

BRITISH ADVENT MESSIENGER

Organ of the British Union
Conference of Seventh-Day
Adventists

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Thoughts on Reverence

A CERTAIN Hebrew word sometimes translated "reverence," is found several hundred times and applied to many things in the Old Testament. In its more than 350 occurrences, over 240 embody the thought of "fear." Another seventy-six times it is rendered by a word meaning "to be afraid of." Twenty-four times it is translated by the word "terrible." Another word means "to bow down self."

In the New Testament three words are apposite to our purpose. One embodies the thought of "modesty, decency, shamefacedness"; another means "to be terrified," "affrighted"; and the third, with derivatives, includes the meanings "shame," "regard," and is several times translated "reverence," and comprises the idea of "turning to."

Dictionary definitions of the word and its cognates embody these thoughts. *Reverence* is described (*The King's English Dictionary*) as "veneration; fear mingled with respect and esteem"; *reverent* as "expressing reverence, veneration, or submission"; and *revere* as "to adore, to regard with fear mingled with respect."

All the above thoughts find a fitting summation in three out of many misunderstood scriptures. Firstly, when the apostle said, "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (Heb. 10:31), he was not expressing a craven, physical fear of the Almighty. Rather he was setting

Paper read at the Winter Council of the
Northern European Division

By H. W. LOWE

forth a correct conception of the omnipotence of the Godhead and the frailty of man, and this produced extreme reverence in the man's soul. Secondly, the psalmist was far ahead of our modern, softly sentimental conceptions of God, when he said, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." (Psa. 111:10.) Thirdly, when we gather all the above meanings of true reverence together, and couple them with the love of God in Christ Jesus, the mind and heart utter the profound cry, "Holy and reverend is His name." (Psa. 111:9.)

THE BASIS OF REVERENCE IS A TRUE
CONCEPTION OF THE DEITY

We cannot conceive the infinite power and wisdom of God without an overburdening sense of human frailty, of fearfulness, and of adoring submission. The source of true reverence is thus described in *Prophets and Kings*, page 48.

"True reverence for God is inspired by a sense of His infinite greatness and realization of His presence. With this sense of the Unseen, every heart should be deeply impressed."

We seem to have made the name of God commonplace to our people. We talk of sacred things, includ-

ing the Deity, the Holy Ghost, the truth, almost as though we Adventists claimed proprietary rights. Quite often we hear references to the Holy Spirit suggesting that we possess "it," rather than His possessing us. It is small wonder, therefore, that "there are those who conduct themselves in His house as they would not presume to do in the audience chamber of an earthly ruler. These should remember that they are in His sight whom seraphim adore, before whom angels veil their faces."—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, page 238 (old edition). We all need to recall and put into practice the two following sentences on the use of God's name: "Never should that name be spoken lightly or thoughtlessly. Even in prayer its thoughtless or needless repetition should be avoided."—*Education*, page 243.

TRUE REVERENCE IS A GRACE, NOT
MERELY A FEELING DEPENDENT ON
ENVIRONMENT

If we were deeply impressed and possessed by a consciousness of the Unseen Presence, it follows that reverence is not a feeling produced by physical environment. It is an attitude produced by the soul's innermost experience. Whether we are in a house of worship or in the city's din, we should always be reverent in thought, life, and in outward attitude to things that are sacred.

Reverence is a grace given of

God to those who love Him. At least twice this is stated in Sister White's writings:

"Reverence . . . is a grace that should be carefully cherished."—*"Prophets and Kings,"* page 236.
 "Another precious grace that should be carefully cherished is reverence."—*"Education,"* page 243.

The apostle says in Hebrews 12: 28: "Let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear."

From these thoughts it follows that, like all other graces, reverence in its highest sense can only come to us through the Holy Spirit. It is a question of heart condition, not merely of outward behaviour.

REVERENCE IN GOD'S DWELLING PLACE

We have been told (*Testimonies*, Vol. 5, page 491), "To the humble, believing soul, the house of God on earth is the gate of heaven." We seem to-day to be a long way behind the patriarch whose sense of God's presence led him to exclaim of a much less pretentious place than a church building, "The Lord is in this place: . . . this is none other but the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven"! Gen. 28:16, 17.

Reverence in church is a variable quantity in different countries, but in all our churches everywhere there is a great need for less "common talking, whispering and laughing" before, during, and after the service. See *"Testimonies,"* Vol. 5, pages 491, 492.

There could often be a great improvement in such matters as the general cleanliness of the church and its surroundings, the display of distasteful and cheap charts and signs, the irreverent and noisy transaction of business matters, the behaviour of our children, the annoying habit of running to and from the platform with verbal or written messages during the service, etc.

A spirit bordering on the irreverent is induced also by the boisterous and indecorous song services one sometimes meets. Once

in a while we meet a church whose interior decorations are so atrocious that a sense of divine presence is hard to preserve.

The spirit in which we assemble in church must be so humble, loving, and worshipful that our whole outward conduct in the house of God is moulded thereby. Not a simulated piety before the brethren, but habitual and loving awe before God should be the source of our behaviour at all times.

RULES FOR REVERENT WORSHIP

The Spirit of prophecy is replete with positive suggestions which, if followed, would transform many church services almost beyond belief.

"There should be rules in regard to the *time*, the *place*, and the *manner* of worshipping."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 5, page 491. This statement would indicate the necessity for punctuality in beginning and ending services. It is not much good having a rule for beginning if there is none for closing—the coat-tail method is certainly not good enough for the tail end of the service! Some of our elder brethren are sometimes the worst offenders in this respect.

A rule as to the place of worship suggests (a) that caretaker, deacons, and deaconesses have all done their previous part to have the place in spotless and orderly arrangement, (b) that the preacher has been in early to cast a final eye over everything—for, say what we will, on the pastor rests final responsibility for these things.

Rules as to manner of worship will not mean lack of variation and life in our services, but that choosing of hymns, practising of musical items, selection of Scripture reading, detailed composition of the general programme shall all be done before the appointed hour of service; that hymns shall generally be sung standing, prayers should be generally offered while the congregation kneels, etc.

Other aids to reverence in God's house as mentioned in the Spirit of prophecy include:

1. Entering and leaving the

meeting-place with decorum and passing quietly to the seats.

2. The habit of silent prayer and meditation before the meeting begins.

3. Not crowding the aisles at the close.

4. The custom on the preacher's part of bowing in prayer before beginning the service, this act being accompanied similarly by the congregation.

5. A suggestion not often practised, except in certain countries, namely that of praying silently at the close of the service. Here are the words, found in *Testimonies*, Vol. 5, page 494, "When the benediction is pronounced, all should still be quiet, as if fearful of losing the peace of Christ."

6. The use of God's name carefully and reverently in talk, in prayer, and in sermons.

7. The training of our children to respect the house of God, the ministers of God, the Word of God, the aged, etc. The behaviour of our children in some places is an appalling comment on the slackness, the lack of reverence for things sacred, and the absence of discipline in some of our homes.

8. Lastly, we are told in *Education*, pages 243, 244: "Above all, let the children be taught that true reverence is shown by obedience; . . . there is no other way of manifesting reverence so pleasing to Him as obedience to that which He has spoken."

One of the finest examples of true reverence is the attitude of Solomon at the beginning of his reign and at the dedication of the temple. Associated with his reverence, we are told (*Prophets and Kings*, pages 47, 48) was his distrust of self, his humility, and his "marked love of God."

The love of God is basic in our reverential attitude to God. Someone said long ago, "Reverence is . . . either an awful love, or a loving awe." However we may describe this diminishing attitude of reverence in life and church worship, we must pray that more and more it may come upon the whole body of Christ.

Have You Secured Your Copy of "Bible

Notes from the Union President

WILL the New Year come and go unnoticed by *you*? That is the usual thing with the unthinking throng. To them the passing of time, the approach of eternity, mean nothing. It must not be so with those of us who know the times and their meaning!

The accomplishments of 1938 are the causes of our rejoicing in God during 1939. The mistakes and failures of the old year must become the stepping-stones to victory in the new.

As for causes for joy, let us here thank God:

1. For manifest blessing upon laity, colporteurs, preachers, Bible-workers, institutional employees, during another year in these uncertain times.

2. For liberty in our land, when in many other lands this priceless heritage is rapidly being restricted.

3. For the evidence, from our yet incomplete reports,

(a) That our Harvest Ingathering Campaign for missions seems likely once more to have been a great success,

(b) That our tithe income appears likely to be of record proportions,

(c) That our literature ministry has had a greatly enlarged success, whereby the light must come to thousands of unwarned homes,

(d) That our work all over the earth, despite problems and persecutions, is still onward,

(e) That a goodly number of souls has been won to the blessed truth through the preaching of the Word by our evangelistic forces in these islands.

4. For the success and blessing which have come to our institutions.

More specific information on all these things will be published when the reports of 1938 are complete. But for now, let us raise a grateful, joyful prayer to God for His goodness and blessing. Let us renew our devotion and our determination to be more loyal and fruitful in our service for God during 1939. H. W. LOWE.

Harvest Ingathering at Newbold

As we review the work of the past term it is with profound gratitude that we acknowledge God's goodness to us. Never has another world conflict seemed so imminent as during the recent crisis, and yet by His grace this has been averted and we have been enabled to reach the half-way mark in another school year.

How earnestly we were led to seek the Lord for guidance and help in the trouble which seemed about to engulf us. Doubtless it was the spirit engendered by this close communion that enabled us to go forward with our Harvest Ingathering activities as if nothing had happened to disturb the normal tranquillity of the public mind. It is

certain that in no section of our work so far this year have we been more signally blessed. Surely it needs no further evidence than the attainment of our goal of £500 to show that God is all-powerful to help, however discouraging the outlook may be.

The number of workers available was considerably smaller than that of last year. Rain came to damp our ardour as well as our clothes, and it was found necessary to postpone the last day's work because of this. But in spite of these handicaps we emerged from the fight feeling that the results had more than justified the effort put forth and the slight discomforts endured.

The unremitting toil and experienced leadership of Brother H. T. Johnson has been a factor contributing greatly to the success of the campaign. Few realize how much depends upon the careful organization of such a large-scale endeavour, and we were indeed fortunate to have in addition the help of Pastor F. W. Goodall, Brother B. E. Sparrow, and Pastor W. Till, who worked long and late to complete the numerous details involved.

The general spirit of happiness and enthusiasm pervading the work was the chief feature in a most enjoyable three days. Anyone visiting the College at 8 a.m. on Sunday, October 2nd, would have realized that something out of the ordinary was happening. There in the enclosure at the front of the building were three large omnibuses, into which were climbing excited and yet orderly bands of students under the supervision of the faculty members responsible for the leadership of the different parties. Everyone was armed with a canister, a supply of literature, a packet of lunch, and most important of all, a happy smile! Surely that smile, coming from the joy of engaging in a little service for the Master, worked wonders with the people and brought a response that thrilled our hearts. What did the weather matter!

A number of inspiring incidents helped us in our work. An interested lady asked one of the young men inside, and learning the full nature of his work, inquired as to the usual amount of donation. She was informed that half a crown would be considered a fair average gift, but having no change, the lady asked if he would accept a cheque. Imagine the astonishment and elation of our student on being handed a cheque for £5! Experiences of equal interest were enjoyed by many.

The return was perhaps the most exciting event of the day. Special tables were drawn up in the entrance hall, where very soon the scene made one think of a town bank on market day. Certainly no

Certainties" ? See Special Offer, page 7

bank staff could have been kept busier than those who laboured to satisfy the eager curiosity of the collectors, many of whom quite forgot their hunger in their keen desire to know the extent of their success and were even willing to go out again in the evening—noble souls!

It was encouraging to hear several young people testify at the special evening worship hour to God's providential leadings. Many

were eager to express their gratitude to God for having granted them the experience whereby their faith had been strengthened, and their determination to serve Him renewed. We earnestly pray that the seed sown, both through the spoken word and the literature distributed, may bring forth fruit; that some interest may be aroused as the result of the many hundreds of homes visited.

A. W. HOWARD.

ter fit themselves to share in soul-winning service? Surely we can! So friends, take advantage of these conventions and of the classes formed in your local church, and pray that the Lord may use everything and everybody connected with this work to His glory and the extension of His kingdom.

We wish Brother Babienco could attend all our meetings, for he has had a most successful career as an evangelist both in Europe and Canada, and his ministry should be very helpful. We appreciate, too, the proposed visit of our Union president in the interests of this work—one that he has very much on his heart. The same applies to Pastor Goodall, the inspiring leader of all this lay-effort, a work in which he greatly revels. May the ministry of these brethren be richly blessed among us.

WE hope that three more efforts will be launched in Wales during the present month to join those now proceeding under the ministry of Brethren T. H. Cooper and D. Conroy. Please continue to pray for these northern campaigns.

MISS MAHON has now taken leave of the Welsh Mission and joined the staff of the South England Conference. Her work has been much appreciated during the three years she has served the Welsh Mission, and we shall follow her future work with prayerful interest. Miss Mahon has done great things in the Ingathering work of 1938. Being given special time for the purpose, she was enabled to raise much more than the £100 goal she originally set for herself. Congratulations and many thanks!

SOON we are to welcome to Wales Miss Doris Fraser, recently returned from West Africa, an old friend and convert of one of our Hove campaigns. She will be associated with us in the Bible-work.

MAY we thank all those officers who faithfully served the churches during the year now passed for their loyal service and co-opera-

WELSH MISSION

Superintendent: Pastor S. George Hyde
Office Address: "Ventnor," Ty-glas Road, Llanishen, Cardiff
Telephone: Llanishen 600

Notes from the Superintendent

A HAPPY and blessed New Year to all our friends within the confines of our Welsh Mission territory, as well as to an ever-widening circle of friends elsewhere!

PROGNOSTICATORS have been busy painting black pictures of 1939. Whether their fears are justified matters little to God's children. The great thing is that we maintain our vows of consecration and faithfulness, keep near to the Lord, and, through each day of the year, remember to be "instant in season and out of season" for truth and righteousness. Let us not hesitate to make such a "New Year's resolution," not forgetting to ask for the enabling power to make it effective.

SINCE writing the last "Notes," Pastor Munson has undergone a successful surgical operation in the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport. He is making excellent progress, the Lord having heard the many prayers of His praying people. May our brother enjoy much better health in the days to come.

IN the interests of the Bible Service Training Course, arrangements have been made to give Wales five special week-ends with a special visitor for each. The suggested plan is as follows:

January 7th. Convention at Cardiff, to include Barry and Caerphilly. *Visitor:* Pastor T. T. Babienco of the Northern European Division.

January 14th. Convention at Aberdare, to include Merthyr, Ystrad, and Porth. *Visitor:* Pastor T. T. Babienco.

January 21st. Convention at Newport, to include Blaenavon, Risca, and Abertillery. *Visitor:* Pastor F. W. Goodall.

February 4th. Convention at Swansea, to include Llanelly and Port Talbot. *Visitor:* Pastor H. W. Lowe. (Please note that services will be held morning and afternoon in each case.)

February 11th. Hereford (a.m.); Shrewsbury (p.m.). *Visitor:* Pastor F. W. Goodall.

February 12th. Rhos (afternoon); Rhyl (evening). *Visitor:* Pastor F. W. Goodall.

We hope that this generous plan will impress our people with what earnestness we are embarking upon this training course. Is not one of our most urgent needs a larger number of trained soul-winners? This course is to help meet that need. Surely we have entered upon a time when the Spirit of the Lord is to use His humble people in the great task of leading men and women to Christ and into the fullness of His truth. But we must have a desire to be so used and must be in earnest.

Can we find 100 such earnest members who will with zest and zeal take this course and thus bet-

Do Not Delay—Order "Bible

tion! Some of you may have been asked to serve in some capacity this year. To you, and the new officers who may have been called, we offer a warm welcome into the business circles of the church. May your term of service be blessed both to yourself and the church. Let us remember that the Lord is our Master and we are His stewards. Let us give of

our best and seek to glorify the office we have been given that, when the time comes, we may pass it on to another as an office enhanced. Let the spirit of the Master ever pervade and control all our deliberations. Yes, let this New Year be *new* in more ways than one, characterized by spiritual progress individually and collectively.

S. GEORGE HYDE.

during the week to carry out the instruction given them on the Sabbath. So long as churchmembers make no effort to give to others the help given them, great spiritual feebleness must result.

"... If nine-tenths of the effort that has been put forth for those who know the truth had been put forth for those who have never heard the truth, how much greater would have been the advancement made! God has withheld His blessings because His people have not worked in harmony with His directions."—*Vol. 7, pages 18, 19.*

"When the people of God engage in this work with real travail of soul, there will be manifest a decided change in cities and villages. This hovering about churches to keep them propped up, makes them more dependent on human effort. They learn to lean on the experiences of their fellowmen, and do not make God their dependence and their efficiency."—*"Testimonies to Ministers," page 231.*

"Instead of our ministering brethren labouring among the churches, God designs that we should spread abroad, and our missionary labour be extended over as much ground as we can possibly occupy to advantage, going in every direction to raise up new companies. We should ever leave upon the minds of new disciples an impression of the importance of our mission. As able men are converted to the truth, they should not require labourers to keep their flagging faith alive; but these men should be impressed with the necessity of labouring in the vineyard. As long as churches rely upon labourers from abroad to strengthen and encourage their faith, they will not become strong in themselves. They should be instructed that their strength will increase in proportion to their personal efforts. The more closely the New Testament plan is followed in missionary labour, the more successful will be the efforts put forth."—*Vol. 3, page 210.*

"Are there not Seventh-Day Adventists who will do likewise?"

SCOTTISH MISSION

Superintendent: Pastor J. McMillan.

Address: 1 Corstorphine Hill Avenue, Corstorphine, Edinburgh.

Telephone: Corstorphine 85309.

Notes from the Superintendent

OUR church services in Edinburgh have been changed from Shandwick Place to 16 Greenside Place, Leith Walk. This hall offers us more ample accommodation and is considerably nearer to the street than the "upper room" eighty stairs up, where we formerly met. To all visitors we extend a very cordial welcome to the church meetings.

BROTHER WILMSHURST has begun his second effort in the town of Greenock. There were over 350 at the first meeting, and a good interest prevails. We ask that our people carry this and the other efforts on their hearts and keep them before the Lord. The other efforts begin soon. Let us pray for the power of the Holy Spirit and the winning of many souls.

J. A. McMILLAN.

The Church and Its Ministry

Counsel from the Testimonies to our churchmembers presented at the Winter Council of the Northern European Division

"I AM instructed to point our ministers to the unworked cities, and to urge them by every possible means to open the way for the presentation of the truth. In some of the cities where the message of the second coming of the Lord was first given, we are compelled to take up the work as if it were a new field. How much longer will these barren fields, these unworked cities, be passed by? Without delay, the sowing of the seed should begin in many, many places."—*Vol. 9, page 123.*

"Our ministers are not to spend their time labouring for those who have already accepted the truth. With Christ's love burning in their hearts, they are to go forth to win sinners to the Saviour. Beside all

waters they are to sow the seeds of truth. Place after place is to be visited; church after church is to be raised up. Those who take their stand for the truth are to be organized into churches, and then the minister is to pass on to other equally important fields."—*Vol. 7, pages 19, 20.*

"It weakens those who know the truth for our ministers to expend on them the time and talent that should be given to the unconverted. In many of our churches in the cities the minister preaches Sabbath after Sabbath, and Sabbath after Sabbath the churchmembers come to the house of God with no words to tell of blessings received because of blessings imparted. They have not worked

"Certainties" to-day. See page 7

Instead of keeping ministers at work for the churches that already know the truth, let the members of the churches say to these labourers: 'Go work for souls that are perishing in darkness. We ourselves will carry forward the services of the church. We will keep up the meetings, and, by abiding in Christ, will maintain spiritual life. We will work for souls that are about us, and we will send our prayers and our gifts to sustain the labourers in more needy and destitute fields.'—*Vol. 6, pages 29, 30.* ("Christian Service," page 171.)

"In every church there is talent, which, with the right kind of labour, might be developed to become a great help in this work. That which is needed now for the upbuilding of our churches is the nice work of wise labourers to discern and develop talent in the church—talent that can be educated for the Master's use. . . . It is training, education, that is needed. Those who labour in visiting the churches should give the brethren and sisters instruction in practical methods of doing missionary work."—*Vol. 9, page 117.*

"The greatest help that can be given to our people is to teach them to work for God, and to depend on Him, not on the ministers."—*Vol. 7, page 19.*

"Those who have the spiritual oversight of the church should devise ways and means by which an opportunity may be given to every member of the church to act some part in God's work. Too often in the past this has not been done. Plans have not been clearly laid and fully carried out, whereby the talents of all might be employed in active service. There are but few who realize how much has been lost because of this."—*Vol. 9, page 116.*

"In every church the members should be so trained that they will devote time to the winning of souls to Christ. How can it be said of the church, 'Ye are the light of the world,' unless the members of the church are actually imparting light? Let those who have charge of the flock of Christ awake to their duty, and set many souls to work."—*Vol. 6, page 436.*

ANNUAL LEGAL MEETINGS

The Stanborough Press Ltd. Forty-Fifth Annual General Meeting

NOTICE is hereby given that the Forty-Fifth Ordinary Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of The Stanborough Press Limited will be held in the offices of the British Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists at Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts., on Wednesday, February 1, 1939, at 2.30 p.m.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, A. WARREN, *Secretary.*

British Advent Missions Ltd. Thirty-Fourth Annual General Meeting

NOTICE is hereby given that the Thirty-Fourth Annual General Meeting of British Advent Missions Limited will be held on Wednesday, February 1, 1939, at 10 a.m., at the offices of the British Union Confer-

ence, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, A. CAREY, *Secretary.*

The Stanboroughs Hydro Thirty-Sixth Annual General Meeting

NOTICE is hereby given that the Thirty-Sixth Annual General Meeting of the Constituency of the Good Health Association Limited will be held on Wednesday, February 1, 1939, at 4 p.m. in the offices of the British Union Conference, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, A. H. THOMPSON, *Secretary.*

Granose Foods Ltd. Forty-First Annual General Meeting

NOTICE is hereby given that the Forty-First Annual General Meeting of Granose Foods Ltd. will be held on Wednesday, February 1, 1939, at 11.30 a.m. in the offices of the British Union Conference, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, JOHN RIGBY, *Secretary.*

Field Missionary Department

Secretaries:

Union	...	...	...	...	G. D. King
South England	...	...	...	...	A. W. Cook
North England	...	...	...	...	B. Belton

Launching Bible Certainties

THE launching of a new book is a thrilling experience, quite as thrilling, and surely equally as important as the launching of a new ship. Before either a ship or a book can be sent on its voyaging considerable work "behind the scenes" must be accomplished. However, neither space nor time will permit the story of those months of exciting and exacting toil to be told here. Needless to say the author and production manager were both radiantly happy when the first copy of the unique book, *Bible Certainties*, was placed in the hands of the Union field missionary secretary.

That happy event took place on Friday, December 2nd. Copies were also sent to the two local field missionary secretaries, Brethren B. Belton and A. W. Cook. On Sunday, December 4th, we journeyed to Peterborough confident that we had a product full of the Advent message, but with "selling" possibilities as yet unknown and untried.

It was our plan and purpose to

"carve out" a "selling talk" by personal experience "on the knocker," taking the territory from "door to door." However good a product may be, unless its selling possibilities are tried and tested, and its points of appeal suitably demonstrated, its voyage is likely to be slow and short.

Arriving at Peterborough, Brother Belton was found to be studiously considering a suitable "Approach" and "Introduction." Monday morning, December 5th, found us making the first call, and to our great joy the first order for *Bible Certainties* was secured! This surely was a real omen of God's blessing, and now the task of building and improving the "selling talk" was before us. It is almost impossible to describe the real adventure there was in inventing and testing suitable selling sentences in the laboratory of actual experience. That the Lord was directing our steps and guiding our minds we had ample evidence. Orders were secured in houses that were large and in houses that were small and humble. A veterinary

surgeon actually kept his clients outside in the cold one night while he listened to the demonstration and eventually ordered and paid for his copy. In one home an isolated Irishman, a loyal Protestant from Limerick, requested us to pray for his sick brother, and also ordered a book and paid a substantial deposit.

By the time Brother Cook arrived on Wednesday the "selling talk" was nearing completion. He had the privilege of listening to six exhibitions the first hour he was in Peterborough, and of seeing three good orders secured. In the afternoon he himself "tried it out," and had the great joy of taking two orders in the first hour. Altogether it was well worth while. Actually, in about twelve hours "on the knocker," approximately £10 worth of orders were secured.

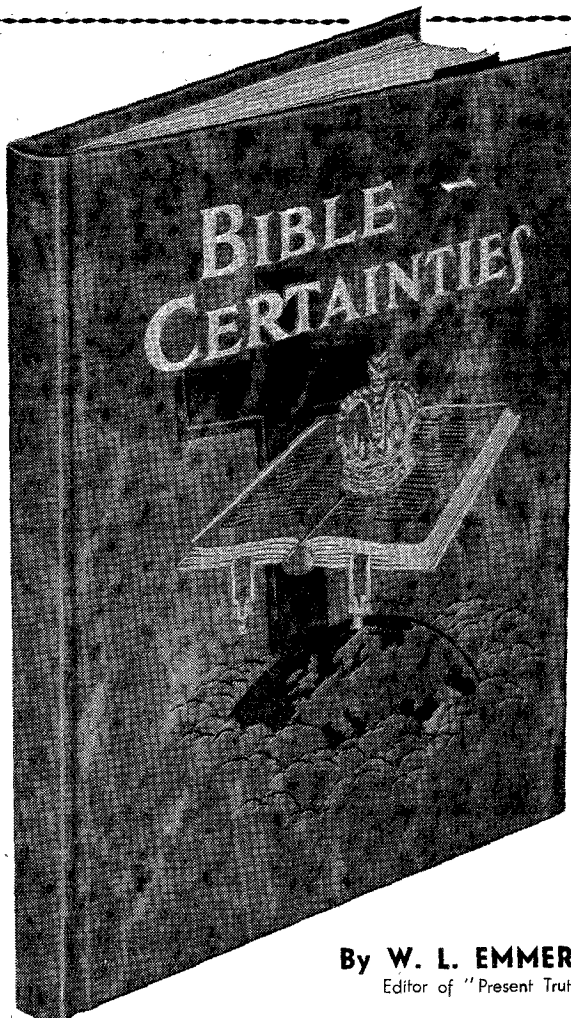
To-day people are ready to listen, at least for a few moments, to people who call "in connection with one of the most hopeful features of our time." Hungry souls and weary minds are looking for "the hope and security" so much needed to-day, and our colporteurs who carry *Bible Certainties* are ambassadors who supply that need.

At the recent Colporteurs' Conference, just concluded at Stanborough Park, *Bible Certainties* was placed in the hands of our colporteurs along with the "Tested Selling Talk" carved out of experience during the few days in Peterborough. They now go forth into 1939 carrying a message-filled book, full of courage, confidence, and assurance that this year will be one of the best in our publishing history.

By the way, if you have not yet secured a copy of *Bible Certainties*, you should do so immediately, for "every page speaks a message of hope, comfort, and sustaining strength." G. D. KING.



RELIGION is love. A good creed is well; but doctrines which do not become life of gentleness in character and disposition, in speech and in conduct, are no fruitful doctrines. . . . The final object of all Christian life and worship is to make us more like Christ, and Christ is love.—*J. R. Miller.*



By **W. L. EMMERSON**
Editor of "Present Truth"

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A Message to Our People

FROM THE WINTER COUNCIL OF THE NORTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION

Watford, December 14 to 20, 1938

To our Brethren and Sisters throughout the Division:

FROM our Winter Council in Watford, England, we send you this word of fraternal greeting invoking upon you also the blessing of God which He is richly bestowing upon us here.

Once more we have rejoiced over your willingness and zeal in the Harvest Ingathering which has been rewarded with so early and full a measure of success. You encourage us greatly as we contemplate our tremendous task. With an omnipotent God and a willing people nothing is impossible.

You know our strong desire that advance steps might be taken in our African Missions for the better training of native evangelists. You will rejoice with us that the General Conference was able to appropriate £2,000 toward this development, and we are taking immediate steps to send the needed help to both East and West Africa.

Three of our missionaries have been with us at this council and have cheered us with their reports. We are determined to make a definite step forward at once to enter at least one of the waiting territories that we have been talking about in recent years.

We are joining with the brethren in North America in a definite campaign of Layman's Evangelistic Effort. They are setting a goal of 1,000 efforts during the coming year to be carried out by lay brethren. We in this Division are hoping to see at least 150 such efforts. More and more our hearts are turned to you. We are planning to provide the necessary instruction in all our churches and anticipate by the blessing of God that great results will follow this mighty world-wide campaign for extending the Gospel of the kingdom.

The signs of the times are more clear and startling than ever in their solemn warning that the end

of all things is at hand. As Brother M. N. Campbell on the Sabbath morning of our council led our minds once again over the Lord's parable of the ten virgins, the Spirit of God seemed to be impressing every heart that the time had already come when the midnight cry was being sounded, "Behold, the Bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet Him." We rededicated ourselves to the task and unitedly sought the Lord, the source of all spiritual power, that our vessels might be filled with oil, and we prayed for you that the message which stirred our own hearts might speak also to yours.

We have greatly enjoyed the help of Brethren M. N. Campbell and A. W. Peterson of the General Conference. The latter was on his way to the South African Division and spent a few days with us

which were full of helpful counsel, especially concerning the great work that is now being done by and for our youth.

May the rich blessing of the Lord be with you all in the churches. You and we are called to press together, to keep the unity of the faith and of the Spirit in the bond of peace, to stand firm against the wiles of the devil, to be steadfast and immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. Our labour is never in vain in the Lord. He whom we love and seek to serve will soon be revealed again in the clouds of heaven. It is our earnest hope and sincere prayer that you with us will be found watching and waiting when the Master returns.

Yours in the Blessed Hope,
NORTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION
COMMITTEE IN WINTER COUNCIL.

Wedding Bells

SHAW-DOBBS.—A pretty little wedding in the Rhondda, South Wales, on Christmas Day helped us forget temporarily the bleakness and drabness of that world-renowned valley. It was the occasion of the marriage of Miss Gwenllian Dobbs, youngest daughter of Brother and Sister Dobbs, and George Herbert Shaw, son of Brother and Sister Shaw, of Hampshire. The service, conducted by the writer, was held in the local Congregational church, kindly loaned by the minister.

There were four bridesmaids, including wee five-year-old Shirley, while the bridegroom was successfully supported by his brother Leslie, a graduate of Newbold. Both bride and bridegroom are members of the Advent family, and the wish expressed at the excellent reception held at the home of the bride—that this new union would bring blessing not alone to the happy pair but to the cause of God generally—surely will be re-echoed by all the members of the MESSENGER family.

S. GEORGE HYDE.

At Rest

PERRYMAN.—On October 20, 1938, the Tottenham company lost a highly esteemed member in Sister F. Perryman, who passed away at the age of seventy-five. From the time of uniting with the Advent movement during the ministry of Pastor R. Anderson,

Sister Perryman was known for her good works. Forgetful of self she was ever solicitous for the welfare of others. Many in the Tottenham district will long remember her kindly interest so frequently expressed in a practical way. Quietly and without ostentation she went about doing good. Our deepest sympathy goes out to sorrowing friends and relatives. We, with them, are not without hope, however, for we look forward to the reunion of the resurrection morn when partings will be no more.
R. T. BOLTON.

Advertisements

BROTHER just on Old-Age Pension would like light employment in return for board and lodging. Domestic or place of trust. Twenty years' experience with motors. Write: F. Mackfall, 14 Salters Gate Road, Darlington, Durham.

A TRAINED maternity nurse is willing to take duties of children's nurse, nurse companion, or housekeeper. Would consider any other work. Good at typewriting and shorthand. Write in first instance to Pastor D. Morrison, 65 Duthie Terrace, Mannofield, Aberdeen.

SUNSET CALENDAR

	Lon'n	Not'm	Car'ff	Edin	Bel't
Jan. 13th	4.16	4.13	4.29	4.06	4.25
Jan. 20th	4.27	4.24	4.40	4.19	4.38

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