



## OUR CHURCH PAPERS

T. A. MITCHELL

You are all interested in extraordinary facts about ordinary things, and during these days when the closing scenes of earth's history are shaping for the last great drama, we have many extraordinary facts coming to us from the far-flung sections of the globe.

God is doing and will continue to do extraordinary things through His church and people to accomplish extraordinary tasks in the final movements for the saving of the lost.

From our church papers, which should grow more precious to us as we draw nearer to our eternal home, we can read of these experiences of love and sympathy, stories of endurance and victory, messages of hope and courage from the far off mission fields, as well as learning of constant progress in the homeland. Behind all the church's activities is the same divine hand leading and guiding men and women, old and young, along the path that leads to the pearly portals.

It was the loving Saviour, Jesus, who so loved the human family that He died for all; and when He lived in person among humanity, men's hearts burned within them as He talked with them by the way. Today He is working in marvellous and mysterious ways by His Spirit, His wonders to perform, and as we read the records of the providential leadings, again men's hearts burn within them, for it is His divine power doing extraordinary things through and for ordinary men and women.

Our church papers should be found in every believer's home. The *Record* should be a welcome weekly visitor to every member of the church. The *Signs of the Times*, which is the best single soul-winning agency we have, should be circulated like the leaves of autumn.

### "Live and Grow"

In Sydney a large business establishment has as a motto, "While I live I grow." That is a good slogan for a business concern, but how much more should we as Christians show to others that we are growing in the Christian graces! The life that has accepted Christ and claims to have followed in His paths for five, ten, or fifteen years, and has made no spiritual progress during all those years, that life is a tragedy.

The Christian life is a life of addition, and while a child of God lives he is to add to his faith virtue, and to virtue knowledge, and the growth is to continue to godliness, brotherly kindness, and love. 2 Peter 1:5. Nothing in nature will grow unless it is nourished with that which produces growth. Nothing in the vegetable or animal kingdom grows without being fed on life-producing food. When we come to spiritual growth it means the same thing. A person can grow spiritually, godly, or lovingly, only in proportion to the spiritual food which is taken into the life and soul. To maintain and to make sure of that spiritual growth, it is just as important to give the mind, the soul, the life, that daily spiritual nourishment as it is to give the body its daily food and water. There is no standing still on the divine pathway. The Christian is either living and growing stronger, better, and more perfect each day, or going backward in his Christian experience. Conversion is of short duration, but sanctification is the work of a lifetime. It is the Christian's business to see to it that while he is living for Christ he is growing like Christ.

### How to Grow

The question that comes to us now is, How can I maintain the desired growth that is necessary to be a Christian in this world,

yet not of the world? For a business concern to grow it must receive into its departments the very best supplies, then give the most faithful service to all. In the Christian life it is imperative that the very best is absorbed, the most pure read, the deeply spiritual studied, then that which is pure, noble, true, and good must be used in service for others. A muscle of the body that is not used will atrophy and die. A Christian who does not exercise his divinely blessed talents and develop those spiritual attributes of the life, will quickly fall back into the place where he will become a spiritual pauper; and the person who dies spiritually will, unless that life is revived again, die eternally. Shall we not say, "While I live, I'll grow"? That means study of the Word, to know the ways of the Lord. It means no more neglect of prayer, for prayer in the hands of faith grasps the levers of the divine switchboard and releases to the pleading soul the power of Omnipotence. Further, it calls for service to others; it means giving out that which has been received. A business that only receives and refuses to pass on or distribute to others would soon discontinue as a living concern; it would die. It is even more true in the Christian business. The Christian life must be a channel of communication, through which flow heavenly blessings to others.

Now, for a moment let us look at the title of this article, "Our Church Papers." How everybody today likes to have the latest national news; to be intelligent regarding the experiences relative to national activities, which is all good and necessary to keep pace with the rapidly moving events in national affairs! For the church member, the living Christian, it is just as important to be kept informed of God's world-wide movement in the light of rapidly changing conditions, which tell us in thunder tones that the end of all things is near at hand. Fellow believers, you need our church papers today, perhaps more than ever before, to keep pace with God's work on the earth. You need these to bring information, experiences, and blessings, to your home and your families. Will you make sure your name is listed for the *Record*, and plan to have a *Signs of the Times* for your home and a club for distribution among your neighbours and friends? While these few lines are being written, a faithful church member who has a *Signs* round has brought an encouraging letter to my desk, which was



"THAT MUST MEAN ME"

written to the office, and enclosed was a postal note valued at 5s. 6d. The letter in part read as follows:—

"Just a small 'thank you' for the kindness of a young man who has sent me the *Signs of the Times* for some time. I have found the papers helpful and enjoyable, and appreciate their coming regularly.

"May God bless him and you in the work of proclaiming the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Letters like this remind us afresh of the value of our church papers. Shall we not make greater use of them, first for our own souls' good, then for the eternal good of souls in need all around us?

Read the message, live the truth, know the faith, speed on the gospel, and hasten the glorious day when faith will be lost in sight, sorrow be drowned in joy, and eternal happiness be the experience of every waiting, working, watchful child of the King.

## Opportunities in "A World on Wheels"

A. E. MILLNER

God has committed to Seventh-day Adventists a world message. The church is responsible to her Leader alone in making known to all mankind the plan of salvation. Let us, however, guard against a growing tendency to substitute the work of organization for individual effort, by giving heed to the following instruction: "He who becomes a child of God should henceforth look upon himself as a link in the chain let down to save the world." ("Ministry of Healing," page 105.) "By personal labour reach those around you. Become acquainted with them. Preaching will not do the work that needs to be done. . . . This work cannot be done by proxy. Money lent or given will not accomplish it. Sermons will not do it. By visiting the people, talking, praying, sympathizing with them, you will win hearts. This is the highest missionary work that you can do."—"Testimonies," Vol. IX, page 41.

Think of the opportunities within our reach as we travel from place to place! Someone has said, "The world is on wheels." We travel over highways and byways, on train, bus, boat, and aeroplane. Think of the many people who are bewildered by world conditions, and who are ready to engage in conversation concerning current events and their meaning. It is said that "in these days of travel, the opportunities of coming in contact with men and women of all classes, and many nationalities, are much greater than in the days of Israel. The thoroughfares of travel have multiplied a thousandfold. God has wonderfully prepared the way."—"Gospel Workers," page 352.

One of our church members was on a Canadian Pacific train en route to a Western city. As the carriage was crowded, he was obliged to share the seat with another passenger, a business man on his way to Vancouver. The conversation turned to religious matters, and our member explained some phases of the Advent message, and exhorted him to surrender his heart to Christ. His reply was, "You are the first man who ever inquired about my spiritual life. I appreciate this talk." Precious seed was sown. Who knows what results may follow?

Every member would do well to have a supply of literature when travelling. A Missionary Volunteer was taking a night train to a near-by city. Not having sufficient time to do a great amount of missionary work, he smilingly passed out tracts to fellow passengers, stating that he felt that they would appreciate reading them. Not one person refused the kind offer. Evidently this earnest



youth realized the importance of sowing the seed and leaving the results with the Lord.

The Saviour travelled from city to city in His day. He gave His full time to the needs of people wherever and whenever it was possible. And today, when the "thoroughfares of travel have multiplied a thousandfold," He expects His followers to watch for souls as they that must give account.

"Christ loves human beings, and He died to save them. At an infinite price He ransomed them from the power of the enemy.

... He came to restore in them the image of divinity. He calls upon those who have accepted Him to join Him in His work."—*Review and Herald, January 14, 1902.*

## Note to Church Missionary Secretaries

MAKE during this month good strong efforts to build up the subscriptions to our church papers, which should be carrying their regular blessing to our people.

Should a show of hands be called for to ascertain how many purchase the morning and evening papers, it would be revealed that much is being spent on these papers, which cost twopence each. They bring to us the war news, the local news, and information from overseas. Our church papers, too, bring to us news from overseas—from the mission fields, and from the battle-front regarding the message—and a few pence saved on the other dailies would purchase the church papers, which are so much needed these days in the homes of believers, so that they may be kept in touch with the message, and with those who are right in the firing line of Christian service.

Point out that a daily paper costing twopence per day for six days, not including the Sunday paper, costs a shilling per week, or £2 12s. per year. For five days, not including the Sunday paper, it would cost £2 3s. 4d. annually. The "Record" costs but 5s. per year, and the *Signs* 5s. per year, a total of 10s. only for the year, or a fraction over twopence farthing per week. Make an appeal for all those who do not already subscribe to our church papers to do so by handing in their subscriptions to the church missionary secretary.

## Sowing and Reaping

ADLAI A. ESTEB

THERE is nothing to compare with the joy of service in the cause of God. But there are many who have never tasted of the sweetness of this joy, because they have never paid the price. Before the joy of reaping there must be the toil of seed sowing. "He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Ps. 126: 6. Far too many long for the joy of reaping, but neglect the fundamental task of sowing. It is only those who "go," who will "come again with rejoicing." A poet teaches this lesson in the following lines:—

"No mill, no meal;  
No sweat, no sweet;  
No pain, no palm;  
No thorn, no throne;  
No cross, no crown."

It is not always easy to go forth to sow the seed. When I was called to go as a missionary to China, it was not easy to respond. During my college days I had said I would be willing to go as a missionary to any place but India or China. But when the call came, I saw the nail-pierced hands of Jesus pointing over the sea to China. Then the battle within my own soul raged; but after I had spent many days in prayer, God gave me the victory. I went, and for a number of years it was my blessed privilege to scatter the precious seed of truth in China; and I can now rejoice, to some extent, in the harvest.

We do not have to go to China, however, to find the joy of service. Every time we go out of our homes we should bear on our hearts the burden for souls, and carry in our hands the precious seed. We can go forth from the front door and from the back door of our homes "bearing precious seed," and the promise is sure that there will come a time of rejoicing, when the sheaves are gathered in. If every Christian would be faithful in this, the world would be stirred by the message of

truth, and oh, what joy there would be throughout our churches!

God's promise of joy and fruitage to the seed-sower has been verified in the experience of Christians in all ages. In China, India, Africa, and throughout all the world, precious seed is being sown and a precious harvest reaped. Souls are being won. A Chinese brother, in one of our meetings in the Shantung Province, told how he had accepted Christ and had promised the Lord to be faithful in winning a soul. Months went by, and he had won no soul. But the brother could not forget his promise, and the burden became so great that he felt he must go forth in search of souls. He went, and in this meeting he gave his testimony to the effect that five souls had been won, and baptized. His voice choked with emotion, and tears of joy filled his eyes. He had found the joy of service.

May God help us all to find the unspeakable joy of soul-winning.

## Letters of Appreciation

T. A. MITCHELL

FROM the letters of appreciation that come to us from readers of the *Signs of the Times* we could compile whole books, and large ones at that, and so we feel that we should share with you one or two recent letters to give you some idea of how those not of our faith appreciate our splendid paper, the *Signs*.

A letter from Dee Why, N.S.W., says: "I feel I must write and ask you to thank whoever it is that pays the cost of sending me every week a copy of the *Signs of the Times*. I cannot tell you how I look forward every week to its coming, and I wish it were twice the size so as to have more to read.

"It is lovely to think that Christ's second coming is so near, and wherever I go, and get a chance, I always speak about it. I wish I were in a position to send you a donation towards your expenses. May God bless you all who are working in your publications."

Not long ago, while attending a funeral service, one of our people had some good spiritual conversations on the subject of the return of Christ, and later sent the names of some who attended to have the *Signs* sent to them. The following letter is from a relative of the deceased:—

"For some time the *Signs of the Times* has been coming to my son. As I see you do not send out papers unless paid for, I take it that we are indebted to some kind person, and I should like our thanks sent to that person. We very much appreciate the paper, and when finished with it send it to others. This week I am sending two to a friend in Scotland.

"The time has come, as never before, when we should endeavour by every means to win souls for the kingdom, as the King will soon be here. You certainly in your paper always give the people the message of salvation by the precious blood of Christ and the second coming of Christ, and that is left out by many of the church ministers of today. May God richly bless your work."

Another letter from an elderly lady:—

"For some time I have been receiving regularly the *Signs of the Times* from some friend quite unknown to me, unless it should be a Mr. —, who a few months ago sold me a book, 'This Mighty Hour,' which I consider well worth its price. Whoever the friend may be, I should like him to know that the kindness has been greatly appreciated, and I say to him from the heart of a grey-haired old mother, 'God bless you, son,' especially if it should be that fine young Christian Mr. —. I have so much to read and digest that I do not consider subscribing to the paper, although I read it and enjoy to find an echo in my spirit for most of its articles. Some of them are really beautiful, the poetry for instance. But I felt it was quite time to say 'Thank you,' and if the times were not so difficult I would be very pleased to send along a subscription to help the good work along; fortunately there are so many lines along which to help the good work along, and I do not fail in all. Again my sincere thanks."

The following is a letter from a man in the Public Works Department, New Zealand:—

"I am writing to inquire whether you will be good enough to forward me whatever literature you may consider would be helpful to

me upon Seventh-day Adventists in general and the Sabbath question in particular.

"I should also like to receive regularly the *Signs of the Times* periodical, if you will advise me of the subscription and arrange to send me copies from now onwards. Thanking you."

Just one more experience, this time from a church elder:—

"Brother —, when on the Appeal, called at the home of one of his *Signs* customers who, with his wife, family, son-in-law, and prospective son-in-law, was just finishing dinner. 'This man,' writes Brother —, 'is a brither Scot well known to me. He saluted me in this fashion: 'Hullo, —, what's this you've got today?' I explained my mission, and he delegated his wife the task of making a donation. After expressing gratitude for the contribution, I passed over his *Signs* to him, and this, as near as I can remember, is what he said: 'I don't know who are the heads of your movement, and possibly they would not listen to me if I did, but you'll know them, and I want you to tell them that a Church of Christ man that takes the *Signs* every week says it's the best paper in Australia. He reads every page from front to back, aye and every word, not for the sake of reading but to study and analyse, and the more he reads, the more he is convinced that the subject matter presented is correct.' He mentioned specifically Pastor —'s article on the Angels. 'And it's only a penny; but mind, I dinna want them to increase the price though I'm talking this way.' I assured him that he need not fear on that score, as the price had been reduced from 1½d. He urged me to let the heads know just what a Church of Christ man thought of that good paper the *Signs*. He also told me that Brother — at one time came to his home to have studies and an exchange of opinion regarding the Scriptures on Saturday nights. I have now complied with Mr. —'s request, and pray that he may yet see the light as a result of reading the *Signs*.'"

From these few letters you will get a small conception of the value of our papers. They are stirring the hearts of men and women everywhere, and they are leading souls to a knowledge of the truth. They are preparing men and women to meet Jesus, who is soon coming in all His glory.

Secure our papers—use them—they will bring you rich rewards.

## SUGGESTIVE TALKS for Ten-Minute Exercises

October 4

### Some Facts About Our Church Paper

In the year 1898 the Australian Tract Society, operating from Melbourne, was divided into the same divisions as had been arranged for conference work. The *Gleaner*, a small paper published by the Tract Society, became the responsibility and official organ of the Union Conference. Thereafter it circulated as the *Union Conference Record*, commencing as a monthly journal.

Perusing some of the earliest issues we find them filled with items of progress from every department of the organization in the days of beginnings. In the first number, statistical figures tell us that reports had been received from the Central Australian Conference (comprising South Australia, Victoria, and Tasmania), New South Wales Conference, New Zealand Conference, and the Queensland and West Australian Missions. Altogether there were 33 churches with a membership of 1,632. An interesting account is given of the first year's operations at the Avondale School for Christian Workers, which opened April 28, 1897 and closed on October 19. Commencing with less than twenty students, the enrolment grew to eighty-two.

And now, for more than forty-three years our church paper has served an ever-increasing army of church members. It binds together the Advent family in this division; for if the news comes that one member is distressed, then all the other members suffer with him; if he has glad tidings to tell, then all his brethren and sisters rejoice with him. At the end



of May the circulation was 3,359. With a home field membership of 15,842, it appears that we have still some way to go to reach our aim of "The *Record* in every Adventist home."

Church Elder, is your name on the mailing list? And what about you, Brother Treasurer, Church Clerk, Missionary Secretary, Sabbath School Superintendent, M.V. Leader? As an officer of the church, leading the flock, you need the information and help contained in the *Record*, and also that you may be an example to those under your care.

October 11

### Six Reasons

1. If you love this message you will want to follow its onward flight. The only way to do this effectively is by reading regularly the *Australasian Record*. In its pages you will find letters and reports from evangelists, colporteurs, institutional leaders, students, and missionaries.

2. By reading our church paper we become acquainted with our leaders and familiar with the methods and workings of the organization in which we are shareholders. Thus sympathy, understanding, confidence, and a sense of responsibility take hold upon us.

3. Not least of the good things contained in its columns are the spiritual articles which are calculated to strengthen and establish us in the faith. Especially are these necessary to those who are separated from church affiliations.

4. As the darkness deepens over the world, perplexities will multiply, and we shall need more and more the counsel and guidance of God's ministers. The medium for exhortation and instruction is the *Record*.

5. Rumours and false reports are abroad. Read the *Record*, and know the truth for yourself.

6. The American papers are now so expensive because of the exchange, that few can afford to continue their subscriptions. The *Record* has not increased in price, and in its columns is included world-wide news of the Advent message.

You have just missed all the interesting reports of the 1941 Union Conference Session. See your Church Missionary Secretary after the Sabbath and join the church club, or order from the local conference.

October 18

### Subscribers for Forty Years: This Is What They Say

PASTOR A. W. ANDERSON, Field Secretary of the Union Conference:—

"While travelling about the Union Conference, it has been my experience that our people who receive the *Record* regularly are well-informed concerning the progress of the message, and particularly of the work going on in our island field. At times I have visited families in quite remote places, where they do not have church privileges, who are most conversant with the various incidents which have occurred in connection with the proclamation of the third angel's message. On expressing my surprise that they should be so well-informed on these subjects, they have sometimes replied, 'We read it in the *Record*.'"

"Readers of the *Record* I have found to be thorough-going Seventh-day Adventists whose confidence in the message is unbounded; while on the other hand I have found amongst those who are not readers of our church paper that they are in a measure unacquainted with what is transpiring, and are sometimes led to doubt whether anything at all worth while is going on. This, of course, is only natural, for what one reads is indelibly impressed upon the mind."

"As a reader of the *Record* since it was first issued, I would say that I have found it a very valuable little paper, and am convinced that it fills a very important place in the work of the third angel's message in Australasia."

Brother G. S. Fisher, manager of the Sydney Sanitarium:—

"I have been a regular subscriber to the *Australasian Record* for more than forty years, and at the close of each week one question I invariably ask is, Has the *Record* come this week? If something has delayed its arrival, there is a feeling of disappointment. Should we not feel concern when we fail to receive our weekly periodical, the *Record*, which, unlike

most periodicals, brings to us life, hope, and cheer, from our own field as well as from abroad? One means by which our people can keep abreast of the times with this wonderful message is by reading of God's providences at home and abroad in our own church paper."

From the headquarters of the Far Eastern Division in Singapore we recently received this expression of appreciation:—

"Your paper is read and re-read by those of our workers who have access to our Division Library copies. Your field certainly seems to be replete with extraordinary experiences. We refer, not particularly to the spectacular variety of reports, though that type does attract the casual reader; but we appreciate in particular the stories of steady progress in the face of difficulty, which characterizes the work in your field."

Did you forget during the week to order your copy of the *Record*? For your benefit we offer a courteous reminder.

## Missionary Volunteer Department

### Officers' Notes

#### DISTRIBUTE RESPONSIBILITY

In the Missionary Volunteer organization we have a slogan which reads, "To save from sin and guide in service." The principle here set forth should be applied in a practical way to every Missionary Volunteer Society. Earnest effort should be made to win every young person of the church to the Lord Jesus Christ. Following that he should be trained to fill his place in God's great programme of service.

The society, therefore, is a training school in which the youth become qualified to do efficient work outside of the society. This can be accomplished only when every society member is given an opportunity and encouraged to take part. In every society there are young persons who are better qualified than others to speak in the meetings. However, these qualified young people should not be called upon again and again to the exclusion of those who are not so competent. In connection with the society meetings something can be found for everyone to do if he is given the proper encouragement. For the boy or girl who is timid and hesitant, first try giving him just a verse of Scripture to read in connection with a Bible reading that is being conducted. A few weeks later he may be encouraged to memorize a short poem. Following that, his courage has strengthened, and with a bit of coaching he may study a short article and present it very satisfactorily as a talk. All of this will require time and patience and perhaps assistance on the part of the leaders, and yet in the end it is time exceptionally well spent, and will bear fruitage in a surprisingly satisfying way.

C. LESTER BOND.

### Who Crucified the Christ?

*Characters:* Leader, Judge, Jury (five or six young people), five young people to represent Jewish Priests, The Mob, The Roman Soldiers, Pilate, and Judas.

#### Introduction

(By Leader)

ALTHOUGH nineteen hundred years have passed since Christ was crucified in old Jerusalem, His death upon that cruel Roman cross still stands as the supreme crime of the ages. His crucifixion is just as much the centre of human thought today as when the rough Roman soldiers nailed His unresisting form to the cross on that memorable Friday morning in A.D. 31. Christ was condemned as a vile criminal, as a traitor to His country, and as a blasphemer of His God. His cross was planted between those of two murderers who had been justly condemned for their evil deeds. But not so with the Lord. No fault could be found in Him. Though condemned, He was, in fact, innocent of any crime or wrong. Who could have been so blindly unjust as to treat the promised Messiah, the One alto-

October 25

### The "Record" in Our Church

Ask for a show of hands of those who subscribe to the *Record*, and for a few of these to express their appreciation of the paper. Add your own testimony, and emphasize the aim: "The *Record* in every Adventist home."

Sample copies will be sent on request to the Editor, Australasian Union Conference, Wairoonga.

*Missionary Secretary:* We hope that the message of these *Record* promotion readings will ring in your ears as long as you continue in office; that when a new member joins the church you will approach him with very good reasons why he should become a reader of the church paper; that the subscribers you gain you will strive to retain.

gether lovely, even worse than the basest of criminals? He was numbered "among the transgressors," and accounted the chief of sinners. It would seem that something must have been radically wrong with the men who condemned Him; madness must have possessed those who led Him forth to be crucified. Who could it have been who hung purity, goodness, and truth on the cruel cross? His crucifixion was nothing less than a vile murder. The so-called trials and the unjust verdict did not conceal the murderous intent of those responsible for His death.

These obvious facts would lead us to but one conclusion—the men who compassed His death must have been villains who would stoop to any depth to accomplish their purpose. But who were they, and why did they crucify the Christ?

If this question was put to any group of people, probably several answers would be given. One who does not have much use for religious leaders would answer, "The Jewish priests and the Pharisees crucified Him." Another who looks upon the man in the street with disdain would answer, "The rabble, the mob, sent Him to the cross." A third, who takes delight in being accurate in every detail, would answer, "Why, the soldiers crucified Him. Did they not drive in the nails?" From one whose heart is opposed to those in authority would come the answer, "Pilate and the Roman government ordered His crucifixion." Still a fifth answer would come from one who hates a traitor: "Judas betrayed Him and sold his Lord to the Jews; so he is guilty."

So if we are to find an answer to the seemingly simple question, "Who crucified the Christ?" we shall have to arraign a goodly number of persons before the bar of justice and hold a court of inquiry to determine who really is guilty of the murder of the Just One. So we shall arraign the accused and charge them with the greatest crime of the ages, and hear whether they plead "guilty" or "not guilty."

#### ON TRIAL

*Judge:* Bring in one of the Jewish priests. Are you guilty of the murder of the Christ?

*Jewish Priest:* Certainly not. We murdered no one. We have been set as the guardians of our holy religion. To us have been committed the oracles of God and the Sacred Writings. We must preserve the ancient traditions of our most holy faith and hand it down to our children as our fathers have given it to us. So when this Jesus of Nazareth sprang to fame in Galilee, claiming to be a prophet of God, we had to take notice of His work. He said the new wine of His religion would burst the old wine-skins which have preserved our faith, and many other things He taught contrary to our customs. We were thus compelled to declare Him to be a dangerous heretic, especially when He began to claim divine honours. We tried to silence Him, but this was impossible. He had great influence with the people, and led them away from our ancient beliefs. So rather than



allow all the people to perish, we thought it expedient that one man should die and the nation be saved. We are not guilty of any crime. We were just ridding our nation of a dangerous heretic.

**Judge:** Bring in a spokesman for the mob. Are you and your fellows guilty of the murder of the Christ?

**The Mob:** No, we hardly knew the Man. Most of us had never seen Him before. We knew, however, that at the time of the passover the Roman governor was bound to release some prisoner unto us, according to an ancient custom. So we gathered at the judgment hall that morning because we heard that Pilate was to hold court, and we knew he was sure to release someone. When the time came, we shouted for Barabbas because he was our leader in a recent insurrection against the hated Romans. Barabbas may not have had too good a record, but at least he made an attempt to break the Roman yoke and was not merely a visionary idealist. As for this Jesus, we knew little about Him. Some of us followed Him for a time till He told us to love our enemies, and that His kingdom was not of this world. But whoever heard of a Jew loving a Roman? It was impossible. And so, for the sake of our nation's honour and for the future of our race, we chose Barabbas, so that he could lead us again when the time came to overthrow the Roman power. As for this Jesus, we saw that He was a prisoner with whom the priests were anxious to do away, and we did not care what became of Him, so long as we got Barabbas free.

**Judge:** Roman soldiers, we shall call you next. Are you guilty of the murder of the Christ?

**Roman Soldier:** We, too, must plead "not guilty." We were only doing our duty as commanded by our superior officers. On that Friday we were assigned to the crucifixion squad, and stood by awaiting orders. When the police officers turned over to us the three prisoners, with the governor's order, we led them out to the place of execution, and performed our gruesome task. All of us hate the job, but if we should disobey orders and refuse, we ourselves would be executed. We recognized Jesus to be different from the usual prisoner. Ordinarily men struggle and curse and swear when they are fastened to the cross, but He was meek as a lamb and offered no resistance at all. We almost lost our courage to complete the job when He prayed to His Father to forgive us, but we dared not let Him go unless we were ready to die. Surely no one could hold us guilty of any crime in carrying out the orders we received from our officers.

**Judge:** Now, Pilate, what do you have to say? You have been charged with murdering the Christ. Are you guilty?

**Pilate:** I plead "not guilty." You will recognize that I was placed in a very difficult position. Jerusalem was crowded with thousands of Jews who had come up to the passover feast. The Jews are notorious for their rebellious spirit and hatred of the Roman rule. There I was in that great city, with only a small company of soldiers, under the necessity of preserving the peace and preventing riot or bloodshed. One misstep on that Friday when there was such tense feeling among the crowds in Jerusalem, and there would have been trouble. When I was called to the courtroom that morning there was a dangerous spirit abroad. I could feel it. I recognized at once that Jesus was innocent and that the Jews had no just claims against Him. But to release Him would have set off the biggest riot that Jerusalem had ever seen. Without doubt Jesus and thousands of others would have been killed in the upheaval. So in order to preserve peace, I felt it expedient to sacrifice the one Man rather than give the city over to bloodshed. It would not have saved Him to release Him, but I did save Jerusalem from a revolution by condemning Him. As He had already been condemned by the Jewish courts, and they were demanding His crucifixion, I felt justified under the circumstances in letting them have their way.

**Judge:** And now, Judas, what is your answer? Are you guilty of the blood of Jesus, your Master?

**Judas:** No! No! It was farthest from my plans that He should be crucified. I was one of His disciples. I loved Him, but it seemed that He was rather slow in claiming the kingdom that He had come to establish. All of us who were closest to Him felt that the time had come for Him to be proclaimed king. But He constantly discouraged any such plan. I felt that it was because He was too modest, and that all He needed was an opportunity to show His power before the Jewish Sanhedrin, or possibly before the Roman court, and He would then declare His Messiahship, overthrow our oppressors, re-establish the Jewish kingdom, and take the throne. So I decided to put it to the test and give Him the opportunity. I knew He had the power, for I had seen wonderful manifestations of it on many occasions. So I arranged with the Jewish priests to reveal to them His place of retreat on Thursday night. When they arrested Him in the garden, and when they took Him from one court to another, and He did not strike them down as I expected, I was bitterly disappointed. I had expected that through my plan He would be brought to the kingdom, not to the cross. No, I am not guilty of crucifying the Christ.

*(Song or musical item while Jury leaves the room, then returns.)*

### THE JURY'S VERDICT

*(May be given by different members of the Jury.)*

**Judge:** We have heard the defence of the accused. They have all pleaded "Not guilty." Each one has refused to accept responsibility for the murder of the Christ. As we have listened to their defence, what do we conclude? Were those directly responsible for His death worse criminals than others of their time? Let us hear the verdict of the Jury.

**Jury (1):** The fault of the Jewish priests was religious blindness and bigotry, a sin that has been repeated down through the ages a thousand times by both priests and laymen.

**Jury (2):** The mob, spurred on under the impulse of mass excitement, lost their balance for a time. They were blinded by passion and the hope of marching again under their rebel leader to overthrow the Romans. But hundreds of times during the centuries crowds of men have thrust reason aside, and under the impulse of the moment have fought for some supposed material advantage through mob violence, with the loss of all sense and reason.

**Jury (3):** The soldiers thrust conscience aside. They were afraid of losing their jobs—yes, even their lives. So without protest they obeyed their officers, even going so far as to nail an innocent man to the cross. But tens of thousands of soldiers in every land have done the same. Seldom indeed will a soldier conscientiously follow his own convictions of right or wrong when they conflict with assigned duties, and he knows it would mean persecution and death.

**Jury (4):** Pilate failed because of his own weakness. He put expedience before integrity, and thus proved himself to be an unjust judge. But there have been hundreds of rulers and other lesser officers who have been as weak as he, and who have failed to administer justice even when they knew it to be their duty.

**Jury (5):** Judas was blinded by his love of money and his ambition for a high place in the kingdom. His cleverly laid plan failed, and left him a traitor instead of a patriot. But thousands of other traitors have betrayed their king and country for money or position, and some have been counted heroes for so doing.

**Judge:** The fact remains that Christ was crucified, and that His death was a travesty of justice and without doubt the greatest and most tragic wrong in the world's history. We have found that several hundred people shared the guilt in sending Him to the cross, but that none of them was a greater sinner than thousands of others who have been guilty of similar offences.

This brings us to the overwhelming fact that it was *sin*—not only the sins of the few who compassed His death, but the sins of tens of millions of others as guilty as they were—that sent our Lord to the cross. The

guilt of the Jewish priests, the mob, the soldiers, Pilate, and Judas is shared by everyone who has a stain of sin upon his garments, or who has shared their spirit in any way.

Those who mocked Him, scourged Him, crowned Him with thorns, and drove the cruel nails through His hands, were the representatives of humanity who, under the instigation of Satan, heaped upon our Lord the awful penalty of sin—of our sins. The wicked men who sent Him to the cross cannot of course be cleared of their guilt, but they were probably not greater sinners than millions of others whose sin just as truly as theirs condemned the Lord of glory to die for the sins of all the world.

So we have found an answer to our question, "Who crucified the Christ?" We must plead guilty. He bore *our* sins upon the tree. It was *our* transgressions that crucified our Lord and "put Him to open shame."

### THE PENALTY PAID

In humiliation and sorrow we acknowledge our guilt, and as we now see the Saviour hanging on the tree, we learn anew the wonderful lesson that because it was our sins that sent Him to the cross, it was our sins that He bore when He hung there. By His death He paid the penalty of sin and became our Saviour.

Oh, wonderful indeed is such love! It was the love of Christ for us that made Him willing to bear our sins, that He might forgive us the very sins that nailed Him there. Wonderful love! It is too deep for mortal mind to comprehend, but as we think of it, the mystery of the plan of salvation begins to unfold, and the goodness and love of our Saviour lead us to repentance. We cannot understand it fully here, but in the glad hereafter, when we see Him face to face, and behold the nailprints in His hands, then we shall understand the wonderful love of Christ who was willing to bear our sins on Calvary's cross in order that He might give us eternal life.—Adapted from *Youth's Instructor*.

## Be Ye Temperate

### Bible Study: A CLEAN LIFE

1. WHERE does God desire to dwell? 2 Cor. 6: 16; 1 Cor. 6: 19, 20.
2. What reasonable thing does God ask of us that He may dwell in us? Rom. 12: 1.
3. In what special condition must the body be presented? 1 Cor. 9: 25, 27 (under control); 3 John 2 (in health).
4. What is the result of violating these principles? 1 Cor. 3: 17.
5. Temperance is one of the foundation steps in Peter's ladder of Christian growth. 2 Peter 1: 5-7.
6. Does the Bible give any definite instruction on temperance?
  - a. Eating and drinking. 1 Cor. 10: 31.
  - b. Strong drink. Prov. 20: 1.
  - c. Wine is a poison. Deut. 32: 33.
  - d. Control of appetite. Prov. 23: 1-3.
  - e. Cause of physical and mental trouble. Prov. 23: 29-32.
  - f. Strong drink beclouds the mind, perverts the judgment. Prov. 31: 4, 5.

### ABOUT ALCOHOL

#### Medical Men:

"No other poison causes so many deaths, or leads to or intensifies so many diseases, both physical and mental, as does alcohol in the various forms in which it is taken."—Dr. Emil Bogen, *dianostician*.

"It is dangerous to play with a habit-forming poison or narcotic such as alcohol. Alcohol depresses the critical and most sensitive faculties of the brain. Alcohol disturbs normal motor control. Alcohol affects memory and learning. Alcohol is a direct and principal cause of several types of mental disease."—Dr. A. C. Ivey, *Department of Physiology and Pharmacology*.

"In order that your brain may be kept clear you must keep your body fit and well. That cannot be done if you take liquor."—Dr. Charles Mayo.

"From a purely physiological standpoint there is no defence for alcohol. It is a poison, and any pleasure obtained from it is short-lived and paid for heavily."—Dr. W. A. Osborne, *professor of physiology*.



**Athletes:**

"I wouldn't bother with a youngster who drinks. . . . Alcohol is a preventive of the clean living and quick thinking which lead to success."—*Connie Mack.*

"In playing tennis one glass of beer or one cocktail is enough to impair co-ordination and balance. The precision that tennis demands makes necessary total abstinence even from beer."—*Helen Wills Moody.*

"A player should abstain absolutely from poisons such as alcohol."—*Knut Rockne.*

**Story: ONLY A COCKTAIL**

A good-natured argument was in progress, but all the participants were very much in earnest. "I have a perfect right," the young man insisted, "to take a drink now and then if I wish. As a matter of fact, I very seldom do, but I certainly resent anyone's claiming the right to tell me I shouldn't. It's strictly my own business! Of course," he added, "anybody is a fool to get drunk, but a cocktail or two doesn't affect you one way or another."

"Those are exactly my sentiments," the girl agreed, with a toss of her auburn curls. "Personally, I don't care for liquor in any form, but what right have I to dictate to other people about what they should drink—or not drink? And as Bill says, a cocktail is merely a social gesture. It doesn't do anybody any harm."

The older man shook his head soberly. "I don't agree," he said. "For when the doing of something makes one socially, morally, and physically dangerous, his acts cease to be his 'own business' exclusively, and become the concern of the neighbourhood, the community, the nation—yes, and of the world. Suppose I give a concrete illustration of what I mean."

"It was a private musicale held in a prominent home in this very city, to which I was invited. I went because the host and hostess are old friends, and because I love music. Before the programme began, punch was passed. I took none—I could tell by the smell it was no drink for a teetotaler—but most of those present drank one—two—or several cups. But apparently no one was the least bit drunk. No one acted foolishly, or reeled, or staggered, or was unsteady in moving about. No one's tongue was thick, so far as I could see. Indeed, it was all apparently very pleasant and harmless. For the moment the argument seemed all in favour of 'the social glass that cheers, but does not intoxicate.'"

"After cocktails, we talked a little, and then the performers were called upon for entertainment. They were all amateurs, but particularly gifted amateurs and friends of the host and hostess. First there was a beautiful symphonic trio; then a girl sang; then a young man stood up to play a violin solo. That he was very nervous was plainly evident. He made a bad start which the accompanist tried to cover. Then he made another and another, and still another. Then he stopped. His face was deeply flushed with humiliation. 'I'm sorry,' he said. 'I'm terribly sorry. I shouldn't have taken anything to drink when I was going to play. It affects my muscular control. I just can't play. You'll have to excuse me.' And looking very much distressed, he sat down."

"The next number was a 'cello solo. That went off nicely. Then the crowning event of the evening was announced—a series of piano solos by a brilliant and talented girl of twenty who was just ready to go abroad for further study. I saw as soon as she came forward that she was white and quivering. She announced her first number in a voice that trembled—the difficult 'Liebestraum' by Liszt. Her touch seemed uncertain, but she did well enough until she came to that part along toward the middle where the music grows very complicated—cadenzas in double thirds that must be played very swiftly. Then she stumbled, tried to go on, and—smashed up! She got to her feet and the tears were rolling down her cheeks. 'I, too, shouldn't have drunk that punch,' she said. 'My fingers won't handle that passage. I'm sorry. I hope you'll give me another chance some other evening'—and she stumbled back to her seat, sobbing."

"Well," remarked the young man speculatively, "I don't see what this story has to do with the point we are discussing. Of course the two performers were fools to get them-

selves into such a fix, but still it was their own business—wasn't it?"

"And what right had anybody to say they ought not to drink that punch, to try to stop them?" queried the girl.

"The sequel to my story answers your questions," said the older man. "Both of them—the young man who couldn't play the violin because he had lost muscular control, and the young woman whose unsteady fingers refused to do her bidding—got into their respective cars, took the wheels, and drove home."

And neither the young man nor the girl had another word to say! Have you?

**FACTS ABOUT CIGARETTES**

1. The medical examiner of the United States navy says that one-half of the applicants to the navy are rejected because of weak hearts due to the use of tobacco.

2. Tobacco in any form is bad, but in a cigarette there are five poisons. There is the oil in the paper, the oil in nicotine, saltpetre to preserve the tobacco, opium to make it mild, and the oil in the flavouring.—*Professor Latlin.*

3. The cigarette is made, in most cases, of drugged tobacco. Opium is the chief drug used, a fact testified to by all who investigate.

4. "Tobacco is a slow, insidious, but most malignant poison. In whatever form it is used, it tells upon the constitution; it is all the more dangerous because its effects are slow, and at first hardly perceptible. It excites and then paralyzes the nerves. It weakens and clouds the brain. Often it affects the nerves in a more powerful manner than does intoxicating drink. It is more subtle, and its effects are difficult to eradicate from the system. Its use excites a thirst for strong drink, and in many cases lays the foundation for the liquor habit."

**Poem: CIGARETTE TO A PRETTY GIRL**

I'm just a friendly cigarette—  
Don't be afraid of me!  
Why, all the advertisers say  
I'm as harmless as can be.  
They tell you that I'm your "best friend,"  
(I like that cunning lie.)  
And say you'll "walk a mile" for me,  
Because I "satisfy."

So come on, girlie, be a sport;  
Why longer hesitate?  
With me between your pretty lips  
You'll be quite up to date.  
You may not like me right at first,  
But very soon, my pet,  
You'll find you just can't get along  
Without a cigarette.

You've smoked one packet, so I know  
I've nothing now to fear;  
When once I get a grip on girls  
They're mine for life, my dear.  
Your freedom you began to lose  
The very day we met,  
When I convinced you it was smart  
To smoke a cigarette.

The colour's fading from your cheeks;  
Your finger-tips are stained;  
And now you'd like to give me up,  
But, sister, you are chained.  
You even took a drink last night!  
I thought you would ere long,  
For those whom I enslave soon lose  
Their sense of right and wrong.

Year after year I've fettered you,  
And led you blindly on  
Till now you're just a bunch of nerves,  
With looks and health both gone.  
You're pale and thin, and have a cough—  
The doctor says, "T. B."  
He says you can't expect to live  
Much longer, thanks to me.

But it's too late to worry now;  
When you became my slave  
You should have known the chances were  
You'd fill an early grave.  
And now that I have done my part  
To send your soul to hell,  
I'll leave you with my partner, Death—  
He'll come for you! Farewell!

—*Elizabeth Hassel in The Repairer.*

(See Junior Programme for story, "Temperance Wins the Day!")

**Conclusion**

We have touched upon the big phases of intemperance. However, there are today more ways than ever before to defile the temple of God. The mind may be defiled by pernicious literature, which is flooding the world, by jazzy music so common today, and by obscene movies. Both body and mind may be ruined by indulging in the many pleasures that excite the nervous system, such as dancing, card-playing, speeding, and even following the dictates of fashion.

(Read "Messages to Young People," page 243.)

**Christ's Ministry for Us**

ALFRED W. PETERSON

**Note to Leaders**

USE the material for this programme as a background for a consecration service at the close. Assign the parts far enough ahead so that the material can be thoroughly mastered and given in a brisk, concise manner.

**SYMPOSIUM**

Engage as many members in the presentation of the topics today as possible. Let every part be made to serve in making the Mediator real.

**Bible Study: The Time and Place of Christ's Ministry for Us**

(Have some member work up a clear but brief Bible study, with perhaps a bit of coaching from someone of more experience.)

1. Prove that the judgment began in 1844. Dan. 8:14. Draw a chart of the prophetic period.

2. Prove that the sanctuary to be cleansed is the heavenly sanctuary. Heb. 8:1, 2; 9:11.

**Six Two-Minute Talks: The Scene of His Present Ministry for Us**

1. Describe the majestic scene when the investigative judgment began. Dan. 7:9, 10.

2. Describe the Judge. Dan. 7:9; Rev. 4:2, 3; Eze. 1:26-28.

3. Describe the court attendants. Dan. 7:10; Rev. 5:11; 4:4.

4. Describe the Advocate. Dan. 7:13; Rev. 5:6; 1:13-18.

5. Tell about the court records. Dan. 7:10, last clause.

a. The record of sins. G.C. 481, 482.

b. The book of life. G.C. 480, 481, 483, 484.

c. The book of remembrance. G.C. 481.

d. The book of the law. James 2:8-12; C.O.L. 314; G.C. 482.

6. Identify the person at the judgment bar.

You and I are the persons standing before the Judge of all the earth. "So in the great day of final atonement and investigative judgment, the only cases considered are those of the professed people of God." ("Great Controversy," page 480.) Our lives pass in solemn review before this Judge, and at that time we need to have imputed unto us the righteousness of Christ. "All who have truly repented of sin, and by faith claimed the blood of Christ as their atoning sacrifice, have had pardon entered against their names in the books of heaven." (Id., page 483.) Jesus pleads His blood before the Father. Heb. 9:14, 15; "Early Writings," page 38.

**Poem: CROWN OR CRUCIFY**

I stood alone at the bar of God,  
In the hush of the twilight dim,  
And faced the question that pierced my heart:  
"What will you do with Him?"  
"Crowned or crucified—which shall it be?"  
No other choice was offered me.

I looked on the face so marred with tears  
That were shed in His agony.  
The look in His kind eyes broke my heart—  
'Twas full of love for me.  
"The crown or the cross," it seemed to say;  
"For or against Me—choose thou today."

He held out His loving hands to me,  
While He pleadingly said, "Obey.  
Make Me thy choice, for I love thee so,"  
And I could not say Him nay.  
Crowned, not crucified—this must it be;  
No other way was open to me.



I knelt in tears at the feet of Christ,  
In the hush of the twilight dim,  
And all that I was, or hoped, or thought,  
Surrendered unto Him.  
Crowned, not crucified—my heart shall know  
No king but Christ, who loveth me so.  
—*Florence E. Johnson.*

**Suggestive Special Item: "Christ in Song,"  
No. 172**

### Talk: OUR MEDIATOR

1. Christ is our Advocate, and stands before the great Judge to plead our cases. Dan. 7: 13; Heb. 9: 24; 8: 1, 2; 1 John 2: 1; G.C. 480.
2. Christ is qualified to act as our Advocate and to plead our cases because—
  - a. He took our nature and He understands our problems. Heb. 2: 16-18; 5: 1, 2; D.A. 23, 24.
  - b. He was tempted like as we are tempted. Heb. 4: 14-16.
  - c. He loved us enough to die for us. Rom. 5: 8; John 15: 13; 2 Cor. 5: 21; Gal. 3: 13.
  - d. There is nothing between Him and the Judge to prejudice His plea. Heb. 5: 8-10; 2 Cor. 5: 19, 21.
  - e. He is vested with a power which makes it possible for us to triumph through His grace. Matt. 28: 18; 2 Cor. 5: 14; 2 Peter 2: 9.
3. If we come to Him and are obedient to His Word, we may know with certainty that our cases are in the hands of this faultless Mediator, because—
  - a. He now lives to make intercession for us. Heb. 7: 25.
  - b. He is our Advocate if we sin. 1 John 2: 1; 1 Tim. 2: 5.
  - c. We have faith in His ministry for us. Heb. 10: 35, 38.
  - d. He is no respecter of persons. Rom. 2: 11; 10: 11-13.
  - e. We confess our sins. 1 John 1: 9.
  - f. We confess Christ before men. Matt. 10: 32.
  - g. He is eager to forgive us. Rom. 8: 32-34.
  - h. We are justified by His grace. Titus 3: 5-7.
4. Memorize and repeat together: "He thinks of us individually, and knows our every necessity. When tempted, just say, He cares for me, He makes intercession for me, He loves me, He has died for me. I will give myself unreservedly to Him."  
—*"Testimonies to Ministers," page 391.*

## JUNIOR M.V. DEPARTMENT

### A J.M.V. Says "No"

(Suggestive Hymns: Nos. 131 and 127,  
"M.V. Songs.")

#### Note to Leaders

As Seventh-day Adventists we stand in the front ranks of the temperance army. Have seven Juniors learn and repeat the following texts: 2 Peter 1: 5, 6 (Temperance, a step in the Christian's ladder); 1 Cor. 10: 31 (Eat and drink to God's glory); Prov. 20: 1 (Strong drink); Deut. 32: 33 (Poison); Prov. 23: 29 (Question); Prov. 23: 30 (Answer); Prov. 23: 31, 32 (Warning).

#### Reading: THE TREE AND THE BOY

Last year there stood in my yard a valuable young tree. It was straight, healthy, full of beautiful green leaves, and everyone delighted to look at it. It bade fair to become a strong, useful tree.

This year the same tree is in the same place, but it looks not at all as it once did. It is bare, brown, withered, and seems ready to die.

My friends look at it and say, "What a pity! What ails it?"

I reply, "An enemy has been at work about its roots, and it is dying."

Last year I noticed with pleasure a handsome youth who often passed my home. He was tall, strong, bright-eyed; with a good, clear complexion, a frank, happy manner, he was very attractive to look upon. He bade fair to become a noble, useful man, such as the world needs, and his friends regarded him

with pride, and entertained high hopes for his future.

This year I see the same youth often, but he is as changed as the poor withered tree in my yard. Friends look at him and say, "How changed! What a pity! What ails him?"

I will tell you. Enemies have been at work—idle, evil-minded companions; cigarettes, cigars, tobacco; beer, wine, perhaps even stronger drinks; profane words; bad books; unclean pictures; unclean thoughts—all these have been at play upon this young man, and the result is a blighted character, a diseased body, and a weakened mind. Yes, such ruin is a very great pity.

But if the young man had made up his mind and stuck to it—as boys can—that he would have nothing to do with evil associates, that he would not poison his body with drink and tobacco, and his mind with impure books and pictures—in short, had he resolved that he would keep his soul and body clean and pure, he might now be a stalwart, manly man, instead of the wreck he is.

It is a pity that the young tree is dying. It is a thousand times a greater pity the young man is dying, yes, a slow physical and moral death.

Boys, look out for the enemies. Give them no chance to ruin your soul and body.

—*Mrs. M. B. Platt.*

### CALLING THE ROLL

*Herbert Hoover:* "There is no agency in the world that is so seriously affecting the health, efficiency, education, and character of boys and girls as the cigarette habit. Cigarettes are a source of crime. Nearly every delinquent boy is a cigarette smoker."

*Dr. D. H. Kress:* "It is bad enough for grown men to smoke. They cannot do so without sustaining an injury. But the boy who becomes addicted to the cigarette is injured to a much greater extent. During the years before full physical and mental maturity has arrived, the poisons of tobacco do irreparable damage. They dull the mind and stunt the growth of the boy and girl addicts."

*Charles Paddock:* "No boy can become a star athlete and use tobacco in any form, because it cuts his wind and affects his heart."

### Story: TEMPERANCE WINS THE DAY

It was nearing the end of the summer vacation, and Edward Drury and Carl Paulson were happy that soon they would be turning their faces toward school again. The past three months had been spent colporteur-ing in the mountains of southern Idaho, and that's where mountains are mountains! They rode their bicycles over the high mountain passes, along the tumbling, rushing rivers, and through the grassy meadows. The towns up there are small. Ofttimes it is ten or fifteen miles between houses; so they rode literally thousands of miles in those three months, seeking out those who were interested in buying message-filled books. Consequently their legs, their lungs, and their hearts were tested every day, and they developed much strength and endurance.

One day, as they stopped for a few minutes in one little town, they noted a placard in a store window which announced a bicycle relay race the next Sunday. The race was to be between this town and another eighteen miles away, and return. The thing that attracted them was the line in big type, "First Prize, One Hundred Dollars." Although they had done fairly well selling books, yet one hundred dollars cash sounded good, and particularly so since both boys had to rely on themselves financially to get through school.

They made inquiries about the race, and were told that already sixteen teams of two men each had signed up for the event. The man to whom they were talking said that each team had to have a sponsor from among the merchants and businessmen, and that the entrance fee was five dollars. He also told them that several of the teams entered in the race were professional bicycle riders, and that one team from California was especially good, and would win the race "in a walk." Despite all this discouraging talk, the boys decided to enter the race if they could find a sponsor to put up the five dollars. They discovered that all the reputable business places had their teams already, and the only ones left were those who sold beer. They said, "No, we will drop out of the race rather than have anyone sponsor us who has anything to do with beer."

Just before the race was to start, a team sponsored by a chemist cancelled their entry. He heard of the boys who wanted to ride, and sent word that he would sponsor them. The boys decided that Carl was to ride the first eighteen miles, and Edward was to ride the return trip. Most of the eighteen miles Carl was to ride was uphill on a winding road practically all the way. As he rode up to the starting line, he found several of the racers drinking beer and having a last smoke. He courteously refused both, relying for strength upon the Grapenuts and milk he and Ed had had for breakfast five hours before.

After the gun sounded, Carl soon forged into the lead, and his bicycle was in front all the way to Bellevue. He did his best work on the steepest grades, and when he came spurting up to the finishing line, the other riders weren't even in sight. This gave Ed a good start on the return trip. He made the race downhill in record time, and won the contest easily, with time and energy to spare. The two boys had done the thirty-six miles in ninety-five minutes! Several of the other entrants did not finish at all. Some, totally exhausted, had to be hauled back in cars; one fainted at the finishing line.

The race officials were at the finishing line to hand Ed and Carl fifty dollars each. The chemist was so happy about their winning that he gave each of the boys ten dollars more, and all the milkshakes they could drink—three big ones apiece. The coloured boy who runs the shoeshine stand in the town was so excited over the results that he took the boys over to his stand and shined their shoes free!

So the boys who did not drink beer or smoke cigarettes went back to school with sixty dollars each in their pockets, three milkshakes in their stomachs, and newly shined shoes on their feet!

### Closing Remarks

You can see, boys and girls, that if you would be strong, healthy young men and women, the best way is to have nothing whatever to do with cigarettes or alcohol in any shape or form. Will you not determine right now to touch not, taste not, handle not these harmful things?

## Life Lessons from a Postage Stamp

C. H. LAUDA

### Note to Leaders

THE Juniors should be truly interested in this service, for every day they see stamps—penny stamps, twopenny stamps, fivepenny stamps, and even stamps of higher denominations, and foreign stamps, too. It would be interesting for you as leaders to have samples of these different stamps to call to the Juniors' attention. All of the stamps can give to the Juniors life lessons.

### Symposium: TEN LIFE LESSONS

Give each one of ten Juniors one of the life lessons. We have combined in each lesson the physical and the spiritual lesson. It would be well for each one to have a stamped envelope which has come to his address. Note especially No. 9. You will want to have a stamped envelope with the address changed a time or two, which will help to illustrate this lesson.

At the close of the symposium, invite the Junior boys and girls to accept God's challenge. Relate the story of Paul's life. Tell how he suffered all kinds of trials and hardships, but how he was faithful through them all. Repeat what he said at the close of his life. 2 Tim. 4: 7, 8. Then make the appeal to the boys and girls who are willing to be like Paul and be a true stamp for Jesus, to stand. Should time permit, have a brief testimony meeting.

Tell the Juniors about the requirements for the Vocational Honour in Philately—stamp collecting. (See pages 132, 133 in "Junior Handbook.") It would be of interest to have someone's stamp collection at this meeting for display.

### Lesson 1

Here is a letter with a 2d. stamp on it. This stamp is only paper. Why, it is not even worth one-fourth of a penny in itself, but by the imprint of the government it



becomes valuable. It is worth enough money to take it to its destination here in Australasia, as well as to some foreign countries. You could stick all kinds of paper on this letter and it would never be of value, for it takes a special kind of paper with the imprint of the government to make it valuable and of use in carrying a letter.

Just so it is with one who wants to be one of Christ's stamps. We are of no value in ourselves unless we have the divine imprint of Jesus on our faces. Gal. 2:20 gives us this wonderful thought. (Read.)

#### Lesson 2

The task assigned to this stamp was to take this letter to the person it was intended for. The stamp goes about this task cheerfully. It doesn't complain because it has a long, long way to go; but it goes right about its work.

We, as Christ's stamps, should do our work well and cheerfully. We shouldn't complain and fret and fuss and say we wish someone else would do His work so that we wouldn't have to. We should smile and go about our task full of joy and happiness, knowing that Jesus is pleased when we do the task He bids us do.

#### Lesson 3

This stamp was bought from our government. It cost twopence, and the stamp did all it was expected to do. The sender of this letter brought the stamp, and he placed it on this letter and expected it to carry this letter to me. The stamp did just that. Repeat John 3:16. Yes, God, through His Son, Jesus Christ, has bought you and me. We are His. We do not belong to ourselves, for He paid the price for us, so we are His. Do we do all He expects of us? We should, if we are going to be His stamps. 1 Cor. 6:19, 20. (Read.)

#### Lesson 4

The message that this stamp carried was a good message. Other stamps have the task of carrying all kinds of messages—some of joy, some of love, and some of sorrow and trial. Sometimes it is just an invitation to some programme or gathering. It may be a business message. It makes no difference what the message is, though, the stamp carries it.

As Christ's stamps we have a very great message to carry. It is one of hope and pardon to people who are sick in sin, and, dying because of their sins. The message Christ's stamps are to deliver is found in Matt. 28:19, 20. (Read.)

"Everyone who is added to the ranks by conversion is to be assigned his post of duty. Everyone should be willing to be or to do anything in this warfare."—"Testimonies," Vol. VII, page 30.

Junior Missionary Volunteers, this is God's command through the Spirit of prophecy: "Let young men, and women, and children go to work in the name of Jesus. Let them unite together upon some plan and order of action. Cannot you form a band of workers, and have set times to pray together and ask the Lord to give you His grace, and put forth united action?"—"Messages to Young People," page 107.

#### Lesson 5

This stamp has a very good trait. It never gives up no matter how much it is licked or pounded. The harder you pound it, the harder it sticks.

It is just that way with one who is Christ's stamp. If people make fun of him, if temptations and hardships come, it only makes him stick closer to Jesus. Christ's stamp doesn't give up because the tasks are hard, but he works all the harder and sticks all the closer.

#### Lesson 6

This stamp never fights back. When this letter was taken by the postmaster to the post office, there the men in the office pushed this letter and stamp through a cancelling machine. This machine slapped it across the face and marked its face a number of times, as you see, but this stamp didn't strike back—no, but it went right on doing its work.

Junior boys and girls, we could save a lot of trouble and heartache if we would be just like this stamp and never strike back when people are mean and cross us.

To be one of Christ's stamps, we are to take Him as our example. Isaiah 53:7 tells us that Jesus never fought back. (Read.)

#### Lesson 7

This stamp belongs to the club known as M.Y.O.B. That means "Mind Your Own Business." This stamp was so busy with its work, minding its own business, that it had no time to get into other people's business. A friend of mine once lived in a small town where everybody seemed to know everybody's business. A woman once jokingly said to him while he was living there, "It is not necessary for a person to attend to his own business here. There are so many persons who will attend to it for him." Now, the stamp tends to its own business, and so should you and I.

Christ's stamps are so busy attending to their own business that they have no time to trouble other people. In "Testimonies," Volume 2, page 466, we read: "Gossipers and news-carriers are a terrible curse to neighborhoods and churches."

As Christ's stamps we are to tell others about His great love, and thus we are keepers of a great vineyard. Wouldn't it be terrible if we were busy trying to tell other people about Jesus, and then didn't know Him ourselves? First of all, we should know Him and love Him, and then we are able to tell others of His love.

#### Lesson 8

One good thing about this stamp is you can tell by its face what it is. You can tell just how much it is worth. This stamp is worth twopence. That is its value. You can see it in its face. It is that way with you and me, too. Yes, like this postage stamp, people can tell just how much we are worth by looking in our faces.

#### It's in Your Face

"You don't have to tell how you live each day; You don't have to say if you work or play; A tried, true barometer serves in the place—However you live, it will show in your face."

"The false, the deceit, that you bear in your heart Will not stay inside where it first got a start; For sinew and blood are a thin veil of lace—What you wear in your heart, you wear in your face."

"If your life is unselfish, if for others you live, For not what you get, but how much you can give; If you live close to God in His infinite grace—You don't have to tell it, it shows in your face."

People will be able to tell whether you and I are Christ's stamps by looking at our faces. They watch our actions, they listen to our words, so we are just like the postage stamp. One can tell just how much we are worth and just how much we are like Christ by looking in our faces.

#### Lesson 9

This stamp doesn't know what discouragement is. No, sir! Just look. The address has been changed twice. First of all this stamp took its message to 23 North Road, Roseville, N.S.W., but the woman who was supposed to get this letter had moved, and so someone crossed out the address and marked all over the envelope, putting on the new address, 10 Waine Street, Newcastle, N.S.W. The stamp wasn't discouraged, though. It took the message right on its way across the country, over one hundred miles to Newcastle. On arriving there, the lady had moved elsewhere, so someone crossed out the address and placed another address on the envelope. The stamp didn't become discouraged, though, but it went ahead taking the letter to the one who was supposed to get the message.

Those who are Christ's stamps should never get discouraged no matter how many times they have to try again. (Read Gal. 6:9.)

Our place, our work, our success may change, but we as Christian stamps should never be discouraged. We should never give up, but go right ahead with our work.

#### Lesson 10

The last great lesson that the stamp gives us is that it never gives up until it is dead. It keeps trying and trying to do its duty, to take its message to the person who should receive it. If it tries, and tries, and then cannot find the person, the postman sends it to the dead-letter office, where it dies. It has done its best, though. It kept trying to the end.

God expects you and me as His stamps to keep trying no matter how hard the task is, no matter who tries to stop us in delivering our message of Jesus' soon coming to others. We must be faithful to our daily task as were Joseph, Daniel, Queen Esther, and many, many others. Rev. 2:10 states, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." This is a wonderful reward offered to Christ's stamp. A crown of life! Everlasting life! We receive a much better reward than the regular letter stamp gets, for when it dies, it dies; but if we are faithful and if we have clean words, and clean thoughts, and live and work for Jesus, then we shall be given a crown of life which lasts for ever.

## Sabbath School Mission News

### Thirteenth Sabbath Objective

DURING this quarter the attention of our believers is to be directed to the Solomon Islands. An amount of £1,200 is to be raised in support of the TRAINING SCHOOL AND DISTRICT SCHOOL WORK, and an OVERFLOW of £300 FOR ADVANCEMENT INTO NEW TERRITORIES.

### Superintendents' Corner

#### Extracts from "Counsels on Sabbath School Work"

"The student of the Sabbath school should feel as thoroughly in earnest to become intelligent in the knowledge of the Scriptures as to excel in the study of the sciences. If either is neglected, it should be the lessons of the six days."

"The offering from the heart that loves, God delights to honour, giving it highest efficiency in service for Him. If we have given our hearts to Jesus, we also shall bring our gifts to Him."

"No offering is small that is given with true-heartedness and gladness of soul."—"Christ's Object Lessons," page 359.

"We should ever be guarded against forms and ceremonies which will eclipse the real object for which we are labouring."

"The beauty and success of the school are in its simplicity and earnestness in serving God."

October 4

### Our Educational Work in the Solomon Islands

D. C. GOULTON

OUR educational work in this group is divided into three phases. There are nearly 100 village schools scattered throughout the field. From these the European District Director selects a number each year to attend his district school situated at his mission headquarters.

From there, after a period of two or three years, a large percentage come to Batuna Training School, here to train to work efficiently for God. Batuna offers a four-year course, including an exhaustive study of our doctrines and beliefs, together with detailed instruction and practical training in teaching and preaching. At the conclusion of this course, many are sent out as teachers and missionaries, some enter the industrial departments of our work, or sign on as members of the crews of our mission ships, while a third



class return to their villages, where, firmly entrenched in a knowledge of present truth, they help to hold the standard high amongst their own people.

This represents a real need. As the gospel has become firmly established in a district, and the years have passed, a new generation has arisen. These young people have no memory of the old heathen days to remind them that they are happier as Christians. They need a definite experience in the Christian life to hold them fast. As educators, it is these young people who concern us today. True, they have consecrated teachers to lead them. These teachers seek to win and sustain their interest through the church school. But it is often a heart-breaking task, as some of them have told me, when all the school materials they have consist of a piece of blackboard, a few slates, their Marovo lesson pamphlet, and the English Bible.

Here is one of our greatest needs. It is with gratitude that we record the fact that the New Testament has been translated into the Marovo language, and that the Signs Publishing Company has recently completed the first edition. When we can place copies of this New Testament in every village, it will be of inestimable worth.

As the youth progress through their district school, and their eyes are directed to Batuna Training School, we seek to impress them with the need for further Christian education in order to be able to discharge efficiently their God-given responsibility for the needy hearts of their people.

At the end of last year we felt thrilled to realize that from our ranks at the Batuna School, eight young men and one young woman had been called to the organized work. The men received appointments as teachers and missionaries in Guadalcanal, Malaita, Choiseul, Vella la Vella, and the Marovo Lagoon, while Ruth has taken up the position of preceptress at Mr. Howse's district school in Choiseul. Since then another young man has been asked to travel with Pastor Jugha in Ysabel as translator and interpreter, as he pioneers the work in that comparatively new field. May God bless them as they commence their work for Him!

It is your privilege and ours to make it possible, under God, for consecrated young men and women like these to be sent out to their people, bearing the message which we all know and love. Will you give us a place in your hearts as you do your part Sabbath by Sabbath? Will you remember us in your prayers, as we seek humbly to lead out this year, as others endeavour to prepare to accept the challenge given nearly two thousand years ago—"Go ye"?

October 11

### Gitwe Workers' Sacrifice

R. L. JONES

*Director, Gitwe Mission, Africa*

(A few days after writing this article Brother Jones was attacked by a wounded buffalo, and died in the hospital at Kongolo.)

IN 1935 Pastor Daniel Kagegera and a little band of volunteers led the way in an evangelistic campaign into a new district south of Gitwe. The underchiefs there were all antagonistic to us, and our men expected trouble. The first day they visited the people and gathered them into little companies for services, but it seemed impossible to find any place of shelter among the thousands of homes there. Everywhere they met with the same stolid refusal to their request for a place to sleep. After a while they heard the reason why. The chieftains had warned the people against taking any Seventh-day Adventists into their homes. They hoped in so doing to keep us out of that country—but they did not know our men. Daniel sent word to his band to camp where night found them, and to go on preaching.

Natives in Ruanda are afraid to sleep out of doors. They even hesitate to walk around after dark. The country is too thickly populated to harbour many wild animals, but there are leopards and hyenas. For centuries the accepted way of disposing of the dead has been to throw the bodies into the haunts of hyenas. As a result, the beasts have a taste for human flesh, and often attack living people when they can be found asleep, or are unprotected. Therefore, for a Munyaruanda to sleep out of

doors means something. Daniel's band did it, though, for three nights, and the indignity and embarrassment of the ordeal was as trying as the danger. After three days, the heathen paramount chief sent word to all his chieftains to stop their opposition, and our work went forward.

The full meaning of this experience came to us the other day when we visited that district for Sabbath services. The church was located on a hill near where some of Daniel's band slept the first night. The people there had built most of the church themselves. It was neatly made of sun-dried bricks and thatched with straw. The company that gathered there for Sabbath was too large to get into the building, so we met outside. There were more than 400 at the meetings during the Sabbath we spent with them, and as we spoke to them, their faces lighted with the blessed hope. We ordained two deacons for their church, and that afternoon we held another meeting at the riverside and baptized eighteen people to add to their growing membership. One of the original band was there, and his face glowed with joy as he told his experience. God had given an abundant harvest to their first planting. In His own way He blesses sacrifices, small or great.

October 18

### Gitwe Workers' Sacrifice

(Continued)

R. L. JONES

*Director, Gitwe Mission, Africa*

ISUMAELI BUDIGI had been a very successful worker in whom we could place much trust. In one district, where several teachers had given up in discouragement, Isumaeli raised up a company of believers by hard work and prayer. But the enemy had a trial in store for him. His wife became ill and had to have an attendant constantly. Isumaeli's wages were equivalent to about 80 cents (3s. 4d.) a month, and this, of course, did not allow enough for him to hire an attendant. It was felt also that he should not be separated from his wife in her affliction, and since she must necessarily stay at home, he had to leave the work and go home and take care of her. He planned to cultivate a garden and thus care for himself and his family, but until he would have some yield from his labours, he was given a few francs to help him out.

Isumaeli had pledged to give a part of his meagre wage to help the Lord's work. Aside from regular weekly offerings, the natives will pledge a month's wages for camp-meeting, or to build a church, and they sacrifice to do it. Many of them eat one meal a day and wear old clothes, even though the stores are full of bright new ones. When Isumaeli prepared to go home, his pledge was still unpaid. Without any hesitation, he took the money that had been given to help him, and paid his pledge. I am thankful to say that his wife is now well, and Isumaeli is again working as a teacher and evangelist.

### On to Victory

BERTHA D. MARTIN

THE devil walked over the earth and back,  
And rubbed his hands in glee,  
"The people are busy with this and that,  
And most of it is for me;  
They are making shells and guns and tanks;  
And even the fields they sow  
Will yield something for the work I plan,  
As soon as the stuff will grow."

The Lord looked down from the heavenly place,  
And searched the whole world through  
For those who were working in love for Him,

And He found but very few.  
Said the Lord, "They shall labour not in vain,  
Though the earth is dark with woe;  
I will strengthen the hands of them that toil,  
I will bless the fields they sow."

Then let us away to the work with Him,  
A small but mighty band,  
And lift the light of the gospel high  
In a dark and weary land;  
Let us save and give as we never gave,  
Let us work till the work is done,  
For the Lord shall finish in victory  
The thing that He has begun.

October 25

### Opening Up Work on Ysabel, British Solomon Islands

J. T. HOWSE

FOR some years now the work on Ysabel has been progressing very slowly. An island in the north-eastern portion was leased, and different native teachers were stationed there from time to time seemingly with but little success because of relentless opposition from another mission body.

From year to year boys from Ysabel have attended the training school at Batuna only to return to their homes and go back to their old ways, no doubt as a result of persecution; but the seed sown has been gradually growing until within the last year or so there appears to be a definite awakening and thirsting after better things.

In the latter half of 1938 two more young men, Seolomaja from Choiseul and the other an Ysabel lad, were appointed to go over to Ysabel to investigate more fully the possibilities of opening up mission work in some other part of the island. For a while these two young men located on the mission lease, but later paddled by canoe a distance of over sixty miles, and finally arrived at the home village of the local lad, where Seolomaja was located when it was our privilege to visit the island in June of 1940.

Picking up some lads for school who were awaiting the opportunity to go to Batuna, we left again, promising to return in October. The visit of our little ship, the A.K. *Dadavata*, caused a stir, and opposition commenced afresh. In a letter received from Seolomaja some time ago, he told of how the local native clergyman had abused and even inflicted bodily harm to him, but through it all he was glad to endure persecution for the Master. About this time Seolomaja's helper and assistant began to weaken as a result of persecution, and we are sorry to say has proved unfaithful.

Through it all, however, the work is going ahead, and in January of this year we were able to transfer Pastor Jugha, one of our early pioneers, and his family to Ysabel to strengthen the work. As a result of the leading of God's hand, we were able to secure a lease of some land right in the place where the work is developing. Although the finalities of the lease had not been completed when we called on the District Officer, yet Jugha in his characteristic way said, "I am waiting to go ahead with the work, as I know God is leading."

Accordingly, the next morning we commenced clearing the bush preparatory to building a house. Within a week we had cleared a site, a small garden was planted, and a house was nearing completion. During the time spent there, we were interviewed by different chiefs who were anxious for their children to come to the mission. One old chief brought his son in, a lad of about fourteen, and gave him to me, saying to Jugha, "Me sorry too much you no come before. Me old man finish now." That was Thursday. Sabbath he returned to attend Sabbath school and brought his younger son of about ten, whom he wanted me to take as well; but we advised him to await the opening of the school in the near future at Duu, the new mission station. We left Pastor Jugha and Seolomaja full of courage in the Lord. The Spirit of the Lord is working in Ysabel, and this was expressed by Jugha just before we left. We brought away eleven young men for school.

Blackboards and chalk, slates and pencils are absolutely essential to the operating of a school, and these things must be provided before we can commence a school for these needy people, who although having a form of Christianity, are still in need of the power of the gospel.

### THE MISSIONARY LEADER

PUBLISHED BY THE

AUSTRALASIAN UNION CONFERENCE OF  
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

"Mizpah," Wahroonga, N.S.W., Aust.

Edited by HOME MISSIONS DEPT.

Printed for the Australasian Conf. Assn., Ltd.,  
by Signs Publishing Company, Warburton, Vic.