importance. Talk to the man about stock raising, or merchandise, or war, or politics, or any one of a hundred different things that he may be interested to talk about, and he will be sensible and speak with interest and enthusiasm. Converse with that lady of our acquaintance about flowers, birds, gardens, crocheting, or books, and she will show intelligence and discretion.

But just say a word about courtship, and the whole lot begin to smirk or blush, or look conscious, as tho it were a wicked and unwholesome theme and must be tabooed.

Now if any of you who are here this evening feel that way about it I hope you will rise quietly and go out, for I am going to say some things that I think should be said. But if you go out, I want you to go clear away, and not stay around listening thru the key hole.

First then, let it be understood that God has wisely placed in the human heart the desire for the presence and favor of the opposite sex.

No young man of ordinary experiences is indifferent to the presence of lady friends. Unless there is something radically wrong with him, he enjoys their presence and society. Under proper self restraint this instinct is a blessing to him, making him chivalric, polite, courteous, and in every way more gentlemanly. The same instinct in the young lady leads her to be tasty, diligent, gentle, modest, careful of her personal habits and appearance, and makes her altogether more attractive and lovely.

No young person is to be blamed for

this God-given instinct. Of course Satan has taken note of the powers and weaknesses of the human family, and has with this as with all other blessings, succeeded in misdirecting and perverting, until that which was intended to be a source of happiness is turned into a great mischief. It is of much importance that we should be "not ignorant of his devices."

If he can put into the minds of young or old a perverted idea, he will succeed in hurting and debauching all who receive it. If he can get older people to be sharp, severe, sarcastic, mocking, or (that which is worse than any of these) silly, he can then have double hold on the young to hurry them on to mistakes. I have no sympathy with the person, young or old, who must needs blush whenever the matter is discussed, or who can only treat it as a matter for sly winks and ribaldry. Thus the young are lead to suppose that in some way there is something silly about their most holy instincts.

But tho there is nothing intrinsically silly in it, very much stillness is indulged in many times about it. What can be more foolish than for young children who cannot possibly know what they are doing to be encouraged to engage in little baby courtships, and thus burn and sear their most precious instincts? I have known of such, and their elders winked at the performance, apparently entertained by the sad affair. I say sad, for such can only result in sadness and nausea that may never be wholly eradicated.

No, childhood is not the time, and no perfectly healthy child should make the mistake, if care is taken that proper ideals be set before him.

Neither are school days the time. What is more distressing than to see young men and women with immature minds, and who should be bending every effort to get their education, turning their attention to that which should come only when a foundation is laid. None can do successfully two important things at the same time. It must be evident that if there is a time for courtship, that all other time is *not the time*.

Here lies one of the chief difficulties of our school life. Students sometimes hastily assume that their teachers are not their friends, but are their foes, trying to keep them from some good, or happiness, or enjoyment, which but for their teachers, they think they should

enjoy. Happy he who is willing to believe that those of mature years will direct the inexperienced feet into smoother paths; who have confidence that their teachers know better than themselves what will bring true happiness. I dare say, no true teacher desires to rob any student of the least real enjoyment.

It should be a settled principle with every young boy or girl that it is wrong to marry out of the faith. And this should carry with it the determination not to take the first step that could in any way be regarded as encouraging such an expectation. A young woman who permits the attentions of some young man who is not a Christian, thereby does herself and the young man an injury that is many, many times irreparable.

"Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth." Here lies one of the great dangers. Probably more have been wrecked on this shoal than any one other.

That which at first meant only amusement of an hour, terminated either in many hours of grief and heart ache, or in an ill assorted marriage that meant a galling yoke for one or both, or else possibly, (and very probably) an entire yielding up of all that was held sacred.

Care for one's self, no less than kindness to the other party, demands that this principle be unswervingly observed.

Playing at courtship, commonly spoken of as flirtation, is one of Satan's most successful traps to catch the unwary. It is not my purpose now to speak of those moral vipers that infest society with the settled purpose of destroying and debauching virtue; tho there is occasion enough to raise that warning.

But at this time I speak of that which is commonly regarded as not so bad—the playing at love making, where there is no intention of any thing except amusement. Regard for others, as well as consideration for one's self should keep every young person from this dangerous and cruel form of amusement.

However, if it is persisted in, it is only a matter of time till every such one reaps what he has sown, gathers what he has strewed, is "hoist with his own petard."

These pseudo-courtships when indulged in for a time, leave the mind and heart of the individual in such a state that he hardly knows his own wishes or sentiments. When the time comes that he should give to some pure young woman his manly heart, he has nothing but a *gizzard* to bestow. T. H. J.

Do You See It?

BUT where sin abounded grace did much more abound." Rom. 5:20. At first it may seem a hard saying, and one might exclaim "Who can hear it." But careful observation reveals the truthfulness of the text. Nature declares that it is true, and this generation, like all preceding ones confirms it.

To the one who has a direct or indirect knowledge of life in the different zones, and among various peoples, nature offers her witness. Among the savages and the half-civilized—those who spend their time in fighting each other or in some other unprofitable way—the soil usually yields good crops with but little effort on their part. Among the more civilized, where, in many places, the soil is poor, the help of machinery and the use of scientific knowledge enable mother earth to supply much more than her children's need. Surely God's grace, his "unmerited favor," abounds.

Among mankind the precious truth is not less strikingly revealed. This present generation is inferior to preceding generations in physical and mental strength. If Paul's words are true, what has God given to more than supply the lack of strength? He has given knowledge. He has increased it as the prophet Daniel declared he would do.

And with increased knowledge comes improved machinery. The modern farmer might hitch a few plows to an engine and stir more land in one day than Elisha with his twelve yoke of oxen could work in a month. The gospel minister of today need not send a Phebe or a Timothy to some remote Roma nor Corinthian church with a letter, for any government will forward it if he will but pay the postage. The modern book keeper need not annoy his debilitated brain with the adding of long columns of figures; his adding machine will do it quite accurately for him. These are but a few instances. In every branch of industry it can be seen that the lack is more than abundantly supplied.

O Christian! Do you not believe that God can make out of the present generation a people prepared to meet him? Do not cease your effort because sin is so common. The evils that are indigenous to the age surround you, look at the graces that abound, the events that fulfil prophecy so accurately. There never has been anything like this

before. Are not these remarkable fulfillments of prophecy just as striking as the heinous crimes that are committed everywhere? Do you not see that while sin abounds, now also is grace much more abundant?

E. A. BRODIE.

Omaha, Nebr.

THE evidences of the wooing of the Holy Spirit upon the hearts of those with whom we are laboring is being witnessed in a very marked manner. Souls are responding to the Spirit's call. Since camp meeting the Lord has given us five for our labor. Two of these are rejoicing in Christ as a result of my wife's personal effort.

On October 23, eight were baptized.

We are also trying to do what we can to help in carrying the financial burdens of the cause.

We now have our building finance working on a systematic basis. All are anxious to do something.

Our membership has grown to twenty-three, for which we are very thankful. The Scandinavian brethren are very nice to us in permitting us to use their church for baptismal services.—*J. W. Miller in Central Union Outlook.*

OBITUARIES

BRIGGS

EARNEST Briggs was the third of five children born to Henry and Laura Briggs at Brooklyn, N. Y. Four years ago Earnest was converted to the truths of the third angel's message, and since that time has lived an exemplary Christian life. He was a member of the Brooklyn No. 2 church and teacher in the Sabbath school. During the summer of 1914 he canvassed for our literature in the city of Brooklyn.

Feeling his need of a better preparation for work in the Lord's cause, he came in the fall of 1915 to Oakwood. He was quiet, studious, and obedient.

When it was evident that he was dangerously ill, his parents were wired, but ere another day, or before there was time for further communication, he passed away. He died Nov. 24.

By request of his friends and relatives the body was sent to Brooklyn for burial. Memorial services were conducted by the writer in the Oakwood chapel, Sabbath,

Nov. 27. At the close of the service the following resolution was adopted by the student body,—

Whereas the Lord has in his infinite wisdom seen fit to permit the death of our beloved fellow student, Brother Earnest Briggs:

Resolved that we bow to the stroke, and acknowledge the wisdom and love of our God, and that we hereby express our sorrow at the affliction. We extend to his friends and relatives our sincere sympathy in this hour of trouble. We assure them that their sorrow is also ours, and we point them to Jesus our solace.

Resolved that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to his parents.

T. H. J.

LEWIS

SIMON Adolphus Lewis died suddenly of heart failure at his home in Pensacola, Fla., Wednesday, December 8, 1915. Brother Lewis was next to the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Simon Lewis. He was born in Pensacola, Fla., in the year 1882, and with the exception of three years spent in New Orleans, his whole life was spent in the city of his nativity. About eight years ago his aged mother became a widow, and Adolphus, realizing that he was her sole earthly comfort, was sincerely devoted to her.

In the year 1907 he was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Elizabeth DuVaugh of Mary Anna, Fla.

Brother Lewis accepted the third angel's message seven years ago, and at the organization of the Pensacola S. D. A. church, he was elected and ordained a deacon, which office he held until the day of his death.

Adolphus was loved and respected, not only by his brothers and sisters in the church, but by his many acquaintances.

It can be truly said, that of friends he had many; of enemies, none.

In his death, a home has lost a devoted protector and father; a widowed mother, her only son; the church one of its most faithful and active members; society, a friend; and the city a Christian citizen.

The funeral services were held the following Friday, conducted by the writer assisted by the church elders and Rev. J. H. Hall of the Zion Methodist church. Words of comfort and encouragement were spoken from Job 18:14.

To the bereaved family we extend our heart felt sympathy. J. G. DASENT.

Ft. Smith, Ark.

OUR work is progressing in spite of the many backsets it has sustained. My leaving for the tent effort in Pine Bluff May to July, also spending additional time in the Oklahoma and Texas camp meetings, together with the cry of "Hard Times" and a constant outflow of our people to Oklahoma in search of work, have materially injured our work. Settling down to earnest working again after our series of meetings, we have not only succeeded in arousing an interest in the study of the Scriptures, but one has decided to walk in harmony with the commands of the Master. This is no little joy to us, especially as our people are so slow to decide. But the end is not yet, for the decision of several others is in sight. We have many single readers but our two classes one of three, the other of seven, are of special and pleasing interest. Two ministers and another aspiring to the ministry are in attendance. One sits shoulder to shoulder with two of the members of his church hearing the precious truths for this time. One of our readers said, "Sister—you told me of these things. I am glad I am here, but I wish the five-thousand people of this city were right in this room to hear these things themselves." While our Bible readings are drawing the members up to the point of decision, we are eagerly awaiting the approach of summer, when with the tent up, others will be given a chance to decide for Jehovah or Baal.

The circulation of a few copies of the "Signs of the Times," is also having a wholesome effect on many minds. We have been hailed and requested on the streets to "bring me another copy of that paper," or "let me have it weekly."

Indications are that a short work will be made in the earth, for many hearts are under conviction.

METHUSELAH JONES.

An Inspired War Song

Is the title of a cantata recently published by the Penn Music Co., 4910 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa. The words are the exalted utterances of the Psalmist David as found in the 46th Psalm. The music is written by Elder J. S. Washburn. The price is 25 and 50 cents respectively for paper or board. The usual discounts are extended to agents.

Many words of praise are spoken and written concerning it by musicians who

are in position to speak authoritatively.

For those who are looking for an interesting and inspiring number for choruses, music clubs, or miscellaneous singers, the Inspired War Song will be found an excellent composition. Send for sample pages, testimonials, etc., or better, order a sample copy and be pleased sooner. Address as above.

The Loma Linda Council

THE fall council of the North American Division Conference was held in Loma Linda, California, November 5-27. This meeting was more than the usual fall council. All the local conference presidents were invited, and most of them attended which made the gathering quite representative. In addition to the Division Committee the General Conference Committee held its meeting at the same time. A number of the foreign officials were in. In many respects this was the most interesting, and in effect, the most far reaching counsel ever held by our people, coming as it did while the wars are raging over a vast portion of our mission fields, creating a situation which never confronted this work in its history.

Careful study was given to a more extended organization of the great mission fields, China, and South America and other countries. Two new Division Conferences were organized, the South American, and the Far Eastern. This completes the organization of the world into four great divisions, the four quarters of the earth. Our work is now organized world wide. From a small beginning a little over fifty years ago when the General Conference was organized, this work has grown to be world wide.

True to the symbol of the message, the angel flying to all nations, the message has gone.

The usual appropriations were made for the work. The foreign countries made a heavy call for men to fill the new Divisions. Elder O. Montgomery was chosen for the South American Division. He has served as president of the Southeastern Union since the last General Conference.

Department

The colored work was allowed thirty two thousand dollars for operation for 1916. The report of the Secretary showed a pleasing growth in the development of the work in the Department since the work was begun for the negroes about

twenty five years ago. At that time there were not more than twenty-five colored Sabbath-keepers south of the Mason and Dixon line, and the tithe about fifty dollars. At the present time there are about three thousand Sabbath-keepers, and the tithe and offerings amount to approximately twenty-thousand dollars a year. Large active churches are located in all the cities in the United States where there are any considerable number of negroes. Schools are conducted in connection with these churches in most places. The aggregate enrollment is one thousand pupils.

The time has come for us to arise and finish the work committed to our hands.

The fields are ripe, the harvest is ripe, but laborers are few. Every one should now examine himself and see if he does not possess ability that God can use in the promulgation of the last-day message to a dying world. Not only are the doors of dark lands open, but the hearts of the heathen are open for the saving knowledge of our Lord and Savior.

Now is the world's last opportunity for grace, and our last opportunity to be instrumental in saving the lost.

C. B. STEPHENSON.

Dothan, Ala.

GOD is blessing us in Dothan. Among some of the many blessings, is a steady increase of church membership. Members of the church are learning to be faithful in the paying of tithes and offerings, and above all that, is a spirit of earnestness among the members of the church to work for the salvation of souls as never before.

Beside the missionary campaign of house to house work, arrangements are being made for a greater spread of the work. The eyes of the public are on us, and we now have their sympathy. As a result of missionary work done this fall, three are awaiting baptism.

C. A. BLACKWOOD.

Wanted—An Organ

WE greatly need an organ for our new building, as the one we have is hardly worth removing. Who will give us one? Write me at once, at 2851 Orbin St., Pittsburgh, Pa.

A. N. DURRANT.

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Note and Comment.

OAKWOOD has been recently favored with visits from Elder Geo. I. Butler and Brother L. A. Hansen. They were on their way home from Loma Linda council. Elder Butler, one of our oldest living ministers, has led out in pioneer work during all his eventful ministerial career. Tho his hair is whitening, and his form is somewhat bent, his voice is clear and strong and as he spoke to us of his strong hope of seeing the finishing of the work, our hearts burned within us, and we felt a new desire to be faithful, so that with these tried veterans we might have part in the final triumph. Elder Butler is 81 years old, yet reads without spectacles and his words are clear, forceful, and inspiring.

Brother Hansen is secretary of the medical department of the North American division conference. He reports many things from the Loma Linda meeting of unusual interest and importance. Each of these brethren staid over night with us and spoke to the student body in the chapel.

Christmas times have come and gone, and doubtless many have sowed for regret and shame during this period of festivity. The occasion which it is supposed to celebrate is far from the minds of the large majority who have gone to the great extremes in its celebration. 'Tis ever thus with man-made days of observance. Well would it be if all could see that only God's times and days are of value.

One cannot help wishing that all the means uselessly or harmfully expended, might have been diverted into the great needy cause of God. Even some Christians, sad to say, have been pleasure-mad and have expended on themselves or their friends the means that should have helped swell the loud cry of the message.

But, after all, the time has been one

of many blessings and encouragements. Some are making progress. New lights have been scaled; new victories won. Jesus' coming is nearer. As the new year comes, we welcome its new clean page, and courageously face the future.

As we go to press the mission teachers of the Southern union are gathering at Oakwood to attend a short institute held by Prof. L. H. Wood, educational sec. of the Southern Union. He is assisted by Mrs. Wood and Mrs. M. B. Marshall. The following mission teachers are here already,—Miss M. B. Winston, Philip Johnson, Miss Ione Smith, Mrs. S. Campbell, Mrs. B. Anderson. Others are arriving daily.

Advertising

THERE are schools of advertising now-a-day. The student goes to the school, and an expert teaches him the secrets of the business, for it has come to be regarded as a regular means of employment, and men give all their time and thought to it.

In these schools they study about the psychology of the business. That is, the effect that it has on the mind of the one who reads the advertisement. Doubtless there is much more that I do not know about, for I have not attended such a school. I can not therefore be expected to speak with authority. But I have read some advertisements, and have seen the need sometimes, and wish to make some suggestions to those who may make further investigations.

I have noticed a girl act sometimes so that if her advertisement were written out into words it would read something after the following fashion,—

"I am seeking for admiration from some young man. I have dressed my hair, put rings on my fingers, ribbons around my neck, feathers on my head, shoes on my feet so tight that they nearly make me cry, and have in every way tried to fit myself up so as to get the attention I desire. I do not wish to wait any great length of time for a reply, so come early.

No special requirement necessary except that the young man be able to talk silly and be sentimental."

This may not be in accordance with all the rules that the teachers of the business would suggest, but, as I said, I am not an expert at the advertising business.

Do you say I come out too blunt and cold? Does it cause you to blush as you

read the plain unvarnished statements? Well, I hope so. For I have been made to blush a good many times as I have noticed some such advertising as this going on.

A girl who gives herself to this kind of thing, just as truly advertises herself as she should if the above notice were printed in some metropolitan daily. The boy who spends his time reading fiction advertises himself as one who will never be worth his room. If he is careless untrustworthy, frivolous, his advertisement is speaking in thunder tones saying, "Here is the making of a man who will never be worth anything, and one with whom people will have little to do."

As I said before, I am not an expert at advertisements, but I read them. Many times they are not written in newspapers.

They are written and published in every word, action, glance, and habit of daily life.

O boys and girls, be careful of these advertisements!

Florida

SINCE our return from the St. Petersburg camp-meeting, we are located again in Tampa, cor. Neb. Ave. and Ruby Sts. General lectures as "European War," "Signs of the Times," and "Integrity of the Bible," have given place to Health and Temperance subjects. Many of the lectures are illustrated by the stereopticon. The attendance is gratifying.

A wood stove and several kerosene stoves keep a comfortable temperature in the gospel tent.

Elder Strachan is instructor of the class in "sight-singing" held from 3 to 4 p. m. Sundays in the gospel tent. We also are favored with the addition of a violin and clarinet in our Sunday night song service.

The Home Mis. Society has raised \$50.00 for the Harvest Ingathering and has begun to raise funds for a church building. Excellent programs are rendered by the society Sabbath afternoons.

MAGGIE M. CLARKE.

WE just have room here in this corner to extend to all our readers the greetings of the season. We wish for each, peace with God and favor with man.

We had intended to speak of your unpaid subscription, but will not this time.