

# GOSPEL HERALD

Volume XII

HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA, DECEMBER, 1918

Number 12

## HE SLEEPS IN FRANCE'S BOSOM

*A tribute to fallen blacks "Over There."*

He sleeps in France's bosom,  
The Brave, of yesterday:  
Who gave his life while fighting,  
To save Democracy.

He fell a gallant patriot,  
Amidst the hot affray:  
With stars and stripes, o'er waving,  
Upon the cold, cold clay.

No one was there to aid him,  
No mother standing near:  
To say,—"Be brave, my darling,  
I'm here, so do not fear."

No sister near to kiss him,  
No wife to hold his head;  
Alone, midst foe and stranger,  
Freedom's son fell dead.

But hush! Here come a message,  
From far across the sea;  
In crimson red, 'tis written,  
"I gave my life for thee."

"My life, I freely gave it,  
For you and liberty;  
'Tis all I had to offer,  
My country fair and free."

"Tell Mother dear, don't worry,  
Her son is now at rest;  
He sleeps with France's fairest,  
One of America's best."

He sleeps in France's bosom,  
In No Man's land somewhere;  
To wake no more, till Gabriel  
Calls him to Mansions fair.

H. D. GREENE.

### Nineteen-eighteen at Oakwood

THE year is not yet ended, but we think it no harm to begin counting our blessings at this early date. During the more than ten months that are in the past God has been very good to us, and we have prospered in many ways. Perhaps the first item of importance was the successful closing of school last spring, when between forty and fifty of our students entered different branches of the Lord's work. Of late these have been returning, bringing with them good reports of the work accomplished, including some very valuable experiences, in which they learned anew what it means to trust in God.

At this time also many of our old students who have spent the vacation at their homes, have returned, and many new ones have come, till

at this writing we have over 140 enrolled. This number is taxing our accommodations to the limit. Several new rooms have been prepared above the dining room, and these are spoken for, and some filled. Henderson Hall is filled, and Butler Hall nearly so. Old Mansion has every room occupied, and some have not come because we are not able to provide them with quarters.

Our students have had good health and our work has progressed very satisfactorily considering that we are short of the young men on whom we usually depend for much of the farm work. We are not now able to compute the yield of all our crops; all have been good, though in some instances less than last year. Our garden yielded plentifully, and has supplied us all summer, and much has been canned for

winter use. Our sweet potatoes yielded prolifically, and the potato curing house is filled to the ceiling with over 1200 bushels, and an overflow of 100 bushels has been stored in another place for immediate use. One thousand gallons of sorghum have been made from our cane patch. The cotton is not all picked, nor the corn shredded, so we cannot give the returns for these. We can report enough broom corn raised to make more brooms than we can use this year.

Our teaching force is heavily loaded, yet all manifest a willingness to undertake the work, even working nights to give the students the individual help they require to complete their work. We are expecting great things of God, and with his help the year's work will be a success.

J. I. BEARDSLEY.

## Oakwood Junior College

THE day of Christ's coming is hastening. We must labor as we never have in the past to fit men and women speedily to finish the work. It is a recognized fact that to-day all classes of men and women must receive a training before entering any phase of public life. It is a realization of this that makes us so anxious to have all our young people in our schools.

Twenty millions of colored people are looking to Oakwood for consecrated youth to help carry the message to their unenlightened doors. Shall we disappoint them?

We are indeed thankful that Henderson Hall, the ladies' dormitory, is already full of young women who have come to fit themselves for active Christian work. By coming to a Christian school, where "first things are placed first," they cannot fail to have their characters molded after the Divine Pattern, for "by beholding we become like Him."

The courses of study have been so arranged as to keep Christ ever before the students. In the morning and afternoon sessions of school, all assemble for religious exercises in the Chapel.

### RELIGION IN THE HOME

Not only in the school room, and in the various religious exercises of the church, is the personal Savior kept before the students, but also in the home. We are firm believers in the text: "My voice shalt thou hear in the morning, O Lord; in the morning will I direct my prayer unto thee." Ps. 5:3. Each morning at 5:30, we have our morning worship to hear read and discussed such helpful topics as, "Kingship of Self Control," "Faults and Ideals of Young Women," "Evils of the Tongue," "Discouragement," "Trials," "Time of the End," "Consecration," "Prayer," "Health Reform," etc. We realize that to be able to withstand the wiles of Satan, we must begin each day right.

After the strenuous day is over, at 6:15 each school evening, worship is held again in the home. From time to time the students conduct these meetings which not

only benefit the hearers, but also give the leaders special training to develop their ability for public life.

The inmates of the home are divided into eight prayer bands. Over these, consecrated youth have been placed. On Tuesday evenings at the regular worship hour, these leaders meet with the preceptress for consultation and prayer; and present the needs of each band. Here, plans are also laid to make the school spiritually what Christ would have it to be. On each Wednesday evening, the leaders meet with their respective bands. "Steps to Christ" is made the basis of study at these meetings, with the desire that each student will at last reach the perfection of Christian character. Pray that our efforts to reach this standard will not be in vain.

MRS HARRY E. FORD, *Preceptress.*

## Out of the Cities

WHEN Lot first separated from Abraham and chose the valley of Jordan with its wicked cities, reeking with physical and moral pollution, rather than the free air and pure life of the country, he made a serious mistake. Perhaps he did not even intend to settle in such a wicked place as Sodom, much less did he think he was making a choice that would decide the fate of his family, for time and eternity.

The record states that he pitched his tent toward Sodom; possibly at his first encampment his tent was placed where his eyes rested almost constantly on the city with its busy marts, glamour of lights and whirl of excitement. His wife and daughters came to look upon city activity as the desirable end of life and it was only a question of time until, by a succession of events, Lot found himself sitting in the gates as one of the city fathers and his family became wholly occupied in the social events of their chosen surroundings.

Lot's possessions were soon transferred into city property and ere long the interest of himself and his family were identical with that of the wicked inhabitants of the most flourishing city of the rich and fertile Jordan valley. The inter-marriage between Lot's daughters

and the unbelieving inhabitants of Sodom, though forbidden of God, was but the natural consequence of his choice, and the morals of himself and his unmarried daughters fell so low as to blind their eyes to their wicked surroundings.

In heaven Angels were recording the increasing violence of the inhabitants of the rich and idle city, and the day of retribution was drawing on apace. Even the prayers of righteous Abraham could not stay the vengeance of God upon her. Vainly Heaven sought for ten righteous persons within the city and the destroying messengers hastened on their way. Abused and mistreated by men who had passed their probation they urged Lot to gather his family and flee from the dreadful place.

Lot, surprised and benumbed by the awful message could not grasp the reality of his surroundings and lingered in the devoted city loth to leave his property and family to perish in the destruction. With his wife and two unmarried daughters he was hastened from the place and urged to escape to the mountains.

Lot pleaded to remain in Zoar because he did not know how to support himself in the country, and now bereft of his wife and all his earthly possessions, he took up life anew in one of the towns that had been marked for destruction. He became afraid for his life and finally escaped into the country. Here he planted a vineyard and engaged in the manufacture of wine. This occupation resulted in the last vile act of his immoral daughters, and Lot's flickering light went out in darkness. What excuse he will offer at the gate of heaven for the loss of his family is a question of deepest importance. If heaven is a place where one individual will be lonesome and lost wandering about searching for companionship and loved ones, and seeing no reward of labor;—if such a one can enter heaven surely that one will be Lot the dweller in Sodom. W. L. B.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

The December *Watchman* will be a special "Red Cross" issue. As the edition is limited owing to paper conservation, please place your orders early.

## Harvesting and Care of the Sweet Potato

THE sweet potato is one of Oakwood's staple crops. For the last four years special attention has been given to the growing of this vegetable which forms one of the principal dishes during the winter months.

But as the sweet potato cannot be kept for any period of time in cold weather, special care needs to be taken of them or they will quickly decay. This year it was decided to construct a special building so as to carefully store away our large expected crop, which after being harvested was found to be thirteen hundred bushels.

The building which is very modern in its construction averages 24x16x13 and has three apartments; a concrete basement or cellar, for the storing away of such food stuffs as the department sees fit, the second is for sweet potatoes while the third is for grains and seed. The entire building is made up of double walls and floors having a layer of building paper under layer of wood to conserve warmth.

The second floor is laid off in eight bins, each having a capacity of one hundred fifty bushels; four on each side of a main hallway with an eighteen inch air space at the end and ventilating holes at each corner of the building. These bins are made of strips having a four inch air space behind and two inch spaces between and beneath, allowing the free circulation of air.

A thermometer which hangs on the inner wall registers the temperature which must be maintained by a stove, at about 60 degrees, throughout the winter. J. E. JERVIS.

## Red Cross

TRUE Christian service is ever to be admired. In the work the Red Cross is doing, that of helping suffering humanity, we find a work that lies very close to the Saviour's heart. It was God who first revealed his love to us that we might taste the great joy in ministering to others. The December *Watchman Magazine* cover is a beautiful conception of that great love which surrounds the work of the Red Cross. It is worthy of much individual thought, and searching of our own hearts to know that we have ren-

dered our fullest Christian duty to our fellowmen. May this December cover picture be an inspiration on the part of all to give, and give liberally, to the Red Cross and other worthy institutions for the speedy relief of the needy.

C. E. HOOPER.

## Special Harvest Ingathering Notice

THE last copies of the *Harvest Ingathering* for 1918 are now being finished, ready for mailing, thus making a total edition of 1,200,000 copies. Nearly one million one hundred thousand have already been mailed and the remaining copies are going fast; therefore all conferences needing a few extra copies should send in their orders at once. While these *Harvest Ingathering* papers are free, nevertheless, they have cost a large sum to prepare and special care should be taken this year on the part of all workers to see that every copy is put in service, averaging not less than twenty-five cents per paper.

SOUTHERN PUBLISHING ASS'N.

## Summer Canvassing Reports

RESPONDING to the call of my Heavenly Master, I left Oakwood last May at the close of school and joined my fellow workers in the field. Many trying circumstances were experienced owing to prevailing conditions. The arch-deceiver was not idle, but mightily worked to hinder hungry souls from receiving the bread of life.

With determined effort, our work for the Master was pursued; we were daily strengthened; and our petitions for souls ceased not to ascend to the throne of grace.

The personal blessings received are more than I can thank the Lord for; and I feel rejoiced to return to a place where I can learn to do more efficient work for Him. I am doubly repaid for my efforts when I think of the many homes supplied by the precious books containing the truth for this time, and contemplate the meeting of these readers in God's everlasting kingdom.

J. E. JERVIS.

I left Oakwood Junior College at the close of the last semester, to reach the field to which I had been

assigned. Arriving there about the first of June, the people seemed to be waiting for the literature that I had. I began taking subscriptions for "Bible Readings"; I took many hundred dollars worth of orders in the vicinity of Watson, Arkansas. I also had splendid success in many other places. When the time of my delivery came, I had passed my goal, which was \$2,000.00 and I can humbly say, the Lord enabled me to deliver 70% of them in spite of the war, influenza and rain. He will help us if we only trust Him.

A. SAWYER.

Upon entering the canvassing field this summer I fully resolved to let the Lord have his way and to use me as He saw fit. My experiences were many and varied. On the second day of my work I was apprehended and put in jail. After a few hours I was liberated with warning not to return. I went gladly on praising God for the privilege of suffering for his name. I summoned my courage, fully determined to accomplish my task. Never before had I so fully realized the protecting and guiding hand of my Redeemer.

I was afterward watched, arrested, tried and fined, but not discouraged; for He that said "Fear not, I am with thee", stood by me to the last. To my joy, many hungry souls have received bread of everlasting life. R. S. LITTLE.

"The colporteur who goes forth to his work prompted by the right motive, the salvation of souls, and trusting God to help him, may be sure of the abiding presence of the Holy angels."

The following experience that I had with a man, who purchased a book from me, illustrates the truthfulness of this statement. When he saw me coming he said to his friend, "I don't want any book"; but after I gave him a canvass he gave me his order. He also encouraged his friend to give his order for such a book as "Bible Readings for the Home Circle". This experience carries my mind back to Pro. 21:1 that says, "The king's heart is in the hands of the Lord, as the rivers of water; he turneth it whithersoever he will".

W. L. ADAMS.

# GOSPEL HERALD

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE  
NEGRO DEPARTMENT OF THE NORTH  
AMERICAN DIVISION CONFERENCE OF  
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS  
HUNTSVILLE, ALA.

Oakwood Junior College, Printers

W. L. BIRD EDITOR  
M. C. STRACHAN }  
T. B. RUCKNER } EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTORS

Entered as second class matter at the Post office at  
Huntsville, Ala.

Price per year, 25 cents  
To foreign countries, 40 cents

To insure insertion in the current issue, articles  
should reach our office not later than the twentieth  
of the month preceding date of issue.

## OAKWOOD NEWS

The new potato house is just now being finished. It is 16x24 with a cement basement and attic and already contains thirteen hundred bushels of potatoes.

Our winter garden is well under way and the class in gardening is one of the most interesting in the institution.

Our student Canvassers have nearly all returned from their fields. They all report excellent success and a rich experience during the summer vacation.

Brother H. E. Ford of Des Moines, Iowa, husband of our preceptress, made us a short visit recently. He spoke very encouragingly of our work and expressed himself as being well pleased with what he saw. Brother Ford conducted worship at the girl's Hall while here.

Work at Oakwood is well up and the crops are very good in spite of the drought that came in the last of summer. The silo is filled with feed, 1000 gallons of molasses are in the cellar, and a good supply of corn has been gathered for food and feed.

Our garden has been a great help this summer. Since the earliest spring we have had a good supply of vegetables every day. The late frosts have prolonged our supply. The gardener is now planning for such winter varieties as can be produced in this climate.

The nurses' class has been organized. It has six bright and happy faces and a smiling teacher. Sister Reeder seems proud of her class

and takes a great interest in its success.

Brother Ward is perfectly at home in the office and seems to fit the place as smoothly as if he had been fitted specially for it.

Oakwood's library has become a real factor in the experience of our students. We now have about one half of the required number for a Junior College. These have all been duly entered and classified according to the Dewey decimal system. Oakwood students are proud of such a helpful agency.

We have had some very helpful gifts recently for this department. Others are still coming. Please write us what donations you can make.

The science room has been put in order for class use. Large cupboards and closets have been provided, and a new combination table and experiment cabinet has been ordered.

The thirteenth grade has had several additions recently, and the freshman college year class is proving much interest to the institution. Other students are yet expected as forbidding conditions have hindered many from attending.

Our students are, as a class, the most studious and serious that have attended Oakwood in its recent history. The intensity of the times and the crisis which we face, no doubt tend to produce a more thoughtful and meditative body of students and teachers. We feel assured that God is blessing us in our school activities, and that this year's work will mean much in our proportion for service in the vineyard of the Lord.

## Enforced Vacation at Oakwood

ON Tuesday, December 9, school reopened after an enforced vacation of three weeks during an epidemic of Influenza. At one time so many were sick it was a grave question how to care for them; even the feeding of those able to eat was a problem. Our work was at a stand still; but by diligent search we found and secured three trained nurses, one of whom is a physician of experience. Following the Influenza a number took pneumonia, and we had when school opened nine cases in the

Sanitarium with day and night nurses, but all making good recoveries. Two students, Carrie Fountain, of Montgomery, Ala., and William Gray, of Hazen, Ark., died with pneumonia. Their loss brings a gloom of sadness as we return to our work with their places vacant, but we trust they sleep in Jesus. The teachers have definite plans for making up the time lost, and we look forward to the closing of a profitable session for all.

J. I. BEARDSLEY.

## The Ford Land

THIS has become a familiar term to us at Oakwood since the purchase of the land across the road this summer. We feel God planned this where it is for a purpose, and aided us in getting it. We are not at this time going to enumerate all the advantages we see in this piece of property, but state that we are planning to make it bring the returns which its purchase demands. Already its logs have afforded us the lumber for framing and sheathing one small building.

We are receiving applications from families of our people wishing to attend school, to rent homes here.

We hope to accommodate such as rapidly as homes can be prepared. What we need most of all is to harness the water supply and provide our buildings instead of the inadequate plan of pumping daily and sometimes nightly from our two wells with power pumps. By building a reservoir at the spring, which is but 2700 feet from our present water supply tank, and twenty-seven feet above its top, we hope to have a constant supply of water supplied to us by gravity.

We are seriously considering the purchase of a tractor, which will enable us to prepare a good portion of this new land for crops while caring for the original farm.

J. I. BEARDSLEY.

Sample copies of this issue are being sent out to some of our old subscribers. No doubt many of them are planning to renew but are awaiting a favorable opportunity. The **HERALD** gives Oakwood news fresh and up to date; why not subscribe today?