

The South African MISSIONARY

“Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.”

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Man and His Work.

I HAVEN'T much faith in the man who complains

Of the work he has chosen to do;
He's lazy or else he's deficient in brains,
And may be a hypocrite, too.
He's likely to cheat and he's likely to rob—
Away with the man who finds fault with his job.

But give me the man with the sun in his face,

And the shadows all dancing behind,
Who can meet his reverses with calmness and grace,

And never forget to be kind.
For whether he's wielding a scepter or swab,
I have faith in the man who's in love with his job.—*Clover Leaves.*

An Urgent Call to Work the Cities.

THE monthly missionary readings just received are a most stirring appeal to our people to arise in the strength of the Lord and give the message speedily to the cities throughout the entire world.

This appeal embraces all classes, teachers, doctors, nurses, canvassers, Bible workers and ministers; and it does not stop with these, but urges the churches to share in the work. This movement is akin to the last call to the ancient cities of the plain before their overthrow under the judgments of God.

When we consider that at the presence of the Lord every city is to be broken down (Jer. 4), and just before the coming of Christ the clash between capital and labour, war preparations among the nations, and lastly the seven last plagues are to

waste the cities of the world, we can readily see why such an urgent appeal is now being sounded throughout the whole world.

God has declared that during one generation this message is to go to every nation, kindred, tongue and people. The generation has nearly run its allotted time. The message therefore must soon finish its work.

See the marvellous way in which history is now making among the nations! When the great Russian Empire too rigidly retarded the progress of the message, the Lord loosened her iron clutch on the throttle of the message by the bombardment of the little heathen nation of Japan. When Turkey refused sufficient freedom to the work of the message the government was overturned, and a new and more free government was established. When the old Portuguese government refused to give room for the message to do its work, a revolution changed as in a night the affairs of that monarchy, the king fleeing for his life, the monks were routed from their cloisters, and a free government was established, and its doors were opened for the message.

While these things were occurring, France, with her whole territory agitated with a terrible war between capital and labour, was fulfilling James 5. What does it all mean? The kingdom of God is at hand.

With these facts before us, and with the message reaching its long arms around the world, and entering every seaport on the globe, and with literature going out by the carload,

we do not hesitate to say that it indicates that our time to work is short.

Collection for City Work.

It has therefore been decided by the presidents of the conferences, and the South African Union Conference Committee, to set apart Sabbath, November 12th, as a day of fasting and prayer, and a time for the consideration of the needs of the work in the cities of Africa.

Pastor H. J. Edmed and his faithful workers, are struggling to carry the truth to the people in the city of Johannesburg. Pastor E. R. Williams and his co-workers, are working in Grahamstown and Port Elizabeth. Pastor D. H. Groenewald is endeavouring to get a foothold in Bloemfontein. Still other cities must be worked. We must not longer delay. Those who can not respond to the call and go into the cities and meet the issues and warn the people with the truth, will be inexcusable if they do not assist the work with their means.

On Sabbath, November 12, let every church and company of Sabbath-keepers throughout the union conference read the monthly readings by Sister E. G. White and Pastor A. G. Daniells, on “The Call to Work and Warn Our Cities.” After the reading there should be a prayer service in which all should reconsecrate themselves to the Lord and His work. Following this let a collection be taken that is in keeping with the importance of the work. Some have already given ten pounds, some five pounds, some larger and some smaller amounts, and for this we are thank-

ful. It is a beginning. Let us all lift together and bring an offering becoming the times in which we live, and the importance of the work in the cities. This will give cheer to the hearts and lighten the burdens of our faithful labourers who are seeking to warn the cities of their impending doom. Let us at this time bring in sufficient means so that the work may not be hindered longer.

R. C. PORTER.

A Proper Balance.

OTHERS may be as interested in knowing that the South African Union Conference books, the Cape Conference, and the International Tract Society books, have all balanced to a penny, when the accounts were closed for the year ending September 30th. This shows diligence in business which is according to the Lord's order.

All will read with equal interest the report of the Natal-Transvaal Society. This report gives an excellent showing of the work done during the past year. There has been a great increase in the volume of literature sold this year over the previous year.

Our offices now have the business system in shape to carry on a strong work in Africa. Let us take hold together and give our united strength to the finishing of the work.

R. C. PORTER.

International Tract Society.

Treasurer's Report.

WE have every reason to be grateful for the prosperity that has been vouchsafed the society during the conference year ended 30th September, 1910. As far as value of sales is concerned, it constitutes a record, with a total retail value of books and periodicals amounting to £2354 10 11, made up as follows:—Books, £1687 17 4; Papers, £666 13s. 7d. For such a showing we can well praise the Lord. Previous to

this our best year was 1906, during the progress of the Pretoria Mission, with sales amounting to £1833 19 2, but a smaller company of canvassers than we now have.

A glance at the financial statement will show that our society has come through the year with a nett profit of £45 9 9, yet this is largely due to the generosity of the brethren and sisters at the last conference, who donated in all £121 17 10 to this needy branch of the work. There are still a few pounds in pledges which we trust will be redeemed very soon.

While we are able to disclose a nett profit as mentioned above, yet it must be observed that our actual business transactions, i.e., the buying and selling of books and papers, has resulted in a loss. If you refer to the Loss and Gain Account you will see that we brought forward a capital of £287 16 10 from last year, and that we made a gross profit of £179 3s. 7d. on sales this year, which brings the amount to £467 0 5; our expenses (apart from bad debts, which we do not consider a legitimate expense in a S.D.A. business) total £202 2 5, leaving a balance of £264 18s., or a loss of £22 18 10.

It will naturally be asked how it is that, with such good sales, we have sustained a working loss. There are two reasons that contribute to this: *First*, Some two years ago, when the Natal Health Institute came directly under conference supervision, with Doctor Bell in charge of the Medical Work, the committee decided to commence the sale of Good Health, and voted the profits to the Medical Mission Fund. This has resulted in the tract society turning over £26 4s. 7d. to the Fund, profits for two years. Henceforth the profits will revert to the tract society.

Second, The absorption, by the Johannesburg Mission, of the tract society's share of books and papers sold by them, the value of their sales to date being as follows:—Books, £314 5 9, Periodicals, £412 9 0, Total £726 14 9.

Our gross profit on the remainder

of the sales is about 11½ per cent, and should we have received that percentage on the mission sales, we could have shown a working profit, i.e., a profit apart from donations, of £86 17 3 for the past year. Probably an adjustment will be made at a later date.

Our percentage of expense is eight and three fifths. In considering this item it should be remembered that we have borne our share of the Field Missionary Agent's salary and his travelling expenses whilst in this field.

It is very unfortunate that some of those who profess to "live by faith" are "living by debt" instead, and still more sad to chronicle that the Lord's work falls a prey to such deplorable principles. We sincerely hope that the item "bad debts" will not disfigure our financial statement another year. It is only fair to point out that some of these debts were contracted years ago, but if the reader has any office dues, however long standing, it is much better to pay late than never.

To those who have more than a passing interest in the matter, these items will be a guide to the formulation of prices for the future. It is to be hoped that we can continue the sale of our subscription books at the same figures as heretofore, in spite of the rise in prices oversea, but it is plain that this can only be done by more stringent adherence to the rules governing the supply of books to canvassers, as our profit is altogether too small to allow of bad debts. We are selling books in South Africa for 21/- that are being sold in Australia (the country of manufacture) for 22/6, and gilt edge books at the same price as marble in U. S. A., the cost of gilding being 1/6. To bring books 10,000 miles and sell them for 1/6 less than in the country of origin is not a good business proposition, and it may yet resolve itself into a cash system or increase in retail price. The former is preferable.

Our trade books show a profit of one half (ten shillings) per cent. This

is considerably less than last year, and it seems imperative that we raise the price of some of our trade books.

The loyal work of the present canvassing staff is much appreciated, also the faithful and business-like manner in which the tract and missionary society secretaries carry out their voluntary duty. We hope they will be spared to continue this work of beneficence till the Saviour returns with the reward for His faithful few.

Loss and Gain Account.

GAINS.	
By Balance from 1909	£287 16 10
" Profit on sale of Books and Papers	179 3 7
" Donations at Camp Meeting	121 17 10
LOSSES.	
General Expense	£20 13 5
Wages	117 15 8
Depreciation	1 19 3
Rent	24 0 0
Interest	10 17 4
Bad Debts	53 9 3
Field Missionary Agents' Expense Account	26 16 9
Balance to 1911	333 6 7
	<u>£588 18 3</u>
	<u>£588 18 3</u>

Balance Sheet.

ASSETS.	
Cash in hand	7 11
" " bank	£13 3 4
Furniture	37 4 11
Stock of Subscription Books	742 17 2
" " Trade Books	197 5 11
Sundry Debtors	372 17 0
LIABILITIES.	
I.T.S. London	£600 0 0
" Hamburg	35 0 7
" Cape Town	33 12 2
Pacific Press	17 2 5
Union College	25 0 0
N. T. Conference	87 2 9
Depositors	177 13 1
Sundry Creditors	54 18 8
Balance to 1911	333 6 7
	<u>£1363 16 3</u>
	<u>£1363 16 3</u>
Balance 30th September, 1910	£333 6 7
" " " 1909	287 16 10
Gain this year	<u>£45 9 9</u>

F. MACDONALD,
Sec. & Treas.

We're On the Way.

By the following report it will be seen that during one year—from September 1st, 1909, to September 1st, 1910—the churches of South Africa have actually reported the sales of ten thousand copies of our good papers and magazines, valued at £11 17s. 4d. This is entirely separate from the regular paper workers' report which is very encouraging as the following figures will show.

During the above mentioned time,

Weekly Report of Book and Paper Sales.

The Paper Work.

Natal-Transvaal Conference, for week ending October 7, 1910.

NAME	TERRITORY	PAPER	NO. SOLD	VALUE OF PAPERS
E. Hodgkin,	Johannesburg,	Misc.	130	3 2 9
C. de Man,	"	"	202	4 13 3
S. Haupt,	"	"	88	2 3 6
B. Willmore,	"	"	176	3 18 0
C. Dixie,	"	"	450	10 16 6
A. W. Dixie,	"	"	120	2 2 6
Mrs. Armer,	Pretoria,	"	139	1 16 6
H. B. Feideler,	"	S. A. Signs,	38	19 0
A. W. Tickton,	Durban,	Misc.	412	5 4 9
Totals,	Agents, 9		1,755	£34 16 9

The Book Work.

Natal-Transvaal Conference, for week ending October 7, 1910.

NAME	PLACE	BOOK	HRS	ORDS	VALUE	HELPS	TOTALS	DEL'D
Mission Company, Jo'burg,	S. D.	83½	3	19 6 1 0 0	1 19 6 47 1 6			
Natal Health Institute,								
	Maritzburg,	M. H. (1 month)	8	3 0 0	3 0 0 30 0 6			
E. Enochson, Boksburg,	P. P.	27	6	6 6 0	6 6 0 8 14 6			
A. W. Tickton, Durban,	P. P.	15	4	4 4 0	4 4 0 1 1 0			
H. Schmidt, Maritzburg,	B. R.	40	6	6 18 6	6 18 6 8 0 6			
T. G. Crouch, Pretoria,	D. R.	30	14	13 4 0	13 4 0 1 11 0			
C. Dixie, Jeppestown,	D. R.	17	15	11 5 0	11 5 0			
Mrs. Armer, Pretoria, H.W.L.I.			3		3 12 0			
Totals,	Agents, 8		215½	56	£45 17 0	£1 0 0	£46 17 0	£100 1 0

Cape Conference, for week ending October 7, 1910.

J. F. Terry, Kimberley, C.O.S.	34	17	2 19 6	19 6	3 19 0	4 3 0		
P. E. Frost, East London, P. G.	22	4	2 18 6	15 6.	3 14 0	5 16 0		
H. J. P. Dwyer, Paarl, Misc.						5 10 6		
D. F. Tarr, Port E'beth, C.O.L.						3 5 0		
Totals,	Agents, 4		56	21	£5 18 0	£1 15 0	£7 13 0	£18 4 6

the regular workers have reported the sales of £637 2s. 3d. worth of periodicals, which, added to the work of the churches, gives a total of £748 9s. 7d.

May the present year far exceed the past in every good word and work. We can "thank God and take courage."

Report of Paper Sales by Churches from June 1, 1910, to September 1, 1910.

CHURCHES	NO. SOLD	VALUE
Previously reported,	5,252	£45 13 9
Previously reported (books),		32 9 0
Total,	5,252	£78 2 9
Claremont, C. C.,	604	2 10 4
Durban, Natal,	2,160	17 19 0
Grahamstown, C. C.,	83	8 6
Jeppestown, Transvaal,	384	6 5 3
Maritzburg, Natal,	102	8 6
Pretoria, Transvaal,	114	1 14 6
Port Elizabeth, C. C.,	498	2 1 6
Uitenhage, C. C.,	396	2 5 6
Grand Total,	9,893	£111 16 4

G. H. CLARK.

Gather up the Fragments.

ARE not these words of our Saviour applicable to the canvasser? and is not our faithfulness as workers determined by our taking heed to this injunction of holy writ?

I have been deeply impressed of late on this subject. Do we always return again to the homes where on our first visit we found them absent, sick, or indisposed to see and admit us? Should we not on being refused ask them if we might not call another time when it would be more convenient; and so seek an opportunity to meet them, even if it be necessary to call again and again? In our eagerness to get over our field and take orders rapidly, do we not sometimes forget or neglect our promises to return, and thus miss

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entirely some of the precious souls for whom Christ died? When we leave out a family here and there on that street, and here and there on this, on yonder hillside, or across that ravine, are not these the crumbs or fragments which are likely to be lost or cast away? In my own experience I have almost always found that those whom I came near missing were the very ones who made a purchase of my book and were interested in the things of God. I have found, too, that when I am determined to be faithful and give each a chance and yet I miss some unintentionally, that later in some way I am brought in contact with them. I will give a few instances:

In a music store one day I met a lady whose face seemed particularly interesting to me, but strange. We were both interested in listening to the music that came from a new-styled gramophone. I did not forget my book under my arm, and soon a conversation opened up between us. I asked her if she had as yet seen the book I was circulating in East London? She said no, and told me that she lived in West Bank. I told her I had just finished taking orders there, and could not understand how I had missed her. I found she lived in a stone house in Harbor Reserve, and as there were several so nearly alike and so closely connected, her home had not been entered. She invited me to visit her, which I did, and she gave me her subscription. It was the same day that a friend from East Bank was visiting her, at whose house I had often called—the *no* standing out visibly in my mind. In compliance with her request I called at her home and she promised to give her order later, and wished also

some Christmas books for her children.

When I called to deliver the book to my newly found customer in West Bank, she said there was an afflicted lady on a certain street who had heard of me and desired to see me. I well knew I had finished that street, and wondered why I had not found her before. When the house was pointed out, I remembered having called, but it seemed the servant was out each time, and the lady herself being crippled, there was no one to answer the bell. I found her a fine noble woman of good sense and education. We became much interested in each other. She gave me a subscription and I realised that *she*, too, was one the Lord would not have overlooked. And now as I occasionally run in to spend a few moments with her, her face brightens, her heart seems cheered, and as we kneel together in prayer our Father meets us with His loving presence.

On delivering a book recently to a Salvation Army gentleman and his wife, they told me that their ensign wished to see. They sent their little daughter with me to his home. I had finished that street and had passed the hall different times, not knowing a person resided inside. We had a very interesting visit for a few moments. I showed him my book from beginning to end, and took his order. His name is Ensign Tuttleby. He says he knows Pastor Porter, Brother Terry, and others of our people. He requested we pray together, and as we invoked the blessings of God on each other's work of saving souls, my heart went up in gratitude to God that there was another the Saviour would not have left out.

I could speak of many more. Our Father in heaven says, "Behold I, even I, will both search my sheep, and will seek them out," and, "I will sift Israel, like as corn is sifted in a sieve, yet shall not the least grain fall to the earth—be lost. Should not we, the instruments through which He labours, be zealous in

"gathering up the fragments that remain that nothing be lost?"

MRS. P. E. FROST.

Notes.

—A letter from Moko gives the good news that he is quite recovered from his accident of a few weeks ago, and is out in the field again and at work.

—A little daughter was born to Brother and Sister B. J. Billis on the 17th inst. This little treasure is more than welcome to the hearts and home of Brother and Sister Billis, she being the only daughter in their family of five children.

—Brother I. B. Burton gives a little note of how the work with the "little waggon" is appreciated by the natives where it has made several trips. One man whose wife was quite ill but had been greatly helped by treatments and simple remedies, walked fifty miles to obtain further help for her. Brother Burton says the woman is about well now.

—The Union College grounds now present a very neat appearance. They could still be improved and made more attractive if some of the interested patrons would contribute four or five pounds sterling with which to paint some of the buildings. This is a slack time in the brush business, and the work of painting could be done now at practically no expense. Who will help to buy the paint?—*R. C. Porter.*

—Please do not forget that South Africa has sent in an order for a goodly number of the *Harvest In-gathering Special Review*: October 1st was the date set for filling orders, and without doubt the foreign orders will receive their first attention, so we may expect them soon. Have your order in ahead of their arrival so that you may receive them without delay. The terms are the same as last year,—free to you, but it is expected that each worker will, in circulating them, receive offerings for our mission work.