

"NOT ROOM ENOUGH"

By G. A. ROBERTS

"Not room enough to receive it." These are the words of our God concerning His blessing upon those who are truly faithful to Him. It has to do with the tithe. He says to bring all the tithes into the storehouse, and that He will "pour you out a blessing that THERE SHALL NOT BE ROOM ENOUGH to receive it." Malachi 3:7-10. What does this mean? Does it mean that we are to become very wealthy, have more money than our neighbors, better homes, larger bank accounts, be surfeited with the good things of this life?

No, dear friends, none of the above is the meaning of that promise that there shall not be room enough. God never intends generally such things for His people on earth. However, He does say that if we are faithful to Him, all our needs will be supplied, and there will be an added blessing that we can not possibly rightfully receive. Notice that the promise does not say that there shall not be room enough to hoard, or no place to invest, or no extravagant way to waste it, but that there shall not be room enough to RECEIVE IT.

God has made you capable of receiving just a certain amount of financial and material blessing. He has made us so that we need to consume food, wear clothing; live in properly constructed, health-conserving homes; and be "diligent" in our business. He intends also that we enjoy the good things of God in the privileges He brings to us in His work and in His service to the world. The surplus above our actual needs, is that above our room to receive; and it is intended by God who gave it, to be passed on by us for the service of His cause.

Some, in their understanding of this text, have felt that they should become immensely wealthy or that they should themselves have and retain more than others. But all that is withheld by us from the service of our fellowmen and the service of God, above what we can receive and properly use for ourselves and the proper sustenance of our families and conduct of our business, is withheld to our hurt.

The Bible gives us an example of this. We have no record that the rich man whose barns would not hold his crop was a tithepayer, but we presume that he was, for God blessed him abundantly. But instead of using it to bless the poor and needy, and to advance God's cause in the earth, as God intended, he proposed to pull down his barns and build greater ones and thus hoard what he had not room to receive. God said to him, "Thou fool," and required his soul of him that very night.

The writer is personally acquainted with some doctors, farmers, and others, who work continually on the principle that their income above what they can receive belongs to God and His cause. A prosperous doctor who, till he was call to rest, gave from one to five thousand dollars a year to missions, stated to me that he wanted nothing when Christ comes. He had his office, his home in the city, and his home in the country. These were conducted and operated for the benefit of the cause of God. He gave his income, above his needs, to the cause.

We know a rancher and his good wife, who have ten acres of orchard, and who, in addition to their tithe, give from one thousand to five thousand dollars a year to missions. He has a lovely little place and a nice, modest little home, well provided with the necessities of life. This man and his wife have been giving in this spirit for thirty-five years. He has kept in health and strength and in continued prosperity.

Another brother brought to our office a number of valuable books, placed them down and said, "These are dedicated to the cause of God. I want nothing when Christ comes. I may lose my own soul, but Christ shall have everything I have." This man takes from his income what is sufficient for his modest support, and consumes only that much. The rest he has dedicated to the cause of God.

If all our successful business and professional men and women with means, would catch this vision, what great blessing would come to the cause of God! If those who are faithful in paying tithe and who are continually giving to the cause of God, could catch this vision of the meaning of these words, NOT ROOM ENOUGH, what joy and comfort it would bring to their hearts to know that though they are not wealthy in the things of this world, they are immensely wealthy in the sight of heaven! Their treasure is laid up above.

What an exalted privilege is ours in tithe paying, for "The Saviour offers to share with us the work God has given us to do. He offers to use the means God has given us to forward His work in the world. Only in this way can He save us."—"Desire of Ages," p. 523.

Men in this world are very glad when some great and successful corporation paying large profits will allow them to place their money in the corporation's business. What shall be said in comparison when the Saviour offers to use our means in His own cause?

"He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord." Prov. 19:17. It seems also that he that payeth his tithe, lendeth unto the Lord. Notice the following:

"When Christ's followers give back to the Lord His own, they are accumulating a treasure which will be given to them when they shall hear the words, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; . . . enter thou into the joy of thy Lord.'"—*"Desire of Ages,"* p. 523.

Are the very poor included in this promise of "not room enough"?

"Never should the laborer who raises up little companies here and there, give the impression to those newly come to the faith, that God does not require them to work systematically in helping to sustain the cause by their personal labors and by their means. Frequently those who receive the truth are among the poor of this world; but they should not make this an excuse for neglecting those duties which devolve upon them in view of the precious light they have received. They should not allow poverty to prevent them from laying up a treasure in heaven. *The blessings within reach of the rich are also within their reach.* If they are faithful in using that little they do possess, their treasure in heaven will increase according to their fidelity. It is the motive with which they work, not the amount they do, that makes their offering valuable in the sight of heaven.

"All should be taught to do what they can for the Master; to render to Him according as He has prospered them. He claims as His just due a tenth of their income, be it large or small; and those who withhold this, committ robbery toward Him, and cannot expect His prospering hand to be with them. Even if the church is composed mostly of poor brethren, the subject of systematic benevolence should be thoroughly explained, and the plan heartily adopted. God is able to fulfil His promises. His resources are infinite, and He employs them all in accomplishing His will. And when He sees a faithful performance of duty in the payment of the tithe, He often, in His wise providence, opens ways whereby it shall increase. He who follows God's arrangement in the little that has been given him, will receive the same returns as he who bestows of his abundance.

"Great objects are accomplished by this system. If one and all would ac-

cept it, each would be made a vigilant and faithful treasurer for God; and there would be no want of means with which to carry forward the great work of sounding the last message of warning to the world."—*"Gospel Workers,"* pp. 222, 223.

"Christ will keep the names of all who count no sacrifice too costly to be offered to Him upon the altar of faith and love."—*"Testimonies,"* Vol. 3, 250, 251.

SOUL WINNING COLPORTEURS . . .

(Continued from page 3)

An Adventist Library

Brother Juan Palau, field secretary of Santo Domingo, sent the following experience to me:

"While working with a colporteur here in the Dominican Republic, we called at a certain home; and upon presenting our book 'The Medical Counsellor of the Home' (Spanish), the man informed us that he had recently purchased 'Dawn of a New Day' (Spanish), and liked it very much. It was our privilege to spend one night in his home. And since he knew we were Adventists, we explained to him more in detail about the Seventh-day Adventist Church. He was greatly encouraged by our visit, and has resolved to build up a personal library consisting of Seventh-day Adventist books. Already he has a bookcase and the following books: 'Medical Counsellor of the Home,' 'Ministry of Healing,' 'Dawn of a New Day,' a Bible, a hymn book, and a collection of our small books, all in Spanish. He plans to purchase at least two subscription books each year until he has an Adventist library. In a recent letter which I received from him, he said: 'Brother Palau, I am very grateful to you for the precious jewels (books) that you have brought to our home.'"

This experience should greatly encourage our people and cause them to make a greater sacrifice in order to have more of these precious jewels in their own homes.

Persistence Wins

In the summer of 1938, Brother Alvarez of Santo Domingo, while working in a small interior village, called on a certain merchant. After the usual greeting, the colporteur presented the book "Dawn of a New Day" (Spanish). Although the colporteur gave his canvass with enthusiasm and energy, he failed to make a sale. Brother Alvarez

decided that it was impossible to sell the large book, so he presented a small book and made a sale. The colporteur thanked the man and went on his way rejoicing. While working in this same territory, the colporteur passed the merchant's home several times, and each time he endeavored to convince the man that he needed the large book "Dawn of a New Day." Finally, after the colporteur had used the gentle art of persuasion in every way possible, the merchant made the paramount decision and purchased the book. The book was delivered in August, 1938, and on October 8, this gentleman and his wife kept their first Sabbath. Later another colporteur sold to this same couple a copy of the "Medical Counsellor of the Home" (Spanish), and now they have two of our big books, some small ones; and too, they read *El Centinela* every month. In August of 1939, I visited this family. Three other people are now keeping the Sabbath with the merchant and his wife. This group meets each Sabbath in a Sabbath school. It was a real thrill for me to visit in this home, and see these precious souls that have been won by reading our books.

Our task is to warn the masses. In "Christ's Object Lessons," page 229, we read, "The Lord desires that His word of grace shall be brought home to every soul. To a great degree this must be accomplished by personal labor. . . We are not to wait for souls to come to us; we must seek them out where they are. . . There are multitudes who will never be reached by the gospel unless it is carried to them."

Many more similar experiences could be related, but all of us recognize that the marvelous progress of the great Advent Message is in a very definite way related to the work of the advancing bookman army.

We must realize what it costs to belong to the firm of God. Sometimes we must give, with splendid abandon, all we have. I yield to no one in my devotion to these United States, yet I tremble at the material standard we have allowed to be set up here. We follow the dollar sign rather than the cross of Christ. Unless we rise above the travail of money getting, unless we realize the true sublimity of spiritual service, we are doomed, just as surely as those nations of the past, now standing stark and ugly in their ruins. They died because they had no right to live. —Bishop Thomas C. Dorst.

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SOUL-WINNING COLPORTEURS

Extracts from the report of D. A. McAdams, Field Missionary Secretary of the Antillian Union, at the Annual Meeting of the Antillian Union Mission Committee held in Havana, Cuba, February 15-24, 1940.

35 New Sabbathkeepers

In the month of October, 1939, it was my privilege to visit two new Sabbath schools during one week-end. The first group consisted of about 20 people, a fine class of persons, too. How earnest and enthusiastic they were as they sang the songs of Jesus' love, and as they studied the lesson for the week, and how cheerfully and liberally they gave of their means! As I sat and watched the proceedings of this interesting school, I was especially impressed by the director, José López, one of our faithful Cuban colporteurs, whom the Lord has used in raising up this fine Sabbath school. First he canvassed the town thoroughly. Then after he had delivered his books, this group of about 20 interested people began to meet each Sabbath in a private home. Three fine young ladies, members of this Sabbath school, have already sold a goodly number of the magazine *El Centinela*.

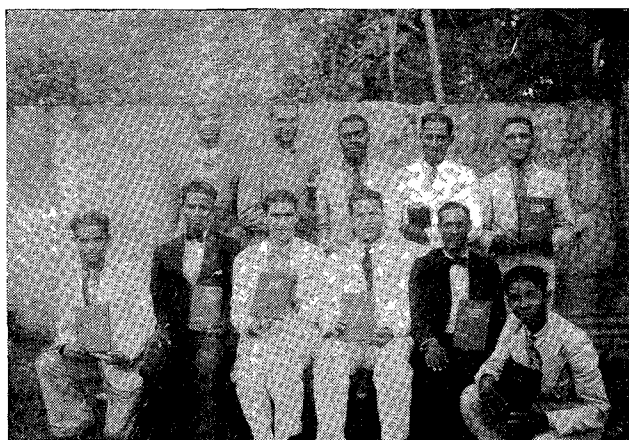
Leaving this group, we traveled a few miles by train and then five more miles on horseback, arriving finally at a beautiful country home. Here a meeting was conducted the night after the Sabbath, with a group of about 15 interested people. The gentleman at this home owns a farm of 1,593 acres. He and his family are keeping the Sabbath and preparing for baptism. One of his sons is attending school in Bartle, and I understand that he likes the school very much and is doing commendable work. Soon after arriving in Bartle, he wrote a letter to his parents, stating that he felt as if he were in a new world because of the strong Christian influence at the school. Several hired hands with their families live on this big farm, and the owner is doing real missionary work among them. He invites them to the meetings and is anxious that they learn about the truth. Colporteur López sold a book at this home, and God has used this humble book evangelist in the establishing of this Sabbath school.

(Continued on page 2)

PORTO RICO LOOKS AHEAD

Extracts taken from the report of L. L. Dunn, Superintendent of the Puerto Rico mission, at the Annual Meeting of the Antillian Union Mission Committee held in Havana, Cuba, February 15-24, 1940.

Our island field is one of great possibilities. The dense population of 1,800,000 people constitutes a challenge to us. We believe that where we now have 22 churches and 8 companies, we ought to have twice that number.



The 11 Dominican colporteurs who worked more than 1,000 hours each in 1939

The Dominican Colporteur Institute, December, 1939



Where we are at the present time baptizing 200 souls in one year, we believe that under God, twice that number can be brought into the truth. Probably no field within our union territory has brighter prospects than has Puerto Rico for the present year. Just now the island appears to be facing an unusual era of prosperity. With this prospect

(Continued on page 4)

DOMINICAN COLPORTEURS

Two years ago Brother Juan Palau was called to Santo Domingo to lead out in the book work. At that time there were eight colporteurs in the field. Now we have 26 colporteurs and magazine workers in the Santo Domingo Mission. The report in orders and deliveries for 1939 exceed any previous report during the past decade. Another very encouraging feature about the 1939 report, is that eleven of the colporteurs worked over one thousand hours each. More hours mean greater success for any colporteur.

The January report for 1940 has just come to my desk, and it is a very en-

couraging one indeed. The orders show a thousand per cent gain over January of 1939, and the deliveries are more than twice as much as they were one year ago. It is very evident that 1940 is going to be another banner year for Santo Domingo.

We praise God for our faithful bookmen and ask that you remember them in your prayers. D. A. McADAMS

AN OUTSTANDING RECORD

The colporteurs of the Antillian Union worked 110,220 hours in 1939. This is the largest number of hours reported in any one year in the history of our union.

The total value of orders for 1939 amounted to \$91,795.74. This also exceeds any previous year in the history of our work.

The amount of \$48,124.69 worth of literature was delivered in 1939. Only two annual reports since the beginning of the book work in the union have exceeded the 1939 deliveries. We thank God for this splendid report, and pray that God will add His blessing to these pages of truth.

The Lord has greatly blessed us in recruiting and enlarging our colporteur army. In 1937, we had an average of 72 colporteurs reporting; in 1938, 88; in 1939, 102; and 135 book evangelists attended our recent series of five institutes. These ministers of the printed page have returned to their territory with a burning zeal to do a greater work in the circulation of books and magazines in 1940. Even yet we have a great need of more colporteur evangelists in order to do a greater work in a shorter time. Our aim is to have 150 workers in the field by the end of 1940.

The year 1939 marks a real milestone in the progress of student colporteur work in the Antillian Union. Five full and four half-scholarships were earned in Cuba; and one full and seven half-scholarships were earned in Jamaica. This makes a total of six full and eleven half-scholarships for the union. As far as I have been able to learn from past records, this is an all-time high mark. The splendid cooperation of the faculty in our school at Bartle, has been largely responsible for this healthy growth of our student colporteur work in Cuba. I am of the opinion that this is only the beginning of big things in our student book-work.

If the people in the millions of homes where our literature has already been placed, would begin to study and search for Bible truth in our books and periodicals, how easy it would be to visualize a modern Pentecost. This very thing is taking place all around the world, and here in the Antillian Union many people are accepting the truth as a result of reading our literature. Consecrated men and women, laden with

truth-filled literature, constitute a soul-winning combination that cannot be stopped by all the powers of Satan and his angels. Regardless of high mountains, muddy roads, tropical heat, and frigid temperature, these men are pressing forward with their shield of faith and sword of truth in the battle against the enemy.

We, the colporteurs and field leaders of the Antillian Union, enter 1940 with the spirit of Martin Luther. Just as he threw a bottle of ink at what he thought was Satan, so we plan to hurl ink by the ton at the enemy of all mankind, by scattering more truth-filled literature. We realize that behind us is infinite power; before us, endless possibility; around us, boundless opportunity. So why should we fear? To wish, to want, to will, and to win; these are the four steps to every goal. By the grace of God we are determined to win in 1940.

D. A. McADAMS

PORTO RICO LOOKS AHEAD . . .

(Continued from page 3)

before us, we look forward to the coming months with optimism.

There are immediate opportunities in different sections of the field, where calls are urgent and open to us, which we do not yet know how to answer. For example, a few years ago a brother, with his entire family, was brought into the message through the work of a colporteur and the subsequent reading of our books. Today this man and his family are faithfully keeping the Sabbath. This brother has erected a little chapel on his own farm, where 17 church members meet weekly. One son of the family is at present a colporteur. Another is a student in our school at Bartle, Cuba. Plans are now completed for two more of his sons to enter the school.

Porto Rico should have available one or two evangelistic workers who can remain in the field as regular evangelists to follow up such openings as the one I have just cited. There are large centers in the island where as yet we have no work. We must find some way of spreading out to those places. I am confident that one way to approach this problem, is the training of local church leadership; the shifting of detail church management upon trained local church officers.

Quite a little has been said and writ-

ten about the work of lay-preachers in Porto Rico. This has been an important feature of the work. It has but begun to do the great work that it can be made to do. "There is earnest work for every pair of hands to do."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, 37.

Again in speaking of home missionary work the servant of the Lord has written, "It is a mystery that there are not hundreds at work where now there is but one."—*Id.* p. 42.

The brethren in our churches are anxious to work for God. There is need of special guidance in this sphere of Christian service, and I believe that a far greater work than has yet been seen will be accomplished. Already some of our lay preacher groups have been at work in successful public efforts. A number of lay-preaching classes are organized in the churches. It is to these groups that we shall have to look in part for the completion of the work in many sections of our territory. The time should not be far distant when we shall have ministers superintending twice as many churches as they are now, and when the laity will be diligently engaged in soul-saving activities in the vicinity of each church.

It is gratifying to note that our Sabbath school membership has doubled since 1932. During 1939 our schools contributed 2,338.48 dollars (U. S. currency) to missions. The Missionary Volunteer Department now has 20 societies with a membership of 395.

The Publishing Department has had a good year, delivering 9,032 dollars (U. S. currency) worth of our literature. Our colporteurs are hunting and fishing for souls. They have set their goal for deliveries in 1940 for 10,000 dollars.

Two of our brethren are now preaching the message by radio. Pastor Me-grant has recently been granted one half hour each two weeks to broadcast over the Ponce station. For several months, we have been broadcasting from Mayaguez station. Elder Prince has been conducting the program over the Mayaguez station for considerable time, and prior to this, by Elder Méndez, very interesting results have been observed.

And now as the year 1940 stretches before us and has already begun to slip by, our workers in Porto Rico expect to put forth greater efforts to accomplish a larger work for God than hitherto.

THE EVANGELISM OF BRANCH SABBATH SCHOOLS

By G. A. ROBERTS

The easiest first step that can be taken by one not of our faith, a step which will lead to full church fellowship with us, is to join a branch Sabbath school. Many strangers, because of some prejudice or some fear of reproach from their neighbors or friends, are unwilling to attend any services in the Seventh-day Adventist church. They will not attend a regular Sabbath school or a prayer meeting or any other of our church services. Ordinarily, however, a great many of these are religiously inclined and will attend a branch Sabbath school or a Sabbath school held in a neighbor's home. Some of them will welcome such a school in their own home.

It is just here that the branch Sabbath school and good work that may be done by Sunday schools, will have a good effect. For this reason every Sabbath school should establish at least one branch Sabbath school or a Sunday school. In order that our regular Sabbath schools may do this in an efficient way, a packet of instructions and supplies has been prepared for use. This will greatly assist in properly establishing and organizing a branch Sabbath school or a Sunday school.

The Division Council has given consideration to this matter and has passed the following recommendation:

"VOTED, To request the Sabbath School Departement Secretary of the Inter-American Division to arrange and develop the plan suggested regarding the organization of branch Sabbath schools. It is suggested that there may be arranged an outline and a set of instructions, contained in an envelope, to be provided for each Sabbath school to assist and instruct them in their organization of new branch Sabbath schools."

This packet is now being arranged and will be available through your Book and Bible House. We encourage every Sabbath school to send for this package. The expense will be very small. It is recommended that every Sabbath school now carrying on in the regular way place this packet in the hand of some teacher and that this teacher be encouraged to establish a branch Sabbath school. Immediately

after this, another packet should be secured and another teacher or member of the Sabbath school should be encouraged to start another branch school. Some of our Sabbath schools already have a branch school in operation. Some have a number of branch schools.

This is a line of home missionary, missionary volunteer and Sabbath school endeavor that is practically exhaustless. There is hardly a limit to what may be done by our members, old and young, in this very important kind of missionary work.

Our records show that in the fourth quarter of 1939 we had increased our Sabbath school membership more than 4,000 over the membership of the fourth quarter of 1938. We can bring tens of thousands more to our Sabbath schools, if we try. Let everyone take a decided interest in this important matter.

ON THE OTHER SIDE

We go our ways in life too much alone,
 We hold ourselves too far from all our kind;
 Too often we are dead to sigh and moan,
 Too often to the weak and helpless, blind;
 Too often where distress and want abide,
 We turn and pass upon the other side.

The other side is trodden smooth, and worn,
 By footsteps passing idly all the day;
 Where lie the bruised ones that faint and mourn,
 Is seldom more than an untrodden way.
 Our selfish hearts are for our feet the guide—
 They lead us by upon the other side.


It should be ours the oil and wine to pour
 Into the bleeding wounds of stricken ones;
 To take the smitten and the sick and sore
 And bear them where a stream of blessing runs.
 Instead, we look about—the way is wide—
 And so we pass upon the other side.

O friends and brothers, gliding down the years,
 Humanity is calling each and all
 In tender accents, born of grief and tears!
 I pray you, listen to the thrilling call!
 You cannot, in your cold and selfish pride,
 Pass guiltlessly upon the other side.

—Selected

We represent Christ wherever we go. He is not here today in human form, but He sends us in his place. We are to act for Him, speak the words of kindness He would speak if He were here, do the deed of love He would do if He were in our place. We must be faithful to our mission. We must never be silent when we ought to speak. We must never speak when we ought to be silent.—J. R. Miller.

SPIRIT OF PROPHECY
 READING PROGRAM



Weekly Assignment in "Great Controversy"

May 5-11 . . . pp. 120-144
 May 12-18 . . . pp. 145-165

IS GOD PARTICULAR? . . .

(Continued from page 8)

er and captured the city of Jericho, and the fear of God fell upon the inhabitants of the land. Then Joshua sent three thousand men to take the little village of Ai, but they were defeated with great loss of life. When Joshua learned of this defeat, he fell on his face before the Lord, and the Lord said to him, "Israel hath sinned, and they have also transgressed My covenant which I commandad them: for they have even taken of the accursed thing, and have also stolen, and dissembled also, and they have put it even among their own stuff." Joshua 7:11.

When the offender was finally located, he was found to be a man by the name of Achan, who had stolen some clothing, some bars of gold, and two hundred shekels of silver, and hidden them in the floor of his tent. This man's sin affected all the congregation, and many lost their lives because of it. Now God, in the eight commandment of the decalogue, has forbidden stealing. Does His dealing with the children of Israel, and with Achan, show that He means what He says? Yes, it does show just that; and God is equally particular that all the rest of His commandments be obeyed.

Another example is brought to our attention in the book of Acts. It is the experience of Ananias and his wife, Sapphira.

They tried to deceive the Lord, to "get by," and to "put something over." They thought God would not care if they failed to keep their promise. But their tragic end proves that God does care, and that He will not pass by sin and transgression.

In the beginning, all was lost by our first parents through one act of disobedience, and it cannot be regained through continued disobedience. We see in Romans 5:19 how Christ died that

AN APPEAL FOR LAY PREACHERS

By E. G. WHITE

we might have power to be obedient. Jesus Christ gave us an example of explicit obedience to God in all things. And every person, at the time he accepts Jesus as his Saviour, must follow Him in the pathway of full obedience if he would at last enter into the kingdom of God. If we say that we love Jesus, obedience is the proof of it; for He says, "If ye love Me, keep My commandments." John 14:15. If we say that we love our brother, obedience to God is its proof. We read this in 1 John 5:2 "By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep His commandments." If we say that we know God, obedience to Him proves it; for in 1 John 2:3, 4, the Inspired Word says, "Hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar and the truth is not in him." No hypocrites will be granted admittance into the kingdom of heaven. Jesus says: "Not everyone that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven." Matt. 7:21. Unless a man has works with his faith, it profits nothing. We are told in James 2:17, "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone."

The blessing of God is pronounced upon the *doing* of the commandments. In fact, admittance into the New Jerusalem is made conditional upon the keeping of the commandment: "Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." Rev. 22:14. Neither will it suffice for a man to keep nine of the commandments. He must "do" the whole law. In the epistle of James we read: "Whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all." James 2:10.

Those who keep the commandments are those who recognize that God is particular—that He means what He says. This class of people are called "saints" in the Inspired Record. Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Rev. 14:12. May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ help us to "do" His commandments, that we may be numbered among the saints when Jesus comes.



Mistakes are only final when you stick to them.

Obscure, Humble Men Called

"God will use ways and means by which it will be seen that He is taking the reins in His own hands. The workers will be surprised by the simple means that He will use to bring about and perfect His work of righteousness."—*"Testimonies to Ministers,"* p. 300.

"Let me tell you that the Lord will work in this last work in a manner very much out of the common order of things, and in a way that will be contrary to any human planning."—*"Special Testimonies,"* Series A, No. 6, p. 59.

"Decided changes are taking place in our world. The Lord has declared that He will turn and overturn. Humble men who hitherto have been in obscurity must now be given opportunity to become workers."—*"Special Testimonies,"* Series B, No. 6, p. 50.

"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. 8, p. 20.

"The striking feature of divine operations is the accomplishment of the greatest work that can be done in our

world, by very simple means."—*"Special Testimonies for Ministers and Gospel Workers,"* No. 10, p. 36.

"There are men who never gave a discourse in their lives, who ought to be laboring to save souls. Neither great talents 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 plow, 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.

"It is not highly educated men, not eloquent men, who are now the most needed, but humble men who in the school of Christ have learned to be meek and lowly, and who will go forth into the highways and hedges to give the invitation 'Come, for all things are ready.' Those who beg at midnight for loaves for hungry souls, will be greatly blessed. It is a law of heaven that as we receive we are to impart."—*"Special Testimonies,"* Series B, No. 8, p. 20.

"In the future, men from the common walks of life will be impressed by the Spirit of the Lord to leave their ordinary employment, and go forth to proclaim the last message of mercy. As rapidly as possible they are to be prepared for labor, that success may crown their efforts. They cooperate with heavenly agencies; for they are willing to spend and be spent in the service of the Master. No one is

SABBATH SCHOOL "MORSELS"

"The Sabbath school should be one of the greatest instrumentalities, and the most effectual, in *bringing souls to Christ.*"—*"Testimonies on Sabbath School Work,"* p. 20.

"The object of the Sabbath school work should be in the *ingathering of souls.*"

"Entire consecration of soul must be maintained as much by the teachers and superintendents of our Sabbath schools as by the ministers in our pulpits, for all alike are engaged in the work of *bringing souls to Christ.*"—*Ibid.* p. 42.

"The Sabbath school is probably the *greatest soul-saving* and stabilizing influence we have, for the salvation of *our own young people.* It may become even more than it now is, the greatest soul-winning agency we can possibly have for the *winning of souls* not of the faith, to the Christ we love and to the special truths of the third angel's message."—*Leaflet "Importance of the Sabbath School,"* p. 3.

WESLEY AMUNDSEN

DIVISION DIRECTORY

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authorized to hinder these workers. They are to be bidden Godspeed as they go forth to fulfill the great commission. No taunting word is to be spoken of them as in rough places of the earth they sow the gospel seed."—*Taken from a talk by Mrs. E. G. White at Pacific Union Conference, Mountain View, Calif., Jan. 29, 1910.*

"He will use men as agents for the accomplishment of His purposes whom some of the brethren would reject as unfit to engage in the work."—*"Remove the Barriers," p. 8.*

Children and Youth Also To Be Used

"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. Children will be impelled by the Holy Spirit to go forth to declare the message of heaven. The Spirit will be poured out upon those who yield to His promptings. Casting off man's binding rules and cautious movements, they will join the army of the Lord."—*"Testimonies," Vol. 7, pp. 26-27.*

"The Lord will raise up men to bear the message of truth to the world and to His people. If those in responsible positions do not move onward in the opening providences of God, bearing an appropriate message for this time, the words of warning will be given to others who will be faithful to their trust. Even youthful Christians will be chosen to 'cry aloud and spare not.'"—*"Testimonies on Sabbath School Work," p. 56.*

"I have been given a representation of the preaching of the word of truth with clearness and power in many places where it has never yet been heard. The Lord would have the people warned; for a great work will be done in a short time. I have heard the word of God proclaimed in many localities. . . There were many voices proclaiming the truth with great power. . . Among those who were engaged in the work were young men taken from the plow and from the fields, and sent forth to preach the truth as it is in Jesus."—*"Medical Ministry," p. 305.*

You can trust people who keep law because it is a law.

HOME MISSIONARY GEMS FOR THOUGHT

The Way of Love

"All the paternal love which has come down from generation to generation through the channel of human hearts, all the springs of tenderness which have opened in the souls of men, are but as a tiny rill to the boundless ocean, when compared with the infinite, exhaustless love of God."—*"Testimonies," Vol. 5, p. 740.*

"The story is told of a poor blind woman in Paris, who once put 27 francs into the plate at a missionary meeting. 'You cannot afford so much,' said one. 'Yes, sir, I can,' she answered. On being pressed to explain, she said, 'I am blind, and I said to my fellow straw workers, "How much do you spend a year for oil in your lamps when it is too dark to work at nights?"' They replied, 'About 27 francs.' 'So,' said the poor woman, 'I found that I could save so much in the year because I am blind and do not need a lamp, and I give it to shed light to those in dark heathen' lands.'"—*Selected.*

WESLEY AMUNDSEN

TEN-MINUTE MISSIONARY SERVICES

May 4

Companion Volumes: "The Great Controversy," and "Ministry of Healing"

At the Fall Council of 1939, a plan known as "The Spirit of Prophecy Reading Program," was officially endorsed and recommended for immediate promotion in the interests of encouraging a wider reading of "The Great Controversy" and "Ministry of Healing." It is recognized that these two books contain messages of a very timely nature, especially applicable to present conditions, and that they should be read and re-read by every member of the church.

For definite results, an intensive reading program has been outlined, and weekly reading assignments covering both books are printed in the MESSENGER.

In planning for the Church Officers' Reading Course for 1940, the members of the committee appointed to make the selection of the books were unanimous in the conviction that no other books could be found which would be as greatly needed by our church officers, as "Great Controversy" and "Ministry of Healing," and therefore church officers are earnestly requested to unite 100 per cent in following the Spirit of Prophecy Reading Program.

Exhortation By Elder McElhany

The following reference to "Great Controversy" was made by Elder J. L. McElhany, near the close of a stirring Sabbath morning sermon on present day world happenings, at the Takoma Park (D. C.) church. What better commendation, or what stronger urge to follow the Spirit of Prophecy Reading Program, could be desired?

"This morning I would feel that I had failed

to say all that I ought to say, if I neglected to urge you all to read this book 'Great Controversy.' If you have ever had any doubt as to whether God inspired the writing of this book, read it now and check up on what is happening today, and these doubts will all disappear. I believe that in your morning worship, or in your private devotions in your home, you should read this book. Here, written years ago, is outlined a forecast of what we see taking place today. I exhort you to read this book for your own benefit, for your own spiritual edification, and for your own enlightenment. If you have read it a dozen times in the past, read it again, for today this book is present truth. It is dealing with issues that are unfolding before our eyes. May God help us all in the days of stress and trial, to be true, and like Daniel and the other Hebrew children, to stand for God, for truth and for right regardless of what may come."

May 11—A Breath of Missionary Zeal

Knock! Knock! Came the sound on the door of one of the office rooms assigned to the Home Missionary Department in the General Conference Building, Takoma Park, D. C. On opening the door, we stood face to face with a stranger, a woman whom we had never seen before.

The lady gave her name and said she belonged to the Seventh-day Adventist church in an adjoining community. The brief case she carried appeared to be heavy, and ere long the contents were disclosed. Books, pamphlets, and missionary literature of various kinds filled all available space, and she explained that for a number of weeks, she had been covering a few blocks of territory in Takoma Park, following the lending library plan. A growing interest had developed, and particular desire was manifest on the part of several persons to read "The Great Controversy," was apparent. The object in calling at our office was to ascertain if there was any way whereby copies of "The Great Controversy" might be obtained at a special price for lending purposes. She wanted a dozen copies to add to her "Private Circulating Library," but she could not see how to obtain the necessary funds for this purpose.

The usual policy of referring her to the church missionary secretary for obtaining literature supplies for missionary work, was followed, urging that she also get in touch with the conference home missionary secretary. It was suggested that it would be well to adopt the general circulating library plan and the latest literature, which would not involve her own personal funds exclusively, and thus provide literature best adapted to creating an interest. She very gratefully accepted our suggestions, and left with a firmer resolve not to be defeated in her extensive plans for lending "The Great Controversy."

This dear sister brought into our office a breath of missionary zeal and enthusiasm which was most refreshing. She said, "I talk with the people, and call their attention to what is transpiring in the world, telling them that the word of God has clearly stated that such things would happen. I ask them if they like to read a book which long ago foretold the very things we see transpiring today in the political world, in which our nation is taking a leading part; and I find them interested at once and eager to read such a book. Then I lend them 'The Great Controversy,' for I believe this is the book of the hour and that it should be circulated everywhere."

As we talked to this worker, a new longing came into our hearts to try still harder to inspire a greater missionary zeal throughout the rank and file of our membership. And there flashed through our mind the following arousing summons: "Everything in the universe calls upon those who know the truth to consecrate themselves unreservedly to the proclamation of the truth as it has been made known to them in the third angel's message. That which we see and hear calls us to our duty. The working of satanic agencies calls every Christian to stand in his lot."—*"Testimonies," Vol. 9, pp. 25, 26.*

IS GOD PARTICULAR?

By DALLAS YOUNGS

Is God an indulgent heavenly Parent? Is He willing to let His people do as they please, and at last receive them into His kingdom anyway? Or is He particular about their manner of life and conduct? Does He mean what He says, and is He going to enforce what He says in the judgment? These are vital-important considerations which should be settled in every mind by a candid study of Sacred Scripture.

The idea is abroad that God is not as particular as we once thought Him to be. This idea takes a number of forms. Some say that God is a great God of love and mercy, and that He will never destroy the wicked. Others say that He will give everyone a second chance. Still others attempt to get around their obligations to God by declaring the ten commandments to be abolished. We are living in an age when people try to "just get by"—when men, instead of squaring themselves by the law of God, justify and excuse themselves for breaking it. Men may "get by" judges and juries, by one means or another, but what of that day when

they must stand before the Judge of all?

To find the answer to these things let us examine the record of God's dealing with individuals in the Bible. We shall examine first the experience of Moses. It came to pass at the end of the forty years of wilderness wanderings that Moses brought the children of Israel, the second time, to the borders of the Promised Land. But a few days before they got there God withdrew the supply of water, which He had miraculously provided for them during their stay in the desert. He did this to test them, to see whether they would be more faithful and believing than their fathers had been forty years before. But they were not, and in a very short time they were condemning Moses for having brought them out of the land of Egypt to die without water. In response to Moses' prayer, God told him to take his rod and go forth before the assembly, and speak to the rock, and it would give forth water for the congregation. So Moses took his rod, and, with Aaron, went forth before the people. This is the record of what he did: "Moses took the rod from before the Lord, as He commanded him. And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said unto them, Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock? And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts also." Num. 20:9-11.

In this Moses failed to carry out the Lord's instructions. Instead of speaking to the rock, which was a symbol of Christ, as he had been commanded, Moses in anger smote the rock twice with his rod. Did God care about this? Was He particular? As the world rates sin nowadays, this would not be considered a very serious matter. But God considered it a grave offense, and Moses had to die for his sin. We read the record of it in Deuteronomy 32:49-51, where God says to Moses: "Get thee up into this mountain Abarim, unto Mt. Nebo, which is in the land of Moab; . . . and die in the mount whither thou goest up, and be gathered unto thy people; . . . because ye trespassed against Me among the children of Israel at the waters of

Meribah-Kadesh, in the wilderness of Zin; because ye sanctified Me not in the midst of the children of Israel."

Following the death of Moses, Joshua became the leader of the children of Israel. They crossed the Jordan Riv-

(Continued on page 5)

THESE OBEYED

In the "Testimonies," Vol. 2, p. 656, we read: "Many neglect to lay up for themselves a treasure in Heaven by doing good with the means that God has lent them. They distrust God, and have a thousand fears in regard to the future."

But we thank God that there are also many who do not come under this heading. To quote from one:

"When I accepted the message some said, 'Your friends will scorn you,' and so they did. Others said, 'How are you going to make a living by keeping the Sabbath and not be able to get work on Sunday?' Well, I went forth trusting in God, and I have never suffered hunger nor lacked for anything since. I have never had so much work before, nor made more money, so that I have more money for tithes, more money for offerings to missions, and I am now looking forward to the time when I shall meet those from foreign lands in the new earth."

You see, dear reader, how true the statement of our Lord, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

"Do we need to ask if there is a blessing in tithing?" one asks after relating the following experience: "Several years after accepting the truth about 35 years ago, I bought a place up in the mountains 60 miles from town. In the winter time it is shut in by rivers and muddy roads. Some laughed at the idea of my trying to make a living there; but I kept *two boxes*, one for tithe and the other for offerings. After the first year, my nearest neighbors did not have enough money to pay for their help, and they tried hard to get money from the county. On the other hand, I had paid off my debt on the place and had quite a little money money ahead."

And we quote from another letter: "It brings such peace to my soul to know that no matter what may go wrong in my business affairs here, if I am faithful in returning to the Lord His own, I have the sure promise of having treasure laid up in heaven."

THE COLPORTEUR MINISTRY

"But words are things; and a small drop of ink,

Falling like dew, upon a thought, produces That which makes thousands, perhaps, millions, think."

—BYRON

"The tallest pulpit today is the printing press."—*The Missionary*.

"I have been instructed that even where the people hear the message from the living preacher, the canvasser should carry on his work in co-operation with the minister; for though the minister may faithfully present the message, the people are not able to retain it all. The printed page is therefore essential, not only in awakening them to the importance of the truth for this time, but in rooting and grounding them in the truth, and establishing them against deceptive error. *Papers and books are the Lord's means of keeping the message for this time continually before the people.* . . . The same ministry of angels attends the books that contain the truth as attends the work of the minister."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, p. 315, 316.

W. A. BERGHERM