

The South African

MISSIONARY

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

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The Path in the Sky.

THE woods were dark and the night was black,
And only an owl could see the track;
Yet the cheery driver made his way
Through the great pine woods as if it were day.

I asked him, "How do you manage to see?
The road and the forest are one to me."
"To me as well," he replied, "and I
Can only drive by the path in the sky."
I looked above, where the treetops tall
Rose from the road like an ebon wall,
And lo! a beautiful starry lane,
Wound as the road wound, and made it plain.

And since, when the path of my life is drear,
And all is blackness and doubt and fear,
When the horrors of midnight are here
below,

And I see not a step of the way to go,
Then, ah! then I can look on high,
And walk on earth by the path in the sky.

—Amos R. Wells

Johannesburg Church.

ONE of the most pleasant meetings that closed a quarters work in the Sabbath-school which I have attended, was the last Sabbath in the quarter just closed, when the superintendent announced that the offerings to missions goal was £9, and to watch the progress of the fund, a map showing all our mission-stations in South Africa had been made, and each Sabbath it would require 12s. 3d. to visit each mission during the quarter. The train never lost time, and when the last session opened, it was announced that 9s. was needed to complete the journey, and put us down at the Zululand Station. This sum being subscribed

nearly twice over, some one suggested that we make it £10. So many came forward with help, that when the offering was completed, we found £11 3s. *all for missions*. It was suggested that the £2 3s. over the "goal" be used toward the erection of the Zululand Mission Church in prospect. I notice the new officers have had Brother Rowland to paint a large tree which is being covered with nice tempting berries, the aim being to make it the most fruitful tree ever seen, and each berry represents 3d. When we consider that an additional sum of over £6 was raised to meet Sabbath-school expense account, and £40 total offering for the year, all of which was sent to missions, we must feel that the Lord has blessed the efforts made to keep up the interest in the offerings. I believe that if the missionaries could have met us at each station, they would have smiled very sweetly.

This church has lost some valuable members in the departure of Brother George Webber for the north, which took place last week, while Brother Johnson has left to take charge of the printing works at the Cape. The changes that have taken place have necessitated a complete re-arrangement of the officers of the church. But the new officers are all shouldering their responsibilities manfully and well. The tithes and various offerings of this last year, amounted to over £500.

The holidays, rain, and absence of some of our workers on vacation, have effected a marked decrease in the attendance at the tent-meetings.

But some are following up the series of studies with deep interest.

Pastor W. H. Haupt is working each week-end at Pretoria, where two have embrace the truth, and others are interested.

Miss Josephine Gradwell and Miss Edna Edmed have joined our mission for this year. We feared their youth would work against their success, but they have been quite successful and we believe they will prosper.

Miss Hodgkin has just returned from a very profitable rest at Rokeby Park where she has gained strength and courage for this year's labours.

The Health Institute at Maritzburg has enjoyed a prosperous month, and is full of patients. Doctor Bell asks me to correct an error which inadvertently crept into my previous report, in which I stated that the nurses had paid off the entire debt of the Institute by their sales. The entire debt has been paid, but the amount raised by sales was over £17, the rest arising from the profits on the work at the Institute.

HERBERT J. EDMED.

Natives Interested.

FOR several months, an intelligent Basuto of Maitland has been coming to my house once a week for Bible instruction. We have covered the important subjects of "present truth," and he accepts them all. He works in Cape Town, but last Sabbath he kept, having notified his employer that he could not work on the Sabbath. His employer does not

want to release him, nor give him Saturday off. We wait the results with interest. His wife and mother-in-law keep the Sabbath with him. He has counted the cost, and is prepared to obey the Lord, even though he loses his position. Several other natives are getting the light through this man.

This week another native came from Newlands to be instructed in the Bible, wishing especially to study the Sabbath question. We had a study Tuesday evening, and another Thursday evening; and he is anxious to continue, so we have appointed regular readings. I. J. HANKINS.

Natal-Transvaal Conference.

THE Churches in the Natal-Transvaal Conference of Seventh-day Adventists are hereby notified that the seventh annual session of this conference will convene at Bloemfontein, Orange Free State, March 16-26, 1911, for the election of officers, and the consideration of such other business as may be brought before the meetings.

The conference will be held conjointly with the assembly of the South African Union Conference, and the Cape Colony Conference.

The conference will be followed by a convention of workers, lasting fourteen days, at which delegates may, and are invited to attend, the delegation tickets holding good from the 15th March to April 9th inclusive.

Names of delegates, on election, should be forwarded to F. Macdonald, Secretary, Stranack Street, Maritzburg, immediately, together with the intended station of departure, and any accompanying members of family, the election taking place in accordance with the notice published in the last number of the MISSIONARY.

As such names must be handed to the railway authorities long enough before the date of departure to enable them to advise their Station-masters of the concessions granted, there

should be no delay in this matter. If after applying for concession, a delegate should decide not to attend, there will not be any charge, so that if there is any possible chance of any person attending, send the full name.

Persons requiring tent accommodation should also send their applications early, as we cannot be responsible for the accommodation of those who do not notify us. The terms will be about the same as usual.

The meals will be served on what we call the European plan, viz: charging so much for each dish instead of each meal. Delegates must supply themselves with bed and bedding, and such other furniture as may be needed for their tents. Single persons can be placed with others of like sex for the purpose of reducing cost of tent, etc.

Owing to the difficulty of securing furniture, we would advise delegates to improvise folding beds, etc. that can be carried without much cost by rail.

HERBERT J. EDMED,

Pres. N.-T. Conf.

FRANK MACDONALD, *Sec.*

Native Services at Wilgehoek.

ON January 14th, the members of the native church, at Wilgehoek, gathered in from far and near to celebrate the ordinances of the Lord's house. Some walked eighteen miles, starting very early that morning.

Brother Venter conducted the morning service which was followed by a baptismal scene in the Vals River. Six dear souls for whom Jesus died were buried with their Lord in the watery grave by their native pastor, J. R. Mtimkulu.

A good share of the afternoon was spent in administering the ordinances and the bearing of earnest and stirring testimonies.

Those who were baptised, and another native woman who separated herself from the Zionist church, were voted into the church. Before the

elders extended to them the hand of fellowship, Mtimkulu passed through their midst with a knife and cut off their copper wire bracelets, rings and earrings; at the same time explaining to them, upon the authority of Isa. 3:16-26, that these adornments should not be found upon the "daughters of Zion."

An offering was called for to help defray the expenses incurred by the death of our late Pastor Williams. One old native put 2/- upon the plate while others promised something after they had reaped their grain, etc.

The services closed with a beautiful song of praise and the benediction.

After enjoying God's blessed boon of rest together, the congregation of natives dispersed to the various farms on which they work.

Brethren and sisters, this is a blessed work and 'tis worth while sacrificing to have a part in it.

ADELINE V. SUTHERLAND.

A Good Experience.

THE following is an extract from a letter written by Brother I. B. Burton to Brother G. H. Clark:—

"Since I last wrote I have had a good time. I had called at several farms to canvass, and had taken two orders and was riding on to the next farm about four miles away, when I noticed an old tumbled down sort of place about half a mile away across a river, the road to the place being a long way back. I looked at the place two or three times and as I seemed to hear the words of the hymn, "Pass me not, O gentle Saviour," I jumped off the bicycle, turned around and going to the place, met a native who was living there, and told him I had a great message for him. We went inside, and I was introduced to his wife and children. Some sour milk was brought me, after which I gave my message. In a simple way I repeated the contents of *Coming King*, and when I had finished, I said I had a book containing all

that I had told them and more too. I showed the book and took two orders, and then had to listen to what the man had to say. His words were, "Teacher, you have brought a great message to us. It is a message to our people, and we thank you for it. May God help you to carry this message to all our people for it is for us all." How glad those poor souls were! I cannot write the whole experience in full. Words fail me to make it clear, but you remember the time at Knapp's Hope. It was the same on a small scale. May the dear Lord bless the seed sown. I was over at Knapp's Hope the other day and had another good meeting. I believe that had I not closed the meeting, it would have kept on all night.

The Reading Course.

Outline of Study.

(February.)

Text-Book: "Testimonies on Sabbath-School Work," pages 53-61.

1. Lifelong Service:—

(a) What call is given to young men and women? Contrast result of spasmodic effort with that of lifelong service.

(b) How may Sabbath school teachers increase their talent?

(c) Name five characteristics of those who "truly believe in Christ."

(d) For what purpose is light given to the church?

2. Heart Work:—

(a) Effect of an unconverted teacher's influence.

(b) Qualifications of teachers.

(c) Connection with God.

(d) Students of the Word.

(e) Application of the words of the "True Witness."

(f) A burden for souls drives away selfishness.

(g) Condition of many professed Christians.

(h) Duty does not end when lesson is taught.

3. The teacher Must Be a Learner:—

(a) By precept and experience.

(b) A call to young men and women.

(c) Demands of every branch of God's work.

(d) Thoroughness in study and in teaching.

Text-Book: "The Art of Securing Attention," review pages 1-18.

Important Topics:—

1. Definition of attention.

2. Why attention is difficult to secure.

3. Claiming attention will not get it.

4. Accurate and abundant preparation of the lesson by the teacher.

5. The teaching must be adapted to the comprehension of the pupil.

6. Value and proper use of mechanical devices. Name and describe the most important.

7. The teacher must be watchful, prompt, and ready.

Text-Book: "History of the Sabbath-School Work," pages 33-39.

1. What condition made necessary a readjustment of Sabbath-school finances in 1903?

Weekly Report of Book and Paper Sales.

The Paper Work.

Natal-Transvaal Conference, for week ending January 20, 1911

NAME	TERRITORY	PAPER	NO. SOLD	VALUE OF PAPERS
Mission Company,	Jo'burg	Miscellaneous	433	7 13 9
Mrs. E. Armer,	Johannesburg,	"	80	1 5 0
Mrs. van der Molen,	Dundee,	"	32	1 0 6
A. W. Tickton,	Durban,	"	146	1 15 1
Totals,	Agents, 4		691	£11 14 4

The Book Work.

Natal-Transvaal Conference, for week ending January 20, 1911

NAME	PLACE	BOOK	HRS	ORDS	VALUE	HELPS	TOTALS	DEL'D
Mission Company,	Jo'burg,	S. P.	44	49	15 18 6	2 16 0	18 14 6	1 6 0
E. Enochson,	Primrose,	P. P.	27	12	12 4 6		12 4 6	
E. van der Molen,	Dundee,	P. P.	35	6	4 1 0	1 3 0	5 4 0	3 3 6
A. W. Tickton,	Durban,	P. P.	20	6	6 6 0	16 6	7 2 6	
Totals,	Agents, 4		126	73	£38 10 0	£4 15 6	£43 5 6	£4 9 6

Cape Colony Conference, for week ending January 20, 1911.

J. F. Terry,	Beaconsfield,	C.O.S.	6					1 9 0
P. E. Frost,	East London,	P. G.	20	3	2 11 0	6 0	2 17 0	4 6 6
A. J. Wessels,	Ceres,	G.C.	3	1	15 0		15 0	
Totals,	Agents, 3		29	4	£3 6 0	6 0	£3 12 0	£5 15 6

2. What important resolutions were passed that year by the General Conference?

3. What advantages were gained by the removal of the Sabbath-school office from Minneapolis to Washington?

4. Summarize the progress of the work from 1905-08.

5. By what meeting was the summer of 1907 made memorable? What was accomplished at the Mt. Vernon meeting?

6. Describe the growth of the missionary spirit and the creation of the "honor roll."

7. What Sabbath-school financial policy was settled upon in the General Conference of 1909? What other changes were made?

Suggestions For Teacher's Meetings.

First Week: Devote three minutes to a discussion of three divisions of the month's study in the "Testimonies on Sabbath-School Work."

Second Week: Topics for Discussion:—

1. What effect have your teachers' meetings had upon the school?

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2. How may each teacher avoid being one of the number who have eyes yet see not and have ears yet hear not, in Sabbath-school matters?

Third Week: Relate a three-minute story of the history of Sabbath-school finances. Describe the favourable situation in this work when the office was moved to Washington.

Fourth Week: With the teachers suggesting, make a blackboard list of points in which your school shows greatest need of improvement.

The Printed Page.

BROTHER TERRY has just finished canvassing Kimberley for the first time. He is now working the district territory north and west of the city; after this is finished he intends to re-canvass the city with some large book—probably *Patriach and Prophet*. Although many of our books have been sold in Kimberley, he placed in the hands of the people fourteen hundred and fifty copies of small books, besides a few large ones.

A faithful, God-fearing, resident canvasser in every city in South Africa can help to solve the problem, "How to reach the masses in our large cities?" G. H. CLARK.

Our Foreign Population.

WHO has not thought of the many foreigners in this land—Chinese, Japanese, Indians, Turks, Malays and others, and of our duty to bring the good tidings to them? We have also a large Jewish population, to whom the message must be given. When our churches and scattered brethren are ready to search out the "jewels" from among these classes,

the tract society will no doubt take steps to provide literature as an aid in the work. Why should we send labourers to these different countries, and at the same time neglect the natives of these countries who live at our doors? Let us all study the Lord's instruction in this matter, and He will teach us how to do the work. When we begin to feel a real interest for these classes, we shall find some way of helping them. Perhaps some one has had an experience that may be helpful to others; if so, give us the benefit of it through these columns.

I. J. HANKINS.

Week of Prayer.

THE week of prayer will be held this year March, 4-11. All the churches should lay their plans for special services during that week.

The week of prayer readings will be sent out to the elders of churches, and leaders of companies in time to get them in good season for the meetings. If any do not get them at least a week before the time for the meetings to commence, notify the Tract Society Secretary at once.

Annual Conference.

NOTICE is hereby given that the seventeenth annual session of the Cape Colony Conference of Seventh Day Adventists will convene at Bloemfontein, March 16th to 26th, 1911, for the election of officers and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

R. C. PORTER,
Pres. C.C. Conf.
J. V. WILLSON, *Sec.*

Churches Attention.

THE churches in the Cape Colony Conference are hereby requested to elect their delegates to the Conference at Bloemfontein at once, and forward their names to the Secretary, J. V. Willson, 56 Roeland St., Cape Town.

There should be one delegate elected for each church, and one additional delegate for each ten members.

R. C. PORTER,
Pres. C.C. Conf.
J. V. WILLSON, *Sec.*

South African Union Conference.

NOTICE is hereby given that the fifth session of the South African Union Conference of Seventh Day Adventists will be held in connection with the camp-meeting at Bloemfontein, March 16th to 26th, 1911, for the election of officers and the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

R. C. PORTER,
Pres. C.C. Conf.
J. V. WILLSON, *Sec.*

Notes.

—Mrs. A. P. Tarr, Union Conference S.S. Secretary, has been visiting her parents at Wellington for a time, and is now calling on friends and acquaintances at the Cape and suburbs.

—The Sanitarium at Plumstead is full of patients, and the outside rooms are being used to accommodate the overflow, while still others are waiting for a chance to come and avail themselves of the benefits of the institution.

—Elder Porter and Doctor Thomason, go on to Bloemfontein about the end of the month, to make further arrangements in regard to the coming conference, after which they will proceed to Johannesburg.

—Mrs. Ena Thomason and Mrs. R. C. Porter arrived at the Cape the evening of the 1st. Pastor R. C. Porter and Doctor Thomason proceeded to Johannesburg by way of Bloemfontein. Pastor Porter is expected to reach the Cape about the 8th, and the Doctor a week later, as he expects to visit Natal before returning.

—A report of the Kaffirland trip will appear in the next issue, by Pastor Porter. Later one will appear from Doctor Thomason from the medical missionary evangelistic standpoint.