

THE SOUTHWESTERN UNION RECORD.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE S. W. U. CONFERENCE

VOL. 2

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NO. 3.

CURRENT NEWS ITEMS.

JOHN D. Rockefeller has given \$100,000 to the Y. M. C. A. of Brooklyn New York.

GREAT preparations are being made for the reception to be given to General Booth of the Salvation Army on the 31st instant.

LAST week the Winter Carnival was held in El Paso, Texas. Thousands of people were in the City, and the affair was reported a great success.

LABOR unions all over the country, are flooding the senate with petitions favoring and demanding the passage of eight hour labor laws.

A vigorous enforcement of the new law in Texas, requiring all who wish to vote at any election, to first pay their poll tax, is being made.

CARDINAL Porrocchi, vice chancellor of the Roman Catholic church, expired at Rome on the 15th of heart disease. He was one of the prelates considered most likely to succeed Pope Leo, upon the latter's death.

C. N. BUCKLER, a prominent lawyer of El Paso, this State, and former judge of the 32nd Judicial District of Texas, died in that City last week. The local bar met and passed resolutions of respect to the memory of deceased.

ON the 15th instant President Roosevelt signed the bill temporarily suspending the duty on coal imported into the country. This will help to relieve the situation, it is hoped, by reducing the price.

STORIES of terrible suffering come from the northern part of Sweden. Thirty thousand people are affected by it, and it is estimated that over six million dollars will be necessary to save the population from decimation before summer.

FORMER members of the Cuban army are becoming restless because they have not been paid for their services during the war for their independence. In a circular issued they give the government until March to act, when, if it is not paid, they take the matter into their own hands.

AT the opening of the United Mine Workers of America, just began at Indianapolis, Indiana, President John Mitchell was given a great ovation in recognition of the way he conducted the recent strike by the anthracite coal miners in the east.

NAVAL constructor Hobson, of the Navy, has been ordered to active duty at the Puget Sound Naval Station, after several months on waiting orders. He has had an application to be retired on account of defective eye-sight, but this has been denied by the

examining board. Bills for his retirement are before congress, but they are opposed by the democratic members on the ground that he only wishes to run for congress against the present incumbent.

A community of interests agreement has been formed between the Pacific and Wells-Fargo express companies. The organization remains separate as heretofore, but each has agreed to give preference to the other's business over other express companies.

N. G. Gonzales, editor of "The States," of Columbia, South Carolina, was shot last Friday by Lieut. Governor J. H. Tillman. It is thought the wounds will prove fatal. The two had been sworn enemies for some time but the immediate provocation given is not known.

THE union plumbers of Dallas, Texas, have been out on a strike for several weeks, demanding that their wages be increased from \$4.50 to \$5.00 a day. Not much has been done about it, and now it is claimed there will soon be sympathetic strikes by other organizations of the trades council.

THE explosion of a charge of powder being hoisted to one of the eight-inch guns in the after turret on the Battleship Massachusetts last Friday, killed five men and wounded four more. Every man in the gun crew was either killed or wounded. No explanation of the accident is yet given.

SENATOR Beveridge has offered an amendment to the Militia Bill which provides that any person being a member of a church society, or association, whose creed forbids its members to participate in war in any form, shall not be compelled to act. It is thought that the amendment will not pass.

FIFTEEN thousand tons of hard coal are reported to be on cars in the railroad yards opposite New York city awaiting unloading, and at the same time people are freezing to death in that city for lack of coal to keep them warm. It is quite evident that the government should act in some way to break up this combination so that those who wish may have fuel. People in the South can have very little real conception of the situation in the north.

THE prospects are that the coal trust will have a warm time defending itself in the near future, as not only congress is after it, but labor organizations and other bodies are passing strong resolutions, urging that decided action be taken against them. Massachusetts has been in the lead against the trust from the first, her governor having gone personally to President Roosevelt and recommended prompt action.

A banquet was given in Berlin, Germany, on the 8th instant, to about six hundred persons, the object being to demonstrate the desirability of horse flesh as a food. The dishes of the banquet consisted entirely of horse meat prepared in a variety of ways, and it is said were greatly enjoyed by all present. The banquet was given by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, with the hope that a market for old horses might be made and so prevent cruelty to such animals as were too old to work.

THE new militia bill has just been passed by both houses of congress, and it will undoubtedly become a law by the President's signature soon. The new bill provides "that the militia shall consist of every able-bodied male citizen of the respective states, territories and the District of Columbia." These shall be divided into three classes—the organized militia, to be known as the National Guard of the various states. The National Volunteer reserve as provided for in this act, and the remainder to be known as the Reserve Militia. The bill specifies the contingencies under which the President may call out the militia of any state. Among the merits claimed for this bill is the fact that military organization is effected whereby there may be called into the field a million of well-drilled and well-equipped soldiers at short notice. This, it is claimed, will give this country a standing with the world which it has never had. It is also said that it will cause a reduction in the standing army to actual necessity.

THE Bible is a book of principles, and when one of them, upon which God made promises to his children anciently is met in us, the promise is ours, since God is not a respecter of persons.

EVERY bridge is safe which Jesus has passed over.

WITH each returning day a new page is to be written for eternity.

THE only Bible the world reads is the Christian. Be it a true translation.

MORALITY and religion rest upon a sense of personal obligation, and obligation has no meaning except as implying a Divine command, without which, it would cease to be. Herein lies the utter weakness and failure of Sunday. Removed from Divine law, it is meaningless in the matter of essential authority.

Arkansas & Department.

Reports of the Week of Prayer.

AVA, ARKANSAS.—We passed a very quiet, peaceful week of prayer here. There were not many who attended. The weather was very disagreeable. A creek separated the settlement, and the waters were up most of the time. However, those who came were on hand regularly and punctually. The presence of God was realized by all in the sweet peace that reigned supreme, and by the undivided attention of all, and the active part taken by everyone present. In some unaccountable way the readings failed to reach us. But we utilized a few articles from the *Review and Herald*, UNION RECORD, the Bible and from "Object Lessons." The donations were \$7.00.

J. SCOTT MOORE,

December 31, 1902.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

WE OFTEN HEAR the expression, "The Eastern Question," but how many are there who really know just what is involved in it?

Politically, the Eastern Question is the problem of getting the Turk out of Europe, and of dividing up his European estate without plunging the world into a most destructive war.

So difficult is this question that it is generally regarded as incapable of solution, so far, at least, as expelling the Turk from Europe, and at the same time preserving peace in Europe, is concerned.

This is not because the Turk must be expelled by force of arms. It seems entirely reasonable that were Europe agreed upon a division of European Turkey, and were the powers to serve notice to that effect upon the Porte, the Turk would "fold his tents and silently steal away."

But this the powers will never do. They will never do it, first, because they each want Constantinople, and only one can have it. Again they will never do it, because Turk is owing large sums of money to capitalists all over Europe, and each government feels in duty and in interest bound to see that the rightful claims of its subjects are enforced.

But notwithstanding all this there

seems to be almost universal agreement that sooner or later the Turk must retire from European soil. Indeed, the Turks themselves take this view of the situation, and expect some day to return to Asia, whence they came originally.

It is really the Eastern Question that has led to the present condition of affairs in the various European countries touching immense military and naval establishments. Each country feels that it must maintain an army and navy large enough to demand a share of the spoils. Universal war must inevitably result, hence the feverish anxiety everywhere when any new complication arises or any incident threatens to disturb the friendly relations of the great Powers.

But we are not left to grope in the darkness of political probabilities touching this question. The Scriptures of truth have spoken upon it most unmistakably.

The prophecy of Daniel tells us the final outcome of the Eastern Question, and from that source we learn that vastly more is involved than even the wisest statesman foresees.

The eleventh chapter of Daniel gives us an outline of the history of Medo-Persia from Darius the Mede (cir. B. C. 534), to the end of time.

Three kings were to "stand up," or rule in Persia, as we are told in Daniel 11:2. Then that kingdom was to be overthrown by Grecia. This introduces Alexander the Great.

As foretold in verse 4, Alexander's kingdom was after his death divided into four parts, "towards the four winds of heaven"—North, South, East and West. This actually occurred. But after a time the North and the West united, and absorbed the East, so that only two divisions remained; and all through the remainder of the prophecy these two parts are referred to as "the king of the North" and "the king of the South."

What is now European Turkey was originally "the king of the North;" while by "king of the South" Egypt is intended; so whatever power rules in that territory is for the time being "the king of the North" or the "king of the South," as the case may be.

Passing over the long history condensed into the brief space embraced in the eleventh chapter of Daniel, from the fourth to the fortieth verses,

we come at once to Napoleon's attempt to conquer and hold Egypt, a little more than a century ago. He failed because Turkey was helped by other powers.

Verse 44 introduces the Crimean war, and now we stand between verses 44 and 45. The next event in this line of prophecy is the withdrawal of the Turk from Europe and the removal of his capital to Jerusalem, on Mount Zion, between the Dead Sea on the east, and the Mediterranean on the west. Prophecy foretells it; the whole world expects it, judging merely from political conditions. How much longer, think you, can it be delayed?

But what is to follow the removal of the Turkish capital from Constantinople to Jerusalem? The first verse of the twelfth chapter tells: "At that time shall Michael stand up," or begin to reign, as we have seen is the meaning of the term.

Turning to Jude 9 and to 1 Thess. 4:16, and carefully comparing these texts, we learn that Michael is Christ. See also Dan. 10:21. The last act in the tragedy of earth's history is then just before us. As surely as God's word is the truth, so surely will the driving of the Turk from Europe, and his occupation of Jerusalem as his capital, be the signal for the battle of Armageddon and the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. And all this is bound up in the Eastern Question.—*Selected.*

Can It Be Done?

MANY, no doubt, are wondering whether we shall accomplish what we hoped to do for the relief of our Southern training schools by the sale of "Object Lessons." If we do not, it will not be because we can not. The experience we have had the past summer and fall demonstrates the fact that we might sell the specified number of "Object Lessons" if we would. Some, it is true, have not met with flattering success in their efforts; but many inexperienced persons have met with marked success. Beginners, both young and old, have proved not only that they could sell these books, but that in many cases it was easy to sell them.

One good brother took two books to town with him to show to two business men whom he knew. He sold a book to each without speaking more

than a few words.

One boy ten years old went out one afternoon, and in about an hour sold two books. One brother, a coal-miner, who had never sold a book in his life, has sold fifteen in this campaign.

One sister in Georgia thought she could not sell a book. She was the only one who refused to take a part in the work when the rest of the church took it up. But one brother had promised to sell thirty books, so finally she thought she would try to help him. She went out one afternoon and sold six books. She was the first one in that church to sell her quota.

A sister in New Orleans went out trusting in God, and sold some of her books without even unwrapping or showing them.

A colored sister writes from North Carolina that she sold a number of the books, and expects to sell more.

Professor Stone, principal of the Hazel, Kentucky, intermediate school, writes that he one day took his students out selling "Object Lessons," and he closes his good letter with these words, "We expect to push the sale of 'Christ's Object Lessons' as long as there are any to sell."

So, as I look over our great Southern field, I think there is no ground for discouragement. The Lord has enabled us to begin this good work, and we are "confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."

Now, dear brethren, we have some of us made a beginning; let us not cease our efforts till the desired results are reached.—*W. C. Wales in Southern Watchman.*

✦ Texas Department. ✦

Dedication of the Brenham Church.

THE brethren and sisters at Brenham have recently built a neat little church in that city, and services were held in it for the first time during the week of prayer. Beginning December 20, services were held with this church each day to the 29th, and three services on each Sabbath and Sunday. Though some of the members were prevented from attending by sickness, yet precious seasons were enjoyed by those in attendance. A good substantial gentleman with Elder H. Shultz, vice-president of

the Southwestern Union Conference was present and remained with the church and carried on the work during the whole time, the writer only remaining a part of the time and then going on to the Houston church. On Sunday, the 22nd, the building which had been erected for God was dedicated to His service. Elder Shultz preached the sermon, the writer, after reading some appropriate Scripture offered the dedicatory prayer. Elder C. W. Miller who had had an active part in the building of the church, made a statement as to the amounts contributed and expended, which showed the building completed and paid for and a small balance left on hand,—not a debt behind as is sometimes the case, but a house for the Lord entirely free from debt. And when it is remembered that there is but a small church at Brenham—a mere handful and they mostly poor—and that the larger part of this money was raised by one sister by soliciting in the town and writing to friends elsewhere. It shows what can be done when there is a determination to do something. God will bless this sister and all the others who lifted so nobly, among them the brother who gave the lot.

The church is a frame building, wainscotted and ceiled inside, painted, seated and furnished with stove and lamps, all paid for. Another church is finished and awaiting dedication at Denison, and still another soon to be at Sanger. Thank the Lord for these evidences of progress.

W. A. McCUTCHEN.

The Roby Church.

AT the residence of Brother W. B. Moore in Scurry county was held the quarterly meeting of this church January 9, 10, and 11. On account of the severe weather the attendance was small, but we had a good meeting. Owing to the failure of the late cotton crop to open the church fell behind in the tithe and in paying for "Christ's Object Lessons." But some money has been collected and with some more that is promised will be sent in next week. The building of a church school house also failed; but that too will be done in the near future.

A good substantial gentleman with an interesting family of children has

recently been added to the Sabbath school in the place where we held the meeting. Two other gentlemen—heads of families—attended our Sunday services; and in conversation with them they both acknowledged that we have the truth. Hopes are entertained that they with their families will soon take their stand on the Lord's side.

Just now there is a fine opening for two or three families to each get a good home in this county. Please write to Sister L. C. Moore, Knapp, Texas, for particulars, enclosing a stamp for postage.

N. J. ETHEREDGE.

January 13, 1903.

A Letter from Scotland.

23 Mayfield St., Possil Park,
GLASGOW, SCOTLAND.

Dear Friends:—

Doubtless you have quite forgotten me, and will be surprised to see this after an absence of almost seven months.

The RECORD is hailed with joy as many times it has taken the place of a letter from the home folks. It is certainly a fine little paper and I hope its circulation will increase.

You will see from the above that I am in "Bonnie Scotland," where I have been since the 20th of May. The country is a perfect picture in summer, but as the winter season draws on the sky becomes dark and lowering. Glasgow is a city of more than 800,000 inhabitants. Sometimes it is so foggy that the city gas lights are not turned out until almost midday; however we are situated in the extreme north end of the city where the smoke of the engineering (machine) shops does not affect the atmosphere so much.

Kilmarnock, a town of about 30,000 inhabitants (no matter how large a place may be here it is called a town until it has a cathedral) is the first place at which I stopped after leaving London. It is the county seat of Ayrshire, one of the richest counties in Scotland. It is the nativity of the Ayrshire stock of cattle.

During the summer I canvassed among the shop-keepers (merchants) and farmers. The farmers are a very sturdy, hardy, and conservative class of people. It would have been amusing for you to have seen me canvass-

[Continued on sixth page.]

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AGENTS:

Oklahoma Tract Society, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

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All papers will be discontinued when the time expires, unless promptly renewed.

Subscribers who do not receive their paper regularly should notify the office of publication and not the Tract Society, as the latter are not responsible for the mailing of the papers.

Money, or letters, should not be sent to individuals. All business communications should be addressed, and all remittances and money orders made payable to the S. W. U. RECORD, Keene, Johnson County, Texas.

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JESUS IS COMING SOON.

W. R. PATTERSON.

"Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye, when the Lord shall bring again Zion."—Isaiah, 52: 8.

Awake, O, Zion, and repeat thy glad strain,
Sound the Message loud and clear;
Jesus, yes Jesus is coming again,
Publish, proclaim it, His coming is near.

Prophets and seers have long foretold
The glorious coming of Zion's King;
O, print the Message in letters of gold!
Bid Zion lift up her voice and sing.

Groaning creation awake and rejoice,
Coming is the first dominion again;
Shout ye saints, lift up thy voice,
Tell the sweet story again and again.

He is soon coming, O, weary and sad,
Lift up the head, thy redemption is nigh;
Publish, proclaim it, all nature be glad,
Coming again in the sweet by and by.

Ye watchmen sound the solemn warning,
Loud blow the trumpet on Zion's height,
Soon, O soon, will dawn the morning,
Soon will pass earth's dreary night.

KEENE, Texas.

SINCE the fire at Battle Creek, it has been about decided to hereafter publish the three foreign papers—the Swedish, Danish-Norwegian, and German papers at College View, Nebraska.

ELDER D. U. Eals and family, of

Texas, have been invited by the foreign Mission Board to go to the Gold Coast of Africa to labor, and expect to leave for that field this week. Elder I. G. Knight and wife, of Kansas, have also been invited to go to Central America, to take charge of the work there, in place of Eller Hutchins who lately died there.

ELDER H. Shultz made a short visit to Springdale, Arkansas, recently on his way north from the Southwestern Union Conference Committee meeting.

A Letter from our Publishers.

As we are getting out some statistics at the request of Brother E. R. Palmer, the general field missionary, I thought perhaps the readers of the RECORD—especially those who have a burden for the canvassing work might be interested in them. And why should not all be interested in getting the printed page into the homes of the people in our various fields of labor?

In a recent communication from Sister White she says: "Plans should be laid for earnest, persevering effort in the Master's service. There is much to be done to advance the work of God. I have been instructed that the canvassing work is to be revived, and that it is to be carried forward with increasing success. It is the Lord's work, and a blessing will attend those who engage in it with earnestness and diligence."

Then with such encouragement as this set before us, why should we not only each one himself individually engage in some branch of the canvassing work, but also encourage others to enter this most blessed service of the Master.

Below you will find a table showing the work done during the past two years in those states which now comprise the Central and Southwestern Union conferences.

KANSAS CITY BRANCH OFFICE REPORT.

S. W. U. CONFERENCE.	1901.	1902.
Retail value sub. books,	\$32,500.00	26,250.00
Trade books and tracts,	291.00	521.88
Christ's Object Lessons,	4,097.50	10,941.25
Total retail value,	\$36,888.50	37,713.13

CENTRAL U. CONFERENCE.

Retail value sub. books,	\$25,500.00	23,000.00
Trade books and tracts,	1,308.00	1,462.50
Christ's Object Lessons,	11,178.75	9,170.00
Total retail value,	\$38,058.75	33,632.50

While in the three states composing the Southwestern Conference, the regular subscription book sales during the past year, have fallen off some \$5,000 less than the previous year, yet this is more than made up by an increase of about \$7,000 in the sales of "Christ's Object Lessons." So that the total value of the books sent out to the Southwest this year is an increase of about \$1,000 over last year's sales. As they have about finished the sale of their quota of "Object Lessons" in that district, we hope to see during the coming year a large increase in the sale of our large subscription books in that territory.

The Testimony says: "The effort to circulate 'Christ's Object Lessons' has demonstrated what can be done in the canvassing field. This effort is a never-to-be-forgotten lesson on how to canvass in the prayerful, trustful way that brings success."

"Many more of our large books might have been sold if church members had been awake to the importance of the truths these books contain, and had realized their responsibility to circulate them. My Brethren and Sisters, will you not now make an effort to circulate these books? And will you not bring into this effort the enthusiasm that you brought into the effort to sell 'Christ's Object Lessons,' many have learned how to handle the larger books. They have obtained an experience that has prepared them to enter the canvassing field."

We are very sorry to see the falling off in the sale of books in those states of the Central Union Conference that have been getting their books from the Kansas City house. Not only is there a falling off of \$2,500.00 in the regular subscription book sales but also a decrease of \$2,000 in the sale of "Christ's Object Lessons" in Kansas, Missouri and Colorado. This to some extent is accounted for in that some of our best canvassers in that District have been called to other fields of labor. But now as there has been a transfer of talent in the location of State Agents, and having a first-class practical canvasser as general book man in the Central Conference, in whom all the workers have confidence, we look for the work of scattering the printed pages of Present Truth to advance in this section, especially in the circulation of the

larger subscription books.

That nothing is to hinder this work we have the following encouragement from the pen of Sister White: "I thank my heavenly Father for the interest that my brethren and sisters have taken in the circulation of 'Christ's Object Lessons.' By the sale of this book great good has been accomplished, and the work should be continued. But the efforts of our people should not be confined to this book. The work of the Lord includes more than one line of service. 'Christ's Object Lessons' is to live and do its appointed work, but not all the thought and effort of God's people are to be given to its circulation. The larger books, 'Patriarchs and Prophets', 'Great Controversy', and 'Desire of Ages', should be sold everywhere. These books contain truth for this time,—truth that is to be proclaimed in all parts of the world. Nothing is to hinder their sale."

So let us all take courage and advance with the Message, which is rapidly nearing its close, and the time in which no man can work for the salvation of his fellowmen. Wishing all the dear workers much of the blessing of the Master, in His service, we remain, B. R. NORDYKE.

If You Want to be Beloved.

DON'T overdress or underdress. Don't be inquisitive about the affairs of even your most intimate friend.

Don't underrate anything because you don't possess it.

Don't believe everybody in the world is happier than you.

Don't conclude that you have never had any opportunities in life.

Don't believe all that you hear.

Don't repeat gossip, even if it does interest a crowd.

Don't go untidy on the plea that everybody knows you.

ASBESTOS.

THERE is a mineral which is quite unlike any other known, because it is not burned by fire and can be prepared as cloth and paper; it is Asbestos, or Asbestos.

It crystalizes in long fibers, and in the softer formations these fibers can be separated easily, a little tuft of it, looking like finely spun glass, or like

threads of flax or wool. In this form it is woven into material for various uses. In ancient times, when bodies were burned on the funeral piles, and the ashes preserved, the bodies were wrapped in cloth made from asbestos, so that they might burn, but the ashes remained in the unburned cloth.

At present, mittens, masks, and entire suits are made from it for firemen to wear, and for those who work around furnaces, where the heat is intense. The heat does not pass through them, so that those wearing the mittens, can grasp hot irons and such things without any inconvenience. In case of the mask, air for breathing is supplied by means of a tube underneath the mask, and men can thus work comfortably in places where it would otherwise be unbearable for any length of time.

Paper which will not burn is very useful. Wills and other valuable writings may be printed on it, and in case of fire they would not burn, and if found among the ashes, would be worth as much as before, provided the ink had been likewise fire-proof.

Throughout the United States and Canada, and also in European countries, Asbestos is quite extensively found imbedded with the rocks.

A Cobweb Over the Slot.

AN ARTIST was asked to paint a picture of a decaying church. To the astonishment of many, instead of putting on the canvas an old, tottering ruin, he painted a stately edifice of modern grandeur. Back of the open portals could be seen the richly covered pulpit, the magnificent organ, and the beautiful, stained-glass windows. Just inside the grand entrance, guarded on either side by a pillar of the church in spotless apparel and glittering jewelry, was an "offering plate" of goodly workmanship, for the offerings of the fashionable worshipers. Just directly above the "offering plate" there hung a very simply painted square box, bearing the legend, "Collection for Foreign Missions." But, right over the slot through which the contributions ought to have gone, he had painted a huge cobweb.—*Review and Herald.*

A Mother Seal's Long Swim.

Earliest Whitehead captured a young seal near Anacapa Island,

California, recently, and took it on board his ship. As the vessel started, the mother seal was noticed swimming about and howling piteously. The little captive barked responsively. After reaching the wharf at Santa Barbara, the captive was tied up in a jute sack loose on the deck. Soon after coming to anchor, the seal responded to its mother's call by casting itself overboard, all tied up as it was in the sack. The mother seized the sack and with her sharp teeth tore it open. She had followed the sloop eighty miles. The maternal passion is proverbially strong; yet God's love is even greater than that of a mother: "Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb?—Yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee." Isa. 49: 15.—*Joyful Tidings.*

Now is the Accepted Time.

E. T. RUSSELL.

THE LORD has again and again appealed to this people to place the publications containing present truth before those who do not have the light that God in love and mercy has granted us. He has also told us that if there is one work more important than another, it is that of getting our publications before the people. Again and again He has appealed to this people to awaken, and take hold of this work, and scatter the pages containing present truth everywhere, that even those living in the dark corners of the world might receive the light of life. Are these entreaties of the Lord to be disregarded? Can we pass them by unheeded, and stand clear before God in the judgment?

Jesus said of the Jews of old, "If I had not come and spoken unto them, they had not had sin; but now they have no cloak [margin, excuse] for their sin."—John 15: 22. The Jews had heard Jesus speak as never man spoke before. They had heard Him call attention to the prophecies that had met a fulfillment in His life work. They saw Him raise the dead to life, and heal those that were diseased. Therefore, they cannot, in the judgment, present a reasonable excuse for not accepting Him as the Messiah. Again and again have earnest entreaties come to this people from the Lord to take hold of the work of placing our publications in the homes of the people who know not the truth.

We claim to be a people believing in the commandments of God and the "Spirit of Prophecy;" but if we believe in this gift as we should, ought there not to be a mighty movement inaugurated among us to place this truth before the world in the shortest possible time, that the world might be prepared for that glorious event, the second coming of Christ? If we do not, as a people, take hold of this work now, not with the tips of our fingers, but in earnest, in the judgment will not we likewise be without a reasonable excuse? God wants us to go to work now. He says; "Say not ye, there are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal.—John 4: 35, 36.

The Lord has repeatedly told us that there should be more canvassers in the field. He has told us that there should be one hundred where there is now but one; but, in spite of this repeated instruction from the Lord, we have comparatively few engaged in selling our publications. Instead of doing the work that God says for us to do, many of our brethren and sisters who could just as well be doing this line of work as not, are engaged in worldly enterprises; they are burying their talents in the earth. How will it be when the Lord comes to reckon with them? Will it not be in their case as it was with the man who had but one talent, and went and buried it in the earth? His Lord answered and said unto him, "Thou wicked and slothful servant." Some may reason that they cannot do this work because they have only one talent, but God requires men and women who have but one talent to improve upon it. If they do not, they will be counted as wicked and slothful servants.

I doubt not there will be those who read this article who are planning to engage in some worldly enterprise, but who have been impressed by the Spirit of God that they ought to enter this work. When God calls and we disregard the call, it is at the peril of our souls. O, that the Lord may mightily stir the hearts of His people to take hold of this work, and take hold now!

During this winter in the different states in the Central Union Conference, there will be canvassers' institutes held where our people who desire to do so may attend and fit themselves to go out and do efficient work in selling our publications. Will not many avail themselves of this opportunity? I am not pleading with you to do this from any other motive than that of placing the light of truth before unsaved souls. We owe to the world a great obligation,—that of placing before them the light of the Third Angel's Message, and God will hold this people accountable if they do not accomplish this work. Only those who do work will be partakers of the final reward. Will not many plan now to take hold of this work at once? I am sure that if you do, God will bless you in your endeavors to advance His cause.—*The Central Advance*.

Oklahoma Department.

FIELD REPORTS.

NORMAN, OKLAHOMA.—I came to this place January 5, to assist Brother Bonde in a series of meetings. Our brethren here have a neat little house of worship free from debt.

Our meetings began Sunday, January 11. We had them well advertised both in the papers and by hand-bills. But our first meeting was not well attended, partly on account of the cold weather and also because each of the other fourteen churches here held services. The next night however, the house was well filled and we hope to see it continue so. There is a large amount of work to be done here, and we ask the prayers of our brethren everywhere that God may use us to make His truth known.

E. L. MAXWELL.

A Letter from Scotland.

[Continued from third page.]

ing them the first time I canvassed. A Scotchman is so cautious and suspicious of strangers that just how to meet them was a question not very easily settled. I am thankful to say that the Lord helped and gave us the victory. Brother W. B. Scott, of Oregon, and I are working for "Home Hand Book" I have deliv-

ered almost one hundred and twenty

books since coming over here. The people are very different from Americans in almost everything of minor detail. Influence goes further here than any place I was ever in. When you get the leaders of a community you have the key to the situation. There are no wagons here as the farmers use huge carts. Potatoes, turnips, cabbage, oats, timothy hay, rye grass and wheat are the principle products raised. Dairying is a great industry and milk is shipped into Glasgow from a distance of fifty miles.

When we go up to a house we ask if the master is in, and rarely canvass the mistress. We found that the best way to win the confidence of the master was, if he were in the field, to help him about his work and ask him questions, and for a well dressed man from the city to know anything about the work of a farmer just seemed to fairly "tickle" some of them.

It seems that the country in general is just ripe for every ism, as the established church has almost lost its hold on the people and many different churches are springing up. Brethren and sisters, come over and help us! More than 4,000,000 people and only seven regular canvassers. The needs of this people are great. Look over at the teeming millions of Europe and Asia. Now is the time to work. Just now the last bell of warning can be sounded under less difficulties than at any future time.

The Scotch are a very pious conscientious people. Cannot someone come to recruit us? Bible workers and canvassers are needed. This is a good field in which to prepare for work in the far East. Who will come over and help us?

ERNEST S. TAYLOR.

P. S.. December 7. Since writing the above, I have seen from the *Review* that Brother Reiber is coming over to canvass. You cannot imagine my joy at seeing that familiar name, and to know that he intends to come to Scotland.

But brethren, I was disappointed that Texas let another conference pay my expenses over here, also brother Reiber's. I hope you will not lose interest in us that way, for where you spend money in the cause you will be more interested in that part of the field.

E. S. T.

German Department.

Todesanzeige.

Reiswig. — Bruder Jakob Reiswig starb an Altersschwäche, den 5ten Jan. 1903, im Alter von 69 Jahren und 25 Tagen. Er war geboren in Rußland, im Dorf Walter, im Jahr 1833, am 11ten Dezember. Im Jahre 1878 wanderte er nach Amerika aus. Vor ungefähr 19 Jahren nahm er die gegenwärtige Wahrheit an, in welcher er auch als ein treues Glied der Gemeinde bis zu seinem seligen Ende beharrte. Er hinterläßt sein Weib und vier Söhne, welche aber nicht trauern als solche die keine Hoffnung haben, sondern sie erwarten fest ihren lieben Vater in der ersten Auferstehung wieder zu treffen. Worte des Trostes wurden vom Unterzeichneten an die Verwandten sowie an die ganze Versammlung der Beileidbezeugenden gerichtet.

G. F. Haffner.

Allgemeine Bemerkungen über den Umgang mit Menschen.

Habe Acht auf dich, daß du in deinen Unterredungen durch einen wärrichten, weitgeschweifigen Vortrag nicht ermüdest! Ein gewisser Latonismus — in so fern er nicht in den Ton, nur in Sentenzen und Aphorismen zu sprechen, oder jedes Wort abzuwägen, ausartet — ein gewisser Latonismus, sage ich, das heißt die Gabe, mit wenig körnigten Worten viel zu sagen; durch Weglassung kleiner, unwichtiger Details die Aufmerksamkeit wach zu erhalten, und dann wieder zu einer andern Zeit die Geschicklichkeit, einen nichtbedeutenden Umstand durch die Lebhaftigkeit der Darstellung interessant zu machen — das ist die wahre Kunst der gesellschaftlichen Beredsamkeit. Ich werde davon ferner noch mehr sagen; überhaupt aber rede nicht zu viel. Sei haus häckerisch mit Spendung von Worten und Kenntnissen, damit es dir nicht früh an Stoffe fehle, damit du nicht redest, was du verschweigen sollst, verschweigen willst, und damit man deiner nicht satt werde. Laß auch Andre zu Worte kommen, ihr Teil mit hergeben zur allgemeinen Unterhaltung. Es gibt Leute, die, ohne es selbst zu merken, aller Orten die Sprachhücker sind; und wären sie in einem Circle von fünfzig Personen, so würden sie sich dennoch bald Meister von der ganzen Conversation machen.

So unangenehm dies für die Gesellschaft ist, eben so widrige, Freude störende Eindrücke macht die Weise mancher Leute, die stumm und gespannt horchen und lauern, und die man leicht für gefährliche

Beobachter halten kann, denen es nur darum zu tun scheint, jedes unvorsichtige, nicht gehörig gewählte Wort, das man in sorgloser Redseligkeit fallen läßt, zu irgend einem hämischen Zwecke aufzusammeln.

Es gibt Menschen, die (so wie Manche sich fruges consumere natos glauben) auch im geselligen Leben immer nur empfangen, nie geben wollen, die vom übrigen Teile des Publikums amüßiert, unterrichtet, bedient, gelobt, bezahlt, gefüttert zu werden verlangen, ohne etwas dafür zu leisten; die über Langeweile klagen, ohne zu fragen, ob sie Andern weniger Langeweile gemacht haben; die behaglich da sitzen, sich's wohlsein, sich erzählen lassen, aber nicht daran denken, auch für das Vergnügen der Uebrigen zu sorgen — das ist aber so ungerecht, als lästig.

Noch andre findet man, die immer nur ihre eigene Person, ihre häuslichen Umstände, ihre Verhältnisse, ihre Taten und ihre Berufsgehefte zum Gegenstande ihrer Unterredung machen, und alles dahin zu drehen wissen, jedes Bild von daher nehmen. So wenig als möglich übertrage in gemischte Gesellschaften den Schnitt, den Ton, den dir deine specielle Erziehung, dein Handwerk, deine besondere Lebensart geben. Rede nicht von Dingen, die außer dir schwerlich Jemand interessieren können. Spiele nicht auf Anekdoten an, die deinem Nachbar unbekannt sind, auf Stellen aus Büchern, die er wahrscheinlich nicht gelesen hat. Rede nicht in einer fremden Sprache, wenn es glaublich ist, daß nicht Jeder, der um dich ist, dieselbe versteht. Lerne den Ton der Gesellschaft annehmen, in welcher du dich befindest. Nichts kann obgeschmackter sein, als wenn der Arzt einige junge Damen mit Beschreibung seiner Sammlung anatomischer Präparate, Possessions-Ergreifung und das edictum Divi Martii, der alte gebrechliche Gelehrte eine junge Kofette von seinem offenen Beinschaden unterhält.

Obt aber tritt der Fall ein, daß man in Gesellschaften gerät, wo es schwer ist, etwas vorzubringen, das Interesse erweckte. Wenn ein verständiger Mann von leeren, eledenen Menschen umgeben ist, die für gar nichts von besserer Art Sinn haben, ei nun, so ist es seine Schuld nicht, wenn er nicht verstanden wird. Er tröste sich also damit, daß er von Dingen geredet hat, die billig interessieren müßten.

U. F. R.

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We have spent thousands of dollars to circulate health literature. Thousands of dollars has been expended in placing the truth of religious liberty before the public, but not one cent have we yet devoted to our public school teachers. How long can we continue in this way and remain guiltless? The time has come for us to make a change.

The *March Advocate* will be prepared for the public school teachers. It will deal with subjects in which educators of the land are interested. Every teacher in the country should receive a copy. Shall the teachers in your neighborhood be passed by? Or, will you see that each one of them becomes a reader of the *March Advocate*.

Our Sabbath schools and our church schools represent the educational feature of the denomination. By them the scattering of educational literature may be done easily and advantageously. Every Sabbath school worker in the land may have a part in this movement. There are two ways in which we can reach the secular teachers. Each Sabbath school may take a club of *Advocates* sufficiently large to supply the teachers in its neighborhood, or the Sabbath schools may raise a fund and the papers will be mailed to the teachers from the *Advocate* office. Let every individual take a part in this. Let the children do what they can for every penny will help. Bring the matter to the attention of your Sabbath school.

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