

Union Conference Record

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

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THE ARROW-SEED.

I watched a little bird that unawares
With all its might was scattering winged
seed.

As on a nodding flower it hung to feed.
Loosed by its beak, the breath of summer
airs

Those feathered germs across the meadow
bears,

The while the busy songster takes no heed
Whither each arrowy wanderer may speed.
Or how in forest or in field it fares.
Ah, we are sowing, when we little think,
Winged seed of good or evil all around;
We scatter them e'en when we eat or
drink;

Whene'er we talk they flutter o'er the
ground;
O, "to the Spirit" let us learn to "sow,"
And from small deeds and words fair
flowers will grow!—*Selected.*

Seed-Sowing.

"THE work of grace in the heart is small in its beginning. A word is spoken, a ray of light is shed into the soul, an influence is exerted that is the beginning of the new life; and who can measure its results?"

It is impossible to measure the influence of a kind word, a loving smile, a warm hand-shake—each one a seed of truth.

As I have seen the mighty results of such seed-sowing, I have said, "Never again will I cast a cloud of gloom over a soul; never will I speak anything but kind words." But too often the old selfish nature asserts itself, and the same coldness, harshness, and unloveliness are again seen. This is Satan's way of counterworking Christ's seed-sowing.

A kind act, if unselfishly performed, will have an influence that will never end throughout eternity.

Science tells us that a word spoken into the air sets in motion vibrations that never cease. A pebble thrown into the lake starts wavelets that enlarge until the earth is encircled.

Apparently, the vibrations caused by the word uttered are lost in space, commingling as they do with thousands of other sounds; but this is not so. Could we understand science in its fulness, we would be able to focus these air vibrations, and hear again the words spoken in the long-ago.

Wireless telegraphy has already demonstrated in a measure the truthfulness of this statement. Words are projected into space at the wireless station, and hundreds of miles away, perhaps on board a rapidly moving steamer, the ether waves are collected; and, by means of delicate instruments, are made to record their message.

In the eternal world, when we shall no longer "see through a glass darkly," we shall better understand the force of the first paragraph of this article. Then we shall more fully comprehend the saving power of a kind word, and the blighting influence of impure, unkind, and harsh words.

Many years ago, when a youth, I went to a distant city on business. On Sunday I attended service in a place called Wesley Chapel, on a prominent street. A young man, in a very kind and modest manner, placed a hymn book, opened at the proper place, in my hands.

The act was so whole-hearted and respectful that my heart was tendered at once. That was thirty-three years ago. I did not learn the man's name, have never seen him since, and probably he never thought of his kind act afterward. But I never recall it without a tender sensation in my heart.

Years afterward, when I became a gospel worker, I went to that city to engage in work. The first thing I looked for was Wesley Chapel. But it had been torn down, and in its place was a large business house called Wesley Block. Though no trace of the old chapel remained, the same tender feeling came back as I looked at the business block. For some years I either lived in that

city, or visited it in connection with my work; but never did I pass along that street without looking for Wesley Block.

Two years ago I again visited the same town, and again my interest was roused as I looked for Wesley Block, and remembered the kind act of the young man. I would like to meet him again, and thank him for his kindness to that lonely youth so long ago. That act was good seed, which may bear fruit in eternity. E. H. GATES.

The World-wide Field.

A Letter from China.

As it is some time since we have heard anything through the RECORD, from Brother and Sister Allum in China, we think that the following, taken from a letter bearing date of April 19, written by Sister Allum from their mission station at Sin Yang Cheo, Honan, will be of interest:—

We look forward to receiving the RECORD by the Australian mail each week. It comes to us as a very welcome friend. It keeps us in good touch with all parts of the Australasian field, and as so many of our school friends are now in the mission fields, we read all reports with keen interest. Our hearts are made glad to read the good reports from Fiji, Singapore, Rarotonga and other parts of our home Conference. It is also good to know that the school is prospering. To our minds there is no place like Avondale to get a preparation for the work. I am indeed glad that I had the privilege of being there for some time.

It is now a little over a year since we sailed for China, but we have not been in China a year yet, so you can understand that we are not able to do much. The language is the chief thing for the first year or two, and we find the best way to learn it, is to get out among the people, and talk it as we study. To have our ears

trained to hear the Chinese speak the words is most important. And so one of the best ways is to mingle freely with those whom we wish to help. At present I am teaching the Chinese woman whom I have helping me in the home, and although she can study only a little a day, as she is over fifty, yet she is learning the gospel. How it does gladden our hearts to see any one of these people grasp a little of the truth. It is indeed slow work here, only those who work here for the Chinese know how slow.

There have been missionaries in this city for over sixteen years, but I have not met a single woman who had ever heard the name of God or Christ. There is a missionary here now, and his wife and son, belonging to the Lutheran Mission, but although the gentleman works for the people, the lady cannot speak any Chinese, although she has been here over fourteen years. And it is impossible for the men to work for the women to any extent. What the Chinese women need is consecrated, warm-hearted Christian women to take the gospel into their homes. And we have met some such women, and their work is not fruitless. How I long to be an effective worker in this field, and nothing would give us more rejoicing than to see some of these people around us trusting in God as their Father, and knowing Jesus as their Friend. I often think of that line of the poem, "The waiting time, my brother, is the hardest time of all," and that is truly so here. And yet this time spent with the language is a great advantage to us. We learn something of the general character of the Chinese, and are kept from making mistakes that we would probably be making if we could have talked Chinese as soon as we arrived here.

The new printing office building is not completed yet, although it will not be long now. We will try to send you a picture of it when it is completed.

There is now a Centenary Conference being held at Shanghai to which there are five hundred or more delegates, among whom is Pastor J. N. Anderson. The one great topic at this conference is the organization of all the missionaries in China into one great union church, to be called the Church of God. I cannot but think about Sister White's words, when brethren were considering what name to give to our organization. Several thought it should be called the Church of God, but Sister White wrote: "No name which we can take will be appropriate, but that which accords with our profession, and expresses our faith, and marks us a peculiar people." This only shows us how Sister White has received messages that are to be a constant warning to us. Dr. Miller met several delegates who were on their way down to the conference, and they scoffed at Seventh-day Adventists being out of this union, and said it will be hard for them if they do not join in this union. But that is what we have known right along. But we are confident of one thing, that the Lord is on our side, and we need not fear.

Dr. Miller is expecting to leave here about the first of May for America, and will not be back until the end of this year, if he returns that soon. Mr. Gibson is going to help in the school work at

Changsha, and Dr. Miller's brother will spend a few weeks with Dr. Selmon. The rest of the time he will be with us until the doctor returns. We are expecting Brother Caldwell with us any day now. He is waiting to deliver his books at Shanghai, and then is planning to visit us. It will be good to have him with us.

We are now having most beautiful spring weather. Peaches and cherries are now in bloom, and we will soon have fresh fruit. We are planning to can five hundred quarts of cherries when they come in. These Chinese cherries are most delicious canned, and during summer we can eat but little except fruit, and last summer we did not get tired of cherries although we had them every day. There is so very little other fruit to be had, and hought canned fruit is so expensive. When fruit comes in, it is in the market only two or three days, when it is all sold, and after that only a very little can be bought, so we have to make the most of our time in canning all that we want.

The hills around our place are covered with wild violets and other flowers. About a week ago, they were purple with violets, now they are yellow with buttercups and other yellow flowers. I never before saw such a profusion of wild flowers. It is wonderful to us to see how this Chinese soil produces. There are big vegetable gardens and wheat fields around us as far as we can see, and everything now is a bright, living green. It is most enjoyable to go through these fields just as the sun is setting. Sunsets at this time of the year are so beautiful, and the many tints of the sunset in contrast with the green fields and rustic houses, form a very pretty picture, and then the wheat is so fragrant.

We are full of hope and courage, and know the Lord is with us. We are both enjoying splendid health.

TO THE ONE WHO TOILETH.

Place a spray in thy belt, or a rose on thy stand,

When thou settest thyself to a commonplace seam;

Its beauty will brighten the work in thy hand;

Its fragrance will sweeten each dream

When life's petty details most burdensome seem,

Take a book—it may give thee the solace thou'st sought—

And turn its leaves o'er till thou catchest the gleam

Of some gem from the deep mine of thought.

When the task thou performest is irksome and long,

Or thy brain is perplexed by doubt or a fear,

Fling open the window, and let in the song

God hath taught to the birds for thy cheer.

O, a branch of wild roses, the barrenest lodge,

Maketh fit for a throne, while the blossoming vine

Will turn to a bower the thorniest hedge;

So will beauty make stern life divine.

—The Home-Maker.

Our Mission Field.

The Week of Prayer in Java.

NO DOUBT many interesting reports have come in already regarding the week of prayer. I thought it might be of interest to you to hear from this place, and to know that up here on this beautiful mountain-side, we enjoyed much of God's blessing during this week.

Sister Jansz and I read the good readings each day, and then she read, each night, the texts that were given in the readings. A few remarks followed, then upwards of forty prayers ascended up to the throne of grace. Sister Jansz interpreted my prayers to the people each night.

I have enjoyed many such seasons in my Christian experience, but this was my best one. I have never before felt such need of seeking the Lord earnestly. Two years ago, at our good little meetings in Bathurst, I was impressed that we as a people must be complete overcomers. I have felt this more and more ever since, and now more than ever before. The Lord has heard my prayers during this week, and has given me victories. The latter part of the week we had the pleasure of having Brother Gates and Brother Jones join us. They have been with us over a week, but to-morrow they leave us.

The good work here is moving on nicely. Some precious souls, now and then, give their hearts to God. It is nothing but the power of God that can lift these people out of the miry clay, and place their feet upon the solid rock.

I am busy studying this difficult language, and helping to look after the work in the fields. I carry a book with me and study at the same time. As I feel the great need of learning these languages quickly, and becoming acquainted with the customs of the people, and the work here, I shall have to cut my correspondence short, and other things that I should like to do. A letter is always very welcome, so do not stop writing if I am not able to answer every one.

I do not forget Australia and the individual workers there, in my prayers. The little surprise meeting with the beautiful gift presented the last Sunday of the Bondi camp, is often in my thoughts. I can yet see the pile of books on the table,—the precious "Testi-

monies" from our dear Bathurst people, and a number of other books from dear friends. I feel that I must thank you once more, as these books have brought me so much blessing, especially since coming to this place. I read a few pages in the "Testimonies" every day and several chapters in the Bible.

Dear brethren and sisters, let us study the Bible and the "Testimonies" as never before. It is what is going to prepare us to stand in the time of trouble. Pray for us here.

PETRA SKADSHEIM.

Pangoengsen, Tajoe, Java, May 5, 1907.

**OUR
FIELD WORK.**

Eketahuna, New Zealand, Tent Effort.

On January 20, the effort at Eketahuna was commenced, and lasted eight weeks. Throughout the series of meetings we had good attendance on Sunday evenings, and very small attendance on week nights.

About two weeks before we took down the tent, the Wesleyan minister began to preach against us and the Sabbath, and this attack helped us a great deal. Some of his own people who were undecided and unsettled about the Sabbath question, when they listened to his no-law positions, saw clearly the current of his apostasy, and leaving his church, fully identified themselves with the truth.

We now have in that town as a result of the effort, twenty souls obeying the truth. The accompanying picture shows sixteen new Sabbath-keepers and Brother Baron's family of four, and there are four adults not in the group, who could not be present when the picture was taken.

Several of these young people are anxiously waiting for the Cambridge School to open that they may attend and prepare for the work.

One man in this company has promised a section of land on which to erect a church. Already they are subscribing to a building fund and expect soon to build, and pay all costs out of their own pockets.

This is a very interesting and enthusiastic company, and one feels much blessed by a visit among them. Brother Baron is still with these souls, and expects to stay there through the winter.

We have now closed our tent effort in Pahiataua as winter is upon us. We will report from here later. We are grateful to God for the good results at Eketahuna.

C. A. PAAP.

C. D. BARON.

South Australia.

At the close of the Goodwood camp, it was decided that an effort be made to carry on aggressive work in Balaklava, during the short time available before the cold weather set in.

commandments. Two others are deeply interested, and we pray that the Holy Spirit will so influence them when they make their decision (which they must do soon, either one way or the other), that they will decide to serve the Lord in His appointed way.

Owing to the swampy nature of the ground upon which the tents were pitched, we decided that as soon as possible after the Sabbath question was presented, and the interested ones brought up to the deciding point (which was accomplished in a little under four weeks), we transfer our meetings for Bible study to a sister's house which was offered for that purpose. These meetings since then have been well attended, being conducted by the writer, Brother Steed having gone on to Port Wakefield, a town sixteen miles away,



Brother Steed and I pitched the tent in this place and held our first meeting on Sunday, April 7. The attendance throughout the mission was never very large, our greatest number at any time being thirty. This was due largely to prejudice, which is rather high.

In this town the "larrikins" appear to have a certain amount of liberty from a quarter where otherwise there should be restraint, and they frequently amused themselves with stone throwing. While this was uncomfortable for us, we are thankful they did no damage, and have learned to take this among the "all things." We can also praise the Lord for His goodness in making His own Word plain to some who manifested their interest from the first, three having decided to obey the Lord and prove their love to Him by keeping His

where he will endeavor to carry on work by visiting from house to house with our literature, and holding any meeting that may be convenient.

The work is the Lord's, and while the results have been small, still we thank Him for them, and pray that those who took their stand may become light-bearers for Him in this place.

G. HUBBARD.

Be strong, and talk hope. Press your way through obstacles. You are in spiritual wedlock with Christ Jesus. The Word is your assurance. Approach your Saviour with the full confidence of living faith, joining your hands with His. Go where He leads the way. Whatsoever He says to you, do; He will teach you just as willingly as He will lead some one else.—*Testimonies, Vol. 6, p. 462.*

Queensland.

AS BROTHER NELLIS, President of the Queensland Conference, was leaving for America, I found it necessary to make a brief visit to Queensland. I left Sydney on May 29. The next evening I stopped at Gatton for a meeting with the brethren and neighbors at that place. On arriving at the home of Brother Lund, I found the congregation assembled, awaiting my coming. I was much pleased to find so large a company gathered. We enjoyed much of God's blessing as we together studied the closing work, and the preparation called for in order that we may be in readiness for the Lord's coming.

On the next day, May 31, we resumed our journey to Brisbane, some of the brethren accompanying us. On account of the rain, we could not have a meeting that evening. On the Sabbath the weather had cleared, and our people gathered from the different places about Brisbane to the church at South Brisbane, where a union meeting had been appointed.

This was my first meeting with the church here. Brethren Nellis, Smart, and Carswell were all present, and we had a very profitable time together. During the interval between the forenoon and the afternoon meeting, we had a good meeting with the young people. Here, as in other places, we find a large company of young people, many of whom seem to be much in earnest; this we are pleased to see. A great responsibility is resting on our churches and conferences, regarding our youth. May the Lord give much grace and wisdom to deal with this matter, to the salvation of all our children and youth. Sister Higgins is doing a good work in her labors among our youth, as well as for the adult members of the churches in Queensland. May the Lord give her and all such workers much success.

On Sunday, the Conference Committee met to make arrangements for the work. We all regret very much the departure of Brother Nellis. His labors in the Conference have been much appreciated, and he holds a large place in the affections of the people. His place will be a difficult one to fill, on account of the lack of laborers of experience in our Union Conference. But when he and his family, after carefully weighing the matter, feel that it is their duty to go, no one would feel free to interfere with their arrangements. They were to sail on the *S. S. Moana*, June 12. May the blessing of the Lord be with them.

In the arrangements for the work, it was decided to hold the camp-meeting and conference at Toowoomba, Sep-

tember 19-29, 1907. Brethren Mills, Smart, and Carswell will act as a committee to make preparations for the meeting. In the meantime Brother Smart will continue to labor at Toowoomba and vicinity, where he has some interest, and Brother Carswell will labor in Brisbane, while Sister Higgins will visit Rockhampton and other places in the interest of the Missionary Campaign.

We had another good meeting on Sunday evening. I enjoyed my brief visit very much, and would have been glad to have remained longer, had it not been for other pressing duties. I left early Monday morning for Toowoomba, where I stopped, and had an interesting meeting in the evening. I was pleased to find the work growing. The Lord is blessing the labors of Brother and Sister Smart in this place.

On my return I stopped at Newcastle to see Sister Myra Ford, who was teaching the church school at Hamilton. The object of my visit was to learn if she saw her way clear to accept the call to go to Tonga to assist in the school work there. I am pleased to say that she has accepted the call, and will sail at an early date for Tonga. For some time I have put forth every effort possible to find a teacher for Tonga, without avail; therefore I feel very much relieved in my mind over this arrangement, and I believe the blessing of the Lord will be with Sister Ford, and make her a blessing to the work on that island.

Sister Mary Schowe will take the church school at Hamilton, and thus both places are provided for. We are indeed glad for every worker that can be sent forth to fill these urgent calls. May the Lord raise up and prepare many faithful, consecrated laborers, and thus hasten the work to its completion.

O. A. OLSEN.

ATTEMPT GREAT THINGS FOR GOD.

Is this the time, O church of Christ, to
 sound
 Retreat? To arm with weapons cheap
 and blunt
 The men and women who have borne the
 brunt
 Of truth's fierce strife, and nobly held
 their ground?
 No! rather strengthen stakes and lengthen
 cords!
 Enlarge thy plans and gifts, O thou elect,
 And to thy kingdom come for such a
 time!
 The earth with all its fulness, is the
 Lord's;
 Great things attempt for Him, great things
 expect,
 Whose love imperial is, whose power
 sublime.

—Selected.

Religious Liberty.

Studies in Liberty.

Liberty and Theocracy.

"And ye were now turned, and had done right in my sight, in proclaiming liberty every man to his neighbor." Jer. 34:15.

JUSTICE and judgment are the habitation of Thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before Thy face. Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O Lord, in the light of Thy countenance. In Thy name shall they rejoice all the day: and in Thy righteousness shall they be exalted. For Thou art the glory of their strength: and in Thy favor our horn shall be exalted. For the Lord is our defence; and the Holy One of Israel is our King." Ps. 89:14-18.

"The government of God is not, as Satan would make it appear, founded upon a blind submission; an unreasoning control. It appeals to the intellect and the conscience. 'Come now, and let us reason together,' is the Creator's invitation to the beings He has made. God does not force the will of His creatures. He cannot accept an homage that is not willingly and intelligently given. A mere forced submission would prevent all real development of mind and character; it would make a man a mere automaton. Such is not the purpose of the Creator. He desires that man, the crowning work of His creative power, shall reach the highest possible development. He sets before us the height of blessing to which He desires to bring us, through His grace. He invites us to give ourselves to him, that He may work His will in us. It remains for us to choose whether we will be set free from the bondage of sin, to share the glorious liberty of the sons of God."—*Steps to Christ, p. 53.*

A theocracy, pure and simple, is frequently understood to be a government in which God is the direct and immediate Ruler. In the modified sense, such a government was in vogue with the early Hebrew race. The Lord came down upon Mount Sinai and spoke His law to the people, but they could not endure His presence because of His glory. They asked for a mediator who could receive the instruction from God and impart it to them. This request was granted, and Moses was chosen to stand between them and their Ruler. They were to receive direct guidance in every detail of civil,

as well as in their religious duties. Down through the time of Moses, Joshua, and the judges, they were unlike all the other nations about them. Notwithstanding their murmurings and complainings they were often made to realise that no other nation was so great; that none had God so nigh unto them "as the Lord our God is in all things that we call upon Him for." And yet they chose to forsake Him!

In the true, or heavenly theocracy, the subjects also obey by choice and not by compulsion. This is seen in the life and work of Satan and the angels who sinned. They were created as free to think and choose for themselves as are men of to-day. When they deliberately chose to renounce their allegiance to God, a spirit of oppression and the invasion of other's rights took possession of them. It was decided that they would set up a throne and exalt it above the stars of God, and that Satan should sit upon the mount of the congregation. They were dealt with kindly and earnestly. Notwithstanding their treasonable determination, they were entreated to re-consider their decision, and choose the better way. After the mercies and intercessions of God had been spurned and utterly rejected, there was but one of two alternatives: The Creator and Preserver of the universe must submit to the invasion of His rights, and the liberties and lives of all loyal subjects, or the malcontents must leave heaven. These individuals exercised their liberty and choice in a direction that has brought, and will still bring, untold sorrow to others, and eternal ruin to themselves.

All this, however, is infinitely better than that created intelligences should have been deprived of liberty of choice. The propriety in granting that degree of liberty has often been questioned; but when the matter of sin is forever settled, the mists all cleared away, the untold millions of God's dear children walking the streets of the New Jerusalem, singing the song of victory over sin and death,—all will know that God's plan was best.

"Satan is the originator of sin. In heaven he resolved to live to himself. He resolved to be leader. He determined to make himself a centre of influence. If he could not be the highest authority in heaven, he would be the highest authority in rebellion against the government of heaven. Head he would be, to control, and not be controlled."—*Mrs. E. G. White in Review and Herald, 1901, p. 41.*

"He determined to be first and have absolute authority."—*Review and Her-*

ald: see also Spiritual Gifts, pp. 318-320; Great Controversy, p. 495.

All that has been said concerning liberty and rulership, was seen in God's dealings with the Hebrew race. They voluntarily chose Him to be their Leader, Law-giver, and Protector. He promised to be a Father to them, to forgive, and guide them if they would obey Him. This they covenanted to do. It was not long, however, till many of them refused to comply with the plainest and most reasonable requests, but insisted on remaining with the faithful in order to share their blessings and privileges. This was a most unreasonable decision. How they could expect to remain with, and share in all the blessings bestowed upon, the obedient, is explainable only by the fact that sin and selfishness recognize no rights. When punishment came to them, they had absolutely no one to blame except themselves. When they decided to disobey, they should have chosen to leave the camp of Israel.

A little later, the whole nation requested God to continue His blessings and care, and give them a king, that they might be like other nations about them. Instead of this absurd request, they should have been loyal to their covenant. In mercy God again dealt tenderly and patiently with the erring until they utterly forsook the right way. Then all He could say was, "And thou, profane wicked prince of Israel, whose day is come, when iniquity shall have an end, thus saith the Lord God; Remove the diadem, and take off the crown: this shall not be the same: exalt him that is low, and abase him that is high. I will overturn, overturn, overturn, it: and it shall be no more, until He come whose right it is; and I will give it Him." Eze. 21:25-27.

Under the theocracy to come we have the certain knowledge that God will protect all who chose to serve Him and regard the rights of others. Those who refuse to recognize His rights and the rights of their fellow-men, can expect nothing but the reward of their own course.

1. What is true of God in all His ways? Ps. 145:8, 9, 17-19.
2. Over whom alone will He consent to reign? Jer. 7:23; Lev. 26:1-12.
3. What kind of service, even from those who choose Him as their Ruler, is acceptable? Deut. 4:4-6; Isa. 1:19.
4. After men choose to serve Him, what liberty does He still give them? Jer. 2:11-13.
5. What advice has He given to all

in the exercise of the right to choose? Deut. 30:19.

6. How are God's principles in governing illustrated in the history of the Hebrew race? Ex. 19:3-10

7. What made it necessary for Him to abandon that people as a nation? Jer. 2:20-22; Ps. 81:6, 7, 10, 11; Isa. 65:12; 66:4; Eze. 21:25.

8. What has God been obliged to do both in heaven and earth in order to protest the rights of His people. Rev. 12:7-9; Matt. 24:22; Esth. 8:13-17; 9:1.

9. What will He finally be compelled to do in order to protect the liberties and lives of His loyal subjects? Rev. 20:7-15.

10. What is said of the kingdom to come, its King and its inhabitants? Dan. 7:14, 27; Rev. 21:1-7.

W. A. HENNIG.

MISSIONARY CAMPAIGN.

GO WORK TO-DAY.

Hear ye the call, O child of earth,
Hear it amid life's careless mirth;
It comes at night when all is still,
It bids thee do thy Master's will:
Go work to-day.

The gift to preach may not be thine,
In Learning's halls you may not shine;
But there are tasks right at your door,
Tasks you have slighted o'er and o'er:
Go work to-day.

The kindly smile, the gentle deed,
The helping hand to those in need,
The words of truth on printed leaf
May give a troubled soul relief:
Go work to-day.

The vineyard of the Lord is wide,
The angels will with you abide,
Some little corner you may fill;
Go forth and do thy Master's will:
Go work to-day.

ELIZA. H. MORTON.

Encouraging Reports.

ALMOST every mail brings us encouraging reports in connection with our Campaign work. God's promises are being fulfilled day by day. His people are being revived. We are in the loud cry of this message. Soon it will close triumphantly, and then those who have heeded the call will rejoice with those they have been the means of helping. Our isolated brethren and sisters are taking hold with us and pushing the work in the country districts.

The following extract from a letter just received we believe will be of interest :—

It gives me joy to be able to send some money for tracts for our missionary work. We have been studying the suggestions in the new book "Church Missionary Work," and have decided to hold our missionary meeting on Sabbath evening. There were twelve, including children, at our last Sabbath meeting.

The lady I mentioned in my last letter, has with her husband and four children decided to keep the Sabbath. They met with us last Sabbath and stayed till its close. How good the dear Lord is to us all. We have been praying for this family every day since the week of prayer, and now they have taken their stand for Christ. The husband has given up tobacco, and all have given up tea. It is wonderful how these victories are stirring the people around here. I believe the Lord is opening up the way for the tract work to start. Pray that the Lord will guide us, and give us strength and courage to go forward. Send us one hundred of the tract envelopes and the tracts you think best to continue the work. We enjoy the missionary programmes so much; they are full of interest.

We are told in the Spirit of Prophecy that we should "go to our neighbors one by one, and come close to them till their hearts are warmed by our unselfish interest and love. Sympathise with them, pray for them, watch for opportunities to do them good, and as you can, gather a few together and open the Word of God to their darkened minds. Keep watching as he who must render an account for the souls of men, and make the most of the privileges that God gives you of laboring with Him in His vineyard. Do not neglect speaking to your neighbors, and doing them all the kindness in your power that you may 'by all means save some.'" L. M. GREGG.

Never Had Such a Happy Day.

In our issue of June 10, we gave a report of the Missionary Campaign work at Devenish, Victoria. There is here a little company brought into the truth through missionary effort a few years ago. Now they in turn esteem it a privilege to pass the light on to others. Brother Ferris obtained permission from the Board of Advice to hold Sunday night meetings in the school-house at Wattville, near Devenish. Meetings have been held for several Sunday evenings with an attendance of about seventeen, and all seemed interested. We thought that the personal experience of Sister Ferris, in connection with this special effort, would be of interest. We give the following from a letter

written to the Victorian Tract Society :

Do pray for this people that the seed sown may bear fruit. Pray for us too, that we may be humble and obedient. The hardest part for me was to go and invite the people. I promised Arthur that, if he would secure the school and give the studies, I would invite the people. I thought it would be easy till the day came when I had to go, and then I wished I had anything else in the world to do. All sorts of thoughts came into my mind. I thought they would think that we were setting ourselves up to be better than they. But I determined I would do it, so I prayed for God to help me, and He did. I never had such a happy day as that day. Everywhere the people were so kind, and seemed glad that I invited them. All that I invited, came, and some others. I thought to myself that if only we will make up our minds to do anything, the Lord will send along the help.

How many of our readers are finding happiness in this way? *If only we will make up our minds to do anything*, the hardest battle will be fought, and the way made plain before us.

Young People's Work.

Report

Of the Young People's Societies of the Australasian Union Conference, for Quarter Ending March 31, 1907.

Number of Societies : 46.
Present Membership : 940.
Members in State Home Depart. : 88.
General Subjects studied in Meetings :—
Bible, Foreign Missions, Rise and Progress of Message, and Home Missions, by youth; Foreign Missions, Book of Daniel, and Bible Nature Studies, by children.

Report of Work Done.

Missionary letters written	...	297
Missionary letters received	...	112
Missionary visits	...	772
Bible-readings or cottage meetings	...	114
Subscriptions taken for periodicals	...	30
Papers sold	...	6568
Papers mailed or given away	...	12117
Books sold	...	95
Books loaned	...	79
Pages of tracts sold or loaned	...	15913
Pages of tracts given away	...	17194
Hours of Christian help work	...	144
Persons supplied with food	...	69
Articles of clothing given away	...	60
Bunches of flowers given	...	37
Text cards given	...	25
Papers loaned	...	18
Offerings for home mission work	...	£ 8 12 10½
Offerings for foreign mission work	...	28 10 2

The members are also visiting hospitals, distributing flowers and text cards, collecting stamps, doing ship mission work, cultivating missionary gardens, and making articles for sale.

The report of the young people's work for the quarter ending March 31,

shows quite a volume of work done. By this work some 25,000 people, at least, have received some light on this message during the past quarter. Most of the seed has doubtless fallen on stony ground, but even that has accomplished its work of warning. Some will, no doubt, bring forth fruit to the glory of God.

We are sorry to say that again no report has come from West Australia. We know our young people are working there as earnestly as in other states. But we would be glad to be encouraged by reading their report, as we are by those from other states. Will not the leaders and secretaries of the young people's societies in West Australia please take note of this, and send in their reports promptly this quarter?

The donations reported for foreign missions do not at all represent what our young people have done. We have heard that South Australia raised £20 for Pauliasi Bnnoa at their camp-meeting, but for some reason, this has not been reported. Tasmania has raised a good deal more than was reported, and we think the Victorian report does not give all that was raised in that State.

Our young people are becoming quite a factor in our island work, and we hope next quarter every secretary will take care to report everything earned and given by the young people, that we may have an accurate account of this important phase of their work.

We hope that none will think that this reporting is unnecessary. I have learned, through correspondence, that the work done by the young people of Australasia has been an inspiration to the young people of other lands. They have said, "If the young people of Australasia can accomplish so much, we can work the same way, and we will," and they have. This is worth all the time our secretaries have taken in reporting.

While this quarter's report is good, we want next quarter's to be better. We should never be satisfied with what we have done, but should always aim to accomplish more and better work. It is by so doing that we grow in grace and knowledge, and become fitted to carry greater responsibilities in the Lord's work. E. M. GRAHAM.

MANY fail where they should be successful, because they do not realise how great is the influence of their words and actions.—*Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 4.*

From an Isolated Worker.

THE following is from a letter just received from one of our isolated young people, and speaks for itself:—

I find that some of my subscribers to the *Signs* are dropping off. The Sabbath question troubles them, and Satan endeavors to embitter their minds against the truth. He is certainly working with great wrath, because he knows he has but a short time left. I wish I were a more active missionary. What causes us to be so sleepy? I wish we, who should be stirred by this precious truth, would arouse from this lethargy. I pray that God will endow me with strength to uphold His truth, and show it to the people in this district. My strength is very frail, but I know I will, with God's help, get better. I am a lone worker, and find it hard to muster sufficient courage to meet the worldly class up here; but I look forward to the time when I shall be a courageous home missionary; and how can I ever think of being a successful foreign missionary, if I have neglected the people in the home land? Do pray for me. I want to hold God up as my Stay, Friend, and Protector before all worldly young people I may chance to meet who smile at religion. I want to be able to speak a word for Him in *strength*, and desire the missionary zeal to permeate my whole being.

I am sending the money for my club of *Signs* and tithe. I have been fortunate in selling a cushion I made. It is spoken of as being very handsome. I am donating all the profits to the Singapore Fund, but reserving the cost of material to enable me to buy more, and so make other articles, to help forward the cause. It seems to me that we who have such great light are the slowest to appreciate it. I know we are nearing the time when our cases will be tried before the great tribunal, and yet we are so indifferent. Why is it? I have been trying to think of a plan whereby we might reach some of the people here. Do you think we could have a worker up here for about three days? There is an old lady who has offered her room for meetings if we could hold them. If a worker could start us, I would continue the work as well as I could, although I have never held a Bible-reading yet, but I believe that God would help me in my humble way. I also have some literature which I intend to post to various persons.

How much might be accomplished in this work if the same spirit of devotion characterized all our young people! What an army of young people we soon would have for our foreign mission work, if they would arouse and do the home mission work faithfully! God waits to use all who will but consecrate themselves to the Lord.

THE Word of the living God is not merely written but spoken. The Bible is God's voice speaking to us, just as surely as though we could hear it with our ears. If we realised this, with what

awe would we open God's Word, and with what earnestness would we search its precepts! The reading and the contemplation of the Scriptures would be regarded as an audience with the Infinite One.—*Testimonies, Vol. 6, p. 393.*

Notes and Personals.

BROTHER CADY left to visit Pitcairn Island, on a British man-of-war from Tahiti, about the end of May. Brother Mark Carey accompanied him.

ONE of the chiefs of the Cook Islands has written to express his appreciation of our paper for that field. One of the members of their native Parliament, from another island states that the paper expresses truth—Bible truth.

PASTOR BAKER spent Sabbath and Sunday, June 15 and 16, with Bro. George Stewart in the interests of the work at Koo-wee-rup, Victoria, where a number have recently taken their stand for the truth.

OWING to a call from Pitcairn Island, Brother Mark Carey, who has been in charge of the school at Rarotonga, has gone to that island to connect with the school work there. We understand that for the present Sister Bree is carrying on the school work at Rarotonga.

JAMES B. FLETCHER, brother to W. W. Fletcher, one of our Singapore missionaries, has recently connected with the business office of the Wahroonga Sanitarium. Brother Fletcher was formerly connected with the Echo Publishing Office, and when it was closed, assisted in the opening of the Melbourne Cafe.

FROM the London *Missionary Worker* of April 10, 1907, we copy the following:—
"Our people everywhere in Great Britain will be pleased to learn that the contract for the erection of our printing plant and food factory at Stanborough Park, Watford, was let last week, and that work on the buildings is now in progress."

SISTER CADY, who has charge of the editorial work of the Tahitian paper, *Te Maramarama*, reports that the paper is much appreciated, and that they now have over 306 subscribers. This is indeed very encouraging. We who are in the home field, who cannot go to the battle's front in those far-away islands, can help them by our prayers. Brethren and sisters, let us pray for the work and the workers.

WE are glad to be able to report that Sister Pascoe of Rarotonga, who has been quite seriously ill, is making a rapid recovery. It was feared for a time that she would be compelled to leave the island for a while, but the Lord has worked wonderfully in restoring her to health, for which our workers in Rarotonga are very

grateful, as they would be sorry to leave the field to which they believe the Lord has called them.

ONE of the most encouraging features of the work in the Australasian conferences at the present time is the Missionary Campaign movement that is assuming such definite and such large proportions, as seen by the reports in our columns from week to week. This work is not confined to any one conference or locality. God is in the movement, and is impressing His people everywhere that the time has fully come to "arise and build" His spiritual house by the sounding of this message, not only in the remote places of the earth, but in those near at hand, even at our own doors.

IN the reception of the light by Immanuel of Batak Land, Sumatra, as brought to view in Brother Munson's report of last week, we see another marked providential opening in the East Indian field. Truly the Lord is going before us in this work. Let us unite in prayer for Immanuel and those who have received light through him, that they may become fully established in the message; and, if it be the Lord's will, that the way may open for them to attend the school at Singapore to learn the way of the Lord more perfectly, and receive a preparation to witness for Him in that field, which has hitherto been closed to the message.

WE hoped to be able to give the May canvassers' summary in this issue, but the reports from two states have failed to reach us as yet, so we are holding the summary over another week, hoping to give a full report at that time. We take this opportunity to urge all the states to exercise great promptness in sending in their reports. We would like to print the summary in the first issue of each month, and this can easily be done if all are prompt in the matter of reporting. Should a state fail at any time to have a report, we would like it to notify us of this, that we may not be holding the others back for it. Will all please see that their June summaries are in by the third week in July, that we may print in the August 5 RECORD.

FROM the latest *Missionary Worker*, London, we learn that an imperial edict has been passed in Russia granting our workers liberty to preach the truth in that field. On March 27, 1879, by the order of an Imperial Council, the Baptists were allowed to confess their faith without any hindrance, and also to conduct their services unmolested. Now this same liberty is granted to the Seventh-day Adventists. This edict, in the form of a circular letter, was sent to the various governors in Russia. When it is for the advancement of His cause, the Lord can work upon the hearts of rulers to-day, causing them to make laws in favor of His people, just as He did anciently. It is now twenty-one years since our work first started in Russia. In spite of the unfavorable conditions, about 3000 Sabbath-keepers have been raised up in that field.

Union Conference Record

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"Renew my will from day to day,
Blend it with Thine, and take away
All that now makes it hard to say,
Thy will be done."

A Refreshing at Avondale.

THE church and school at Avondale have enjoyed a very precious refreshing during the past few days. Pastor Olsen began a series of studies on Thursday evening, June 13. For lack of space, we can only note some of the points of special interest.

It was the question of re-baptism that called out this series of talks. Quite a goodly number of persons of varied experiences had expressed a desire to be re-baptized, and, as this was a question of much importance, and a step not to be treated as a commonplace matter, it was therefore deemed advisable to ask the president of the Union Conference to meet with us, and hold some studies with the school and church before such a step was taken.

In his opening remarks, Pastor Olsen stated that he would have very little to say about baptism from a doctrinal standpoint; but would address himself to the matter of the deeper Christian experience they should have, the advance step they should take, the higher plane that believers in the soon coming of Christ should occupy.

It was the unanimous testimony of all, after hearing the talks, that there are very decided experiences, and a much higher plane to occupy, before we shall ever be able to give the message with power.

Pastor Olsen gave a brief review of how the message has belted the earth in all directions—from the farthest points to the north, to the farthest in the south. The equatorial belt of Seventh-day Adventist representatives is no less prominent.

Most encouraging extracts were read from recent Testimonies, which indicate that we are about to enter upon that experience noted in the "Great Contro-

versy," where it states that "by thousands of voices, all over the earth, the message will be given. Miracles are wrought, the sick are healed, and wonders follow the believers."

The services of the Sabbath were marked with a continuous round of blessings: The subject of the sermon was "The New Commandment." The last days and hours in the life of Christ on earth were dwelt upon. The experiences of these last moments of Christ on earth are the clearest exemplification of the new commandment. He is our pattern, and if we are found keeping the new commandment, it will be because we imitate the pattern.

While the discourse was being given in the church, there was a heavy rain outside. What a beautiful illustration of the words of the prophet Zechariah, 10:1, namely, "Ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain" etc. The rain is for every one. All who have the soil properly prepared will profit by the rain. But if the soil is hard and unprepared, the rain will run speedily off. Just so with the spiritual showers of blessings. They are brought within the reach of every believer, but only those who perseveringly seek for them will find them.

After the discourse, nineteen persons were presented to the church for baptism. Of these, eleven desired re-baptism. Although there was a continuous shower for over two hours, showing but little signs of cessation during the sermon and other services, yet remarkable enough, the rain ceased so that the entire company could repair to the Dora Creek, where the nineteen willing souls followed their Lord in baptism. At the close of the baptism the rain began again.

At 4:15 P. M. the School chapel was filled with those who were eager to testify to the goodness of God. Taking it altogether, it was a real spiritual uplift to the work at Avondale.

L. A. HOOPES.

Important Notice.

Union Conference Council, August 29 to
September 8, 1907.

AFTER hearing from a number of the Union Conference Committee, and consultation with those near at hand, we have decided to accept the invitation of the South Australian Conference to hold our coming council at Adelaide, South Australia, August 29 to September 8, 1907. The first meeting will be on Thursday morning at 10 A. M., in one of the churches in

Adelaide, as the brethren there may arrange.

At this meeting we shall expect all the members of the Union Conference Committee to be present, also the secretary and treasurer of the Union Conference. Others may be called who represent important lines of the work, as may be arranged.

In case any of the state conferences should wish a larger representation than their president, who is a member of the Union Conference Committee, we shall leave that for each conference to arrange. It will be well for the president of each conference to notify Pastor E. S. Butz, 93 Franklin Street, Adelaide, South Australia, at an early date as to who will be coming from their state, that they may have ample time to make arrangements.

The coming council will be an important one, as there will be many far-reaching questions relating to the work in our field, that will come before the council for consideration. We need to seek for the blessing of the Lord to guide and direct us in a special manner.

O. A. OLSEN,

President Australasian Union Conference.

Only a Little Chinese Girl.

WE give the following from the *Malaysia Message*. It will be of interest to our readers to know that it was written of one who is now connected with our work, who was converted to the truth from another mission:—

Only a little Chinese girl. Hardly worth a name. Used to all sorts of knocking about. A dog might have been treated better. Anyone's drudge by day. Sleeping anywhere by night. Her mother a widow; then married again. All the worse for the child it seems; but not really so. She is one too many at home, so finds her way with the help of friends to a mission school.

She learns of Jesus; and the little hungry heart receives Him, loves Him, and knows Him as her Saviour. She tries to do right, because it will please Him; and because she acknowledges herself His child. "Jesus would not have you do so," is quite enough to be said, to bring penitence for any wrong doing. Others may not be quite sure if Christ is their Saviour; but this little one has no doubt of it. She is ready to answer most emphatically for the hope that is in her; and prays that others may know her Saviour too. Only a little Chinese girl. Hardly worth a name—and yet of such is the kingdom of heaven.

The finest life lies oft in doing finely
A multitude of unromantic things.

—Edward C. Lefroy.