

A. G. Daniels

# THE WEST MICHIGAN HERALD



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## The West Michigan Herald.

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E. L. Richmond,

Editor.

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## The Use of the Tithe.

ELLEN G. WHITE.

"Thou shalt command the children of Israel that they bring thee pure olive oil, beaten, for the light to cause the lamp to burn always." This was to be a continual offering that the house of God might be properly supplied with that which was necessary for His service. The people to-day are to remember that the house of worship is God's property, and that it is to be scrupulously cared for. But the funds for this work are not to come from the tithe. The tithe is to be used for one purpose—to sustain the ministers whom the Lord has appointed to do His work. It is to be used to support those who speak the words of life to the people and carry the burden of the flock of God.

But there are ministers who have been robbed of their wages. God's provision for them has not been respected. Those who have charge

of our church buildings are to be supplied with the means necessary to keep these buildings in good repair, but this money is not to come from the tithe.

A very plain, definite message has been given to me to give to our people. I am bidden to tell them that they are making a mistake in applying the tithe to various objects which, though good in themselves, are not the object to which the Lord has said the tithe is to be applied. Those who make this use of the tithe are departing from God's arrangement. God will judge for these things. One reason that the tithe may be appropriated for school purposes, still another would reason that canvassers and colporters should be supported from the tithe, but a great mistake is made when the tithe is drawn from the object for which it is to be used—the support of the ministers. There should to-day be in the field one hundred qualified laborers where now there is one. God cannot look upon the present condition of things with approval, but with condemnation. His treasury is deprived of the means that should be used for the support of the gospel ministry in fields nigh and afar off. Those who proclaim the message of truth before great congregations, and who do house-to-house work, as well, are doing double missionary work, and in no case are their salaries to be cut down. The use of the tithe must be looked upon as a sacred matter by our people. We must guard strictly against all that is contrary to the message now given.

There is a lack of ministers because ministers have not been

encouraged. Some ministers who have been sent to foreign lands, to enter fields never before worked, have been given the instruction, "You must sustain yourselves. We have not the means with which to support you." This ought not to be if the tithe, with gifts and offerings, was brought into the treasury. When a man enters the ministry he is to be paid from the tithe enough to sustain his family. He is not to feel that he is a beggar. The impression is becoming quite common that the sacred disposition of the tithe no longer exists. Many have lost their sense of the Lord's requirements. The tithe is sacred, reserved by God for himself. It is to be brought into His treasury to be used to sustain the gospel laborers in their work. For a long time the Lord has been robbed because there are those who do not realize that the tithe is God's reserved portion.

Many ministers are lying in their graves, brought there by sorrow and disappointment, and by the hardship brought upon them because they did not receive sufficient for their labors.

Let us remember that God is a God of justice and equity. There would to-day be many more ministers in the field, but they are not encouraged to labor. Many workers have gone into the grave heartbroken because they had grown old and could see that they were looked upon as a burden. But had they been retained in the work, and given an easy place, with a whole or part of their wages, they might have accomplished much good. During their term of labor these men have done double labor.



They felt so heavy a burden for souls that they had no desire to be relieved of overwork. The heavy burdens borne shortened their lives. The widows of these ministers are never to be forgotten, but should, if necessary, be paid from the tithe.

Read carefully the third chapter of Malachi, and see what God says about the tithe. If our churches will take their stand upon the Lord's word, and be faithful in paying their tithe into His treasury, His laborers will be encouraged to take up ministerial work. More men would give themselves to the ministry were they not told of the depleted treasury. There should be an abundant supply in the Lord's treasury, and there would be if selfish hearts and hands had not made use of the tithe to support other lines of work. God's reserved resources are to be used in no such haphazard way. The tithe is the Lord's, and those who meddle with it will be punished with the loss of their heavenly treasury unless they repent. Let the work no longer be hedged up because the tithe has been diverted into various channels other than the one to which the Lord said it should go. Provision is to be made for these other lines of work. They are to be sustained; but not from the tithe. God has not changed; the tithe is to be used for the support of the ministry. The opening of new fields requires more ministerial efficiency than we now have, and there must be means in the treasury.

#### Our Opportunity.

Last spring it was my privilege to visit Niagara Falls. As one stands upon the bluff of the river at Falls View he can look far up the river above the falls and see the falls in mad rush to the precipice over which it plunges with a deafening roar. As the water dashes against the many large rocks in the river, they seem to increase its fury and it comes on,

foaming as it were with madness, only to hurl itself into the deep gorge. This has been going on for years, and as each drop takes the plunge, it is with great power attracting more to follow.

Quite recently some of the water has been diverted from the main stream and is used to turn the wheels of the largest electric power plants in the world. Thus that which seemingly is useless becomes of great value in giving light and power to the surrounding cities.

Compare it to the great Niagara of people blinded by Satan and so enrapt in business, money making, and pleasure seeking that they do not realize just below them is an abyss of impenetrable darkness. They are moving on in one grand concourse without a thought of what is ahead of them. When their attention is called to the future, with the great majority, it only increases their fury and they rush on to their inevitable doom.

As each one goes down to his destruction he is, by his influence, causing many more to follow, until seemingly the whole world has been drawn into this one course and is rapidly following it to the end. But there are some who have been caught by the current and as it carries them downward are beginning to realize their condition. These are ready to grasp every straw that may come to them if only they may escape the destruction ahead. Why, then, should not we who have been marvelously rescued endeavor to lead them to the channel through which they may become instruments of usefulness?

Did you ever ask yourself the question, Why, Lord, did you let shine across my pathway the light of this wonderful truth? Think of it a moment, look around you and see the many thousands of people that do not know of the wonderful love of God and the near return of the Saviour. No doubt but if they should receive the light upon the

subject that you and I have, some of them would accept it and soon be far in advance of us. Why then has it come to us while they remain in darkness? No doubt, God has a purpose in it all and with the purpose comes a responsibility. He has seen in us talents which, if rightly developed, would become useful in making the truth known to others.

Do we not read in the book "Education" these words? "With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon returning Saviour might be carried to the whole world! How soon might the end come,—the end of suffering and sorrow and sin!" With this fact before us should not we as young people endeavor by every means possible to obtain the right training to enable us to perform our part of the work?

The responsibility that has been placed upon us is very great. God has given us much light upon the signs of the times. It is our privilege to know that the second coming of our Saviour is near. "The great day of the Lord is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly." Zeph. 1:14. But there are many thousands who do not know this, yet, the Lord has said that this good news must go to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. Just now the work is greatly hindered by lack of means. The Mission Board is unable to push the work as fast as they wish they might. The Thanksgiving Ingathering is a plan to make up this deficiency.

Young people, here is our opportunity. We can, by taking a few copies of the Thanksgiving Number of the REVIEW, go among our friends and neighbors and easily secure a few dollars to help rescue those about to perish. Thus the way will be opened up for God to fulfill the promise that the "wealth of the Gentiles will flow unto thee." By doing this we will obtain a double blessing. As we



go about telling the people of our work, we will be obtaining the right training for future usefulness, and also helping to place more laborers in the dark places of the earth.

Young people, let us do it.

OLIVER DENSLOW.

### Rules for Killing a Church.

Revised by the Editor of the "Churchman."

1. Don't attend. Ps. 42:4.
2. If you do come, come late. Ps. 84:10.
3. If too wet or too dry, too hot or too cold, don't think of coming. Ps. 122:1.
4. Don't imagine the front seats are intended for you—people might think you conceited.
5. Come to find fault. Ps. 100:4.
6. Don't for the world ever think of praying for your minister or the church. 2 Thess. 3:1.
7. Don't sing or join in the responses. 1 Cor. 14:15.
8. Don't attend prayer-meetings, and if you should, don't take part. Acts 3:1.
9. Don't encourage the minister, but tell his faults to others. Gal. 6:1. If his sermon helps you don't let him know it; it might make him vain.
10. If you see a stranger in the congregation, don't offer to shake hands or invite him to come again; people might think you bold. Heb. 13:2.
11. Never try to bring any one to church with you. John 1:41.
12. Don't support missions. Matt. 28:19.
13. Don't give much to benevolence. 1 Cor. 16:2.
14. Let the minister do all the work. Isa. 41:6,7.
15. See that his salary is always behind. 1 Cor. 9:14.
16. If he doesn't visit as often as you think he should, treat him very coolly. He has nothing particular to do, and could come oftener.

17. Don't take your church paper.

18. Try to run the church. Mark 10:44,45.

19. If you see any one willing to help in any church work, be sure to find fault, and accuse him of being bold and forward. Eccl 9:10.

20. Don't speak to another about Christ; your minister should do all that kind of work. James 5:20; Dan. 12:3.

21. Don't come to Sabbath-school; it looks childish. Matt. 18:4.

22. Don't be particular about how God's house looks inside or out, but keep your own house looking nice. 1 Kings 6:21,22.

23. Insist on your views being adopted on all questions, and don't give in for the majority. Matt. 23:12.

24. Don't join any of the church societies. Mal. 3:16.

25. When sick, don't send your minister word; he is supposed to find out himself. But tell the neighbors how he neglected you during your illness. John 11:3.

26. If you think everything is working harmoniously, try to stir up something to gender strife. James 3:14-16.

### Sabbath Schools.

There seems to be a general awakening among our Sabbath schools in the matter of missionary donations. This movement seems to be widespread. During the second quarter of this year the Foreign Mission Board received in donations from the Sabbath schools of the United States and Canada over \$17,000. This amount was more than the schools in the whole world gave during the whole year of 1901.

Reports from the third quarter which are nearly all in, indicate even a more liberal donation to the regions beyond.

The banner school in this respect is Pullman, where the average donation per member for the quar-

ter was \$1.54. Holton stands next with nearly a dollar per member in regular attendance. Benton Harbor, Greenville, and Union City, also deserve honorable mention, their donations to missions closely approaching a dollar per member in attendance. The donations of the Otsego Sabbath school show a healthy growth during the year. First quarter, \$10.92; second quarter, \$22.21; third quarter, \$57.62. This comparison, along with the figures showing the comparative growth in membership and attendance, was placed by the superintendent upon the blackboard. Try it, and watch the results.

If any superintendent has failed to receive a copy of "Outlines of Mission Fields," notify the office at once, and you will be supplied. Then use it in keeping constantly before the school needs of the great work in the great wide regions beyond. A missionary exercise should be planned occasionally to take the time of the general review.

We pray that this awakening on the part of our Sabbath schools may not prove to be a spasmodic effort, but may be the result of a healthy growth, and that the interest may continue to grow, and deepen, and widen until every Sabbath school in the land—yes every individual believer will unite to make one great onslaught upon the hosts of darkness and a rush for the kingdom.

CLIFFORD RUSSELL.

### To Danish-Norwegians.

For several years in the past we have printed a special number each autumn of our Danish-Norwegian paper, the SENDEBUD. We have sold thousands and thousands of these and they have been a great spiritual blessing to many readers.

We expect to publish such special numbers again—it is possible that we get one out later this winter. However, we shall not issue



one this fall, as most of you know the General Conference has decided to print a special number of the REVIEW AND HERALD. It is to be Thanksgiving edition. The plan is not to sell this paper, but to give it away free to all with a word of explanation about our worldwide mission work in foreign fields, and with the request that those who receive the paper give us something for the foreign mission. I need not enter on a more detailed explanation of the plan.

Very many of us Danish-Norwegian Adventists take the REVIEW and prize it highly, and we have thought, dear brethren, that you would wish to have a share in this great mission crusade with the REVIEW. It is because we wish you to feel free to do this, that we print no special number of the SENDEBUD this fall. We know that if we issued a special SENDEBUD, many of you would work for its circulation and thus be deprived of assisting the foreign work through this special REVIEW.

We Adventists are of many nations and yet of one nation in the Lord. We are all in a peculiar sense interested in God's cause in "the regions beyond." The Danish-Norwegian Adventists have given liberally to the foreign fields. Let us all unite in a steady, strong effort to use this special number of the REVIEW. Let each one be inspired by a divine enthusiasm. Why can not we circulate twice as many of this REVIEW as we ever did of the special SENDEBUD?

I would earnestly ask our Danish-Norwegian Brethren in West Michigan to do their utmost for this special REVIEW.

L. H. CHRISTIAN.

### What Is Worth While?

Only one life to live! How may we make the most of it? We can not possibly do everything that we should like to do, or that we see should be done. How shall we decide what things are worth

time? Some one has said, "The most reckless spendthrift in the world is the one who squanders time." He who does that which is not worth doing, is squandering time just as truly as he who is doing nothing. The question is not, How much time have I? but it is, How shall I use the time I have? —Selected.

### Life and Health.

Having examined the November LIFE AND HEALTH we do not hesitate to pronounce it the best issue of this timely health journal. Its two leading themes are joy and peace for the adult, and proper play for the child. The articles are short, and do not stop short before making clear the importance of this phase in healthful living. There are also timely articles in reference to the questions of food, exercise, and temperance. One unique feature is a two-page illustrated parable which graphically portrays in verse the folly of seeking to remedy the evils caused by intemperance in any other way than by stopping the liquor traffic. The whole number deals with timely things tersely told. The number is nicely illustrated and can readily be sold to your neighbors. Send us your order early.

### News and Notes.

Sun sets Friday, Nov. 6, 4:48.  
Sabbath, Nov. 7, 4:47.

M. C. Whitmarsh has shipped his household goods to Starkville, Miss.

We have a nice line of New Testaments ranging in price from 10c to 75c.

Eld. A. G. Haughey is making a short tour in the Southern field before returning home. He will go as far as New Orleans.

Eld. I. D. Van Horn has been taken to the Otter Lake Sanitarium to see if his health will not be improved by the change.

Why not have a few sets of the Family Bible Teacher to circulate among your neighbors this winter? A set contains 112 large pages; price, 10c.

A special list of foreign books and tracts has been prepared, giving reduced prices on a number of publications. Those interested should write us for this list.

A report from Ida Dunlap which appears in the last number of the EAST MICHIGAN BANNER indicates that she is keeping quite fully occupied with her work at the Huntsville, Ala., school.

We cannot receive any more subscriptions to the WEST MICHIGAN HERALD and give in exchange the Union Conference paper for the same length of time. Those sending 25 cents for the paper will be sent the LAKE UNION HERALD for six months.

The question of using the tithe in paying the church school teacher has been raised in various parts of the conference. In this issue we have reprinted an article which appeared in this paper, Aug. 8, 1906. The language used is very plain and we believe cannot fail to be understood.

The "Bible Nature Series No. 1," for the use of the fourth grade has now been issued. It contains six colored maps, several full-page engravings, and numerous small illustrations. It is designed to take the place of elementary geography, physiology, and botany. The price is \$1.20, postpaid. Send orders to this office.

There is still time to get the special REVIEW for use during Thanksgiving week. If any find it impossible to do the work at that time, they may do it before or after. Some money has already been raised and we trust that no one will get the idea that there is a definite time limit. It may be done at any time or all the time.