

# Eastern Canadian Messenger

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NO. 9



E. M. FISHELL—Union Field Secretary

## OUR FIELD

It has been very pertinently stated by one of our leading bookmen that "fifty per cent approximately of the evangelistic force of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination is colporteurs. These workers constitute the advance guard of missions around the world. The sun never sets upon the activities of this corps of workers. While we work here in North America, the colporteurs sleep in China; while they work in China, the colporteurs rest here." Now as to "sleeping," I should like to have it said of the colporteurs of Eastern Canada that they never sleep. The possibilities in this field are so unlimited that they scarcely have time to sleep as the following will conclusively show:—

### A Book in Every Home

The Eastern Canadian Union affords the greatest opportunities possible for the circulation of the printed page. To those who have thought that perhaps the last opportunity had passed for the sale of books in this field, I would like to submit these figures: There are approximately 5,000,000 people in the territory comprising the Eastern Canadian Union, or in other words 1,250,000 homes. During the last decade our colporteurs have sold \$217,504 worth of our books, or 54,376 books. This in-

dicates that only one four dollar book has been sold to every 23 homes, only 54,376 families out of 1,250,000 know anything about the message that Seventh-day Adventists have to give. It seems to me that such a situation is a very grave one when we stop to consider that the warning message is to be given largely through the printed page. The question as to how this situation is to be righted must be determined by those comprising the membership of the churches in this field.

"The efforts made to get the truth before the people are not half as thorough and extensive as they should be. Not a fiftieth part is now being done to extend the truth that might be done by scattering publications and bringing within the sound of the truth all that can be induced to come."—Mrs. E. G. White.

How accurately these words describe the situation of the past and even the present time. However we are endeavoring to establish a new record in this field. During the year 1919 we sold approximately \$44,000.00 worth of subscription books which does not include six or seven thousand dollars worth of literature disposed of by the home missionary department. It took nearly six years of the last ten to sell as many books as we sold last year, and over 1918 we made a gain of nearly \$14,000.00.

### Quebec

A word concerning a recent visit I have made in the Province of Quebec. This field in the past has been viewed by many as ancient Israel viewed Canaan when they were instructed to take the land. They have seen giants—the sons of Anak, cities walled and very great, and men of great stature. Now I am convinced that as soon as God's people are ready to go in and possess Quebec and utterly discomfiture her with the printed page, the great walls will fall down flat, thus achieving mighty victories. It is now planned to hold the first colporteurs' institute, as far as we have had any record of, in Quebec this spring when it is expected that at least a dozen workers will be in attendance.

### Maritime

Reports an increase of over 100 per cent for the year 1919 over the preceding year. Though this field is small in numbers, still she figures large in the way of book sales, and without doubt is planning still larger things for the year before us.

### Ontario

Our field secretary, Brother Gage, informs me that in book deliveries the year 1919 realized a gain of \$11,479.18. Truly this is a splendid record. Notwithstanding this excellent record Ontario counts on doing much bigger things during 1920.

### Newfoundland

Is also counting on making herself conspicuous in the way of book sales during the present year. She now has a boat well equipped for transportation of books and workers from village to village around her shores. With such facilities Newfoundland will rank among the foremost conferences in the sale of the printed page.

As in the past a large number of students will take the field with our books during the summer. While we as leaders go forth to enlist the services of others who should be devoting their energies to this department of the work, we earnestly request the prayers of the readers that a great work will not only be undertaken, but accomplished in the name of the Master during the ensuing year.

E. M. FISHELL.



GEORGE BUTLER—Union Home Missionary Secretary

### THE BOOK WORK IN ALL PHASES

"In a large degree through our publishing houses is to be accomplished the work of that other angel who comes down from heaven with great power and who lightens the earth with his glory." Test. Volume 9, p. 117.

Our publishing work was launched in the little town of Middletown, Conn., in 1849. At that time two cents would buy a sample copy of all our literature. Today it would take more than \$750.00. A faint idea of the magnitude and influence of our publishing work may be entertained when we think of the sale of 1,750,000 copies of "Bible Readings" alone, 750,000 copies of "Great Controversy," and 700,000 of "Daniel and Revelation." But this represents the work of only three large books—what about the circulation of scores of other books handled by our army of more than 2,000 regular colporteurs who are giving all their time to this work?

Closely allied to this regular army is an army of thousands of believers who are giving all the time they can to the circulation of our literature. They are called home missionary workers, and include all the members of the church. This army has decided that their duty is to obey the marching orders "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel." The experience of God's people universally is that their best ammunition is the printed page.

Space forbids our going into the world figures of the sales of this united band, but we will refer to a few of the items handled within our local battle line, the eastern front. Our people in 1919, through the Ingathering campaign succeeded in raising for missions \$11,376.39 or a per capita of \$7.67. In order to secure this money we had to place in the hands of the people 47,380 papers. This means an average of 32 papers for every member in the union. One person collected more than \$1,000, one family nearly \$700, and several individuals \$100.

Our magazine sales reached 54,668 copies valued at \$8,198.20. This is an average of 37 copies per capita. In these sales are included only the Signs Monthly, Watchman, Life & Health, Liberty, Temperance Instructor and foreign magazines. Besides these we are circulating thousands of copies of that good missionary paper, the Signs Weekly, and tens of thousands of Present Truth, the pathfinder. Also the sales of the World's Crisis Series have gone into the scores of thousands. In 1919 we nearly doubled the number of copies sold in 1918. Besides the thousands of homes reached by our sales, our missionary reports show hundreds of books and papers loaned to families.

This in brief, is a summary of some of the missionary activities of our people. Many more are taking part than in recent past years. There is room for many more. "When the churches become living, working churches, then the Holy Spirit will be given in answer to their sincere requests. Then the windows of heaven will be open for the showers of the latter rain."—R. & H., Feb. 25, 1890.

"As the members of our churches individually take up their appointed work, they will be surrounded with an entirely different atmosphere. The quickening, sanctifying influence of the Holy Spirit will be poured out upon them." Test. Volume 6: 267, 268. Many today are enjoying this experience.

GEORGE BUTLER.

### AN IMPORTANT WORK

The importance of the circulation of our literature just now accompanied with personal effort cannot possibly be overestimated.

The whole world is in a condition of unrest, and many are seeking for some explanation of these conditions. Hearts are longing for something better; a word of hope, a word of cheer, a word of courage will be met with a response by many.

Our Evangelistic Colporteur work affords a most excellent opportunity for this work. It is a personal house to house visitation with heart to heart talks and personal appeals, with a book left in the home that will explain the meaning of these conditions.

The plan carries with it many advantages and inducements for those who really desire true min-

istry, as indicated by the following experiences.

One colporteur reports :

"I have had the pleasure of seeing hardened hearts softened as I told them of the love of Jesus. One lady told me she was through with churches; and then when she heard I was a Seventh-day Adventist she was glad to listen, and wants some of our free literature."

Another experience is reported as follows:

"While showing the book through an open window to a lady, a young woman came rushing up and asked if that were a Bible instruction book. I told her it was, and asked if I might go in. She told me she was a Catholic and was looking for truth. She ordered a book and wants some one to give her Bible studies."

And again, "A man and wife ordered a full leather binding after I had given them a short Bible study on prophecy. They were Catholics also."

Another writes: "It surely cheers one when he comes to the people with these message-filled books and they say that is just what they have been looking for. One man, a preacher, said, 'I believe the Lord has sent you here with that book for me. I saw one a few years ago, and have been wanting it ever since, now you are here with it. I will take it in the best binding.'"

These experiences are among many others we might give; but these are sufficient to show the importance of the work, and it should appeal to those whose hearts have been touched with the love of God, and who long to do something to bring a knowledge of that love and saving grace to their fellow-men while probation lingers.

W. W. EASTMAN



REGINALD GAGE—Ontario Field Secretary

### ONTARIO'S OPPORTUNITY

Since the call to prepare for the Bridegroom and his coming was first sounded in Ontario, the work has been progressive—never easy, but upward toward the goal of perfection and completion. Until 1911 the book work had not been organized in Ontario. That year it was championed by one faithful brother who sold \$300 worth of "Coming King." The beginning was small, but it was blessed of God and was the nucleus of a tree that will yield

fruit in eternity. Each year has shown an encouraging increase in sales. The year 1919 shows a gain in deliveries of \$11,479.18 or about double that of 1918, the total amount being \$25,629.93. Over 100,000 exhibitions were given, more than 300,000 people were visited and spoken to concerning the truth.

Still we are but beginning. Our orders are to pass the glorious word to every nation, kindred, tongue and people—then the end will come. We must not rest contented with the success of other years, for extensive as our work has been, it is but a small part toward warning Ontario. In Toronto alone there are 376,538 souls—76,538 more than we visited in a year. The province has a population of 2,527,000 and there are 407,000 square miles to be covered. This represents WORK on the part of everyone interested in the soon coming of our Lord.

The task is not formidable. The Master is engineering the whole. It is planned to build a printing plant at Oshawa that will supply the whole of Canada as well as other countries with literature. Our people are rallying to the call for help to fill the ranks of the colporteurs. Several have already expressed the belief that God will enable them to sell \$5,000 worth of books this year and they will do it, for has not the Lord said, "Ask, and ye shall receive." Present indications are that 1920 will more than double the goal of 1919.

Our colporteurs are men and women from every walk of life as were the disciples of Jesus—professor, business man, printer, farmer, student, etc. Their names have occurred week by week in the MESSENGER so you are familiar with them. Are you familiar with the sacrifices they have made? Some have left lucrative positions, some their farms, and all were away from home. You remember the days of almost unbearable heat last summer, the days of pelting rain, the blustery cold days of fall and winter—they worked on these days. They called at homes back in the bush, and tramped through muddy lanes, but they did not complain. They were glad to do it, for it is the Master's commission.

Because the cause of God languishes for more workers, we invite you to share the trials and joys of the colporteur, dear reader, and finally to hear the Master's "Well done".

REGINALD F. GAGE

### ONTARIO TRACT SOCIETY

It was on the 15th of May, 1919, that the Ontario Tract Society commenced to do business with the people of this province. Heretofore all orders were handled by or through the Canadian Publishing Association. As the orders began to roll in and greater channels of opportunity opened up for the progress of the message, it was decided to establish a tract society in order that the people in Ontario might be supplied with all the literature they desired in as short a time as possible.

The Lord has wonderfully blessed our work thus far. Up to the end of December our total retail sales amounted to a little over \$28,000 which we think is a remarkable showing for the first seven months. We were supplying books to colporteurs in lots of from \$500 to \$1500 worth at a time, and the Lord blessed in the deliveries of same.

Everything looks bright for a banner year in the sale of our books and periodicals in 1920. When we get our colporteurs lined up for the coming summer's campaign, we are sure our expectations are not too large when we say that \$50,000 worth of books will be delivered through the Ontario Tract Society.

Now is the time to finish the work. It will not be long before our opportunity to work under such favorable conditions will be gone, when it will mean greater sacrifices on the part of our people to scatter our truth filled books. We trust therefore, dear reader, that you will be one of the Lord's great army who will be scattering these pages like the leaves of autumn. Remember the good old motto which reads: "When I have done my best, I find that there is little fault in failing." Do your best to make the work progress this year, and we are sure your efforts will be crowned with success. There will be souls saved in the kingdom of God who otherwise might never have heard this message which has brought so much joy to our hearts.

W. F. WILSON.



E. R. EASTMAN—Cec.-Treas. E. C. U. Conference.

### OUR RESPONSIBILITY

Our work in this field has been richly blessed during the past year and we feel that the Lord has a great work to be accomplished. Although the present world situation points out in no uncertain tones the times in which we live, yet we can look on the other side of the picture and see what God has declared he will do at this time of Satan's greatest efforts.

"At this time—a time of overwhelming iniquity—a new life is to take possession of those who have the love of God in their hearts, and they are to go forth to proclaim with power the message of a crucified and risen Saviour. Intense earnestness should now take possession of us." Test. Vol. 9, p. 43, 44.

We hope that this may be the key note of every one. May God give us much of his spirit and wisdom to know how to finish his work in the earth.

F. R. EASTMAN.



A. V. OLSON—Pres. Eastern Canadian Union Conference

### SOUL WINNERS

The Christian colporteur who carries the books containing God's message of love and mercy to the homes of the people in city or country, is engaged in a work which in point of importance is second to none. He is as much a messenger for God as the minister proclaiming the gospel from the sacred desk. He may not be far famed for his eloquence and may never stand before great audiences, and yet he may reach more people and win more souls for God than many a silver tongued pulpit orator. There are thousands of people even in Christian lands who seldom, if ever, enter a church. Many will perhaps never hear a sermon, much less a series of lectures on the third angel's message. These as well as the church goers are found by the colporteur who aims to leave no home unentered. He visits alike the rich and poor in his cottage. Across the plain, over hill and mountain, by stream and seaside, in every land and clime, he goes in search of blood-bought souls, offering to all the message of a soon coming Saviour. Some of his books are eagerly read by honest souls who joyfully accept the message. Others are placed on the shelf soon to be forgotten, but not lost. "God has a care for his truth, and the time will come when these books will be sought for and read. Sickness or misfortune may enter the home, and through the truth contained in the books, God sends to troubled hearts peace and hope and rest."

Since canvassing for our literature is "missionary work of the highest order," as much care and wisdom should be exercised in selecting men and women for this important work as is used in selecting men for the ministry. "Those selected as canvassers should be men and women who feel the burden of service, whose object is not to get gain, but to give light to the people. Our books should be handled by consecrated workers, whom the Holy Spirit can use as his instrumentalities." Men and women are needed in this work whose hearts are aglow with the love of God and who carry a definite burden for the lost; men and women who are willing to endure hardship and privation, and if need be hazard their lives for the cause of Christ.

The God-fearing colporteur who faithfully toils on through rain and shine, heat and cold, over dusty plain and muddy road, may never in this life know the result of his labors, but he will know in the hereafter. What unspeakable joy will be his when introduced by angels to glorified beings saved eternally in the kingdom of God as a result of his work here below. Bright will be the stars in his crown and rich his reward.

An army of devoted men and women are now engaged in this sacred work, but what are they among the millions of earth's inhabitants? Hundreds, yea thousands of new recruits are needed. In our own field there is immediate need of a large number of earnest workers to join the few now in the field. Where are the men who will leave the farm, shop, or office and volunteer for this blessed work?

A. V. OLSON.



G. M. HEALD—President Ontario Conference.

### COLPORTEUR'S WORK IN ONTARIO

A little lad whose father was a consecrated canvasser, and who had heard a great deal in his home about God being with the canvassers, was asked by a stranger one day where God lived. His reply was, "Oh, He is out canvassing." The boy was right. God is out with our canvassers. Our men who have God with them in the field have success. The intelligent, God-fearing canvasser should be respected as one who is in the presence of God. The Spirit of Prophecy says that a true canvasser should be respected as one of the gospel ministry. The Lord is calling men and women to scatter the leaves of truth, as he is calling men to preach. High heaven is as much interested in one as in the other. Our humble faithful canvassers who obediently respond to the call of God, may be sure of receiving assistance.

### Ontario's Need

Ontario should have ten canvassers in the field where now there is one. Scores of towns and hamlets in our conference have never been entered by a canvasser. Experience shows that canvassing in our field is fruitful. Last summer one man sold \$300.00 worth of books in one week. Another sold \$319.00 in three days. Several sold over \$200.00 worth per week. A total of \$16,248.16 worth of books were sold in Ontario last summer in three months. What God did for his men and women last summer he will do again. He will do for you what he will do for others. What he wants is regular men in the field, men who will make canvassing a business—not a "try out" experience; men who will make it a life work.

### True Men of God

The call is for men of integrity, men who covet the presence of the angels with them, men who have power with God—who are connected with the heavenly dynamo; men who can experience answered prayers. "Men and women are wanted now who are as true to duty as the needle to the pole—men and women who will work without having their way smoothed and every obstacle removed."

Brother, Sister: Do not enter the field for the remuneration that is in it. You will have that if you seek first the kingdom of heaven. Seek first the salvation of lost souls. Seek to carry out the plan of God, and he will plan for you. There are those who are putting off the day of canvassing until a more convenient time. To you let me say: Now is your day of opportunity. God wants you in the field now. By waiting, there will be many go down to a Christless grave. When are you going to do God's bidding? He may not call you again. Why not enter the field this spring? Come to the institute in March. Right now lay yourself on the altar and say, "Here am I, send me." "Some flatter themselves that the Lord will give them another opportunity, that there will be a second probation. Fatal delusion! Just now, day by day, hour by hour, we are building for the last day."

Now is the time for every one who has convictions about the matter to give himself up to the power of the Holy Spirit, and become a canvassing evangelist in Ontario.

B. M. HEALD.

### COLPORTEUR WORK IN QUEBEC

The first colporteur in the Province of Quebec was Elder Joseph Bates, who, shortly after he accepted the Sabbath in 1845, decided to publish a tract, believing that by personal work and the circulation of literature people would be led to acknowledge the truth. After he had succeeded in publishing his first tract, he started out with no training in this line but possessed with a true missionary spirit and having a desire to see the message advance. He travelled from place to place through this province, scattering his literature and preaching the truth as he had opportunity. In 1849 he labored in East Angus where several embraced the truth. Elder Loughborough says of the travels of Elder

Bates—"He labored with the utmost perseverance and was aided much by his tract on the Sabbath question as he went to different localities, and by the circulation of the same through the mail." He also worked in the town of Ely where he raised up a church. The next place was Farnham. I think the journey between these places must have been taken by foot and he may have left some of his tracts at South Stukely as he passed through that town, for several years later a church was organized at this place.

Among other pioneer colporteurs of later date we would mention the names of Mary Cushing, Napoleon Paquette and Virginia Gobeille who was one of our most enthusiastic workers. In 1885 Elder Owen who was then president of the conference, did much to build up the canvassing work and also Brother Darwin Dingman took a leading part in the circulation of our literature.

We have the record that in 1888 in one day one colporteur took twelve orders for "Bible Readings." This was wonderful in those days. About this time Brother Argyle Taylor began to take part in the canvassing work and he worked in the counties of Broom, Shefford, Stanstead, Sherbrooke and Richmond. The next three or four years were banner years for the book work in Quebec. Others who engaged in the work were Bert Call, Arthur Taylor, Herman Clarke, A. McClary and Dan Taylor. From the year 1893 there seems to have been a decline in this department of the work in this conference and much of the time there was only one worker—Brother Argyle Taylor, who is still braving the storm. In 1893 he went to Quebec City and worked this place and vicinity including Valcartier, Stonam and Reviere aux Pins, and now, after twenty-five years, fruit is being gathered from that locality.

Why have not others been engaged in this great work of seed sowing? There must be a great revival in the colporteur work without delay that the people scattered throughout this province may have the opportunity of hearing the message. The servant of the Lord has said—"A great and important work is before us. God calls the canvassers back to their work. He calls for volunteers who will put all their energies and enlightenment into the work, helping wherever there is opportunity. The time has come when a large work should be done by the canvassers. The world is asleep and as watchmen they are to ring the warning bell to awake the sleepers to their danger. Who will go forth now with our publications?"

In view of these earnest words may we not expect a revival in the colporteur work in this field? Hear the call of the Master, "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?"

F. C. WEBSTER.

### THE RESPONSIBILITY OF WOMEN IN THE COLPORTEUR WORK

Many women have said to me—"Oh, I just couldn't canvass." I suppose you have said the same thing yourself many times and having said "I just couldn't" you let it go at that and settled back thinking that was all there was to it. But is it?

One of the laws of nature is to repulse that which we know nothing about, so it is quite natural for the majority of women to say—"I just couldn't." Of course not, you know nothing about it, because you haven't tried.

The question before us is this, can it be done? Do we have a responsibility along this line? We know of course that the colporteur work is important, that it is one of the most effectual means of spreading the truth. At a camp meeting I attended once the question was asked as to how many people present had accepted the truth from reading our literature, and over sixty per cent raised their hands. We say this is wonderful, but it is not an exceptional case.

Let us read from Vol. 9. "Women as well as men can engage in the work of hiding the truth where it can work out and be made manifest. They can take their place in the work at this crisis, and the Lord will work through them. If they are imbued with a sense of their duty, and labor under the influence of the Spirit of God, they will have just the self-possession required for this time."

"Discreet and humble women can do a good work in explaining the truth to the people in their homes. The word of God thus explained will do its leavening work, and through its influence whole families will be converted.

"In the home circle, at your neighbor's fireside, at the bedside of the sick, in a quiet way you may read the Scriptures, and speak a word for Jesus and the truth. Precious seed may thus be sown that will spring up, and bring forth fruit after many days.

"The Saviour will reflect upon these self-sacrificing women the light of his countenance, and this will give them a power that will exceed that of men. They can do in families a work that men cannot do, a work that reaches the inner life. They can come close to the hearts of those whom men cannot reach. Their work is needed."

Take special notice of the last few sentences. "They can do in families a work that men cannot do, a work that reaches the inner life." Here is a part then that cannot be filled by others. The men have their part to do but we women can reach hearts that otherwise would be untouched. "They can come close to the hearts of those whom men cannot reach. Their work is needed." This very plainly lays upon us as women a responsibility which cannot be shifted. "Their work is needed." It means you and me. The call has come, the responsibility is ours—what shall we answer? There are places where just a little help and encouragement will lift a burden from the heart, a little tact will place a book in the home, and many will say to you as they have said to me—"I am so glad that you came."

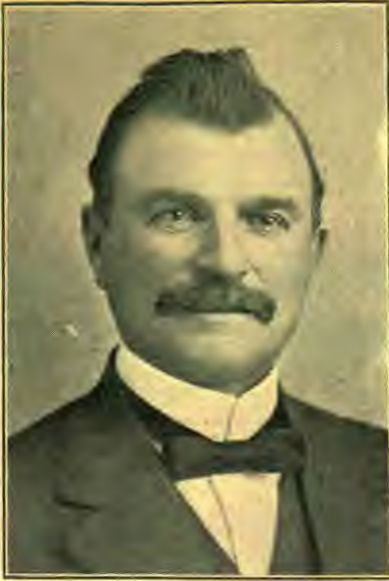
"Their work is needed." It means us. What shall we do?

MADGE MILLER.

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J. L. WILSON—President Maritime Conference

### ESSENTIALS TO SUCCESS

Success means a prosperous termination of any undertaking. In the world it is measured by the accumulation of wealth in money or property, but in the work of God it is measured by the number of souls that are saved in his kingdom. Of Jesus it is said, "He shall see the travail of his soul and be satisfied." The thought of success buoyed him up in all his trials, turning them to reminders of the purpose of his work. To go without a meal, to have no place to lay his head, to be separated from loved ones, to be scoffed at and despised, did not turn him from his purpose. Therefore success was bound to be the result. Had he become discouraged when hunger faced him, or when he had to make his bed by the roadside, his work would have been a failure; but he looked past all these things to the joy that was set before him.

If success is to be accomplished in the colporteur work it will be by individuals arming themselves with the same mind. This work must not be measured by the dollars and cents that are made, but by the souls that are saved. The colporteur must have a vision of the work to be done. This must be more than a spasmodic feeling. Then there must be action according to the vision. One more thing necessary is courage, the lack of which will lead to failure. Courage is something for which an individual is personally responsible. This the Lord recognizes in his appeal to man—"Only be thou strong and very courageous."

The work of the colporteur is that of seed sowing. "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand." Again, "Sow beside all waters." God will water the seed and it will not return unto him void. The sowing must be continued as long as there is seed to sow and man to receive it, for "He that soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly."

There will be some hardships. The land may be stoney, it may be rough, it may be hilly, so that the worker is tested to the full, but every test should spur

him on to success. The success of the harvest depends very largely on the seed sowing. Courage of the faithful seed sower in scattering the printed page is stimulated as the vision of the harvest is kept in view. When courage fails the vision is soon lost. It may be necessary to spend several hours in prayer that our courage may become stronger and the work go on successfully. "Thank the Lord we are not of them that draw back, but of them that believe." We must always remember that there are three things that lead to success—vision, action, and courage, but the greatest of these is courage.

"Courage brother, do not stumble,  
Though thy path be dark as night;  
There's a star to guide the humble,  
Trust in God, and do the right."

J. L. WILSON.

### ROOM IN MARITIME

In accompanying articles you will read of the importance of the work of the missionary colporteur. This work loses none of its importance in Maritime. The seaport cities and thriving industrial towns are ready for the onslaught of our consecrated bookmen. The fishing villages and cove settlements wait for the coming of the night. Unentered countries with roads which circle the mountains or pass through great farming districts, are generously spattered with homes where young and old would unite in the study of the truth for this time were it but taken to them.

We look with considerable pride upon the records of each closing year. The financial growth of our conference causes a glow of satisfaction for it gives us a vision of a lengthening of our battle line—more workers. The number of conversions are of more than ordinary interest. These things are an index to the real life of the conference. Its pulse beats are reckoned by the missionary activities of its members. But while an increased income will provide for strengthening of a laboring force, and a generous support of foreign mission work will bring its reward for faithfulness, these things do not provide for the regular colporteur who month after month goes on with silent messengers, leaving at hundreds of homes a witness for the truth which he represents. This demand can only be met by men who are called to give life-service in the field and make their calling sure.

Far back where Bible workers and ministers cannot go is wonderful room for the colporteur to go and search out the honest, hungry ones. "Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled." A wonderful privilege that unto us has been committed the work of giving them the satisfying bread of heaven! The commission is not to feed five thousand on a hillside of Galilee—yet this would be considered a golden opportunity for service—but to feed more than a million scattered throughout New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Our yearly sales are now totalled in five figures, but counting every subscription book sold during the last three years, we have placed but one book in every hundred homes. Surely with one hundred and eighty thousand homes yet to reach, there is room in Maritime for a larger campaign than we have ever before caught a glimpse of.

AMY FRANK



A. J. OLSON—President E.C.M. College

### RELATIONSHIP OF THE COLPORTEUR WORK TO OUR SCHOOLS

Our colleges and academies today are recruiting centres for the colporteur work. Every spring at the close of the school year hundreds of young men and women go to the country, village and city with our truth-filled literature.

This work, besides reaching people who could often be reached in no other way, is of great value to the school. It brings in a strong missionary spirit.

As for the student, the colporteur work helps him in many ways. There are scores of young people who would not be able to be in school if it were not for the scholarships earned in the colporteur work. The student who puts in faithful time selling books in the summer will nearly always, as far as finances are concerned, be able to complete any course of study in our schools that he desires. Also, there is no line of work or course of study that will mean more to the student in developing leadership than the colporteur work. Students who are timid and backward when they go to their territory in the spring, come back to school in the fall courageous and self reliant, willing to accept responsibilities that they before would shrink from.

Another even greater benefit to the student is that while in the field he becomes acquainted with the actual needs of humanity. He also learns his own needs, and as he returns to school he will be in a better position to get out of his work that which will make of him a strong, well trained worker in the cause of God.

A. J. OLSON.

### A RETROSPECT

The year 1919 has reached its close. Naturally the mind wanders back over the days that have passed and strives to find something of worth that has been accomplished.

Thinking back over the colporteur year of 1919 in Maritime, we have a great many things to be thankful for. Progress is the watchword for this field and on every front of the Lord's cause. From

the great fields beyond we hear sounds of victory as the truth goes marching on. And working in line with these sentiments, we must "expect great things from God and attempt great things for God."

Last winter when I received a call to connect with the book work in this conference, I talked the prospects for 1919 over with Elder Wilson, and we decided that \$15,000 would be a large goal for this conference that being about double the amount reached the preceding year. However, when the institute was held we stepped out a bit farther in faith and raised our goal to \$20,000. While we did not quite reach that amount by colporteurs in the field, the gross sales amounted to a little more than the goal. Let us see how we stand in comparison with previous years:

1917	\$ 7,423.10
1918	8,260.65
1919	20,063.28

This is a large gain and shows earnest effort on the part of those in the field. Still this is only a small part of what God expects. In our territory there are a number of French people. For these we have done nothing, one reason being that we have no suitable book in that language; another, we have no workers to carry forward this department. May the Lord work upon the hearts of our French speaking brethren to take up work for their own people.

The leading book used in 1919 was "Practical Guide to Health." "Great Controversy" and "Bible Readings" as well as "Coming King" were also used. We feel that results must follow the faithful seed-sowing done in this and former years.

We look with joy upon the growing interest in this branch of the Master's work. Indications all around us are that the spirit of the latter rain is getting into the hearts and souls of the people of God, and who knows what the future has in store? Of one thing we are sure—the truth filled pages of literature that have gone to the people will be a mighty factor in the last great effort for fallen man. The



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