



**Echoes from the Field.**

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**GENERAL ARTICLES.**

**LET US RETURN. No. 1.**

R. W. Parmele, Sec. S. W. U. C.

As the space of the ECHOES is limited, I will come at once to the point in this article. There has been of late years a perceptible departure from former principles in our missionary enterprises. Formerly the missionary society in the church was, so to speak, the "working bee." Missionary meetings were held weekly for the purpose of reporting the work done, devising plans for future work, and in most cases to wrap and send out a club of missionary papers, (usually the *Signs of the Times*.) The names of individuals to whom the *Signs* were thus sent were parceled among the members, and they were expected to conduct a correspondence with them; reporting the results of such correspondence, and reading the letters in the missionary meeting. In this way life was brought into the meeting, and so into the entire church. In many cases, when the papers were prepared for the mail, the company knelt around them, and earnest prayers were offered for the blessings of God to attend the silent messengers, and make them fruitful in the conversion of souls.

May I ask, what has happened, brethren, that we now seem to consider

ourselves excused from this work? Is the truth less important? Are souls of men less precious in the sight of God?

Have we accomplished all that is necessary? Or were we too zealous formerly? I cannot think that anyone would consider that we are excused from service yet, but on the other hand, I believe all will agree that we have really become careless as to our duty in these matters. The purpose of this article is not to suggest plans for work, but simply to call attention to faults that I believe exist.

I know that I am speaking the truth when I say that many of our local societies have almost become "cash buyers' unions,"—a sort of combination through which supplies may be furnished the members at a reduction. Am I putting it too strongly? Let me give my reason for saying this: The *Signs of the Times* has been furnished at club rates at a loss to the publishers, in order that it might be used by our churches as a missionary paper.

The single subscriptions, in a measure, make up the deficit. In some of our churches, with which I have become acquainted, our brethren have discontinued their single subscriptions, and have clubbed together for perhaps twenty-five copies, and imposed upon their librarian the task of remailing the papers each week to the members who have thus subscribed. Thus they obtained the papers at one twenty-fifth of the entire cost of the club.

The only object that the *Signs* publishers have had in making a club rate is so that the brethren might be able to take a large number to send to those who would not have interest enough to subscribe for the paper. They have expected that the single subscriptions of our brethren, together with the subscriptions of those who might thus become interested in the paper, would in a measure make up for the loss sus-

tained by making the club rate. Is it missionary work, brethren, for us to take advantage of this, and head off the object of the publishers, cutting off the revenue from single subscriptions, by taking our papers through the clubs?

Since we know these things, can we longer pursue this course? Similar errors are committed in regard to subscription books, and tracts; but I believe that these were committed unthoughtedly, and this gives me courage to point them out.

**THE MINISTRY AND ITS AUTHORITY.**

The true ministry has in the church of Christ authority supreme in the administering of the ordinances and the teaching of all moral matters because it is the authority of the Word of God. II Tim. 4:1-5. "These things speak with *all authority*. Let no man despise thee." Titus 2:15. So long as the ministry speaks "these things" (the Word of God,) it has "all authority."

But since the "all authority" is dependent upon the speaking of "these things,"—the Word, therefore, when any minister or ministry departs from the Word, that minister or ministry has lost all authority in that thing in which departure exists. Since the authority is in the Word, therefore, when the Word of God is absent, there can be no authority. "To the law and to the testimony, if they speak not according to this Word, it is because there is no light in them." Isa. 8:20. "The Bible should be our guide. There can be no greater deception than for a man to think that he can find a better guide." Test. 33, pg. 87. "The Word of God is sufficient." Id. pg. 191.

What gives the ministry of the remnant its authority above any other today, is the fact that it has truth (the Word of God, John, 17:17) above any other.

## FORWARD MOVEMENT.

"The remnant of Israel shall not do iniquity nor *speak* lies; neither shall a deceitful tongue be found in their mouth." Zeph. 3:13. "Here are they that keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus." Rev. 14:12.

Thus God has committed to the remnant the same law and the same faith that the apostles had. *There is no other gospel than that which Paul preached.* The world needs that same old gospel and no other.

"But though we or an angel from heaven preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed."

When "the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe, because the foolishness of God is wiser than men." 1 Cor. 1:21, 25.

Having this gospel restored and committed unto us, we are in debt to the world and must under pain of eternal loss, "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." Jude 3. Let everyone who reads this also read carefully and prayerfully the solemn admonitions of God in 1 Tim. 6:20, 21, and Col. 2:7, 8, 20, 22.

We are not safe one moment away from the Bible faith. But with it we are in a Rock of Gibraltar fortress.

Read that chapter in Vol. 4, of "Great Controversy," entitled "the Scriptures a safeguard." It is for us in the closing work. Read it and let us take a solemn vow as an entire Conference, to be clear of every human tradition and stand by the Bible more faithfully than ever as our rule of faith in all things. God will richly bless us. "Him that honoreth me, I will honor."

The Lord has committed to us the standard of Christian truth and liberty from sin through the Word, that we may bravely hold it aloft on the crest of the Rockies as a beacon of hope and life to lost and bound souls here, and everywhere in this great world. Success is sure. God has promised to take His people through to the kingdom. Woe to any who leave the Word of God now. The chains that bind them will be strong. But "be of good cheer!" *Until the end of the world, He is with you who teach what He has commanded.* John 16:33. Matt. 28:18-20.

H. M. J. RICHARDS.

Elder Ziegler and Brother Menkel are planning to visit some of the northern churches, giving instruction from the Word in the various lines of work.

The condition of the world is thus described in Isaiah: "For behold the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people." The New Testament coincides with this, "and the whole world lieth in wickedness," 1 John, 5:19. In the midst of this darkness God has placed a light; that light is the truth of God. Ps. 119:105. The church of God is the pillar, the candlestick, that is to hold up that light before the world. 1 Timothy, 3:15. Rev. 1:20. If the church neglects to do this, there is no possibility of the world's learning to know God.

God has given to us the Third Angel's Message, which is the last message. We who profess to have accepted the truths it contains, are to announce it to the world. God expects every one of us to do our duty.

Quite frequently we hear members of our churches say "I cannot do anything—I have no talents, no money." It is just here the danger lies. Let us remember that the servant who received only one talent was the one who hid it. Undoubtedly he thought he had received so little that he could not do anything, and that nothing was expected of him. This was a temptation from Satan who would rather see people bury their talents than use them for the enlightenment of their fellow beings. God has given to every one of us at least one talent, and he expects us to use what we have, and not what we have not.

The work in God's cause has been so arranged that every one, young and old, can have a part in it. In this article I shall speak of only one phase of our work—the distribution of our papers. I firmly believe that it is through this medium that the largest number can be reached. When I view the work to be done in this part of the harvest field—the city of Denver—having at present only three ministers, one in English, one in Swedish and one in German, and the church distributing only a few hundred papers a week, I confess I am at a loss to understand how this city is to be warned before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord. If this is to be done, there must be more interest and activity manifested in our churches. The ministers are working hard, and sometimes with little success, whereas, if the churches were working with them, the results would be far greater. Pastors should lay plans for the work, and educate the members to do the work. See "Gospel Workers," pages 101 and 102.

Suppose every member in the Denver church should go to work with *Signs of the Times* and *Good Health*. There are about three hundred active members in the church. Let us say that each member would sell on an average of twenty copies a week; that would make 6,000 copies each week. Just think of it! 6,000 copies filled with present truth; what an immense work, what a far-reaching influence. Could not the city of Denver be divided into small districts, each member having certain blocks to work? Inside of a year there would not be a family in this large city that had not received a few rays of present truth into their homes.

And what about our children? Should they be left without consideration in this work? Children have always been great missionaries. When Christ entered the temple in Jerusalem, the children cried "Hosannah to the Son of David." The solemn event of the investigative judgment of 1844 was announced by children of Scandinavia, from seven to fifteen years of age. Can it be possible that our children will not have a part in heralding the glorious message of the second coming of Christ? Far from it. In the work of selling papers, children can, in many instances, do even better than the older people. We have tried it in several places with good results.

In the popular churches they have, for a number of years, been organizing boy's brigades, to instill into their minds principles of war. Has not the time come when Seventh-day Adventists should organize their children to work for the salvation of souls?

When Moses demanded of Pharaoh liberty for the children of Israel, that they might serve God, and begin the journey toward the promised land, he asked, who are they that shall go? The answer is significant. "We will go with our *young* and with our *old*, with our *sons* and with our *daughters*, with our flocks and with our herds will we go; for we must hold a feast unto the Lord." Ought not we, in these last days, when the world is exerting its subtle influence upon our children, to do as Moses did?

Our papers should not be given away; they should be sold. It is a mistake to give away too many of our papers. There is so much cheap literature distributed free, and people pay little or no attention to it. As a rule, our papers sell easily. What we need is faith in the work. We apologize too much for being Seventh-day Adventists. We know that our papers are the

best papers in the world, and we should put forth every effort to scatter the precious truths they contain. Let every member decide to take a certain number of papers and stand responsible for them. Those who cannot pay in advance, let them pay as they sell, weekly or monthly. By charging five cents per copy for the *Signs*, a cent and a half paying for the paper, we have a good margin left to do good with in other ways. In this way, at the end of the year, there will be no debt hanging over the tract society. The workers will have earned money instead of paying out only; the publishing houses will have plenty to do, and thousands of people will have learned to know the truth.

S. F. SVENSSON.

## FIELD REPORTS.

### Grand Junction.

We are planning to do a great work this year. Brother Spring and wife are with us. We expect to visit the Fruita church next Sabbath, March 8.

Elder Rippey and family from Kansas have moved to this valley. This is a large field, and there are but few to do the work. Let us all work with God to help finish the harvest. Many of our people are dead because they do not work.

E. C. CLARK.

### Salida.

Dr. Hills and I held some meetings with the Salida church with very gratifying results, though we did not continue them as long as we had hoped to. We know that all will rejoice with us to learn that there is no longer a schism in the Salida church.

I think some would have been added to the church could we have continued our meetings. Dr. Hills expects to return as soon as possible to finish the work begun, and so suddenly terminated.

I trust all have learned that there is a nobler work to be done than to sit upon the judgment seat and find fault with poor mortal man. May we all realize that the Lord is preparing a people to take to himself, and if we are not of the number, we will suffer loss.

W. ZIEGLER.

### Wray.

Last Friday Elder Svensson joined me at Wray to assist in the dedication of the church building at that place. We held three services on the Sabbath and three on Sunday, all of which were well attended. The weather was all that could be desired, and as for the

attendance, it exceeded our most sanguine expectations.

In spite of all that has been done to prejudice the people at Wray against the truth, it is evident that there is a general good feeling existing there, for which we are truly thankful. One soul gave her heart to God, and others are in the valley of decision.

Eld. Svensson said the church building was as near like the last he helped to erect in Michigan as two churches could be alike. It is 24x40, with cloak room 8x12. It is seated with chairs. The motto over the rostrum reads "Our Anchor Holds," with an anchor drawn below. This is the work of a Denver artist who chanced to be in Wray at the time the church was being erected.

The best news of all with reference to this church, is that it is all paid for, so that we did not need to ask the people for money, a fact which was evidently appreciated not only by us, but by every soul present.

MALCOM MACKINTOSH.

### CONFERENCE DISTRICTS.

At a meeting of the Conference Committee held in Denver Feb. 26th, 1902, it was decided to divide the Conference into six districts, and to place each district in charge of a superintendent. The following division of territory was made, and the superintendents named were appointed:

Elder Watson Ziegler—District No. 1, bounded on the south by the south line of Arapahoe county, and an extension of that line westward to its intersection with the east line of Summit county; on the west by the east and north line of Summit county, to its intersection with the 106th meridian; thence north on that meridian to the State line.

Dr. Willard W. Hills—District No. 2, bounded on the north by district 1 and a line drawn westward from the intersection of the 106th meridian and the north line of Summit county to the west line of Summit county; on the west by the west line of Summit county south of the line above mentioned, the north and west line of Lake county, the continental divide and the Sangre de Christo range; on the east and south by the State line.

Elder Mackintosh—District No. 3, bounded on the east by district 2; on the south and west by the State line; on the north, the Cochetope hills in Saguache county; the Continental Divide in Hinsdale county, and the north line of San Juan and Dolores counties. This district shall also include the towns in New Mexico on the D. & R.

G. R. R., and the Farmington district.

Elder H. M. J. Richards—District No. 4, bounded on the south by district 3; on the east by district 2; on the north by the 39th degree of north latitude; westward to the western border of the Grand Mesa, thence in a north-westerly direction along the line of the Little Book Cliff Hills to the State line; on the west, the State line.

Elder G. W. Anglebarger—District No. 5, bounded on the east by districts 1 and 2; on the south by district 4; on the west and north by the State line.

Elder H. L. Hoover—District No. 6, including all of New Mexico except the portions mentioned as belonging to district 3.

DR. WILLARD W. HILLS,  
Secretary of Committee.

## THE SABBATH SCHOOL.

Conducted by MRS. G. F. WATSON.

### REPORT OF CONVENTIONS.

#### Grand Junction.

Sabbath, Feb. 22, 1902, was a good day for the church here, because of the blessing of God and presence of the Holy Spirit with us as we met in the two sessions of the Sabbath school convention. The suggestive program sent us by the Field secretary was followed in the most part, with a few variations. The different subjects were presented in well written papers by the ladies of the Sabbath school. In this work the youth were not overlooked. There was good freedom in the consideration of the topics presented, and with perfect harmony.

From remarks made since the convention closed, by the members of the school, it was the best ever held here. To the Lord be all the praise. Each convention ought to be better than the preceding one. The assistance of Elder Rippey who has recently moved here from Kansas, was much appreciated. The special exercises for the children, conducted by Mrs. Spring, held the close attention of all, both young and old, and demonstrated very clearly the power there is in illustrating the lessons of truth by the familiar things we find in nature all about us.

As we considered the needs of the school, we found the thing needed most was that of taking heed to the injunction in our motto: "Be ye filled with the Spirit." L. A. SPRING.

#### Cripple Creek and Hollywood.

Our convention was held March 8th and 9th at Hollywood. Bro. Proctor,

## NOTES AND ITEMS.

superintendent of the Sabbath-school, opened the convention. The superintendent gave a short address on the reasons for holding a convention, comparing it to a bouquet; each one bringing his brightest and most beautiful thought. Mrs. Covert read a paper on "The Object of the Sabbath school," and a discussion followed, in which all took an active part. One especially good thought presented was that many parents do not know Christ, hence cannot introduce their children to one whom they do not know; therefore the Sabbath-school must take the responsibility of making the children acquainted with Him.

Other papers read were on "Danger of Formalism" by Brother Freeman; "How to Help in Sabbath school," by Rose Birchell; "The work of the Sabbath-school," by Sister Rieke; "Singing in the Sabbath-school," by Sister Proctor. A well written and very helpful paper on "Primary Work" was read by Sister Vanata. "The Need of Consecrated Teachers" was the subject of a paper read by Sister Ragan. The last paper read was the "Importance of Searching the Scriptures," by Millie Bailey. The children took an important part in recitations, songs and the repeating of scripture, all of which were well rendered.

We glean the following thoughts from the many presented:

"Those who obey from the heart every form of God's requirements, are not in danger of formalism."

"Illustration conveys far more to a child's mind than the words of the lesson."

"There is a difference between searching and reading the Scriptures."

As we departed to our homes we felt we had been greatly benefited by our convention. **MRS. INES H. COVERT,**  
Secretary.

We are sure that most excellent Sabbath-school conventions are being held, judging from the reports which we have received. There is one suggestion, however, which we wish to make with reference to the reports, and that is, that they be made more brief. Give us the best thoughts gleaned, but not all the detail. We very much prefer to publish the reports just as we receive them, so let the "boiling down" be done at your end of the line in place of this end. We are sure the reports will thus prove more satisfactory to you.

Brother Mackintosh has moved his family to Monte Vista. This will be their permanent address for some time.

Eld. Ziegler spent last Sabbath with the company at Kersey. A Sabbath-school convention was held, a report of which we hope to receive soon.

Eld. Watson returned home Sunday evening after having spent two weeks profitably with some of the churches in District No. 2.

Brother Pearson reports the work at Pitkin as very encouraging. The Holy Spirit has been doing its office work in the church, and the results are only the best.

Brother Serna says that in his recent visit to Arizona he baptized seven souls and enjoyed some excellent meetings which were held by Elder Webster and himself.

Elder S. F. Svensson spent Sabbath, March 1, at Wray, where the church was dedicated on the following Sunday. He reports a good interest to hear the truth at that place.

Do not fail to read the article by Bro. R. W. Parmele, our Union Conference Secretary. This is the first of a series from his pen, and we bespeak for each one a careful reading.

Sister Pearson writes from Pitkin:—"Our Sabbath-school has increased in numbers since the first of January, and I know the interest is growing. I feel of good courage in the Lord."

Elder Richard's article in this issue is not the one promised, but is just as good. In the next number will appear his second article on "Divine Gospel Order." The first one was published in No. 3 of ECHOES, dated Feb. 5.

We were glad to receive a call recently from Brethren E. R. Palmer and A. J. Bourdeau on their return to Battle Creek. We understand that Elder A. G. Daniels was also in their company, but we did not have the pleasure of meeting him.

Do not fail to read the article entitled "Forward Movement" in this issue, and be ready to "go forward" with God's people. He who is not now advancing, is receding. What is your situation, reader?

Mrs. Leedy speaks thus of the late meetings held in Pueblo: "God is blessing us with meat in due season, while Brother Watson is here. There will be more work done, I know, in the near future in Pueblo than ever before. Pray for us."

We are pleased to announce the marriage of Brother C. H. Bates and Sister Mabel McKenna, at Colorado Springs, Sunday, the 16th inst. Elder Watson performed the ceremony in the presence of a few friends. Brother Bates will be remembered as one of our present Conference workers, and we extend to him and his bride our most hearty congratulations.

## OBITUARY.

LORE—Louis Spurlock Lore, born at Pitkin, Colo., October 25, 1895, died at Denver, Colo., Feb. 27, 1902: aged 6 years, 4 months and 2 days.

Cause of death, meningitis following typhoid fever.

Little Louis was the only son of Brother and Sister Lore of Gunnison, who most deeply mourn his loss, but not as others which have no hope. Louis was but an innocent child with a good disposition. We expect, if faithful, to meet him in the resurrection at the last day.

The funeral services were conducted at Gunnison, Feb. 28, by the writer. Words of comfort were spoken from Jer. 31:15-17.  
H. M. J. RICHARDS.

## AT REST.

The remains of Grandma Prosser were laid to rest in the Pitkin cemetery, Saturday, at noon. Elder G. F. Watson of the Seventh-day Adventist church, conducted the funeral services, his subject being: "She is not dead, but sleepeth."

Friends and neighbors attended the services in large numbers to pay their last respect to the memory of a noble Christian woman. The relatives have the sympathy of the entire community.—Pitkin Miner.

## NOTICE.

A joint Sabbath-school convention will be held by the members of the Longmont, Ni Wot and Hygiene Sabbath-schools, March 29 and 30. The meetings will be held in the Hygiene church. We extend a cordial invitation to any of our friends to meet with us at this time.

CUSH SPARKS.

## SPECIAL NOTICE.

It has been decided that a bulletin be published during the session of the Southwestern Union Conference, April 16-26. There will be six issues, it being published every other day during the meetings, and each issue will contain sixteen pages of the size of the "General Conf. Bulletin." It will cost but 25 cents, and we trust none will say they cannot afford it. Every family in the Conference should have it, that they may know just what is being done each day of the meeting. Besides the important business which will be transacted, excellent Bible instruction will be given, and will doubtless be reported in the bulletin.

Now it will be necessary for subscriptions to be sent in very soon, so we request that they be mailed direct to the secretary of the Southwestern Union Conference, R. W. Parmele, 821 West Fifth street, Topeka, Kansas. Do not delay, but send in your subscription at once. Interest yourself in securing subscriptions from others, and do all in your power to circulate this bulletin throughout the Conference.