

EASTERN TIDINGS

SOUTHERN ASIA DIVISION

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[No. 1

COURAGEOUS LEADERSHIP FOR 1941

W. H. BERGHERM

God depends upon human leadership to accomplish His purposes among His people. To Moses, who led Israel out of Egypt, He outlined a plan calling for captains over thousands, over hundreds, over fifties, and over groups of ten. These men were appointed to lead Israel along the journey toward the promised land.

It is required of leaders that they be men of faith and courage. God said to Moses, "Send thou men, that they may search the land of Canaan, which I give unto the children of Israel: of every tribe of their fathers shall ye send a man, every one a ruler among them." Num. 13:2. The spies were chosen from among the captains or leaders of the people. Each one was a ruler. God had a special purpose in doing this. It was important that those who lead Israel should be men of faith and vision,—men who recognized difficulties and problems, but whose faith and courage rose above these things and declared that it could be done. Israel needed men who, notwithstanding the giants in the way, could say, *We can do it!* Lacking such leadership, even God's power would be limited and His works among them curtailed. It was, therefore, necessary to test the leadership of Israel, and this was done by appointing them as spies to spy out the land of the enemy. The story of the evil report of the eight spies, and its baneful effect upon the children of Israel, is familiar to all. Israel lost their

way and perished in the wilderness because their leadership failed them. We read, "In their unbelief they [the rulers of the people] limited the power of God and distrusted the hand that had hitherto safely guided them." Unbelief limits God's power. Somehow, if the church is to go at all it must have leadership of faith in God. In the heart of every leader, and of every captain of every band, there must be the courage and the willingness to follow God all the way, and the confidence and assurance that victories can be attained.

Today, at the beginning of this new year, we are thinking of the captains of the tens and fifties,—those smaller groups in the organization of the church militant. Sometimes we call them class band leaders, or leaders of the reporting groups in the church missionary service. Others are appointed as leaders of the literature work, and still others to lead out in the Bible work, Dorcas, or lay-preaching work. Every church, according to its number of workers, needs the benefit of leadership along all of these lines. Men and women of proven courage and vision are called for.

Let us think of the literature work. Our leaflets and pamphlets, we are told, must be "scattered like the leaves of autumn."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, p. 231. To do this effectively and systematically, with territory properly appointed and with follow-up plans carefully outlined, requires the attention and promotion of

a leader of courage. The same thing is true in lay Bible work. We are instructed that "among the members of our churches there should be more house-to-house labour in giving Bible readings."—*Id.*, p. 127. Such work requires training, guidance, constant direction and encouragement, and calls for the appointment of a leader who, while recognizing the problems confronting him, is confident that his people are well able to accomplish the task.

We recognize that this wonderful plan of organization has long been with us. For years the importance of the work of captains of smaller groups has been emphasized. Yet, it must be admitted that perhaps here is our weakest link in our organization. Clearly is it pointed out that it is the formation of these small service companies in the church that constitutes the "basis of Christian effort" (See *Testimonies*, Vol. 7, p. 21.) We fear it is because many church boards have neglected to take this step at the beginning of the year that more literature has not been distributed, and a larger number of Bible readings given; and that in many places a comparatively small percentage of the number have reported missionary work. Let us not limit the power of God in 1941. He stands ready to work for us as never before. If we will give Him captains of tens who have faith in His power and believe the work can be done in His way, success will surely follow.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

J. M. STEEVES, Secretary

CLOSING EXERCISES AT VINCENT HILL SCHOOL AND COLLEGE

RALEIGH A. GARNER

THE last few days at school are happy and lively ones. Examinations are over and everyone is thinking of and preparing to go home. *Bara Khana* is the first of the closing events of the year to which all eagerly look forward. The good food, the interesting after-dinner speeches, the farewell addresses, and the distribution of prizes and gifts, are all coupled with the occasion. We were happy to have a few visitors with us during the week-end. Some were parents and others were close relatives of several of the students.

The special Consecration service of the last Friday evening was impressive. The simple, but attractive, decorations displaying the motto and aim of the graduating class added dignity and solemnity to the occasion. Particularly was the service arranged with the class in mind. It will be memorable because of the earnest testimonies borne by the class members, and other students and the teachers. The aim, "To Walk in the Light," and the motto, "Upholding the Lamp," were very appropriately chosen by the class for such a time as we are living in today. Uniquely arranged in the decorations, to display the motto, was portrayed a hand holding up a flaming torch. The impression was effective, and well illustrated the Christian's responsibility to hold up the lamp of God's Word before the world of darkness today.

On Sabbath Pastor Collett gave the Baccalaureate address and further emphasized the thought of service in connection with upholding the lamp of God's Word before the dark and lost world of sin.

Sabbath afternoon we gathered for the last public service at the Young People's hour. A very impressive Investiture service was conducted. We were very pleased to have with us Pastor J. M. Steeves, the Departmental Secretary of the Division for Education and the Missionary Volunteers; also Miss Sandberg, the Departmental Secretary of the Northwest Union for the Missionary Volunteers, Sabbath School, and Home Missionary work.

Mrs. Hnatyshyn gave a short report of the work done by the Progressive classes during the year, and then she introduced the program. Miss Sandberg gave a very impressive talk, after which various ones from the different classes gave demonstrations of some of the requirements for

Investment. Mrs. Garner sang "Trees" as Mrs. Hnatyshyn beautifully illustrated a mountain scene in a pine forest. In the background, partly hidden, was a country home nestled in the snow-covered evergreens. The fully lighted and heated home suggested a place of comfort and peace for its occupants. The grandness of the trees bespoke the power and greatness and goodness of God. Pastor Steeves then took charge and spoke of the Progressive Class work and what it means to the church to have such an organization for its youth, and of what it would mean to those being invested. There were fourteen Friends, twenty-three Companions, two Comrades, and nine Master-Comrades invested. The service was brought to a conclusion by a song and an earnest prayer that God would guide those who had been invested, and that all might renew their covenant with Him and live better lives for Him.

On Sabbath evening came the Class program. As the processional march was played, the Class members marched in and took their appointed places. With the lights off, except those especially arranged to display the motto and aim and the Class, the graduates gave their parts very efficiently. The entire program, under the sponsorship of Mrs. Butherus, was a credit to the Class, and well illustrated what a Christian education means to our youth. At the conclusion it was the privilege of the writer to make a few brief remarks and then present the diplomas to the graduates who had worked so hard and faithfully to obtain them. As the recessional was played, the Class of '40 marched out and were congratulated by their schoolmates and teachers for their accomplishment.

The Class of '40 is the largest the School has ever graduated at one time. Nine completed their High School, four their Normal Training, two their College Commercial, and one his Junior College. Eight of the High School graduates appeared for their Senior Cambridge Certificate. This is the largest number the School has ever sent up for this government examination at one time.

Within a short time we have hopes of every College graduate being appointed in the Lord's work in Southern Asia. Some are now in the work, and others are under appointment. Vincent Hill School and College is growing, and we pray that more of our European and

Anglo-Indian young people, who wish to become better workers for God, will plan to take further training in the school during the next school year.

SPICER COLLEGE NEWS

MANY a College student's thoughts turn homeward as the Christmas and New Year season passes. A week of vacation, including both December 25 and January 1, permitted only those whose homes are near Bangalore to visit their parents, but plans were made to pass the week as pleasantly and profitably as possible by the majority who remained at the College. There was much play, a fair amount of work, and a little study done. The usual mid-winter picnic was a treat, as were the several other programs and entertainments. None enjoyed the diversion more than the teachers. Some of our young men spent the time in colporteur work, which is certainly praiseworthy.

On Saturday night, December 21, a very interesting religious play was presented by some of the students, directed by Mr. and Mrs. Berntson. The program was well prepared and well received. Dialogue, vocal music, and a coloured chalk illustration by C. I. John were items which added to the entertainment.

Mr. Pohlman has been away for a trip to our schools and patrons in the Northeast Union. Visits of this type help the workers and parents to understand better what the College is attempting to do, and also give the management a clearer view of the needs of the field and the service to be rendered. Although he reports a pleasant trip, he still affirms that "there's no place like home."

Mr. Gardner also spent a few days away visiting in South India in the interests of our food products. This effort resulted in several new agencies being established. The report is that a day of Mr. Pohlman's time in Calcutta booked orders worth over Rs. 700 for our food products.

The Spicer College graduating class for 1941 will soon be organizing. We regret that some students who have been studying long enough to join the class are unable to meet the honour point requirement for good scholarship, and, unless improvement is marked during the next few months, cannot graduate with their class.

Due to a disease of the hedge, it was necessary to remove this old landmark from the roads and lawns of the compound. Now that it is gone, we have almost decided that the appearance of our grounds is improved.

Although the hedge has disappeared from the surface of the ground, there has been in evidence a new growth of brush in the College. But this must be



A recent mail brought a cartload of books and lessons to fill Home Study Institute orders.

SERVICE TO YOU

THE past year has seen many changes in our Home Study Institute plans, each and every one being made or altered in order that we might better serve those interested in this facility for self-improvement.

To obviate the difficulties encountered in sending your applications to the Home Office in Washington before forwarding the lessons to you, we now have in stock a very complete supply of lessons and textbooks, ready for immediate dispatch to the field on receipt of your applications. The picture in this issue of EASTERN TIDINGS shows one large shipment of lessons and books which recently arrived in our office. This large, year-end shipment gives you some idea of the growing popularity of the Home Study Institute in Southern Asia.

Furthermore, our arrangement for most of the recitation papers to be corrected in Southern Asia makes it possible for us to ensure a promptness which is not possible while using overseas instructors.

As we progress we intend to introduce new features from time to time which will give the Home Study Institute a wider and wider field of usefulness and

helpfulness to all. Just recently we have decided to rent on the circulating-library basis some of our collateral reading reference works which, to buy outright, would be too expensive for each one to purchase, but through this means you may avail yourselves of the opportunity to read these last-minute books, fresh from the press, on such subjects as the present political turmoil in the world.

In another place in this issue, you will see advertised certain books on current history, which have cost us between twelve and fifteen rupees each, but which we are making available to the field on a rental basis of Rs. 1-0-0 per month, plus postage. It is hoped that if this plan proves satisfactory, we can expand it more widely, and include a large range of books commonly stocked by us in connection with certain courses we offer.

We try to keep uppermost in mind in all our planning that the Home Study Institute has been established in Southern Asia to promote efficient extension work in advanced and lower education to all those who desire to improve their talents and time; and we wish to assure you of our willing co-operation to help you reach your goal.

explained. One of our Telugu young men, Mr. A, to show wisdom and age, permitted his beard to grow for several weeks. Others from the Telugu community hesitated to claim kinship with the bearded Mr. A, and repeatedly urged the removal of the offending appendage. Finally, somewhat impressed, Mr. A, on

the volley ball court, agreed that if in the next game his Telugu well-wishers and he should win, and the other side lose, he would shave, on condition that if the Telugu side should lose, the full Telugu team would not shave for one month. Papers were drawn up, signed, and sealed. To the great surprise of the

players and witnesses, the Telugu lost. It was not many days before the Telugu element of the student group began to show change. Mr. A, displeased with the new appearance of his fellows, resolved, though treaty bound, to shave at once, and disclaim acquaintanceship. Now the month has passed and the hedge is gone. But if news is what students are talking about, then this is news.

We wish, in closing, to send from Spicer College the best greetings of the season to our friends throughout the Division, and every good wish for a good year ahead.

SABBATH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

E. D. THOMAS, Secretary

THIRD SECTION OF THE NEW TRAINING COURSE

AT LAST the third section of the new Sabbath School Teachers' Training Course is completed, and will soon be ready for circulation. The first two volumes, "Laws of the Mind" and "Psychology for Bible Teachers," have been ready for some time, but the completion of the course has been delayed by the preparation of a pamphlet of about seventy pages on "The Sabbath School and Missions Responsibility." This has five maps showing the world divisions with their worked territories, entered but not fully worked, and their unentered territories. While this latter volume is a part of Section III of the Training Course, we believe that it will be well for it to go into the hands of all Sabbath school officers and teachers regardless of their taking the Training Course as such. This volume has the following table of contents:

"Introduction"; "God's Plan and Our Responsibility"; "To Meet a World Situation and Need" (the foregoing are the introduction to the analysis of division progress which follows, including): The "Australasian Division"; "Central European Division No. I"; "Central European Division No. II"; "China Division"; "Far Eastern Division"; "Inter-American Division"; "Northern European Division"; "Southern African Division"; "South American Division"; "Southern Asia Division"; and the "Southern European Division." In these last ten chapters a general survey of the work is given. Couple this pamphlet with the material found in the articles prepared by Elder Frederick Lee as issued in the *Review and Herald* during 1940, and the Sabbath school officer and teacher will have a library of information that will greatly enlarge his sources for mission promotion. Let us see that this volume is in the hands of all our leaders and teachers.

SABBATH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.

THAT WEEKLY TEACHERS' MEETING

How are the Teachers' Meetings in your field developing? Are they really "weekly," or are they, rather, "weakly"? Where there is proper vision and understanding as to the purpose of this weekly "get-together" of Sabbath school officers and teachers, real development in the life and activity of the Sabbath school will be the result. Naturally, *all the officers* should be at this meeting. Perhaps it should be called, "Sabbath School Officers' and Teachers' Meeting."

"An effective teachers' meeting should be held every week in the church. It should be an occasion for study; first, of the problems of the teacher; next, of the methods of teaching; third, of the lesson for the week. If the meeting

consists only of the last, it is incomplete. The study of teaching methods is of as much importance as the lesson. Of what use are a mass of facts without knowing how to use them?"

Opportunity for development of the branch Sabbath school idea is to be found in the teachers' meeting, also. Here the teachers are trained for service, not only how to teach, but how to win souls. The methods of organizing branch Sabbath schools and Sunday schools should be dealt with at these occasions. Let the superintendent build up a year-round program for these weekly sessions, and the results will justify the effort.

"By prayer you may gain an experience that will make your ministry for your children a perfect success."—*Counselors to Teachers*, p. 131.

At last we came to his home, and on the steps stood his wife, a picture of radiance, a picture of a wife welcoming her husband back to his home. Really she was inspiring to see. When she saw us, she gave us a very warm invitation to come in. I gave a look of acceptance to Brother Osmunson, and so we went in, wondering what the man would say now. The wife turned out to be a very good cook, and we gladly sampled some of her home-made cakes. After a while, the atmosphere was pleasant, and we actually got our friend to smile. The sun began to shine, the sun of happiness, and this reminds me of those soul-
uplifting words in one of our hymns, "If any little word of mine may make a dark life brighter, God help me speak the helping word." The clouds, in time, disappeared, so much so that our man came to my side, and said, "Where is your book?" to which I replied, "What book?" Then he said, "I must give you a donation for your work, for your coming has made my life brighter." Yes, dear fellow Uplifter, this Uplift work, if rightly done, will surely uplift others to new heights of spiritual happiness.

May God richly bless each one, old and young, as we continue to labour in His vineyard. In closing, let me assure you all of my deep appreciation for all you have done to make the 1940 Uplift campaign a success.

SOUTH INDIA UNION

G. G. Lowry.....Superintendent
T. Killoway.....Secretary-Treasurer

Office Address:

9 Cunningham Road, Bangalore

OUR GOAL REALIZED

J. C. DEAN, *Uplift Secretary*

In these days when the war situation has brought into being many more causes to which the public give their money, etc., we are very happy to pass on the good news that the South India Union has more than reached the Uplift goal assigned it. News received very recently shows that the Union ledger registers Rs. 12,000. This is not all, for there must be more money out yet to be reported. When these amounts are all gathered in, then, I feel, we shall be able to report a very substantial overflow. Present war conditions, although bad, have for many taught them to give more of their means to worthy objects like ours.

In this year's Uplift campaign there has been considerable work done by our indigenous church membership. We are glad to note this, and trust that in next year's campaign our dear people of this country will shine still brighter. To all who have had a part in helping the Union to report such a goodly sum of money collected to help forward God's work, I would very sincerely say, Thank you. We do not intend to overlook a single one who has taken a part. Gladly the children and the young people are included, for they, too, have truly helped out very materially.

Pastor E. R. Osmunson, Superintendent of the Malayalam Mission, in company with "another," has recently been out in the Uplift work, and reports good

success. Away up in the mountains we found many who were willing to give to our appeal for money to help our hospitals, dispensaries, and schools. It is truly wonderful to witness for one's self the generosity of those who live in India, whether Indian, Anglo-Indian, or European. Our appeal, dear fellow workers, is a very strong appeal, and the reason is that God is with His work. Thus our appeal has behind it the blessing of the Lord.

I would like to relate one of the many experiences which came our way while on this mountain trip. There is a planter in those parts who is known to all by the name of "Calamity Bill." True, when we called on this man we found him a difficult case to handle. We entered his office and found our friend—note, I call him our friend—reading his daily paper. Although his back was to us, yet he knew we were standing there, but never did he take his eyes off the paper he was so apparently intently reading. I said at last, to break the unpleasant silence, "Good afternoon," but never a reply. We waited, then I very carefully told him, with his back still turned to us, why we had come, but still no response. At last he got up, and turning to us, he said, "Well, there is nothing doing." He surely looked a real "Calamity Bill." Next, I asked him how his health was, for I had heard that he had not been well. To this he repeated, "There is nothing doing." He was very decidedly hostile to us.

When leaving his office we still continued to seek for an entering wedge.

NARSAPUR HIGH SCHOOL

My second visit to the Narsapur High School this school year was made the last week in November. The school campus as usual was marked by its perfect order and neatness; in fact, the whole school campus gives the appearance of a well-kept park. Since my last visit considerable work had been done in adding flower beds, shrubs, and lawns. This has added definitely to the appearance of an already very beautiful campus.

It was observed on visiting the classes that some excellent improvements had been made in teaching. This was especially noticed in the teaching of Bible. Strong emphasis is being placed on the memory work in Bible. Notebooks are kept by the students of the memory work, and the teachers regularly drill them on this work. It would be well if all of our Bible teachers watched this important detail in their Bible teaching.

Pastor Hansen showed me a garden that was planted with sweet potatoes. They have just started to use them for the school. I have never seen a more luxuriant growth of sweet potatoes.

Pastor Hansen and his staff of teachers are to be commended for the good, strong program of Christian education that they are carrying forward at Narsapur.

C. A. SCHUTT.

NORTH ARCOT WORKERS' MEETING

It was my privilege to associate with Pastor R. H. Pierson in conducting a workers' meeting for the North Arcot District of the Tamil Mission. This was held at Pondicherry in connection with the Week of Prayer which was being conducted by Pastor Pierson for the Pondicherry church.

The meetings were held from December 3 to 5. An early morning devotional meeting for workers and church members was held at 6:30. Another general meeting was held at 11:00, and then the regular meeting in the evening. The rest of the meetings for the day were conducted just for the workers.

In spite of heavy rains every day there was a splendid attendance by the church members at all of the general meetings.

In the workers' meetings considerable attention was given to the evangelistic responsibility of each worker. Detailed instruction was given on methods of promotion of the various campaigns which it is the responsibility of our workers to supervise. The various details of our Sabbath School, Home Missionary, and Young People's work were gone into in detail and stressed. There was not a large number of workers present, so the meetings were conducted very informally. The workers were very enthusiastic, and as a result the meetings could be conducted this way.

This year is a banner year in soul winning in the Tamil Mission. The previous record was 116. There have been more than this number baptized so far this year, and before December is over the figure will exceed 150.

C. A. SCHUTT.

A NEW CHURCH FOR THE TAMIL MISSION

R. H. PIERSON

SOME months ago Pastor V. Isaac of Tuticorin wrote about a number of new interests developing in three villages about twenty miles from Tuticorin. It was hoped that a regular Mission worker might be spared from some station to go and foster the new interest. Since this was not possible, the next best thing was done; two lay-preachers, Brethren Arulpragasam and Surganam from Gurgattur, were asked to respond to the call and to spend some months working among the interested people in Kumarikulam, Pondiapuram, and Attikenaur.

During the greater part of this year that these two brethren have spent in these villages, they have gone through two well-organized efforts in both

Kumarikulam and Pondiapuram. As the result of these four efforts, covering carefully all points of our message, a goodly number of folk began to observe the Sabbath, discard their evil habits, and, by the grace of God, bring their lives into conformity with all points of the advent message. A baptismal class was organized, and quite a number were asking for baptism.

In order to satisfy ourselves that the interested ones had been thoroughly instructed and had certainly broken with their old habits and customs, Brother C. Moses, our Mission worker from Dennispuram, was asked to spend two months in the villages overseeing the work of preparing the candidates for baptism. This Brother Moses did, and assured us that the candidates had been well instructed and had given up their old ways, and thirty of them were fully ready for baptism.

On Sabbath, November 23, Pastor Lowry and the writer spent the day in these villages, and the thirty candidates in Kumarikulam and Pondiapuram were baptized. The new believers take a very live interest in the Sabbath school work and the other meetings held several evenings each week. At present there are more than a dozen more candidates awaiting baptism, either the last of 1940, or early next year, so at that time a new church organization of between forty and fifty members will come into existence in this newly opened section of Tinnevely District.

If we had the men and the means we could follow up a number of other interests equally as promising in this same section, and do a fine work there. The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few.

A HARVEST OF SOULS

ON Sabbath, November 23, thirty souls were baptized by Pastors G. G. Lowry and R. H. Pierson at Kumarikulam. Our lay-preacher, Brother Arulpragasam, cares for the work in that village. He was the one who created the interest there.

On the same Sabbath five souls were buried with their Lord through baptism by the writer. We expect another baptism at Madura before the year closes. So far, we have had ten baptisms at Madura this year. 1940 is the banner year in the history of our work in this city. We have had growth in all our activities.

On Sabbath, November 30, at Achampatty, Pastor R. H. Pierson and the writer baptized nineteen souls. Others are preparing for the same rite next year. The efforts put forth by Brethren E. D. Wilmott, Daniel Kodan, and other workers and lay-preachers in this village, after all have not been in vain. It was our lay-member, Pandit Masila-

money, and lay-preachers who created the interest in this village. Surely the work of God cannot be accomplished until all our lay-members rally to the cause with the workers. Another lay-preacher, Brother Monickam by name, brought six souls with him from another village, six miles off, for baptism. Two of his candidates were Hindus. The fire of the message is now catching the nearby villages, and calls are coming in.

At Achampatty a strange thing happened. As the writer was conducting the Sabbath school recitation, a woman possessed with an evil spirit began to dance. This incident reminded us of Christ's experience with the devil in the synagogue on the Sabbath day. Laying hands on the woman's head we earnestly prayed and commanded the evil spirit in the name of Jesus of Nazareth to leave the woman. After the prayer was over, the devil left her, and she went back and sat in the congregation, peacefully listening to the message for the hour. In the afternoon she also wanted to be baptized, but we have asked her to wait.

At Alagianallore a Hindu was baptized by the writer, and also one at Kariananthal. These were brought to the truth by Brethren Y. Abraham and K. Joseph.

Our believers at Madura are going out for street preaching every Sabbath afternoon in different sections of this temple city, and giving the message to the Hindus. They eagerly listen to the prophecies dealing with the world situation. Dear reader, may we solicit your earnest prayers for these new openings?

S. THOMAS.

NORTHWEST INDIA UNION

C. A. Hart.....Acting Superintendent

C. A. Hart.....Secretary-Treasurer

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LUCKNOW CHURCH NEWS

P. K. SIMPSON

PASTOR R. L. KIMBLE and workers began a series of evangelistic lectures Sunday evening, November 17, in the Lucknow church. Attractive advertising, sign posters, and handbills were used by our Indian workers as they went from door to door in a thorough effort to reach all who should come. The opening lecture, "Winds of Strife Over Europe," attracted many friends and church members.

On November 21st, Pastor and Mrs. T. K. Ludgate and small son, Donald, arrived in Lucknow and spent a week with us assisting in the singing and services. Pastor Ludgate spoke in the Sabbath morning service, and also gave a stirring lecture on Sunday evening,

Reading Course Books For 1941

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Special Price

Clo. Rs. 3-12- 0, Pa. Rs. 2- 8- 0 net

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Laws of the Mind,	Rs. 0-14- 0
Psychology for Bible Teachers,	3- 5- 0
Sabbath School and Missions,	1-11- 0
TOTAL	Rs. 5-14- 0

Set Price

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November 24, on the topic, "Through Turmoil to Peace," which was very well attended by a good class of people. About 125 heard the lecture, and many requested copies of his lecture to be mailed to them. Again on Tuesday, November 26, he spoke on "Spiritualism," which also attracted a large crowd. Names and addresses of about fifty-five persons were handed in, requesting literature, and many seemed to be interested in this topic. All were sorry to see Pastor and Mrs. Ludgate leave, and we trust they may pay us another visit some time soon.

Pastor J. M. Steeves, who was passing through on his way to Mussorie from Assam, stopped off for a day in our city and spoke in the prayer meeting, November 27th. He brought to us an interesting report of the progress our work is making among the Khasi and Jainti people around Shillong, and told stories of the persecutions our young people there are enduring for the sake of this message, which touched our hearts. A visit was made the following day to the Alambagh Uplift schools in the outskirts of Lucknow, where he briefly inspected the work being done by Brother and Sister P. Lall, and K. Singh.

Sister T. E. Sandberg recently visited Lucknow, and spoke on Sabbath, December 7th, during the Sabbath school hour about Sabbath school work. We trust Sister Sandberg will come again when she may stay a little longer. She visited the Alambagh Sabbath school, and spoke to our students there on Sabbath.

Lucknow church and workers were happy to welcome to our midst, Sister R. A. Garner and small son, Arthur Dale, and also Miss Peggy Nolda, on the morning of December 9th. They have come to assist us by furnishing music and special songs for our lectures. These workers are staying in the guest rooms at Pastor and Sister Kimble's bungalow during their winter vacation from Vincent Hill School.

On Sunday evening, December 15th, we were especially favoured in having with us the Reverend H. C. Bala-sundaram, Secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society, North India Auxiliary, Allahabad, who addressed our congregation on the subject, "The World's Best Seller—And Why?" A large crowd of friends and members enjoyed the inspiring talk he gave. At the close of the lecture, a special offering of Rs. 30 was taken up for the work of the society.

It was the writer's privilege to spend the first Sabbath and a few days at the beginning of the Week of Prayer with the Allahabad church, and in visiting its members. Surely Allahabad needs a full-time missionary to look after the work there. Pastor Kimble conducted the Week of Prayer meetings at Luck-

now, and a fine consecration service and a liberal Annual Offering marked the close of the week.

Several persons are requesting Bible studies at Lucknow, and we solicit an interest in the prayers of God's people for the lectures now being held in the fifth week.

We are glad to see our V. H. S. students back again with us.

DID YOU KNOW THAT

The Roorkee Sabbath school came first on the list to send in its report for the third quarter? Further, it was of the type that "maketh the bones fat"?

The Northwest Union has one hundred and eight Sabbath schools?

Three thousand five hundred eighty-two souls each week receive spiritual food through a large group of earnest, consecrated Sabbath school teachers?

One hundred and four Sabbath schools reached their membership goal?

Vincent Hill Sabbath school missed it by one—one member short of two hundred?

They almost did it—one thousand rupees for the quarter in Sabbath school offerings? The Investment helped. Try again, "V.H.S."

Four hundred and fifty-two members received the Honour card? Were you among the 3,130 who failed to receive one?

One pice bought an Investment potato in the Hapur Sabbath school? They had over 364 in the basket—no wonder it overflowed? One of their members received a five-year ribbon?

The Chuharkana Sabbath school with its membership of 167 requested four one-year ribbons and one two-year ribbon? Although a busy group of teachers and students, they found time to invest for the Lord?

Allahabad carries on faithfully and efficiently and keeps the offering "quar-tette" singing lustily?

Lucknow has a strong Home Division which brings the blessings of the Sabbath school to the homes of those who are residing where we do not have others of "like faith"? The Sabbath school provides for all.

Rawalpindi excelled in its offerings? Even the Birthday offering, at one time a weakly orphan, later adopted by the Sabbath School Department, showed signs of healthy growth. Maybe the climatic conditions helped.

Delhi—Simla, notwithstanding the separation of its members, presented an encouraging report?

Nani Tal, our sturdy family Sabbath school, reported several new members?

Karachi—last on the list but not in any sense the least—lies far from sister

Sabbath schools in distance, but is among the first in reaching goals and growth in membership?

We thank you faithful Sabbath school workers and members!

MISS T. E. SANDBERG.

NORTHWEST M.V. READING COURSE IN URDU

"Life of Doctor Judson," by Rev. J. J. Lucas, price As. 4.

"Titus, the Comrade of the Cross," by Miss F. M. Kingsley, As. 12.

"Joel: A Boy of Galilee," by Annie Fellows Johnston, As. 8.

These books are all available at the Punjab Religious Book Society, Anarkali, Lahore.

BURMA UNION

E. A. Crane... Acting Supt. and Sec'y.

Pein Gyi..... Treasurer

Office Address:

68 U Wisara Road, Rangoon

BURMA NEWS

THRA MAUNG NEE has arranged a Tithe Ingathering Day for Maw Pader village. This is a new venture in Burma. We shall be interested in the outcome. Nearly all the residents of this village are keeping the Sabbath.

Pastor and Mrs. Skau and family, together with Mrs. Baldwin, spent a few days during the first week of November in Mandalay, doing Uplift work. They report good results.

The Evangelistic Dome Tabernacle in Rangoon has been completed. This structure has aroused considerable curiosity in the city, as nothing of its type has ever been seen here before. It seats three hundred. Pastor Christensen opened the effort Sunday evening, November 24th, with a full house, and many standing outside. Pastor Wyman is assisting with the music. We bespeak for this venture a good degree of success, and at this time request our people to pray earnestly that the effort and money expended may result in the salvation of many souls.

A letter from Saya Ah Chu tells of a baptismal class which he is conducting in Myaungmya. Seven are in the class preparing for baptism.

Sister Myat Maung, of Thayetmyo, is doing real missionary work by translating suitable articles from our church periodicals for publication in Burmese papers. She has also completed the translation of our book entitled, "Heralds of the King," which is now appearing by sections in a Burmese

religious bi-weekly. May God bless Sister Myat Maung in this work.

The China Division has sent two delegations of new missionaries to Burma. The first party, consisting of three families, arrived from Shanghai November 12. On the 25th, another two families arrived. These new missionaries have been sent to Kalaw, where they will study the Chinese language, preparatory to going into the interior of China as soon as the dangers of war subside. We understand that other workers from China will be arriving soon.

Mrs. Sargent recently brought several patients from Bassein to be treated at the Mission Clinic. It is good to see from time to time the faces of our workers from the districts, in Rangoon.

MEIKTILA SCHOOL

OUR second baptismal service of the school year was conducted recently. Four candidates were baptized, making fourteen in all for the year 1940. We had a goal of twenty souls to be won in the school, and are sorry we have not reached it, but are sure that the Lord will help us to do better next year.

At a recent Missionary Volunteer meeting we had a special program, and nineteen Friends were invested. There will be another Investiture service at the close of the school.

O. A. SKAU.

NORTHEAST INDIA UNION

F. H. Loasby..... Supt. and Sec'y.

R. S. Fernando..... Treasurer.

Office Address:

Baragain, Ranchi District

CALCUTTA EVANGELISTIC SERVICES

THE attendance is exceptionally good, and the lecture hall is filled practically every night. During the week-end services there is an overflow. Since the Sabbath question was presented, there has been a little falling off. We have a group of fine people attending the lectures.

We have names of many people who want Bible studies, and so far a number of people have definitely expressed a desire to keep the Sabbath, and quite a number are keeping it.

We are of good courage, and so is the church. We have had wonderful cooperation from the church members, and everything is coming along nicely. We shall be carrying our effort into the church building in the near future, while the interest is still good, and continue our lectures there for an indefinite period. Many are asking for baptism,

Eastern Tidings

Organ of the

SOUTHERN ASIA DIVISION
of the General Conference
of Seventh-day Adventists

N. C. Wilson *President*
A. E. Nelson *Secretary-Treasurer*

SECRETARIES

L. C. Shepard *Publishing*
G. A. Nelson, M. D. *Medical*
J. M. Steeves *Educational and*
Y. P. M. V.
E. D. Thomas *S. S. and Home Miss.*
R. B. Thurber *Religious Liberty and*
Ministerial

Office Address: Post Box 15,
Poona, India.

R. B. Thurber *Editor*
Office Address: Post Box 35, Poona
Local subscription Price, Rs. 2-0-0 a year
Foreign " " Rs. 2-8-0 "

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General Conf. S. D. A., Southern Asia
Div., Poona. 4969-40.

and we shall have the baptismal class
soon. We are anticipating from twenty-
five to fifty to join in this class.

A. E. RAWSON.

POONA PARAGRAPHS

THIS year, instead of the Salisbury
Park-ites going to Bombay to sing carols
for the Uplift fund, it was decided that
Poona be worked by this means. Pastor
Steeves gathered about twenty-two folk
together, practised the carols, and on
three nights carols were sung to the
residents of Poona. The work was en-
joyed by all who took part, and al-
together Rs. 220 was collected.

We are always glad to have our work-
ers visit us. Mr. Walter Mackett, one of
the teachers at V.H.S., spent a few days
with his folk around Christmas time.
Miss Rose Meister, preceptress and
teacher at the same school, is spending
a few days with the Thurbers before go-
ing to Bombay to do Uplift work.

On Christmas eve the church school
children gave a most enjoyable program
of songs, dialogues, and recitations. This
program was held in front of the publish-
ing house, which seems to be quite a
popular place for such events. At the
close of the evening, gifts were distrib-
uted not only to the church school
children, but to all the children of the
Indian workers on the Estate. At the

UP-TO-THE-MINUTE BOOKS ON WORLD CONDITIONS

We have just received from America
four of the latest books on world affairs,
which we feel sure many of our workers
would like to read, and yet would not
feel free to purchase such expensive
books. They are:

"Russia's Iron Age," by Chamberlain.
"Inside Europe" (1940 War Edition),
Gunther.
"Inside Asia" (1939 Edition), Gunther.
"The Great Powers in World Politics,"
Simonds & Emeny.

If any of our workers wish to read
these very important books, we shall be
glad to send them out at a rental charge
of one rupee, plus postage both ways,
with the understanding that they are to
be kept only one month. The books will
be sent V. P. P.

HOME STUDY INSTITUTE,
Post Box 15, Poona.

same time the prizes for the best homes
and gardens were given out.

On Christmas day a picnic for the
Indian workers of the publishing house,
Division office, and Western India Union
was held. Commencing at 7 A.M. games
and competitions were indulged in on
the Estate. From ten o'clock until
about eleven-thirty buses conveyed all
to the Botanical Gardens, where more
games and competitions were held. At
2.30 dinner was served, which all pro-
nounced a grand success. Following
dinner we were kept interested and
entertained by a sleight-of-hand per-
former. As the sun sank in the west,
buses conveyed a tired but happy group
of picnickers to their homes.

At the present time preparations are
being made for the forthcoming Edu-
cational Council which is timed to con-
vene on January 9. At this time Edu-
cational secretaries of Unions and heads
of Division institutions will gather to
discuss plans for the better prosecution
of our educational program in Southern
Asia. Following this Council the Divi-
sion Committee will meet at its import-
ant year-end meeting.

Mrs. Steeves and Maxine recently spent
a few days at the Surat Hospital in order
for Maxine to receive a little medical
attention.

DIVISION NOTES

Miss M. BRUCE sailed shortly after the
middle of December for America, pro-
ceeding on furlough. On the same boat
were two students, Brethren Fargo and
Hasso, who spent this year at V. H. S.

These young men are to take further
studies in America.

Pastor E. M. Meleen has arrived in
India, and is now in Delhi. He
is giving attention to matters in the
Northwest prior to his attendance at the
Division committee in January.

Brother J. M. Hnatyshyn is visiting
Surat with Brother Shepard, and is solici-
tating funds for the Surat Hospital.
Later he will be joined by his wife and
Ramona. Work is proceeding on the
Surat Hospital buildings, three of which
have been started. A donation of
Rs. 30,000 has been received from the
Kurwa Trust toward the construction of
the Administration building.

Brother J. C. H. Collett opened his
evangelistic meetings in Rawalpindi on
December 19. The Lectures are entitled,
"The Conflict of the Ages" Lecture
Series. We look for good reports from
this centre.

UPLIFT BULLETIN

THE following figures are to the 31st
October, 1940:

Burma	..	Rs. 4,356- 4
Northeast	..	10,380- 7
Northwest	..	10,907- 8
South India	..	11,123- 3
Western India	..	13,774- 7
Total	..	50,541-13

You will see that we are now over the
Rs. 50,000 mark. Word comes in from
Northeast India, under date of November
29, that an additional Rs. 849 has been
collected in the field; and under date
of December 12, Brother Dean writes
that the total takings in South India are
Rs. 11,802. An additional sum of Rs.
300 has also come in from Western India.
So the figures are over Rs. 52,000. We
have still to hear from Burma.

We may all thank God for this splendid
record in the face of difficult conditions.

L. C. SHEPARD.

SPIRIT OF PROPHECY READING PROGRAM

January 19 to 25. Pages 295-317.

Jan. 19	M.H. 295-299
" 20	M.H. 299-301
" 21	M.H. 301-304
" 22	M.H. 305-307
" 23	M.H. 308-310
" 24	M.H. 311-314
" 25	M.H. 314-317

January 26 to February 1. Pages 318-335.

Jan. 26	M.H. 318-320
" 27	M.H. 320-322
" 28	M.H. 323-324
" 29	M.H. 325-327
" 30	M.H. 327-330
" 31	M.H. 330-334
Feb. 1	M.H. 334-335

CHURCH MISSIONARY SERVICES

NOTES TO LEADERS

FIRST SABBATH SUGGESTIVE MISSIONARY PROGRAM

February 1, 1941.

Topic: THE CALL TO LAY EVANGELISM

Opening Song: "Where Are the Reapers?" No. 548 in "Christ in Song"
Scripture Lesson: Matt. 20:1-16 (or a few paragraphs from "Christ's Object Lessons," pp. 396-404).

Prayer.

Secretary's Report.

Song: "Throw Out the Life-Line," No. 544.

Talk or Reading: "The Layman as a Soul-Winner."

Talk or Reading: "Following the Master's Methods."

Song: "Hold On," No. 570 (Rendered as a Duet).

Talk or Reading: "Go Ye Also!"

Talk or Reading: "Hands on the Plough"

Closing Song: "Winning Precious Souls," No. 536.

Benediction.

(Note. Let our Vernacular Church Leaders select some appropriate lyrics or hymns.)

AS WE draw nearer to the end of the world, the Lord would have His people enter into a great ministry of lay evangelism. He would have the voices of laymen heard all over the field uniting with those of the ordained ministers in giving the warning message. Note the following statements given by the servant of the Lord:

"The Lord says, I will take illiterate men, obscure men, and move upon them by My Spirit to carry out My purpose in the work of saving souls."—"Special Testimonies," Series B, No. 3, p. 20.

"There are men who never gave a dis-couraging in their lives, who ought to be labouring to save souls. Neither great talent or high position is required. But there is urgent need of men and women who are acquainted with Jesus, and familiar with the story of His life and death."—"Life Sketches," p. 274.

"There are men who will be taken from the plough, from the vineyard, from various other branches of work, and sent forth by the Lord to give this message to the world."—"Testimonies," Vol. 7, p. 270.

"God will move upon men in humble positions to declare the message of present truth. Many such will be seen hastening hither and thither, constrained by the Spirit of God to give the light to those in darkness. The truth is as a fire in their bones, filling them with a burning desire to enlighten those who sit in darkness. Many, even among the uneducated, will proclaim the word of the Lord."—*Id.*, pp. 26, 27.

In harmony with these statements, we have consecrated lay-preachers working for souls today in different parts of the Southern Asia Division. Various kinds of missionary activities are being undertaken by our lay-preachers. Bible studies are being given from house to house; tracts and magazines are being distributed for hundreds of miles; cottage meetings are being held in villages and towns; sermons are being preached in streets and halls and over the radio; baptismal classes are being held; tracts and pamphlets are being written suitable to local conditions and printed by lay-preachers at their own expense; libraries for the public are being opened in private homes.

We would like to see more of this kind of ministry encouraged in the years to come. Whenever we come across talents among our lay-members that could be developed, we should plan to hold some special institutes for them and give all necessary help. Several institutes have been held of late in different sections of the field for the lay-preachers. We would like to plan

for more of such institutes in the year 1941.

We trust the articles in this issue will be used very advantageously in all our churches and our lay-preachers be encouraged in an even greater ministry of evangelism.

E. D. THOMAS.

THE LAYMAN AS A SOUL-WINNER

I. H. EVANS

WITH the exception of the book of Titus and the two books of Timothy, the New Testament epistles were written to the laity. There are many exhortations to evangelism in these lay epistles, showing that those who wrote them encouraged the church to enter new fields and witness for Christ.

The church in Jerusalem entered upon this work of personal witnessing before the apostles left Jerusalem. The persecutions by the Jews caused the members of the early church to become scattered abroad, and wherever they went they were witnesses for God. In those days it was personal testimony that counted most, for there were no printed gospels telling about the life and death of Christ, no written records of His miracles and teachings. Men and women went hither and yon, earning their livelihood as best they could, improving every opportunity to tell to others what they knew about Jesus.

These witnesses had no set doctrines to preach. The whole message centered in one Person—Christ Jesus. They had heard Him preach, they had seen His miracles performed; therefore they spoke with authority, as eye witnesses, and persuaded many to accept their testimony.

The Bible has been the one great book that has been scattered in numerous lands and won many souls to Christ.

Laymen have done much in circulating the Bible among non-believers. In nearly all heathen lands, laymen have distributed millions of copies of portions of the Holy Bible, and many a company of believers has been raised up, and developed into a strong church, where the only workman was a lay-member.

All through the ages the laity have been a mighty power in evangelism. During the period of the Reformation, the laity scattered tracts and leaflets, prepared by Luther and his co-labourers, setting forth the truth for that time. A tract circulation movement was started at Oxford, preceding the work of John Wesley and his fellow-workers, and continued for many years under the labours of Wesley and his followers. The Methodist church has ever placed great emphasis on the work of its lay-preachers.

Sometimes there have been movements that have seemed to impel the laity to undertake big things in the name of the Lord; then there have been long lulls when little was done by them. In the Dark Ages both the church and the pulpit seemed wrapped in a death-like stupor, with scarcely an awakening voice. Then there are times when all seem awake—the minister and the church. The times when the church and the pulpit have slumbered have been periods of self-satisfaction grown into indifference. Like a door on its hinges, there have been generations who have lived and died with no saving message on their lips, no clarion call to the church to arouse, no hard task undertaken.

Since the beginning of the advent movement, the laity have been active in soul winning, and thousands have been brought to Christ through the giving of Bible readings, lay-preaching, and scattering literature. Many lay-workers can accomplish as much as the ordained

preacher in bringing souls to Christ. In the first place, people will often accept what the layman teaches with less prejudice than if presented by a minister. They know the layman,—they consider him a neighbour, who is honest and devout, and they are ready to listen to his teaching with consideration. Every year many accept the truth through the labours of laymen in all parts of the world.

This new year there ought to be hundreds of schoolhouses and Seventh-day Adventist churches in use by laymen who preach this truth. What a mighty movement would follow such a lead! Laymen can find audiences who will listen thoughtfully to the expositions of prophecy, and their talks will bring hope to many hearts. The remedy for all this turmoil and war and financial difficulty in the world is given in the prophecies and the Scriptures, and is there stated again and again,—the coming of the Son of man. There is no other remedy. If only we understood what we could do, were our souls on fire with the second advent message, our laymen would create a flame in many sections that would blaze and enlighten till there would be one question on many lips, "What shall we do?"

It is not enough to give money, or to pray; it is not enough to stand idle and say, "No man has hired me." There is a field of labour for every true Christian if he will but go to work for God. Fields are white and ready for the sickle, but the gleaner must go; he must thrust in the sickle and reap. What can incite people to work more than a whitened harvest without reapers? What can induce the church of God to action like the present world conditions, when men's hearts are failing them for fear and for looking with dread at what is coming on the earth?

There are many latent opportunities in church communities that we let slip, when we could do something to help some to learn of Christ. There are business contacts which afford a suitable occasion to speak a word for the Lord which may mean much in eternity. Business men have souls to be saved. They have many serious thoughts about the future, and the real worth of life. A word, a text of Scripture, may arouse a thought which will never leave the individual and will eventually lead him to God. Then there is the social contact that most church members have in their respective communities. They can speak of Christ, and connect the Word of God with the drift of events. These thoughts are now everywhere in print, in the big dailies, in the magazines, in leading editorials in influential magazines and papers. We need not go out with shamefacedness and apologies for mentioning the signs of the times. Every one is considering them, and is concerned about them. "What do these things mean?" is the question on all lips.

Now is the time when laymen can go with their Bibles, and try to answer this universal question raised by scholars and business men and labouring men everywhere. The only satisfactory answer is that based upon the Word of God. The day of the Lord is near, and hasteneth greatly. It is a day to be dreaded and feared. Read Zephaniah 1:14-18.

Many are so engrossed with pleasures, cares, and financial and social responsibilities that they forget that the great day of the Lord is at hand. They must be led to read and think. Let us make a special effort this year to take our Bible and witness to the assurance and power of God's message to a lost world.

FOLLOWING THE MASTER'S METHODS

G. A. ROBERTS.

THE lay-preacher, it seems, most nearly follows the example and methods of the Master. Jesus went out among the people with no other equipment but the message He bore and a life that was in full harmony with that message. He had no beautifully seated halls or buildings, no vested choirs or expensive instruments or other helps, and did no advance public advertising aside from the ministry of love He performed with His own hands. Thousands knew Him well because of His loving ministry in behalf of their physical and spiritual needs, before He began to preach. It was largely because of this acquaintance that they flocked to hear His message.

Jesus had no institutions of any kind to give prestige to His work. Instead, He personally went out among the people and served them, in order that His message might find entrance into their hearts. He had no congregations to whom He was announced to speak. He made His own congregations by the ministry He performed to alleviate the suffering of the people. And He did not cease to gather His congregations by this method, even though He well knew that many followed Him from place to place primarily for the loaves and fishes. It is hardly probable that He ever paid rent on a hall, and it is certain that He distributed no handbills with the likeness of His face and with His name looming large on the front page. How well He succeeded without earthly equipment of any kind, the record of His life and work reveals. Jesus set essentially a lay-preacher's example, and the lay-preacher who most nearly and fully follows His methods today will gather and hold the largest congregations, and in the end win the most souls.

Our ministers and our missionaries in the dark places of the mission fields, follow and are confined to the simple evangelistic methods of the Master, be-

cause they, too, must go out among the people with no equipment but the message they bear and the Bible from which the message springs. Oft-times they approach a fanatical town, where cruelty, hate, and opposition to the truth abound, taking with them no weapon save the personal ministry to the sick and the needy, and the Good Book; and love conquers.

The lay-preacher should not seek to imitate the regular accredited popular public evangelist of today. Let no lay-preacher seek or attempt to wear another's armour, good and essential though that armour may be for another man. The sole aim of the lay-preacher should be to imitate the Master and His methods. Undoubtedly, our great Minister, the Prince of preachers, the Saviour of men, had the layman as well as the accredited evangelist in mind when He set the example for successful preaching. He surely included all.

Jesus, in His day, personally commissioned a number of lay-preachers, among whom were the two out of whom He cast the devils. Hear His words: "Return to thine house and show how great things God hath done unto thee" (Luke 8:38). Very few words of instruction beyond these words of commission, were ever heard by these laymen. Yet we read that "the two restored demoniacs were the first missionaries whom Christ sent to preach the gospel in the region of Decapolis. For a few moments only, these men had been privileged to hear the teachings of Christ. Not one sermon from His lips had ever fallen upon their ears. They could not instruct the people as the disciples who had been daily with Christ were able to do. But they bore in their own persons the evidence that Jesus was the Messiah. They could tell what they knew; what they themselves had seen, and heard, and felt of the power of Christ. This is what everyone can do whose heart has been touched by the grace of God."—"*Desire of Ages*," p. 340. With the Master's commission alone, and a personal knowledge of their own experience, they went forth and enlightened "the whole of Decapolis," which included ten cities (Luke 8:39, last part).

In the work of the early church, lay-preaching featured as a prominent part. "The first works of the church were seen when the believers sought out friends, relatives, and acquaintances, and with hearts overflowing with love told the story of what Jesus was to them and what they were to Jesus."—"*Special Testimony to Ministers*," No. 2, p. 17.

Any lay-preacher in any part of the earth, speaking any language, who is sure of his commission from Jesus, can go forth assured of success, whether his opportunities for a preparation have been great or small. He should, naturally, counsel with his church, the pastor, or the mission leaders, about his work. All

things should be done decently and in order. There is always safety and strength in counsel and co-operation. The Master's own methods are essentially the lay-preacher's methods. It will surely pay any lay-preacher to follow them.

GO YE ALSO!

STEEN RASMUSSEN

NOWHERE in Holy Writ is there any record that commands people to go to church, but we find that Christ, the great Shepherd of the flock, did commission His disciples to go to the people. On at least two occasions of which we know, He organized the disciples into teams of personal workers, and sent them out into the highways and market places to talk about spiritual matters to the people they met.

In the parable of the labourers to go into the vineyard, we read that "about the eleventh hour He went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle? They say unto him, Because no man hath hired us. He saith unto them, Go ye also into the vineyard; and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive." Matt. 20:6, 7.

According to figures we find that many churches did not add any new members during the last year. This is an indication that there are some "standing idle" in the market place. May such hear the call, as did those of the parable; because the record states that "when they came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny." Matt. 20:9. Their reward was the same as that of those who were hired during the first hour.

From our contacts with hundreds of our workers and thousands of our believers during recent months, we have become greatly impressed with the fact that God's Spirit is guiding and giving power to our ever-increasing army of willing, faithful lay-members in heeding the call to greater soul-winning activities. In some parts where we have been privileged to visit, it has seemed to us as though we are hearing the sounds of the loud cry, a refreshing of abundance of spiritual rain.

A community which may not understand or appreciate the doctrines we teach, will understand our kindness and our helpfulness. The common people of Christ's day heard Him gladly, especially because of His helpful, sympathetic life and attitude. He helped the people in their every-day problems, and thus won their confidence. It is imperative that this side of the Master's life be blended more intimately with our activities for the expansion of His kingdom.

Every minister and church elder needs the assistance which the layman can give. If a layman is successful in his

daily work, he can be trained to do work within and without the church successfully, in winning others to Christ. The church that admits people to membership and gives them nothing to do, cannot expect to hold their loyalty long. In fact, unemployed church members are an indictment of leadership. Scan the church records. It is the inactive members who are delinquent in their church responsibilities, who say, "No man hath hired us!" They are the ones who do not rally in an emergency, who do not come to prayer-meeting, who fail to subscribe to our denominational church papers, who are irregular at church services. They could render splendid service if they were "hired" and helped to find their place in God's program.

In the program of training and educating the church members for service, the pastor and the church board must be the directing force. It will be impossible for the pastor, Bible worker, or church elder to teach all groups; but as rapidly as a group of laymen qualify, they should be put in charge of groups for training. When group leaders are selected, they should be respected. But the pastor, or the board, must think of every individual, with all his talents, as a force to be invested for the building up of the work of God.

We realize that a feeling of spiritual inadequacy and intellectual training, prevents many laymen from launching out into the deep for God. There is a vague impression among them that some expertness in theology is necessary. Laymen who know little about theology often make the most effective soul-winners. The fact that they have had a definite religious experience, makes them a power for God. Nothing is so convincing to an individual who has a spiritual hunger as the testimony of some other individual who has had that hunger satisfied.

Therefore, there is one endeavour no church can neglect and still survive. It must evangelize or die. Every church faces the sober alternative of extension or extinction. Unless the church grows, she will perish. Unless she carries her ministry to the ends of the earth, by the active co-operation of the laity, she will not meet God's program. If the extension of the kingdom of our Lord is to take wings, a much larger number of laymen must be enlisted and trained to do the work of evangelists. Indeed, lay-evangelism promises the salvation of the church itself. Lay-evangelism offers a field which can never be over-crowded with workers, and nothing improves the spiritual quality of the laity like personal evangelistic work.

To accomplish this work, we need some technique, we admit; but far more deeply we need a spiritual passion which will impel and compel men to go out and say, "Come, for all things are now ready."

HANDS ON THE PLOUGH

W. H. BERGHERM

"No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God." Luke 9:62. Jesus is here speaking concerning those who would work for Him in His kingdom. Three men had come to Jesus, each of them acknowledging Him as Lord and promising their service later on. It is not stated that Jesus accepted any of these men, but the Scripture does record Jesus as saying that a man who puts his hand to the plough in the field of service, and then looks back on the things of the world, is not a true workman. The true ploughman for God is not to turn back, or even to look back. He must go straight forward, guiding the plough in a straight furrow toward the kingdom.

There are two propositions indicated in our text: First, a workman for Christ, who has laid hold on the handles of the ploughshare of service, is expected to face straight ahead and keep ploughing. Second, as he ploughs he becomes fitted for the kingdom of God.

Let us consider the first proposition: Some men are inclined to stop and look back on the work they have done, and while doing so they lose sight of the greater tasks to be carried forward until the close of the day and the ploughman is called home. There is no time when a man can cease his labour and say that he has done his share, and that it is now time for someone else to take hold of the plough. A worker of long experience made the remark that he had decided to stop and let somebody who had not been doing anything have a chance as a soul-winner. This man was not exactly looking back, but he was looking *around*, which is equally forbidden. When Moses "looked this way and that way" (Ex. 2:12) he became afraid, and fled. In later life, Moses centered his gaze upon Him who is invisible, and then he endured the heat and the burden of the day. As long as the workman keeps his eyes on Christ as his example, he will never say that he has done his share, for his share is what Christ gives him to do, regardless of what another does. There is really nothing in all the category of excuses that Heaven recognizes as sufficient for letting go of the plough. Let us never be found "looking this way and that way," to see what others are doing, but let us look straight ahead and keep on ploughing.

The plough of service awaits every church member, and everyone who would share in the harvest must be diligent in ploughing the soil and scattering the seed. Never was there a time when the keeping of our hands on the plough was more essential than now. Even as we write, kings and dictators are talk-

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Fifteen-Minute Services

ORDER OF SERVICE

Silent Prayer	1/2 minute.
Missionary Reports	3 minutes.
Missionary Leader's Appeal on Behalf of Current Work	5 minutes.
Prayer (Congregation standing—a moment of silent prayer or benediction)	1 minute.

FEBRUARY 1, 1941

WORK OF A LAY-PREACHER

ONE brother who was baptized as the result of the recent evangelistic effort held at Pathamamthitha, Travancore, is a cloth-merchant whose chief place of business is a tea estate fourteen miles away. Although this brother had to walk a distance of several miles to and fro each time, he did not miss any of the meetings we held up there during the effort, which lasted for over three months.

Not only that, he also took notes of the message presented each night, and taught them in turn to two of his friends, one a clerk and the other a day labourer on the same estate. As a result of such faithfulness on the part of our brother, the clerk has become a Sabbath-keeper and pays his tithe quite regularly. He will be baptized with his family just as soon as a baptismal service can be arranged for in that section of the field. The day labourer is already baptized, and is now a church member in good standing.

FEBRUARY 8, 1941

BE AN EMPTY VESSEL

THE best qualification for soul-winning is to be "an empty vessel." If the heart is free from all sin, then it is ready for the Master's use. Only when Hagar's bottle was emptied did the Lord open her eyes. After the Israelites were emptied of the water of Egypt, the Lord opened the fountains of the rock. Only when you are nothing in the sight of God, would He do wonders through you. It was not the eloquence of Moses that led Israel out of Egypt, but Moses' nothingness.

Once a young preacher was on trial. According to his promise to give the text for the sermon, the king told the preacher the text would be found on the pulpit. On the pulpit to his surprise he found only a small piece of empty paper. The preacher was not disappointed. Thanking the king for the text he had supplied him, he preached an inspiring sermon on the empty paper, saying, "Out of nothing God created the world." He compared the empty paper to the empty heart.

Yes, to be empty means to be everything for the Lord. Jeremiah, Isaiah, Paul, and Peter were empty vessels. And the Lord used them mightily. What was

true of God's people in the past, is also true of His people in the last days of this world's history. Archimedes said that he could lift the world if he had a place for the fulcrum of his lever. I know of no other fulcrum to lift the world than a true Christian life. "If I be lifted up from the earth, [I] will draw all men unto Me." John 12:32.

FEBRUARY 15, 1941

CONFRONTED BY A GOOD-SIZED AUDIENCE

WE marvel at the work that the Lord is accomplishing by means of humble lay-members. A young man in Mexico, accompanied by another young man, who had recently accepted the message, visited an Indian town. While he was eating his evening meal, his friend visited from house to house telling the people that a man had come to town who would speak that night concerning the coming of Christ, and invited them to be present. He made the announcement without authorization, and his friend knew nothing about it. When he arose from the table he was surprised to see people coming from every direction. They continued to come until sixty were assembled. He silently prayed to the Lord and said, "Lord, I have never spoken before such a large group as this." However, the Lord gave him courage and he began to speak, and the Holy Spirit enabled him to present the message with power. As the result of this meeting, twenty-five souls were converted, and this company is now calling for a worker.

FEBRUARY 22, 1941

A RECENT CONVERT FINDS JOY IN SERVICE

WITH a sister a nun, and an uncle a Catholic priest, the acceptance of the third angel's message by one of the members of this Catholic family was attended with much opposition. But this lady is now an extremely staunch and happy member of the Seventh-day Adventist church, and her greatest joy is in working for others. She relates a recent experience, as follows:

"A neighbour whose door seemed closed to us for study or literature recently became ill and called for me to come in. I requested that they call an Adventist doctor, but was impressed to first give him a hydrotherapy treatment. There was nothing prepared, so

I inverted a kettle in a dishpan of boiling water and placed the pieces of an old blanket I had ripped up to use for fomentation cloths upon the kettle, and soon gave him a thorough treatment which checked the pneumonia and saved him from sickness and expense.

"A few days later he said, 'You're so different from other nurses whom I have observed. Do you pray?' I told him I did and had prayed while giving him the treatment. He said, 'Then that's it.' Then he asked what I was going to charge him. I told him that it was but my duty as a neighbour, and that I had no thought of pay.

"After my next call, he said he had a package for me to take home, which I found contained grape juice and a cake, and upon the cake was an envelope containing a \$5 bill. I was in need of a new pair of shoes that I might attend church, and here was my answer to prayer; but better still, a way is now open to give Bible studies to this Catholic family."

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ing of the destruction of the old order of life; foundations are being removed, and darkness is enshrouding the earth. Surely, today one of the greatest crimes conceivable would be to cease to sound the warning message. Today thousands of voices should be lifted in the proclamation of that warning. "God will move upon men in humble positions to declare the message of present truth. Many such will be seen hastening hither and thither, constrained by the Spirit of God to give light to those in darkness. Many, even among the uneducated, will proclaim the word of the Lord."—"Testimonies," Vol. 7, pp. 26, 27.

"In co-operation with their self-sacrificing efforts, Jesus will move upon hearts, working miracles in the conversion of souls. Men and women will be gathered into church fellowship. Meeting-houses will be built, and schools established. The hearts of the workers will be filled with joy as they see the salvation of God."—*Id.*, pp. 27, 28.

The Spirit of God is moving upon hearts today, and we are witnessing the fulfilment of the assurances set forth in the paragraph above. In Christ's service one receives a training which imparts strength and development of character as nothing else can give. We are told that "those who reject the privilege of fellowship with Christ in service, reject the only training that imparts a fitness for participation with Him in His glory."—"Education," p. 264. Such is God's way of preparing His people to live with Him amid the glories of the earth made new. All who would share in Christ's glory must first share in His sufferings, which involve wholehearted service.