

# GOSPEL HERALD



Volume XII

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Number 2



These boys are the student canvassers who went out last summer and sold our good books. Not one failed to earn enough to pay his year's expenses here at Oakwood, and some of them sold over three thousand dollars worth of books. Their unanimous testimony is that the experience alone was worth much more than the effort put forth. God's blessing always attends faithful efforts.

## An Eventful Year Has Closed

**T**HE year 1917 was in many respects the most eventful year in the history of our work and in fact of the history of the world. It witnessed great changes from well established standards, and policies. It contributed much to the fulfillment of the last day prophecies, and brought the great day of God much nearer. The whole world and even the skies, bring forth unmistakable evidence that we are in the midst of the "rapid changes" that will characterize the last days. History grows old over night; in fact in the large cities many extra issues of the papers are put out in one day. The news of the forenoon is eclipsed by greater and more appalling events contained in the afternoon editions. Because time is so short the power throttle has been pulled wide open and the wheels are turning at nearly full speed. The outlook for improvement in coming years is not encour-

aging. In fact we know from the "sure word of prophecy" that "evil will go forth from nation to nation" and "men will wax worse and worse" as the years go by. The spirit of peace is leaving the world, and the spirit of evil is taking possession more and more which explains the unusual conditions that have fallen upon us.

In the midst of all this confusion and national unrest, the third angel's message has continued its onward march with even more rapid strides. This message is unconquerable. It is the master of every obstacle, and opposition only increases its power and development. It is like the air; it fills every nook and corner of the world. There is no language where its voice is not heard, or soon will be heard. One might as well try to sweep the moon from the skies with a broom as to try to stop the onward march of this blessed message. Even in the war stricken nations of Europe,

the report comes, more of our publications have been circulated than ever before since the Work began, and offerings to missions have increased. The Gentiles are coming to the shining of the message. It is the only light upon the great world questions, questions too perplexing for human wisdom. A certain learned man said, "The future is dark." He has been president of a great nation and a master in many lines, but a world condition suddenly came upon the stage of action that had not been revealed in the schools of his learning. But the "Brethren are not in darkness." I am persuaded that the end is nearer than we appreciate. Evidently the prelude to the final conflict has begun. This being so, it behooves us to turn the gospel light inward and search the heart for any lingering sins that may be lurking there and break with them while Christ is still in the Holy Place. Soon He will not be found there.

Turning our eyes forward, shall we not enter upon the duties of the new year with a consecration equal to the importance of the hour? It will require an earnestness and nearness to God such as we never have experienced. The tide of increasing sin and worldliness demands a corresponding increase of grace and heavenly power. We must spend more time before the Mercy Seat: more time with God in prayer: more time with the blessed Word, redeeming the time for the days of evil. All records of progress were broken in 1917. Shall we not break even these the coming year? Who knows what the next few years shall bring to this old world? A wheel once started down hill increases its momentum more and more rapidly as it goes down until about the last it is breaking all records. So it is with things about us today. Shall not every worker solemnly, alone somewhere with God, upon his

knees, make a covenant to do more and better service in soul winning during 1918? The people are ready for the message. Are we going to give it to them, or delay and let many of them go down to Godless graves? Come, dear fellow workers, and let us all pull together and swell the message into the loud cry and hasten the coming of the glad day when our King shall come to take us home.

C. B. STEPHENSON.

### Wanted!

**Y**OUNG men and women, do you not want to enter the noblest work that was ever committed to human beings—the moulding of character?

Oakwood Junior College Normal Department is calling for teachers. God, too, is calling for consecrated teachers. Hundreds of our children are out in the world attending public schools, or none at all. Many of these are there because there are no church schools for them to attend. How sad, when the Lord has said if there are six children in a church, there should be a school. Ministers have raised up companies, and then have had to leave them with no school. Teachers could not be found. Will God not hold us accountable for the work we are neglecting? No work is nearer to our church members, than that of working for our youth. The lambs of the flock must be fed. God requires the church to arouse from its lethargy. God is looking on to see who is doing the work he would have us do for the children.

Calls have come to our doors for teachers. But where are they to supply these calls? Our Normal Department is doing excellent work to train teachers. But we can train only those that come to us. What are *four* teachers going to do to answer these calls? The need is so great that Bible workers and nurses have been placed in charge of schools. We regret this, for we feel that our schools should have teachers trained for this important work. We hope that because they are Oakwood students, the patrons will not feel that they are from our Normal Department. But if the church is willing to take them as they are, we hope that no reflection will come back on our Department.

We do not say that a Bible worker or nurse should not teach, but they should have a preparation for it, so that their work will be a success. For if it is not, the church becomes discouraged and the school is closed up. This is just what would please Satan. When a school is once closed it is very hard to ever reopen it.

Oakwood Junior College offers a one year Normal Course, with eleven grades prerequisite. The teachers get not only their theoretical, but the practical work at the same time. We have a community school connected with the college, where our teachers have a chance to meet the real problems of the school room. They teach in grades from one to six under the supervision of the Normal Director. Our teachers learn to teach by teaching. This school is composed of twenty children from our Orphanage, and about fifty from the community. This is an excellent opportunity for our teachers. Will not more avail themselves of it?

Will not our workers in the field encourage consecrated young men and women to come to Oakwood, and fit themselves for this important work?

MRS. BERTHA B. HALLADAY,  
*Normal Director.*

### Tennessee River Mission

**T**HE Lord has prospered the work of the Tennessee River Mission even beyond what we hoped. Four years ago there were only thirty-five members in this field, while today we have a membership of 201. Two years ago the church in Memphis had a membership of only thirty-two. About that time Elder Scott went there and began meetings in a tent on Mississippi Avenue. The Lord blessed his work, and quite a number accepted the truth. When he was called to labor in the Southwestern Union, Elder Lawrence came and took up the work. His labors were also quite fruitful, and now the church there has a membership of between eighty-five and ninety. For a number of years the cause there has suffered because they had no suitable place in which to worship, but recently Elder Lawrence found a nice place on Mississippi Avenue for sale, and we at once took the

matter up with the owners, and have just closed the trade for the property. It is a corner lot almost double size, and the building will meet their needs for some time to come. It cost us \$2600.00, and is worth fully \$4000.00. When the church has outgrown the building, it can be rolled to the rear of the lot and turned to front the other street, and changed into a double house that will rent for from \$20.00 to \$25.00 a month, and a church building can be erected on the front end of the lot. The church there is in charge of T. H. Allison, and they are all working energetically to advance the work in that city.

Very encouraging progress has been made in the city of Jackson, and we now have a church of twenty-three members there. Sister Julia Lowe began the work there more than three years ago, but her health failed and she was obliged to give it up. Brother Alston followed her in the work, and after he left Elder Johnson was placed in charge of the work there. He added a number of new Sabbathkeepers to the little company, and a few months ago the church was organized. We are very much in need of money for the purchase of a place of worship for them.

They are doing what they can to raise money for this purpose, and we must give them some help, for the work there can never be built up in a strong way until something is done to provide them a house of worship. If any friends of this work wish to contribute something to help them, please send it to the office to our treasurer. Brother Milton Young is in charge of the work in Jackson.

The church in Nashville is prospering under Elder Dasent's leadership. They own a nice church house, now almost paid for, and their membership is about eighty-six. They are growing quite rapidly having added about thirty to their membership the past year.

The mission tithe shows an encouraging increase and our ministers are all quite faithful to instruct their people along this line. The mission offerings are also very good this year. Their quota to the twenty-cent-a-week fund was \$936, and they raised \$993.74: thus passing their quota by \$57.74. The

Nashville church raised the full twenty-cents-a-week per member.

We are greatly encouraged at the outlook for the work of the mission in this field.

W. R. ELLIOTT.

### Pittsburgh, Pa.

OUR long silence has not been due to inactivity or lack of interesting items to report, but rather from constant activity.

The year 1917 brought many rich blessings and encouragements to our work in this city. Last summer we had a series of tent meetings which created a good interest. About thirty persons accepted the message through these meetings. Twenty-four of these have been added to our church membership up to this writing. Additions for the year numbered forty-three, only two of whom were transferred from other churches, while we lost only two, one by death, and one by apostasy. Thus our net increase was forty-one, making our present membership one hundred and six.

Our finances increased correspondingly thus:—Pittsburgh No. 2 church tithes for 1917, \$2,262.11 as against \$1,057.18 in 1916 an increase of \$1,204.93; Mission offerings \$781.52 or \$297.19 over the previous year. To these may be added: Educational \$3.00, Red Cross \$12.50, Armenian and Syrian Relief \$29.31, local church expenses \$242.68, and \$382.45 toward church building debt (\$37.25 of this latter was paid by the McDonald company), or a total contribution of \$3,676.07.

The McDonald company of eighteen paid \$349.67 tithes, and \$122.78 for missions. Thus the total funds raised by both companies totaled \$4,185.77. When this is put against the combined tithes of \$390.45, and mission offerings of \$30.29 of five and one-half years ago, when we took up work here, it is evident that we have much to be grateful to the good Lord for, and to him we give all the glory.

### THE ITALIAN WORK

During the tent meetings above referred to, several Italians became interested. Among those baptized, were two—a brother and wife from among this people. As there are

## REPORT OF SOUTHEASTERN UNION MISSIONARY WORK,

(Fourth Quarter '17)

	Tenn.	Ga.	Fla.	S. C.	N. C.	Total
Letters written	87	236	284	222	263	1092
Letters Rec'd	62	165	250	238	231	946
Mis. Visits	1704	847	914	855	1033	5353
Bible Readings	135	290	349	640	290	1704
Subscriptions	61	20	10	104	19	224
Papers Sold	1167	2816	928	1320	1576	7807
Papers Given	497	656	1593	530	616	4092
Books Sold	166	167	299	729	1100	2461
Books Given	94	91	98	137	91	511
Tracts Sold	132	54	43	27	74	330
Tracts Given	2433	522	416	1020	1025	5446
Hrs. of C. H. W.	720	410	1092	977	773	3972
Value of Meals	\$17.80	\$18.05	\$51.50	\$93.22	\$77.89	\$258.46
Treatments	82	38	80	159	117	476
Conversions		3				3
Offerings for H. M.		\$13.69	\$10.09	\$23.58	\$36.71	\$84.07

My dear brethren and sisters, I will ask you to look for the Annual report in the next issue of the HERALD. This is the quarterly report for the fourth quarter, and I am sorry to say that in some respects it is not as good as the one the third quarter. However, we have one advantage, and that is we have more than reached our goal we set for the Harvest Ingathering to date. The Mission department of the S. E. U. has raised the following amounts; Georgia \$616.64, Cumberland \$405.40, South Carolina \$357.59, North Carolina \$186.78, and Jacksonville, Fla. \$129.75, making in all \$1696.16.

Georgia leads as a State, and Atlanta as a church. But remember the report is not yet complete, and in the next report I hope to give all the States complete.

Let us all thank God for the success of 1917. It has been our banner year, but this should make us press onward to greater things for 1918. May all the faithful workers take courage, and "Go Forward"

ANNA KNIGHT, *Home Missionary Secy. S. E. U. Mission.*

## REPORT OF THE S. E. U. MISSION SCHOOLS FOR 1917

Florida	has	4	schools	4	teachers	with	129	students enrolled
Georgia	"	2	"	2	"	"	95	" "
S. C.	"	4	"	4	"	"	87	" "
N. C.	"	2	"	2	"	"	82	" "
Tenn.	"	1	"	1	"	"	18	" "

The total membership is 413, of whom 174 are boys and 239 are girls, about one fifth of whom are from Adventist homes and all the rest are the outside children.

All of these schools are well thought of, and are really having a good influence in their respective communities.

There should be other schools in all of these conferences. The needs are great, but the teachers are lacking.

ANNA KNIGHT, *Educational Secy. of the S. E. U. Mission.*

many thousands of Italians in this territory when any who do not city, we felt convinced that the understand English come in to the time had come to open up work studies. After consultation with among them. We therefore rented our president, and correspondence a small hall and started with the with the Foreign Department, we four Italian believers, two of whom were fortunate in getting Brother have been members of the Pittsburgh Anthony Catalano from the North No. 1 church for some time. We ern Illinois Conference, as a Bible use one of the two brethren as in-

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### Good English

Of all the subjects taught in our schools that of the English language is of the greatest importance. We study language in order that we may speak and write the English language correctly.

The place to begin the study of language is in the home. The parents should be very careful of their speech, and as soon the child learns to talk, it should be taught to pronounce its words correctly or as nearly so as possible. The custom of allowing children to half pronounce their words (because parents think it sounds cute) is wrong and should not be permitted. If they form the habit of speaking correctly when young it will be natural for them to do so when they grow older.

Some people speak incorrectly because they do not take time to think what they are going to say. After speaking they realize immediately that they have made a mistake, when with a little forethought they might be spared much embarrassment.

Others speak incorrectly because they are too careless or too indolent to say what they know to be right. If spoken to about their "English" they will say immediately, "O I know I didn't say it right." What is the use of knowing a thing if we do not put it into practice?

To speak and write well should be one of our highest ambitions. If we can speak well we have no dread of meeting the most cultured people, for we know what to say and how to say it. If we can write well, we will not be ashamed to write anyone, whether it be a business letter or a letter of friendship.

We should seek to enlarge our vocabulary. We may do this by consulting the dictionary when in doubt about the meaning of words. When reading, if we come to a word, the meaning of which we do not know, we should immediately look for the meaning in the dictionary which will not only help us understand the reading, but if we have occasion to use the word we will know how to use it.

MAYME E. BEECHAM.

Send your letter head printing to Oakwood.

### True Education

#### A Symposium by Seventeen Students of the Bible Doctrines Class at Oakwood

"THE true foundation for education was laid in the Garden of Eden. Adam was to be the head of the whole human family, being God's son. Lev. 3:38. He was to receive instruction from his Heavenly father and impart it to his family. In a similar manner every home was to be a school and every parent a teacher of youth. This same principle was imparted to the children of Israel. The parents were teachers in the homes while the schools of the prophets provided for the higher education."

Alice Martin.

"The best school is the Heavenly one; and God, its teacher, is divine. Before the fall, God instructed our first parents openly. After their disobedience, prophets and priests became the teachers of his people. In the home, the parents were the divinely appointed instructors. Children are loaned to their parents by the Lord and he gave them careful instructions in regard to their education from their earliest years. Israel looked upon it as the means of restoring the image of God in the soul."

Francis Griffin.

"It was God's design that his people Israel should be the most enlightened people in the world. He provided a plan whereby every child should be taught to read and write. The schools of the prophets were designed to train and qualify young men to act in the fear of God as leaders and counsellors."

Georgia Lewis.

"God's plan was that parents should be the first instructors of the youth. We all know that it is through the loving words of the mother and the kindness of the father and their frequent counsels that we receive from them that which makes us obedient and loving. Thus the character is formed that makes the world's best men and women."

Addison Pinkney.

"Many of the youth in Israel learned the evil ways of the teachers around them, and departed from the pure principles that the Lord had given them. This made it necessary to establish schools in different places which were

called 'Schools of the Prophets.' Mabel Campbell.

"The prophets from the earliest times had been recognized as teachers appointed by God. Samuel established the 'Schools of the Prophets' which were intended as barrier against the widespread corruption of the age. Only such men were gathered as were intelligent and studious." Margaret Porter.

"These schools were founded for those who wanted to know more about truth. These students were called 'sons of the prophets'; and supported themselves by industrial activities. A spirit of devotion was cherished while pursuing their regular studies. Our school should follow these principles. In this age students today should apply their hearts to their studies that they may become workers for the Lord aided by his Holy Spirit."

Eugenie Davidson.

"These schools were not located in the cities, but where the people lived a peaceful life. These students were self-supporting. God provided for his people and sought their highest good. He gave them the best food, and surrounded them with the most favorable conditions."

Thomas Fountain.

"The evils that resulted from the influence of the prophets of Baal destroyed by Elijah was counteracted by the schools that were planted among the people of Israel. Elisha carried on the work that was begun by Elijah. The last work of Elijah was to visit these schools in company with Elisha before they passed over Jordan to Elijah's ascension."

Mrs. J. B. E. Williams.

"Elisha succeeded Elijah in the duty of directing these schools. Music and poetry formed a part of their education under the influence of the Holy Spirit."

Henrie Lander.

"These schools, though in the world, were not of the world. The training in these schools resulted in the success attending the kingdom in the days of David and Solomon. Some of the youth did not improve their opportunities; but God appreciates and blesses his people who delight to do his will."

Willetta Carter.

"The teachers were men of deep

piety; priests, princes, and Levites. This afforded an excellent opportunity to qualify for the highest offices among the people of God. The students were taught the duty of prayer and how to approach the throne of the Creator, and to understand and obey the teachings of his Spirit. Thus sanctified, intellects were brought forth from these institutions." Mrs. Bessie Rich.

"These students were not too proud to work hard. It was an honor to them: for in Israel this was not thought strange or degrading. They were firmly grounded in the faith of the Lamb of God which taketh away the sins of the world." Elsie Graves.

"The pupils worked their way in order to sustain themselves in school; this giving a practical and manual training as well as a theoretical one." Chas. Jackson.

"It is evident that God was with these students while they were in training for future work. A miracle was wrought while building a school-house. An axe fell into the nearby water and sank. Elisha threw a stick into the water and the axe came to the surface and floated to the shore.

J. B. E. Williams.

"The lessons taught in these schools were of such a nature as would tend to develop mind and body. God calls upon the youth of today to be learners at the feet of Christ, to be instruments in his hands to minister blessings to humanity." Richard Thomson.

"These young men studied the words and works of God and received wisdom from heaven. They engaged communion with God and received the special endowment of his spirit. They conducted themselves in such a way as to command the respect of all the people as men of learning and piety. The experience of the children of Israel was written for our instruction. These principles should govern us as well as Israel of old. When Elijah was about to be translated Elisha was called to training as his successor. This man was found faithful in little things and thus prepared to fill this important place. We cannot tell God's purpose in his discipline; but we all may be certain that faithfulness in little things is

an evidence of fitness for greater responsibilities. Every act of life is a recreation of character; and he only who in small duties proves himself, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, will be honored by God with weightier trusts."

Florence Woods.

#### Good English Week At Oakwood Junior College

THE Seventh-day Adventist denomination has the most important message ever intrusted to human beings. Realizing this, we are brought face to face with the solemn yet stern duty of giving this message in an intelligent way, since words are our chief means of communication. Unless the habit is acquired of expressing ourselves clearly and intelligently our work will be a complete failure. One writer has said, "It is too bad to have neither brain enough to speak well nor sense enough to keep quiet." Many of us are not as careful as we should be about our English. To correct this habit of carelessness in our speech and be more effective, the Oakwood Junior College took occasion to institute what was known as Good English week. This week we trust is only a beginning; it is to continue as long as the Oakwood Junior College stands. The Good English week which began January 13, 1918 was introduced by an appropriate address given by Prof. F. L. Peterson on the subject of "The Correct Use of English." After which Prof. J. I. Beardsley, Prof. G. H. Jeys and Elder W. L. Bird made timely remarks relative to the same question.

A program suited to the occasion consisting of songs, themes, and talks was rendered daily during chapel hour. Thursday being the last day of school, a special program was rendered in which the College, Academic and Grammar departments took an active part. The College department was represented by Misses Lena Strother and Margaret Brandon. They told us how the use of good English will aid in giving the truth to others, especially those of higher rank. Mr. T. M. Rowe, representing the Academic department, read a very interesting paper containing much instruction concerning the value of

good English in all lines of work. The Grammar department was represented by Master James Bell who recited, "People Will Talk." Miss E. Davidson representing the Nurses' class, read an interesting as well as an instructive paper on the value of good English to nurses. Prof. G. H. Jeys' Rhetoric class gave some instructive information on the correct forms of letter writing. The music consisted of solos, duets, and quartets. The College band also played several numbers.

A critic was selected and appointed to collect all incorrect and slang expressions heard on the campus during the week. These were to be read, but our time being limited, they were consigned to the flames, symbolizing that they were forever to be excluded from our vocabulary. The principal address of the day was delivered by Prof. C. S. Corkham, his subject being "Acquiring a Taste for Language." The program closed with hearty resolutions from all present, resolving that slang phrases and incorrect expressions will be excluded from our conversations, whether in the dormitories, class rooms, dining hall, or on the campus. In the evening a musical recital was given in Henderson Hall.

The following Sabbath, Elder W. L. Bird preached an excellent sermon on "Our Words." This sermon was based on Matt. 12:36,37. This week we believe has served well its purpose. In order to be effective in the use of English much diligent effort is needed. So let us, as the miner digs for the golden treasure of the earth, search diligently and perseveringly for the valuable treasures of good English.

ELIZABETH DIXON.

#### Sunday Labor

THE following testimonies which I will quote have proved a blessing to the Portsmouth No. 2 Church. I read this testimony to the church from Volume 9, page 232 on "Sunday Labor."

"We are facing a crisis. 'All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient.' 'When the people were moved by a power from beneath to enforce Sunday observance, Seventh-day Adventists were to show their wisdom by refraining from their ordinary work

on that day, devoting it to missionary effort." *Vol. 9, p. 232-2.*

"To defy the Sunday laws will but strengthen in their persecution the religious zealots who are seeking to enforce them. Give them no occasion to call you lawbreakers. If they are left to rein up men who fear neither God nor man, the reining up will soon lose its novelty for them; and they will see that it is not consistent nor convenient for them to be strict in regard to the observance of Sunday. Keep right on with your missionary work, with your Bibles in your hands, and the enemy will see that he has worsted his own cause.

"When we devote Sunday to missionary work, the whip will be taken out of the hands of the arbitrary zealots who would be well pleased to humiliate Seventh-day Adventists. When they see that we employ ourselves on Sunday in visiting the people and opening the Scriptures to them, they will know that it is useless for them to try to hinder our work by making Sunday laws." *Ibid.* page 232.

"Sunday can be used for carrying forward various lines of work that will accomplish much for the Lord. On this day open-air meetings and cottage meetings can be held. House-to-house work can be done. Those who write can devote this day to writing their articles. Whenever it is possible, let religious services be held on Sunday. Make these meetings intensely interesting. Sing genuine revival hymns, and speak with power and assurance of the Saviour's love. Speak on temperance and on true religious experience. You will thus learn much about how to work, and will reach many souls." *Ibid.* page 233.

"We are to do all we can to remove the prejudice that exists in the minds of many against our work and against the Bible Sabbath." *Ibid.* page 238.

W. H. SEBASTIAN.

### The Tragedy of the Fire Shovel

ONCE upon a time on a cold winter evening there gathered around a family hearthstone a man (we will call him John Smith), his wife and their two little boys. The wind was howling thru the limbs of the great oak trees near the house, and sweeping across the fields and pas-

tures, driving the fine snow in blinding clouds before it. But within, all was cozy and cheerful. The family sat around the fire and listened to the popping and snapping of the lumps of coal as they burned. The mica windows in the front of the stove cast flickering shadows on the wall. The evening was far spent, and already the smaller boy had climbed into his mother's lap and lay fast asleep on her breast. The older son sat in his little rocking chair with his hands folded on his lap. The father was reading from the Book of Books, for this was the hour of family worship.

Presently the family knelt together and their voices were lifted in prayer. They thanked the heavenly Father for his love and protection. Then the two boys were put to bed, tucked snugly under the blankets of their trundle bed, and with a good-night kiss from mother were soon fast asleep.

The parents soon followed, for they must needs rise early, as the father was to drive away to the city twenty miles the next day. It was a happy family and angels watched as they slumbered, for they had asked the Father above to send them. How sad that anything should enter in to mar the peace of such a home.

Next morning when Mr. Smith arose 'twas bitter cold. The wind had died away, and the cold moon looked down on the earth clutched in the icy fingers of of king winter. Hastily Mr. Smith dressed, and set about to kindle a fire; but to remove the accumulated cinders and ashes from the pit of the stove he must have the fire shovel,—and the fire shovel was nowhere to be found. One, two, three, five, ten minutes he looked. His fingers were numb with cold, his teeth a-chatter. Time was passing, he should be on his way soon. Where was that shovel! Under the table, behind chairs; everywhere he looked, and no shovel. He called to his wife, in an aggravated tone of voice, "I say, where's the old fire shovel?" "Oh, I don't know, John," came back from the bedroom. "Well, it's a pity you can't keep track of things!" said he. "John, don't make so much fuss over a little thing like that," answered the wife. "Make a fuss!" shouted he, I

guess you'd make a fuss if you were up here in the cold with your feet half frozen. Its mighty fine of you to lie in bed and tell me not to make a fuss. Get up and find that shovel!" "I don't care if you never find it!" came back to him. Just then the two boys, awakened by the unusual conversation, began to cry.

"Now see what you've done, John Smith," said the indignant wife, "seems a pity you couldn't let the children sleep."

Finally the shovel was found,—under the bed where the baby boy had left it in his play. The fire was built, the tardy breakfast served in silence. And sullenly the husband and father drove off to the city, with never a murmur of prayer or a word of farewell. And the sunshine went out of four lives. And Satan smiled as he thought, "How easy."

Is this an exaggerated picture dear readers? Do you say this could not be; no sane man who prays would allow a fire shovel to wreck his happiness so?" All too often this story has been repeated. It is not always a fire shovel; it may be a harness buckle, a missing tool,—any little perplexing thing, and in an unguarded moment Satan gains control. But let us not lose courage, for, "He was tempted in all points like as we are, and yet without sin." Let us lay hold on the arm of God, that we may be kept from these little (?) sins that cause so much trouble and needless sorrow, and will wreck our lives if they are not forsaken.

GEO. H. JEYS.

### Detroit, Michigan

ANOTHER year of these troublous times has passed, and as we face a quick and ever changing future, we should as a people be thankful for the many blessings that our great King is pouring out upon us as we go forward in faith with his conquering cause.

The church here, though poorly housed, with changes now in sight, has prospered year by year for the past five years along all lines. The membership has grown from about a dozen to nearly seventy, with the several funds advancing from less than \$250 a year to quite \$3,000 this year, including school and other



funds not mentioned herein.

The several funds are as follows: Tithes, \$1646.35; Sabbath School Offering \$347.61; Harvest Ingathering, \$184.89; Church Expenses, \$459.57; For missions and other causes, \$186.90; Total \$2827.32. The amount to missions, on the basis of fifty-two members, as rated from the first of 1917, is more than twenty cents per week per member, with a per capita tithe of \$32.92 and a per capita total of \$56.50.

We had a rousing tent meeting in the city last summer, which has caused many to begin to study this last message, some of whom have already united with the church.

Trying to do better every day and hoping to win many to the truth, we are yours for the finishing of the work. WM. H. GREEN.  
638 30th St., Detroit, Michigan.

*(Continued from page 3)*

worker for his people. He came three weeks ago, and he is already finding an opening among his people. We ask all to pray especially for this new venture.

In closing, mention should also be made of the good help rendered by our Bible workers, Sister M. I. Gauntlett, Brother George Johnson and wife, also Mrs. Durrant; and the hearty cooperation of a majority of the local members, who responded willingly to every call.

A. N. DURRANT.

### The Week Of Prayer At Oakwood

AT this season it seemed impossible for us to obtain outside assistance; so the work was carried by Brother Halladay, our church elder, and Elder Bird, head of our Bible Department. The readings were given each evening in the chapel, which, with our present good sized family, was crowded. At these services a good interest was taken in the reading, and the prayer and consecration service. In the after meetings counsel was asked and prayers offered for strength. On the last Sabbath we enjoyed an excellent experience, and as we closed the week with our sunset vesper service, all felt that it had been a good season;—one of the few left us in the rapid closing up of time.

We are in a time of special temp-

tation, and the Oakwood family has its share. But we know where our strength is, and that we must rely on Him who has endured for us, if we are to come off victorious.

We were glad to have Eld. Stephenson with us for two of our services, and to have Eld. G. B. Thompson spend a day following the Week of Prayer, as he passed through Huntsville on his way to Ooltewah. He gave us a very interesting and profitable discourse that evening.

J. I. BEARDSLEY.

### Only A Mule

HIS name was Tom: he with his mate Jerry was purchased by the school manager during the pioneer days at Oakwood. They were black sleek ambitious animals with heads up and fire in their eyes. Jerry's term of service at the school was short for he met with an accident which cost him his life, but Tom saw almost a score of years of arduous work at the institution, strenuous years too,—years when the work was building up, when every day meant so much. A large farm was to be plowed and cultivated, logs and wood to be hauled on rainy days; provisions and freight to be brought from the city, great quantities of lumber, and building material to draw in the winter time or after the crops were laid by, for each of the structures which appeared on our campus from time to time. Those were trying days on mules. But Tom was a leader among mules. Some people think that a sleepy suspicious mule never recognizes a leader, but he does.

Many a time I have been out with our five or six wagons, which would be heavily loaded, perhaps darkness would come on before we got home and the mud would be deep. One of the head teams with their load would stick in the mire. The teams were doubled and still the load was unmoved. The third was called for and placed in the lead; all of the mules only sawed back and forth. There was lack of unity among them. With all the effort the boys put forth to encourage them to pull together, they only shook the wagon a little which settled the wheels deeper in the hole. Presently Tom's driver with his outfit would come up from the

rear. It was suggested at once that they change teams. The head team was removed and Tom and his mate driven around. Tom knew what was coming and began to paw. This began to spread an inspiration among the rest of the mules, fagged and disheartened though they were. They too had already learned that whatever Tom put his shoulder to, had to move. It would sometimes take two boys to hold this ambitious mule while double trees and chains were being adjusted. Finally when every thing was ready, with a shout from the driver "Let him go" and a hurrah from the boys all the mules with their load would go out together. Yes, I say even a mule will recognize a worthy leader. We have read of counsel from the wise men about "pulling together" and we remember the story in the old reader of the man who presented a bundle of ten sticks to his ten wayward and disagreeable sons asking each to break them, each in turn declaring that it could not be done, when the father took them and snapped them easily one by one. It is indeed gratifying to meet with individuals able to take the lead.

One student among students in school, who is willing to take the initiative in every worthy move is always an inspiration to his fellow students as well as to his teachers. For the advancement of the colored race a social worker has ably said that it is the exceptional men and women of the race that will do the most for their uplift. My dear young reader why not, by the Lord's help strive to develop exceptional talent. You have but one life to live why not use it to it's full capacity.

The last work that Tom did was to help draw gravel to complete the last two miles of pike between the school and Huntsville. This too was a hard task as most of the gravel had to be taken from rough pits and hauled a long distance, but this was done in behalf of "good roads". So the last service of this faithful old mule was spent in constructing a highway over which a real load could be moved with ease so that in the years to come the other mules in moving the traffic from Huntsville to Oakwood and

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vice versa would not have as hard a time as he had. I was in the stall when Tom drew his last breath and when I saw him stiffen his shoulders as tho they were once more to push against the collar. I turned from the scene with a tear in my eye and said, "What a mule. He never knew when to quit, even death itself could hardly stop him."

Real grit is always admired. Those who can endure hardships without complaint are always chosen. Tom was always busy; besides his regular work when ever one of the heads of our departments had an extra or irregular piece of work to do, perhaps work to be done after regular working hours, they always wanted Tom. So I have noticed among working students, the willing, active, artful, and handy boy or girl always had the call for the extra duties. As the master mechanic here at the school would often say. "It is always the best mule on the job and the best boy on the job, that has to work the hardest." An ignorant agriculturist once said, "I want my boy John to go to school and get an education so that he will not have to work as hard as I have always had to work." A greater mistake was never made. Remember my young reader, that the more knowledge you acquire the harder you will have to work. Great responsibilities come to those who have great knowledge.

There is great joy in much service. It is the worker that gets the most out of life. Pharoah said to Joseph, when Joseph's brethren came into Egypt, "and if thou knowest any men of activity among them, then make them rulers over

my cattle." The world wants workers. The Lord wants workers willing workers. "Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power." CLARENCE BOYD.

**JOTTINGS**

During the past month we have had the privilege of having the following with us: Elders C. B. Stephenson, G. B. Thompson, G. E. Peters, and Sydney Scott. Each of them spoke to the students in chapel or in special services. Elder Thompson's talk on "How to be Insignificant" was especially profitable.

Elders Wight and Branson, and Professors Tucker and Thiel, all well known leaders in our work, also made us brief visits.

Professor C. J. Boyd, who needs no introduction to our readers, has been with us the past month. We are sorry to report that on account of failing health Professor Boyd has been forced to give up active field work for a time, but he still continues to look after his departmental duties from the office here.

Dr. M. M. Martinson has been with us on three occasions the past month. Doctor has rendered valuable professional services to some of our students.

Mrs. T. B. Buckner spent the holiday season with her four children who are at Oakwood. With her was her younger daughter Leonora.

Mrs. L. D. Wages of Louisville, Kentucky spent a few days visiting with us on her return from a visit in Birmingham, Ala.

The new printing class began this semester. Our department has a bright outlook so far as training printers is concerned.

An excellent grist mill has recently been purchased and we are now eating corn bread made from our own corn on our own premises. Our abundant supply of corn, sorghum, potatoes, peas, and canned goods is helping very materially in solving the perplexing food problem for Oakwood.

An electric gong has been installed by the science class in the

chapel. This is, we find, a decided improvement over the hand bell formerly used.

Thanks to the faithful efforts of Elder W. L. Bird, we now have a pleasant library room that is always accessible to the students for research and study. While our stock of reference books is as yet meager, an earnest effort is being made to secure material additions both by purchasing and soliciting donations. We extend our sincere thanks to the Southern Publishing Association, of Nashville, Tenn., for a liberal donation of useful volumes.

Professor Beardsley and Brother Swofford spent a few days the past month at the Tuskegee Normal Institute attending the agricultural conference there. Perhaps they will give a complete account of their visit later.

The storm and cold snap of the twelfth and thirteenth of January caused some inconvenience and discomfort, but no real suffering at Oakwood.

We regret to announce that Mrs. I. Cartwright-Cunningham, has been forced by illness to give up temporarily the work of matron. We are fortunate in being able to secure the help of Mrs. C. J. Boyd for the emergency.

Our band and orchestra are making encouraging progress. We are real proud of them.

We have just begun the second semester of the school year. All seem determined to make it the best term of school in the history of Oakwood.

The Huntsville church reports an interesting and profitable occasion during the week of prayer.

Students are still coming in. This week's arrivals have brought our enrollment up to 142.

Professors Parks and Ramsey of Normal were visitors at Oakwood during the month. They came in the interest of the Red Cross movement.

January 13-20 was Good English week at Oakwood. Appropriate songs with other suitable exercises occupied the time at chapel during the week. We hope to see a marked advance in our speaking and writing as the result of this effort.