

REPORT *of* PROGRESS

THE SOUTHERN

UNION CONFERENCE

NASHVILLE, TENN., FEBRUARY 24, 1910

Vol. 4

No. 8

Southern Union Conference

Encouraging Progress All Along the Line —School Reports

MADISON SCHOOL.

Prof. P. T. Magan was called on for a report of the Nashville Agricultural and Normal Institute. He gave a very interesting verbal account of the work which has been carried on by the Institute, stating that "since the school opened in 1904 there had gone out from it one hundred persons who are now in the work in various ways in the Southern field, some in small schools, some in connection with sanitariums, and still others in private families where they command the utmost respect.

"There has been manifest the wisdom of the Lord in giving the instruction, 'that schools and sanitariums should be operated together,' as it gives an influence to those who go out from the school. The sanitarium, though small, has paid all its expenses during the first year of its existence, and through it a wide interest has developed to investigate our school system.

"We are in very close touch with our neighbors who gather in to study with us the principles of healthful living, including dress and cooking.

"We hold an institute every three months, at which the teachers of the small schools come in and tell of their many interesting experiences."

The Chair remarked that it was an interesting report, and expressed his thankfulness for the influence of the Madison school.

Professor Bralliar of the Hillcrest school was called upon for a report, which is as follows:—

HILLCREST SCHOOL.

"The history of the Hillcrest School Farm is pretty well known to most of the delegates here assembled, for the reason that thorough inquiry was made into its workings, or rather into its charter and the plans for work, at your last biennial session. It will be remembered that at that time a committee was appointed who investigated the charter and

plan of work of this school. However it might not be out of place to reiterate something of the history of its founding.

"As you doubtless are well aware, the spirit of prophecy has been calling for a school for colored people to be located in the vicinity of Nashville for a number of years past.

"For a number of years both Professor Staines and myself have been much interested in the colored work in the South, and so long ago as at the General Conference held in Washington nearly five years since, we had a number of long conversations regarding starting just such a school as now exists at Hillcrest at some place in the South. Two or three years previous to this time the writer had had a burden for taking up this kind of work, and went far enough to spend considerable time looking up a location in Texas; but it did not seem until about two years and a half or three years ago that the time was ripe for either of us to begin this sort of work.

"It will be remembered that something near three years ago the Spirit of God moved upon the hearts of the brethren of the Southern Union Conference to take definite steps looking toward the founding of a colored school in or about Nashville. Elder Washburn, who is here present, presented a memorial to your Union Conference Committee on the subject, and I understand an action was taken favorable to the carrying forward of such an enterprise; but that the burden of work already begun was so heavy that the Union Conference felt that it would be impossible to go forward at that time.

"Seeing this was true, Brother Staines felt strongly impressed by the Spirit of God that something ought to be done along the lines of the work being done by the brethren at the Madison school; and many who are here will remember that several council meetings were called, and many of our leading brethren interviewed to see what their attitude would be, and expressed themselves as favorable to seeing such a work begun.

"The choosing of a location for this work occupied considerable time, and was the subject of much earnest prayer. Several of the brethren spent a great deal of time,—and were of much assistance—in searching out

the location. We will not go into the details of this matter at this time, but it is sufficient to say that all feel that God very definitely led in the selection of the farm where the school is now located.

"As purchased, the farm was in a very dilapidated condition, and it has required a great deal of effort to clear out brush, gather up stones, repair fences, and in other ways make the place presentable.

"Some time passed before we had facilities for receiving students, but regular class work has been carried on now for almost a year; and we are glad to be able to report that the progress made by students has been excellent. We have twelve students at present, and every one is taking full class work though working their way through school. We feel that this is encouraging.

"We are just completing another cottage, and shall soon be able to receive five or six more students.

"Another thing that is very encouraging to us is that every one of our students is definitely planning on taking up self-supporting school work for their own people just as soon as they are prepared for it, and some we hope, may soon be ready to make a start.

"On January 1 a church was organized at Hillcrest, consisting of twenty members, two of whom had never made a profession until at our school. You may be interested to know that the first action of this church was to order its quota of 'Ministry of Healing,' some of which have already been sold.

"Though all of our students are working their way, our Sabbath-school donations last quarter amounted to \$6.12, one hundred per cent. of which goes to missions. We keep two missionary maps of the world on the wall where all see them every day, and some of our students are looking forward to the time when, after helping finish the work in this great Southland, they may enter the regions beyond.

"We have ever followed to the strictest letter the no-debt policy. If we do not have the money to make any needed improvement we go without the improvement until we have the money. We are still carrying on the bulk of our class work in a small room which is also used as our office, chapel, church, library, music-room, and spare bedroom, while the re-

mainder of the classes are held in the kitchen and dining-room. Some day, when we get the means, we hope to have a place which we may use exclusively for our school work.

"We have tried to erect neat but plain and inexpensive cottages, such as students might pattern after when they went out to start work themselves.

"We have kept one carpenter to lead out and direct in the work, and the students have done all other carpenter work. It may be of interest to know that our carpenter has been one who received his training in the Madison school.

"We were very much encouraged when Sister White, after looking one of these cottages over thoroughly, inside and out, told us that it was just what she had been saying for years should be the character of buildings our schools should have.

"As a means of support the school is planning on truck-gardening, poultry raising, and dairying. It is the plan to market produce only until the price drops, after which it will be canned for home use and for the market. This will help very much in providing for the home. Poultry raising, if carried on properly, is profitable, especially in this section.

"The School expects to draw some of its students from the North,—Seventh-day Adventist young men and women of mature age, who already have a fair education, and who are willing to give their lives to helping their people in this Southland to better their conditions mentally, physically, and spiritually. The literary work consists of review work in the ordinary branches, normal work, a study of practical physiology, hygiene, and simple treatments, and a very careful study of conditions in the South, and how to relate one's self to them, and of a thorough study of the Bible and the Testimonies, especially those relating to this field. Along with these literary and industrial lines actual field-work is given in visiting among their own people, teaching them how to cook, and how to care for themselves, and in nursing the sick.

"In harmony with our plan of organization, ballots were sent out to those holding founder's certificates for the election of our board of counselors. These ballots are in, and show the following fifteen named persons as being elected: Elders C. F. McVagh, W. R. Burrow, C. Santee, Professors E. A. Sutherland, P. T. Magan, Elders Chas. Thompson, W. C. White, J. E. White, Professors M. B. VanKirk, W. J. Blake, Elders R. M. Kilgore, D. E. Blake, W. H. Sebastian, M. C. Strachan, and Yance Hangstead.

"In conclusion, I will say, that while at times it has seemed progress was slow, we are of good courage, and feel like buckling the harness a little closer, and with you, pushing this work to a speedy finish."

Brother McVagh spoke very encouragingly of the Hillcrest School, saying that it is being conducted along lines that the Lord has designated.

O. R. Staines at this point read a very interesting financial statement showing the school to be in good condition.

This report was followed by remarks by the Chair and Prof. F. R. Rogers, R. M. Kil-

gore, also O. R. Staines, who expressed his thankfulness for the moral support which was given the school.

On motion of A. J. Haysmer, duly seconded, O. R. Staines was elected to fill the vacancy made on the General Conference Negro Department Committee.

EDUCATIONAL RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 36, was read and discussed by Professor VanKirk and C. P. Bollman, and on motion referred to the Conference Committee.

Resolution No. 37 was discussed and adopted by vote.

It was voted that the actions of this Conference be printed and supplied to those who call for them.

Adjourned *sine die*.

C. F. McVAGH, *Chairman*,
S. B. HORTON, *Secretary*.

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CHURCH MANNERS

I SAT and dreamed at even, when the Sabbath day was done,

An angel drooped his pinions before the great white throne;

Then asked of him the Majesty, who sat in glory there,

"Hast marked my flock's behaviour while in my house of prayer?"

The angel sighed. "I entered thy house at ——— to-day;

And some with joy I noted, were there to praise and pray;

But some, I saw with sorrow, were there to air their clothes,

So decked were they with feathers and frills, and beads and bows.

"Some used thy house to eat in, for though I saw no food,

And though they never swallowed, they chewed, and chewed, and chewed.

And some made social visits,—aired their domestic woes;

And some made it an arbor, where they might loll and dose."

Selected.

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THE \$300,000-FUND

I DESIRE to speak to my brethren and sisters in the Mississippi Conference in regard to our quota of this fund. By an action taken at our recent union conference meeting it was decided that Mississippi would have to raise one thousand dollars as their proportionate share toward this fund, that is, about five dollars per member, and we have three years' time in which to raise it. This is in addition to the ten cents a week for missions.

This \$300,000 is to be used in building healthful homes in which our missionaries in foreign lands may live; and to build schools, publishing houses, and sanitariums in those countries.

Now let us all take hold as one man, and raise our part of this important fund, that the Mission Board may have the money with which to carry forward the work. What do you say?

Let us raise one half of our part this year. That will only be five hundred dollars, and I believe if we will take hold and do our part and ask the Lord to help us we can do it.

Do not wait until the end of the year, expecting to pay all of your part then, but begin now and pay in a little each week, and by so doing, you will hardly miss the money.

Let all of the church elders and leaders take hold of this work and get the stream started to flow, and keep it flowing until the amount is raised.

Let all the church treasurers open up a \$300,000-fund account and credit it with all moneys that come in for this purpose.

We hope all the isolated Sabbath-keepers will take hold and help raise this fund. Send all moneys to Prof. Sam Moyers, Amory, Miss., and be sure to designate what it is for.

W. S. LOWRY.

Pres. Miss. Conference.

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MARLOW INSTITUTE AND NOTES FROM THE FIELD

ON my arrival at Marlow, Ala., Monday, February 7th, I found Elder Bagby, Brother Harrison, and Brother and Sister Keate already on the ground, and the institute in full swing. Later, Elder Cruzan and wife arrived. The class of canvassers was not large, but systematic, faithful work was done, and all felt that the meeting was a decided success.

The brethren in Alabama are starting in with good courage and a determination by the help of God to break all previous records in the book work in Alabama during 1910.

The members of the Marlow church took an active interest, and rejoiced at the privilege of having this meeting in Baldwin County. Several new ones seem on the point of accepting the truth.

On the Sabbath, February 12th, I made a call on the \$300,000-fund, and over seventy dollars was quickly pledged, this being an average of over two dollars for each one present. The Marlow church cheerfully agreed to do its full share, and to raise one half of it during the present year.

Sunday I spoke to the new Sabbath-keepers and neighbors at Silver Hill. Sabbath, February 19th, I presented the \$300,000-fund in the Memorial church in Nashville. The congregation was smaller than usual on account of the cold weather, but about \$175.00 was quickly pledged. The Nashville church will raise one half of its share during this year. The way our people take hold of this work, indicates a practical belief in the second coming of Christ in this generation. Shall we not have a like response from every church and company in the Southern Union Conference?

C. F. McVAGH.

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OUR Nashville young people's society is interested in the scholarship effort in behalf of students of the Huntsville school. At a recent meeting, the members of the society took shares to the amount of \$7.00, and we feel positive this is only a beginning of what may be expected in the near future.

TO THE BRETHREN AND SISTERS IN LOUISIANA

REALIZING that many disappointments have risen through the inability of our conference president to look after his correspondence during the past two weeks, I take this method of informing you regarding the matter.

On the 15th while at Pyburn, La., I received a message from Elder Maxwell to come at once to Hammond, and take him to the Nashville sanitarium.

On arriving there the following day we found our dear brother had been sick in bed for two weeks, unable to get up alone, and scarcely able to sit up.

He stood the twenty-four-hour trip to the Nashville sanitarium fairly well, reaching here Friday evening. He has a very bad case of rheumatism, and suffers intensely at times, and now, after a few treatments, seems a little better.

We had planned to visit the churches and companies together in the interests of the book and periodical work, and hold our institute March 21-31.

These plans are now inoperative, but due notice of time and place of holding the institute will be given.

We shall be glad to hear from any one interested in the book or paper work and pray that all may realize that the Lord "has given to every man his work."

In the meantime let us earnestly pray our heavenly Father to bless the means used here for the speedy recovery of our beloved president.

I. T. REYNOLDS, F. M. A.

Pineville, La.

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"READING FOR SOLDIER BOYS"

UNDER the above heading the Nashville *American* prints the following appeal for reading-matter. It has impressed me as being one of the Lord's open doors for this truth to enter difficult fields. Dear reader, have you not many of our good papers and magazines lying idle that should now be sent to the frozen North or the tropical South?

"The Army and Navy Young Men's Christian Association is carrying on a large and organized work among the enlisted men in our army and navy, and pressing appeals have recently come to the headquarters of the association in New York City. The appeals are especially urgent from Alaska and the Philippines, and from the secretary with the battle-ship fleet at Guantanamo Bay. The request is for magazines, old or new, illustrated papers, books of travel, history, biography, or fiction.

"At some of the more isolated points in both Alaska and the Philippines the dearth of good reading-matter is keenly felt, and the men appreciate even an old magazine. A number of small libraries have already been sent to Alaska and the men have dubbed them "insanity preventives," referring to the fact that so many men lose their reason as the result of the isolation during the long, dreary arctic winter, and the books would furnish them with the diversion needed to keep their minds in a normal condition. If any reader desires to render a real service to these

young men in the army and navy, let them send their magazines and books by prepaid express or freight to the Army and Navy Young Men's Christian Association, 124 East Twenty-eighth street, New York City, and from this point the government will transport such supplies free of expense."

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MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

I OFTEN think of what the Saviour said to the disciples when he saw them fishing: "And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you fishers of men." Mark 1:17.

My work the past few years has truly been the work of fishing for the children of men, and I praise the Lord that he has drawn some noble, true-hearted souls towards the net, and I expect these will be gathered in when Jesus comes, and the haul is made.

Quite a number of precious souls to whom I gave readings some two years before the large tent was pitched in the eastern part of the city attended the meetings there, and eight of them embraced the truth, and are now sound members of Christ. Many others took their stand on the truth at the same time as the result of Elder J. S. Washburn's faithful labor.

It rejoices my soul to look upon many precious souls whom the Lord has brought into the truth through my feeble efforts in Memphis during the past eight years. If I am faithful to the end, I expect these jewels will shine in my crown.

I am now having a very interesting experience among the members of a Presbyterian church. Some eight years ago I gave this church part of a series of Bible readings upon the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation. The minister gave up his Wednesday night prayer-meeting that I might have the time, and requested all of his flock to attend. He and all his members were much interested until I came to the Sabbath question, upon which he objected to me giving a reading, and I dropped the work for the time being. But now, as the result of *fishing* among his members and for himself also, I am holding readings with some six or eight of his church-members and am giving the minister himself a full series of readings upon present truth in his own study, and all are becoming much interested.

This man is the chairman of the presbytery. I cannot tell what will be the fruits, but I do know that the members of his flock who are listening to the truth have entirely repudiated about all the Presbyterian doctrines which they have been taught, and the minister is getting into deep water. The spirit of prophecy says we must not pass by the ministers.

A lady to whom I gave readings some two years ago and who was convinced but did not then obey has recently attended our good tent-meetings, and is now a devoted Sabbath-keeper. I praise the Lord for what he has enabled me to do, and will continue my work with joy.

F. T. WALES.

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"SABBATHS are quiet islands on the tossing sea of life."

CANVASSING REPORT

**Southern Union Conference
For Week Ending Feb. 5, 1910**

NAME	Book	Hours	Value	Deliv'd
ALABAMA CONFERENCE				
W G Ringgold	BFL	24	\$14 00	\$
R Roberts	BFL	42		42 00
K Skidmore	BFL	26	36 35	3 00
I W Peevy	BFL	32	1 50	13 50

TENNESSEE RIVER CONFERENCE

H C Balsbaugh	dofA	35	33 40	4 20
Carrie Goldcamp	BFL	10	9 00	4 50
R H Hazelton	MISC	27	26 00	4 75
C H McColrey	D&R	34	40 10	12 10
Mamie Moore	D&R	22	24 25	27 25

For Week Ending Feb. 12, 1910

ALABAMA CONFERENCE

W G Ringgold	BFL	43	12 75	103 75
Mrs J R Cofield	CK	10		31 00
K Skidmore	BFL	36	33 25	2 00
R Roberts	BFL	32	20 70	11 50

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE

H C Carmichael	dofA	50		36 00
H E Beck	D&R	38	19 00	3 50
M J Weber	BFL	44	35 20	
N A Harden	CK	18	24 75	

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE

W H Haddon	mofN	11	17 95	1 25
J S Fry	D&R	10	24 50	1 25
Virgil Smith	D&R	7	19 85	3 85
Everett Marley	D&R	21	61 05	5 95
W H Daniels	D&R	10	19 50	1 75
S A Oberg	GC	13	51 85	

TENNESSEE RIVER CONFERENCE

H C Balsbaugh	dofA	36	32 75	
R H Hazelton	MISC	26	20 00	4 50
Mamie Moore	D&R	34	62 85	1 00
C H McColrey	D&R	40	42 65	3 65
G W Powers	CK	28	7 50	29 15

SUMMARY

Alabama Conf 2 wks	245	118 55	206 75
Kentucky Conference	150	78 95	39 50
Mississippi Conference	72	194 70	14 05
Tenn Riv Conf 2 wks	294	298 50	91 10

Totals 761 \$690 70 \$351 40

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ALABAMA PAPER WORKERS' REPORT

For January, 1910

Miss Effie Nelson	wL&H	40	292	\$29 20
May Vaughn	BTS		540	54 00
Miss Pearl Lambeth	BTS		675	67 50

Totals 1507 \$150 70

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HOW MUCH DO I BELIEVE THIS MESSAGE?

Of the people in the days of Noah when destruction by the flood was impending, and in the days of Lot when the destruction of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah was imminent the record says, "They did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded" until destruction came. And the Saviour adds, "Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed." Luke 17:30.

To say the least, is not this a very ordinary way of doing while such extraordinary things are in progress in the sanctuary in heaven? The judgment is going on, and must soon be

Report of Progress

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PERIODICALS

B. L. HOUSE, 224 South Cherry St., Richmond Va., desires clean copies, either back numbers or late editions of the *Watchman*, *Signs*, *Liberty*, *Protestant Magazine*, *Life and Health*, *Education*, or *Bible Training School*, sent post-paid, also any Chinese, Jewish, Syrian, Greek, or Italian literature, suitable for missionary work among these people.

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INTERESTING FOOD OFFER

We have a special offer on Malt Extract. We know this will interest all who want to improve their foods at home. To properly understand the value of this wonderful product of nature you should read, *Starchy Food Indigestion* in December *Life and Health*. We have printed this valuable article on our special Malt Extract circular, offering your first lot free, with a shipment of food, for a short time. Unless your name is on our mailing list you should write at once.

NASHVILLE SANITARIUM-FOOD FACTORY

Nashville, Tennessee.

finished. As Seventh-day Adventists we believe the third angel's message will close, and the everlasting gospel go to every kindred, nation, tongue, and people in this generation. But there is constant danger of our being affected by the prevailing spirit of self-indulgence and commercialism so as to blunt our appreciation of the solemn judgment work. In mercy, and to keep us from becoming absorbed in the common-place things of this life, God has made it our duty to give of our means to push the work in all the world. It is a good thing for us to ask ourselves the question, "How much do I believe this message?" How much has self-indulgence and commercialism encroached on my belief in the message? In my plans how many things am I putting before the coming of the Lord? The call for \$300,000 to provide homes and facilities for our missionaries in Asia and Africa will help us to see what is first in our own hearts. Every conference in the Southern Union expects to raise at least half its full share before the close of 1910. Wherever I have presented this matter there has been a loyal and cheerful response.

Let every conference officer, every minister, and every church officer take the first oppor-

tunity to lay this plan before our people and the Southern Union will soon do its full share. The way our membership is figured it will mean an average of over five dollars a member, or about seven thousand dollars for the union. Give the people a chance to pledge. Let me suggest that seventy-five cents a member each quarterly meeting would just about do our part for this year. God will bless a united effort.

C. F. McVAGH.

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THE HARVEST INGATHERING

KNOWING that our readers are interested in this line of work, we will give you an extract of a letter recently received:—

"I will now answer your letter. I received the twenty-five *Reviews*, making thirty-five all told, to dispose of. Before I knew it they were all gone, and I have sent in \$17.12, making about forty-nine cents for each paper. If I could have had the papers before the Christmas holidays, I could have gathered twice as much for this fund."

Another letter received to-day from a sister whose health is far from good, says:—

"I was out during the holidays, seeing what could be done with the Harvest Ingathering *Review*. I took out twelve copies and received \$2.40, averaging twelve cents a copy. I was out in November with *Protestant Magazine* and *Life and Health*, and made enough from the sales to pay off a pledge of ten cents a month, for a year, on behalf of an orphanage in China."

These letters are encouraging, and how many are still working on the Ingathering fund? This work can go on all summer if necessary. We still have a few copies for those who would like to use them.

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BULBS FOR SALE

THE Oakwood Manual Training School raised a nice collection of summer flowering bulbs the past season, and is now offering some for sale. The growing of these bulbs is only undertaken to furnish work to poor students who can only attend school as they are able to pay their expenses in work. To place an order for these bulbs will not only bring to your home some beautiful flowers, but will also help the school. We have the following to offer:—

Dahlias: Each, 10 cents; 6 for 50 cents; 12 for 75 cents. If by mail, add 20 cents per dozen for postage.

Gladiolus: Each, 2 cents; 20 cents per dozen; \$1.00 per 100. If by mail, add 10 cents per dozen for postage.

Tuberose: Each, 3 cents; 25 cents per dozen; \$1.00 per 100. Ten cents extra by mail, per dozen.

Cannas: Strong Roots, 10 cents each; 75 cents per dozen. By mail, five cents each for postage.

Caladium Esculentum—Elephant's Ear: Large Bulbs, 10 cents each; 75 cents per dozen. By mail, five cents each extra for postage.

We have issued a neat little circular giving a concise description of these flowers. We shall be glad to send one to you if you will send us your address. If you wish you can

enclose stamp to help out on postage. Address, Oakwood School, Box 414, Huntsville, Ala.

W. J. BLAKE, *Principal*.

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MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE

Tithe for February 1-14, 1910

Hatley	\$ 22.51
Enid	900.00
Hattiesburg	12.75
Meridian	11.54

Total

\$946.80

F. R. SHAEFFER, *Treas.*

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LOUISIANA CONFERENCE

Tithe for January, 1910

Hodge, 3 mo.....	\$ 22.10
Welsh	9.50
Shreveport, 3 mo.....	54.83
Hammond	46.35
Hayes	3.95
Hope Villa, 3 mo.....	57.70
Lake Charles	51.24

Total

\$245.67

MRS. C. A. SAXBY, *Treas.*

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NEWS AND NOTES

Do NOT forget that *Sabbath, February 26*, is *Missionary Volunteer Day*. Let no church fail to observe it. The offerings for that day will be for the Mohammedan field. "The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself."

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FROM AN ARTICLE IN THE MARCH "SIGNS MONTHLY"

IN Great Britain seventy-five per cent. of the adult population remain permanently out of touch with organized religion. On the continent of Europe, this falling away of the people from the churches is far more marked than in England. In December, 1908, that noted journalist, Mr. Ray Stannard Baker, declared that "uncounted Americans whose ancestors looked to the church as the chief inspiration of their daily existence, no longer attend any church."

In one of his last sermons, the late Rev. Dr. George C. Lorimer said: "There is such a thing as a religious crisis in America, however much we may scoff at the idea. Religion to-day is at a very low vitality."—"*Conditions in the Nominal Christian World, and the Cause*;" by Prof. Geo. W. Rine.

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FROM AN ARTICLE IN THE MARCH "SIGNS MONTHLY"

It is claimed, in the interest of the first-day—Sunday—sabbath, that Christ never met with his disciples on any other day after his resurrection. In John 21:1-6 we read of his meeting them upon a fishing occasion, and he told them where to cast the net. Was this upon the first day of the week?

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"APPLY thine heart to understanding."