

THE WEST MICHIGAN HERALD

"Watchman, What of the Night?"

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THE WEST MICHIGAN HERALD

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Evangelical Department

Venturing in Missionary Work

He who ventures nothing has nothing, he who ventures little has little, he who ventures much has much. This is true in temporal things; it is also true in spiritual things, — even in missionary work. We receive the truth that we may communicate it to others. If we do this we will have more truth, and more strength to communicate it to those to whom we owe it, and in this case we are debtors to all those who are within our reach, and whom we can bless with the light God has given us.

We should love our fellow-beings as we love ourselves. If we do this, and have experienced the saving power of the truth for these times, we will do all that in us lies to lead others to do the same, and to experience this same saving power that we have experienced; and thus our talents and abilities with those of such as we can lead to walk in the way of truth and salvation, will be utilized, and the result will be an increase of talents and abilities as seen in an increase of souls saved through the grace and truth of Him who died for us.

This means missionary work, and venturing to do all we can of it, both for ourselves and for others; for in this we are to co-operate with Christ. By grace divine we are to work out our own salvation and labor for the salvation of

others, knowing that it is God who worketh in us and in others to will and to do of his good pleasure. We must venture more by faith and by earnest endeavors to form right characters. As we labor to overcome the defects in our imperfect characters, we shall labor for the salvation of others; for the two are inseparably connected. We cannot labor to form righteous characters without laboring for the salvation of our fellow-beings. To neglect doing all we can to lead others to comply with the conditions of salvation, is to be selfish and to withhold from those who need salvation equal love, and from God love supreme. And how can we be truly said to be forming holy characters while selfishly doing this?

On the other hand, in laboring for the salvation of others, our love for them and for God increases. While presenting to those for whom we labor the love of God, as seen in the gift of his Son, and through his offers of salvation, we are reminded of what God has done for us in freely forgiving us our sins and in saving us from the power of sin, and we are led to ask him for grace to love him more; and he graciously grants us our request. We remember that he loves our fellow-beings who are still in their sins as he loved us when we were in the same condition, and we are led to ask him for more of the love wherewith he has loved us and those who are still in the bondage of sin, and for whom we are laboring. In his great love and mercy he grants us our desire, even to giving us bowels of mercy for those who are perishing in their sins, and enabling us to love them as we love ourselves. In seeing the sins of those for whom we labor, we are

led to examine our own characters to have their defects removed, that our example may be worthy of imitation, and that we may be successful in winning souls to Christ. And what is this but forming holy characters?

Christ ventured all when he came to our world to save those who would truly believe in Him; and we should venture all, even our very lives, if need be, in laboring for those for whom Christ died. To do this we need not all go to the heart of heathendom to evangelize the heathen. We can venture in doing missionary work in our own families, home churches and localities, and in laboring for those around us with our literature, in visiting and giving Bible readings; and we can venture more in doing missionary work on our knees, praying for those needing light, truth and salvation, and for the messengers of the cross who are bearing to those in darkness the glad tidings of salvation.

Let us not wait until every obstacle is removed to engage in missionary work. To do this would be evincing unbelief and selfishness, not giving the Lord a chance to work, and drying up spiritually. It would be becoming guilty of the blood of souls around us who are perishing in their sins, and to be found unprepared for the things that are coming on the earth. Let us venture more in doing missionary work, that our faith and love may be increased, that we may see God's mighty workings in the conversion of souls to God, to the encouragement of his people, that the work of the Lord may soon be cut short in righteousness and we may soon realize the blessedness of greeting the Saviour with joy at His coming.

D. T. Bourdeau.

"FAITH often grows fastest in the absence of happy feeling."

Educational Department

To the Young People of West Michigan

I should like to have a heart to heart talk with each one of you, for I am especially interested in the development of young people. We are living in a time of this world's history when young people who enter the work of Christ cannot remain inactive. There is no one class of young people who should be so filled with enthusiasm as those belonging to Adventist homes. If the Lord was wholly dependent upon the young people of West Michigan Conference to carry the message of his soon coming to the world, how long do you think it would be before the world would be warned? If you are inclined to smile because of the limited number of young people included in this question, let me call your attention to the fact that the work of the Christian church began with twelve men, and even that company had to be sifted, for some were not able to go forward with the work.

Do you know that the Lord has a place for you individually? He has written a letter to you, and these are the words he uses: "I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one." "I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one." There are three reasons why the Lord says that he rolls the burden upon you. First, you are strong. Secondly, the word of God abides in you. Thirdly, you have overcome the wicked one. Thus you will be able to resist temptation. This says a great deal for the young men and young women, and yet the Lord says it of you. He is putting confidence in you. Do you return that confidence? Have you told him that you will do anything that He wants you to do?

I have said that He has a place for you. Have you found your place in the work? Young people of the world may think it profitable to drift with the tide. Young people in the church cannot afford to do this.

I feel especially anxious that each one of you should decide what the Lord wants you to do, and receive a preparation to do that work in the most acceptable way. I believe that I can give you some personal help, and for that reason I am going to ask you to write to me. Perhaps you will hesitate to write because you do not know me personally, but this is the only way for us to become acquainted. When you write I wish you would answer the questions which I have already asked. Tell me plainly what kind of work you want to do for the Lord. Tell me also how much effort you are willing to put forth to get the training necessary to do the Lord's work.

I have some very practical suggestions which I wish to make to you. In order to make these, I want to know just as much about your ability and your ambitions as is possible for me to know.

Do you believe that the Lord has a message for the young people to give, and do you want a part in the proclamation of that message?

You may look for further word from me.

M. Bessie De Graw,
Berrien Springs, Mich.

Missionary Gardens

The readers of the West Michigan Herald may not all be acquainted with the work our young people are doing throughout the State in the line of missionary gardens. The work has not been noised about very much, but it has been quietly increasing in every way till it is worthy of some note. Young people and children especially are very often out of

the reckoning when important enterprises are undertaken or money is to be raised. It is thought, Why, they have nothing, and of course they can give nothing. But is that true? Looking at it from one standpoint, it may seem to be; but give children a chance, and, with a little encouragement see what they can do.

During the past few weeks our young people have been at work. Some have raised flowers, and sold bouquets. Others have raised chickens, and sold them. Whatever they could do to be producers, they have done, in order that they might contribute something to the spiritual welfare of those in regions beyond. Now that the summer is past, and the harvest is reaped, a number of our schools have arranged interesting Harvest Ingathering programs, especially for the benefit of the children and youth, but it is gratifying to note that young and old are working together for the encouragement of all. We have received brief reports from a few of these schools, and note with pleasure the interest manifested by all.

This effort is in harmony with the instruction of the Lord: "Sell that ye have, and give alms; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." We trust that parents generally will aid and encourage the children in becoming producers, that they may sell that they have, and that they may be gaining a living experience of what it is to lay up treasure in heaven.

Hattie E. Allée.

Bauer

The Harvest Ingathering Exercises have always been a source of much pleasure to the members of our Sabbath School, and we

felt that we could not let the time for holding these exercises pass, and not improve the opportunity.

Sabbath, Oct. 24, we met to render the program previously arranged, which consisted of songs, recitations and readings appropriate for the occasion. The house was decorated with autumn leaves, fruits, and grains; the children, young people, and parents all helping with the work. A large number of friends from the Allendale church accepted the invitation to be present with us. The donation received amounted to nearly \$8.00.

As we thought of what the harvest ingathering meant, our minds were carried forward to that greatest of all harvest ingatherings so soon to take place, our hearts were filled with the desire to be ready to be gathered into Jesus' fold.

Mildred Wilson.

South Monterey

The members of our missionary band have been working this summer as was shown last Sunday evening when we met for our Harvest Ingathering service. Our church was nicely decorated, and the children looked smiling and happy as they gathered there, bringing the offerings that they themselves had earned.

Old and young took part in the exercises, which consisted mostly of songs and recitations. The amount of donations received was \$34.00, of which the children gave \$19.00. Some requested that their donation be sent to China, some to India and others to the South, while several remembered the home missionary work, and made donations to the church school just started here.

We pray that the blessing of the Lord will go with these offerings, and that the children may continue their work for the Master.

Nov. 5. Mrs. J. P. Miner.

Medical Department

A Cure for Insomnia

Not long ago a well-known clergyman went to a resort for treatment. The doctor looked him over upon his arrival and said, "While you are here you must take long walks every day."

"But I can't take walks," replied the parson. "I haven't done any walking for years. My heart won't stand it."

They argued the question quite warmly. As the clergyman and doctor were good friends, the latter was more lenient than usual. However, he abided his time. The next afternoon the physician said to the clergyman,—

"It's a nice day. I would like you to go horseback riding with me."

Riding they went. When they were about eight miles from the Sanitarium, the physician said, "O, doctor, won't you get me that flower by the roadside? I don't like to leave this horse."

As soon as the clergyman was on the ground, the doctor galloped off with both horses, and the clergyman was compelled to walk back to the sanitarium. Upon his arrival he was very angry, and was for packing up and leaving at once. There was no train that night, so he was forced to stay a few hours longer. The next morning he came down radiant and good natured. "Doctor," he said, "I was pretty sore at you last night, but I forgive everything. I have had the first good sleep I have enjoyed in months. Hereafter I'll obey your orders implicitly."—*Selected.*

Test Water With Sugar

The supply of drinking water for the family should be tested occasionally. Water that at one time is pure and wholesome may become too impure for use, yet it may be without color, and have no odor or taste to show its dan-

gerous qualities. Typhoid fever is frequently communicated through the drinking water.

A simple test of drinking water is the Meisch test. Fill a clean pint bottle three-quarters full of the water to be tested, and dissolve in it a teaspoonful of granulated sugar. Cork it, and set it in a warm place for two or three days. If during this time it becomes cloudy or milky, it is unfit for domestic use. If it remains perfectly clear, it is probably safe. Be careful that the bottle is absolutely as clean as you can make it, and the sugar pure.

The second test is also a simple one. Obtain from a trustworthy chemist a penny-worth of saturated solution of permanganate of potassium. Add about five drops of this to a pint bottle of water. This will turn the water a beautiful rose-purple. If there is any considerable amount of organic matter, the color will give place, in the course of a few hours, to a more or less dirty reddish-brown. If the color of the water in the bottle remains for twelve hours unchanged from the rose-purple it assumed when the permanganate of potassium was first added, it may be considered free from organic contamination.

"THOUSANDS have died for want of pure water and pure air, who might have lived. . . . These blessings they need in order to become well. If they would become enlightened, and let medicine alone, and accustom themselves to out-door exercise, and to air in their houses, summer and winter, and use soft water for drinking and bathing purposes, they would be comparatively well and happy instead of dragging out a miserable existence. If those who are well need the blessing of light and air, and need to observe habits of cleanliness in order to remain well, the sick are in still greater need of them in proportion to their debilitated condition."

News and Notes

O satisfy us in the morning with thy mercy. Ps. 90:14, R.V.

Prof. J. G. Lamson spent several days at Cedar Lake last week.

The Church School building at Battle Creek is nearing completion and will soon be ready for use.

Elder G. C. Tenney gave a very timely discourse, Sabbath, Nov. 7, to a large appreciative audience at the Tabernacle.

If you have not yet sent in your report for the Sabbath school for the quarter ending Sept. 30, please do so at once, sending the same to the Sabbath school secretary, Hattie E. Allee, Otsego, Mich.

Thursday evening, November 5, the S. D. A. Young Peoples's Society of Grand Rapids spent a profitable time at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Long. About sixty young people listened to a very interesting and instructive musical and literary program.

If you are not a subscriber for the *West Michigan Herald*, let us receive your subscription at once. The work throughout the Conference and the world is taking on a new impetus, and to keep pace with it we must find ourselves in close touch with the work and workers. The price is 25 cents per year.

A writer in the *Children's World* says: "Of every six infants in the world, one is born in India; of every six orphan girls, one is wandering in India; of every six widows, one is mourning in India; of every six men that die, one is passing into eternity in India. Think of it and give India a part of your prayers."

Last week Elder W. C. Hebner visited Sturgis, where he found eleven Sabbath-keepers in good standing, at which time he organized this company into a working band. It is expected a church will be organized in the near

future. Elder Hebner reports also as a result of this effort an order for 100 of the special *Signs of the Times*, and one order for the *West Michigan Herald*.

The announcement made a short time ago that a special edition of the *Signs of the Times* on the subject of *Capital and Labor* seems to have reached a responsive chord in the hearts of our people everywhere. The Pacific Press Publishing Co., now expect to print ONE MILLION COPIES. How many copies can you use?

This special number contains twenty-four pages, including cover, and will be beautifully illustrated.

The retail price is 5 cents per copy.

5 to 20 copies to one address, 4 cents per copy.

25 or more copies to one address, 3 cents.

No doubt there are many who would like to have the paper sent direct from the office of publication to friends. For the benefit of such the following offer is made:—

Single copies will be mailed direct from the office of publication to lists of names furnished, at the following rates:

1 to 20 copies 5 cents per copy.

29 to 99 copies 4 cents per copy.

100 or more copies 3½ cents per copy.

This price includes wrapping, addressing, and postage. Papers will be ready to mail not later than November 12.

Orders should be sent at once.

Address West Michigan Tract Society, Otsego, Mich., or *Signs of the Times*, Oakland, Cal.

AS previously stated November 21st and 22nd have been set apart for a general Missionary Rally all over the United States. Readings on various phases of missionary work have been prepared and will be furnished free to those requesting them. They are as follows:

"A Call to Service," by Mrs. E. G. White.

"Value and Uses of Tracts," by various writers.

"Our Periodicals a Continual Blessing," by H. H. Hall.

"Home Workers with Small Books," by I. A. Ford.

"A Missionary Follow-up System," by S. N. Curtiss.

"Mission and Results of Christ's Object Lesson's Work," by P. T. Magan.

These readings are all very short and are only expected to open up the subject for general discussion after the plan of Sabbath School Conventions—in fact these services will be called Missionary Conventions.

The plan is to devote three services to them; two on the Sabbath and one Sunday evening, or evening after Sabbath. This will allow about fifteen minutes for the study and discussion of each topic. The third meeting, coming as it does upon time other than the Sabbath, enables the church to transact the business connected with the ordering of supplies and arranging for work.

Let us pray that this may be a season of extraordinary blessing to us all, and in the meantime be studying how we can make it so.

Allegan

The regular quarterly meeting of the Monterey, Allegan, Otsego, and Kalamazoo churches was held at Allegan, Sabbath, Nov. 7, with a good attendance from each of the first three named churches. Elder Horton was present and gave an excellent discourse on "the love of God." After a very interesting Sabbath school, all participated in a good social meeting.

We have just finished papering, painting, and repairing our church; also putting in a new furnace, and with everything clean and pleasant, and with much of the presence of the Lord, we felt that we enjoyed a good meeting together, and realize that these gatherings are a source of strength to these churches.

E. Brackett.