

# Far Eastern Division Outlook

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## Honest and Generous



**H**ONEST in payment of tithes and generous in making offerings! One tenth of all our increase is God's. To withhold it from Him is to rob Him. Our offerings are our own. To withhold them is selfish. The support of God's church and the advance of His cause of truth is in measure dependent upon the freewill offerings of His people. God gives men all that sustains them in life. The comforts and blessings coming from a loving Heavenly Father to His children cannot be counted, they are so many. He has reserved for Himself a tenth of all men's increase of property coming from their labors. But He asks men to give freely to His cause from the nine-tenths which He gives them for their own use. He asks this, not because He needs it, but for their own good. When we honestly return to God that which is His own, and generously give to Him of that which is our own there comes to us a satisfaction and happiness that we cannot possibly have by dealing dishonestly or selfishly with God. Our Lord has promised to open the windows of His storehouse and give to us so many good things that we will not have room to receive them if we will be honest and generous with him—if we will not withhold His tithes and offerings. God is so anxious to give us good things that He asks us to prove Him. He says, "prove me now herewith" (by paying tithe, and by making offerings) "if I will not open the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Let men prove the Lord, try His word. He will surely fulfill it. However, we are not to be thus honest and generous simply to receive these gifts from our Father's hand, for that is a selfish motive. He gives to us because He loves us. Likewise are we to give to Him because we love Him. We must ever remember that in giving to others with the motive of love and good will, we give to our Blessed Lord. We seek happiness. One way of finding it is by being honest and generous with God and man.

—FREDERICK GRIGGS.

## A Promise to Tithe-Payers Fulfilled

"And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground." Mal. 3: 11 (First part).

This true experience happened in Southern Negroes during a time when there were great swarms of locusts devastating and laying waste in its wake all crops in that section of the island. A certain sister's sugar cane field was miraculously saved from these prolific insects, the most terrible enemy of the farmer. It was because she was faithful in paying her tithe to the Lord. Her husband is not a believer but agrees to her tithing all his income.

When the great swarm of locusts hovered around the sugar cane fields of the farmers in that section all the people were panic-stricken. These insects darkened the light of the sun. While the gentiles were beating their broken petroleum cans for the purpose of scaring them away, our sister went into the midst of her sugar cane field and knelt there, praying God to save her plantation and to fulfill His promise to her that very hour. After that she went home trusting all upon His care.

The next morning this sister went out to see her sugar cane plantation, and found that not a single stalk was destroyed. But those of her neighbors' were entirely eaten during the night. The people wondered at such a mystery. Some told her that she has *anting-anting* (a charm or magic), and others said that maybe she placed a *Paninagalap* (some safeguards of protection supposed to be supernatural) in the midst of her farm. Then our sister began to tell them that it was because she was faithful in paying her tithes to the Lord. "That was the cause," she told them, "God took care of my sugar cane plantation. He rebuked the devourer for my sake," she finished.

Shall we not be more faithful in paying our tithes to God as this sister did? Let us do it and we shall surely see the same results. Let us praise God for His goodness to us.

R. B. CAHLIG.

## Heartening News from the Artacho School

I wish that you might have been here in Artacho yesterday afternoon to see twenty-one stalwart, consecrated young men and women go down into the waters of a quiet stream near the school to be baptized. It was an inspiring sight. Such is the fruit of Christian education even under unfavorable outward conditions which we are experiencing at the present time. Separated from the attractions of the towns and surrounded with the works of nature such as is our lot here, a quiet work of grace has been going on in the lives of the young people. Every person in the dormitories has been baptized except one. This is a small boy who recently transferred from the public school. A strong missionary spirit is pervading the school. One young man goes eight kilometers to an isolated barrio to conduct evangelistic meetings each week. Several Bible studies are being given each week in the communities by various students. The local church has felt the influence of the spiritual current and has taken on new life with several members returning who have been backslidden for a long time. All in all, there is manifest such a spirit of real spiritual experience and co-operation as is seldom seen. These are the compensations of service and sacrifice.

E. N. LUGENBEAL.

## An Example of Faithfulness in Tithe-Paying in Korea

A brother, ricksha-puller, had a hard lot. He was very poor. However, he decided to serve the Lord more faithfully and to pay his tithe. So he made a little

box that could not easily be opened. Into this box he put his few *sen* every night representing the tithe on his earnings of the day. Later, when this brother moved, as he was leaving the community he brought the box to the Mission worker. When it was opened it was found to contain Yen 3.24 of tithe.

From the Chosen "Church Compass."

## Reaching the Top

There is hope of our reaching a full 100% goal in attendance and lesson study for just recently I have been informed that the Sabbath school in connection with the Philippine Union College located just outside of Manila at Balintawak with a membership of 250 has made a splendid record. Last quarter this Sabbath school reached an attendance of 96% with 88% Daily Lesson Study. They also reached their goal in Sabbath school offerings and other schools are doing nearly as well. I think this is a splendid record. Our Philippine Union College is to be commended in this. From it there will go out into all the Philippine Union a spirit of perfection in reaching the goals of the Sabbath school.

What can be done in the Philippine Union College should be done in every other training school, and indeed in all our Sabbath schools for the spirit of our training schools will permeate the fields in which they are located. This coming quarter let each one of us see that we have a perfect record in attendance in daily lesson study and offerings, and do our utmost to inspire every member of the Sabbath school to reach these goals. This will increase the efficiency of the Sabbath schools to the good of its own members and also to the mission fields.

BLANCHE E. GRIGGS.

## Tithe Experiences from the East Visayan Mission

I thought you might be interested in a letter that I have received from Brother Yorac who is putting on a strong campaign to increase tithes and offerings in his region. He states that the church is stretching their hands in an endeavor to give a faithful tithes and offerings. Brother Yorac believes that the tithes and offerings can be doubled. He mentions two experiences.

He states that a brother testified that his crop was being destroyed by worms. He prayed to God. He gave the Lord the tithe. The next week the Lord sent the red ants into the corn field which entirely destroyed the worms. The crop was saved because he was faithful in paying tithe.

Another brother lives among a group of outside people. In two weeks' time the crops of the outsiders were entirely destroyed by chickens. Our brother's crop was spared because he was a faithful tithe payer. This made a very deep impression upon the outsiders. He further states: "The epidemic that took many lives in this town has also visited some of the homes of our people. I was busy day and night going here and there doing whatever I could. When I opened the Bible I found that we were punished because of our unfaithfulness in regard to stewardship. A reconsecration was made to God to pay faithful tithe and after the prayer the patient felt relieved. We praise Him for His kindness that endureth forever. The brethren are now working hard and paying their tithes. Now we are free from the curse and the church is being blessed."

W. B. RIFFEL in "Mizpa."

## A Prayer Quickly Answered

We met a sister who told us that a number of years ago she was very desirous of getting an understanding of the Bible,

especially Daniel and Revelation. As she studied these two books she became greatly discouraged and decided that unless the Lord would help her to understand them she would not read the Bible any more. She took the matter before the Lord and as she knelt in prayer, she opened up the Bible to the two books and told the Lord how she felt about it and asked that He send someone to explain these two books to her. As she arose from prayer she heard a rap at the door and upon opening it came face to face with one of our colporteurs. Our colporteur introduced herself, stating that she was engaged in Christian work and when asked just what she was doing, replied, "I have come to show you a book that explains *Daniel and the Revelation*." The book was purchased and read and this sister has since that time been a foreign missionary and spent several years as a Bible worker and has brought a number of others into the truth.

W. I. COLEMAN in

"The Publishing Department Digest."

## Named His Baby "Sabado"

About four years ago a colporteur called at a home in Camarines Norte. There was a baby in the home about eight months old and like all good colporteurs this one noticed the baby. "What is the baby's name?" he asked. "Sabado," answered the proud father. "How did you happen to name your baby Sabado," was then asked. The father answered, "A number of years ago I purchased a book called 'Our Day in the Light of Prophecy' and it said that the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord, so I have been keeping it ever since. When my baby was born I named him 'Sabado' in honor of the day. The colporteur sent word to the office and an evangelist was sent and now there are three fine churches in that district with over 70 members.

M. F. WIEDEMANN in

"The Colporteur Evangelist."

## With the Indians of Guatemala

Until about three years ago very little medical work had been done for the many Indians of this locality. They were left to rely wholly on their own methods of treatment, such as sticking the end of a red hot wire into their teeth when suffering from toothache, and calling their witch doctors to tell them whether the sick person would recover.

By God's help, we have been able to save the lives of many suffering from influenza as well as other maladies and to relieve over 1,500 suffering from the effects of bad teeth.

A short time ago we were called to see a young man some little distance from the mission. We found him suffering from influenza. He was then unconscious. The family had sent to call all the relatives as they expected him to die in a very short time. We are very glad to say that with God's help and the use of hydrotherapy treatments he is well and working today. And as a result of this he has become interested in studying his Bible and he with other members of the family are now coming to us for Bible studies.

HARRY LARRABEE in

"The Inter-American Division Messenger."

## Tithed Chickens Returned

When one of our workers left his former place of labor and came to Cebu, the brethren at parting gave him some chickens. Being increase, this worker and his wife paid tithe on the chickens. The first night in Cebu the chickens were stolen. But a policeman saw the thief with the chickens. The thief dropped the chickens and ran. The next morning our worker went to the municipality and recovered his chickens unharmed. He is convinced that the Lord fulfills His promise to those who pay tithe.

R. R. FIGURE in "Mizpa."



# FAR EASTERN DIVISION OUTLOOK



## The Blessings of Tithes and Offerings

Rich blessings attend upon all of God's commands. His requirements have their foundations in love. They are always given for man's good. Rightly understood each of the ten commandments is but a precious promise. God finds happiness in man's happiness. He takes no delight in suffering, death or sorrow. He leads his children beside quiet waters and into green pastures, and even though they pass through the valley of the shadow of death, His comfort sustains them. He crowns their years with goodness.

These principles of God's loving ways apply in full measure to His requirements concerning the payment of tithe, and the making of freewill offerings. He does not need our tithe nor is He benefited by our offerings. The gold and the silver of all the earth are His. He could make them flow out as he did the waters from the rock if that were for man's good. But instead of manifesting His mighty power in such a manner, he gives to man the real privilege of giving to Him. We love to give to our friends, in return for their gifts to us. We enjoy receiving from our loved ones, and we enjoy giving to them. We are pleased when they will receive our gifts with gratitude. It is all an expression of love. How good it is of God to receive our gifts! How little we can return to Him for all He does for us! Love is the source of happiness, and giving which is an expression of love, increases it. We do not pay a tenth of all our increase to man; we pay it to God. We do not make our freewill

By FREDERICK GRIGGS

offerings for missions to men; we make them to God. In His love He accepts them. How unspeakably good it is of Him to do this! The greatest blessing of faithful tithe-paying and of generous freewill offerings to God is that our love for Him is deepened. The deeper our love the greater our happiness. And when we have given as did the poor widow at the temple, of whom Christ spoke so approvingly, then our happiness is in full measure, and our peace flows like a river.

God is love. His love caused Him to create this world, and to place man upon it. His love caused Him to make

man a freewill being, and then when man, through the power of choice given him in this freewill, chose to disobey God in taking of that which He had reserved for Himself, His love sent His Son into the earth to redeem man. In this work of redemption God employs our tithes and our freewill offerings. He uses the tithe which is His and His only, and as we faithfully return it to God, recognizing

that it is His, our love for Him who has given us so much, is naturally increased. This increased love finds joyful expression in the giving of freewill offerings, and thus our love and happiness are increased.

The blessing of tithes and offerings may be summed up in these words: an increased love for God and man, a greater joy and happiness here on earth, and a more certain confidence that we shall live eternally with the Giver of all good things.

### TITHE EDUCATION MONTH

*"RESOLVED, That the month of February each year be designated as "Tithe Education" month when special consideration will be given to the question of tithe and offerings. That where it can be arranged, workers spend time visiting churches and doing personal work with the members; and if this cannot be done they do all that they can through correspondence to encourage the believers to be faithful. Further, that every effort be made to arouse the church officers to be especially active during this month in visiting the members of their respective churches with a view to helping them by prayer, Bible study, and counsel to be faithful in their financial obligations to God."*

—DIVISION COUNCIL.

## "Why Tithe?"

By R. R. FIGUHR

"The Lord has made the diffusion of light and truth dependent on the voluntary efforts and offerings of those who have been partakers of the heavenly gifts." (Vol. 5, p. 148.) It is the divine plan that each one who aligns himself with God shall have an active part in the carrying forward of God's work here on the earth. It is very evident that such an arrangement is of no great material benefit or value to the supreme Ruler of the universe. Whose are all things. The stars, the sun, and the whole universe are His—the work of His hands. If He were hungry He would not tell us. His riches fill and overflow the universe in every direction. Everything we see and touch is God-made. It bears the stamp of His ownership. Those hundred cocoanut trees, man claims—though he never made one of them. God's sun shines on the trees. God's rain waters them and they grow in God's earth. Each tree bears fifty cocoanuts. Man pulls down the nuts—and he gives God one-tenth. It is a very small share that God claims and claims rightfully as his—only one-tenth. The process could have been reversed, God keeping nine-tenth and giving man but one-tenth. But we must bear in mind that it is not material but spiritual gain that God is interested in and looks for from the tithing plan. Tithing was instituted primarily for the benefit of the man who tithes. That sounds strange but it is a fact. Rightly understood the tithing plan is a wonderful one, bringing untold blessings and privileges to the one who enters into it. In this tithing plan, God has in mind making man His partner. As you stop and think of this you cannot help but marvel. You are amazed at the privileges extended to man who has ever had a tendency to wander far from God but who may actually be in partnership with His Maker. The farmer plowing his fields is to be a partner with God; God and he running the farm. The merchant in his store, be it a large one or a little one on some insignificant street corner somewhere, is to be a member of a firm with God the senior partner; he and God running the business. For such a farmer and merchant there can be no overwhelming business reverses, for the resources of his heavenly partner are ever unlimited. Financial depressions cannot much affect him nor his business. What a privilege God thus bestows upon man! And should this great truth really take hold of our hearts what a difference it would make in our living and dealings. It would verily give spiritual life to thousands of our nominal believers who now mourn over their darkness. "It will transform them from selfish, covetous, worshippers of mammon to

earnest faithful co-workers with Christ in the salvation of sinners." That this partnership is a real one, is clearly shown in Malachi 3:11. "I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts." Plainly, the heavenly partner has a particular care over the fields where he is recognized as partner.

### IN PARTNERSHIP WITH GOD

Not only is it man's privilege through tithing to become the partner of God in material things such as in connection with business etc., but God also confers upon him the high privilege and honor of being a co-laborer with God in that which is the greatest work now going on in the universe,—the redeeming of men from sin, and the preparing of them for a place at the right hand of God. He is preparing them for an endless and glorious life in His kingdom. Through the tithing plan, man may become a co-worker with God in this highest work,—he and God's interest thus becoming identical.

Why tithe? Because, "all the tithe of the land . . . is the Lord's." And those who do not give God that which is His, rob Him. The tithe is holy, dedicated to a holy work. He who touches it, does not recognize the difference between the holy and the common. Overestimation of money and understimation of God, are the causes of unfaithfulness in tithing.

## "When Tithe"

By J. G. GJORDING

That the system of tithing all income was known in Abraham's day is probable, for we read that Abraham gave or paid to Melchizedek, God's high priest, "tithes of all." Gen. 14:18-20. It seems apparent that Abraham did not care for any of the treasures he had wrested from the kings in his encounter with them; but he realized that the tithe portion of those treasures belonged to God, and should therefore be paid to His representative before any disposition was made of the other nine-tenths. The Bible does not specify that this was the first incident where tithe was paid, nor does it state that the system of setting aside a definite portion as "holy unto the Lord" originated at that time. We are left free to infer that the tithing system was already well understood, and it was therefore not strange that Abraham should be faithful in rendering obedience to this precept by giving just *one-tenth* to God's high priest, thus clearly recognizing God's ownership of all and His special claim to a fixed portion.

Jacob, another patriarch, also paid tithe. And it seems evident that he knew about God's requirements, for as we read in Gen. 28:10-22, at the

time when he "came to himself" as one of the prodigals of earth and decided to return "unto his Father" he included, as a sign of his true conversion, the rendering unto God of a faithful tithe of all the Lord should entrust to his stewardship. Had he not previously known, he might have suggested a fifth or a seventh, or even some smaller portion than what God requires as His own.

God's people anciently observed this system of paying the Lord *one-tenth*, and this was in addition to a good many free will offerings. The tithing system was a positive institution with God's people anciently, and it did not pass away with their passing.

In the New Testament we have Christ's teaching on the question of tithe-paying. He plainly told the Scribes and the Pharisees that men ought to pay tithe, (Matt. 23:23) and this rule should not exclude other requirements made by the God of heaven upon His people. The Apostles upheld the teaching of their Master and of the writings of the Old Testament, showing their new converts that the obligation of the tithe was binding upon them, and was but the visible sign that men recognize God's ownership and acknowledge it definitely.

Thus we see that the Scriptures possess an abundance of evidence that the tithe was enjoined upon God's people anciently as a test of their allegiance to Him and in loving recognition that God was the owner of all things and that man's position was that of a steward.

Now *when* shall we tithe? We have already quoted Prov. 3:9,10, and we believe there is much importance attached to the word "firstfruits" as used in this connection in the Scriptures. The tithe is to be set aside first. If a man is a farmer, as many of our believers are, and wishes to keep all the produce from his farm for himself, he ought to figure a fair market price for the year's produce and then tithe that before he makes any disposition of the other nine-tenths. Too often a selfish thought comes along suggesting that we ought to have our living out of the farm before any portion of its produce is set aside, and that only what remains, after we have had our living out of it, be tithed. But the law that asks the city day laborer to set aside *one-tenth* of the whole amount he earns demands as much from the man whose earnings are expressed in the produce from a farm or the increase from a herd. It is when we take out *the tenth part* of our increase, the tithe of our earnings, the tithe of our profits from whatever gains we have,—and bring the consecrated portion to Christ's storehouse, before we touch the nine-tenths for ourselves, that we "honor the Lord with our substance." This we believe to be the duty of every

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## "How Tithe"

By H. A. OBERG

The Lord tells us to bring all the tithes into the storehouse, "and prove me now... if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." This is a most wonderful statement from the God-head, the ruler over that vast and never ending domain vaguely conceived of on a bright starry night as one scans the sky. And it is a very definite promise from One "with whom there is no variability neither shadow of turning."

Why is it that we do not find more earnest Christians accepting God's promise embodied in this most plain and definite statement? Here in the Bible we have the Ruler of the universe reminding us that He is ruler over all: that we are His servants entrusted with talents from Him; that for His providential care, for life, and power to get wealth, in recognition of Him as the giver of the very air we breathe, and the beautiful sunlight we bask in, and for the privilege of living on this earth and enjoying its benefits, we are to render unto Him one-tenth of our increase. Indeed, a rather small taxation this from One who extends Lordship over all by right of creation, and who continues to serve as the great provider of the human race.

### A DIVINE TAX

This divine tax was imposed upon all with the simple aim of providing a means whereby the true worship of Jehovah might be carried on, and that those connected with this divine worship might be supported so that a knowledge of the True God might be spread to earth's remotest parts.

The Bible tells us that, "All the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the Lord's: it is holy unto the Lord... And concerning the tithe of the herd, or of the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the tenth shall be holy unto the Lord." In the statement, "Bring ye all the tithe into the storehouse" is embodied the thought of one-tenth. How are we to figure what or how much is tithe?

The admonition to everyone is to bring in one-tenth unto the Lord. His plan is that every man and woman and child on this earth should render unto Him one-tenth of their increase.

When a person works for wages it is a simple thing to figure out what portion belongs to the Lord. God's plan is that every person receiving wages, before he spends a cent, should set aside one-tenth to be presented unto the Lord. But how about a farmer who tills the soil? In such a vocation it is proper that all the expenditure of money which goes into the work of preparing the soil, for fertilizer bought, for hired labor, in fact all expenditures made to produce the

crop should first be subtracted from the gross sales to determine the profit received from his farm operation. If one raises chickens the cost of the chicken feed bought should be subtracted from the selling price of the eggs or chickens before there is a profit on which to pay tithe. However, one should always bear in mind that all the farm produce one uses as food is the same in God's sight as though it is sold, and therefore everyone should pay a faithful tithe on all foods consumed.

If one runs a store he has various expenditures which he must subtract before he figures the tenth for the Lord. However he should be faithful to figure all the provisions he might use in his household off the shelves of the store as sales, and pay his faithful tithe the same as the farmer. If a person has an ox and a wagon doing drayage he has costs to figure. His ox must have its food which should be subtracted as well as the upkeep of the wagon before he can be sure of the portion he should return to the Lord. The Lord expects us to be faithful to Him. We are to figure and subtract all costs in running our business, carefully tithing everything used for personal purposes. The Lord is just. He expects simply a tithe or one-tenth of our income. If we wish to bask in all the promised blessings we must be true to Him.

### BLESSING PRONOUNCED

Early in the history of the human race did God hold out rich promises to those who would be faithful in recognizing His Lordship, saying, "All these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God. Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field. Blessed shalt thou be in the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep... And the Lord shall make thee plentiful in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land which the Lord sware to thy fathers to give thee. The Lord shall open to thee His good treasure, the heaven to give thee rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand."

About two weeks ago when meeting with the West Chosen Mission committee the tithing subject was discussed. Mention was made of one of our believers I have known for eighteen years, who for a long period has been paying in good sums of tithe monthly. One committee man spoke up saying that his financial condition had improved greatly since he began paying tithe. The Lord's promises can be relied on and He will open the doors of heaven and pour out a blessing upon all those who faithfully trust him.

## "Windows of Heaven Opened"

By V. T. ARMSTRONG

God has promised to open the windows of heaven and pour out material as well as spiritual blessings to the faithful tithe payer. And God is not stingy with his followers when he showers blessings upon them. The promise is that the blessings will be so bountiful that we shall not be able to fully receive them.

Through the deception of Satan, the lack of faith, and through selfishness, many do not avail themselves of the provisions made in Malachi 3:10 for their material help. We are living in the day of miracles. God is doing greater things for His children now than ever before. Every promise made to His children is sure. Their fulfillment is determined by whether or not we will obey God's commands. If we do our part God will surely do his. Again and again we have seen experiences come to faithful people who have obeyed. The command of Mal. 3:10 carries with it one of the bountiful promises of the Lord of heaven and earth.

### AN EXAMPLE OF FAITHFULNESS

In one of the country districts of Japan is a little country church of faithful God fearing farmers. They love the message. The elder of the church believes in his members holding high the principles of truth. One spring during rice planting time a real test came to him. The rice plants had been delivered on Thursday ready for planting on Friday. But due to a storm it was impossible for the plants to be set out. Sabbath morning was bright and clear and on all sides neighbors were busily setting out plants, but this brother along with the other members of the church was faithful to the command of God. His neighbors laughed at him and told him his plants would be ruined and his crop a failure. Then they laughed at his religion and his God. But our brother prayed God to fulfil his promise. He was a commandment keeper, both in keeping the Sabbath and paying a faithful tithe. Although his plants did look a little wilted, in a few days they were growing well and before long were ahead of the plants in the neighboring fields. By harvest time our faithful member had the largest rice crop in the neighborhood. It was an astonishment to all!

At harvest time God especially protected this brother's crop. A great storm came beating the fields of grain into the ground, but our brother had been impressed to work one whole Saturday night taking in his grain; and when the storm came his crop was safe. The neighbors all said His God had blessed him. God does bless those who will pay their tithe and keep the Sabbath. He will pour out his blessing in bountiful measure.

In another place a brother kept many chickens. A chicken disease was sweeping the neighborhood and many were losing their flocks. Our brother took the matter to the Lord. He told the Lord how he had been faithfully paying his tithe and asked God to fulfil the promise to the tithe payer. All around were neighbors losing their flocks but our brother's flock was spared. His neighbors asked him what he had done to ward off the sickness. He told them of the promise to the tithe payer. There are great blessings to those who honor God and this brother was a witness for the message to those about him.

#### TIMES DEMAND LOYALTY

As we near the end, troubles will multiply. Destruction of crops, lack of employment, and financial depres-

sion will bring distress to multitudes. Want and starvation will be the lot of many. The promise of Mal. 3:10 is just as sure in the time of trouble and unsettled conditions as in times of peace and plenty. More and more the people of God will experience the miracles of God's protecting care over material things. But God cannot do this for us unless we keep His law. To withhold the tithe is to be a robber and to be finally left without the fold. These are not man's words but the words of God.

Surely the time is here when all should be true to God and render to Him the full tithe. The needs of the work demand it and the times demand that we receive the blessing. May God help all to come up to the help of the Lord at this time and be honest with themselves and God.

## Ways and Means of Increasing the Tithe

*A symposium by our union treasurers.*

#### THOROUGHLY GROUNDING CONVERTS IN THE DOCTRINE:

One of the main reasons why our tithe receipts are so low is that believers have been baptized and admitted to church membership before being thoroughly prepared in the matter of tithing. The doctrine is doubtless explained to them. They assent to it and profess to believe in it along with the other teachings of Scripture. But too often they become church members before giving the tithing doctrine a thorough experimental test. The result is that many are weak and sickly among us.

Frequently the tithing doctrine is not presented as a truth of equal importance with others, but as a subsidiary or even as an optional point of faith. The convert gains the impression that tithing is a good thing for those who can afford it, but fails to sense it as a solemn obligation resting on every man, an outward indication of a surrendered and spiritually fruitful life. The result is that little so-called tithe is paid, and often that is forthcoming only under ministerial pressure.

The best way then, it seems to me, to increase the tithe is to emphasize its importance when instructing candidates for church membership. We should not admit another soul under the ordinary conditions of evangelism, until we have positive personal knowledge that he believes in tithe paying, that he has practised it for months, that what he remits as tithe is really an honest tenth of his income and not merely a little conscientious hush-money. If a man fails to pay a tenth of his material wealth toward the support of God's cause, what hope under heaven is there that he will forsake all that he hath in order to be a disciple of Christ?

I believe in stimulating the church membership to greater faithfulness in tithe paying. By all means let us point out the spiritual starvation we have suffered through our failure in this regard. Let us sound a solemn warning to all who would presume to embezzle sacred funds. Let us perfect every detail of our tithe-receiving machinery, so that the envelope is continually available, and the receipt faithfully and promptly delivered. And above all, let us see well to it that each new church member understands, appreciates, and practises tithing until it is as faithfully adhered to as Sabbath keeping.

ROGER ALTMAN.

#### TEACHING THAT TITHE-PAYING IS AS SACRED AS THE SABBATH:

Many times a crisis is a blessing in disguise. And I wonder if the present crisis isn't permitted that good may come to the children of God. Statistics show that many of our people are not faithful to God in the paying of tithe and offerings and yet our people are a good people, willing and anxious when shown, to do anything that the Lord requires of them. So I wonder if we have been faithful as workers and leaders in educating and setting before our people this great principle of truth,—truth as sacred as the Sabbath. We would not think of bringing people into the church without first indoctrinating them in the Sabbath truth, and surely we should also teach them their obligation and the blessing of tithe paying. First, the leaders in the church should be converted to this great truth.

"Let the church appoint pastors or elders who are devoted to the Lord

Jesus, and let these men see that officers are chosen who will attend faithfully the work of gathering in the tithe. If the pastors show that they are not fitted for their charge, if they fail to set before the church the importance of returning to God His own, if they do not see to it that the officers under them are faithful, and that the tithe is brought in, they are in peril. They are neglecting a matter which involves a blessing or a curse to the church. They should be relieved of their responsibility and other men should be tested and tried."—Mrs. E. G. White.

"The tithing system did not originate with the Hebrews. From earliest times the Lord claimed a tithe as His; and this claim was recognized and honored. . . . As the Israelites were about to be established as a nation, the law of tithing was reaffirmed, as one of the divinely ordained statutes upon obedience to which their prosperity depended. . . . The tithe is the Lord's. Here the same form of expression is employed as in the law of the Sabbath. 'The Seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God!' God reserved to Himself a specified portion of man's time and of his means, and no man could, without guilt, appropriate either for his own interest."

May each one who reads this be impressed to be faithful in rendering to God His own that the gospel may not be retarded and that His people may be blessed.

H. W. KLASER.

#### "When Tithe"

*(Continued from page 4)*

child of God. "In the beginning God," as our Bible starts out, and "seek ye first the kingdom of God" should be our rule, then let Him add, as we need, things necessary in order for us to accomplish the greatest amount of good for His glory.

Brethren in the Lord, God's blessings upon the portion which remains, after His firstfruits have been consecrated, makes up to us manifold the little amount He requires as a test of our loyalty to Him. When our churches shall be full of missionary merchants, farmers, mechanics, and all classes of laborers, plying their business, trade or work, with the sublime aim of saving mankind from sin, faithfully setting aside the consecrated portion first as sacred to the Lord, and conscientiously holding all that remains above an honest livelihood in readiness for and subject to God's call, then, doubtless, the church will be full of energy, the house of God will have meat in it, and the world will speedily be warned of its coming doom, and all the honest of heart be made ready to meet their God. Have faith in God, brethren and sisters, and make room for His blessing by fulfilling His conditions.

# Departmental Page

## The Bible Year

During the year 1932 the Young People's Missionary Volunteer Department will celebrate its Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of service in this cause. Established in 1907 as a department, we are now able to look back upon the record of twenty-five years of labor in behalf of the young people of the denomination. We feel so good about this long period of service that we want all of our friends to celebrate with us. We are inviting every Missionary Volunteer, every church member, and every worker who so desires, to start the Bible Year with us and endeavor to finish in 1932. To all who finish before the close of December and send their names in to their Union Missionary Volunteer Secretary, we shall give a beautiful silk bookmark.

Professor Griggs is very enthusiastic about this plan. He has already started reading and has asked us to reserve one of these special Bible Year awards for him. He is particularly proud of his record of approximately thirty-five years of annual Bible reading. At our recent Division Council, Elder Spicer related the experience of reading his Bible through in thirteen days. Now is the time to start. Let us receive the blessing which is waiting for us as we again march through the events of sacred history from Genesis to Revelation.

W. P. BRADLEY.

## Goals of the Publishing Department

The progress of the work being done by our evangelistic colporteurs throughout the several unions of the Far Eastern Division was a source of cheer to the delegates gathered at the Winter Council of the Division. Efforts put forth by the different union secretaries to increase the number of colporteurs had raised the total number to 218 at the close of November. This represented a gain of 116 during the eleven months of 1931.

The Division Council voted the following recommendation as applying to publishing house sales and the number of colporteurs for 1932:

"RESOLVED, That we adopt a recruiting objective of 325 colporteurs and a financial literature sales goal of \$250,000 (local currency) for 1932, to be apportioned to the unions as follows:

	Colpor- teurs	Literature Sales
"Chosen .....	60	Y 40,000
"Japan .....	50	Y 50,000
"Malaya .....	40	\$ 25,000
"Philippines .....	175	P 135,000"

## Outlook of the Laymen's Movement

At the recent Winter Council of the Far Eastern Division, the following action was unanimously voted:

"RESOLVED, That we continue to hold before our constituencies the grand objective of doubling the church membership through the united efforts of all the evangelical agencies of the church, each layman endeavoring to win at least one soul for Christ during the year."

It will be recognized that this resolution is very comprehensive. All the departments of the church are evangelical. Every believer, young and old, is to let the light shine. Those in the Missionary Volunteer societies and in the Sabbath schools can be active soul winners. The colporteurs, who day by day are in contact with the people scattering the printed page, are mighty factors in helping to double the church membership. They should report month by month to their home church the number of souls they win to the truth. Finally, we should all realize that we are helpers together with the ordained ministers of the gospel. They are the ambassadors of the Kingdom of Heaven not only to preach the Word but to baptize and receive into the fellowship of the church the fruits gathered by all the activities of the Laymen's Missionary Movement.

The Lord has said: "Where there is no vision the people perish." Let us, therefore, constantly hold before our churches the inspiring vision of doubling their membership. The goal can be reached by each believer winning just one soul to Christ during the year. "All that the apostles did, every church member today is to do."—"Testimonies," Vol. 7, p. 33.

J. H. MCEACHERN.

## A Message to Sabbath School Secretaries

In a letter just received from Mrs. Plummer she sends a message to all Sabbath School Secretaries. I will quote parts of this letter:

"I cannot urge you too strongly to be faithful, prompt, and accurate in reporting regularly. You receive a report blank near the close of each quarter, and it is your duty to fill it out and send it to your conference Sabbath school secretary. You should regard this as a matter of vital importance, as it affects the statistics of the whole denomination. I wish I could turn a magnifying glass on the report blank, and reveal to you the value of that blank when magnified to its right proportions.

"The time when you should fill out the blank is stated on the reverse side of the blank. Lest you forget to look, this general statement should suffice: 'Fill out the blank as soon as possible after the close of the quarter. A prompt report is a delight; a tardy report, an annoyance; a failure to report, a calamity.' If we only had some way of counting the expense and time it takes each quarter to round up the tardy reports, the totals would astonish you.

"Shall we not together turn over a new leaf? This is the way to do it:

1. Make out the report promptly.
2. Spare no effort to make it out accurately.
3. Answer every question properly.
4. Send it to the conference secretary on time.

"Determination plus perseverance, minus all irritation, multiplied by patience, is bound to be effective if continued."

MRS. BLANCHE E. GRIGGS.

## JUNIOR CORNER

### God Sees—Genesis 16:13.

One day several of us were making a trip up Jolly Mountain in the State of Washington. Here we found, perched on the very peak of the mountain, the station of a forest ranger whose duty it was to watch for fires and to report them by telephone to his superior officers below. He told us a very interesting experience. He said that one morning he was searching the mountains for signs of fire when he noticed a little speck moving by the side of a lake many miles away. He reached for his binoculars, focused them on the speck, and found it to be a man who had caught some fish and was cleaning them in the waters of the lake, contrary to the forest regulations. Stepping to the phone he described, to the officers below, the actions of the man, the color of his hat, clothes, etc. Imagine the surprise of this camper when a few minutes later a ranger galloped up to his tent where he was cooking his breakfast and demanded to know why he had broken the forest regulations. Taken by surprise he confessed his deed and promised not to do it again.

God sees everything we do; He hears everything we say; and even discerns our thoughts. From His place above He is able to see all the activities of His children. Living as openly in His sight as we do, how careful we should be that every action will bring honor to His cause. He not only sees the wrong things but He takes notice of our good actions. Let us live so that our lives will be a perpetual witness of our resolution to be a follower of the Master.

## Fas Eastern Division Outlook

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*Eugene Woensner* Editor  
*Dorothy J. Wheeler*, Office Editor

### News Notes

The Winter Council of the Far Eastern Division Committee was held according to appointment at Baguio, Philippine Islands, December 30, to January 6. All members of the Executive Committee were present except Dr. E. E. Getzlaff of Japan who has been in Vienna during recent months taking postgraduate work. Pastor W. A. Spicer of Washington, D. C. was present from the General Conference. Pastor Spicer's excellent Bible studies and good counsel were appreciated by all. Encouraging reports were given by field superintendents and Division departmental heads indicating progress during 1931 in practically every line of denominational activity. A fuller report of the Council will be given in a later issue of the *Outlook*.

As we go to press, the annual meeting of the Philippine Union Mission Committee is in session at Manila. Brethren Griggs, Woensner, McEachern, and Bradley are in attendance from the Far Eastern Division.

In one of the early meetings of the session Brother H. W. Klaser, Union secretary-treasurer reported that there had been 1,556 baptisms during 1931 bringing the church membership of the Philippine Union up close to the fifteen thousand mark. Tithes receipts for the first eleven months of 1931 aggregated ₱50,563.31. During this same period ₱35,273.07 was raised in mission offerings, a gain of approximately five thousand pesos as compared with the receipts of the corresponding period of 1930, notwithstanding lower tithes receipts probably due to the effects of the financial depression which has doubtless reduced the earning power of our Filipino brethren somewhat.

Pastor W. H. Bergherm, Home Missionary Secretary, announced a 63% reporting membership in the Philippines and 623 added to the church through the efforts of the laymen, an accomplishment equal to the average labors of 81 paid workers.

Professor Cummins in reporting for the Educational department stated that in the Philippine Union there are at present fifty schools with a total enrollment of 1,788, employing 82 teachers.

In spite of hard times through which our colporteurs have passed, Brother Wiedemann reported order to the value of 138,461.35 by an average of 115 colporteurs in the field during 1931, the sales averaging one peso per hour. To help stem the tide of decreasing sales in this time of universal depression, over twelve thousand more hours were put in during 1931 by our faithful colporteurs in the Philippines than during the more prosperous year 1930, a gain of 9.7%. Furthermore, recruiting plans now under way will enlist a total of 175 colporteurs in the Union by the close of 1932, it is hoped.

Sister Figuhr was able to make a good report for the Sabbath school department. At the close of the third quarter there were 395 Sabbath schools with a membership of 13,876. Offerings for the eleven months ending November 30, 1931 aggregated ₱17,548.47 which is practically one-half the total mission funds raised within the Union during this period.

Directors of local missions gave interesting reports of progress in the various lines of work under their care.

Sister Helen May Scott of Soonan, Korea who has spent many years of service in the Chosen Union, sailed from Kobe, December 14. Sister Scott will spend her furlough in California.

From E. J. Kraft comes the good word that one of the best colporteur institutes ever held in Japan was the one recently conducted in Hokkaido. Not only was the institute a help to the colporteurs but it also brought rich blessings to the Sapporo church which extended its hospitality to the colporteurs.

Brother A. J. Werner, Field Missionary Secretary of the Malayan Union, writes: "Yesterday, (December 19), was a good day in Singapore. There was a baptism and one of the candidates will begin immediately to prepare for the literature ministry. Another who is awaiting baptism at the next opportunity will enter the colporteur work as soon as the way opens for him. He is a fine character. God is greatly blessing the efforts of the Singapore Y. P. M. V. Society in winning souls through the use of the 'Signs of the Times.'"

Brother V. Castillo, Field Missionary Secretary of the Central Luzon Mission, writes: "Several of our colporteurs were working in a certain town. The *presidente* (mayor) and all the municipal employees ordered books. Then the secretary called the colporteurs and said, 'Here is a list of twenty names to whom you can deliver books.' They visited the twenty and received eighteen orders. . . . Another *presidente* in a different barrio requests a tent effort, saying: 'I know the Seventh-day Adventists have the peace and truth.' Let us pray that God will send forth reapers for the harvest is ripe."

Brother R. W. Pearson, Field Missionary Secretary of the Chosen Union, writes under date of December 17: "Our department had fallen short about Y 3,000 during the first nine months of 1931; but the Lord has blessed us with more than a 60% gain in the past three months over the corresponding three months of the previous year."

Pastor M. F. Wiedemann, Field Missionary Secretary of the Philippine Union, writes: "During October of this year (1931) the Lord blessed us with sales amounting to ₱17,335.79, an increase of ₱8,723.39—or more than 100%. For the month of November last year our sales were ₱13,840.88; this year (1931) ₱15,023.17, or an increase of ₱1,182.29. The colporteurs have worked 7,081 more hours in the eleven months of 1931 than in the corresponding time of the preceding year."

## Report of Mission Offerings, January to November 30, 1931

Values in Pesos—for U. S. Gold divide by two

Union	Membership	1930 Actual Receipts	1931 Goal 115 per cent	Quota to Date	Actual Receipts	Amt. Short	Per Week 1930	Per Member 1931
Chosen . . . . .	2,128	₱12,159.38	₱13,983.29	₱12,818.02	₱10,907.50	₱ 1,910.52	₱0.12	₱0.107
Japan . . . . .	673	13,997.20	16,096.78	14,755.38	8,345.13	6,410.25	.45	.26
Malayan . . . . .	866	11,800.37	13,570.43	12,439.56	11,545.08	894.48	.283	.279
Philippine . . . . .	12,633	34,737.52	39,948.15	36,619.14	35,273.07	1,346.07	.061	.058
Total or Aver.	16,300	₱72,694.47	₱83,598.65	76,632.10	66,070.78	10,561.32	0.099	0.085