

# Union Conference Record

"Be strong all ye people, saith the Lord, and work; for I am with you."

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NUMBER II.

## THE WILL OF GOD.

THOU sweet, beloved will of God,—  
My anchor ground—my fortress hill—  
My spirit's silent, fair abode—  
In thee I hide me, and am still.

O will, that willest good alone,  
Lead thou the way, thou guidest best;  
A little child I follow on,  
And trusting, lean upon thy breast.

Thy beautiful, sweet will, my God,  
Holds fast in its sublime embrace  
My captive will—a gladsome bird,  
Prisoned in such a realm of grace.

Within this place of certain good  
Love evermore expands her wings,  
Or, nestling in thy perfect choice,  
Abides content with what it brings.

Oh, sweetest burden, lightest yoke,  
It lifts, it bears my happy soul.  
It giveth wings to this poor heart.  
My freedom is thy grand control.

Upon God's will I lay me down,  
As child upon its mother's breast.  
No silken couch or softest bed  
Could ever give me such sweet rest.

Thy wonderful, grand will, my God,  
Will triumph now. I make it mine;  
And love shall cry a joyous yes,  
To every dear command of thine.  
—Selected.

## Workers from the Ranks.

WITH intense interest God is looking on this world. He has noted the capacity of human beings for service. Looking down the ages, He has counted His workers, both men and women, and has prepared the way before them, saying: "I will send My messengers to them, and they shall see great light shining amid the darkness. Won to the service of Christ, they will use their talents to the glory of My name. They will go forth to work for Me with zeal and devotion. Through their efforts

the truth will appeal to thousands in a most forcible manner, and men spiritually blind will receive sight, and will see of My salvation. Truth will be made so prominent that he who runs may read. Ways will be devised to reach hearts. Some of the methods used in this work will be different to the methods used in the past; but let no one, because of this, block the way by criticism."

Those whom God chooses as workers are not always talented, in the estimation of the world. Sometimes He selects unlearned men. To these He gives a special work. They reach a class to whom others could not obtain access. Opening the heart to the truth, they are made wise in and through Christ. Their lives inhale and exhale the fragrance of godliness. Their words are thoughtfully considered before they are spoken. They strive to promote the well-being of their fellow-men. They take relief and happiness to the needy and distressed. They realise the necessity of ever remaining under Christ's training, that they may work in harmony with God's will. They study how best to follow the Saviour's example of cross-bearing and self-denial. They are God's witnesses, revealing His compassion and love, and ascribing all the glory to Him whom they love and serve.

Constantly they are learning of the great Teacher, and constantly they reach higher degrees of excellence, yet all the time feeling a sense of their weakness and inefficiency. They are drawn upward by their strong, loving admiration for Christ. They practise His virtues; for their life is assimilated in His. Ever they move onward and upward, a blessing to the world and an honor to their Redeemer. Of them Christ says,

"Blessed are the meek; for they shall inherit the earth." Matt. 5: 5.

Such workers are to be encouraged. Their work is done, not to be seen of men, but to glorify God. And it will bear His inspection. The Lord brings these workers into connection with those of more marked ability, to fill the gaps they leave. He is well pleased when they are appreciated; for they are links in His chain of service.

Men who are self-important, who are filled with the thought of their own superior abilities, overlook these humble, contrite workers; but not for one moment does God lose sight of them. He marks all that they do to help those in need of help. In the heavenly courts, when the redeemed are gathered home, they will stand nearest to the Son of God. They will shine brightly in the courts of the Lord, honored by Him because they have felt it an honor to minister to those for whom He gave His life.

God will move upon men in humble positions to declare the message of present truth. Many such will be seen hastening hither and thither, constrained by the Spirit of God to give the light to those in darkness. The truth is as a fire in their bones, filling them with a burning desire to enlighten those who sit in darkness. Many, even among the uneducated, will proclaim the Word of the Lord. Children will be impelled by the Holy Spirit to go forth to declare the message of heaven. The Spirit will be poured out upon those who yield to His promptings. Casting off man's binding rules and cautious movements, they will join the army of the Lord.

In the future, men in the common walks of life will be impressed by the Spirit of the Lord to leave their ordin-

ary employment, and go forth to proclaim the last message of mercy. As rapidly as possible they are to be prepared for labor, that success may crown their efforts. They co-operate with heavenly agencies; for they are willing to spend and be spent in the service of the Master. No one is authorised to hinder these workers. They are to be bidden God-speed as they go forth to fulfil the great commission. No taunting word is to be spoken of them as in the rough places of the earth they sow the gospel seed.

Life's best things,—simplicity, honesty, truthfulness, purity, unsullied integrity,—cannot be bought or sold; they are as free to the ignorant as to the educated, to the black man as to the white man, to the humble peasant as to the king upon his throne. Humble workers, who do not trust in their own strength, but who labor in simplicity, trusting always in God, will share in the joy of the Saviour. Their persevering prayers will bring souls to the cross. In co-operation with their self-sacrificing efforts, Jesus will move upon hearts, working miracles in the conversion of souls. Men and women will be gathered into church fellowship. Meeting-houses will be built, and schools established. The hearts of the workers will be filled with joy as they see the salvation of God.

When the redeemed stand in the presence of God, they will see how short-sighted were their conclusions as to what heaven records as success. As they review their efforts to achieve success, they will see how foolish were their plans, how petty their supposed trials, how unreasonable their doubts. They will see how often they brought failure into their work by not taking God at His word. And one truth will stand out in clear lines: that position does not prepare a man for entrance into the heavenly courts. They will see, too, that the honor given to man is due to God alone, that to Him belongs all the glory. From the lips of the angelic choir and the redeemed host will peal forth the chorus: "Great and marvellous are Thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are Thy ways, Thou King of saints. Who shall not fear Thee, O Lord, and glorify Thy name? for Thou only art holy." Rev. 15: 3, 4.

MRS. E. G. WHITE.

"NONE but he who entirely renounces himself is worthy to govern; is able to govern."

## Our Island Missions.

### Experiences in Manila.

SABBATH, August 19, after a good day's meeting, and service of song, I departed from Singapore for this field. The trip was delightful, as we experienced smooth water all the way. As the boat was the "Spanish Mail," no English was spoken. There was only one other passenger who was a British subject.

About twenty Spanish priests were on board, and each day card playing and dominoes and smoking were indulged in freely. This was the order of the day even on Sunday, and in the evening some songs were given by them which, to judge by the reception, were by nature comic. This was attended by all the passengers, but the service that followed the evening's amusement was attended by but few, who repeated the rosary very reverentially, if not heartily, under the leadership of the ship's priest. The trip occupied five days.

Almost immediately on arrival accommodation was secured, and after a quiet Sabbath and an exploring Sunday, operations were begun. Right from the commencement of my work a good reception was given by all, and only fairness and civility met me, generally speaking, at every turn. Almost daily persons were met who enquired about Battle Creek health foods, or, upon enquiry, spoke favorably of these preparations.

A medical man, who is on the Board of Health, said he would be glad to come and board with us when we are ready. This gentleman is the only vegetarian residing in Manila. Another doctor, an American colored man, said that he would not only use cereal coffee, but would also recommend it to all his patients. A lady fellow-passenger of Elder G. A. Irwin, on the transport *Thomas*, has since returned here, and while in the States was a patient in one of the sanitariums in the West. Many persons have been, or their friends have been, to some of our sanitariums. Some have been to our meetings, while a few have attended service in the tabernacle at Battle Creek. The removal of our publishing house and sanitarium to Washington has been told me by a person recently from

that place, who is acquainted with some of our people there. A lady school teacher who supervises the domestic science branch has had practical experience with our foods in cooking classes in Chicago, and would be glad to introduce them to her Filipino classes if we would supply her with some samples.

It is quite evident that health reform has an important place in the third angel's message. By this means many friends and acquaintances are made which may result in reaching them with the saving truth for this time. R. A. CALDWELL.

### Singapore.

I HAVE recently been on a trip to Java. The sea trip of only two days was beneficial and pleasant, though I took a deck ticket among a crowded number of Chinese and Malays. Not all ships will allow Europeans to travel on deck with the natives, and I felt happy in saving \$30 for the work, which I would otherwise have had to pay had I gone second-class. I found the Malays not difficult to approach on religious matters, as I had often heard, but they listened gladly to talks on health, the end of the world, and the Eastern question. These are avenues through which the Mohammedan can be reached. I noticed that rich and poor among them were alike intensely interested. My own landlord happened to be on board also. They were all exceptionally kind to me. Our message must and will reach the apparently unapproachable Malay.

My mission to Java led me to Buitenzorg, a lovely, cool spot at the foot of the mountains, where the Governor-General resides and where the famous botanical gardens are. My stay there was too short to get more than a glimpse of the beauty of the place, but before descending again to the dusty and wicked cities of the plain, I took in as much as I could of the cool refreshing air. While in Java I was able to distribute tracts and obtain addresses to which to send our literature. Brother Caldwell obtained thirty addresses of interested people in the Malay States, to which we attend. This method is inexpensive and will bear fruit.

Singapore has a moving population, and after holding Bible studies with

some, they move away before getting far enough to be established. Others, especially the Eurasian class, will lead us to hope they are truly sincere, but when obedience is presented and a decision must be made, they cleverly slip out of it all. Among the Chinese there are also peculiar difficulties. The men, although fathers of families, cannot withstand their mothers and mothers-in-law. These queens absolutely rule a man's home, and their word settles all important matters. After accepting all points of our faith, one will say, "But I can't get my mother-in-law to see it." One poor man had decided the other day to keep the Sabbath and send his children to us to teach. He went home with the good news. I feared the consequences when he had told his mother-in-law, and, as I expected, she raised such an alarm that the poor man and his family were severely persecuted, and, as yet, he has not dared to send his children to us. Young men will come to us saying they desire to be Christians and wish to be instructed, but all they want is to improve their English.

Because strait is the gate and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, few there be that find it.  
G. F. JONES.

### The Missionary's Attitude.

"HE first findeth his own brother Simon, . . . and he brought him to Jesus."

Andrew's first burden was not to be a foreign missionary, *he first sought his own brother.*

Every true missionary enterprise begins at home. The first burden of the converted soul is for relatives and friends. On the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit of God was poured out upon the people, they began to witness in Jerusalem, or where they were. The desire to do foreign missionary work may have connected with it a sentimental feeling, a love for travel, or a desire to escape unpleasant surroundings. The only one who is really fitted to go to a foreign field, is the one who is faithful in home duties, and who has a burden for those who are nearest to him. A home missionary carries the home missionary spirit with him into the foreign field, and he becomes a home missionary there; while the one who is a foreign missionary at home will carry the same foreign

spirit with him wherever he goes. When he makes the foreign field his home, he will be a foreign missionary there.

Men and women are needed for the foreign field who have a burden to be home missionaries. These alone can make a success when sent to a foreign field.  
D. H. K.



### "In the Highways and Byways."

SINCE my last report we have, by instruction, made the Esperance district, Tasmania, our field of labor, and have been engaged in systematic tract distribution, visiting, and Bible work.

Those who "violate the commandments of God and teach men so" are giving full evidence of the dragon's wrath against those "who do and teach them" by fiercely opposing us from house to house, and disputing for every individual soul, as did Satan for the body of Moses. Owing to these tactics, the Sabbath question became at once the point at issue, and notwithstanding the wrangling, misrepresentation, and mutilation of the word of truth by our opponents, seven honest souls have manifested their faith in the unchangeableness of that Word which "liveth and abideth forever," and their loyalty and love to the Master, in their decision to reject the "traditions of the elders," and obey the commandments of God. All of these have returned to the "old paths," and have kept the Sabbath for some weeks.

And then Bible history repeats itself: "There arose no small stir about that way." Certain men after the manner of Demetrius the silversmith (Acts 19) called together the workmen of like occupation. Public meetings were held to uphold the claims of "the great goddess which all the world worshipeth." Brother Pallant followed with three public meetings, reviewing our opponents, but more especially taking advantage of the interest created to bring to view the precious truths of our message, which shone out clear and distinct for the honest in heart. The

speaker had great liberty and power in dealing with the subjects, Justification by Faith, Law and Grace, The Sabbath, and Who Changed the Day? I feel that the Lord has used these meetings to break down prejudice created by misrepresentation of our principles and teachings, and if a short mission could be held here, fruit might be gathered.

Hostility which relaxed for a little has been renewed. We claim an interest in your prayers.

J. ALLEN.

### A Convention at North Sydney.

ON Sabbath and Sunday, December 11 and 12, a missionary and Sabbath-school convention was held in Walker's Hall at North Sydney, and was very fully attended by the members of the church.

The Sabbath-school convention was held in the morning at 9:45, and continued throughout the time usually spent for preaching service.

After singing and prayer, an appropriate missionary talk was given by Sister Higgins on "Australasia's Burden." Several interesting experiences were related showing what prayer has done for missions. Upon us rests the burden of 50,000,000 precious souls who are to be warned. We cannot all go to them personally, but we can all pray for them, and we have the assurance that God will hear our prayers.

After all had assembled in the after-meeting, a very profitable hour was spent in listening to interesting papers on various lines of Sabbath-school work. "How to Study the Sabbath-school Lesson" was first brought to our minds by Brother Oatley. System should be observed in the study of the Scriptures if we wish to get all that the Lord has for us from His treasure house. The study of the lesson should not be neglected until we meet on the Sabbath. There must be daily study of the Word of God, and in order to get the spiritual truths contained in the lesson, we must observe the following: First, believe that there are spiritual lessons there; second, that God will reveal them to us; third, that unless we find the spiritual lesson, we have missed the only true object of our study.

A discussion followed this reading, and many other important points in connection with the study of the

lesson were brought to view. One of special interest was, that the help and thoughts we get are given us by the Holy Spirit, and just as we receive we should be anxious to impart, for in order to retain what we do get, we must impart to others. "There is that lendeth and yet increaseth." We should set a value on every new ray of light that we receive, and present it as a thank offering to the Lord. In this way the offerings would be increased for the Sabbath-school, and the work sustained.

Another excellent paper was read on the "Object of Sabbath-school Work." The first and primary object is the conversion of souls, and the second, that of character building for the higher school. This interesting and profitable hour was brought to a close by all singing "Stand by the School."

In the afternoon at three o'clock, the missionary convention convened, the subject being "Home Missions." After singing and a season of prayer, reports and letters were called for. Later, all present were asked to relate how, when, and where they accepted present truth. This formed a very interesting part of the programme. As we listened to the different ones give their experience, we realised more than ever before what the statement made in the Spirit of Prophecy really means, that the Lord has hundreds of ways and means in working out His plans for the saving of lost humanity.

A lesson on missionary correspondence was given by Sister Hindson, and sample letters read. The time was then given to Sister Higgins for the children's missionary meeting, at the close of which a collection was taken up in aid of a teacher in Singapore.

The convention was continued on Sunday evening at the home of Brother Oatley. At this meeting different methods of working with our literature were taken up by Brother Hindson, and time given for free discussion upon each. This subject was divided into three important phases,—selling, loaning, and giving, and under each of these many subdivisions were brought out. We all felt glad as these methods were brought before our minds that however busy we may be, we could all do something for the Lord.

Time was then given for friendly criticism of missionary letters that had been brought in by the members for this purpose. Instruction was

given also on how to wrap papers, and the importance of sending them out neatly. Sister Higgins related many interesting experiences, showing how people had accepted the truth, and dwelt on the importance of missionary correspondence at this time.

At the close of the meeting type-written slips of paper were handed to all present, on which was written:—

The Christian's Pledge.

Believing that the third angel's message must go to the world in this generation, and that the burden of this work rests upon everyone who receives it, I promise, by the help of God, to take a part by engaging in ..... during the coming quarter.

Signature.....

Space was left for each one to write in whatever work he felt impressed to take up. Nearly everyone signed these pledges, and a very interesting meeting, in which we felt the blessing of God, was brought to a close.

The work done during these two days we believe will be deepened by the Spirit of God. All expressed themselves as having received much help, and felt that it was indeed good to have had the privilege of being there.

A similar meeting was held at Woollahra on November 25 and 26, with the same good results.

HETTIE ADAMS.

## Victoria.

THE quarterly meeting held with the Stawell church on Sabbath, December 30, proved to be a very enjoyable and profitable time. The tent had been re-erected for a few weeks, and the meeting was held there. Seven additional names were admitted to church membership, making a total of twenty-five on the roll.

One week previous a baptismal service was held up among the mountains, about sixteen miles from Stawell. The place of baptism was ideal in every respect, and as the mountains sent back the echoes of the hymn, "Tarry by the Living Waters," earth and heaven seemed to be full of gladness. Two brethren and five sisters were buried in the watery grave.

Brother C. P. Michaels and Sister M. Young have been connected with the work in Stawell for some time past. Our tent meetings closed in

that place on December 31. On the following day we moved to Ararat, a place about nineteen miles east and situated on the railway line to Melbourne. Meetings started here on January 4. Sister Young will remain at Stawell for a time to complete her work there, while we continue the work in Ararat. The Lord has honest hearts in all these places, and we desire to join hands with Him in searching them out.

R. HARE.

## Brisbane.

THE quarterly meeting of the North and South Brisbane churches was held in the South Brisbane church, Sabbath and Sunday, January 6 and 7.

The Lord has greatly blessed in bringing a number of the youth and children into a saving knowledge of His blessed truth, and seven of them made a complete surrender, and were baptised. There was also one re-baptism.

On Sunday, January 7, the annual business meetings were held, and money was raised to repair and paint the church buildings.

Our tent, manned by Brethren Quinn and Smart, is at Gympie, a large mining town of about 12,000 inhabitants, one of the hardest and most godless places, yet a few souls are yielding obedience to God's precious truth.

We are thankful to see a desire on the part of our people for a deeper consecration. This is especially manifest among our young people.

Our earnest desire is, that God may add His blessing to our dear people that their influence may be far-reaching in this needy field, and souls be saved in His glorious kingdom as a result of our consecration.

I am now engaged in visiting our churches, going from here to Toowoomba and other companies. I have spent most of the time in the field with the tent since the Union Conference Council. Though only a few souls have accepted the truth, I am satisfied that the tent company is doing consecrated, faithful labor for souls.

S. W. NELLIS.

OUR first page article is worthy to be written in letters of gold. We wish that every "worker from the ranks" might see it and obtain the help and encouragement from it that we know some have.

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**Our Canvassers.**  
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**Foundation Principles for Successful Book Canvassing.**  
**No. 6.**

**Delivering.**

THERE is no time in a canvasser's experience when so much tact, wisdom, and principle are necessary as in making his delivery. Tact is necessary to meet the various obligations, excuses, or complaints of a customer who may have decided not to take his book if he can avoid it; wisdom is needed to enable him to deal with trying cases in a way that will properly recommend to all men the message he is publishing, and the Christ for whom he is an ambassador: a true principle will enable the agent to do by all as he would be done by, and at least manifest as much kindness in delivering as in taking the order.

The cause of God should not be wounded by unprincipled men, who enter the homes of the people in Christ-like garments, secure their orders for books, and then change to cold, hard financiers at the time of delivering. How must the people look upon a man who represents himself as a worker for God, and who, at the time of delivery, attempts to frighten them into taking a book by suggesting the *force* of civil power, as a means to place in their hands a warning against the "beast and his image," the very principle of which is the power of force.

Christ draws men to Himself by the power of His love, and that love must be our *only* power if we would be fishers of men. On the wall, in the sitting room of one of our leading workers in the first Tract Society that was organized by our people, could always be seen this motto, "What would Jesus do?" If that question is always asked when we are tempted to do a thing that is questionable, it will often help us to do as He would do. We will often meet people who have suffered from reverses since ordering the book. Sickness or accident may have reduced their means, and it is becoming to any Christian to be considerate and kind in all such cases, and show that we are working for souls and not for sovereigns.

**When to Set Your Delivery.**

This will somewhat depend upon

place and circumstances. When canvassing permanently in a large city, it is always best to plan for regular monthly deliveries. Set the date for your first delivery six weeks from the date you begin work. Canvass a full month for that delivery, and then set your date ahead another six weeks. By continuing to work to that plan, you will get in a full month's work for each regular monthly delivery.

In country towns it is, however, more profitable to work for long deliveries, and, unless circumstances very clearly indicate that it is advisable to shorten the time, the date for delivery should be set at least three months ahead of the date when you begin canvassing, and in farming districts it is frequently better to set even four to five months' deliveries. But, in every instance, remember that it is the large deliveries that pay.

**Plan Carefully to Economise Time and Expenses.**

Have your notices out promptly, so as to give your subscribers at least ten clear days from the time they receive the notice till you call. When delivering in mining and manufacturing towns, or among railway men, plan your delivery according to their pay day. Among farmers, and in country towns specially depending upon a farming population for their business, the delivery should be planned for such time when returns come in from the harvest or shearing.

**Prepare Your Delivery Book.**

With a view to saving time by arranging your addresses in such order as will enable you to get to them consecutively in the shortest time possible. Leave blank every second page (directly opposite to your list of names and addresses), ready for any note you may wish to make. Be careful to mark off every name from whom you receive payment in full, by writing "paid" opposite the name. Any case of postponed delivery or part payment should be noted with the greatest care, and always be particular to give proper receipts for money received.

**Order Your Books**

In good time so that you can depend upon them being on hand a few days before you start delivering. Study your delivery carefully so as not to order more books than you are likely to require, and make out your order so as to ensure that the books are packed in the most convenient way to suit your delivery. If you have

more than one case, stipulate in your order that the contents shall be stated on the end of each case, and have them sent to the place from which it is most convenient for you to distribute.  
 J. M. J.

**An Experienced Agent's Opinion.**

How does the worldly man make a success of his business? Does the merchant ~~open~~ his store Monday noon, and close at four or five o'clock? Because "blue Monday" proves a little dull, does he keep store Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, and then close up for the week?—No, no! The man who makes a success of his business must work, WORK, WORK. So it is with the canvasser. He must rise early, and work hard every hour till dark, and many times carry his day's labor into the night. He will have no time to loiter about railway stations or hotels. He will not wait to be called out of bed in the morning. He will have no time to ramble in the woods, and wait for a rainy day, so he can have an excuse to go home. Every hour of his time must be put to the highest possible use.

I am convinced that a majority of those who have failed in the canvassing work can trace the cause of it to the injudicious use of their time. They have let hours, and days, and even weeks, slip by unimproved, while men of the world are pushing ahead to financial success. I have been asked this question many times; "What do you consider full time for a canvasser?" My answer is, "From the time people begin to stir in the morning until they quit stirring at night." So long as other people are about business avocations, the canvasser has a good opportunity to ply his calling.  
 J. S. JAMES.

**An Important Question.**

• WHAT can we do with our territory that has been canvassed with all our standard books? The answer suggests itself. Re-canvass it.

Theory is never so valuable as practical experience. Why? Because one suggests the principle to be adopted, while the other demonstrates it.

Realising that, although a large

part of our territory had been canvassed for our standard books, it is our duty not to rest till, as far as it lies with us, the message has been placed in every home, we adopted the plan of re-canvassing our territory, and the results have been most gratifying.

In looking over our records of re-canvassing for "Home Hand Book," we find, in one instance twenty-one month's work representing one man's labor. Books were sold according to the following figures: five hundred and thirty-four orders taken, value £870 18s, averaging about £41 9s 5d per month, ninety-five per cent. of these delivering.

This looks well on paper, does it not? But it looks still better on our Tract Society's books, especially when we realise that it comes from territory that has been canvassed for that book before. You may say, "That is a large book, and even if a few were sold, it would bring up a good average per month." But what has been done with the large book has also been accomplished with our smaller works. For instance, two of our agents were canvassing a town of one hundred and twenty houses for "Coming King." This territory had been canvassed in 1899 for that book: they found about eighteen books, but placed twenty-six more. This was eight more than on the previous occasion, notwithstanding the fact that the book was sold at that time for 5/-. Throughout the territory the book had been read far and wide, having been loaned freely. But this did not hinder its sale. People had more confidence in the book, as they had seen it before. Those who had read it through twice and did not possess a copy, availed themselves of the opportunity of procuring one even at its present price.

A schoolmaster, who had previously bought a copy, permitted his son to take it into the country; knowing its value in the home, he purchased another and that, too, in the best binding, thus securing a lasting benefit. The most important feature of this re-canvass was that they delivered at ninety-eight per cent. This is a shade better than the large book, and it demonstrates the fact that our territory can be worked to great advantage the second time, especially as we have just gotten two of our standard books revised and remodelled, "Patriarchs

and Prophets" and "Man the Master-piece." Some of these books were sold in our different States from six to ten years ago, and having a new dress, they should sell freely now.

Brethren, do not be afraid to re-canvass territory. If wisdom is used, the few books you find will not hinder, but help you. You can often re-interest the people in their book, thus leading them to a better study of its truths, and you will gain a deep spiritual experience.

Our books are to be found in nearly every part of the globe. Many of those who have purchased the books before have moved to other parts, and new families have taken their places. This helps to make the territory very good. Are these souls to be missed?—No. There are lost sheep in every place, and we are to make diligent search for these souls, that they may be without excuse.

We trust that these remarks will help our brethren to organise a vigorous re-canvass with our standard works, and as a result, may a rich harvest of souls be gathered on the reaping day.

H. E. HODGKISON.

### How Some Count Success.

ALTHOUGH there has been quite a long drought in New South Wales, our canvassers have not lost heart. The following quotations from letters will show that they do not altogether count success by the number of orders taken, and we are glad to know that this is so. The Lord has told us through the Spirit of Prophecy that both in time of discouragement and in time of encouragement, the heavenly messengers are by the side of the faithful canvasser. We also learn that those who meet with trials and temptations in this work, should profit by these experiences, learning to lean more decidedly upon God.

This has proved to be the case with some of our workers. Brother Mobbs writes:—

I have come to the time when I must write out my last report. I am somewhat sorry to leave the canvassing work. While I have not had good success, yet I have realised God's guiding hand in my work, and feel thankful to Him for His care over me, and the success I have had. I have enjoyed my work although it has been hard, and have gained experiences that I would not have gained had I been in good territory. I shall look forward to the time when I shall go

out into the Lord's work again. I enjoy being at the front of the battle to face the trials and enjoy the blessed experiences of a canvasser. I believe my work this past vacation has not been in vain, for I have had some good talks with the people about the truth. I believe some will yet stand out and obey it, and that the few books delivered will be the means of winning souls to the Saviour. I am of good courage and intend to press on in His strength and prepare myself for use in His work.

Sister Lane, who also entered the field two or three months ago, says:

We are thankful for the way the Lord has helped us. We realise that His presence has been with us all through. I have had an experience I should never have gained had I not come out into the work. I hope to be able to get out again.

One agent had an interesting experience the other day. He was canvassing on Friday afternoon, and met a lady who said she was far too busy to look at his book then. After a little conversation with her while she worked, she said: "We are keeping the wrong Sabbath, and I am hurrying with my work so that I can keep the seventh-day to-morrow for the first time." Then she went on to explain it to him, and he found that she had bought a copy of "Bible Readings" from Brother Allen Wood a few months before, and had been troubled ever since. At first she could not make up her mind to stand out alone for such an unpopular truth, but has now fully decided to do so. Imagine her surprise when she learned that our canvasser had been keeping the Sabbath for fourteen years. It is our privilege to pray that she may be led step by step to accept every ray of light as it comes to her.

May God bless every canvasser, and help them to gather sheaves for the heavenly garner.

A. S. HIGGINS.

### Will It Enlarge My Sphere of Usefulness?

If there is any subject that should be considered with calm reason and unimpassioned judgment, it is the subject of marriage. But the prevailing sentiment is that in this matter the feelings are to be the guide. Professed Christians, whose lives are marked with integrity, and who seem sensible upon every other subject, make fearful mistakes here. If there ever was a subject that needed to be viewed from every standpoint, it is this. The aid of the

experience of others, and a calm, careful weighing of the matter on both sides, is positively essential. Let the question be raised, Will this union help me heavenward? Will it increase my love for God? And will it enlarge my sphere of usefulness in this life?

In these days of peril and corruption the young are exposed to many trials and temptations. Many are sailing in a dangerous harbor. They need a pilot: but they scorn to accept the much needed help, feeling that they are competent to guide their own bark, and not realising that it is about to strike a hidden rock that may cause them to make shipwreck of faith and happiness. They are infatuated with the subject of courtship and marriage, and their principal burden is to have their own way. The minds of the young need to be aroused in regard to this matter.

If an engagement has been entered into without a full understanding of the character of the one with whom you intend to unite, do not think that the engagement makes it a positive necessity for you to take upon yourself the marriage vow, and link yourself for life to one whom you cannot love and respect. Be very careful how you enter into conditional engagements; better, far better, break the engagement than separate afterwards, as many do.

MRS. E. G. WHITE.

**WANTED.**

A COPY of "Healthful Living," by Mrs. E. G. White. Willing to pay original price for a second-hand copy in good condition. Apply M. I. L.,

N. S. W. Tract Society,  
80 Hunter Street, Sydney.

ON Tuesday morning, January 9, the opening exercises of the Avondale School were held. These consisted of a few opening remarks by the Principal and a stirring talk by Pastor Hoopes, in which he presented the province of the Bible in education and the importance of thorough preparation for the Lord's work. The remainder of the morning was devoted to the work of classifying the students. There being no definite lessons assigned for that evening, the time was occupied in attendance on an instructive and enjoyable stereopticon lecture given by Pastor Hoopes.

There is a total enrollment, so far, of 120 students in the senior department of the School, and of these, sixty young ladies and thirty-five young men are living in the School home. There are about thirty children in the primary department.

**Notes and Personals.**

DR. LAURETTA KRESS gave a health lecture to a large and appreciative audience in Hamilton, on the evening of December 20.

SISTER RITA FORD, of Avondale, left Sydney for Eugowra, January 2, to take charge of the church-school at that place.

BROTHER ALFRED NOBBS, who has been in the Sydney hospital for some weeks, having recovered sufficiently to undertake the voyage, sailed for his home on Norfolk Island on New Year's day.

BROTHER JAMES SOUTHON, our nurse in Samoa, writes that they have been able to hold their own since the Doctors Vollmer left on account of failing health, and that the Lord has truly blessed them. He and Sister Young are in good health and spirits, and enjoying their work among the natives.

ONE of the secretaries in Sister White's office at St. Helena, California, writes, "There is no more welcome visitor to our office than the RECORD. Through its columns we are kept constantly informed of the whereabouts of the workers, and the progress of the cause in Australasia."

BROTHER and Sister B. J. Cady are laboring on the island of Huahine in the Society group. They report quite an interest, and hope to see a company raised up there to represent the truth. Of this interest Sister Cady says, "We are having an interesting experience here, and one that is profitable to ourselves, and we trust will be also to the cause of God."

BROTHER and Sister Butz, their daughter Alma, and Millic, a native girl that they brought with them, arrived in Sydney from Tonga, January 5. After a short stay in New South Wales they will go on to Adelaide. After spending about ten years in the islands, Brother and Sister Butz are much in need of a change. They receive a hearty welcome to Australia.

WE had occasion to order some Chinese tracts from Pastor Anderson, who is in charge of our work in China, and in reply to our letter he writes, "We are very much encouraged by the hearty interest our people in different parts outside of China are manifesting in our Chinese literature. Our list of tracts is still very short, but it will surely lengthen during the next few months. The work is onward in China. We have many hindrances to meet, but the Lord is with us, and victory is sure. We are expecting Pastor Gates to visit us here in Canton in a few days and also Brother Caldwell."

PASTOR FULTON returned from the Richmond District, January 4. He reports a profitable time in visiting the tent company at Ballina, and the isolated Sabbath-keepers in that district. He gave an interesting talk on Sabbath afternoon, January 6, in the Stanmore church, on the work in Fiji, dwelling more particularly on the circulation of our literature in this group and the influence it is exerting. As the canvassers' convention was in session, this subject was especially appropriate, and the talk was much appreciated by the canvassers and all others present.

**Arrival in Manila.**

A FEW days ago we received an interesting letter from Brother Gates, which is the first word we have received from him since his arrival in Manila. The letter was dated December 12. He says:—

I have been here now twelve days, and have been using my eyes as well as it has been possible. By the next mail I hope to have the first of a series of articles for the RECORD. I am thinking of getting some lantern slides of Manila scenery to use when I get home. This is an interesting country, and we must get our people to studying it.

Brother Caldwell has had good success in his work, and has now about finished in this city. Before I came, he had planned to leave here in a few days for Hong Kong. I came just in time to catch him. After canvassing that city for the medical book, he will return here and take up the religious books. We have looked over the field, and have decided that it will be best for him to make this his headquarters, working out from here to the other parts of the group, and to the Chinese coast towns; and let another man canvass the Malay Peninsula and the regions in that part of the field. Brother Caldwell does not think that it would be profitable for two to go to all the different places, as it would greatly increase the expense of travel, much as he would be glad of the company. So we have decided to advise Brother Parkin to go to Singapore as soon as he is ready. That place has now had a rest for six months, and can again be canvassed to advantage.

I expect to go to Singapore early next month, after staying a few days in Hong Kong and Canton, so I may be in Singapore when Brother Parkin arrives. I had word from Brother Jones that he had had a baptism a few days ago. One of the candidates was the wife of the man who entertained Brother Murson and myself in Sumatra.

I see no good reason why we should wait any longer before entering the Philippines with a missionary worker. The place is as ready as it will ever be, and there will be nothing gained by waiting. We ought to have been here at the close of the war. I am feeling much better than when I left Australia. This is the best time of the year to be here; in fact, it is quite comfortable now. The worst thing is the humidity of the climate, combined with the poor drainage, making it somewhat enervating. I am making some interesting acquaintances. There are many things of interest to write, but I will wait till another time.

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BROTHER OLSEN arrived at Auckland on Sunday, December 24, where he found Brother Cobb awaiting him. On Sunday and Monday evenings they had good meetings, the Spirit of the Lord being present in large measure. They also had good meetings on the following Sabbath in the Ponsonby and Epsom churches. From Auckland they visited Dr. Ross at Rotarua, and the Drs. Keller at Hikurangi, with whom they had a very pleasant visit. The

doctors have a large practice at this place. On December 31, in company with Dr. Kress, they took the boat for Wellington, where they were met by Brother Faulkhead and entertained in his home. The following day they left for Christchurch, visiting the Sanitarium, and becoming acquainted with the situation there. They found nine patients in the institution, which is more than meeting expenses at the present time. After spending several days here, they returned to Wellington for the camp-meeting. We hope to have a report from this meeting for our next issue.

QUITE a number of our RECORD subscriptions are expiring about this time. There is nothing we dislike in connection with the paper but cutting names from the list, and we are glad to say this is not often necessary. If you have any reason to think that your time is about up, we would kindly ask you to communicate with your State Tract Society,


or with us. We aim to notify all whose subscriptions are expiring, but it is possible that word may fail to reach some. We would also invite our readers who appreciate the paper to co-operate with us in giving it a wider circulation among our people.

OUR school farm at Avondale was never in a more promising condition than at present. While desolating floods, and hail, and hurricanes have devastated the territory about Avondale, the School has been unharmed. The Lord remembers His promises.

FOR our next number we are promised a report of the canvassers' convention which was held in Sydney, closing January 6.


### CORRECTION.

OWING to an error that crept in while printing, the increase in the Sabbath-school donations for quarter ending June 30, over those of the previous quarter, appeared as £221 0s 4d instead of £22 10s 4d.



Signs of the Times Leaflet

**THE SECOND COMING  
OF CHRIST**



"Behold He cometh with clouds, and every eye shall see Him." Rev. 1:7.

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On the outside is an appropriate illustration, the other pages being devoted to a pointed consideration of the subject. A small advertisement on the last page refers the reader to larger works on the same or kindred matters.

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