



THE MISSIONARY LEADER



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The Spirit of Prophecy

It was revealed to John in holy vision that the remnant of the seed of the woman would be characterised by two distinguishing marks: keeping the commandments of God, and having the testimony of Jesus Christ. See Rev. 12:17. Later John informs us that the angel Gabriel defined the testimony of Jesus to be the spirit of prophecy. Rev. 19:10.

Most Seventh-day Adventists faithfully endeavour, by God's grace, to keep the commandments as contained in the decalogue, though this does, as John declared would be the case, stir up against them the wrath of the dragon. Most of them also believe implicitly in the Spirit of Prophecy as manifested in the church through the writings of Mrs. E. G. White, but we fear that many do not have a real experimental knowledge of the blessings of this great gift.

The Spirit of Prophecy is a gift of the Holy Spirit, not merely to the collective body of the church, but it is intended to become a personal blessing to each individual member. But although too many are satisfied just to know that the church has this gift, while they go on from year to year without allowing it to bless their individual lives.

The Lord has said through His servant: "There are not many of you that really know what is contained in the Testimonies."

Unless we individually read the volumes containing the precious messages sent to the church through the gift of the Spirit of Prophecy, we cannot rightfully expect to be greatly blessed by the instruction given. The testimonies are "to the church," but the only way the church as a whole can benefit by them is for the individual members to become familiar with them and follow the counsel given.

"The Lord deigns to warn you, to reprove, to counsel, through the testimonies given, and to impress your minds with the importance of the truth of His Word. The written testimonies are not to give new light, but to impress vividly upon the heart the truths of inspiration already revealed. Man's duty to God and to his fellow man has been distinctly specified in God's Word; yet but few of you are obedient to the light given. Additional truth is not brought out; but God has through the Testimonies simplified the great truths already given, and in His own chosen way brought them before the people, to awaken and impress the mind with them, that all may be left without excuse." — "Testimonies," Vol. 2, p. 605.

Some one has said that in eight of Sister White's leading books she has spoken of 14,000 texts and developed the subjects treated without changing one thought in them. In all her writings not one Bible text has been changed. Not a single new doctrine has been set forth. But the Scriptural teaching has been clarified and has been made apparent to the simplest mind.

We believe that any Seventh-day Adventist who does not have access to the writings of the Spirit of Prophecy suffers great loss. We are coming into the perils of the very last day, and surely each individual member of the church needs the benefit of every ray of light that the Lord in His goodness has caused to shine upon the pathway of His people.

We wish to appeal to those who do not have the writings of the Spirit of Prophecy to begin at once to secure these, if only one volume at a time, and earnestly and prayerfully study them that the blessings of this precious gift may become a reality in their lives.

W. H. Branson.

IN NO OTHER BOOKS

We have had good books written by our workers, from the early days of the Advent movement till now. They are good books, and have brought the truth to thousands of readers, in many lands and languages. But no books among us are like the writings of the Spirit of Prophecy. There is something different here. Pick up these books, any of them, and they seem to speak in living voice straight up out of the page, into the heart. In no books that our men have written is there such a flowing fountain of instruction, always new and fresh and refreshing to the heart. The waters of spiritual life bubble up from every page. One thing is sure — no pen without the special help of the Holy Spirit could have continued pouring forth such instruction as flowed from Sister White's pen those seventy years. It is true, as she herself said:

"Of myself I could not have brought out the truths in these books, but the Lord has given me the help of His Holy Spirit."

And this special help was given in our time to bless and strengthen the believers who are marching on in this last stage of the pilgrimage of God's people to the eternal kingdom.

We need the instruction thus given in these books. What a gap in our lives would be made if the help gained from reading these volumes were taken from us! And yet many do not have these volumes in their hands. Somehow, by planning and sacrifice, every believer should be in possession of these volumes, so rich with the treasures of grace and courage and comfort.

"PRECIOUS INSTRUCTION"

That is the word a Chinese sister used in telling of what the writings of the Spirit of Prophecy had been to her. We were in the province of Shansi, a newly entered field, far north in China. When I rode across the level plain by 'bus, a day's journey, in a dust storm that darkened the day almost as night, and piled up the fine earth particles like snow drifts, so the driver had now and then to shovel a way through, or detour, I wondered how those villagers could exist. But out of these towns and villages the believers are coming at the call of the message.

At the general meeting in Taiyuanfu a group of village women were chatting outside the door of the room occupied by five of us workers. "What are those Chinese sisters talking about?" I asked Pastor Esteb, who speaks fluent Chinese. He listened. "Well, now, just listen there," he said. "That sister is saying, 'What precious instruction comes to us in the writings of the Spirit of Prophecy.'" Portions of the 'Testimonies' and various books by Sister White are being brought out as the China Mission is able. How those new believers feast upon a new volume printed in those characters so strange to us! The Spirit of Prophecy speaks to their hearts in living voice, even as does

the Bible. 'Precious instruction,' said this village woman to another. "She talks just like one of our sisters at home," said Brother Esteb. And I thought, "Would that these writings were speaking this 'precious' instruction in every Seventh-day Adventist family in the homeland."

There is a supply of help and precious blessing in these writings that every believer needs. May these volumes enter every home.

W. A. Spicer.

LET US BEGIN TODAY

Read carefully and prayerfully any of Mrs. White's books, and you will have the evidence in your own heart that they are of divine origin. No other books but the Bible portray in such beautiful language the love of God. No others point out so clearly sin in the life. No others have such a softening, subduing influence upon the heart. How often the remark is made, "I feel when I read the Testimonies that I have not been a Christian at all, but a great desire is awakened in my heart to be true to God."

In Sister White's letters to individuals, republished in the Testimonies without names, every person may find somewhere a description of himself. These letters, or testimonies, are of general application. Human nature is clearly portrayed; yet with every rebuke or warning, encouragement is given.

Our people must be prepared for the great and awful conflict that is impending. They must be brought into a closer relationship with the God of all truth. For this purpose a new three-volume set, "Selections from the Testimonies," has recently been published selling at less than half the price of the full set. They are bound in good durable green cloth, and the price is only 22/6, plus 1/6 postage.

If you are desirous of having the full four-volume set, apply to your conference office for particulars of prices and how you may secure one book at a time on the lay-by system.

Five of the most important chapters in that remarkable soul-winning book, "The Great Controversy," have been reprinted in a small book entitled "The Impending Conflict," price 1/-. Do not fail to secure a copy. Excellent for missionary work.

A well illustrated catalogue of all our publications will be posted to you free of charge, on application to your conference office or the Signs Publishing Co., Warburton, Victoria.

A free lending library is connected with the young people's department in most of our conference offices. Send for the list of books and an application form.

"Among the happiest memories of my childhood are the long winter evenings when mother read aloud to the family those intensely interesting books, 'Patriarchs and Prophets,' 'The Desire of Ages,' 'Early Writings,' and other volumes. This is one of the chief reasons that, in later years, we have all remained true to the message." Thus writes a minister's wife.

Listen to the experience of another family: "Sister White's books were read aloud in our home. School home work was finished as early as possible, and the girls brought out their needlework while mother read to us. Sometimes we took turns, but best of all we enjoyed mother's reading of those wonderful books." Every member of this family is in God's work today.

Why not form a reading circle in your home?

Ten-Minute Missionary Exercises

JUNE 5

TOPIC :

"THOU ART THE FINGER"

Suggestions for Talk

"During a season of revival a friend was praying one evening for a certain unconverted neighbour. After this manner he prayed: 'O Lord, touch him with Thy finger; touch him with Thy finger, Lord!' The petition was repeated with great earnestness, when something said to him: 'Thou art the finger of God. Hast thou ever touched thy neighbour? Hast thou ever spoken a single word to him on the question of salvation? Go thou and touch that man, and thy prayer shall be answered!'

"It was a voice from the Throne. God's servant arose from his knees, self-condemned. He had known the man as an impenitent for a quarter of a century, yet he had uttered not a word of warning. Hundreds of opportunities had come and gone, but the supreme question of life had been set aside for such topics as the weather, the latest news, politics, trade, etc. His first duty as a Christian had been left undone, and his prayers were worthless until he was willing to yield to become a personal worker for God."

"If to be a Christian is worth while, then the most ordinary interest in those with whom we come in contact should prompt us to speak to them of Christ.

"If I am to stand at the judgment seat of Christ to render an account for the deeds done in the body, what shall I say to Him if my relatives and my friends are not saved, or if my employer or employee should miss the way because I have been faithless?" — J. Wilbur Chapman.

Today we commence our "Interpreter" work, when a wonderful opportunity presents itself of making contact with our friends and neighbours through the medium of these papers. Let us make the most of them, and by prayer and personal work seek to win a soul for Christ.

Echoes from all parts of the world field indicate that the "Win One" movement is gaining momentum through the enthusiastic response on the part of church officers, conference workers, and laity. The Holy Spirit is inspiring this movement, and it is evident that in God's plan the hour has struck for every member of the church to arouse and rally around the standard, rearranging his life's activities in harmony with the great commission. Let us reach out and —

"You bring the one next to you,
And I'll bring the one next to me;
In all kinds of weather, we'll all work together
And see what can be done
To win them, win them, one by one."
Home Missions Dept.

JUNE 12

TOPIC :

VISITING OUR NEIGHBOURS

Suggestions for Talk

The opportunity is with us to call upon our neighbours to place reading matter in their hands dealing with the significance of present-day events.

The prophet Zechariah wrote, "Speak ye every man the truth to his neighbour." While these words primarily refer to our refraining from bearing false witness to our neighbour, secondarily, may we not apply them to the responsibility that is ours?

"If there is one work more important than another, it is that of getting our publications before the public, thus leading them to search the Scriptures. Missionary work — introducing our publications into families, conversing, and praying with them and for them — is a good work."

"Canon Wilberforce tersely puts in four words the whole law of Christ, — 'Admit, submit, commit, transmit!' The first three concern the relation of the believer to his Lord. He is to admit, to his mind and heart, the truth and Him who is the Truth;

submit his wayward will to His will; and commit all things in trust to His keeping. The last of these four expresses the relation of the believer to his fellow men: henceforth he is to transmit; to become the medium through whom, by lips and life, the light and love of God shall be transmitted to others. In these four words all the duties of the disciple are briefly summed up and comprehended. These are the cardinal points in the horizon of his spiritual life."

Let us do to our neighbours what we would have them do to us, were they enjoying the light of present truth, and we in the dark.

A. H. White.

"Interpreter" Rally Day,

June 5

Four most attractive two-colour "Interpreter of the Times" bearing the following titles, have been printed and distributed to all churches:

- No. 1. "What Form of Government Next?" By W. A. Spicer.
- No. 2. "Some of the Signs of the Approaching Second Advent." By L. F. Were.
- No. 3. "A Perplexed World." By O. K. Anderson.
- No. 4. "Why Does God Permit Human Suffering?" By A. W. Anderson.

Four two-colour tracts have also been printed and distributed for follow-up work.

The "Interpreter" and the tracts have been provided by the quarterly Free Literature Offering. For the purpose of increasing the circle of "Signs" readers, which will also continue the personal contact with interested people from week to week, the Signs Publishing Company is prepared to print additional copies of two special issues of the "Signs of the Times" at the special rate of 6d. per dozen. Orders for these will need to be placed immediately.

JUNE 19

TOPIC :

COTTAGE MEETINGS

Suggestions for Talk

Text: Psalm 126:6

"Our work has been marked out for us by our heavenly Father. We are to take our Bibles, and go forth to warn the world." — "Testimonies," Vol. 9, p. 150. "Hundreds and thousands were seen visiting families, and opening before them the Word of God." — *Id.*, p. 126.

"Acting on these statements from the Spirit of Prophecy, a sister in Colorado went to her neighbours and invited them to attend a cottage meeting in her home. The next day, six women responded to the invitation. There were present a Catholic, a Methodist, a Baptist, a Christian Scientist, and a member of the Pentecostal Church. An interest grew up and souls were won.

"A teacher and the members of a Bible Training Class made arrangements in a near-by village to hold meetings. As a result of their work, there are today twenty new members in a well-organised Sabbath school. Some are already requesting baptism."

With the present Sabbath school lessons on doctrinal studies, there is provided the outline for the giving of Bible studies on the very subjects which we are studying from week to week. A thorough study of the lesson will give us the material for our study. O that we might catch the vision of the wonderful possibilities in this work!

God says, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." This is only too true in our own midst; no vision of the heaven-assigned duty to every member; no vision of the grand possibilities in soul-winning. May God help us to catch the vision at this hour, and do faithful work with the "Interpreter" and with the tracts which are to follow, seeking openings for the holding of Bible studies. This is the greatest opportunity of the year, and there is no time like the present, to seek to fulfil our promise to endeavour by God's help to win at least one soul to Him during this present year. If we once taste of the joy of soul-winning it will spur us on to take the message to still others who have not the light of truth.

God is working mightily through His people in other parts of the world. From Mexico, we have the news of two girls about eighteen and twenty years old, who had a burden to go out and give the message to their people. They began holding public services with an attendance of eighty people. Forty of these people yielded their hearts to God and began to keep all His commandments. Another girl in Mexico, about the same age, living in the Central Mexican Mission, by her own personal efforts in recent months, raised up sixty new believers. In another place two young girls decided that they would carry the message of truth to a village which could be reached by about an hour's walk, and each week-end was devoted to giving Bible studies and literature work with the people. Soon a company of thirty interested people was formed, and in due time all were baptised. The baptismal service was attended by all the people in the village, and nearly half the population expressed their desire to accept the message which these two young girls had brought to them. Meetings are being conducted, and a church building will soon be erected.

"There is no limit to the usefulness of the one who, putting self aside, makes room for the working of the Holy Spirit upon his heart."

Home Missions Dept.

JUNE 26

TOPIC :

BLIND LEPER WINS EIGHT SOULS

Suggestions for Talk

In a mission symposium at the last General Conference, Dr. E. G. Marcus gave his message of those people under his care in the Malamulo Leper Colony, Nyasaland, Africa. One story will suffice to show the earnestness of the converted lepers, and their desire to take to their fellow men the good news of salvation. Can we do less?

"A number of years ago a man by the name of Whiskers came to us. After some time in the camp, this man lost his sight and became blind. When we are trying to encourage them to learn their memory verses, we try to offer them some added incentive, and at that time I offered a Bible to every one who was able to repeat the memory verses for the entire year. At the end of the first year four of these lepers were able to repeat their memory verses for the entire year, and among those four was this poor blind Whiskers. I came to him and said: 'Whiskers, you cannot see to read. What do you want that I should give you? Maybe I can give you a jacket or a pair of trousers to wear.' He said, 'All right.' The next year I made the same proposition, and at the end of that second year, there were sixteen Bibles to be given out, and among the sixteen persons was this poor blind Whiskers.

"In the meantime Whiskers had been baptised and was an active member of the church. When I came to him the second year with my question, he said he would like a Bible, though I expected he would say he wanted a pair of trousers. I said: 'Whiskers, what are you going to do with a Bible? You cannot see to read.'

"He looked up at me with that pitiful expression on his face and said: 'You know, Bwana, that I have no people at home. All my people have left me. I have no relatives and no friends. I cannot give

this Bible away. I want this Bible myself.' I said, 'What are you going to do with it?' 'Well,' he said, 'it is just like this: Since I have been baptised, I have taken an interest in the church, and besides learning those memory verses, I have learned many other passages in the Bible. I have learned some whole chapters by heart, and I have gone around among the people of the camp, trying to tell them the great story that I have heard here. But the other day I came across a Mohammedan, and he said to me, 'You cannot prove these texts that you are repeating.'

Of course, since I didn't have a Bible and he didn't have a Bible, I couldn't prove it to him. But now, if I have a Bible, as I repeat these memory verses to that man or woman with whom I talk, if he can read, I will give him my Bible, and then there will be no question about it.'

"So when he argued that way with me, I could not deny his request, and I gave him a Bible. Brethren and sisters, at the end of that year, Whiskers had brought eight persons into the church as a result of his work."

Missionary Volunteer Department

JUNE 5

SHOULD WAR BREAK OUT, WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

According to Bible prophecies, the whole world, including our own beloved country, will be involved in war in the very near future. Many Seventh-day Adventist young people will be called upon to enlist in service for their country in some capacity. What shall be our attitude then? Let us ask ourselves these questions. Should war break out tomorrow, what would I do? What would I say to the Government and to military officers when they called me to serve my country?

"The nations of the world are filled with anxious foreboding lest war shall come again. To prevent it, they have formed the League of Nations, signed an agreement to reduce naval armaments, agreed to pacts of peace, adopted a World Court of Arbitration, and held disarmament conferences. With all of these arrangements, it seems that fear is not abated, but on the contrary has increased. There are distress, perplexity, and fear that melt the hearts of statesmen.

"Parallel with these noble attempts to preserve peace and prevent war, the nations with one accord have alarmingly increased armaments and every form of war equipment. No one wants war, even the leaders do not want it; but as if moved by an unseen power, the nations are making unprecedented preparations for it."

It is obvious that we must face the facts, and prepare and train to meet the issue in God's own way.

WOULD YOU RENDER NON-COMBATANT SERVICE?

"There are four classes of people that question active participation in war: Pacifists, anti-militarists, conscientious objectors, and non-combatants. Generally speaking, their positions are understood to be as follow:

"The Pacifists, who do not believe in war under any circumstances. They advocate peace at any price.

"The Conscientious Objectors. These not only do not believe in bearing arms, but they also do not believe that any service should be rendered that supports war or makes warfare possible. They do not believe in feeding the armies, much less in providing them with munitions of war. They do not believe even in caring for the wounded. They ask to be excused from everything pertaining to war.

"The Anti-militarists. These not only object to military activities, but they would also banish our uniforms and our flag. They are opposed to military orders, to military insignia, and to military procedure. They are opposed to armies and navies and military operations, and to all Government appropriations for such.

"If you do not take your position under one of the three classes just mentioned, would you render non-combatant service should war break out tomorrow?

"While recognising that warfare is unavoidable in maintaining civil government in a world of sin, non-combatants conscientiously object to taking human life. They believe that in this way they can render a greater service to their fellow men and be a greater influence for the cause of righteousness than by taking combatant part in the destruction of human life.

"They do not, however, condemn those who take part in war. On the other hand, non-combatants are willing to aid their Government in every consistent way in time of warfare, except by taking human life. They will help to feed and clothe the Army; assist in caring for the sick and wounded; help to bury the dead; aid in the transportation of men, food, clothing, etc. They will build camps; go into the fields, mines, and factories at the direction of their Government. They will help to fortify positions and otherwise protect human life. They will carry the wounded back from the front. The non-combatant is not a coward; he simply and conscientiously and courageously objects to taking human life, so far as his participation is concerned.

"Seventh-day Adventists are registered with the Government as non-combatants. They are always ready to serve without reservation, except bearing arms in combat and doing unnecessary work on the Sabbath day. As a matter of duty and loyalty to human government which is ordained of God, they stand loyally and patriotically with their Government.

"While the foregoing is the position of the Seventh-day Adventists as a denomination, the church does not attempt to dictate to its members individually, but each person must stand upon his own conscientious convictions."

WOULD YOU OBEY YOUR OFFICERS AND SUPERIORS?

"Our youth who are called to serve their country should be respectful, courteous, and deferential to those who are placed in authority; not defiant, not sullen, nor even seemingly obstinate. They should, however, be firm in standing for their convictions; they should be patriotic, ready to serve their country's welfare at personal sacrifice. If they have requests to proffer for special religious privileges, they should make them, not in a spirit of demand, but in meekness and humility.

"They should be circumspect in their department and in the discharge of their duties. They should live and labour from day to day so that they will be able to hold in their hearts continually the consciousness of Christ's abiding Spirit.

"They should be willing to serve even in the most menial work, and to perform their tasks promptly, cheerfully, and efficiently.

"If one finds himself in embarrassment and difficulty, he should notify the church of which he is a member, not as appealing over the head of his officer, but rather to find out if some helpful understanding might be arrived at.

"They will face situations which will try their faith to the utmost. Any hour may bring them problems which only the wisdom of God can help them to solve, but they must believe that He in His great power is able to work out every experience for good, even as Paul said: 'We know that all things work together for good to them that love God.' The very discipline which at times will seem exacting and perhaps in some instances overbearing, if submitted to in the right spirit, will broaden and develop their Christian manhood."

WOULD YOU REFUSE DUTY ON SABBATH?

"It is a broad, fundamental principle that we should not do any secular work

upon the Sabbath that can be done on the other six days of the week.

"The question of observing the Sabbath will often present difficulty. What can lawfully be done? That is, what is proper according to the law of God?

"There are works of mercy and necessity in the Army and camps as well as in ordinary life, which may rightfully be performed on the Sabbath. But the youth will often be called upon to engage in lines of service which they cannot conscientiously perform upon the Sabbath day.

"Sometimes they may arrange for exchange of work with those who would like to be excused from work on Sunday. Their working Saturday night and Sunday instead of Friday night and Saturday will often be a convenience and favour to the authorities. They must explain that God's law requires them to observe the Sabbath from sunset Friday to sunset Saturday, for 'from even unto even, shall ye celebrate your Sabbaths.' Unless the time is definitely understood, there will be conflict and embarrassment.

"The Sabbath should be conscientiously observed in the camp or elsewhere. That is, all possible work should be done on Friday in preparation for the Sabbath. Do not attend only to your regular work on Friday, but make it a preparation day for the Sabbath. Do all you can on Friday in preparing to keep the Sabbath the following day.

"Endeavour to work out with your officer plans whereby you may meet the demands of conscience in Sabbath-keeping without embarrassment. Show yourself willing to co-operate, but keep your conscience clear, even unto punishment and death itself. You may find yourself in the hands of an officer who does not understand you and your position or viewpoint. He may honestly think that you are a shirker or a coward, or that you are obstinate or disloyal. You should be respectful and patient even under the greatest provocation. Show him your willingness to do anything you can except to take human life or otherwise violate your conscience by disobeying God.

"An officer should never be answered by an abrupt refusal, but rather a courteous explanation should be given. Be willing to accept and perform the task assigned you, however undesirable and menial it may be. Express your willingness to work additional hours on regular week days to compensate for time off on Sabbath. Whenever opportunity affords, offer to perform extra service as an evidence of your appreciation for the privileges of Sabbath observance granted to you.

"You may not be able to consummate satisfactory arrangements, and before help reaches you, the court-martial may decide your fate. We hope this will not be so in a single case; but if it comes to that, may the God of all grace give you courage to stand like Daniel for what you believe is right.

"After receiving permission to be relieved of work on the Sabbath, be careful to observe the day in a proper manner. Carelessness in keeping the Sabbath will be quickly observed by the intelligent, alert officer. He will not respect the plea of conscientiousness in such a case. Conduct of this kind will bring discredit upon those who are conscientious and upon the denomination. Keep the Sabbath with a good conscience. Be true to yourself, to the Government, to the church, and to God. Remember to keep the Sabbath day.

"In the trying experiences that must come to the child of God during a time of war, Seventh-day Adventist youth must clearly keep in mind the purpose of the Sabbath. God has given the Sabbath as a time when His children may enjoy fellowship with Him and with other believers. It is not enough merely to cease from labour. The Christian should go to church upon the Sabbath day whenever possible, where he may engage in worship and enjoy fellowship with God's people, and share with them the blessing that comes through the ministry of His Word and through worship together. Church attendance is one of the means of promoting spiritual growth.

We Christians must be faithful in our duty to attend church (wherever and whenever possible): 'Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.' Heb. 10 : 25."

WOULD YOU BE PREPARED FOR NON-COMBATANT SERVICE ?

Should war break out tomorrow, would you be prepared for non-combatant service ?

"As non-combatants it is our duty to make all possible preparation to work efficiently and acceptably in non-combatant lines of service. We shall be recreant to our obligations to the Government and unfair to ourselves, if we negligently drift along in these days of peace, and make no definite preparation to serve the interests of humanity in the event of war. We should get a preparation now which will qualify us to serve in times of war as non-combatants. Our very position as non-combatants makes it incumbent upon us to prepare for other lines of duty. Our youth should be as well prepared for non-combatant service as the trained soldier is for military combat.

"Serious, definite, thorough preparation to serve the country in the event of war, as indicated, will demonstrate to the Government that we are not slackers or unmindful of our obligations, but patriotic citizens who stand ready to respond to the country's call in time of crisis.

"There are things that one may learn to do that will make his service to his country valuable, and enable him more readily and efficiently to serve God and his fellow men.

"A non-combatant may render service in many lines of activity. We call attention to the following lines: Medical, nursing, cooking, first aid, dental, embalming, band music, accounting, secretarial, printing, electrical, mechanical, carpentry, surveying, tailoring, shoe repairing, etc.

"We suggest that any one who can qualify, or prepare to qualify, in one or more of these lines should do so at once. Complete your education or apprenticeship in the line you are best qualified to fill. If you are an electrician, mechanic, nurse, etc., spare no pains to make yourself the best. Band music offers a line of service from which one can generally, without difficulty, be excused from Sabbath work.

"By becoming proficient in one or two of the lines of activity mentioned, you may serve your country to advantage and at the same time be true to your conscientious convictions.

"Secure knowledge, training, and skill in one or two lines of work, so that your proficiency will be recognised. Be a specialist; excel in at least one line. Knowledge in these practical lines is invaluable in peace as well as in war.

ARE YOU SPIRITUALLY PREPARED FOR WAR ?

"The greatest need is the defence of personal religion. It is necessary that each should have an acquaintance with God, such a living connection with Him day by day that he will know God's leading and how to follow Him. He must have a faith that will carry through, an experience that will recognise God's voice and divine enlightenment born of the influence of the Spirit, so that he may walk with confidence and assurance. Beseet by perplexities, temptations, and problems of every kind, the individual must learn to recognise and choose God's direction in all his decisions. His life must be ordered of God; he must learn to walk with God. In its darkest hour the heart must be able to say: 'I know whom I have believed.'

"God will be a very present help in time of trouble, but He will be a help in trouble to those who in times of peace and prosperity have learned to know Him. The only escape from the troubles of the last days that will end in Armageddon is the deliverance promised in Daniel 12 : 1: 'At that time shall Michael stand up, the great Prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time:

and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.'

"The real preparation for the next war is to have our names written in the book of life, and to be sealed with the seal of the living God. 'I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. And I heard the number of them which were sealed; . . . a hundred and forty and four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel.' Rev. 7 : 2-4. When the servants of God are sealed, the winds of universal strife will blow; and in that time only a preparation of the heart to meet God will render one safe.

JUNE 12

ANGEL MINISTRY

THE ANGEL OF GLAD TIDINGS

"The angel answering said unto him, I am Gabriel, . . . and am sent to . . . show thee these glad tidings." Luke 1 : 19.

Without, the afternoon sun holds the temple in a haze of golden light, as though the fiery cloud of Israel's wanderings has descended upon it.

Within, behind the veil, the Shekinah dwells between two cherubim, in dark, mysterious solitude.

As the waves of incense fade, the deep note of a bell echoes from without, and Zacharias the priest enters the holy place, bearing fresh incense for the evening sacrifice.

"And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense." The angel said, "Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son."

Zacharias is deaf to the great future unfolded by the angel. All his senses close in on that one word, "son." Yet, it seems but a mockery — something utterly impossible!

He asks, "Whereby shall I know this ? for I am an old man."

The angel answers, "I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent . . . to show thee these glad tidings. And, behold, thou shalt be dumb, . . . until the day that these things shall be performed, because thou believest not."

There appears in the angel's words a fire of indignation, that man should measure the commonplace of natural law against the power of the Most High. Abraham, when promised a son in his old age, "staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief" (Rom. 4 : 20), nor balanced his years against the purpose of God.

The centuries stretching between Abraham and Zacharias were bridged by the ancient covenant, and the "angel of God's presence" knew that long, long trail. The cry of oppression, the sigh of exile, the wail of desolation, yet echoed down the centuries. Now the day was dawning when the Lord would visit and redeem His people, and the first gesture of rejection and unbelief came from within His temple.

And Zacharias, like Nebuchadnezzar, was driven into silence, until he remembered that the Most High "doeth according to His will . . . among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay His hand, or say unto Him, What doest Thou?" Daniel 4 : 35.

THE ANGEL OF UNDERSTANDING

Gabriel said, "O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding." Daniel 9 : 22.

Through Daniel's agency the Hebrew captives were permitted to return to their native land. Too old himself to accompany them, he had the joy of seeing many thousands depart, bearing with them the sacred vessels for restoring the worship of Jehovah at Jerusalem.

Daniel had never assimilated the life of Babylon. First and last he was a Hebrew exile, but it may be that since the night spent with the angel in the den of lions,

Babylon had seemed less like a land of captivity. Earth was nearer heaven, loneliness and exile were lost in angel consolation.

Always steadfast in his religion, Daniel sought God before all things. Like David, he desired understanding in the way of the Lord. And while he was speaking in prayer, about the time of the evening oblation, the angel Gabriel came to him, saying, "At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to show thee; for thou art greatly beloved." To the prayerful heart and seeking mind the angel was commanded to bring an answer.

It would appear that the old man's prayer was for the restoration of Israel, and for the coming of the Redeemer of whom Isaiah prophesied a hundred years earlier. Long before Daniel, there had been a dim groping after One who should come as the divine Founder of a greater and more glorious Israel, a people of God having no limitations of country. The devout poet Isaiah had taught his grand conception of this Saviour. And the angel Gabriel now brought to Daniel the promise of a Messiah.

When the Lord God drove man out of Eden, He set an angel to keep the way. Ever since, angels have beckoned to a better Eden, going before, leading the way by cloud and fire. It may be that in earlier times God willed to reveal by angels the union of earth and heaven, translating His own divine nature through these ministering spirits. This development is the undercurrent of history all through the Old Testament; and this unfolding by fine gradation paved the way for the coming of Christ.

Martin Luther said, "All the ideas that man can form of the services of angels must ever fall short of the reality." Thrice the angel Gabriel assures Daniel he is "greatly beloved." Surely we may love the angels when we have such evidence of their love for mortal man.

THE ANGEL OF DELIVERANCE

The young Babylonian nobles, whom Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego had excelled in many ways, welcomed the opportunity to accuse the Hebrews to the king. Nebuchadnezzar's fury knew no bounds when he found the young captives steadfast in their refusal to give homage to Bel. He ordered them bound in chains and hurled into the fiery furnace. But when he would watch the martyrdom of the three youths, he saw them free of their chains, walking unscathed amid the fire, and with them was an Angel.

The king called the Hebrews forth, and, lo, there was neither singe nor smell of fire upon them. Then he said: "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, who hath sent His Angel and

The apostle John in Revelation speaks of an angel "which had power over fire." And David in the twenty-ninth psalm said, "The voice of the Lord divideth the delivered His servants."

flames." It may have reference to the voice of the Lord, sending the Angel to deliver the three heroic youths, that divided the flames of Nebuchadnezzar's furnace. But deep beneath the material event there is a spiritual adventure for those seeking it.

To Israel God said, "I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction." And, "When thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned." Isa. 48 : 10; 43 : 2. Ruskin said, "Courage calls to the angels." In these days it needs courage to carry on when the fire of adversity has devoured our savings, our home, and our employment, and when the stinging flames of hunger and discouragement threaten to overwhelm us.

"Courage calls to the angels!" The chains of oppression are powerless to become bands of depression when the Angel walks with us in the midst of the fire as the ancient Scriptures tell of His walking with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego. It is not what happens to us, but how we meet the happening, that leaves its abiding mark upon us.

Under the Angel's charge, the young

men found the fire "had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed." Our Lord Himself assured us that the very hairs of our head are numbered. And with His Angel of deliverance we may walk through the furnace of affliction, and keep intact the number of our hairs unsinged by burning doubt, and our "garments of praise" free from taint of bitterness.

ANGELS OF THE LITTLE ONES

"Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of My Father." Matt. 18: 10.

Froebel, the founder of the kindergarten, said, "Every human being in his spiritual origin is a particular thought of God."

Our Lord's own words give to the little ones guardian angels of the highest rank. The rabbis have always taught that the chief of the heavenly host are those standing in God's presence, or always beholding His face. The angel who said, "I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God," was assigned the honour of announcing to Daniel the coming of the Messiah. He waited for Zacharias by the altar of incense in the temple. He visited Mary, and proclaimed her the mother of our Lord. The distinction of always beholding the face of God conveys the idea that God's immediate presence is always open to these angels, as a king might be sought at any hour by his prime minister.

Thus, to the greatest of the heavenly host is given the guardianship of earth's little ones. Poets and painters love the subject of the child and his angel; but the picture has a side they seldom show. Our Lord's words surely imply that each little one's guardian angel bears witness before God of the griefs and perils entailed by any offence.

Perhaps divorced parents, who, for their pleasure or their caprice, deliberately orphan a child, have never read about the "millstone" our Lord mentioned. Matt. 18: 6; Mark 9: 42. These defaulting parents surely cannot know of the angel pleading their child's loss before the face of God. They might bruise the little one's body by cruelty, but indifference bruises the soul. A child is orphaned in a far less degree by death than by indifference.

Earth is guilty of many offences against God's little ones. There are offences in labour and amusements, offences in books and in reckless traffic upon our streets. But the gravest offence of all is our neglect to teach the fatherhood of God and the sacrifice of our Lord. It is their inherent right to hear the gospel story.

The angels of the little ones stretch their hands earthward in love and pity. But our Lord's solemn warning tells how they also stretch their hands Godward, bearing witness against those of us who ignore His command, "Feed My lambs."

THE ANGEL REAPERS

"The harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels."

Unlike the harvest of the field, where wheat is always wheat and tares are always tares, the ripening character in the harvest of the world may change from bad to good, or good to bad.

Saul of Tarsus was a tare in the early Christian field, but he developed into Paul, the apostle, — the good wheat on which the church has fed through many centuries. And Judas, one of the Lord's chosen disciples, perished miserably through his own treachery. "Let both grow together until the harvest," said the Lord. "The harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels." So long as growth continues there is hope. The heart of the dying thief could still soften, and develop aspirations to follow Christ into His kingdom.

Again and again Christ speaks of coming with His angels to gather His harvest of souls. Could any servants of His better know the harvest field than these ministering spirits, who through the ages were sent forth to minister for those who shall be heirs of salvation?

Through our years the angels watch, when we triumph and when we fall; while they "know how far high failure overleaps the bounds of low success." When

others see no good left in us, like Michael Angelo, they see the angel in the block of our hard, dull life. Beneath our blunders they yet sense something akin to themselves, and strive to awaken response.

Only the harvest is the end. Until then the angels walk between the wheat and the tares of our cities and countryside, knowing us more intimately than any mortal companion.

This angel knowledge and this angel care are under the command of God. Not for one hour do these messengers eclipse their Lord. As sowers or as reapers, the angels are servants of the Most High.

JUNE 19

CONTROLLED

The turbulent waters of an angry river thunder unrestrained through a defenceless land. Wherever this powerful destroyer has passed, misery, ruin, hunger, disease, and death follow. Why this waste? Because a great force, a tremendous power, is out of control.

Other clouds thicken, rains descend, and a tempest rages. Bent on destruction, a swollen stream sends its swirling waters down upon a prosperous people. But a barrier reaching from shore to shore proudly extends its protecting form. The impounded flood piles up, and up, storing energy for some future day.

When the water reaches a certain level, a spillway opens, and another, and perhaps still others, allowing great torrents to escape. Then these streams find another dam. Here diverted waters make escape by way of huge turbines. Thus the controlled overflow, which uncurbed would have wrought terrible havoc, now faithfully and generously serves man.

For miles about, at the touch of a button darkness is dispelled, the chill of that drenching storm is banished before glowing warmth, conversation is conveyed from place to place, foods are cooked and kept, factories are provided with power, homes are made comfortable, vehicles are driven, and science is advanced. In a thousand ways people are grateful for that plunging torrent. Why? Because it is controlled. A part of its many blessings to mankind is the production of that which we call electricity.

Human lives are like that: uncontrolled, they mean waste, misery, and ruin; rightly directed, they mean achievement, prosperity, and blessing.

Success includes control — self-control. The fact that one is pleased by or may enjoy certain habits, associations, recreations, locations, customs, ambitions, foods, thoughts, and other considerations ought not to be the determining factor in ordering one's life. One should endeavour to ascertain what is right, be the thing pleasing or distasteful to him personally, and understanding, he should deport himself accordingly.

THE VALUE OF SELF-CONTROL

Self-control is attained when one has learned well how to say "Yes" and "No" at the proper time and place, how not to be unduly influenced either by our own selfish desires or by the wishes of others. Charles Sumner declares that there are three things necessary to success. They are: first, backbone; second, backbone; third, BACKBONE; that is, the courage to carry out one's knowledge and convictions of right. Just how right he is we may determine, always remembering that no life surrendered to God can be truly successful.

The story is told of a king, who despite his wealth, sent his son to the house of a woodsman, there to be reared in poverty and self-denial, that these experiences might help him in governing the nation.

Never be guilty of indulging in something just because "everybody does it." Think and act for yourself. The fact that "everybody" does a thing is not a reason for your doing it or not doing it.

Some one has said, "Every man must have a master; if he is not his own master, then somebody else will be." Doing things just because the "crowd" has the habit makes the crowd your "boss," in which

case you have little to say about your own destiny. One needs to determine what course is right, and then to discipline himself to its performance. Conduct of this sort produces greatness.

Let reason rule by bringing into play the powerful element of a consecrated will. Will to do the right, regardless of others, or of mere convenience; this determination develops self-control, which in turn produces success. A great preacher aptly said, "A man without self-control is like a barrel without hoops, and tumbles to pieces." You won't want to go to pieces when you are brought under some strain. Tests are sure to come; so begin right now to develop that all-important trait — self-control.

"WHERE THERE'S A WILL, THERE'S A WAY"

While I was visiting a little Alabama town, a tablet on a certain building caught my eye. Its simple legend reminded me so forcefully of what a determined will can do, despite seemingly insurmountable difficulties. I read, "Helen Keller Library." Everybody knows the story of Helen Keller. Handicapped from infancy, she fought her way up. Though she was completely blind and dumb, her will led on. It would have been easy to give up. The crowd would think and say, no doubt, "Poor child, so hopelessly handicapped." But Helen didn't; she persevered, and now the whole wide world knows of her achievements. She exercised her will in self-control. Remember the old adage, "Where there's a will, there's a way."

Never "quit" because the task is hard, the problem difficult, or the way rough. Unless you let it be so, a hard situation is not your master, but only another opportunity for self-development. Conquer the thing, and you are master. Yield, because it is hard, and you have turned your feet into the broad way that leads to failure, poverty, misery, shame.

First of all the heart and the mind must be brought under subjection, for out of these "are the issues of life."

"In the human heart there is natural selfishness and corruption, which can only be overcome by most thorough discipline and severe restraint." — "Testimonies," Vol. 4, p. 496.

The Master gives the invitation: "My son, give Me thine heart."

Let us remember that "the mind is controlled either by Satan or by Jesus; and when you practise no self-control, Satan rules, and leads you to do and say things that are wholly Satanic." — Id., p. 495.

Professor William James admonishes, "Do every day something for no other reason than that you would rather not do it." Renounce ease. The desire to "take it easy" brings only one thing in the end — failure.

"The heights by great men reached and kept

Were not attained by sudden flight;
But they, while their companions slept,
Were toiling upward in the night."

— Longfellow.

WHY THE BAD TEMPER?

Think of the person who yields to his temper and easily flies into a rage. Such a person is very, very small — so small that he can't even control himself. If he is unable properly to direct his own mind, tongue, hands, feet, and person, what hope has he of being able to order others? He is not his own master; he is a slave. One who becomes enraged is unable to discern justice, and he rushes madly ahead, despite consequences.

The Scripture declares that "a soft answer turneth away wrath; but grievous words stir up anger." Hasty words breed contempt. Often in fits of rage people do and say things which injure others unjustly, and then those spoken of, as well as the one speaking, are harmed.

Secretary Stanton, a member of President Lincoln's Cabinet, became very much incensed with a certain general, and on telling his feelings to the President he was advised to write the general a letter stating just how he felt. The letter was written — a harsh one — and read to the President before being mailed. This time Lincoln

advised that, now that the matter was off the secretary's mind, the letter be thrown in the waste basket. The President's advice was taken.

Two determining factors in this important matter of temper are appetite and passions. (Read 1 Corinthians 9:26, 27.) This is the very thing every Christian young person must do. "The passions are to be controlled by the will, which is itself to be under the control of God." — "The Ministry of Healing," p. 130. Men and women must be awakened to the duty of self-mastery, the need of purity, freedom from every depraving appetite and defiling habit." — *Ibid.*

Some give little thought to appetite. They indulge in anything that tastes good. Learn to say "No" to self in the matter of improper foods or of taking even proper foods at wrong times or in excessive quantities.

Those who breed fine animals are very careful about the quantity and quality of the food they give to the animals, and when they give it to them. Human beings should be equally careful.

"As our first parents lost Eden through the indulgence of appetite, our only hope of regaining Eden is through the firm denial of appetite and passion." — "Testimonies," Vol. 3, p. 491.

"Many youth mistake strong, uncontrollable passion for strength of character; but the truth is, that he who is mastered by his passions is a weak man. The real greatness and nobility of the man is measured by his power to subdue his feelings, not by the power of his feelings to subdue him. The strongest man is he who, while sensitive to abuse, will yet restrain passion and forgive his enemies." — "Counsels to Teachers," p. 222.

AN ENEMY OF SELF-CONTROL

"Satan knows that to a great degree the mind is affected by that upon which it feeds. He is seeking to lead both the youth and those of mature age to read story-books, tales, and other fiction. The readers of such literature become unfitted for the duties lying before them. They live an unreal life, and have no desire to search the Scriptures, to feed upon the heavenly manna. The mind that needs strengthening is enfeebled, and loses its power to study the great truths that relate to the mission and work of Christ, — truths that would fortify the mind, awaken the imagination, and kindle a strong, earnest desire to overcome as Christ overcame.

"Could a large share of the books published be consumed, a plague would be stayed that is doing a fearful work upon mind and heart. Love stories, frivolous and exciting tales, and even that class of books called religious novels, — books in which the author attaches to his story a moral lesson — are a curse to the readers."

Religious sentiments may be woven all through a story-book, but, in most cases, Satan is but clothed in angel-ropes, the more effectively to deceive and allure. None are so confirmed in right principles, none so secure from temptation, that they are safe in reading these stories.

The readers of fiction are indulging an evil that destroys spirituality, eclipsing the beauty of the sacred page. It creates an unhealthy excitement, fevers the imagination, unfits the mind for usefulness, weans the soul from prayer, and disqualifies it for any spiritual exercise.

THE MASTERY

Complete mastery of self in every phase of life calls for surrender to Jesus, and can be obtained only through Him. It is He who buoys up the fainting ones and strengthens the weak; without Him there is no hope of victory.

"Many desire the final reward and victory which are to be given to overcomers, but are not willing to endure toil, privation, and denial of self, as did their Redeemer. It is only through obedience and continual effort that we shall overcome as Christ overcame." — "Testimonies," Vol. 3, p. 491.

Mould yourself for greatness by —

1. Saying nothing you would be ashamed for any one to hear.

2. Reading nothing you would not read to your family.

3. Thinking no thoughts which, expressed aloud in the hearing of proper company, would cause you embarrassment.

4. Looking at nothing you would be ashamed to display before any one.

5. Seeking no pleasure in places where you would blush to be seen.

6. Fixing attention upon the things to be achieved.

7. Concentrating not merely on good things that are easy and attractive, but on good things which are hard and perhaps unattractive.

8. Overcoming your faults.

9. Choosing proper companions.

10. Saying "No" when encouraged to do wrong.

11. Looking ever to Jesus, the Giver of every good and perfect gift. Thus you will live a life controlled from above.

JUNE 26

THE JUNIORS' ADVENTURE

A Junior Programme

A Junior has just one big job to do. That is to live. It isn't to be an angel some day, nor to go to heaven. It is just to live, and that job well done will find its reward from the Master in due time. The spirit of adventure is keen in Junior hearts, and it should be. There is much to be discovered and explored, many things to be attempted. We want to know as much as possible, to do everything we can, and to be a worth-while boy or girl. The reason why Jesus came down from heaven and lived our life, was to show us how to properly live, and to thoroughly enjoy life.

Now, of what did Jesus' life consist as a Junior? You will find it consisted of the same things as surround our lives today: friendships and associations; ideals and standards; purposes and objectives; obeying a code or law, doing things. And when we attach all these common things to Jesus, it makes them high and noble achievements, doesn't it?

Now for our programme today, suppose we go adventuring. We'll discover what we need, and then look around to see if we can find things to fill our needs. Since many adventure stories have to do with shipwrecks and far-off uninhabited isles and one or two who are rescued, we shall go to some deserted island.

OUR ISLAND OF DISCOVERY

This adventure and discovery idea isn't so imaginary as we may think. It's a very real situation in the life of every Junior. One day we crawl or tumble out of a basket or cradle and start going to places. Where, we do not know, nor do we know what we shall find. No more do we know what we'll do when we get there or find it. We meet things that also are going to places; some have wings; some have four feet; some, like ourselves only bigger, have just two feet. We are explorers and on our way.

It all really began when we opened our eyes one day and saw several little, long, round things sticking out from a soft flat centre. We put one of them in our mouth, and some curious creature made a noise like, "Oh, he's biting his fingers!" Then we looked down across the length of a white coverlet and saw a stubby, pink thing sticking out. After much fussing and manoeuvring we managed to get hold of it, and headed it, too, for our mouth. Then we discovered that the whole arrangement was attached to us in some way or another, and that same curious person shouted, "He's biting his toe!" Our earliest discoveries! We were beginning to live.

Now here we are in this strange, large place filled with so many things all new to us and widely different — sky, clouds, weather, night, day, stars, flowers, trees, a waterfall, animals, people, and a thousand other things. They all affect us in some way, pleasant or otherwise. These toes and fingers of baby days spread out into a maze of discovery of bigger things about ourselves; likes and dislikes, new powers and interests.

We have a real job at hand. What are all these things? Where do they come from? Why are they? What good are

they? Can we use them, and make them contribute to our needs and enjoyment? We begin to apply our minds and our hands to accomplish new things. We find some things to be good for us and others not. Why? Out of all this discovery, adventure, and questioning in all these strange surroundings, we come to know that there are associations and relationships between peoples and things. Properly arranged, they make for growth and health and achievement, for success, for life. Not so arranged and used, they bring failure and sorrow and death. So we set ourselves to work out a code or law. Queer how we thought laws were just set for us by older folk! But it isn't so. A law or code is just the natural conclusion to reach for our good among the things as they are. That's why our Master said, "If ye love Me, keep My commandments." His law, the ten commandments, is the only perfect code of relationships between us and the things that concern us.

We look things over on this Island of Discovery to which we have come, and find out how they affect us, and how we affect them. We set up a method of relating ourselves to the weather, the things, and the people. Now we are ready to go to work. I think we all agree we would not get very far without these laws.

THE THRILL OF OUR ADVENTURE

When we have taken stock of our island and its resources, we find ourselves obliged to form out of the things we found, the articles we need to make living possible and comfortable. There are no electric lights, nor porcelain bathtubs, nor beds, nor gas stoves, nor radios. We find only a lot of natural things, and we want to live. That's the way it was once until some one took the raw materials of nature and made of them the things now common to us.

Generations of Indians and white men gazed upon the grandeur of the mighty Niagara before some one came along with alert mind and skillful hands to harness its power and make it light homes and turn the wheels of industry in scores of cities many miles distant. He changed the whole pattern of living in homes and on farms, in cities and villages.

So with this place to which in imagination we have come. What it has on it we must cause to serve us so that we may enjoy our dwelling here. Otherwise we may find ourselves starving in the midst of plenty. Here is the real thrill of our adventure — setting up our minds and our energy and our skill against our circumstances, and making Nature and all her many possessions contribute to the betterment of life. Progress—electricity, radios, telephones, motor cars, aeroplanes, and many other things — is just the story of alert, observing boys and girls, and men and women who looked and saw, and then learned to use what they saw. It is just working out our law or code in its relation to things about us, and from that making life richer and finer, and happier on our Island of Discovery.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ISLAND

Suppose, then, that we have taken stock of our island and have begun work. With trees and grasses we have made our house. With stones we have built a crude fireplace. Big shells and hollowed-out coconuts provide us with necessary utensils. We can light our fires without matches or paper. There are vegetables and fruits that are good and nourishing. We have a garden and have made the waterfall to irrigate it. We have stores put away for winter or a rainy season. What more can there be to make us happy? We shall see.

It is Sabbath. Ever since we landed we have been curious to know what was on the other side of our island, beyond that range of rocky hills. Today we are going over. Cautiously we approach the summit and descend the other side. To our surprise the climate and landscape are different. It is not so pleasant as where we live. Then we discover that we are *not* alone, and it is not "Our Island" only. Here are people; but how poorly they are living! Slaves of storms and many fears, they are helpless before nature and sick-

ness. They are miserable and ignorant and very unhappy. They are missing a host of good things waiting to be used if they only knew how.

What shall we do? Shall we quietly withdraw and hurry back to the pleasant things we have worked out? We cannot do that and still be as happy as we were before. No, we shall be going back to show them how to make life enjoyable, how to live in health, how to make the sun and the rain serve them, and how to build homes and to plant gardens so that they may live as we do. In this we shall find the greatest joy of all, for the joy of life is in sharing, not in holding.

Our side of the island seems far more beautiful now, even though it is actually the same. This is all because we know that over on the other side things are different since we shared our discoveries and comfort with the unhappy people we found there.

BACK HOME AGAIN

So much for our adventure to the Island of Discovery! Now we are back home in the same town or countryside or suburb where we were before, and what about it? Juniors, it isn't imaginary after all. Just where we are, some folk are living happily and finding a thrill in all they have or do, just because they observed a lot of things the rest of us missed, and they learned how to use those things. Most of us were growing up in a sort of thick jungle filled with trees marked "poison," and with grasses crowded with "snakes." A thousand signs told us to beware of this or that; and we didn't know what to do, and were afraid to move.

Then came our Junior M.V. plans. They are built upon a code of ideals and relationships. Some good folk had thought a lot about the Master's law, the ten commandments, which look rather hard and serious to a Junior. So these folk gathered out their fine ideals and put them into Junior language and we call it the Junior Law. That law gets hold of our sense of self-respect and starts us out to do things and to be something worth while.

Nature with its endless treasures becomes our field of adventure. It is now a place of friendly things, — trees, birds, flowers, stars. To be clean in mind and body, to be able to do things worth while, becomes a thrilling challenge or call to us.

Church and home, school and playground are all much more interesting because of these Junior Plans.

The idea was so good it kept on growing into Friend, Companion, and Comrade groups. Then a class of Master Comrades came into being to teach Juniors who were just coming in. The idea is not so very old, but it has grown fast. There are Juniors who observe the Junior Law and work out the ideals of these classes in many lands where we have missions. It is not imaginary, but very real on many a distant island of the sea.

Why, the Junior Plans are being worked out in the Land of the Midnight Sun. Last year, several Friends received their badges there. Then in China and India, the Juniors who are working hard to become Friends, Companions, and Comrades.

In our own mission field we have many dark-skinned Juniors wearing badges. In the Society Islands and also at our Monamona Mission for Australian aborigines, we have both Friends and Companions. On Tonga and Lord Howe and in the Cook Group we have J.M.V. Friends, and the plans are spreading to other islands.

And what do these plans do for us? They represent in Junior terms the very thrill and joy of being alive, the Master's joy in us, and our joy made full. They help us to discover a better and more interesting life, and show us how to build better. They teach us how to use our talents and the things around us to make life happier. They bring to us a threefold call:

1. To discover ourselves and the countless things most folk never see in the world around us.

2. To learn how to use our talents and what we have to improve our living.

3. To be willing to share what we know, and what we can do, with those who do not have, or know, or cannot do.

It is good to know one's self and the power to achieve which our Creator gave to us, and to know the richness of the world in which we live. Knowing this, it is only good sense to learn how to use our knowledge. But the great joy and lasting satisfaction of it comes with the willingness to share it with others. True Friends, Companions, and Comrades who work with Christ, our Master, find His joy in building for the kingdom, and our joy then becomes full.

ing for a final answer. Just one thing, they never could give up their dancing!

"My host spread his sleeping mat for me, and we, — all men, women, children, dogs, a cat, two parrots, and a rooster, to say nothing of rats and smaller occupants — prepared for a good night.

"Oh, how unaccustomed eyes can sting from the smoke of the chimneyless but ever-burning fire, and how close the air gets!

"No need for a rising bell, though; the rooster did duty! Soon the people gathered for worship. They assured us they wanted a teacher, and they wanted him at once. Then they showed us the site they had selected for the school and teacher's house, and promised to assist in every way. We left, happy at the prospect of entering a new corner of Papua.

"The evening that their teacher, Sarufa, arrived, the village people were very happy, and the next morning the men started off with knives and axes to cut poles for his house, leaving the women to clear the site. But heathen customs have a tenacious hold, and the love for dancing still lingered; so they told Sarufa they wanted a year and then they would be real mission people. He gathered them together and tried to show them they could not be half Christian and half heathen people.

"After a long discussion, they agreed that if they could find sufficient food they would complete their dance at once. That evening they returned with the word that they had 300 bunches of bananas which they would bring in the next week, then they would finish their heathen customs, get rid of their pigs, the men would cut their hair, and they would be real mission people.

"Later letters state that they closed their heathen ceremonies on February 25, and that the new scissors with which the teacher had provided himself were busy trimming shaggy heads.

"Thus one more little light has been planted in the bush of Papua. Pray that the people of Keogolo may have the courage to remain true."

JUNE 12

IMPRESSIONS OF MIRIGEDA SABBATH SCHOOL, PAPUA

Last quarter two new missionary couples were sent out to Papua, Brother and Sister E. A. Boehm and Brother and Sister K. J. Gray. We are to hear from two of these workers today. Brother Gray writes:

"Have you ever been to a Sabbath school where you did not know or understand the language in which the hymns were sung and the lesson studied?

"If you have not, then coming to Mirigeda would be a new experience to you, as it was to us a few weeks ago. As well as being new, probably it would be a very interesting, helpful, and enlightening experience; for such we have found it to be.

"Imagine hearing the hymn, 'Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty,' sung to words such as 'Namo, namo, namo, Divava Namo,' and then sitting down to listen to a jargon of sound, realising that it is the Sabbath school lesson and the worship of God. Oh, yes, it is inspiring all right — very much so.

"The whole tone and spirit are enthusiasm and reverence: in fact, more is shown of each than I have observed in any Sabbath school elsewhere.

"With a membership varying between 70 and 80, we have about 60 saying the memory verse and later the doctrinal text, and these are usually repeated in English. The offerings also leave us somewhat ashamed at times, as these are black-skinned people.

"Yes, we come here to teach them, but find many times that we are the pupils and they are the teachers, and we are learning. We would that all our white brethren and sisters could share our privileges."

Sister Gray writes further of the Sabbath school at Mirigeda:

"I was inclined to think that ignorance

Sabbath School Missionary Exercises

Superintendents, Notice

Plan for a good programme on the Thirteenth Sabbath, which is also Silver Jubilee Day, and announce this well beforehand.

JUNE 5

BRANCHING OUT

"The Keogolo people want a teacher. They say they have waited a long time, and that they want to have a school and be real mission people.' This was the message which reached us several times; so we decided to investigate the possibilities of a new out-station, and started off," writes Mrs. Alma Wiles from Aroma, Papua.

"All were happy as we walked along the beach and then boarded our canoe. The village was several miles up the river, and the boys were all sure we could make our visit and return in one day. But the river proved to be in flood with a very swift current running; so noon found us far from our destination with the boys straining at their paddles, poling where they could, or hanging on to bushes on the river bank. Some wished to return, using as an excuse that I had brought neither bed nor food for a night out. However, we decided to go on.

"Five p.m. found us at the landing with the village half a mile away. As we climbed the hill we could see the women cleaning up around their houses — never before had they been honoured by the visit of a white woman! Soon they brought us

wooden dishes of cooked taro, bananas, and yams. Have you ever eaten out of a native pot or even imagined doing so? You know the pot is rarely, if ever, washed, and you wonder whether snake, wallaby, wild cat, or alligator was last cooked in it! But darkness and the hungry dogs helped us to dispose of the outside of the food, eating only the centre, which was sterilised at least!

"Worship presented a queer picture. Seated on the ground in the bright moonlight were men and women scantily dressed, children, dogs, cats, and a wallaby. The people tried to join in the singing. Then by the light of the fire they gazed at the pictures in the Sabbath School Picture Roll, and listened attentively. It was the simple story of the Jesus who knows and loves each of us, and is preparing a place where no one will fight, no one will be sick, and no one will die. Yes, we really see Him, for He is coming to take us who are now living to His home. Some of our boys closed our meeting with prayer.

"An old man invited us to share his house, and soon we, with the leading men of the village, were discussing the possibilities of 'school' (a term which to the native includes religious as well as secular instruction). Yes, they wanted school; but would it mean they must give up their pigs, their betel-nut, their dances — all that makes life worth living to them?

"We assured them they would not be forced to give up anything, but later they might wish to do so. They finally suggested that we sleep and wait until morn-

of the language spoken would debar me from enjoying the exercises of the day. But as one writer has said, 'The eye is the gateway to the soul,' and the sight of those smiling dark-skinned natives was surely an inspiration.

"One of the most striking features of Mirigeda Sabbath school was its offering chart, which attracted the eye as soon as one entered the church. It was a living testimony to the faithfulness of the natives in the giving of offerings. It depicted a church, from which ran a winding path over rugged mountain ranges. This path was marked by twelve milestones, representing the twelve Sabbaths, and led to a heathen village. Along it rode a missionary, kept there by the weekly offerings. I am glad to say this missionary was one week ahead, and great was the enthusiasm manifested when at the end of Sabbath school we found the missionary was able to press still further on. Surely these people are being faithful to the motto inscribed on their chart, 'Pressing On.'"

JUNE 19

SEVEN DAYS UP THE VAILALA RIVER

"We loaded all our medical and food supplies, camping equipment, and other luggage, not forgetting the Picture Rolls, into our 47-foot canoe, besides Brother Farrar and myself," writes Brother L. L. Howell. "The party consisted of seventeen boys, each equipped with a paddle. We started off one bright Monday morning with much jubilation from the boys, as our graceful craft slid easily along in the waters of a creek, the head of which was our starting point.

"We settled ourselves in deck chairs with a supply of books and papers. The long journey afforded an opportunity to catch up with the reading of some of our periodicals and reading course books. Soon we came to the scene of a recent tragedy, for there only a few weeks ago one of our Sabbath school members, a little girl of eleven years, was taken by a crocodile.

"Soon we turned into the main stream and the progress was slower, as the river was higher than usual, due to recent heavy rains. The banks of the river are lined by tall trees, festooned to their tops with vines and creepers which formed solid walls of living green. At many places along the banks the natives had cut back the jungle and on the clearings had planted bananas, yams, taro, and other native foods.

"Mid afternoon found us at the village of Akauda, our first camping place. The village people were badly in need of medical attention, and Brother Farrar had a busy time, giving injections and other treatments. After all were attended to, we had worship with them and then hastened to get settled in the rest house before the rain began. It rains almost every night inland, and did so every night we were in there.

"Paddling on, we visited several villages each day, staying long enough to treat their sick, which were numerous, and to worship with them, using the Picture Rolls each time. Some mornings we would wake up to find that the river had risen several feet on account of the heavy rain in the night, so for some hours the going was slow because of the current.

"Friday found us at a village named Keakes, the last of a certain language group. This village was prettily situated on a small hill at a bend in the river, and commanded a magnificent view. Here we spent Sabbath, worshipping with the villages folks and attending to their physical needs.

Sunday morning, accompanied by the local policeman and several village folks in their canoes, we pushed on, paddling all day without passing any villages, and by night reached an abandoned garden, and camped in an old house on the bank. Later one of the village canoes arrived, and the boys said they had been raiding a crocodile's nest, and brought in about three dozen eggs. When these were opened they were found to contain young crocodiles, each about eight inches long, so they had

crocodiles instead of eggs with their sago for dinner that night. The mission boys had bananas with their sago.

Next morning we came upon the first of the Naihikaia [ni-he-ki-a] villages, and by afternoon had gone as far as it is ordinarily possible to travel in a canoe, as from here on the river shallows into rapids as it winds in and out among the hills. These people are very different from any others on the river, and came originally from the headwaters of the Purari River, which rises in the Mandated Territory of New Guinea, not far from the Ramu mission. Finding some of them spoke good Motu, I inquired where they had learned it, and they told me they had spent three and a half years at the Government station at Kerema. On asking the reason, they produced their prison discharges which stated that they had served that time for wilful murder. They did not seem at all ashamed to show these papers, and I thought how much these people needed a knowledge of the law of God and the saving gospel of Jesus. They are fine, intelligent people, non-betel-nut-chewers, as is evidenced by their clear eyes and pearly teeth.

"We were only seventeen miles from the border of the Mandated Territory, and about seventy miles airline from Ramu. Some day we hope to penetrate those hills and link up with those of our brethren working in the other territory.

"Our return journey was accomplished in two long days. There are openings for at least five teachers in the various villages scattered along the river banks, and at present we are laying plans to fill at least some of these openings. We brought four of the Naihikaia boys back with us, and hope to train them for work among their own people.

"We ask an interest in your prayers and offerings as we plan to extend the work into the great inland of Papua."

JUNE 26

SILVER JUBILEE DAY

Our Sabbath schools around the circle of the earth today, holding their programme in between five and six hundred different languages, are celebrating the Silver Jubilee, the twenty-fifth birthday, of the plan to make our Thirteenth Sabbath a special day, on which a special offering is given for a definite objective.

The aim is to give a special Jubilee offering, the amount planned for being \$150,000 (£37,500) for that day. For twenty-five years the Thirteenth Sabbath offering has been a very important source of income to the General Conference treasury for the world-wide mission work. It has contributed \$1,750,000. Of this amount, \$162,500 has been given in overflows for special enterprises. If the aim for today is realised, India and Burma, with their 353,000,000 people, will receive help and then the overflow is to go to other mission divisions of the world. Providences of God that demand attention are opening in all these divisions. Opportunities call in clarion tones for us to advance. This Jubilee offering will give an exceptional opportunity to answer some of those calls.

In the Australasian Division with the responsibility of taking the message to the many thousands of people in the South Sea Islands, it is our privilege to raise \$1500 for the threefold work among the 275,000 Papuan people. May God help us as Sabbath school members in this part of the world field to do our part so that the message may be quickly carried "to all the world in this generation."

JUNE 26

VILLAGE WORK IN PAPUA

Brother Ralph Farrar writes from the Great Delta Division, Papua:

"We had been wending our way up a fast flowing river and had come to a village. Soon we were up among the people and treating their many sick.

"When a godly number had been treated, they told us of a man in a certain house who was unable to come to where we were administering help. So

we mounted the rickety steps of this house to a floor about eight feet above the ground.

"A very low opening in the wall is the only entrance for light as well as for the people who wish to enter. At first we can see but a dark object, which is a man, we know, but until our eyes become accustomed to the darkness it is quite impossible to see what is his trouble. All too soon his dreadful condition is revealed, and then his story is told.

More than three years ago, while in search of food, he fell out of a tree and broke both hip bones. Nothing had been done at the time of the accident nor since, and all through those three long years he has been a sufferer because there was no one to give him medical attention. To add to his discomfort, not once had he received any water with which to have a wash, in any way.

"Two useless, withered legs are bad enough for any one, but in addition this poor man had two huge sores, caused by his continued sitting position, while yaws had taken its toll of two toes on one foot, and was showing itself very progressive.

"This man, like scores of others who receive treatment, was very thankful that we had come to give help and relief, and asked that we come again to help.

"The greater your sacrifice for these poor benighted people, the greater work we shall be able to do to alleviate their sufferings. And, kind friends, you may be sure, as you do your part willingly for the Master, you are fellow workers with us in His cause, and souls finally won to His kingdom will shine as stars in your crowns as a result of your efforts. May God richly bless you as you remember the great need of our medical work in Papua."

MISSIONARY FRUIT

(For five little girls)

IN CONCERT:

This is a funny fruit you see;
It does not grow on any tree,
But it has seeds which rattle round;
Just hear the merry, cheery sound!
(All rattle Investment Boxes)

FIRST:

We cannot eat the seeds, you know,
And in our gardens they'll not grow;
But yet they'll grow in other lands
When planted by our faithful hands.

SECOND:

Now shall I tell this riddle queer?
Pennies and coins are found in here.
These are the seeds we try to sow,
And wondrous things from them will grow.

THIRD:

Sometimes a school in Papua starts
From what we sow with willing hearts;
Sometimes a baby's life we save,
And then how glad we are we gave!

FOURTH:

Yes, even there these seeds will grow;
The flowers and fruits are sure, if slow;
God cares for that; He sees the need;
We only have to sow the seed.

FIFTH:

No soil so hard, so dry, so cold,
But we shall gain a hundredfold
If this good seed we scatter wide,
That it may fall on every side.

IN CONCERT:

Then help us to fill these boxes small;
Lots of pennies we ask from all
FOR PAPUA!

The Missionary Leader

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