

Indiana Reporter

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THE CHURCH AND ITS MISSION

No. 3.

ONE MORE CHANCE

The Lord is long-suffering and gracious, and he gives those who have done this wickedness another chance. "Return unto me," he says, "and I will return unto you." But they say, "Wherein shall we return?" Their means have been made to flow in channels of self-service and self-glorification, as if their goods were their own, and not lent treasures. Their perverted consciences have become so hard and unimpressible that they do not realize what great wickedness they have done in so hedging up the way that the cause of truth could not advance. Man, finite man, through using for himself the talents which God has reserved to publish salvation, to send the glad news of a Saviour's love to perishing souls, and hedging up the way by his selfishness, inquires:

ROBBING GOD

"Wherein have we robbed Thee?" God answers, "In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation." The whole world is engaged in robbing God. With the

money he has lent them they indulge in dissipation, in amusements, reveling, feasting, and disgraceful indulgences.

TO JUDGMENT

But God says, "I will come near you to judgment." The whole world will have an account to settle in that great day when every one shall receive sentence according to his deeds.

A BLESSING PLEDGED

God pledges himself to bless those who will obey his commandments, "Bring ye all the tithes into the store-house, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of Hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruits before the time in the field, saith the Lord of Hosts."

DOES THIS MEAN YOU?

With these words of light and truth before them, how dare men neglect so plain a duty? How dare they disobey God when obedience to his requirements mean prosperity in temporal and spiritual things, and disobedience means the curse of God? Satan is the destroyer. God cannot bless those who refuse to be faithful stewards. All we can do is to permit Satan to do his destroying work. We see calamities of every shape and in every degree coming upon the earth, and why?—The Lord's restraining power is not exercised. The world has disregarded the word of God. They live as though there were no God. Like the inhabitants of the Noachic world, they refuse to have any thought of God. Wickedness prevails to an alarming extent, and the earth is ripe for the harvest. "Your words have been stout against me, saith the Lord. Yet ye

say, what have we spoken so much against thee? Ye have said, It is vain to serve God; and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the Lord of Hosts? And now we call the proud happy; yea they that work wickedly are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered."

WHO COMPLAIN

Those who withhold from God his own make these complaints: The Lord asks them to prove him by bringing their tithe into his store-house, and to see whether he will not pour them out a blessing. But they cherish rebellion in their hearts, and complain of God, and at the same time they rob him, and embezzle his goods. When their sin is presented to them, they say, "I have had adversity: my crops have been poor; but the wicked are prospered. It does not pay to keep the ordinance of the Lord." But God does not want any to walk mournfully before him. Those who thus complain of God have brought their adversity on themselves. They have robbed God, and his cause has been hindered because the money which should have flowed into his treasury was used for selfish purposes.

DISLOYALTY SHOWN

They showed their disloyalty to God by failing to carry out his prescribed plan. When God prospered them, and they were asked to give him his portion, they shook their heads, and could not see that it was their duty. They closed the eyes of their understanding, that they might not see it. They withheld the Lord's money, and hindered the work which he designed should be done

CAUSE OF FAILURE

God was not honored by the use of his entrusted goods. Therefore he let the curse fall upon them, permitting the spoiler to destroy their

fruits and to bring calamities upon them.

FAITHFUL RECORD POSSIBLE

No one can excuse himself from paying his tithes and offerings to the Lord. Another year has nearly passed into eternity, with its burden of record. Let us look over the past year, and if we have not done our full duty willingly heartily unto the Lord, let us come up to the new year in making a faithful record to our God.

MRS. E. G. WHITE.

(To be Continued.)

SHALL WE BORROW?

It is evident that, unless money is contributed freely to aid in the construction of the buildings at Washington, the work will have to cease, or those in charge will have to borrow. Shall the work stop? Certainly not. It would be unwise to cease now. Shall we borrow? We hear thousands exclaiming, No, No, NO!

Will not all who expect to aid in the work, do so immediately? Some are saying, "I expect to send on a donation before the buildings are completed." If so, why not now? The weather in Washington is not so severely cold in the winter as in the north, and building operations can be continued all winter, and those in charge should have ready means to prosecute the work. We trust it will not become necessary to borrow. The moment this is done, interest begins. It eateth like a cancer. It ceaseth not. It is unacquainted with a Sabbath or rest day of whatever name or nature. It knows no vacation. It increaseth liabilities constantly.

On account of debts already created by our publishing houses, sanitariums, and schools, the denomination is paying in interest at least \$50,000 each year. Such an interest bill is indeed a terrible drain in consuming earnings and donations. Could we get out of debt, and the amount we now pay in interest be placed in mission fields in paying laborers, thousands could be warned, and hundreds would embrace the truth to become pillars in the church, and donate thousands of dollars to the cause to press the message still farther into the regions beyond.

It would be inconsistent to borrow under the circumstances. It can be

avoided if all will donate now. If we do not, and the money is borrowed under the necessity of circumstances to complete the buildings, will not those who do not donate become more responsible than those who have the work in charge? Should the work cease for lack of means, it would be to the chagrin of the builders, the detriment of the cause, and constitute a severe rebuke to our lack of liberality.

Let us NOT BORROW, but be liberal, realizing that the Lord loves a cheerful giver. Thus shall we please the Lord, gladden the hearts of the builders, forward the cause, and hasten the glorious consummation when care and anxiety will surrender to pleasure, death to life, and earthly institutions to mansions of glory.

S. H. LANE.

THE REVIEW AND HERALD

We should never lose sight of the fact that the Review and Herald is our church paper, and no other periodical printed by the denomination can take its place.

How I wish every family of Seventh Day Adventists in Indiana appreciated the value of the Review, enough to subscribe for it, and read carefully its contents each week.

But some will say, "We are not able to take the Review. We have not the money to spare to subscribe for it." Now, is this really true? Do not all of our brethren and sisters get the necessaries of life, or those things which they feel they need most? Certainly they do; and if they felt that it was one of the most important things in their necessities to have the Review, it would be among the first things procured.

Now, is it NOT one of the most important necessities in our lives, if we meet the mind of God in his great plan and work for this time? Is it not our first duty to seek the kingdom of God and his righteousness? Is not the matter of our spiritual life and growth of the first and greatest importance? Should not that come first and before our temporal necessities? Listen to the words of Christ: "I say unto you, the LIFE is more than meat, and the body is more than raiment." Luke 12:23. Then the things that pertain to our spiritual good are of first importance: and could we all realize this, the Review would be in every

home. For the Review is the best and greatest medium in the denomination to assist in encouraging and building up and establishing its readers in the faith.

I believe it to be a truth, that those who will take the Review and read its contents weekly, will never apostatise from the faith. It brings to them from week to week the advancement of the work in all parts of the world. It gives the latest fulfillment of prophecy in the development of the message. It gives the trumpet a certain sound in exposing the many heresies that are arising on every hand and points us to the sure Word which is our guide and safety. No one can be an up-to-date Adventist, and well informed in the progress of the message, unless he is connected with the work at its head or is a reader of the Review.

Will not those who are readers of this good paper, and who know its value, become active workers for it, and assist in placing it in the homes of every Seventh Day Adventist in this state within the next few weeks? This would be a good work and help to save some who are becoming cold and apostatising each year. Who will assist in this noble work?

W. J. STONE.

HOW ARE YOU CLOSING YOUR YEARS RECORD?

Many business men at the close of the year take an inventory of stock, to see how they are standing, and endeavor to square accounts, and start anew the beginning of another year.

I have thought it might be a good plan for every Seventh Day Adventist in Indiana to look over their accounts, and see how they stand with the Lord. We are now in the time when God is reckoning with his people; and none can afford to have their accounts in any other condition only correct. As we enter the new year, let us do so with the curse of God lifted from us, and with his smiles and blessings resting upon us.

Let all before the year shall close, bring to the Lord all that is due him in tithes as well as offerings. If this is done, the new year will be entered upon with our tithe treasury free from debt, the laborers all paid in full, and brighter prospects for the

coming year for Indiana than this conference has seen for years.

I am glad to report that everything looks encouraging, and the future prospects bright. The coming year should be one of the greatest prosperity of any year in the history of the message in the state. Let us pray that this may be so. W. J. S.

FINISHED!

At this date (Nov. 30) nearly every copy of the 400,000 Gospel Series of the SIGNS OF THE TIMES has been ordered. As the Publishers believe our people would prefer to spend their future time in following up the work already begun, they have decided not to print more, but have begun hunting up such unused packages as may be lying in Tract Society depositories.

Concerning follow-up work we would suggest the following:-

1. Secure subscriptions wherever possible. The regular visits of a journal like the SIGNS OF THE TIMES, SOUTHERN WATCHMAN, or LIFE AND HEALTH for a year, may enlighten a whole family. The Prospectus for 1905, given on the last pages of the fourth Special SIGNS, will help you.

2. The four new tracts, viz., "Heralds of His Coming," "Waymarks to the Holy City," "The Gospel Message for To-day," and "Who changed the Sabbath," will enable you to answer many of the inquiries arising as a result of former visits.

3. And then there are the following small books especially adapted to home work:-

- Christ's Object Lessons.
- Story of Joseph.
- Education.
- Mount of Blessing.
- Things Foretold.
- Steps to Christ.
- Uncle Ben's Cobblestones.
- Power for Witnessing.
- Great Nations of To-day.
- Thoughts on Daniel, paper.
- Smushine at Home.
- Thoughts on Revelation, paper.
- Vegetarian Cook Book.

If we all do as faithful work in following up interests already created as we have in the circulation of our periodicals, a great victory will be gained. Let us do it.

H. H. HALL.

Sec'y. Gen. Conf. Pub. Com.

If any of our churches have, through missionary efforts awakened an interest sufficient to demand ministerial help, we will be glad to hear from them at once, and we will endeavor to fill the call. Let all who know of good openings for meetings this winter where rooms can be had, report same to Elder Stone at once.

SUMMARY OF SABBATH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT OF INDIANA CONFERENCE

FOR THE QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1904.

SCHOOL.	Present	Mem'ship	Average Attendance	Home Dept	Total Contributions	Expense of Schools	Donations to Missions	Donations for Orphans
Anderson.....	39	38			\$8 28	\$3 67	\$4 69	\$2 40
Barber's Mills.....	35	34			7 37		7 37	
Boggs town.....	68	48			9 62		6 12	
Brookston.....								
Connersville.....	18	9			3 40	2 50	90	
Dana.....								
Danville.....	3	3			2 00			
Denver.....	5	4			2 87	17		
Elnora.....								
Elwood.....	16	13			2 14	7 70		
Fairmount.....	12	10			1 20			
Farmersburg.....							93	
Franklin.....	5	5			1 81	43	2 24	
Forest.....	3	3						
Gas City.....								
Goshen.....	10	7			2 93	50		1 10
Grass Creek.....	31	23			5 00	2 60	50	4 56
Greenfield.....	16	13			6 04	3 00		3 17
Hartford City.....								
Honey Creek.....	27	23			5 12	65		1 48
Huntington.....	15	9			2 16	55	6 52	
Idaville.....	15	10			1 85			1 63
Inwood.....	16	14	3		5 52	1 70	3 82	
Indianapolis.....	55	35			18 64	2 55	17 78	
Indianapolis, E.S.....	38	33			13 90	3 84	10 06	
Jonesboro.....					2 48	2 30		
Jefferson.....	9	8			2 00	25		
Kennard.....	16	11			7 28	4 45	2 95	
Kokomo.....	38	20			2 74		82	
Lafayette.....								
Landess.....	13	10			1 65		60	
Logansport.....	17	15						
Lyons.....	8	7			3 55	10	52	
Linton.....	19	12						
Marion.....	25	21			2 70			
Martinsville.....					9 36	2 80	4 93	6 30
Michaels.....	26	26			3 66	1 36		2 10
Middletown.....	26	18			5 77		5 77	
Montezuma.....	12	8			3 85		3 85	
Mt Vernon.....	20	15	4		2 08	14		
Mt. Zion.....	62	43			6 54	5 10	1 44	
Muncie.....	28	26			9 16	7 13	2 03	
New Marion.....	4	4			52	40		
North Liberty.....	23	20			6 50		6 50	
Olive Branch.....	11	8			2 17	50		
Ooltie.....	30	22			4 96	1 90		
Patrick'sburg.....	9	9			1 57	40	1 17	2 30
Peru.....	15	12			5 29	2 80		
Petersburg.....	14	9			1 74	42		
Pleasant View.....	15	10			1 42	1 42		
Princeton.....	10	5			2 12	1 26		
Richmond.....	22	9			5 08	58	4 58	
Rochester.....	20	15			4 65	7 96	2 64	
Radnor.....	8	8			2 31	1 25		
Seymour.....	13	10			1 35	1 35	14	
South Bend.....	19	17			4 70	6 95	1 20	
Salem.....	12	11			3 79	47	2 02	1 30
Spencer.....								
Terre Haute.....							2 33	
Unionville.....	17	12			1 09	51	56	
Vincennes.....	12	12			4 20	65	3 68	52
Waldron.....	20	17	3		5 03	4 25		
Walkerton.....	9	8			2 88		2 70	1 40
Wolf Lake.....	76	54			12 02	10 01		2 17
(Mt. Clair).....							2 00	
Total.....	1,105	851	10	235	76	\$96 47	146 66	\$30 95

their entire contributions for the quarter to missions. There will certainly have a rich blessing from the Lord. I know that it is not always possible to do this, but I am sure there might be a great improvement along this line. And you will note that many schools show no offering to missions for the last quarter. In view of the vast work to be accomplished in this generation, our offerings will have to be greatly increased. May the Lord imbue us with the spirit of sacrifice and service, for the great work before us.

I am grieved to note the small amount of offerings to the Orphan's Home. I was unable, on account of my illness, to send a special letter to our schools, in behalf of this offering, but I thought all knew its importance, and would respond liberally, in view of the winter which is so near at hand, when the Home will be in need of the help of all its friends. I would suggest that all who have not made this offering, (only 14 schools reported on this) do so yet, and send it direct to the Haskell Home. It will cause their hearts to rejoice, and your own souls will be watered thereby.

Praying that the blessing and power of God may be with us all in the mighty

DEAR SABBATH-SCHOOLS:-

I am glad to be able to again submit a report of our work for the quarter ending September 30. I am very grateful that so many were faithful in sending in their reports, though you will see that some have forgotten, or failed to see the importance of attending to this part of the Lord's work.

I hope that all will carefully study the summary, and compare the report of your own school with that of others. You will notice that a few of the Sabbath-schools have given

work upon which we have entered, I am,

Yours for a finishing work,
MRS. R. W. McMAHAN.

The title of the four new tracts recently prepared especially for missionary work during the fall and winter are, "Heralds of His Coming," "Waymarks to the Holy City," "The Gospel Message for Today," and "Who Changed the Sabbath." We hope our people will order a large supply of these tracts and give them a wide circulation.

NEWS and NOTES

Elder W. A. Young has now located in the city and lives at 1617 Bellefontaine Street.

Elder W. D. Curtis visited the church at Greenfield the first part of the week of prayer.

Elder Stone has been spending a few days in Kentucky, looking after important matters.

Elder R. M. Harrison paid a visit to this office recently. We were glad to meet him once more.

We are glad to report that our sisters at Terre Haute who had the smallpox, have fully recovered.

An ordained minister of the United Brethren church has accepted the truth and joined the church at Hartford City.

Elder F. M. Roberts and Brother E. C. Swartz will hold a series of meetings at Montpelier. Pray for success in these meetings.

Brother Ford has recently assisted two new canvassers in getting started in the work, and is pushing the canvassing work in his district.

What are you doing in this missionary campaign for your neighbors and friends? What does God expect of you? Shall he be disappointed?

The Reporter list is growing. Have you sent in your subscription? If not, we shall be pleased to receive it before the next issue of the paper.

Brother U. S. Anderson has been holding meetings with the Hartford City church with some interest and some have taken a stand for the truth.

We hope to have reports from each church in the state, not only of the amount of the Annual Offerings, but also of the interest and spirit in the meetings.

We want fifty consecrated canvassers to enter the work in Indiana within the next sixty days. We hope to hold some institutes soon in the conference to revive this work.

We hope that those who have been doing missionary work with the special issues of our periodicals, will now try to follow up the interest awakened, by securing yearly, six months and shorter subscriptions for these periodicals, and thus follow up the work until fruit is developed.

The canvassing work has more encouraging prospects ahead than for months in the past. Brother McCuaig recently wrote quite an encouraging letter regarding the work in his territory.

Brethren Peter Sailor and Robert Leach have asked for permission to hold a series of meetings in Jefferson County. They say that they do not expect any pay from the Conference. Pray—pray earnestly for the success of these beginners.

"I received the sixty copies of LIFE AND HEALTH day before yesterday, and sold them all except two the next day. Could easily have sold many more, but I was feeling badly and could not work longer as my health is poor."

Many others are doing as well as the one giving the above report. It might be well for some of our readers to send for sample copies of this excellent health journal and place it in circulation in their community.

The cover of the December LIFE AND HEALTH is very neat and attractive. It is made up of a picture of the Bartholdi Fountain covered with ice as it appeared on the day of McKinley's second inauguration, with the Capitol buildings looming in the background. The following contents of this issue will be found to be very interesting and profitable:

HEALTH BY CHEWING.

THE RATIONALE OF EXERCISE.

THE DOCTOR AND HIS PATIENTS.

FOODS AND CUSTOMS IN CHINA.

THE DOCTOR TO HIS SON.

CHRIST A LOVER OF NATURE.

HOW TO ARRANGE THE DESSERT.

In addition to the above topics, there are many other interesting articles, editorials, etc. All this valuable reading in a single issue of Life and Health costs only five cents a copy and only fifty cents a year by subscription.

EDUCATIONAL MEETING AND MISSIONARY CONVENTION

I spent Sabbath, Nov. 26, with the church at Muncie, at their request. We had a profitable season, and the Lord blessed in both meetings. The forenoon was devoted to the consideration of Christian Education, and it was decided that they would at once take steps to arrange for a church school, to begin near the first of December. The company are fortunate in securing the services of Bro. Edgar Myers as teacher. Thus another little center of influence has begun, that will fit the children to receive the Holy Spirit, "For the promise is unto you and to your children," and the Lord has told us in the Spirit of Prophecy that he will "put his Spirit upon the children who are receiving a Christian education," and they will go forth and give the message to the world when it will be no longer possible for older ones to do it.

In the afternoon we came together and spent two hours in the missionary convention, following the program outlined in the REVIEW. It was decided to order campaign literature for missionary work. The importance of each family having our periodicals, especially the REVIEW and our state paper, was urged, and the elder took a number of names for these periodicals. It was also decided to take a number of the special Watchman for missionary purposes.

The company seemed greatly encouraged, and we felt blessed in meeting with them. May the Lord greatly bless and prosper the church school, and may the church faithfully bear the message of warning to the people of Muncie.

Mrs. R. W. McMAHAN.

Subscribe for the Reporter 25 cents.

REPORT OF CANVASSING WORK FOR FOUR WEEKS, ENDING DEC. 10, 1904

NAME.	PLACE.	Book.	HOURS.		Value.	Value Helps	Value Del.	Orders from Office.
			Hours	Orders				
Blankenship, James.	Medaryville	Bible Read	138	23	\$ 52 00	\$ 6 50		
Browning, H. S.	Indianapolis	Miscellaneous	29		81 50	1 65		
Bartholomew, F. N.	St. Joseph Co.	B. R. 3 C. K. 29	32		36 75	38 00		
Blosser, Gusta.	Elkhart	Coming King						
Blosser, Cora	Elkhart	Coming King						
Ford, A. C.	Vermillion Co.	Bible Read						
Ford, R. R.	Parke Co.	Great Cont.						
Grim, Martin	Putnam Co.	Bible Read	86	26	58 25	50		
McCuaig, W. C.	Goshen	Dan. and Rev.	79	10	14 50	3 90	\$13 25	
Randall, Albert	Huntington	Coming King	12	9				
Young, C. L.	Putnam Co.	Bible Read	36	7	17 00	5 00		
Totals			351	130	\$263 00	\$55 55	\$13 25	