



VOLUME XII.

DENVER, COLO., WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 1902.

NUMBER 14.

Echoes from the Field.

PUBLISHED EVERY TWO WEEKS FOR THE
Colorado S. D. A. Conference and
Tract Society,

At 1112 South Eleventh St., Denver, Colo.

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SUBSCRIPTION, 25 CTS. PER YEAR.

Entered at Denver Postoffice as Second Class
Matter.

GENERAL ARTICLES.

IMPORTANT.

DEAR BRETHREN:—In visiting our churches in different Conferences I am assured that as great care is not taken as should be in educating those that accept the truth before they are received as members of the church, and as a result our churches are more or less filled up with disorderly and lifeless members. It seems that some churches and ministers have been anxious to get members in order that they might present a good showing in point of numbers. I suppose this is due in a degree to the desire that is in us to be like the heathen around us, but I believe that this is a source of weakness to both our churches and Conference rather than a source of strength. I am confident that in nearly all the states of the Central Union Conference there is an inflated church membership, as persons have been allowed to have their names on the church books that for months and years have not attended church service, and in many cases have been walking in direct violation of the commandments of God. I do not believe that God can say "well and faithfully done" to ministers and churches when such is allowed to be the case. I think that we as ministers and laborers should have strong organizations spiritually, and if we have spiritual churches there will be

no question about the membership, as in many places, the inconsistent lives of professed Seventh-day Adventists are keeping honest people from uniting with us. Not only should great care be exercised in receiving members into the church, but also great care should be exercised in the selection of church officers. Our ministers should place before the people principles of truth which would lead them to select officers that are straight in all points of truth and reliable, Godly men.

It is better for the church to be without officers than to have officers that will give to the church the wrong mold. We are reaching a crisis in our work when we need men for laborers that are true as steel, as there are many theories being produced and many false principles being advocated, which will lead us as a people into almost inextricable difficulty if they can not in some way be controlled. Men in leading positions among us are advocating theories that I can not believe are in harmony with the Advent message, and our people should be so educated as to think and act for themselves in harmony with the Word and to take the Word as true in preference to the word of men.

After members have been received into the church and walk disorderly, they should be labored with according to Matt. 18; Gal. 6:1, and I Cor. 5. If they will not desist from their evil course they should be placed under censure or disfellowship. I find in some Conferences that the sentiment is quite prevalent that the wheat and tares should grow together until the harvest, and by that they mean that we should not deal with erring members. There never was a greater falsehood forged by Satan, because if that be true he could join the Adventist church and be recognized, as far as the record would show, as a member in good standing until the coming of the Lord.

We can not judge the motives of men, but when the evil that is in their hearts makes itself known in outbreking sin, by their fruit we know them, and they should be disciplined, so that the enemies of the Lord might not be led to blaspheme. I hope that our laborers everywhere will lend their voices and powers to correct the evils that are among us, and that Conference officers will try and correct the false showing in both churches and Conferences in our true standing. It may be that the standing of your churches and Conferences may be nearly correct, but if they are I am sure that in that respect you are an exception among our Conferences generally. It is better to have an active working membership.

Gideon could do more efficient work with the three hundred than he could with a great army, because with the three hundred whose hearts were in the work, by the blessing of God he overcame the Midianitish host.

There is another matter about which I feel exercised, and that is about our young people. All that have not an education should be encouraged to enter our schools and get an education, and all that have an education so they can labor should be urged to enter the work in some line or other. The third angel's message is broad enough to take in all of our intelligent, able-bodied young people, and God is not pleased with having them turn their attention to some worldly pursuit when it would be better for them to find employment in His cause, and thus be saved to the cause and be the means of saving others.— There is a dearth of laborers in nearly every line. We need one hundred canvassers where we now have one. We need scores and hundreds of young people to enter the church school work as also the medical work, and young men and young women should be preparing themselves for Bible workers and also for the min-

istry; and I am sure if the ministers take hold of this work as they should we will find that we have abundant talent within our denomination to make this work go with mighty power, and we will not have the sad experience of seeing our young people drifting into worldly pursuits, as careful with the selection of men for responsible positions, and as careful in maintaining a true standing in our churches, both spiritual and in point of numbers, as we should have been; that we have not been as particular as we should have been in encouraging young, middle-aged and aged people, so far as their circumstances and capabilities would permit them, to engage in the work of the third angel's message.

The reason why I write these words is because I feel burdened in regard to these matters. I am sure that we have not taken hold of the work as we should; that we have not been as thorough with church work, as careful with the selection of men for responsible positions, and as careful in maintaining a true standing in our churches, both spiritual and in point of numbers, as we should have been; that we have not been as particular as we should have been in encouraging young, middle-aged and aged people, so far as their circumstances and capabilities would permit them, to engage in the work of the third angel's message.

Hoping that in the future we may receive the co-operation of all our brethren in advancing the work of God in these last days, I am, your brother,
E. T. RUSSELL.

THE TESTIMONIES AND THE BIBLE

A testimony coming from the Spirit of God cannot conflict with the Word coming from the same source. The Testimonies are given to bring the church to the Bible. If it rests satisfied with the Testimonies and does not go to the Bible for all things, the Testimonies have failed to do the very work for which they were given, namely, that we might see more rapidly the truths of the Bible in the Bible itself and for ourselves. That we might more quickly grasp and faithfully teach the Bible and thus hasten the coming of the Lord. What God said through Paul, He will not contradict through Sister White.

The Bible is not out of date. It will never be a back number to the waiting people of God. On the contrary it is the perfect and only rule of faith of the last or remnant people who shall herald its saving words for the last time to this sin cursed race even to earth's remotest bounds. Every Christian, yes, every true prophet, will acknowledge the things that Paul wrote to be of divine authority.

I Cor. 14: 36, 37. "What? Came the word of God out from you? Or, came it unto you only? If any man think himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the

things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord."

"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 when in difficulty, than the Word of God. The blessed Word must be a lamp to our feet." Test. 33, p 87. "The Testimonies are not given to take the place of the Bible," but "to bring the minds of His people to His word, to give them a clearer understanding of it." "*The Word of God is sufficient to enlighten the most beclouded mind, and may be understood by those who have any desire to understand it.* But notwithstanding all this, some who profess to make the Word of God their study are found living in direct opposition to its plainest teachings. Then to leave men and women without excuse God gives plain and pointed testimonies, bringing them back to the word that they have neglected to follow." Test. 33, p 191. "The written testimonies are not to give new light, but to impress vividly upon the heart the truths of inspiration already revealed. Man's duty to God and to his fellowmen has been distinctly specified in God's word." "Additional truths are not brought out." "The Testimonies are not to belittle the Word of God, but to exalt it and attract minds to it." P. 193. "If the Testimonies speak not according to the Word of God, reject them." P. 219, par 2.

USE OF. "The first number of the Testimonies ever published contains a warning against the injudicious use of the light which is thus given to God's people. I stated that some had taken an unwise course; when they had talked their faith to unbelievers and the proof had been asked for, they had read from my writings instead of going to the Bible for their proof. It was shown me that this course was inconsistent. They should not be referred to in such cases." P. 197.

EXTREMES. "I saw that many have taken advantage of what God has shown in regard to the sins and wrongs of others. They have taken the extreme meaning of what has been shown in vision, and they have pressed it until it has had a tendency to weaken the faith of many in what God has shown, and also to discourage and dishearten the church." P. 198.

A PECULIAR WORK THAT HAS SAVED THE CAUSE FROM DISASTER.

"Past, present and future have passed before me. I have been shown faces that I have never seen, and years after-

wards I knew them when I saw them. I have been aroused from my sleep with a vivid sense of subjects previously presented to my mind; and I have written at midnight letters that have gone across the continent, and arriving at a crisis, have saved great disaster to the cause of God. This has been my work for many years." P. 199.

THE SPECIAL WORK OF THE TESTIMONIES.

"The work which the Lord has laid out before me especially, is to urge young and old, learned and unlearned, to search the Scriptures for themselves; to impress upon all that the study of God's Word will expand the mind and strengthen every faculty, fitting the intellect to wrestle with problems of truth, deep and far-reaching; to assure all that the clear knowledge of the Bible outdoes all other knowledge in making man what God designed he should be. 'The entrance of thy word giveth light; it giveth understanding to the simple.'" P. 214.

The Word of God "liveth and abideth forever." It will make "the man of God perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." Therefore, "Prach the word." II Tim. 3: 15-17; 4: 1-8.

H. M. J. RICHARDS.

FIELD REPORTS.

Leadville.

The Lord is still smiling on His work in this place, and since Dr. Hill's visit to us May 12th, three precious souls have been taken into fellowship, and wait to be buried with their Lord in baptism. There are two or three others that have accepted the truth and will no doubt step out when the opportunity for baptism is presented.

We are expecting a series of meetings here this summer, commencing early in July, and believe much good will be accomplished. Dr. Hills promises to be with us for six weeks or two months. We ask the ECHOES family to remember us with their prayers that Leadville may have a shaking up that will redound to the glory of God and the salvation of souls.

GEO. M. ALWAY.

Clyde, N. M.

In company with Brother Serna, I spent four days, June 12 16, with the brethren at Clyde. This company embraced the faith about eight months ago, and have about twenty-five in their Sabbath-school. Three meetings were held each day and were enjoyed

very much by the brethren. Sabbath afternoon, nine dear souls were baptized in the Rio Grande river. Two of this number are ministers from the M. E. and Presbyterian churches. These two were chosen and ordained as elder and deacon of the Clyde church which was organized at this time with nine members. Several others will unite with them soon.

Thus was organized the first Spanish S. D. A. church in New Mexico. At the last meeting the ordinances were celebrated, and steps were taken to build a church house. A lot was donated, and many promised sufficient to encourage the brethren that they can have a church completed this fall. Pray for the work in New Mexico.

H. L. HOOVER.

Costilla, N. M.

DEAR BROTHER WATSON:— The books which you sent me are doing good, much good among the people here. Thank God, the people are talking well about the books, and say, "if such are the books, there is no doubt but that your religion is a good religion too."

You advise me to be of good cheer; Thank you my dear brother; but please find out the good news, that I have never in my life felt in my heart such good cheer as I feel now, thank God my strength.

You propose to visit here and baptize me and family. All right, but let me tell you that the river is dry at present. There is no water at all. Hoping the Lord may help you in all good work, I am

Your brother in Christ,
L. VARGAS.

Cedar Rapids Iowa.

I am busy in this state at present and can report progress. Bro. Hardesty is taking hold of the work with good will. God has signified that He desires a great work to be done by the canvasser. The "Object Lessons" is advancing in both Iowa and Nebraska, and each state will soon have their quota disposed of. We expect the camp meetings to be jubilee occasions.

God is giving to his people great opportunities for scattering the pages of truth, and may the people of Colorado grasp these opportunities, and make a success of the present prosperous time. The cry of hard times is no longer by our canvassers, but instead, a lack of time.

O. E. CUMMINGS.

THE SABBATH SCHOOL.

Conducted by MRS. G. F. WATSON.

CONVENTION DAY.

In the three years that are past our Conference has reaped the benefit of a number of Sabbath school conventions and the great value of that work has been clearly established. One of the best evidences of the merit of the plan is that wherever our schools have attempted the work it has been successful, and they are always ready for another convention.

We are fully aware of the seeming difficulties and hindrances which have prevented some of our smaller schools from holding conventions. But we do not believe these difficulties or hindrances are of such a nature as to prevent the smallest school from receiving the rich blessing which would come to them through such an effort. We still believe that a time will come when every school in the Conference will know, from experience, how to appreciate these meetings.

We have been looking forward to a time when this work should be carried on with system and order, and when every school might have its part in the plan.

Sabbath, July 19, has been set apart as "Convention day." A suggestive programme has been prepared, and a copy sent to each school. From the hearty response thus far received, we believe our first "Convention Day" will be a success. Our desire is that every school should have a share of the blessing and to that end we entreat you who have never held a convention to hold one on "Convention Day." No matter how weak and feeble your effort, if done in faith, be sure that God will suit you out a blessing to your needs.

Remember the programme given below is simply suggestive and you can vary it according to your requirements. If we can advise you in any way, write us and we will gladly answer you to the best of our ability. Be sure and report your meeting to Mrs. Flora Watson, 1112 So. 11th St., Denver. Let us all go forward in prayerful confidence of success.

DR. WILLARD W. HILLS.

PROGRAMME.

FORENOON SESSION.

- 10:00-10:15 Singing by the School.
Short Scripture reading and Prayer.
Singing.
- 10:15-10:50 "The Work the Sabbath School Should Do."
1. For its members of all ages.
2. For others.
General Discussion of Topic.
Singing.

- 10:50-11:20 "Our Sabbath-school Offerings: How May They Be Increased?"
General Discussion of Topic.
- 11:20-11:30 Intermission.
- 11:30-12:00 Singing.
"Daily Study of the Word of God."
General Discussion of Topic."
- 12:00-12:30 "How to Improve the School from the Standpoint of a Scholar."
General Discussion.
- AFTERNOON SESSION.
- 2:00-2:15 Opening exercises.
- 2:15-5:45 "Duty of each Member to the School"
General Discussion.
- 2:45-3:00 An Exercise by the children.
Singing.
- 3:00-3:30 "How May Young Teachers be Trained for Effective Work?"
General Discussion.
- 3:30-3:45 Singing.
A Message from the State Sabbath-school Secretary.
- 3:45-4:15 Opening of the Question Box.
Reading of Secretary's Report.
Closing Song.

How to Strike a Telling Blow for Temperance.

The Lord blessed in a most marked manner the effort we made against the tobacco evil in the June number of THE LIFE BOAT. We have decided to ask our friends everywhere to help us circulate the August number which will take up the Temperance Question.

The twenty-five thousand edition of the June number was exhausted within a few days after it was off the press, and we had orders for five thousand more that we could not fill. To prevent this occurring again we will have plates made of the August number.

Many who have been slaves to tobacco for years are writing to us the most earnest letters asking for advice as to how they may secure deliverance from their bondage. There are tens of thousands of liquor and drug victims who are equally sick and tired of their terrible bondage. Almost every issue of the popular magazines contains about a dozen advertisements of "Sure Cure" for drunkenness and drug habits, and multitudes of these victims who have never seen our hands extended to them, are patronizing these delusive cures.

Those who will finally be among the saved will certainly have been anxiously seeking to set at liberty these captives.

The August number will contain most stirring words written specially for it by prominent temperance workers. It will also be filled from cover to cover with facts concerning the real cause of intemperance, and helpful suggestions as to how the drunkard may co-operate physically so that he may secure the best spiritual results. It will also contain some of the striking experiences that we have met here in Chicago, as they will serve as an encouragement to the struggling inebriate.

As a people we will have to answer

at the bar of God for the souls that have gone down to drunkards' graves while our voices have so nearly remained silent in reference to this great evil. The devil and his agent, take no summer vacations. Neither do we dare to fold our hands because it seems like an unfavorable time of the year in which to do something definite for humanity.

All orders for a hundred copies or more will be furnished at one cent and a half per copy, and smaller orders at two cents per copy.

Address, THE LIFE BOAT, 28 Thirty-Third Place, Chicago.

DAVID PAULSON.

NOTES AND ITEMS.

"Remember, youth once gone, is gone; Deeds let escape are never to be done."

Elder Anglebarger and wife left Denver Sunday, June 29, for Meeker where they will labor with Eld. L. H. Proctor.

The blanks for church reports have been mailed to the various church officers, and we trust will receive prompt attention.

If there is a blue cross on your ECHOES wrapper you may know your subscription has expired. Please renew at once.

Subscriptions for ECHOES are still accepted at this office, and we welcome not only renewals but new subscriptions. Please send them in.

Sister Van Atta of Telluride with her little daughter Clara, has been spending a few days in Denver on her return home from an eastern trip.

Sabbath-school workers should, by all means, be provided with ECHOES. If you know of one not receiving it, please send us the name and 25 cents.

We hope all our Sabbath-schools will remember that Sabbath, July 19, is "Convention Day," and will be ready to carry out a program. Do not forget to read Dr. Hills article in this issue.

Elder Richards was called to Loveland on account of the sudden death of a relative, and spent Sabbath, July 5, in Denver on his way back to the western slope. His wife and little son have joined him on his return.

Dr. Hills had the privilege of attending the International Sunday-school Convention held in Denver, June 26-30, and we shall expect some

of the excellent thoughts gleaned by him, for future issues of the ECHOES.

The quarterly occasion was much enjoyed by the Denver church. Elder Richards spoke, reviewing the Lord's institution of the ordinances, and then followed the memorial service which the Saviour commanded us to observe.

The tent company under the direction of Eld. Ziegler will move this week from Arvada to some other part of Denver. This season of the year being a most busy one for gardeners, the interest at Arvada has not been sufficient to warrant continuing the meetings longer.

Brethren Allen and Owen who have been canvassing in the Greeley district, have changed their field for a short time, and will enter Idaho Springs and Georgetown. Their efforts in the book work have been crowned with success in Colorado thus far, and they believe there is no better field.

Sunday Legislation by Congress.

Several bills for more strict Sunday enforcement in the District of Columbia have recently made their appearance in Congress, and an interesting public hearing on the matter was held before the District Commissioners on May 27th. This hearing will be reported in the July *Sentinel of Christian Liberty*. The importance of this matter should secure for that number of the *Sentinel* a wide circulation.

This issue will also be a special number in that much of the matter contained in it will have special reference to the principles of the Declaration of Independence and the present striking national trend away from them.

Subscription price to the *Sentinel* is but \$1 per year, and large numbers should send in their orders in time to receive this number. Arrangements should also be made to dispose of thousands of extra copies. A special low rate of 5 cents per copy will be made when ordered in lots of ten or more.

Address orders to COLORADO TRACT SOCIETY.

Vegetarian Cafe.

As the season of the year has come for summer vacation, no doubt many of you have friends or acquaintances who will come to Colorado Springs, as a vast majority of tourists visit this city, and many would be glad to know where to get good wholesome meals. You would confer a favor on them and us, by directing them to the Vegetarian Cafe, 322½ N. Tejon St., one-

half block north of city park, on main street-car line, situated in the heart of the rooming district, where five hundred people can find lodging within a radius of one block.

The Vegetarian Cafe was located in this city because of the possibility of disseminating the seeds of truth "to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people," as tourists come here from all parts of the world. It serves all the Battle Creek Health Foods and is conducted on strictly health reform principles.

Mr. & Mrs. F. W. Patterson,
Colorado Springs, Colo.

Twenty Years of Strikes.

The above subject has a significant meaning at the present time.

"It was in 1880 that the era of strikes began in this country, and in the twenty years from 1881 to 1900, there were about 23,000 of these industrial wars, or more than a thousand a year."—*Literary Digest*.

In face of this, we hear people talking of the coming millenium and a time of peace here. We who understand that these facts only indicate which way the wind is blowing, can see the fulfillment of prophecy and the soon coming of the Messiah who will put an end to all these strikes and usher in His kingdom.

Notice.

Providence permitting, the Monte Vista Camp meeting will commence the 30th inst.

All those wishing tents please notify me at once. Bring bedding and cooking utensils.

The Durango meeting will immediately follow this one.

Come to the feast, brethren, and bring your friends.

MALCOLM MACKINTOSH
Monte Vista, Colo.

THE PARKER "LUCKY CURVE" FOUNTAIN PEN is the best pen on the market. Every hand can be suited. It is a most beautiful working pen, writing smooth and even as with an ordinary pen. The feed is so arranged that the pen will not leak as do most fountain pens, and is guaranteed to give satisfaction. Prices range from \$1.50 to \$5.00. We have a good supply in stock and can fill orders promptly.

COLORADO TRACT SOCIETY.

If you wish success in life, make perseverance your bosom friend, experience your wise counsellor, caution your elder brother and hope your guardian genius.—*Addison*.