



Vol. 28, No. 30.

Sydney, Monday, July 28, 1924

Registered at the General Post Office, Sydney, for transmission by Post as a Newspaper.

He Is Coming

HE'S coming once again,
To set His people free;
That where He is, in glory bright,
His saints may also be.
Then lift the drooping head,
Look up, rejoice, and sing;
He comes, in majesty sublime,
Salvation's glorious King!

The earth shall quake with fear,
The heavens shall flee away;
And where shall guilty man appear
In that tremendous day?
No refuge then is nigh,
No shelter from the blast;
The night of vengeance veils the sky
When mercy's day is past.

His eyes of living flame
The wicked shall devour;
No tongue will lightly speak the name
Of Jesus in that hour.
No scorn, no words of hate,
For His meek followers then;
But prayers and tears that come too late
Will mark earth's mighty men.
F. E. BELDEN.

NEWSPAPERS A MEDIUM FOR FINDING TRUTH- SEEKERS

GREAT opportunities are available to us through the daily and weekly newspapers for reaching tens of thousands of people with the message. One difficulty which faces us, however, is that none of the metropolitan journals will accept articles that deal with specific doctrinal points. Many of the country newspapers freely open their columns to such matter, and occasionally we furnish them with articles dealing with world problems in the light of Scripture. These papers, however, have but a small circulation compared with the enormous circulation of the metropolitan journals, and therefore

whenever it is possible for us to reach the people through the metropolitan journals we should avail ourselves of that opportunity.

Last week the attention of the people of the whole world was called to the fact that the world's resources are becoming exhausted. The findings of the Power Conference at Wembley were, of course, cabled all over the world. In addition to those cables some very definite statements were made by Sir George Knibbs at the Melbourne University.

While the people's minds were agitated upon this question, appeared to us a golden opportunity to state some facts concerning the second coming of Christ. So we applied for eleven inches of space in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, in the Religious Announcements' column of Saturday's issue, for which we had to pay advertising rates, and furnished an article for publication which we reprint herewith.

Is the World Waxing Old?

Scientific Men Alarmed at the Rapid Depletion of World Resources

SOME staggering statements concerning the probability of the exhaustion of the world's resources have been made by scientific men recently which give cause for some alarm. Sir George Knibbs, the Director of the Institute of Science and Industry, is reported to have said in an address to the University of Melbourne "that the inroads made on the resources of nature in regard to coal and iron, copper, tin, and zinc, silver and gold, and even aluminium, had been advancing at increasing rates, and it was physically impossible that such increase of rates could long continue. The resources of crude petroleum were not far from exhaustion, even with the earth's existing population. The phosphates at man's disposal were not immensely great, and although the nitrogen content of the atmosphere was con-

siderable, as the earth's population approached its greatest limit the draft thereon would also be very heavy."

Surely that is a dismal outlook for posterity—a famine of the minerals we use in our factories and our homes, a famine of petrol and phosphates, and a probable shortage even of nitrogen in the atmosphere. With such a famine of raw materials most of the factories would have to close, not for want of orders, but for lack of materials from which they could manufacture their products; and only those factories could operate which were blessed with water-power, and which did not depend for their output upon iron, copper, tin, zinc, aluminium, silver, and gold. The great railway systems which depend upon coal for power would be useless. No more would be heard the toot of motor horns in the streets, for there would be no petrol to drive the cars. To our posterity, our electric stoves, heaters, and lights, and many other labour-saving contrivances and conveniences would be but objects of archaeological interest as relics of a by-gone luxurious age. Men would be little better off than uncivilised South Sea Islanders, as far as domestic conveniences, as we know them, are concerned. It is difficult, indeed, to picture such a condition of abject wretchedness to which this world would be reduced if the prognostications of the scientists were to be actually realised. Yet, if man were to continue for a few more centuries to use up the world's capital in mineral resources at the present rate, it is only natural to ask, what will he do when that capital is exhausted? And, in view of all the facts in the case, that is by no means a remote contingency. Truly the outlook for the shivering mortal of the fortieth century, with no coal, nor petrol, to burn, is very blue, according to the estimates of many learned men who note the rapidly diminishing supplies of the world's fuel resources.

Is the Future Hopeless?

The future appears either hopeless or hopeful, according to the outlook of each individual. For the man who depends upon statistical calculations of the world's resources, based upon the knowledge we have of available supplies and the extent to which those supplies are being depleted,

the outlook is certainly very gloomy. But to the man who pays little heed to the calculations of the scientist or the statistician because he knows that the time is nearly due for the kingdoms of this world to become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and who puts his faith implicitly in the Word of God, the outlook is full of hope. He knows that all the affairs of men on this planet are about to be wound up, and that the kingdoms of this world are going into liquidation, and will soon pass into the hands of the King of kings and Lord of lords. He knows, too, that everything about this old planet will soon be burned up; so instead of wondering what is going to happen when all the coal and petrol are exhausted, he is most concerned about harmonising his life with God's eternal precepts, and preparing to meet the Lord Jesus Christ when He shall appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

The unbeliever may sneer and the scoffer may scoff at the credulity of the Christian who believes in a literal return of the Lord Jesus to call His sleeping saints from the grave, and to translate the living who are looking for the Lord from heaven; but neither their sneers nor their scoffs will alter the fact of Christ's second coming. Men scoffed at the flood, but, notwithstanding their scoffs, the flood came and took them all away. For one hundred and twenty years the warning message of coming disaster was sent to the antediluvians, but they heeded it not. Did their unbelief prevent the windows of heaven being opened? Neither will men's unbelief today prevent the armoury of heaven being opened upon them when their cup of iniquity is full. In vain will men then call upon the rocks and the mountains, saying, "Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth upon the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: for the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" Men see but little attraction in the prayer meeting today. There is a time coming, a very little way into the future, when they will unite in a universal prayer to be hidden from the wrath of the One whose call they have rejected, whose love they have spurned, and whose laws they have violated. Men use the good things of God without recognising the great Giver, in whom we live, and move, and have our being. It is He who gives us life, and breath, and all things. It is He who endows us with health and strength. It is He who causes the grass to grow, and the wheat and corn to ear. It is He who gave His only begotten Son for our redemption; and all He asks in return for His goodness to us is our love and obedience.

Space will not permit a detailed outline of the infallible evidences that Christ's second coming is near, even at the doors, but literature on this important question will be supplied to any one who will send his or her name and address to—

A. W. Anderson,
"Mizpah,"
Wahroonga, N. S. Wales.

The Replies

Monday morning's mail brought along several letters from interested people enquiring for literature. Subsequent mails brought still further letters. One gentleman was

so interested that he could not wait to write, but came out to Wahroonga on Sunday to make personal enquiries into this very important subject. We had a very enjoyable hour with him, and when he left to return to his home he said he would be very pleased if we would keep him supplied with some literature in order that he might study the subject further. His home is over a hundred miles from Sydney, so we shall keep in touch with him through correspondence.

Some of the applicants for literature expressed very great pleasure at the appearance of such an article in the daily paper. One Anglican minister wrote as follows:—

"I read with much interest your message in Saturday's *Herald*, and write to thank you for such a public warning to the people of our land. The second coming of Christ, which I believe to be very near at hand, is the most urgent message of the times. I pray that many may read your advertisement."

Here is another from a Church of Christ minister:—

"Please accept my thanks and congratulations for your message in last Saturday's *Herald*. . . . It will doubtless reach the eyes of at least ten thousand readers before it runs its full course. The matter was referred to in our church yesterday by our church secretary, and friends were advised to read it. I myself have made a special study of what is known as advent truth, and I am quite in accord with what you say; but I will be glad if you will let me have some of the literature you invite the people to send for.

"Yours in Christian service."

"Seeing your paragraphs in the *Herald*, and taking a deep interest in the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, I would esteem it a great favour if you could let me have any literature on the subject. Any information on this all-important question will be gratefully received, and I shall esteem it a privilege to assist in defraying any expenses incurred. It was a great joy to me to read the message."

"Would you kindly send literature on Christ's second coming? I want to know more about it, and I want my friends to know about it."

"I have read your publication in this morning's *Herald* with much enjoyment and interest. I am a Christian and believe every word you have recorded. Have you any other literature helpful to the building up of Christians apart from the truth of the second coming?"

A number of other letters were received, simply asking for copies of the literature referred to in the article. We invite the prayers of the brethren and sisters throughout the field that God may greatly bless these interested people as they read the literature which is being posted to them in response to their earnest enquiries.

A. W. ANDERSON.



In the Baltic Union

PASTOR D. N. Wall, president of the Baltic Union, who at one time laboured in Australia, in writing to the General Conference concerning the work in that union, says:—

"A few months ago our new union was organised, and has been functioning as such since the first of October, 1923. Esthonia, Latvia, and Lithuania are the fields of this union. At present we have 3,000 members. In the city of Riga alone we have 700 members. Since November I have been holding meetings in a large hall in Riga, and these meetings have been very well attended. There is quite an interest among these people. One hundred and two have already requested baptism.

"The superintendent of the Esthonian society laboured with good success last year in Reval, the capital of his field. His meetings were conducted in a large concert hall which seated 2,000 people. Each evening the hall was filled to its last seat, and the collections covered all the expenses. As a result of his work, Brother Lass baptised 100 persons. He continued the work there with good success. He has also started to hold an effort in Dorpat, where he also found an interest. When I was in Reval again several weeks ago to visit the church, I conducted several evening meetings. Every part of the hall was filled, and 500 people stood outside waiting to catch a word here and there. We hope to reap a large harvest of souls in our union."

A Beginning in Madagascar

AS yet, we have no established work in the island of Madagascar, but interested ones are being found, and it is expected that these will form our first church. Some one sent a parcel to a friend on the island, and this was wrapped up in an old copy of the French *Signs of the Times*. This was read, and an interest soon started, with the result that fifty people are now anxious to learn more of the truth. Some years ago there were seven mission boards operating in Madagascar, but because of prejudice on the part of the officials against religion, the work is considerably less today than when it started. The officials have even closed down mission school work. A new church is not permitted to be organised unless its charter membership numbers seventy. Therefore our people are not able to form themselves into a company, and the only way in which they can advance their work is by the selling and distribution of literature. This literature has to pass the inspection of the government officials—*African Division Outlook*.

THERE are seventy-five different languages spoken throughout Europe, and we have work in every language.

Our Mission Field

The Fijian Annual Council

The annual council of the Fiji Mission this year was held June 12-16 in the Namarai village, beautifully situated on the Ra coast of Viti Levu. Namarai is the *buli's* (chief's) village of that district, and has been an out-station for our work for the past twenty years, being the third district in Fiji in which the message gained adherents. A few of the charter members are still alive and faithful. A more central and accessible place in which to hold such a meeting for our people in Fiji could not be found. About two hundred were conveyed to the meeting by boat while between three and four hundred walked overland.

The provision made by the local people was very commendable. A large native building over sixty feet long and about twenty-four feet wide had been erected right on the foreshore for the general meeting place, and served the purpose admirably, being large, cool, and comfortable. We European workers were hospitably entertained in the *buli's* house, one of the finest of its kind in Fiji. The sisters were provided with a newly-built native house as their sleeping apartment.

Large quantities of food were provided each day from various districts throughout the province, and after the usual presentation ceremonies were performed, the food was divided according to the number of houses occupied by delegates and visitors.

With but one or two exceptions, our complete staff of native workers were present and took a prominent part in the meetings, attending regularly and promptly. About eighty delegates representing the churches and companies throughout Fiji responded to the roll call.

The daily programme consisted of devotional meetings, Bible studies, reports of labour, and council sittings, with a preaching service each evening. Meetings were also conducted daily for the youth and children, and these were well attended.

Special Features

Among the special features of the council this year was the encouraging statistical and financial report presented, showing an increase in almost all lines of mission receipts. The total number of adherents in Fiji is now about eighteen hundred. The Sabbath school membership increased 171 during the year. The total tithe (native) for the year amounted to £230, being nearly double the amount received the previous year. The total Sabbath school offerings amounted to £170, an increase of over £30 for the year. The annual offering amounted to over £90, thus showing an increase of over £18 compared with last year's offering. These reports brought a very decided response of "*vinaka*" from those present. As they were presented on a large chart showing the amount contributed from each district, this

promises to create a little wholesome emulation among the representatives of the various districts.

Another factor contributing to the interest of the meeting was that two new districts were represented for the first time. One was Bau, the leading chiefly section of Fiji, and the other Kadavu, a large island where our work has recently been commenced. Two leading chiefs from Bau were present, and one—a grandson of old King Cakobau—was baptised at the close of the meeting with eight others from various districts. This made a marked impression upon the large gathering, and tears of joy were shed during this impressive ceremony.

The devotional meetings throughout the council were attended with much of the Lord's blessing, and many good testimonies were borne. The Sabbath services were well attended and provided a real spiritual feast. The Sabbath school was conducted at the usual time and was held in three separate divisions. All the exercises were conducted by native officers and workers. Mitieli and Fika from New Guinea contributed the missionary exercises. The offering for the day amounted to over five pounds.

The midday service was a very precious season, and one long to be remembered. It was one of those meetings where "strong men wept;" for the leading chiefs who at first tried to bury their feelings freely shed tears of repentance and joy while one hundred and fifty earnest testimonies and confessions were borne. In fact, the whole congregation re-dedicated themselves to God and to a cleaner and holier life for the Master. A few adherents of other churches were present and also spoke. One old man who had been a Roman Catholic thanked God because he had found the "light" and had now left that "dark" church.

An Ordination Service

On Sabbath afternoon, June 14, a very impressive service was held when two of our native workers were solemnly set apart to the gospel ministry in the persons of Sanivalati Ramua and Mitieli Nakasamai, the latter recently returned from New Guinea. Following an impressive address given by Pastor Piper on the sacredness of the ministry, the dedicatory prayer was offered by Ratu Timothy. After the charge was delivered these two brethren were welcomed into the ministry by Pastor Carr on behalf of the Australasian Union Conference, which was followed by the benediction.

A number of resolutions pertaining to the advancement of the work were freely discussed and adopted. The appointments affected the names of seventeen workers, among them being the appointment of Nafitalai Navara to fill the call for another worker for New Guinea. Such an appointment as this has a very wholesome effect upon all the congregation, as it rekindles that flame of missionary

zeal which has marked the history of missionary work in Fiji.

We are grateful for the help and counsel rendered by Pastor A. H. Piper on behalf of the Union Conference, who will no doubt report his own impressions of his visit to Fiji. Above all, we wish to thank our Heavenly Father for His care and guidance during the past year, and re-dedicate ourselves anew to His service for the year to come.

A. G. STEWART, *Superintendent*.
E. M. COOPER, *Secretary*.

Week of Prayer at Vavau, Tonga

"PRAISE ye the Lord. O give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever."

Another Week of Prayer has passed and we do indeed praise the Lord for His goodness.

As we met together in our European meetings to unite in prayer, we felt the Holy Spirit in our midst, as we realised our own weakness and dependence on God. Earnest prayers were offered for a greater measure of the Holy Spirit to guide and direct in our own lives and in the work for the people in these islands.

Then as we attended the Tongan services we were encouraged and our hearts were gladdened as we saw ten or twelve natives come along every night during the week, some riding two or three miles to be in attendance, and some even walked this distance. We felt that the Spirit of God was drawing them, and we do trust that the blessings received and the lessons learned during the week may not be lost, but may be the means of helping these people along the upward way.

During the week envelopes were given to all, and on Sabbath it was good to see them placed quietly in the plate and then all bowed in prayer as we asked the Lord to bless the free-will offerings that had been presented.

We were glad and thankful to find that the sum of £12 7s. had been so willingly offered to the Lord, and we feel sure that He who reads the hearts will bless the means thus given for the furtherance of His work.

May God grant that the Week of Prayer just passed may be the beginning of better things for all, and that this year may see great progress made both here and in all parts of the world-wide mission field, and that soon the blessed hope may be realised.

MARGARET FERGUSON.

WE quote from a letter from Brother W. D. Smith, written from Tomniel, Malekula, New Hebrides: "The people here often speak of Brother Wiles. Some who were brought into touch with him I believe are now seeking after the Lord. One needs much love and patience in working among these poor souls. But it was for them that Christ died, and we rejoice to have the privilege of being co-workers with Him."

"Have thy tools ready. God will give thee work."

Education Department

Darling Range School

"AS cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country." Perhaps a few news notes from our school in the distant West will be welcome to some of our RECORD readers, and particularly to those who have once dwelt in the peaceful little valley at Carmel.

The month just passed brought the annual Week of Prayer, and our school shared largely in the spiritual blessings which such a season brings. We departed from our usual custom and made the early morning meetings combined meetings in the chapel, and these were a source of great spiritual blessing. During the first week-end of this prayer-season we were favoured with a visit from Brother Harold Meyers and family. Brother Meyers is our newly-elected Missionary Volunteer secretary in this conference, and naturally has a keen interest in our training school.

Among other recent visitors are Pastor H. E. Piper, and Brother E. A. Turner and family who have recently come over from Victoria. The nearness of the end, and the urgent need of heart searching and preparation were the themes dwelt upon in the meetings conducted by these visitors.

The clock of time has just ticked off the first term of 1924 school year. Examinations did not prove such a fearful ordeal after all, and many of the students who live in and around Perth, had a pleasant relaxation from study in visiting their homes for a few days.

During the term-end, operations were started on the young men's "chapel." For years past this large, bare room has somewhat resembled a barn, and accordingly we could not expect much more than barn conduct from the occupants. Clean, calcimined walls, a new coat of varnish on woodwork and all furniture, curtains to the windows, and several additional articles of furniture, creditably made by one of the students in our own workshop,—have now transformed the "barn" into a comfortable, homelike parlour, needing only the painting and hanging of the mottoes which the young men have chosen to adorn its walls, to complete the transformation. We sincerely hope, and believe too, that the improved surroundings will inspire nobler and loftier aims in the hearts and lives of our boys' hall family.

An interesting feature of this year's programme is the Mutual Improvement Society,—its membership comprising practically all the students and several of the teachers. Its meetings, which are held in the dining-room on alternate Saturday nights, have so far been well attended, and the lively discussions which have followed the presentation of subjects such as "Civilisation; Ancient and Modern," and "Is It Necessary to Study Higher Mathematics?" show a keen interest and

a determination on the part of its members to obtain all the benefits offered by such a society.

We are now right in the midst of fruit picking and packing for export. Shipments of two hundred cases of oranges to England and one hundred cases to Java will soon leave our shores. With changes in several details in the packing from the plans followed last year, we hope for more satisfactory financial returns.

We are pleased to record that it has become possible, this year, to place responsibilities on some of our students. One is superintending the orchard work, another the farm, while a third is taking over the work of keeping our roads and fences in good order. This plan is succeeding admirably.

So far there has been a fine spiritual tone, and a good spirit of co-operation on the part of the students, and we trust this may continue through the remainder of the year. We are all of good courage.

NELLIE H. BUTLER.

News Notes from the New Zealand Missionary School

WHEN we left school for vacation last year, we looked forward to having electric lights throughout the building when we returned this year. However, when school commenced we had to be content with candles and a few kerosene lamps; but after waiting about six or seven weeks, one evening we were rewarded by suddenly finding the dining-room brilliantly lighted. We had been waiting for so long that it seemed almost too good to be true. Needless to say, the other switches were soon tried. We are favoured in that we were able to have the power connected so soon, for no other building in the neighbourhood has the light yet. We are thankful for this blessing, and believe that it is in answer to prayer.

At the time of writing, we are making the most of the closing hours of term end. More than half our family have been away, and the remaining members have been fully occupied with the various duties of the home.

Just a few days before the examinations we had the privilege of choosing a school motto, and from the four submitted to the students for consideration, the simple but comprehensive word "Others," was chosen. We then decided that it would be a good thing to have a school song, so the following lines—to be sung to tune 530 in "Christ in Song"—were written:—

Others

Far throughout New Zealand sounded forth the call,

"Come and join our army, men and maidens all."

Joyfully we answered till we filled each hall—

Now we work for OTHERS here.

We are not divided; all as one we stand,
Students, yes, and teachers toiling hand in hand.
Joyfully we labour with a purpose grand
As we work for OTHERS here.

Let us grasp the moments as from us they fly;
Let us fill the hours as they hasten by;
Let us fill the days with song instead of sigh,
While we work for OTHERS here.

Then when we are scattered over land and sea,
OTHERS, yes, still OTHERS shall our motto be.
We will work for OTHERS till our Lord we see,
We will work for OTHERS here.

CHORUS.

OTHERS, OTHERS—'tis our motto true,
OTHERS, OTHERS—always keep in view.
OTHERS, OTHERS, help us; Lord, we pray,
Just to live for OTHERS every day.

We hope and pray that the sentiment of this song may ever be the expression of each heart, and that, like our Saviour, we may "live to bless others."

M. E. HADFIELD.

Thoughts on Education

THE following extracts are culled from the work of students studying the subject of Christian Education in the College:—

"Education is the 'harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and the spiritual powers.' One note does not make harmony; it is the proper blending of the various sounds. Education to be harmonious must comprehend the whole man. Paul realised this when he wrote, 'I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless.' 1 Thess. 5: 23. In discord there is cause for blame."

"God's wisdom is the reality; that of the world, reflection.' Many people think that in taking advantage of the church school, the child is at a loss because of the smaller school and different curriculum. Why is it then that our church schools are partly filled with children of other denominations? Surely history is repeating itself and Rahab is helping the spies of Israel, while Israel itself fears to enter the promised land for fear of the giants."

"Instead of educated weaklings, institutions of learning may send forth men strong to think and to act, men who are masters and not slaves of circumstances, men who possess breadth of mind, clearness of thought, and the courage of their convictions."—"Education," page 18. The work of the hour demands men of action. Machinery out of action is useless. True education gives the power to do and to do well. In a telescope a dirty lens obscures the vision. The true education cleans our mental lenses—our minds are renewed—and we have the clearness of preception necessary for this time of peril."

"This union [with Christ] formed, . . . the opportunities of the highest education in the world are his."—"Education," page 30. When mountaineers are climbing difficult places they tie themselves to their guides. United in this way they scale heights otherwise inaccessible. The road to the pinnacle of knowledge is a difficult one. Ideals dwell in the mountain tops, but united to our great Guide we can reach the highest height."

"Men, like diamonds in the rough, have intrinsic value, but they must be polished before they shine. The crust of ignorance must be cut away before the beauty of the gem appears. There are two ways of cutting and polishing a diamond, a right way and a wrong way. The right way produces the lustre and sparkle; the wrong spoils the whole effect. Similarly there are two ways of attempting to bring out the good and the beautiful in human life. Here education is the workman which cuts and smooths and polishes. Whether or not the life is one of sparkling radiance, glorifying God and benefiting others, depends upon whether the education is true or false."

"False education teaches one to get; true education, to give. The false makes a grappling iron of a man, the true makes him a channel of living waters, an oasis in the desert of sin."

SOUTH NEW ZEALAND

PRESIDENT: W. J. WESTERMAN
SECRETARY: A. G. MINCHIN

A Remarkable Experience in Christchurch

THE worker in the gospel cause is well aware that in the name of his divine Master he goes forth to battle against invisible forces of wrong. To do so successfully, he is instructed to "take unto him the whole armour of God." A part of it will not do. This would serve only to advertise more widely his defeat.

Recently, this was brought home to us in a very remarkable way here in Christchurch. We came to grips with the power of Spiritism in a very subtle fashion indeed.

A young man attended our mission while it was in progress here in the city. Every Sunday he came regularly, and went home to tell his family what they were missing.

About twelve months before this, a planchette found its way into the family circle. As is well known, this is a heart-shaped piece of wood, resting on two castors and a pencil point. When the hand of the individual wishing to make use of it rests lightly upon it, the board moves by invisible aid, and traces messages and designs upon the paper beneath. Under the hands of members of the family, this board was writing some interesting messages for the entertainment and instruction of the family. Up to the time of which we are writing, it gave messages of a secular character only, referring to the temporal affairs of the household.

When the young man referred to above brought home his report of our mission,

with his persistent invitation to the others to go, the younger brother consulted the planchette to obtain its advice concerning the meetings. It wrote: "Go to Mr. Kent's meetings. He will tell you all. What he says is right and true."

After the family had attended the meetings for a while, the board being requested to give its opinion of the sermons, wrote: "The sermons Mr. Kent is preaching he gets from the throne of God. Knowledge comes to you on paper, but his [the preacher's] message is imparted to him by the Spirit of God telling him what to say."

Perhaps a digression may be suffered here to tell how the board endeavoured to turn the uncertainty of the family concerning its origin and operations into the way of faith and confidence.

"I am the Silent Tongue"

Early in its career as a pseudo-spiritual adviser to this family, the mother said of it, "It is something God has left for us till He comes again." Then the board wrote in reply: "Yes, mother, it is!" The question was here asked, "Who is writing?" The written response came, "I am the silent tongue." Later on, however, and in response to another enquiry concerning its identity it declared that the writing was performed by M——, a little daughter whom the family had lost in death. Then written messages followed, purporting to come from the paternal and maternal grandparents, and from brothers and sisters, all deceased. It told how that they were all in heaven and very happy. It was asked if the maternal grandma would not write. It replied: "Yes. I will go and get her." Then a different writing appeared, but they were advised to ask no questions, as the replies to all questions asked of her, she had to ask of God and get His reply. It wrote here, "I am God's true saint out doing His work."

During the time we were preaching on the Sabbath question, the family asked the planchette concerning the genuineness of the seventh-day Sabbath, Saturday. It wrote: "Saturday is the right day. The Sabbath was changed from Saturday to Sunday by the Roman Catholic Church."

Claimed to Be Their Guardian Angel

When we came to that part of the message that deals with the sleep of the dead and the work of Spiritism, the board was asked whether what they heard about these things was true. It replied: "Yes. The dead know not anything. They are in their graves till the resurrection." It also declared that what was preached concerning Spiritism was true, but added, "This writing has nothing to do with Spiritism." Asked concerning the messages that claimed to come from deceased relatives, it said: "They never wrote to you in person. They are in their graves. It was their guardian angel that wrote." Obviously, this was the exposed spot in the harness through which the Sword of Truth found its way to the corrupt heart of this deception. Guardian angels are not liars!

Up to this place I was perplexed. I knew that the Lord would not make use of an instrument dedicated to further the work of the devil. But to think that, hitherto, the spirits of

devils would give such good counsel, amazed me. Naturally I thought of Paul's case in Acts 16:16, and how that the devils helplessly confessed the Son of God. But here was a spirit advising a family to go to a place where a message which cuts right across the purpose of Spiritism was being proclaimed. This is emphasised when we relate that the young man who first visited the mission was hesitating to obey God because of the possible loss of his position. In the home one evening, he was discussing this and considering the advisability of giving up his employment and trying to get something else where he could keep the Sabbath. They asked the board about doing this and it replied: "Tell W—— to do God's will, and keep His commandments, as the time is short. Do not trouble about employment. That will come all right."

A Dream and a Voice

Later this same young man had a dream. In it he saw two hills and a green valley between. Then he saw cattle rushing off one hill onto the other. There they appeared very contented. The planchette was asked to interpret this. It responded: "It is Mr. Kent's mission. This is gathering God's people out of Christchurch for Christ's kingdom." This was very remarkable to me.

For awhile the board and its message were set aside. Then one evening as the mother was preparing for bed, a voice called out, "Make your peace with God." Next evening the board was requested to give the identity of the voice. It wrote, "This was God's voice speaking to you." Other questions were here asked, but the board wrote in reply: "Do not ask me any more questions. I have put you on the right path. Look to a higher power." These expressions enclosed in quotation marks are the exact reproduction from the board as I copied them down.

The Thursday evening following the Sunday night when the board refused to answer any more questions, I was with the family in their home. They were still perplexed about the board, and asked me to explain its workings, and the power behind it. They told of its final message and a few other expressions similar in character; and showed me the tablet on which it had written. Its claim to give messages from deceased relatives was not told to me till later in the evening.

A Final Test

I knew that it was a manifestation of Satanic power, but I was surprised at the splendid counsel given. Then the younger brother, who had been out in the city, and consequently knew nothing of the nature of the discussion, nor of what the others had told me, came into the room. The board was passed to him, and as soon as he placed his hand on it, it began to write. The first thing it wrote was: "Mr. Kent is not too sure of me. Tell him to stick to the Bible. This is his only safety. I am the guardian angel."

For sometime we engaged in the discussion of the power of Spiritism. It was then that they told how it claimed to be the medium of communication with those that are dead; then afterward

contradicting this, averred that it was the guardian angel who wrote. We were in the midst of assuring the family that the dead know not anything, when the young man in question again laid his hand on the board, and it wrote, "Mr. Kent is quite right."

We interrupted this to point out that it was wrong to enquire at the mouth of an evil spirit, that God had written sufficient for our guidance and instruction in His Word. While we were emphasising that no message would come from guardian angels in this irregular way, the board wrote right under my eyes: "Mr. Kent is wrong. The angels can do as they like." Pointing out from the Word of God that the angels were under direction as they carried out the bidding of Jehovah, we rebuked the evil spirit in the name of the Lord. We lifted our hearts in prayer to God, and then to show the family that there was no connection between our blessed message of comfort and truth and this dark, deceptive manifestation of the evil one, I laid my hand on the board, telling them that if it were the guardian angel from God that it would speak through me; for I was a servant of the Lord. The board was stilled. This dear family then gave it up, and declared that they did not want anything to do with it or its messages.

That the adversary had a plan in all this, we feel confident. What such a purpose was, however, we can only conjecture. But we thank God that His Spirit frustrated the plans and overthrew the purpose. It should be stated, that the board advised the family to consult a certain person in the city. The address was given. When they went, it was discovered that this was a strong Spiritistic medium. The message by the planchette said that greater light would be given them by such a person. Although the household did not know previously that such an individual existed, they found the person at the address just as the board directed.

Days of Dangerous Deceptions

This experience has brought home to us in a very impressive way that we have come to the time when the devil is to "work with all deceivableness of unrighteousness." The time is here when he will "deceive if possible the very elect." We thank God that His Word has been given to safeguard us, "lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of His devices." (2 Cor. 2:11.)

In the varied places where we have gone preaching the gospel of God, we have been challenged publicly and through the press to debate the question of Spiritism. These we have ignored. We have been told by leading mediums who have attended our addresses on this question, that powerful spirits were surrounding us, claiming to direct our message. But such claims we have dismissed with a gesture, confident that the holy message we bear is under the surveillance and directing care of the Christ we serve. But never in our experience have we seen such an apparently simple, yet subtle, working on behalf of the cause of the evil one, as that displayed by the experience related above.

We take it as a challenge of the times in which we serve. It calls to us for a complete surrender to the God we wor-

ship. We are in the last days. There is no question of that. We have come to the crisis, the time, when after "the working of Satan with all signs and lying wonders," our Christ will come. We believe we shall be confronted, at any time now, with a greater display of the power of wrong, and with clever devices to deceive. Thank God that "the Captain of our salvation" marches with us. It is His gospel banner that breathes the breeze. In the simple grace and grandeur of the Saviour's last message to man, so charged with the majesty and power of His conquering name, we can reply to any challenge, knowing that "He that is for us is greater than he that is against us."

It is not a question now of looking forward to the time when we are to meet the issues of the last great struggle. We are in that struggle now. The issues are being decided around us today in the cause in which we have the honour to serve. Surely this is a time when our lives, instead of being anxious to capture the attention of men, should be attuned to catch the waves of power coming from the throne of the Eternal for the finishing of the work. God help us, as His little children, to sense the time and awake out of sleep.

J. W. KENT.

*City Mission,
Christchurch, N.Z.*

SOUTH NEW SOUTH WALES

PRESIDENT: J. M. COLE
SECRETARY: W. H. HOPKIN

Results of the Woollahra Effort

THE first baptismal service in connection with the evangelistic effort conducted as the result of the home mission activity of the Woollahra church, was held on Sabbath, July 12, when thirteen precious souls followed their Lord's example.

The officers of the Stanmore church kindly gave us permission to use their baptistry for the service, and at 2.45 p.m., the time for commencing the meeting, the church was filled with members from both Stanmore and Woollahra. Pastors Cole and Anderson and Brother E. H. Parsons, together with one of the Stanmore elders and one of the Woollahra elders, assisted the writer in the solemn service.

We are happy to state that this is but the first company of candidates resulting from our efforts. In a few weeks we hope to baptise from eight to ten others who are now keeping the Sabbath, but who to our minds require further instruction.

Thanks to the faithful and careful attention given all candidates by both Sister Watt and Brother E. H. Parsons, which has been followed by personal visitation on the part of the writer, we are pleased to state that the candidates are fully acquainted with the pillars of our faith, and are practising health reform and tithing, and possess a clear knowledge of the gift of prophecy and its place in the church today.

While our regular Sunday night meetings have ceased, the interest is still fresh, and Sister Watt has upwards of twenty individuals with whom she is conducting

regular studies. From these she expects results within a few weeks.

The Lord has wonderfully blessed the church in this mission, and by the time those now keeping the Sabbath and who were recently baptised, together with the others preparing for baptism, are admitted into church membership, the additions will represent fifty per cent of the entire membership prior to the opening of the mission a few months ago.

Some excellent men and women have taken hold, and have lost positions as the result, but God has blessed them and is leading them in His paths. From them we hope some day to find acceptable workers for the Master.

Financially, the effort has been without cost either to conference or church, our entire expense of hall, advertising, etc., being met by the offerings received at our Sunday night meetings.

For the results we thank God, and would heartily commend, for the consideration of the churches, the plan followed by the Woollahra membership in systematically working the territory with the *Signs of the Times* then following up the interest by holding services to gather the interested ones right into the message.

W. G. TURNER.

Conscience Money After Forty-Six Years

THE following paragraph, taken from a private letter written by a Christian lady not of our faith to her sister who is in the truth, is a good testimony of the value of the little book, "Steps to Christ."

"We were in ——— for Easter, staying at Bill's. Bill had a surprise for me. A few weeks previous, Mr. ——— had called to see him. He came to pay some money,—conscience money. You will no doubt remember that father bought a horse from him, and in payment he gave Mr. ——— a five-pound note which father thought was a one-pound note, and it has gone on all these years,—forty-six years. Mr. ——— has been reading a book called "Steps to Christ," and I believe it has made a change in his life; and this debt came up before him, and so troubled him that he had to come a journey of two hundred miles to make restitution. He paid the four pounds and a pound for interest. Mr. ——— is now over eighty years old."

Although the one who suffered the loss in the business transaction has been dead for about fifteen years, yet the life of the one who did the wrong has been spared beyond the allotted span, that he might be saved; and through the conviction of the Holy Spirit, despite his advanced years, he journeyed two hundred miles to make restitution to the son of the man he had wronged.

A. H.

"EVERY day remember that today you have a God to glorify; a Saviour to imitate; a soul to save; your body to mortify; virtue to acquire; heaven to seek; eternity to meditate upon; temptations to resist; the world to guard against; and perhaps death to meet."



New Guinea and the Loyalty Islands

ALL of our Missionary Volunteers no doubt have their eyes focused on the island fields. God has called men to go to these fields to do pioneer service, and He calls upon His Missionary Volunteers to send the means, that they may share with them the joy of service. Much of the work that will be done in New Guinea will be real pioneer work. That God will overrule for good in this difficult work, should indeed be the prayer of each Missionary Volunteer.

Brother and Sister Lock with their children, and Nurse Heise will in the near future locate at Efogi [E-fo-gi]. This is the place where the natives of the districts around and including Efogi built a house for the missionary who would locate among them. At the time that the house was built, the lease of land had not been granted to us by the government. For nearly two years the natives have waited, wondering when our missionaries would locate in their midst. Word has recently reached us, however, that this lease has been granted. Now the work of manning this station must commence, and our Missionary Volunteers should watch with interest the development of the work in this interior part of New Guinea.

That you may have some idea where Efogi is, obtain an atlas and locate Mt. Victoria on the Owen Stanley Range. Efogi lies a little to the southeast of this mountain, which is about 11,000 feet high. Efogi is probably over 7,000 feet high. The view from Efogi across the surrounding country is very beautiful indeed. Around Efogi are a number of districts where missionary work will be done. While the writer was in New Guinea he met a number of natives from these different districts, all of whom were very friendly and were anxious to have a worker among them.

Shortly Nafitalai, a Fijian worker, with his wife Vasiti and two little children, will sail for New Guinea. Nafitalai will probably link up with Brother Lock in work for the people of the mountain districts. What we need is to obtain a vision of the great work that is opening before us in the high altitudes of New Guinea. When work commences at the mountain station of Efogi, it will be our highest mission station in the South Pacific. Let us determine, as Missionary Volunteers, to do all in our power to hasten the "glad tidings" to these people who have waited so long. The aim of "not less than threepence per Missionary Volunteer per week" for the support of this interesting work is surely within the range of possibility of each one. Your help is needed, and is needed each week in systematic giving. Now is the time to work for New Guinea.

Another interesting work of a pioneer nature that we should not forget is the

endeavour being made to open up work in the Loyalty Group. Do not forget to pray that God will abundantly bless Pastor Jones in his important task. Surely as Missionary Volunteers we must rise to the occasion and "lengthen thy cords and strengthen thy stakes" in our missionary effort during this year in supporting the work in New Guinea and the Loyalty Islands.

H. C. WHITE,
Union Conference M. V. Sec.

NORTH NEW ZEALAND

PRESIDENT: H. M. BLUNDEN
SECRETARY: P. G. FOSTER

Visiting in North New Zealand Conference

IN harmony with arrangements made at headquarters before leaving for Fiji, we had the privilege of visiting some of our churches and the New Zealand Missionary School in the North New Zealand Conference on our return journey from the mission field.

On arrival at Auckland on the *Niagara*, Brother P. G. Foster, secretary of the conference, was on hand to meet us. Everybody is happy in Brother Foster's company. After tea that night in the hospitable home of Pastor and Mrs J. E. Steed, we went to the Ponsonby church, to which members of the other Auckland churches had been invited to hear the story of missions as it is being worked out in Fiji. We had a good meeting, and the hearty handshakes of the brethren at the conclusion deepened the impression already made upon the mind that our Auckland brethren are all "out for missions." With Brother Foster in charge again, we went to his home for the night. Next morning at 7.45 we met with the café staff in the city, and a happy little band of workers they appeared to be. It did us good to be with them in worship. What a fine work for God our café work can be when rightly conducted. It was a great pleasure to meet Pastor H. M. Blunden, president of the conference, and to find him so much improved in health. Brethren, our leaders bear very heavy burdens and no wonder that at times their health fails. They certainly need our loyal, loving, Christian support and prayers. Let us pray for them more than we have been wont to do.

Even before we had reached the shores of New Zealand, the thoughtfulness of the brethren had provided us with comfortable accommodation on the train over the Main Trunk line to Palmerston North, near which town is our missionary training school. However, we were unfortunate enough on our rail journey to run into a land-slip just a little after daylight, near a wayside station, where the many passengers experienced difficulty in obtaining refreshment. Here again Christian kindness was much appreciated, for only the previous evening our Sister Foster would persist in putting us up such a bounteous lunch that it sufficed, for the while, for not only the writer, but also a Member of Parliament, a sea-captain, and an Auckland business man. And these men enjoyed that good old-time vegetarian luncheon. Sisters all, can you put up a real good, dainty, ap-

petising vegetarian lunch? Think about it.

Although it was very late in the day when we got through to the school, yet it in no wise dampened the warmth of the welcome that Brother and Sister Cossentine, the school staff, and all the students, gave us. We were so glad to meet the new principle, Brother Cossentine, and to look over the school property with him. We do wish all our brethren could see the school building as it now stands, with its top-story on the old-time structure. The work is a credit to those responsible for the workmanship, and we understand that the workmen were all Adventists. And the students,—well, they are a happy band. Indeed, principle, teachers, and students, appeared just a big, happy family. They showed us some of the products of the farm, the carrots and mangolds and other produce, and they were splendid specimens of what the school farm can grow. We spoke three times to the students and the friends who came in, on our mission work in the islands of the sea, and the students responded by singing us a song composed by one of their number and entitled, "Others." [This poem is given on page 4.]

Wherever we went,—to our churches in Wellington or Petone or the Wairapapa we felt just the same old-time brotherly love and a most pronounced desire to hear concerning the work in the regions beyond. In Wellington we met Pastor and Mrs Rampton, Brother and Sister Bullas, and junior workers. We found them happy in their work for God and the people, and having a good degree of success. As we talked in the church there, we had new Sabbath-keepers in the audience listening for the first time to the results of the third angel's message in the South Seas, and somehow or other it added to their confidence in their newly-found faith.

We were sorry to leave New Zealand and all the good brethren and sisters there. We had greatly appreciated meeting with them all, and as we look back at them across the Tasman, we can but say, "May God greatly bless them all."

A. H. PIPER.

IN the RECORD of June 9 reference was made to two interesting Kanakas who attended the Queensland camp-meeting, and it was stated that they had accepted the truth under the labours of Brother C. M. Lee. Brother Lee has asked us to correct this statement. Although he laboured to prepare them for baptism, it was Brother Walter Chapman who had the privilege of seeing these men take their stand, as well as three others, all of whom are baptised and remaining faithful to the message.

Tents for Sale

WE have at our tent house, Strathfield, a few tents and flies, which while suited for camping out are rather too patched to include in our regular conference equipment. Should any of our people require these, upon writing us at Wahroonga, we shall be happy to let them have full particulars and prices in connection therewith.

W. G. TURNER.

Australasian Record

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE

AUSTRALASIAN UNION CONFERENCE OF
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Single Subscriptions per year, post paid - - 5/-

Editors

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All copy for the paper should be sent to
Mrs. Hindson, "Mizpah," Wahroonga, N.S.W.
Printed weekly for the Conference by the
AVONDALE PRESS, COORANBONG, NEW SOUTH WALES

PASTOR Fulton is expected to arrive
home from the Solomon Islands about
July 23.

BROTHER C. R. Farrell, the acting field
missionary secretary for the Union, is
spending a few weeks in New Zealand in
the interests of the colporteur work.

THE matter on our first page this week
from Pastor Anderson is of special interest,
as showing the great possibilities of
giving the message through Press Bureau
work.

PASTOR A. H. Piper returned to Sydney
from Fiji by way of New Zealand on
Sunday, July 13, bringing a fund of information
regarding the work in Fiji that
is of a most inspirational nature. Brother
Piper will tell his own story through the
columns of the RECORD and also in mission-
ary exercises for the Sabbath school
through the *Missionary Leader*. We
especially appreciate what Pastor Piper
has to tell us of the devotion and self-sac-
rifice of the native workers in Fiji, as we
have the privilege of supporting them for
one year by our Thirteenth Sabbath
offering on September 27.

MISS Edna L. Walker arrived in Sydney
from U.S.A. by the *Maunganui*, the same
boat by which Pastor Piper travelled
from New Zealand. Sister Walker has
received a warm welcome to this part
of the field, and expresses her great pleasure
at uniting with us in the work of the
Australasian Union. As mentioned last
week, she has come to connect with the
College as domestic science teacher. After
spending a night at the Sydney
Sanitarium Sister Walker proceeded to
Avondale, in company with Pastor and
Sister Wood, who met her boat in
Sydney.

General Meeting in the New Hebrides

OUR general meeting has come and
gone. It all seemed like a dream as it
came and went so quickly. We had
expected a Union Conference representa-
tive, but were disappointed, and were
left to ourselves and God. The old
adage, "Man's extremity is God's opportunity,"
was verified in our time of need,
and God did not fail us.

In addition to the believers of Atchin,
we had fifty of our native representatives
present. Among these were the Big
Nambus chief, Malun Vavau, and four of
his men. The Spirit of God took
direction of our meeting, and our hearts
grew very soft as the work of the council
continued. Both European and natives
felt that they were well repaid for their

efforts to come. Our youth and women
had special meetings each day. The big
Nambus chief and his men were favour-
ably impressed by the services and
associations.

At the end of the first day they wanted
us to take them back to their town,
as they felt (in the words of a close friend
of theirs) that if they stayed they would
get under the influence, and that if they
killed pigs and carried on any of their
heathen rites after they returned to their
people God would destroy them. How-
ever, they stayed until a day after the
meeting closed, and were very much
softened. From all appearances now, it
seems that it will not be long before they
will ask us to locate a missionary among
them. When this request is made we
want to have all our arrangements made
so that we can step in without a
moment's delay.

The reports from our Ambrim and
Big Bay districts were most encouraging,
and show a large number won direct
from heathenism. Brother and Sister
Smith gave a very encouraging report
from Tomniel and from some of the
bush people back of them. We have a
great deal to encourage us to press the
battle to the gates of Satan's kingdom
here. We each want the Caleb and
Joshua faith,—We are well able to go
and possess the land. What has been
accomplished has been received from
above, and we look for greater trans-
formations during this coming year.

Brother and Sister James have returned
to the Big Bay district, and Brother and
Sister Nicholson to the Ambrim district.
Next week Brother and Sister Smith will
return to the Tomniel. All feel that God
has called them to their respective
districts, and that He will do great things
for them and through them. We as
workers in this mission are to meet at
midday in our different districts to pray
for one another and for the work and
individual cases. United prayer will
cause the devil and his evil host to
tremble, for Satan fears the weakest saint
upon his knees. Our greatest victories,
we are told, for the cause of Christ, are not
by laboured argument but in the audience
chamber of God. May we be found
oftener there.

With Paul let us all thank God and
take courage, for the battle is not ours,
but God's. With Christ in us, Satan is a
conquered foe. Then we, as the little
girl, can send Jesus to the door at every
knock of Satan, and the devil will say, "I
beg your pardon, I have called at the
wrong door."

C. H. PARKER.

En Route to New Guinea

ON May 24 we said good-bye to a group
of friends who gathered on the Fremantle
wharf to bid us farewell and God-speed as
we began our long journey to New
Guinea. We felt sad, as our boat moved
out to sea, at the thought of leaving the
people whom we had learned to love.
We should have been happy to remain in
West Australia, but the Lord had called
us to a new field of labour and we felt
we must answer the call, cost what it
may.

A pleasant time was spent in Adelaide

during our short stay there, as we visited
relatives and friends; but all too soon
the time came for us to bid farewell to
those near and dear to us by the ties of
nature, and it made us long for the time
to come when there will be no more
partings.

During our stay in Adelaide, I was in-
vited to occupy the pulpit in the Mary-
lands Methodist church on two different
occasions. This I did, and the people
seemed to appreciate the message given.

A very busy week was spent in Sydney
in making our final purchases, and we
much appreciated the help the Union
brethren gave us, especially Pastor H. C.
White, who willingly gave us his un-
divided attention. Pastor White has a
very deep interest in New Guinea and its
peoples, because he has been there and
knows their great need.

On July 1 we said good-bye once again
to the brethren and sisters who came
down to see us off, as we boarded the
Marinda for the last stage of our long
journey. When we arrived at Brisbane
we were met by the president and young
people's secretary, who did what they
could to make our short visit a pleasant
one. A large number of picture rolls
were sent down to the boat by the North
Brisbane church to be used in teaching
the natives about the Saviour, and for
these we thank the members of this
church, also the members of the Kensing-
ton church in South Australia for a
similar gift.

We are now nearing Cairns, where we
expect to meet some of the brethren from
Monamona. Then we shall bid a final
farewell to Australia, and turn our eyes
toward Papua. We expect to arrive at
Port Moresby on July 9. Brother Pea-
cock has sent word that he will meet and
escort us up to Bisiatabu, where we shall
remain until preparations are made for
our slow journey up to Efogi.

Several of the passengers are ac-
quainted with our mission at Bisiatabu,
and among others is a Mr. Humphries,
R.M., who has been through much of the
country and has written a book, "Patrol-
ling Papua," which is well worth reading.

We have some very real difficulties in
front of us, some that seem almost insur-
mountable, but we know that with God
all things are possible, and we are going
forward in His strength, knowing by
past experience that He will not fail us.

We ask an interest in the prayers of God's
people as we enter upon our work. We
know that there are many in the home-
land who are following us with more than
ordinary interest, and it is a source of
encouragement to us to know that we are
continually being upheld before the
throne of grace. We promise in return
that we will keep our people well
informed concerning our efforts in this
dark land. We shall be pleased to hear
from any of our people, and will
endeavour to answer all letters. Our ad-
dress for the present will be S.D.A.
Mission, Bisiatabu, Port Moresby, New
Guinea.

We have received nothing but kindness
all along the way, and we take this opportunity
of thanking all for what they have
done. We pray that the Lord will continue
to add His blessing both in the
homeland and in the mission fields.

W. N. AND M. E. LOCK.