

Columbia Union Visitor

Representing the Conferences of

Ohio, Potomac, East Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Chesapeake, West Pennsylvania, West Virginia

Vol. 50

Washington, D. C., February 22, 1945

No. 8

Army Literature Fund

By Chris P. Sorensen

THE number of requests from those in national service for the periodicals which we are offering from our young people through the Army Literature Fund have been increasing month by month. We are very grateful for this. First of all, we thank the Missionary Volunteer societies for their most hearty response financially; and secondly, we are pleased with the response from those in service toward our denominational literature.

We have just received the statement from the Review and Herald for the month of January, and our orders to them for the one month total a little over \$300. This sum represents individual subscriptions alone, and no club orders to camp pastors or missionary literature requests. At this rate we are expending for individual subscriptions more than \$3,600 yearly. Add to this the amount we expend from our Army Literature Fund for "Steps to Christ," servicemen's Morning Watch, clubs of periodicals for the camp pastors, and missionary literature.

Naturally we began to wonder how our receipts for last year compare to our present expenditures and so we went to our treasury department and discovered that there came in to the Union last year through the Army Literature Fund from the various conference groups the following:

Alleghany Conference	\$ 76.69
Chesapeake Conference	206.50
East Pennsylvania Conf.	543.80
New Jersey Conference	380.85
Ohio Conference	824.66
Potomac Conference	1565.19
West Pennsylvania Conf.	353.19
West Virginia Conference	62.50
Total	4040.78

We greatly appreciate your response to this offering, and thank all who had a part in making it possible. Rest assured that every

cent is being spent in the interest of denominational literature to those in the service. Our next offering through our Missionary Volunteer societies will come on March 31—the first fifth Sabbath this year. We shall have more to say regarding this offering between now and then.

Divining for Gold

DIVINING for gold—that's what I have been doing," said a man to his seatmate, as he traveled recently in a New Zealand train.

"Divining for gold?" queried the friend. "How do you do that?"

"With a special rod that I have," answered the first man. "I've been working in one or two of the rivers in the South Island, and there from all the stones, rocks, and rubbish I was able to detect the pure gold. It works all right. Look at this." From a handbag he produced a bottle containing a goodly measure of the gleaming gold.

The men continued their conversation, but my mind had caught another vision. I saw the Great Diviner at work, and heard Him say, "I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir." Isaiah 13:12.

What a wonderful process is this, that the Creator-God can take mortal clay, and separating the worthless dross, can make a man more precious than fine gold! What are the methods of this heavenly Diviner? and what is His rod? Does He use it to search for the hidden gold?

Yes, He uses a rod, for does He not say in Ezekiel, "I will cause you to pass under the rod"? Sometimes it is the heavy rod of sorrow and bereavement; sometimes the bitter rod of disappointment, of frustrated plans, and sometimes it is the trial and difficulty of heavy

burdens, reverses, accidents, afflictions, and financial loss.

The rod is very weighty at times, but there is always this to remember—it is the rod that searches out the gold, and therefore it is the rod of love. Does not the divine One say in Revelation, "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten"? and in 1 Peter 4:12, 13 we are strengthened in this thought when we read, "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: but rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy." What is His glory? Oh, precious thought, it is the gold of His own glorious character revealed in us!

Do you not see the gold shine out of the beloved Christ, when, sore afflicted and alone in that midnight Gethsemane of blood-stained agony, He could pray, "Nevertheless, not as I will, but as Thou wilt"?

The heavy trial is but the rod that searches out the gold, and a kind, loving Diviner has a benign purpose in allowing that very affliction to come. "For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory"—the pure gold.

To the child of God in the hour of sickness and suffering, his faith in a divine Helper has brought to his disease-racked frame a vitalizing power, a healing balm, a peace of mind and serenity of soul that, though he be suffering, will keep him tranquil and composed. This is the work of the great Searcher after pure gold. "He it is who allows the deep trials of affliction to go over the soul, in order that we may have deep heart-longings to be cleansed from every defilement and may come forth from the trial purer, holier, happier; and if patient under the crucial test, we shall come forth reflecting the divine character.

"It is in the crisis that character

is revealed. The sudden and unlooked-for calamity, something that brings the soul face to face with death, will show whether there is any real faith in the promises of God."

"To all who are reaching out to feel the guiding hand of God, that moment of greatest discouragement and trial is the time when divine help is nearest. Was it not so with Elijah in his darkest hour? It was then that the angel of God 'touched' him, so close was he. So with all who suffer. They will look back with thankfulness upon the darkest part of their way. From every temptation and trial He will bring them forth with firmer faith and a richer experience."

How searching was the heavy divining rod of God upon Job! But he endured the trial; and thank God we too, if faithful, can look up and say with Job, "He knoweth the way that I take: when He hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold."

Take heart then, sorrowing one, for "the Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; He will save, He will rejoice over thee with joy; He will silently plan for thee [literal translation], He will joy over thee with singing." Zephaniah 3:17. Because He knows the value of one redeemed soul and the preciousness of the pure gold.

MABEL V. WHITE

Preparing the Way With "Life and Health"

MISS HAZEL BRENT, magazine leader of the Potomac Conference, has written:

"There is no joy that the colporteur has as much as the joy he experiences in seeing souls saved as a result of his labors. While assisting one of the colporteurs here in _____, we called at the home of a lady who had just subscribed to *Life and Health*. She was very much impressed with the journal and gave us an order for 'Great Controversy.'

"One month later we called at the same home and found her looking for the name of our church as she said she was interested and would like to attend one of our churches. I invited her to go with me, and followed up the work with Bible studies. Today she is a Seventh-day Adventist.

"A lady in _____ bought a single copy of *Life and*

Health and lost it. A few weeks later we called to see her. She greeted us with a smile and said, 'I know the Lord sent you here today because I wanted to subscribe to *Life and Health* and did not know the address.'

"We then told her about *Watchman* and *Signs of the Times* and she said, 'I'll take both of them.' We also told her about 'Bible Readings' and she ordered the book.

"A few weeks later we called back at the same home and she



Hazel Brent in Center

asked us about paying tithe and keeping the Sabbath. On our next visit with her she said, 'I've decided to give the Lord His day.' Today she is rejoicing in this message."

Lillian Keenan of the Potomac Conference, who has sold more than 1,000 *Life and Health* subscriptions, says:



Lillian Keenan

"I met a lady who was an addict to the habit of using snuff. She has very poor health and does not seem to get any results from the different doctors she has gone to. I asked her if these doctors ever said anything to her about this habit. She said, 'No.' Then I explained to her how this could be the cause of her illness. She revealed to me how she has felt that this habit was a detriment to her health, but she could not seem to give it up. I appealed to her to seek the Lord for help, but she said she had tried that. She was very happy when I offered to have prayer with her, remembering her husband who is a drunkard. The needs of the people are many. Oh, that I may have the wisdom to know how to meet these needs and point these souls to Christ."

"The circulation of the health journals will be a powerful agency in preparing the people to accept those special truths that are to fit them for the soon coming of the Son of Man."—"Counsels on Health," p. 447.

"It should ever be kept before them that their work is not only to relieve physical suffering, but to minister to souls that are ready to perish. It is important that every one who is to act as a medical missionary be skilled in ministering to the soul as well as to the body. He is to be an imitator of Christ, presenting to the sick and suffering the preciousness of pure and undefiled religion. While doing all in his power to relieve physical distress and to preserve this mortal life, he should point to the mercy and the love of Jesus, the Great Physician."—"Counsels on Health," p. 507.

For further information see your Publishing Department Secretary.

COLUMBIA UNION VISITOR

Official Organ of the
Columbia Union Conference

900 Carroll Ave., Takoma Park 12, D. C.

F. H. ROBBINS PRESIDENT
C. H. KELLY SECRETARY
WARREN F. ADAMS EDITOR

Issued weekly, 52 times a year, by the Washington College Press. Price, seventy-five cents per year in advance.

Entered as second-class matter, November 10, 1941, at the post office at Washington, D. C., under the act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Address all subscriptions and make all payments to your Book and Bible House.

All copy for publication in the VISITOR should be submitted through the local conference in which the contributor resides or holds membership. Copy should be typewritten and double-spaced.

CHESAPEAKE

24 Fusting Ave., Catonsville 28, Md.
C. V. LEACH, Pres. N. C. VAN HORN, S.-T.
Make wills and legacies in favor of the
Chesapeake Conference Association of Seventh-
day Adventists.

Evangelistic Efforts—Salisbury, Maryland

THE evangelistic campaign in Salisbury, Maryland is now being enlarged so that it will take in many of the surrounding townships. A considerable percentage of the audience at the Salisbury lectures has been composed of people whose interest has been so great that they have traveled many miles to hear the word of God.

Owing to the fact that travel is curtailed in these days of war, many of the people have found it difficult to attend all the lectures. With this in view, the individual members of the evangelistic company are going to conduct lectures in many of the surrounding community centers. In addition to carrying on his work in Salisbury, Evangelist Dan Sherman Harris, director of the campaign, has already opened a second series of lectures in Harrington, Delaware and soon he will begin a series in Princess Ann, Maryland.

The writer will lecture in Parsonsburg, Maryland, and Mrs. Jessie Heslip will conduct a Bible institute in Fruitland, Maryland. Brother David G. Fleagle will lecture in Hebron, Maryland, and conduct Bible classes in Laurel, Delaware. Brother Ralph Dennison will lecture in Sharptown and Mardella Springs, Maryland and Delmar, Delaware. Brother Oliver L. Stimpson will soon depart for Pocomoke City, Maryland where he will devote his work to his church district, and prepare that field for eventual evangelistic work.

The evangelistic company is also heard over Station WBOC in Salisbury, Maryland every Monday through Thursday at 9:15 P.M. and on Sundays at 6:00 P.M. The program is called the "Word of Truth" and there are now 240 enrolled in the free Bible correspondence course.

The Lord is greatly blessing the Bible course work in that 185 of the enrollees are active students. Approximately 65 lessons are mailed out each week by the "Word

of Truth" Bible course supervisor, David G. Fleagle. There is a great interest being manifested by the people for the radio lectures which are given by Evangelist Harris.

Another feature of the Salisbury effort is "Silver Linings," a radio program of sacred song which is conducted by the writer, singing and accompanying himself at the organ. This program is heard Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings at 11:15 over Station WBOC in Salisbury. It is broadcast at the request of the studio management, and therefore, incurs no expense to the evangelistic company.

We of the "Word of Truth" Evangelistic Company earnestly solicit your prayers in the sincere hope and aspiration that God will richly bless our labors with many precious souls for His kingdom.

H. E. WALSH

POTOMAC

H. J. DETWILER, Pres. W. H. JONES, S.-T.
411 Cedar St., Takoma Park 12, D. C.

Make wills and legacies in favor of the
Potomac Conference Corporation of Seventh-day
Adventists.

Potomac Colporteur Institute

OUR colporteur institute this year was said to be one of the best ever held in the Potomac Conference. With an understanding of present world conditions, God's faithful followers everywhere feel the necessity of warning the people of the nearness of the end and the importance of preparing for that great event. More than 50 colporteurs attended the institute, held in the Review and Herald chapel, to learn the best methods in the sale of message-filled books and magazines in these closing days of the world's history.

Elder F. H. Robbins, President of the Columbia Union Conference, spoke at the opening meeting Sunday evening, January 14. He reminded us that "the canvassing work is a work of the highest order" and many will never hear the message unless it is brought to their homes. He related his own experience in accepting the truth through the efforts of a colporteur who sold a copy of "The Great Controversy" at his home.

We had other splendid speakers at our devotional and study hours, including L. H. Christian, C. B. Haynes, E. E. Franklin, S. L. Clark,

Mrs. Lloyd Holbert, J. D. Snider, D. A. Bailey, C. E. Palmer, J. M. Jackson, F. D. Nichol, N. S. Ashton, W. H. Atherly, E. S. Knecht, C. H. Spurgeon, C. F. Circle, and Hazel Brent.

The colporteurs had charge of the Sabbath morning service at the new Sligo Church. Elder Detwiler, President of the Potomac Conference, gave a soul-stirring message which inspired each listener to do more to hasten the Lord's soon return. A symposium was conducted by the Potomac colporteurs Friday night at the Takoma Park Church, Sabbath afternoon at the Sligo Church, and Sunday morning at the worship period of the Review and Herald.

One of the most important discussions during the institute was regarding the new edition of "Daniel and the Revelation" which has just come off the press. We feel that this is one of the finest books for the presentation of the message to the public, and many of our colporteurs in the Potomac Conference will be selling "Daniel and the Revelation" this year. There is a new interest in the plan of combining *Life and Health* with a religious book and selling it as a single proposition, thus presenting the doctrinal and health message at one time.

We believe that much has been gained from the meetings held during the week of the institute, and the colporteurs were of good courage, looking forward to a new year of soul winning in the Master's vineyard.

ELLEN SHANKO

News Notes

THE Mt. Pleasant Sabbath School is very proud of the long perfect record of one of its members. Mrs. Jean Pleasants received her 25-year ribbon in the fourth quarter of 1944.

The Sabbath schools of the Potomac Conference have made another grand record in missions giving for the fourth quarter of 1944. For years these Sabbath schools enabled the Conference to be a pennant conference. Out of the 60 Sabbath schools, 43 had a per capita average of 30 cents or more. Seven of these are in the "super" class with 40 cents or more per capita, and 19 are in the "star" class with 50 cents or more per capita. The "star" group is as follows:

School	Weekly Per Capita
Wheaton	\$.84
Hillandale	.83
Alexandria	.76
Ford	.75
Pennsylvania Avenue	.73
Arlington	.71
Danville	.69
Wytheville	.65
Portsmouth	.65
Oak Ridge	.61
Sanitarium	.59
Gordonsville C.	.57
Hyattsville	.56
Norfolk C.	.55
Ilda	.54
Leesburg	.52
Comus	.51
Staunton	.51
Mt. Pleasant	.51

EAST PENNSYLVANIA

L. H. KING, Pres. W. F. MILLER, S.-T.
1300 W. Hunting Park Ave., Philadelphia 40, Pa.

Make wills and legacies in favor of the East Pennsylvania Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists, Inc.

A Good Record

Schools of Distinction

Forty-six Sabbath school secretaries were prompt and complete in their reporting for the last quarter of 1945. This is greatly appreciated. It has been the faithfulness of Sabbath school secretaries during past years that has made possible a record of complete reporting with the General Conference for a period of 21 years and one quarter without a break. This has meant that every Sabbath school reported; not one secretary failed. What a challenge for the future!

Our honor roll for the fourth quarter of 1944 lists the following schools reaching Grade A, having attained to the three major goals of the General Conference Sabbath School Department—membership, daily lesson study, and at least 30 cents a week per church member, or a 10-per-cent gain:

Ariel	Orvilla
Bethlehem	Phila. German
Carlisle	Pottsville
Chester	Scranton
Fleetwood	Telford
Gettysburg	Wade
Hanover	Wellsboro
Harrisburg No. 1	Wilkes-Barre
Hatboro	York
Honesdale	Zionsville
Lynport	

Sabbath schools that lead in the various lines of endeavor are:

Reading, with 200 per cent perfect membership.

Carlisle with 150 per cent daily lesson study.

Ariel with \$1.14 per capita in missions.

Ariel with a per capita of \$14.04 in the Thirteenth Sabbath offering.

Wilkes-Barre with the largest birthday offering.

The largest Investment Offering came from North Philadelphia.

Northumberland had the highest Investment per capita.

Harrisburg is maintaining the strongest, most active home division.

The year 1944 in every way was a banner year in the Sabbath schools of our conference. The blessings of God upon strong, consecrated leadership, and a faithful, devoted people comprising the membership of our 59 schools, have made possible every achievement and whatever success has been attained. As the new year progresses, we move forward with the realization that heaven waits to bestow even greater blessings as we consecrate our talent, our time, our all, to the Master's service.

SYBIL M. KING

Conference Missionary Volunteer and Sabbath School Secretary

We Planned—the Lord Brought It to Pass

God's hand was surely in our 1944 Investment plans. The same can be said of each year since the plan was inaugurated, but 1944 will stand out as the peak year since 1925. That year our combined effort amounted to \$178.63. During the succeeding years we have been growing, and adding thousands of dollars to this very worthy enterprise.

When we started our Investment project for 1944, a goal of \$8,000 was set for the schools of our conference. The General Conference or Union had not set a goal for us; we did it of our own volition, believing that every Sabbath school member would rally to make possible the largest Investment in our history. When the final figures were in, we learned that a total of \$8,400.63 had been reached and that 53 of our 57 schools participated.

It would take volumes to give the many providential leadings and blessings in the experiences of those who entered the plan and

gave God the opportunity of fulfilling His promises to those who will devote time and effort in making possible larger offerings to spread quickly the third angel's message.

The year 1945 is another year with a challenge to do even greater things for God. Opportunities are greater, and possibilities are more sure if God's people will enter into partnership with heavenly agencies during these most favorable times.

Dear believer, as you read this, will you accept the challenge? Perhaps a portion of your garden, a fruit tree, eggs laid on the Sabbath, the sale of some of our truth-filled literature, or one of the hundreds of ways to raise funds lies within your power, and if added to the 1945 Investment, will bring even greater and more wonderful results than we have yet experienced. God's work must march on. Time is fleeting. The return of Jesus is very near. How wonderful it will be, and what satisfaction we shall have if we honestly done our best to make possible His soon return, thus putting an end to bloodshed and war in its most atrocious form. The time demands our most earnest and prayerful consideration and every ounce of strength and devotion to a cause that is destined to triumph. *God's investment for us* calls for a greater effort along all lines of Christian service than we have yet experienced. Shall we not pledge to Him our best?

SYBIL M. KING

M. V. Additions

We are happy to report several organized M. V. societies. Visits with the following groups organizing them for service has brought great courage to the writer.

An earnest group of young people were found in Easton waiting to be inducted into the circle of M. V. societies. There were about 20 with others to be enrolled. Mrs. Muriel Waer was selected as leader and Martha Hart, secretary.

West Chester also presented a fine group of senior and junior members under the leadership of Clara Plummer. Assisting her is Roberta Bishop as secretary. While this is a small group of about 12, the real Missionary Volunteer spirit is manifest, and a strong work will be in operation as time goes on.

A recent visit to York and Han-

over brought added pleasure, as in both places a representative group of juniors and seniors pledged to do their part in following our main objective, "The Advent Message to all the world in this generation." Mrs. Mae Lovett is leader of the York group and Miriam Hinkle, secretary. At Hanover Mrs. Elmer Bange will be in charge, the secretary to be chosen later.

Gettysburg, though the company is small, is also conducting a Missionary Volunteer society. This is a new adventure for them, but one that will bring great blessing to the youth and the church. We are glad to note that in every church in Brother Arthur Wade's district there will be functioning a Missionary Volunteer society. Mrs. LaVerne Schwartz is leader and Miss Fay West, secretary of the Gettysburg group.

In the Tioga district Brother and

Sister Donald Christman have organized two societies, one in Canton with Mrs. Christman as leader and one in Roaring Branch with Miss Irene McNett as leader and Lenora McNett as secretary.

These additions to societies that have been in operation swell the number to 50 junior and senior societies. We are looking for other prospects. Wherever there are enough young people available to conduct a society, one should be organized. It is not necessary to have a large group. The first society that we know anything about was organized with eight charter members. That was in 1879. Many a group that size is carrying on today, doing a strong work as volunteers for Jesus. Watch for possibilities; write us, and we will come to assist you in helping to win, hold, and save our youth.

SYBIL M. KING

NEW JERSEY

M. G. CONGER, Pres. C. M. PADEN, S.-T.
1574 Brunswick Ave., Trenton 8, N. J.

Make wills and legacies in favor of the
New Jersey Conference Association of Seventh-
day Adventists.

Missionary Volunteer Officers' Council

ALL our Missionary Volunteer officers in northern New Jersey will be happy to hear that we are holding an M. V. officers' council Friday night and Sabbath, February 23 and 24. This council will be held in the Newark Number One Church located at 19 Grain Street (just off Grove Street).

Elder Sorensen will speak at the meeting Friday night. On Sabbath we shall have an abundance of help from the Union and our own local conference. We urge every M. V. officer and those interested in working for our youth to plan definitely to attend this important council Friday night and all day Sabbath.

"With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour might be carried to the whole world!"—"Gospel Workers," p. 66.

Upon advent youth will be laid grave responsibilities in proclaiming the final message of God to the people of earth. We believe this officers' council will help us in

planning a larger and more efficient program for our youth. Therefore, we urge that you plan to be with us Friday night and all day Sabbath, in the Newark Number One Church, February 23 and 24.

WILSON S. JOHNSON

In Retrospect

THIS visit in print with the believers in the Columbia Union is a "comeback" greeting, in which history—our personal history—repeats itself.

In 1934 we were in St. Paul, Minnesota, enjoying our work there, when we received the call to labor in the West Pennsylvania field. We accepted and our stay in this union was a blessed one, with many pleasant contacts.

The year 1944 found us once more in Minnesota. Again the Columbia Union called, this time through the President of the New Jersey Conference, who asked us to return east to the "Garden State."

Scarcely had we found a dwelling place in Jersey City last spring, when the Ingathering campaign was upon us. Even while still sojourning in a tourist room and daily looking for an apartment, we went out evenings with the singing band. This, our first co-working with our loyal Swedish brethren, was a thrilling experience. In less than three weeks we had brought in more than our goal, and

by the close of the Ingathering period, over \$600.

Following this effort, the Jersey City Swedish Church, encouraged by the Conference committee and in cooperation with the Swedish department, sent out over two hundred subscriptions to the *Swedish Signs*, or *Sions Vaktare*. We plan to repeat this project this year.

With Ingathering and the victory rally past, we looked forward eagerly to our first Jersey camp meeting, which proved the best in all our experience.

During 1944 we also carried on a Swedish branch of the Twentieth Century Bible School, with some encouraging results. This phase of our evangelistic program will also be continued through the current year. We greatly appreciate, moreover, the support of the Trenton office in the matter of Twentieth Century Bible School enrollees within our Jersey City territory. The names sent us have led to decisions and baptisms in several cases, and others are being followed up with an eye to future fruitage.

On the first Sabbath of September we were privileged to hold a small baptism of firstfruits, some of which became members of the English Number Two Church, that we had been pastoring during the summer and early fall. A second baptism, resulting from personal work and Bible studies, was held on the Sabbath preceding Christmas. At this time two more were added to the English Number Two Church and two to our Swedish congregation. A three-month series of Sunday night meetings, held in the attractive auditorium of the Bergen Lyceum, Jersey City, closed January 28. Those interested as a result of this effort have now been organized into a Bible class.

The Jersey City Swedish Church, with its 31 members, raised for all purposes, during 1944, more than \$5,500; while the little Perth Amboy Danish-English group, with nine members, raised over \$1,300. Both churches entered faithfully into the spirit of all Conference-sponsored forward moves, and under God, we hope to do as well, or better, in 1945.

Thus the wonderful Jesus and His great message of salvation, through the advent movement and a faithful remnant, inspired us in the serious, spiritual celebration of the centennial year.

V. A. LIDNER

"Studies in Ephesians"

WHAT great joy and concern must have been in the hearts of the believers at Ephesus upon receiving a direct letter from their great leader, the apostle Paul. Had he not lived and labored with them for a period of three years? Many of these members had come out of heathenism, and what love they must have had for this God-appointed messenger!

His particular emphasis upon Christian unity in the church and the organized life of the members embodying the church, should give the same concern to the church today as to the church at Ephesus.

During the second quarter of 1945, our Sabbath school lessons will deal with the book of Ephesians. In order to clear up some of the difficult passages in this book, Elder M. C. Wilcox published a booklet "*Studies in Ephesians*" a few years ago, and we are privileged at this time to have a reprint of the manuscript to aid in the study.

We would suggest that you place your order immediately, through your church missionary secretary, or from your Book and Bible House for this splendid lesson help. The price is 35 cents a copy.

W. M. NOSWORTHY

WEST VIRGINIA

W. B. HILL, Pres.
1455 7th St.,

H. E. GARRARDE, S.T.
Parkersburg, W. Va.

Make wills and legacies in favor of the Seventh-day Adventist Book Society.

News Notes

ELDER K. H. WOOD, JR. reports that 12 precious souls have thus far been added to the Charleston Church as a result of the Sunday night evangelistic meetings. There are about 15 other interested persons definitely enrolled for Bible study, looking forward to church affiliation. It is encouraging to worship in Charleston on the Sabbath day and to meet this splendid group of new members. Brethren Wood and Thurston are also laying plans for the Huntington effort which will begin later in the year.

Pastor R. E. Logan is planning a baptism of five or six persons as a result of his Parsons effort. Pastor J. W. Franklin has also prepared a goodly number of baptismal candidates from his district. Pray that 1945 will be a banner year in

souls won in the West Virginia Conference.

Sunday night, February 11, Pastor A. J. Hirsch and departmental secretary Carl P. Anderson began a series of public meetings in the Parkersburg Church. The attendance and interest is very gratifying and considerable interest has been aroused which will provide the church members with a real missionary program. We are very happy that Brother Anderson has found it possible to associate his talents with Pastor Hirsch in this effort. Surely now is the time to proclaim this message. Let us daily remember our valiant ministers that heaven may reward them with souls.

The Reconstruction Offering reports coming into the Conference office are very encouraging. Again the loyal members of this conference have demonstrated their loyalty and devotion to God's cause. Let us rise unitedly to finish the work so that Jesus may come.

W. B. HILL

Workers' Meeting

THE workers of the West Virginia Conference assembled at headquarters for an all-day meeting January 25 to give thought and attention to the furthering of the work, among our own ranks as well as among the inhabitants of this conference.

It was an enthusiastic company of workers who participated in the discussion of a prepared agenda, aspiring to devote their fullest energy and perseverance to the discharge of duty, with an eye single to the glory of the Master. The Conference President, Elder W. B. Hill, acting chairman, gave guidance and counsel to the presentation of topics.

The opening address was given by the Union President, Elder F. H. Robbins, whose text was Matthew 24:37-44, "Be ye also ready. . ." Following the encouraging remarks of Elder Robbins, the time was given over to the consideration of the agenda.

First things received first attention. Evangelism in 1945 and "Goals for Souls" was the keynote of Elder Hill's presentation, in support of which a unanimous response was manifested by the workers.

Further interest and help was

contributed by brethren of the Union Conference and the General Conference. Elder E. L. Branson, Middle East administrator of the General Conference, spoke on the reconstruction offering to be raised on February 3 for the immediate restoration of our foreign work, when circumstances should permit, in areas where the work has severely suffered from the ravages of war.

Home Missionary Secretaries J. C. Holland and C. P. Anderson placed before us the plans of Ingathering for this year. Indications are that this year of 1945 should prove the most fruitful in our Ingathering for missions.

Our publishing work received attention from the circulation manager of the *Signs*. Along with Elder H. K. Christman's interesting talk was united the local conference work of colporteur evangelists, presided over by the Publishing Department Secretary, J. H. Creighton, ably assisted by the Book and Bible House Manager, K. W. Tilghman. The need of colporteurs to handle the new edition of "*Daniel and the Revelation*" was a sounding call for recruits.

Local conference workers each had a part in the agenda. Various topics were assigned for a ten-minute presentation in consideration of such topics as the promotion of temperance, child evangelism, the health message, preaching and evangelism, Bible training classes and correspondence schools, pastoral duties, campaigns, and music and the message.

The evening service, following a period of intermission, was conducted by Elder C. P. Sorensen, Missionary Volunteer Secretary of the Columbia Union. A report of the War Service Commission was presented by the speaker. Our present and future relationship to the serviceman was the basis of his remarks. To this meeting the members of the Parkersburg Church were invited.

Appreciation is extended for the vocal and instrumental numbers that were rendered, which contributed to the uplift of the meeting.

The Dorcas society of the Parkersburg Church gave of their time and service in efficiently preparing and serving the meals in the local Y. W. C. A. building, which added greatly to the success of this Conference workers' meeting.

ARTHUR J. HIRSCH

COLUMBIA UNION VISITOR

OHIO

W. M. ROBBINS, Pres. E. F. WILLETT, S.-T.
Box 831, Mt. Vernon, Ohio Phone 1175

Make wills and legacies in favor of the
Ohio Conference Association of the Seventh-day
Adventist Church.

Dorcas Societies and Church Members

WE have just received a letter from the General Conference pertaining to the gathering and shipping of clothing for the liberated countries. For lack of space I can quote only in part:

"We want to make a little report to you on what we are doing in our work in the post-war clothing relief campaign.

"The shipment for Italy consisted of 209 cartons, weighing 6,745 pounds. This is what Brother Dorn writes: 'The truck driver, who took the clothing from Peekskill to New York, piled the bundles ten feet high, and had plenty on his tailboard.' In addition to the Italian shipment we sent to Ethiopia nine barrels and seven boxes, weighing in all 1600 pounds. This, Brother Dorn says, cleans out the warehouse to date.

"I have before me a letter from Brother Silvano Cortesi, of Naples, Italy, who tells of the extremely difficult conditions in Italy. He says that an ordinary overcoat now costs about 200,000 lira, and other articles of clothing in the same proportion. In former days the lira was worth 8 cents. I am sure these brethren will be happy to receive the first shipment of clothing through the National Evangelical Committee for Relief in Italy.

"The clothing for Ethiopia will be taken there by a missionary doctor and his family who are on their way to Djibouti, and will be for the relief of our members in Ethiopia.

"We have word that the clothing sent to Algiers, North Africa arrived safely. A cablegram reads: 'Clothing arrived (January 12, 1945). Thanks. All welcome help. Coldest winter in decade.' The message was signed by John de Caenel, who is in charge of the North African Union Mission. This shipment left New York last October. We are glad to know that it arrived in time to be of help in the severe winter."

You will note from the above that our Peekskill warehouse is at present empty, and more clothing

is needed badly. I trust that our Dorcas and missionary societies in the churches will do all in their power to gather clothing during February and March and ship it to Peekskill. There will be a national drive for clothing beginning April 1, so it will be necessary for us to get as much clothing as possible gathered previous to this national drive in order to provide for the needs of our own people in liberated countries.

Will the Dorcas and missionary societies in our churches, as well as members in general, give this your strong support at once?

ANOL GRUNDSET

Effort in Washington Courthouse

SUNDAY night, February 4, at the Senior High School auditorium in Washington Courthouse, Ohio the first message in a series of evangelistic services was presented, entitled, "Europe in the Postwar World."

In spite of the handicap of unusually bad weather for the opening service and the Governor's emergency decree, a fair-sized audience braved the stormy weather to attend and hear the future of Europe as outlined in Bible prophecy.

The high school auditorium is located near the center of the town, and services are planned for three nights weekly, Sunday, Tuesday, and Friday evenings. As a special feature a series of health lectures will be delivered each Friday evening preceding the message for that night. We are especially favored in having Dr. Edna Patterson-Scott instruct the audience in the science of healthful living. Dr. Patterson was formerly connected with the Washington and Glendale Sanitariums and is now practicing in Columbus, Ohio.

The music director and song leader for the evangelistic services is Mrs. Evelyn Brown Gernet. Mr. Donald Riesen of the Worthington Church is the pianist, and Miss Julia Kline of the Cincinnati Church plays the large organ preceding the services each Sunday evening. Miss Lillie Kraft, Bible instructor in the Columbus district, will have charge of the correspondence classes and will lead in the visiting of the interested. A vested choir composed of the singers from the Worthington and Columbus Churches will present special mu-

sic each Sunday night. The Men's Missionary Society of Worthington is uniting and giving splendid support to the effort by providing special music and the ushers.

The members of the Washington Courthouse Church have recently remodeled and redecored their church home, and all the members are united in giving loyal support in every way possible to bring success to the effort. They are joining in earnest prayer that many souls may be won to the truth, and the small church in that place greatly strengthened.

We earnestly solicit an interest in the prayers of all our people everywhere that the effort to win souls for Christ may be abundantly blessed of heaven.

B. PAUL GERNET



From Our Servicemen

CHINA—"Although I have not been able to pick up your program over here in China (we have a small radio set which does not bring in the United States very well), there are a lot of soldiers who do, and who receive comfort from your programs. So I would like to help in your work. Please remember me and all my fellow soldiers in China, for we need your prayers in these trying times."

ENGLAND—"I have been overseas sixteen months and long for the time when I can listen to your program again. I am taking your Bible Correspondence Course and the lessons have been a great help to me. I am enclosing ten dollars for your work and wish I had a million to give! Please pray for my loved ones. And pray that I may remain true to God and carry my cross."

FRANCE—"I have received several issues of the *News* since I arrived in France. Thanks so much for sending them. Please send me the book-for-the-month. This is a pretty country and the French people are friendly and courteous. We have been holding church services out in an open-air theater."

NORTH CAROLINA—"I have learned much about the Bible from the study of these Bible lessons. I read my Bible every day and kneel down to say my prayers every night. Please pray that I may continue to trust in God."

ITALY—"Your Bible lessons are wonderful, and I have received much help from them. They have brought cheer, courage, strength, and heart-warming comfort, and have helped

(Continued on page 7)