

REPORT *of* PROGRESS



THE SOUTHERN

UNION CONFERENCE

Vol. 3

NASHVILLE, TENN., MARCH 30, 1909

No. 13

GOD'S TENTH

WHEN good old Jacob learned to give
One tenth to God of all he had,
He found that he with ease could live
And blessings came to make him glad.
Maybe you owe to God a debt—
Pay up at once—lest you forget.

'T is said this law was set aside—
Some boast they are no longer bound—
But, if love makes the path more wide,
It would a better way have found.
No better plan has reached us yet—
Pay up at once—lest you forget.

"But I am very poor," you say,
With scarce enough to eat and wear—
Perhaps you've robbed God's tenth away,
And lost the blessings he would share.
Of all men you are most in debt—
Pay up at once—lest you forget.

—Selected.

HONORING GOD

THE question is asked, "When the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?" The Saviour is calling souls to come to him. The bells of heaven are ringing out the blessed invitation, "Come." The Spirit of God is pleading, "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink." These are precious words of encouragement and hope.

It is the duty and privilege of every church-member to consecrate heart and soul to God. At your baptism you pledged yourselves to believe in God, to obey his Word, to receive his grace. You pledged yourselves to live the principles of the gospel, and to labor together with Christ with all the ability God has given you. None can refuse to represent him in word and deed, and be guiltless. None are excused for living idle lives.

The presence of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, the three highest powers in the universe, is pledged to be with every striving soul. They will impart grace and strength to all who watch unto prayer, to all who will purify the soul by obedience to the truth. And they will make the believer instrumental in leading souls to accept Christ by faith.

The duty to reflect light rests upon every church-member. "Ye are the light of the world," Christ declared to his followers. "A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. . . . Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." If the believer fails of drawing light from the Sun of righteousness, he cannot reflect light.

"He that is not with me," Christ said, "is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad." Those who do not cast their influence on the side of Christ, Satan imbues with his spirit to act in unison with the enemy of good. We cannot afford to do this. When we give to the cause of evil the influence and ability which belong to the cause of truth, angels are disappointed, and Christ is dishonored. Those who are true to their baptismal pledge cannot be indifferent to the work of saving souls. To those who by their influence gather with Christ, angels will give ability to labor successfully for him.

The servant of God is to be learning constantly how he may reflect light to the world. By his earnest devotion to the cause of the coming King, he is to be a spectacle to the world, to angels, and to men. He has become dead to worldly inducements, and lives unto God; and the words of his mouth, the modest dress, the humble spirit, unflinchingly testify that he is a laborer together with God.

Spiritual indolence brings discouragement to the church. The example of one indolent soul may do much harm, for it will be copied by others just according to the possibilities of its influence. The Lord calls upon all who profess his name to exalt his character before men, by words and works revealing their faith in him. In response to our desire to labor for Christ, heavenly angels will place opportunities before us by which we may make known the salvation of God.

God's people are to be channels for the out-working of the highest influence in the universe. A great work is to be accomplished by them in setting before men the saving truths of the gospel. This is the means ordained by God to stem the tide of moral corruption. This is his means of restoring his

moral image in man. It is his remedy for universal disorganization.

The purpose which God seeks to accomplish through his people to-day, is the same that he desired to accomplish through Israel when he brought them forth out of Egypt. By beholding the goodness, the mercy, the justice, and the love of God revealed in the church, the world is to have a representation of his character. And when the law of God is thus exemplified in the life, even the world will recognize the superiority of those who love and serve God.

The Lord has his eye upon every one of his people; he has his plans concerning each. It is his purpose that those who practise his precepts shall be a distinguished people. To the people of God to-day as well as to ancient Israel, belong the words written by Moses through the spirit of inspiration: "Thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth." Deut. 7:6.

Brethren, "we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men." Then "what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, looking for and hasting the coming of the day of God?" 1 Cor. 4:9; 2 Peter 3:11, 12, margin.

Mrs. E. G. WHITE.

JUNIOR READING COURSE

Lesson II: "Christ Our Saviour," pp. 25-38.

The Birth of Jesus

1. Who were Mary and Joseph and where was their home?
2. Where was Christ born? Why there? See Micah 5:2.
3. Write a paragraph concerning Christ's lowly birth, contrasting with it his position previously held in heaven.
4. Why did God select such men as the shepherds to whom to announce the birth of the Saviour?
5. Commit to memory the words of the angelic host. Luke 2:14.

Jesus Presented in the Temple

6. What was the passover? What lesson was taught by this service?

7. At the age of six weeks why did Jesus' parents present him to the Lord in the temple?

8. Who in the temple recognized Jesus as the divine Son of God? Why did the priest know who this infant was?

9. What class of people does God usually select for his witnesses?

Visit of the Wise Men

10. How did the Jews look upon these wise men? How did God regard them?

11. What strange light had they seen in the heavens? Why should they take special notice of it? Where did the star lead them?

12. What were the feelings of Herod and the people of Jerusalem when they heard of the new-born King?

13. How did the wise men show their faith in the Saviour as they beheld him amid his humble surroundings?

Notes

THE WISE MEN.—"The wise men from the East were philosophers. They belonged to a large and influential class, that included men of noble birth, and comprised much of the wealth and learning of their nation. Among these were many who imposed on the credulity of the people. Others were upright men who studied the indications of providence in nature, and who were honored for their integrity and wisdom. Of this character were the wise men who came to Jesus." Balaam of Mesopotamia, who lived in the time of Israel's sojourn from Egypt to Canaan, was of this class. He had at one time been a true prophet of God, and by inspiration had said, "There shall come a star out of Jacob and a scepter shall rise out of Israel." His writings had been handed down from century to century, and as these Magi saw the star in the East, they thought of the prophecy, and went in search of the new-born King.

BETHLEHEM.—"A city of Judah, six miles southward from Jerusalem, on the road to Hebron. It was generally called Bethlehem-Judah to distinguish it from another Bethlehem in Zebulun. It is also called Ephrathah (the fruitful) and its inhabitants Ephratites. Bethlehem is chiefly celebrated as the birth-place of David and of Christ, and as the scene of the book of Ruth." According to the words of the prophet Micah in chapter 5, verse 2, Bethlehem seems to have been a small place: "Though thou be little among the thousands of Judah." It is at the present time a large village, beautifully situated on the brow of a high hill. Guides pretend to show visitors the stable where Christ was born and the manger in which he lay. The spot where some suppose he was born is marked by a silver star. But the exact location cannot be determined.

THE BIRMINGHAM COLORED INSTITUTE

The institute held in Birmingham during March has just closed. It was certainly a good one. The Spirit of the Lord was truly present, and as the last meeting was about to close, one after another of those present rose to their feet to express their thanks to God for the blessings and the benefit they had re-

ceived during the institute, and to voice their determination to work more faithfully and zealously than they had ever done before.

The following testimonies were handed in without being solicited in any way. Those present wished those who did not attend to know what good things they had missed:—

"I am truly glad to have had the privilege of attending this institute. I have gained strength and courage. I cannot go out into the work at this time; but pray for me that the way may be opened that I may have a part in it."

"This institute that has just closed has been a great help to me, and I am going, with God to help me, to do a better work this year of 1909. The Lord was certainly with us during all the exercises."

"I praise the Lord for the privilege of attending the institute at Birmingham. I have received many precious lessons, and hope to put all things I have learned into practise."

"I am glad that I had the privilege of attending the canvassers' institute; it has been a very great blessing to me. I am more determined to stick to the work. I have given my life to this work, and this message."

"I do thank God for the institute held here. We have received many precious lessons. My eyes have been opened, and I see the necessity of helping to spread this third angel's message. I am going to work as never before."

"I am indeed thankful, and do praise God for the instruction received at the institute. I feel encouraged to press on, and join the ranks of workers, giving more time than ever I have done before, so that I may help to hasten my Saviour's soon coming."

"Thank the Lord for the good institute; it is the very thing I needed. The instruction by Brethren A. F. Harrison and R. I. Keate was just grand. I am fully determined to do better work. I praise the Lord for it all."

"I thank the Lord for the institute. I feel much encouraged to do better work. Praise ye the Lord."

R. I. KEATE, *Field Missionary Agent.*

NASHVILLE SANITARIUM

For the benefit of those who may be interested, the following are the present officers of the Nashville Sanitarium: President, Elder C. F. McVagh; Vice-President, Elder C. P. Bollman; Medical Superintendent, Dr. W. A. George; Assistant Physician, Dr. Lyra H. George; Secretary, Treasurer, and Business Manager, B. W. Spire; Matron, Miss Ida Simmons.

Miss Lou Trease, one of our nurses who has been spending a few weeks at her home in Roach, Mo., has returned to the Sanitarium. We are glad to have Miss Trease with us again.

We are glad to report a steady increase in patients at the Sanitarium. Our register at present shows fourteen patients and more coming.

Prof. M. E. Kern, chairman of the Young People's Missionary Volunteer Department of

the General Conference, made a short visit to the Sanitarium a few days ago. Professor Kern and Dr. George were associated in the work together in College View. We appreciated Professor Kern's visit very much.

Sister Dean, who has been connected with the work in San Francisco for a number of years, is a guest at the Sanitarium. Sister Dean expects to start the medical missionary work in Birmingham, Ala., very soon.

We are now planning to start another nurses' class about June 1. Let all those who want to join this class, send for an application blank at once.

We are having some very interesting meetings at the Sanitarium on Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday evenings. Elder Horton has been with us again since his return from Washington, and several are quite interested in the truth.

B. W. SPIRE, *Manager.*

WORDS OF COURAGE FROM MISSISSIPPI CANVASSERS

I TAKE pleasure in passing on to others the following cheering testimonies from our Mississippi canvassers, hoping that they may stimulate others to desire a part in this blessed work:—

"I have a good field, and people are glad to get my books. I have been working every day."

"I feel that our work in Bolivar County is waiting for us to catch hold right where we left off and finish up our work there, and then move on to another county."

An aged colored sister writes: "I am still going on with 'Bible Footlights' from house to house. I find that the time is short, and I must work while it is day, for the doors are open before me and I go every day in as many homes as I can."

"I beg that you pray for my success in the canvassing work. I want to do a good work. It seems like Satan has planned to hinder me, but I know the Lord will give me the victory."

"Enclosed please find \$4.20, for which send me fourteen 'Steps to Christ.' I am of good courage."

A tried canvasser writes: "Truly the harvest is great, but the laborers are few. If those who draw back from entering heartily into the Lord's work could only have one good drink from the fountain, I believe the one hundred workers would soon get out into the field to work where there is only one now."

"Indeed it is my desire to work for the Lord, but my physical condition and household duties will not permit me to do much outside work, but I hope to grasp every opportunity and do what I can. I expect to canvass all the business men in Natchez."

"I cannot give up the work. I do not believe the Lord would bless me in anything else. I want to see Mississippi coming into line."

"I thank the Lord to-night that he has been with me this week and helped me take \$65 worth in orders and \$7 worth in cash."

A busy mother says: "I would like to put

all my time to the work. I believe the canvassers can do much good, and carry the truth to people who never would hear it otherwise."

"I am glad that I am in the work in Mississippi. I like to tell the people of the near coming of the Lord, and the story seems more real to me every time I tell it. We are of good courage, and find our greatest pleasure in telling the people of the soon-coming Saviour. I get so interested in the work that I forget all about my dinner, and work all day without it. Brother Fry and I were saying to-day that Mississippi ought to have one hundred good canvassers in the field. But I am glad that I am here, and I can see that I did not get here any too soon."

I wish to add my testimony to the above by saying that I am happy to have a part in the closing work. I feel very much encouraged over our prospects for 1909.

H. G. MILLER.

THE OFFERING OF APRIL 3

Important!

THIS annual offering for orphans and dependent aged, comes on the first Sabbath in April, April 3. Will not all the brethren and sisters and young people and children pray and work to make this offering a liberal one. There are orphans and aged among us to be looked after as sheep and lambs of the Good Shepherd's flock. Let us all lift in this matter just as though our own dear ones were in need; for these needy ones are our own by the tenderest ties of fellowship in "the whole family in heaven and earth." We invite those who cannot attend the service on that day to send in their offering also.

The General Conference Committee are recommending a special effort this year in all the union and local conferences, in order that the fund coming into the treasury may, if possible, admit of sharing with the orphanage for colored children which the testimonies earnestly urge to be established at Huntsville, Ala., in connection with the colored school and sanitarium.

Sister White and her helpers have been working for this on the Pacific Coast, and Northern California has voted to appropriate one-fourth of the amount received this year from this fund, besides helping otherwise. The suggestion has come from Sister White's helpers that all the conferences join in this enterprise. The General Conference Committee concurs in this, and is urging such a response as will enable the conferences to appropriate a fourth of the amount received to this needy Southern enterprise. It is a need that will appeal to all hearts. Let us all work for it.

Not many days ago, in response to an inquiry, I received a letter from Sister White, from which I quote the following: "Long before I visited Huntsville, the Oakwood school farm was presented to me, both as it was, and as it might be in the future if wisely managed and properly cared for. The presentation of what the place ought to be included an orphanage and a sanitarium."

We are asking the conferences outside the South to make a liberal offering and divide with the Huntsville orphanage. Surely the Lord will not bless us in the South if we stand idly by and do not act our part faithfully.

C. F. McVAGH.

EATING OUR MORSEL ALONE

"If I have withheld the poor from their desire, or have caused the eyes of the widow to fail; or have eaten my morsel myself alone, and the fatherless hath not eaten thereof; . . ." Job 31:16-22. Thus did Job reply when charged with selfishness and sin. In the day of our trial can we thus call God to witness that we have divided our morsel with our less favored brethren? In the South are nearly ten millions of colored people only a generation out of slavery. Have not the orphans among them a claim upon us as Christians?

Here is a quotation from a letter, dated Feb. 16, 1909, received by the writer from Sister White: "Long before I visited Huntsville the Oakwood school farm was presented to me, both as it was then and as it might be if wisely managed and properly cared for. The presentation of what the place ought to be included an orphanage and a sanitarium. . . ."

"I have been instructed that for the development of the Oakwood enterprise, the very best class of workers should be secured, because a special work is to be done here in revealing what religious education will do for the orphans and the outcasts through the labors of consecrated and skilful teachers."

A modest cottage in which a family of fifteen to twenty orphans may be cared for is now planned for on the Oakwood school farm. "Shall we eat our morsel alone?"

C. F. McVAGH.

I AM sure that all the brethren and sisters in the Mississippi Conference will be pleased to know that the work at the Pine Grove Industrial Academy is onward. The Lord has wonderfully blessed us during the present session. We have had a good attendance, considering the circumstances. Our enrolment is thirty-one. We hope to have more next year. Several are planning to enter the canvassing work during the vacation. Others will stay on the farm and help to make a crop.

I believe that this is a vine of the Lord's planting, and that he has a great work for it to do. We ask the prayers of God's people.

G. G. LOWRY.

OBITUARY

THE many friends of Brother L. A. Callicott will be made sad to learn of his death at Mersades, Texas, March 16, from ulceration of the stomach and bowels. He had very recently moved from Hazel, Ky.; but most of his children had remained at Hazel Academy to complete the school year. The remains were brought to Hazel for interment. As Sister Callicott was unable to return at this time,

**CANVASSING REPORT
For Week Ending March 13, 1909**

NAME—	Book	Hours	Value	Deliv'd
ALABAMA CONFERENCE				
K Skidmore	BFL	34	\$48 25	\$ 3 00
Ross S Lindsay	—	12		42 40
M L Ivory	BFL	67	48 00	42 40
W C Wales	—	51	16 50	3 00
KENTUCKY CONFERENCE				
M Wheeler	BFL	40	43 40	23 40
Z S Arey	BFL	115		22 10
H E Beck	D&R	25	9 10	4 60
Mrs A Reynolds	BFL	33	13 90	70
Charlsey Allran	BFL	21	4 30	70
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE (Two weeks.)				
John Harzman	GC	16	6 00	6 00
J N Steel	GC	23	10 35	2 10
H C Bagley	HM	39	34 70	14 20
C L Collison	BR D&R	22	73 00	30 60
Henry Robeson	D&R	23	27 25	
MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE (Two weeks.)				
J S Fry	D&R	78	101 75	9 00
A C Maddock	D&R	81	103 25	5 00
W H Haddon	MOFN	49	11 00	28 50
Virgil Smith	DOFA	39	30 45	3 20
Mary Munday	BFL	22	10 50	
Celestia Wilson	BFL	35	11 40	4 90
M C Whitmarsh	BR	12	7 50	28 00
Delia Wilson	stoc	7		3 00
Louise Jackson	stoc	15	10 40	80
Emily Billops	BFL	40	30 00	10 00
Mollie Miller	stoc	10	3 50	2 90
H G Miller	—	31	28 55	3 00
TENNESSEE RIVER CONFERENCE				
H C Balsbaugh	sofp	28	23 10	2 80
C H Chenault	D&R	40	40 45	6 75
Carrie Goldcamp	BFL	16	10 50	
R H Hazelton	MISC	40	27 50	2 10
Mrs M McCaughan	BFL	20	38 00	
J S Moore	sofp	40	13 80	7 40
Mamie Moore	D&R	24	25 30	5 80
Ben Romines	BFL	12	7 00	
Chas Romines	D&R	24	15 50	5 50
SUMMARY				
Alabama Conference		171	119 75	92 80
Kentucky Conference		234	70 70	51 50
Mississippi Conference		419	348 30	98 30
Louisiana Conference		123	151 30	52 90
Tennessee River Conf.		244	201 15	30 35
Totals		1191	891 20	325 85

the burial was a very sad occasion for the girls and their brother Oakley.

As it happened that I had an appointment for Hazel, Sabbath, March 20, I assisted Prof. T. D. Rowe in the service. The business houses closed for the funeral, and a large congregation filled the Baptist church, near where our camp-meeting was held a few years ago. We laid him to rest in the cemetery at the rear of the church, there to await the call to eternal life at the last day.

In his death a valued and greatly beloved citizen is lost to this world, an earnest and much-needed member of our church and conference, and a beloved and faithful husband and father to a large and devoted family.

C. F. PARMELE.

Report of Progress

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BY WAY OF REMINDER

THIS paper is mailed each Tuesday. All matter, other than canvassers' reports, designed for publication in any special issue, should be in the editor's hands not later than the preceding Wednesday to insure its insertion.

We are informed that two editions of the March number of the *Signs of the Times Monthly* magazine, aggregating 41,000 copies, were printed, and every copy sold before the April number was off the press, and that orders were still coming in.

Write to your tract society, or the *Signs of the Times*, Mountain View, Cal., for sample copies and special terms to agents.

THE TEMPERANCE NUMBER OF THE YOUTH'S INSTRUCTOR

THIS excellent number consists of twenty-four pages, and a cover of enamel paper, with specially drawn page. It is well illustrated, and has matter covering all the leading themes on the temperance reform movement. This matter is classified under these general headings:—

The Evils of the Liquor Traffic; License and Revenue; The Returns of the Traffic; The Remedy—Prohibition, State and National; Alcohol in Heathen Lands; The Tobacco Evil; Allies of Liquor and Tobacco.

Statistics that speak, and speak loudly, of the liquor and tobacco curse; articles by some of the world's leading writers and speakers on various phases of the temperance question; pathetic incidents that reveal something of the sorrow, sin, and suffering that follow in the wake of alcoholism; testimonies of scientists, medical men, lawyers, and teachers giving their observations and experiences relative to this, the chief cause of crime and suffering, throughout our land, form features of this special issue of the *Instructor*. It also suggests a remedy for the evils, and tells what we can do to alleviate the present condition.

Articles by World-Renowned Writers

The following names are some that appear as authors of articles in this special number: Edward Wavrinsky, Member of the Swedish Parliament; Mrs. L. M. Stevens, President of the National W. C. T. U.; Rev. Harry G. Greensmith, Grand Chief Templar of New York; Miss Jessie Forsyth, International Superintendent of Juvenile Work; Miss Alma

Whitney, Grand Superintendent of Juvenile Templars; Rev. Joseph Crooker, President of the Unitarian Temperance Society; Mrs. E. G. White; and Daniel A. Poling, Traveling Secretary of the Intercollegiate Prohibition Association.

Our Relation to Temperance Reform

"Every true reform," says "Ministry of Healing," "has its place in the work of the gospel, and tends to the uplifting of the soul to a new and nobler life. Especially does the temperance reform demand the support of the Christian workers. They should call attention to this work and make it a living issue. Everywhere they should present to the people the principles of true temperance, and call for the signers to the temperance pledge. Earnest effort should be made in behalf of those who are in bondage to evil habits." "Deliver them that are carried away unto death, and those that are ready to be slain see that thou hold back," is heaven's call.

Our relation to the temperance reform movement, now sweeping over the earth, is here clearly defined. We are to have a part in it. We are to do this by precept and example. To aid in the uniting and strengthening of our efforts, a special Temperance number of the *Youth's Instructor*, bearing date of March, 1909, has been issued.

For Temperance Rallies

This number is admirably adapted to serve as the basis of programs for temperance rallies, one effective means of making known to the people our attitude as a church toward the liquor traffic; and of giving instruction and inspiration to those who take part in the rallies.

It has been said that while the Seventh-day Adventist young people have a comprehensive idea of what constitutes true personal temperance, they are behind the young people of the world in understanding the temperance problem as applied to the state and nation; they do not know the gigantic inroads the liquor traffic is making upon the well-being of the state and nation; they do not know what is the best method, from the view-point of the nation, of dealing with the evil, whether to attempt to regulate it or to eliminate it. The special number presents a list of Thought Awakeners, questions that will direct the mind to the proper solution of this great local and national problem.

The Problem

Who is to place this paper in the hands of the people?

All should have a part in it, as individuals, societies, schools, churches, and conferences. It is hoped that this number will form a feature of every temperance rally held in connection with the camp-meetings of 1909.

It is desired that some of our young men and women sell this special number throughout the summer, and use the money obtained therefrom to pay their expenses in school the following year. Who will undertake this work?

Perhaps there is no question to which the people will more readily give their attention now than to the temperance question. Let

us take advantage of the situation, and it may be that by this means we can also enlist the attention of many in the still greater reform now being carried to the world by the third angel's message.

Prices

Single copy, 10 cents; 5 copies, 5 cents a copy; 25 copies, 4 cents; 100 copies, 3¼ cents; 500 copies, 3½ cents; 1,000 copies, 3 cents.

THE YOUTH'S INSTRUCTOR

Takoma Park Station Washington, D. C.

A LETTER just received from Elder I. H. Evans, Transportation Agent for the General Conference, gives the following information:—

"Some time ago the General Conference Committee, realizing the importance of having suitable arrangements made with our various roads over which delegates would travel to the coming session of the General Conference, appointed a special committee to take this matter up with the various roads. The committee found, after very careful correspondence with all the leading roads and trunk lines in this country, that they were unable to make any satisfactory arrangements that would secure to the delegates any special reduction in their transportation. The General Conference Committee therefore advises that the ministers who are coming to the General Conference, use their clergy permits as far as possible; that other delegates apply to the transportation agents in the respective territories, securing the best rates possible; and that the laity who are coming to the General Conference endeavor to group themselves in such a manner as will secure to them the lowest possible rates. In many cases, they can travel second-class, using a tourist sleeper, thus securing a better rate than the clergy rates warrant."

Those in this field who wish to attend the General Conference and who do not hold clergy permits should write to I. A. Ford, 24th Ave. North, Nashville, Tenn., who will be glad to assist in any way possible in securing favorable rates.

WHAT ONE BUSY WOMAN DOES

ONE of our sisters in the Nashville church, whose time is occupied with the usual round of woman's work in the care of the home, still finds time at least one day each week to go down into the city and sell the *Watchman*, usually taking with her twenty-five copies, which she sells in from two to four hours. And this sister has passed her threescore years in life. If this sister of this age can plan to devote one day a week to this grand work, might not hundreds of other women do as much or more? Of course such work has to be planned for. It has to be taken into consideration in arranging the work for each day, for home-keepers are busy folk; but by planning, a few hours can be spent in this work, thus giving the truth to the people and hastening the coming of the Lord, and also making good profits financially. Write to the Southern Publishing Association for full particulars regarding the work.