



THE MISSIONARY LEADER



VOLUME 37

SYDNEY, JANUARY, 1949

NUMBER 1

JANUARY 1

Your Privilege in 1949

W. H. BERGHERM

It is your privilege in 1949 to be a soul-winner. Whether you are great or small, educated or unlearned, it is still your privilege. If you are a follower of Christ, this wonderful privilege is yours by promise. You may win a soul if you will. It is possible that you may win more than one soul. But you won't win any unless you plan for it. And it is the burden of this article written on the threshold of this new year.

Yes, it is your privilege and mine in 1949 to win a soul. God forbid that any of us should permit this golden opportunity to pass by. The messenger of the Lord exclaims: "What a noble enterprise! . . . One soul to enjoy happiness and everlasting life! . . . One gem . . . to shine as a star for ever and ever! But even more than one can be brought to turn from error to truth, from sin to holiness. Says the Lord by the prophet, 'And they that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars for ever and ever.' Then those who engage with Christ and angels in the work of saving perishing souls, are richly rewarded in the kingdom of heaven."—"Testimonies," Vol. I, page 512.

May God help us to see the value He has placed on even one soul. Surely he who fully grasps the significance of the great price paid for even one soul will never pass heedlessly by this solemn call today. We are told: "One such soul saved is of more value than worlds. Gold and earthly treasure can bear no comparison to the salvation of even one poor soul."—Id., page 153.

Today the hours left us in which to labour for our lost friends and neighbours are passing. Time is almost gone. Soon the fiat will go forth, "He which is filthy, let him be filthy still; and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still." There is a story that comes to us from years gone by. It is the story of a dream in which a woman saw herself standing at heaven's gate. As the angels waited to open the gate, a voice spoke to her, "Daughter, are you alone?" "Yes," she answered, "I am alone." From the gate came the words, "We are very sorry, but none enter here alone; each one must bring someone with him!"

My brother or sister, are you alone today? If you are alone today, it is your privilege to win a soul in 1949, or if it has been your great joy to win a soul before, you may win another this year.

JANUARY 8

How Are You Registered?

H. A. L. FREEMAN

Idleness and religion do not go hand in hand; and the cause of our great deficiency in the Christian life and experience is inactivity in the work of God. The muscles of your body will become weak and useless if they are not

SUGGESTIVE TALKS FOR TEN-MINUTE EXERCISES

kept in exercise, and it is so with the spiritual nature. If you would be strong, you must exercise your powers.—"Christian Service," page 84.

One young woman in Rockhampton, Queensland, states: "I give out over two hundred *Signs of the Times* a week. It is very hard to get definite contacts in the hospital, as they are not there long enough. I give them *Voice of Prophecy News* except when I have a surplus of *Signs*. I prefer to use the *Signs* to make personal contact in the homes."

A sister in Adelaide, crippled with arthritis and confined to bed, listens to the "Daily Cheer" session that comes over the radio, and although her hands are terribly twisted, nevertheless she writes down the names and addresses of those who receive the "Cheerio" for that day. It cheers our sister's heart to send them the *Signs*.

Bent with age, but still just this side of her ninetieth year, a sister in Melbourne distributes almost one hundred *Signs* each week. "Go, labour in My vineyard," is the Master's command to each of His followers. As long as there are unconverted souls in this world, there should be the most active, earnest, zealous, determined effort for their salvation. Those who have received the light should seek to enlighten those who have it not. If the church members do not individually take hold of this work, then they show that they have no living connection with God. Their names are registered as slothful servants."—"Testimonies," Vol. V, pages 462, 463.

Friend, are you bent with age, confined to bed, or are you brimming over with youthful vigour? Whichever it be, there is a work for you to do.

JANUARY 15

Good Gifts

"EVERY good gift and every perfect gift is from above."

God has given mankind innumerable blessings in the natural world. Generally these are just taken for granted. Environment, lack of interest, indifference, cause many to ignore the importance of these gifts.

Upon the remnant church God has poured out His rich blessings. The Dorcas and Welfare Service is one of these. It is not some insignificant work that just happens to be. Adventist women today know that their diversified talents are to be used to hasten the day of the Lord. Dorcas must be supported, encouraged, and elevated. This phase of Christianity will help determine the destiny of mankind in the final judgment.

Dorcas work is comparable to many of the natural blessings. A few illustrations may

bring about a deeper appreciation of its importance.

To the naked and hungry, the relief work of Dorcas is like the sunshine.

The blankets, quilts, aprons, and dresses Dorcas makes are as practical as the blanket of snow on the wheat field, or the covercrop of clover, daisy, and buttercup, and as lovely as the stars of the summer night. All the colours of the rainbow are in her Afghans.

The intricate patterns made with thread by the nimble fingers of Dorcas, vie with the gossamer beauty of a dew-drenched spider's web and the symmetry of the snowflake.

"Go to the ant" to see how Dorcas works.

Dorcas in the sick-room is like the fragrance of a lovely garden on a spring day.

The sound of Dorcas in her workshop is like the song of the busy little mill-stream.

The potentiality of Dorcas is like the mighty Niagara. It is the dynamic force sent from God to enable His church to "arise, shine; for thy light is come."

JANUARY 22

Diamonds Across the Road

ANDREW ROEDEL

RECENTLY a man not of our faith felt a burden to do some missionary work. Seven miles from his home he found an abandoned church. Within a radius of five miles of this church he found fifty-seven children who had never attended a Bible school. He also found seventeen homes that were without a Bible, and twenty-four old people who could not get to a church. What an acre of diamonds this would be for a good Seventh-day Adventist home missionary! Each listener may have just such a diamond field right at the doorstep.

Here is room for family Bible studies. Here is room for a branch Sabbath or Sunday school. Here is room for the *Signs of the Times*, the Twentieth Century Bible Course by mail, the lending of our good books, and for all kinds of missionary literature. These silent messengers will work for us while we do other things. Let us arise and shine! God's wonderful light of truth has come to our dwellings, but many sit in darkness just across the road from us. Soon the night will come when no man can work. What then? Join the crusade to quickly finish the work today!

JANUARY 29

Are You Timid?

H. A. L. FREEMAN

LISTEN! "A small, frail-voiced, rather timid girl was on her way to work one afternoon, when a block or two from her destination she was stopped by one of the chronic drunkards of the district, who asked her for a few pence for food.

"I'm sorry, but I haven't any money; but here's something that may do you more good than money," she said, handing him two small tracts and then hurrying away. But this poor fellow wanted liquor, and he thoughtlessly stuffed the tracts into his pocket.

"Later that evening he discovered the tracts there, although he could scarcely read because his eyesight had been weakened by prolonged dissipation. Impressed and reminded by the tracts of a church not far away, he wandered into the prayer-room of the church, where he

was saved, sobered up, and transformed. His desire for liquor taken away, he was given a job; and his faithful witness and consistent life won the love and confidence of all those associated with him."

"Let the leaflets and tracts, the papers and books, go in every direction. Carry with you, wherever you go, a package of select tracts, which you can hand out as you have opportunity. Sell what you can, and lend or give them away as the case may seem to require. Important results will follow."—"Christian Service," page 151.

Tracts can witness when one is too timid to speak or unable to preach or speak himself.

years behind. While men have slept, Satan has stolen a march upon us." ("Testimonies," Vol. IX, page 29.) The hour is late. Let us redeem the time in '49!

3. A MOMENT IN THE MORNING

Let us apply our New Year's interest and enthusiasm to our Missionary Volunteer society. No matter how many times we have started to keep the Morning Watch or to read the Bible through, at this the beginning of the year we can renew our interest and determine to do just a little better than we did last time. We have the privilege of burying our failure in the dim, dusty past. We are free. The page is white. What shall we write on our page?

For one thing, can we not each one determine to observe faithfully the Morning Watch? What a world of difference it makes in the day, and throughout the year!

The secret of successful Christian living is found in prayer and Bible study. Forty years ago the plan of the Morning Watch was instituted. The Morning Watch has inspired thousands to form the prayer habit, and has aided them in becoming better qualified as soul-winners. It will do the same for you, young man, young woman. As we face the new year, let us determine to press together and be a united group of Missionary Volunteers, breaking all previous records in prayer and Bible study and ultimately in soul-winning.

4. CHARACTER CLASSICS

It is easy for us to become so familiar with treasured possessions that we handle them carelessly and fail to appreciate their value. This may even be true of the Bible and the writings of the Spirit of prophecy.

The young people's book, "Messages to Young People," says: "We should not be satisfied with a superficial knowledge, but should seek to learn the full meaning of the words of truth, to drink deep of the spirit of the Holy Oracles."—Pages 283, 284.

The Character Classics plan enables us to complete the reading of the Bible in four years. While reading the Bible, we read a corresponding volume of the Spirit of prophecy. As an example, while reading the four Gospels we shall read "The Desire of Ages." The writings of the Spirit of prophecy help us to understand the Bible. They give the setting for the Bible statements.

The year ahead is new and untried. The Bible must be our guide. Ps. 119: 105. It alone can give lasting satisfaction. Jesus said: "But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." John 4: 14.

Drink deep in '49.

January 8

VOLUNTEER NOW

THEODORE LUCAS

NOTES TO LEADERS.—A mighty wave of evangelism has been commenced among our young people in various parts of the world. In America and England it rose to great heights as a result of the Youth Congresses held there during the past fifteen months. In the Australasian field there are evidences that this wave has touched our shores also, but it has yet to reach its fullness.

We must set this mighty wave rolling still further—our young people must be engaged in an endless campaign to win their fellow youth by sharing their faith. This "Volunteer Now" programme originates for that purpose. Do your best as officers to arrange this programme in such a way that it will contribute

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENT

Officers' Notes

Membership Requirements for Senior M.V. Society

THE conditions of regular membership in a Senior M.V. society for young people aged sixteen to thirty are membership in a Seventh-day Adventist church and a willingness to engage in active service for Christ. The following is the Senior membership Pledge, which members take on joining the society:—

"Loving the Lord Jesus, I promise to take an active part in the work of the Young People's Missionary Volunteer Society, doing what I can to help others and to finish the work of the gospel in all the world."

This pledge should be featured on the occasion when membership is solicited.

In some churches there are young people with Christian ideals, who, although not church members, are interested in missionary work, and desire to help. Such young people may be accepted into the society as associate members by so stating on their application card. Associate members may not hold office, but they should be received cordially into all the society work and into its bands, and be encouraged to become regular members as soon as possible.

New Frontiers in Personal Devotion

The year 1949 pushes us nearer the invisible line of the close of probation than we have ever been before. As M.V. officers we must lead our young people into deeper experiences of prayer and Bible study. Unlimited resources of grace and power are still awaiting our demand and reception.

Morning Watch, Bible Year, Character Classics, Prayer Bands, M.V. Week—these devotional features invite you to new discoveries in spiritual dynamics. Appoint someone to keep these opportunities ever before the members. Use some method of appeal and enlistment in these devotional plans. Follow up such enlistment with encouraging experiences from time to time, which will keep each one faithful in the devotional habit.

As incentives to prayer and Bible study, there is nothing quite so effective as attempting to share one's faith. It is when we face the humanly impossible that we realize our limitations and grasp in faith for the arm of the Lord. Let us make 1949 the greatest year in Missionary Volunteer devotion.

Consecration Service

January 29—the fifth Sabbath in the month—has been left open to give you the opportunity of conducting another consecration service. Make good plans and thorough preparation for this meeting. It will help the young

people with their New Year consecration vows, and enable those who were absent at the New Year to participate in a united determination on the part of the members of your society to walk on higher ground.

January 1

DRINK DEEP IN '49

W. A. NELSON

NOTES TO LEADERS.—This is the day when Missionary Volunteer leaders the world around invite their groups to make all personal pursuits secondary to that of preparing for the coming of Jesus. The leader should make appropriate remarks on the time in which we live. Fires, accidents, and unrest all show us that we have come to the last hour.

It will be the aim during this meeting to show the individual member the need of personal help by way of Bible study and communion with God. Before we can help anyone else we ourselves must know the joy of close fellowship with God. After God speaks to our own hearts we are ready to enter successfully into the great youth-for-youth evangelistic programme.

SUPPLIES.—The leader should have a supply of Morning Watch calendars and Character Classic leaflets on hand so they can be passed out at the close of the service.

1. VERSE AND REFERENCE DRILL

Write out a number of familiar Bible verses on slips of paper, and on corresponding slips write the references. Distribute among the members. Each in turn reads a verse and the one who has the corresponding reference stands and reads from his slip of paper. For instance, if the verse read were, "The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want," the one having "Psalm 23: 1" on his slip would stand and read the reference.

2. REDEEM THE TIME—IN '49

We must make 1949 an outstanding year in soul-winning. Youth-for-youth evangelism must be the key thought for every Missionary Volunteer leader and society group. When General Booth was asked to send a cable message to his followers who were meeting in New York, he sent this word, "Others." Our Aim, "The Advent Message to All the World in This Generation," challenges all of us to enter wholeheartedly into the youth-for-youth programme.

The fact that we have not completed the giving of the gospel message is delaying the coming of Jesus. "If every soldier of Christ had done his duty, if every watchman on the walls of Zion had given the trumpet a certain sound, the world might ere this have heard the message of warning. But the work is

much toward arousing new zeal and evangelistic fervour among the young people of your society. Put forth every effort to make the programme as solemn as possible. When the share-your-faith pledge is signed, have it done in unison.

After the signing of the pledge, follows the programme which was used to close the Youth's Congress in San Francisco, that is, the Litany of Dedication to be read responsively together with the closing prayer.

1. SHARE YOUR FAITH

Our youth evangelism must be so challenging that the ordinary young person is drawn by its possibilities, and his dominating desire becomes that of sharing his faith with others. Our first great concern should be that of having young people who are so convinced that evangelism is a normal function of Christian youth that their radiant spiritual personalities will furnish the central motivating cause.

The aim of youth evangelism is to reach out and win the youth of the community. It is obvious that many of them will not respond to mere invitations to come to church. We must find them where they are.

The summons to the work of evangelism is a summons to every one of us. Evangelism is not the monopoly of preachers but the natural job of every Christian. When a young man is gripped by the knowledge that Christ is Lord, he cannot help being caught into the great company that seeks to claim the world for Christ.

In our day great stretches of business and industry and professional life have been organized without regard for the law of God. Desire for technical progress has become an end in itself. Greed for profit becomes the dominating motive. It is part of the task of evangelism to bring all life under the sway of Christ, for His Word proclaims that it is only under Him that men can have abundant life.

We live in a day when men are looking for a new faith by which to live. Mussolini in Italy and Hitler in Germany came to power with such amazing speed, not because of their greatness, but because people were hungry for an idea and a plan. Mussolini and Hitler supplied them with both. In our day men are still looking for an idea and a plan, and we must see that the youth who have it will supply it.

2. WHAT YOUTH CAN DO

- A. Youth can keep a prayer list. Prayer prepares the other person for response.
- B. Youth will try to hold the young people we have.
- C. Youth will look for other young people.
 - (a) We can look for them among our acquaintances.
 - (b) We can go over the record books of our church, our church schools, and our M.V. societies.
- D. Youth will use various ways to bring young people into M.V. fellowship.

3. "VOLUNTEER NOW" PLEDGE

I VOLUNTEER now to join the mighty march of my fellow Missionary Volunteers toward a total mobilization plan for soul-winning evangelism, and will do my best to share my faith with twenty people (two new contacts a month) in 1949.

Signed.....

4. LITANY OF DEDICATION

I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.

O Christ, we cannot live without Thee, for in Thee we live and move and have our being. Apart from Thee we can do nothing.

God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

O Christ, we cannot bear to think of others living without Thee, for Thou art the Way, the Truth, and the Life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by Thee.

When Jesus saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then said He unto His disciples, The harvest truly is plentiful, but the labourers are few.

O Christ, we cannot be idle while the longing of Thy heart for Thy young people is unsatisfied; therefore, as Thou didst come to seek and to save the lost, we dedicate ourselves to the joyous mission of making Thee known to others.

CLOSING PRAYER (in unison) found in "Christ's Object Lessons," page 159, third par.; and "Ministry of Healing," page 474, second par.

January 15

Is SOCIABILITY an ASSET?

L. A. SKINNER

NOTES TO LEADERS.—Among our young people there is a very definite question as to when it is safe to associate with non-Christian young people and when it is not safe. This programme material is provided for the purpose of laying down some fundamental principles, which have to do with association in its positive and negative phases.

A study of the Bible and the Testimonies on positive association provides the material which emphasizes our responsibility as Christians to mingle with our fellow men in order to represent the gospel in action. A study of these same books on the negative phase of association sets forth the principles which call us out of the world and make us a separate, peculiar people.

The object in this programme is to reveal to our young people the responsibility they have of sharing their faith and setting up some safeguards which will protect them from potential dangers in the world at large. In the seven principles governing association of Christian with non-Christian, statements from the Spirit of prophecy reveal the careful balance which keeps us from isolationism, which was the sin of Israel, and show us the way of personally witnessing without copying or imitating the practices of those around us.

1. ASSOCIATION, NEGATIVE

2 Cor. 6: 14, 16-18; Rev. 18: 4; Amos 3: 3; "Messages to Young People," pages 411-428.

2. ASSOCIATION, POSITIVE

Matt. 5: 13, 16; 2 Cor. 3: 2; Matt. 28: 19, 20; John 17: 15.

"But God did not intend that His people, in self-righteous exclusiveness, should shut themselves away from the world, so that they could have no influence upon it."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," page 369.

"Do not withdraw yourselves from the world in order to escape persecution. You are to abide among men, that the savour of the divine love may be as salt to preserve the world from corruption. . . . It is to sanctify the daily life, to manifest itself in every business transaction and in all social relations."—"The Desire of Ages," pages 306, 307.

"Social power, sanctified by the Spirit of Christ, must be improved in bringing souls to the Saviour."—"Messages to Young People," page 402.

"Through the social relations, Christianity comes in contact with the world."—"Messages to Young People," page 403.

"Salt must be mingled with the substance to which it is added; it must penetrate and

infuse in order to preserve. So it is through personal contact and association that men are reached by the saving power of the gospel. . . . We must come close to those whom we desire to benefit. . . . The love of Christ is diffusive and aggressive."—"Mount of Blessing," pages 59, 60.

3. SEVEN PRINCIPLES GOVERNING ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN WITH NON-CHRISTIAN

- A. Christian must possess positive charge of faith.
- B. Christian must mingle with definite motive of sharing his faith.
- C. Christian must be a thermostat and not a thermometer.
- D. Christian is jeopardizing his own experience if he mingles for purpose of pleasure and fellowship.
- E. Christian should not only have the objective of winning individuals to Christ, but also of demonstrating the advantages of Christian living.
- F. Christian must take the initiative, be enthusiastic, and be prepared to withstand ridicule patiently.
- G. Christian must be alert and sensitive to detect the first signs of tendency to give in to his environment.

Christians must mingle—share. (See "Counsels to Teachers," page 323; "Gospel Workers," page 394; "Counsels on Health," page 592.)

4. CASE HISTORY STORIES

Invite personal experiences showing both good and bad results of associations.

5. VOLUNTEER NOW

Join fifty thousand Missionary Volunteers in sharing your faith with one million people in 1949! All of us can be back-fence evangelists; we can reach out to tell those with whom we come in contact of God's great plan for our planet. Follow up these contacts. Seek to enrol the individuals in radio Bible Correspondence courses or in a Bible study and cottage-meeting group. Yes, it may be you can enrol them in the Sabbath school in your local church. May God make this the most fruitful year in youth evangelism and in the personal Christian experience of each young person in the church!

January 22

WIDENING the HORIZON

E. W. DUNBAR

NOTES TO LEADERS.—Statistics prove that the youthful age is the reading age. So it is especially important that the Missionary Volunteer learns to select that which will be educational and helpful in future life rather than detrimental to character building. It is said that William Carey, when a young man, read Cook's "Travels" and was influenced to give his life to missions. How many lives have been directed into useful channels through the reading of good books is impossible to estimate. Encourage our young people to read for culture, for devotion, for a larger life. Make use of the conference lending library.

Opportunity will be given in this meeting to describe the Missionary Volunteer Reading Course books. Give real emphasis to these courses. It would be well to have available for the young people on the day of your programme some of the M.V. leaflets on good reading, such as M.V. Leaflets 33, 34, and 35.

Possibly with the counsel of the executive committee, specimens of good books in devo-

tional fields, travel, science, missions, and so forth might be displayed and featured during this programme.

1. EXPANDING MY HORIZON

(During each discussion, present either in tableau or as a picture something symbolic of each phase of the discussion.)

CHRISTIAN LIVING: The book which gives us the best picture of true Christian living is the Bible. In this wonderful book we find the best types of literature along with experiences which may be most helpful to us.

Also, have you delved deeply into authoritative commentaries, into other good books and Bible translations? The reading of the accounts of other men's experiences can help to strengthen our faith. The Morning Watch, the Bible Year, and our fine denominational books and periodicals widen our horizon of Christian living.

THE WORLD TODAY: Pictures of the world today may be found through the reading of first-class current magazines and books. A unique class of periodicals has made its appearance in the last few years. I refer to the class of which the *Reader's Digest* is perhaps the best known. There are several other worth-while digests on the markets also, in general as well as in specific realms.

NEW FRIENDSHIPS: Books which help us to look into other lives, to live with them through biographies, histories, and books of travel, help us to make new and worthwhile friendships. Biographies add to our lives the experiences of the wise, heroic, and great of earth. Do you read several biographies a year? History provides a background for the events of the present day. The world's most interesting and thrilling experiences have been real and not imaginary. Why not decide to go somewhere through books every month this year?

MISSIONS: All biographies of noble men and women make inspiring reading, but no biographies are more uplifting and thrilling than those of great missionaries. Many of these mission experiences are related from week to week in our church periodicals, especially the *Review and Herald* and *The Youth's Instructor*. (Here you may tell an up-to-date mission story from one of our periodicals, thus calling attention to the point which you have made.)

VOCATIONS AND HOBBIES: Each of us today has a hobby if not a profession, and good books have been written in line with all our interests, whether they be gardening, cooking, sewing, printing, interior decorating, book-keeping, salesmanship, teaching, preaching, colporteur work, nature, or a hundred other things.

NATURE AND SCIENCE: Any study of natural subjects will add enormously to the interest of our daily walks, and of the world wherever we go. Astronomy will open up to us the marvels of space. Botany and Zoology will introduce us to our friends of the trees and the meadows. The study of nature or science does not have to deal with some subject far removed from your daily experience. The view from this window is the more beautiful when we can distinguish God's love and care in the animals and birds and insects and plants, which we have never really noticed before. Watch for good nature books and magazines. —*Marjorie West Marsh.*

2. WINDOWS

Books are like windows. You can look through them. And sometimes you can see a long way. No life need be crowded in these days when such limitless expanses are possible to the view through our book windows.

A well-known blind man, in company with

his daughter, visited the Grand Canyon some years ago. A guide was engaged to take them through the canyon. As the party proceeded on its way, the blind man kept asking the guide questions about the canyon that no seeing man had ever asked. The guide wondered how this man, who was blind, knew so much about something he had never seen. Finally he asked him, "How is it that you in your blindness know so much about this canyon?" The man replied, "My daughter read a number of books on the Grand Canyon to me before we left home." Book windows had opened up a new world to this blind man. Book windows can do that for every one of us.

3. AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MISSIONARY VOLUNTEERS

Suggestion: Arrange on the platform a screen or a model, five or six feet high, to represent a huge book, with the back of the book toward the entrance of the platform. Print on the cover the words, "M.V. Reading Course for 1949." After a few introductory remarks by the leader, a young person representing a character in one of the Reading Course books steps out of the big book and relates an incident or tells a story that is in his book. In the same way another book is represented by another character. For example, for a book on nature or science, have someone tell some of the unusual facts given in the book, or a brief review of the book itself. Each speaker concludes his remarks by mentioning the book he represents and making some statement which will intrigue his listeners. Whet the appetites of your members to read these books.

JUNIOR MEETINGS

January 1

MY BIBLE

W. A. NELSON

NOTES TO LEADERS: The purpose of this meeting is to interest the Juniors in the reading of the Bible. Have them begin reading the Junior Bible Year. Urge them to keep the Morning Watch as they pledge themselves to do if they are trying to be true Friends, Companions, or Comrades. Make certain that each Junior has a Morning Watch calendar in addition to the Junior Bible Year leaflet.

SYMPOSIUM: "Interesting Facts About the Bible." Distribute numbered parts to eight older Juniors and have them stand in a line and present these facts about the Bible.

BIBLE GAME: "Guess My Name." For this exercise it will be best to use a blackboard. In a vertical line write the capital letters, **READ YOUR BIBLE IN '49.** The leader will read the statement, and when the correct answer is given, the spelling of the name will be completed.

1. THE BOOK OF BOOKS

The Bible is not an ordinary book. It is different from any other book written. Compared with the Bible, all other books are dead. It is living, and carries heavenly blessings with it wherever it goes.

"But," you say, "the Bible is old." Yes, it is old, but it has not grown weak or feeble with age. In fact, it is more powerful than ever before. Can you imagine a book that is valued at £300,000? It is said there is a copy of the Bible in the Library of Congress in Washington, U.S.A., that is easily worth that much money. This book is one of the three perfect copies in existence today that were printed by Gutenberg about 1450. It is the

greatest treasure of all the millions of books in the Library of Congress, and how fitting it is that God's Word should be the most precious volume in all the world!

This story shows us how the Bible was treasured many years ago, when in the country of Bohemia no one was allowed to have a Bible in his house, or to read the Bible or even hear it read. It also makes us think about the time when we, too, will have God's Holy Word taken from us. For we are told that is exactly what will happen before Jesus comes. How precious then will be all the memory verses and texts we have learned!

A long time ago, in Bohemia, soldiers were sent to search all the houses and take away all the Bibles they found. Of course, everyone watched for them. If the boys and girls saw the soldiers coming, they ran to every house, telling the people to hide their Bibles.

"Listen!" a little boy cried as he opened the door to one of the village homes. "Soldiers are almost here!"

A young girl was alone in the house. She was making bread. Although she was a young girl, she could think very fast. She spread the bread dough on the table. Then she put the Bible on it and wrapped the dough around it carefully. Putting the loaf in a pan, she quickly set it in the oven. The soldiers banged on the door and came in.

"Where is your Bible? Give it to us!" they commanded.

The young girl held the door open. "You are welcome to hunt for the Bible," she said.

So the soldiers looked for the Bible. They looked under the bed. They looked on top of the chests. They looked in corners and around the chimney. If they opened the oven door, all they saw was a big loaf of bread baking. The Bible was safe.

2. INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE BIBLE

1. The Bible was the first book printed (about 1450).
2. The King James Version for English-speaking people is the most widely circulated book in the world.
3. The Bible contains 1,189 chapters and 66 books.
4. The 19th chapter of Second Kings and the 37th chapter of Isaiah are nearly alike.
5. The middle verse of the Bible is Ps. 118: 8.
6. Ezra 7: 21 contains all the letters of the alphabet except "J."
7. The longest verse is Esther 8: 9.

3. GUESS MY NAME

- a. I am the mother of Joseph. **Rachel**
- b. A royal crown was set upon my head. **Ester**
- c. My rod budded, blossomed, and bore fruit overnight. **Aaron**
- d. Three times daily I prayed to the God of heaven. **Daniel**
- e. I am that great band to whom Solomon was speaking when he said, "Remember now thy Creator." **Youth**
- f. A minor prophet am I, and the author of one of the shortest books of the Bible. **Obadiah**
- g. The anger of the Lord was kindled against me because of my disobedience in regard to the ark. **Uzzah**
- h. I had the spies in my home in Jericho. **Rahab**
- i. Ruth gleaned in my fields. **Boaz**
- j. This boy was placed on the sacrifice altar by his father. **Isaac**
- k. During a feast I saw a hand writing on the wall. **Belshazzar**
- l. Life was given me by Jesus after I had been in the tomb. **Lasarus**
- m. I am a beautiful garden, the first home of man. **Eden**

n. I am a book of the Old Testament.

I saiah
Naaman

o. Elisha cured me of my leprosy.

p. Subtract one from the number of chapters in Genesis, and you will have this.

'49

4. THE LOST BIBLE

The mountain trail was rough and steep in a certain part of Guatemala. The missionary stopped his horse at a spot where the path was not so rough. He opened the saddlebag to get his Bible. He felt in one side of the bag and then in the other side. "It is gone!"

The tired missionary leaned against his horse for a few minutes, with his eyes closed. "Dear Father," he prayed, "You know where my Bible is. If I never see it again, may someone find it who will read it and learn of Thy love for him." He opened his eyes and jumped into the saddle.

He followed the trail that wound around great rocks and on down the mountainside until he reached the town where he was to talk to the people about Jesus. Oh, how he missed his Bible! But he knew many, many verses and whole chapters by heart, so day after day he taught the people about Jesus and of His great love for them. Then, many weeks later, he started back over the mountains.

The missionary knew that God was watching over his Bible, so in the last village he asked about it. Now, there was an Indian farmer living in this village. He had been along the trail after the Bible had fallen from the saddlebag. He had picked it up. But he could not read, so he took it to the only man in the town who could read.

The people gathered about this man as he read from it. How good the Bible stories sounded to them! Each evening they had this man read more to them.

When the missionary stopped and spoke about his Bible, all the people of the village came running to him. "We believe the words of the Book! Stay with us! Teach us about the God of the Book!"

So the missionary stayed for a while. He helped them build a chapel. He taught them more and more of God's love for them.

"God meant for you to lose the Book. God meant for one of us to find it so we could learn of Jesus," they said.—*Inez Brasier.*

January 8

VOLUNTEER NOW FOR JESUS

THEODORE LUCAS

NOTES TO LEADERS: Read Notes to Leaders, Senior programme.

The appeal should be made by the Leaders, using the suggestions presented. For the Volunteer Now activity set up some kind of arrangement comparable to soldiers enlisting in the service of their country. This does not have to be elaborate. Boys and girls can line up and file past the desk of the leader. As they pass the desk they are to sign the prepared Volunteer Now Pledge. This can be mimeographed or simply written out on paper by the leader. You can make it easier by writing the pledge at the top of a sheet of paper, and the Juniors could sign their names one after another.

1. JESUS WANTS JUNIORS

Jesus wants everybody to work for Him. (Rev. 22: 17; Isa. 55: 1, 2.)

He wants some of us to be fishers of men, to pull them out of the depths of sin. (Mark 1: 17.)

Some He wants to be hunters to hunt people out of dark places of sin. (Jer. 16: 16.)

He wants some to be shepherds to see that the lambs are fed properly. (John 21: 15.)

He wants some to be nurses. (1 Thess. 2: 7.)

He wants some to be soldiers. (Eph. 6: 10, 11.)

2. "VOLUNTEER NOW" EXPERIENCES

Mary, watching her mother fill in her missionary report blank, asked, "Mother, may I report too? Help me to do something for Jesus." Mary was surprised how much she was able to do for Jesus. The next week Mary was able to report her *Little Friend* that she had given a sick girl, errands for a crippled lady, flowers picked for the ill, and help given a feeble grandmother.

One day as Junior Jerry inquired of the man who was redecorating his mother's kitchen if he loved Jesus, he was told Yes, he loved Jesus, but he had never had the courage to ask anyone else if he loved Jesus. Junior Jerry's example inspired the man to tell his partner, who did not know Jesus, the story of Jesus and His love. As a result, one man reconsecrated his life and the other man began his friendship with Jesus.

Elder R. G. Strickland tells the story about George. He was a lad, eager to go Ingathering. He learned his canvass carefully and repeated over and over to his church school teacher, "I am a Junior Missionary Volunteer out working for Jesus. We help the poor and the blind, the sick, and those who do not know the gospel. How much would you like to give?"

The day came when George and his teacher approached a grocery store where George was to make his first appeal. A big man with a broad smile greeted George. George, already excited, grew more so as he held out his shaking hand containing the tin and said, "I am poor and blind and sick, and I do not know the gospel—how much would you like to give?"

The grocer chuckled, donated a number of coins, and wished the boy success. Although George got a little mixed up, he had no thought of stopping. He tried harder and did better.

An enthusiastic group of boys and girls, identified as Junior Broadcasters, called at every home near the church. They were happy to be messengers running errands for Jesus.

In distributing literature they would announce, "Here's some good news, a cheering Bible message, absolutely free. It is good reading."

Week after week the Junior Broadcasters ran up and down the steps inviting neighbours to attend the meetings at the church. Several months later the Juniors were thrilled when eighteen were baptized, many of them from their neighbourhood route.

3. SERVICE FOR THE SAVIOUR

My Saviour, I am happy
To give to Thee my all;
So teach me now to labour
And listen to Thy call.

I know that my companions
Need courage, for the way
Is oft beset by trials
Throughout each busy day.

Give strength, O Lord, for service;
Give courage for my need,
Incline my heart to love Thee,
For this to Thee I plead.

I would be pure, my Saviour;
I would be true to Thee;
So hold me in Thy keeping,
That I might serve for Thee.

—Burton Castle.

(Written especially for Theodore Lucas, Associate M.V. Secretary, General Conf.)

4. WHAT YOU CAN DO

Boys have been organized into a band of messengers to help the pastor and officers of the church. Juniors can help in the distribution of literature and in the preparation of placards and devices for use in the different departments of the Sabbath school. Girls can assist the welfare society in carrying flowers and securing groceries and clothing for those who are in need. One of the most helpful ways in which we can give support to our church is by calling for our friends on Sabbath morning to take them to Sabbath school. There are many little ways in which we may be helpful about the church, such as passing hymn-books, ushering, taking the offering, caring for supplies, and even taking care of the furniture and furnishings in the church. Boys have repaired chairs and made useful articles, such as book-racks, plant stands, and collection plates. Girls have made curtains, posters, and other decorations.

5. "VOLUNTEER NOW" PLEDGE

I VOLUNTEER NOW to join my fellow Junior Missionary Volunteers to share my faith with other Juniors.

Signed.....

January 15

A SERVANT OF GOD AND A FRIEND TO MAN

LEE CARTER

1. TWO POWERFUL FORCES IN THE WORLD

(Note.—To illustrate this talk, suspend a small steel ball or nail between two strong magnets. As the piece of iron moves away from one magnet and toward the other, the nearer magnet exerts more force upon it, pulling it out of plumb while the other magnet exerts less force upon it.)

Each one of us is like a little piece of steel suspended between two powerful magnets. One of the magnets is Christ, and the other, Satan. We cannot see the strong forces that radiate from these two sources of power in the earth, but we have felt the drawing power of each. When we find ourselves hesitating midway between these magnets, their pull seems about equal; but if we turn our faces toward the powerful magnet, Christ Jesus, then each step forward will cause the "still small voice" to become more distinct and the attractions of the world to grow dim. As we continue to draw closer to Jesus, He will continue to have an ever-increasing influence over our lives, and Satan will have less and less.

On the other hand, if we take a step in the wrong direction, our desire to do right will become weaker and the attractions of the world will become stronger. Some say that they fully intend to give their hearts to the Lord, but that they first want to have just a little taste of the world. If that temptation should ever come to you, just remember that after each step in the wrong direction it is that much harder to change and start living the Christian life. If you can't resist the tempter now, what chance will you have if you place yourself more definitely under his influence? If we choose the great broad way of the world that leads down to destruction, we shall some day find ourselves so close to Satan that, like the iron against the magnet, we will be completely in his power, and the "still small voice" can no longer be heard. This is the unpardonable sin—the sin against the Holy Spirit. Those who choose the straight and narrow road and continue to walk in it will in the near future

stand in the presence of Jesus on the sea of glass. Through your choice day by day you are determining your eternal destiny. Let us choose to face Jesus and walk ever forward.

2. ONE LAD MADE THE WRONG CHOICE

One day, while sight-seeing, I noticed several hundred people gathered in little groups on the courthouse lawn in a fair-sized city. A large van was on the lawn near the building. From the rear of the van two black cables could be seen running up and through a barred window on the fourth floor of the courthouse. Soon I heard someone say that at twelve o'clock noon a young man was to be electrocuted. I decided to try to get in and watch the electrocution. I was successful.

The hands of the clock in the death-room pointed to five minutes to twelve. Only a few hours before the father and mother had said farewell to their son. How their hearts must have ached as they walked out of the door realizing that they would never see their son alive again—all because they had failed to teach him to be a servant of God and a friend to man. Just as the hands on the clock pointed to twelve, two officers brought the young man across the hall and into the death-room. I shall never forget the expression of fear and defiance that was on his face as he passed me. Quickly he was fastened to the chair and then given a chance to make his last statement. Quietness came over the room as we strained to catch his last words. What a pity! He had not learned his lesson, for he was still defiant against God and man. He had gone too far in the wrong direction. The hand of the sheriff threw the switch. The lad had met the first death spoken of in the Bible, but not the end.

3. A LAD WHO MADE THE RIGHT CHOICE

A boy named John Williams was idly standing in the street, waiting for some of his friends, near the Tabernacle Church, London, when his employer's wife came along and invited him into the church. Just to oblige the lady, he went in. The preacher, Mr. East, spoke on the text, "What is a man profited if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" This text impressed John so much that he gave his heart to God that night, parted with his worldly friends, and became a Sunday school teacher in that church.

A few years later a missionary, Mr. Matthew Wilks, spoke in the Tabernacle Church. He told the church the good news of the progress of the gospel in the South Seas, and asked for more helpers. John Williams responded to this call, and offered his services to the London Missionary Society.

He was accepted, and he and his young wife set sail for Tahiti. No doubt many of the Juniors have read the story of the great work he did for God there, and of the many souls won as a result of his labours, not only in Tahiti, but also in the Cook Islands and in Samoa.

In 1839, John Williams decided to visit the New Hebrides and to go to the island of Erromanga in that group. His wife begged him not to go there. The people were cannibals. But John Williams felt that he must try to give the gospel to these poor people. It so happened that some foreign seamen had visited the island just before this, and they had been cruel to the natives. The spirit of revenge seized the natives, and Mr. Harris, a young missionary who was with Mr. Williams, was clubbed to death. John Williams saw it happen, and he was so shocked at the sight

that he stood still for a moment, and in that moment he too was caught and killed by the savage, angry warriors.

Today, in the islands of the sea, although John Williams is not there, the work he began is being carried on in a mighty way. Many people have been inspired by his wonderful sacrifice to give their lives to God's service.

4. REMARKS BY LEADER

Both of these men lost their lives while they were young; one because he chose to be a servant of Satan and an enemy to man; the other, because he was a servant of God, gave his life willingly for his fellow men, whom he loved. Both are today asleep in their graves. The one who was a servant of God will hear the call of the Life-giver and come forth from the grave to life everlasting. The servant of Satan will sleep until the end of the one thousand years, then come forth to hear for the second time the death sentence.

How many will stand with me today, and thus say to the Lord and man that by the help of God you will face the powerful magnet on the right—Christ Jesus—and ever be a true servant of God and a friend to man?

(At this time while all are standing call for a consecration prayer.)

January 22

CHOOSING GOOD BOOKS

E. W. DUNBAR

NOTES TO LEADERS: It is the purpose of this meeting to give the boys and girls a broad and concise understanding of the best things to read. We shall take up the "what" and the "why" of good reading. It would be well at some time in the meeting to present to the Juniors the set of current Junior Reading Course books in digest form.

1. CHOOSING MY BOOK COMPANIONS

Books, like friends, must be very carefully selected; and, like friends, the books we read serve as companions with us throughout our lives. This does not mean that we will carry them around with us in order to have them for our companions. But the things we learn from reading them become a part of our lives, and in that way travel with us wherever we go. Just as a reel of motion-picture film has thousands of different exposures, or separate pictures, on it, so on the brain of every boy and girl who reads books there is photographed a memory of the various episodes, stories, and lessons which the books contain. How important it is that we choose the very best for our book companions throughout our lives!

(Follow with story in Senior programme concerning the blind man who visited the Grand Canyon.)

Before taking a trip anywhere, you will be repaid a thousand times over if you read all you can about the places to be visited. It will mean so much more to you if you do that.

Books have a tremendous influence upon our lives. Many boys and girls who are not Christians make a companion of comic strips, the comic books, and other light, cheap reading matter. And I fear there are some boys and girls who are Christians who are tempted by these so-called comics. But the average comic strip and comic book is not entirely a laughing matter. A careful examination of a large number of these over a period of thirty days revealed that underneath the surface of respectability and wit or comedy there are crimes featured and disrespect to religion emphasized, which would certainly have an effect upon the boys and girls who absorb these things. In six hundred comic strips, which millions of people read in the newspapers, it was found that a large percentage of them were dangerous

and made light of religion, and contained things which will build up in the minds of boys and girls a disrespect for the good things of life. In some of these comic strips we see grandma asking one of the children to bring a light for her cigarette, or fifteen-year-old Johnnie leaning against the barn rail carelessly rolling himself a cigarette. These things are bound to have an influence on our lives as we read them and absorb them. Card-playing, horse-racing, gambling, and crime of all kinds, with trickery and lies, certainly do not make up the diet which Missionary Volunteers should have in serious times like these.

Since we could never read all of even the good things there are to be read, we shall need to choose only the very best for our companions.

2. WHY READ?

Why read? Answer: For the sake of developing a mind worth having. Our minds, besides helping us get along through life, must be lived with. We cannot run away from ourselves. So the fuller our minds are with good things and good thoughts, the happier we shall be. Some people store up riches. One such person said, "It was great fun getting it, but I gave up too much for it. I starved my mind. Now I am lonely, restless, and unhappy."

Our real riches are those stored away in the mind and soul. Our reading moulds and forms our character. We become like the ideals and persons we read about in magazines and books. The strange part of it is that we do this without thinking about it. We may read for pastime, but that has a mighty effect on our characters.

The time will soon come when many of you boys and girls will be working for a living. When that time comes, you will enjoy your work much better and rise faster if you have gained all the knowledge possible about your work through reading. And last, but not least, we must remember that we need to read every day for daily reading. May the Lord help us to be faithful in this.

3. READ WHAT?

What shall we read? There is so much to read and so little time in which to do it. For these two reasons we must choose our books in order to get the most good out of our reading.

Along with the Bible, we should read a good book or two on the life of Jesus. We must be faithful in our reading of the Word of God, as the former speaker brought out, because we need the devotional habit of communing and talking with Jesus.

We do not need to be encouraged to read *Our Little Friend* or *The Youth's Instructor*, for we enjoy this kind of devotional and interesting reading. We should be very happy to have the privilege of reading such fine literature.

Then there is biography, the stories of great men and women. This is among the richest of all general reading. From such books we learn many helpful things, including truth, wise counsel, inspiration. When these things are all put together, they help greatly to mould our characters and our thinking. Our Junior Society promotes a Junior Missionary Volunteer Reading Course each year. The best books are chosen for this course. There is a variety of material in it, and we should count it a real privilege to be able to have these good books in the Reading Course every year. Naturally, these will be only a beginning of the good things we shall want to read. But let us determine to base our choice of literature upon right principles, and absorb only those things into our minds which will help in the great work of character building. That is the most important work of all.

4. A PLEA

Don't throw me on the floor
When I'm your guest;
Don't soil the black, red, green,
or blue
In which I'm dressed;
Please don't compel me
(You'd not think it right)
To hold a window up
Some rainy night!
With paper-knife don't carelessly
My body hack.
Don't fold me stiffly o'er,
And break my back;
For me reserve the quiet,
Cosy nook.
More precious friend you've not—
A wholesome book!

—Adelbert F. Caldwell.

SABBATH SCHOOL
MISSION NEWS

Superintendents' Corner

As Sabbath school superintendents you are beginning the duties of the new year. We welcome you to the work. We trust that you have been elected for the whole of the year 1949. If you have, you will have opportunity to do a real constructive work in the development of the work in your school. We wish you a very happy year in the work.

You will notice that the first missionary reading for the year directs attention to the need of increased funds to extend the work. It suggests a new basis for systematic giving—three per cent of the weekly income as a minimum. We believe this would not work hardship on any, but would result in a considerable increase in offerings which would be proportionately distributed. May we have your co-operation in keeping constantly, yet tactfully, the three-per-cent objective in our offerings before your Sabbath school?

T. C. LAWSON,

JANUARY 1

The Challenge of 1949

T. C. LAWSON

THE year 1948 has closed, and we face the new year of 1949 with its new opportunities and responsibilities. The following words from the Spirit of prophecy were never truer than they are today: "God's people have a mighty work before them, a work that must continually rise to greater prominence. Our efforts in missionary lines must become far more extensive. A more decided work than has been done must be done prior to the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ. God's people are not to cease their labours until they shall encircle the world."—"Testimonies," Vol. VI, pages 23, 24.

This is a call to a greater and a more far-reaching work. The conditions in the mission field today are driving us to a fulfilment of this. There was a time when we looked for openings into which we could move with this message, but today the reverse is true; we are looking for ways and means to enable us to step into the hundreds of opening providences we see on every hand. The Macedonian call is coming from many centres. Never were the calls so insistent. Never were the prospects brighter for a harvest of souls from these darkened peoples. Never were we better able to supply well-trained and consecrated workers; but the one limiting factor is the financial budget with which to carry on the work.

The Sabbath schools have always been closely joined to the mission field through their offerings, until now over half of our active mission expenditure in the world is provided by the Sabbath school offerings. What magnificent attainments have been reached by the splendid giving of our schools! This sacrificial giving by our members is appreciated more than words can express, and the deep gratitude and thanks of thousands who have been enlightened by the gospel is expressed in the joy of Christian living. Week by week one may see companies of one-time heathen scattered through most of the island groups meeting with praise on their lips and joy in their hearts to study God's Word and worship Him. They are a transformed people—transformed from the superstition and degradation of heathenism into lovable Christians, prepared for the coming of their Lord and Saviour.

But what of the greater work that awaits us? This can be done only as the flow of gifts into the mission treasury increases in volume. Nineteen hundred and forty-nine is pleading for this—a greater flow of offerings for a greater work and a greater harvest of souls. We believe that God can count on the members of the Sabbath schools. Will you not each individually examine your own attainments in giving to see if you are giving as God has prospered you, and determine in your hearts that you will, during 1949, do greater things for God and humanity in your Sabbath school offerings. So many of us are apt to give spasmodically and without any system; but this is not God's plan. Again the Spirit of prophecy says: "This matter of giving is not left to impulse. . . . He desires us to give regularly and systematically. . . . Let each examine his increase, which is all a blessing from God, . . . and . . . after the tithe is set apart, let gifts and offerings be apportioned as God hath prospered you."

This certainly suggests a regular proportion of our income, and we believe this is the best plan to ensure a regular flow in keeping with the prosperity that God has blessed us with. The General Conference suggests that we set apart at least 3 per cent of our income each week as being sacred to the work of foreign missions through the Sabbath school offerings. Some are doing this already, and some are doing more. God bless them for it; but shall we not all accept it as a general plan and a basis for our giving.

Let 1949 be a three-per-cent year for a greater work for a greater harvest of souls, and great will be our reward in heaven.

May God grant to us all a new year rich with blessings in the Sabbath school.

Sabbath School Offering
Objectives

FIRST QUARTER, 1949

FIRST 12 SABBATHS' AIM:

£6,500

► Objective: The Support of the
Work in the New Hebrides.

THIRTEENTH SABBATH AIM:

£2,000

► Objective: The Re-establish-
ment of the Monamona Mission
for Aborigines.JANUARY 8
The Bismarck Archipelago
Mission

J. J. DEVER

ACCORDING to one authority an archipelago is "a sea studded with islands." This is an apt description of the area which comprises this field. From Manus in the far north-west to Mussau and Emirau in the far north-east, down the long neck of land called New Ireland to the Duke of York group to the west, and down to Bougainville in the south-east, one can travel for hundreds of miles from island to island, inhabited by thousands of natives, most of whom have not yet heard this message.

Before the war, the headquarters site here at Palm Beach was one of the prettiest in the area. Today it is hard to imagine that a superintendent's house and a secretary's house, together with office and garage and necessary sheds, once stood here. Only the broken cement floor, an old wash-house, a few survey pegs, a little of the cement floor of the old office, and a chain of drainage pipes from the secretary's old house mark the positions of some of the buildings. But already, in confidence of your help, we are rebuilding.

At present Brother A. Rose is speedily erecting a home for the secretary-treasurer. Other urgently needed buildings must also be erected. For example, the temporary structure made out of old army material, and affectionately known as the "Barn," is housing three European families. It is quite inadequate for the needs. But look a little farther down the beach and you will see a shed housing some ten to twelve families of native teachers who are en route to Papua and Inland New Guinea from the Solomon Islands. There is a most urgent need for a suitable native transit house here with facilities for bathing, cooking, etc., for up to eighty people at a time, because teachers will always be passing through here, either on their way home on furlough or on their way back to their fields of labour. When in port at present, the superintendent has to live on the mission vessel "Veilomani," for there is literally no room for him in the Barn. His wife and family must stay in Australia until a home can be built for them. At present services are conducted in a canvas structure, which is anything but desirable. But in spite of its great lack in many desirable qualities, the Spirit of God meets with us there. However, we long to see erected a tabernacle of which we will not be ashamed. I could go on to mention the office, suitable accommodation for the native help, the garage to house the much-needed vehicle, the wharf to facilitate handling of supplies and materials for our out-stations; but I have written enough.

As you give your offerings for the rebuilding of the headquarters here at Rabaul, we want you to know that the one purpose of its rebuilding is the finishing of the work in the whole of the Bismarck.

JANUARY 15

An Unusual Sabbath School

T. C. LAWSON

I SHOULD like you this morning to let your imagination carry you to Bena Bena, in Inland New Guinea, and there meet with the Sabbath school as they gather for the study of God's Word. Bena Bena is situated about 6,000 feet above sea level and is surrounded by towering mountains. This mission station was established by Pastor S. H. Gander some time before the war. During the war it was used by the

allied forces as a strategic position, and all mission buildings were demolished. After the war was over the brethren returned and erected some temporary buildings on the old site. It was decided, however, to move the mission station to a site which was more accessible, about two miles away, and at present this new station is being built up by Brother and Sister L. Howell.

Already the land is being cleared and planted. Native teachers' houses and quarters for the students are being erected, and a temporary house has already been erected for Brother and Sister Howell. The Sabbath meetings, however, are still conducted on the old site, 1,500 feet up the mountain, which site is still occupied by Brother and Sister Ward Nolan.

Early on Sabbath morning, while the mountain tops are still enshrouded with clouds, companies of people can be seen wending their way along the mountain tracks, up out of the valleys and across the hills, to meet together and to take their places on the grass under the heavens and among the trees. Off on the side, there are two hundred children gathered together under a big cluster of bamboos, in the care of Sisters Nolan and Howell. Here these children are taught to sing, to do action songs, and are told the stories of the Saviour and His love.

In the large group, the Sabbath school is conducted by two native assistants. In the centre of this great company is a group from the mission, all clean, clothed, and with bright smiling countenances. But surrounding them are the raw heathen from the villages round about. They have come all dressed in their best for the occasion. Most of the men have long knives or tomahawks. Many have large headgears of feathers and ornaments of shells of various sizes and shapes. They are all well greased with pig's fat, with a liberal proportion of the filth and dirt of years. Their bodies are quite unclothed except for a light grass skirt in the case of the females, and a sparse covering, hung from the waist, in the case of the men. Most of them have armlets and leg bands of pig's intestines, these having been placed on the limbs soon after the pig was killed. They have long since become hard and dried. This is the company of people in their natural state.

It is surprising to see the quietness and reverence during the course of the service. When prayer is announced, every head is bowed and perfect quietness is maintained, and at the close of the prayer a hearty "amen" is joined in by all present. During the course of the review and lesson, rapt attention is seen, and while only those from the mission take an actual part in answering questions on the study for the day, one never knows how much is being absorbed by those who are mere visitors.

At the close of the Sabbath school lesson, the children from the other division arrive and render their special item, which is an action song, and is enjoyed by all. After the Sabbath school is closed, and the church service is finished, the people are loath to leave the mission, and stay around most of the day, gradually moving off as evening comes, and when the Sabbath has closed one cannot help but feel that a tremendous need exists here, and one is led to pray that some seeds of truth may have found good soil in the hearts and

lives of some of these benighted people. Continue to pray for the work in Inland New Guinea, that a harvest of these people may be won for the kingdom.

JANUARY 22

My Spirit Upon All Flesh

A. GALLAGHER

WE recently spent a week with the hill-dwellers of the island of Pentecost in the New Hebrides, and were astonished to find what seemed to us to be an instance where the Spirit of God had been talking to these isolated people. The high chief presented himself dressed in long khaki trousers, shirt, and cap to match. What a handshake this seventy-year-old gentleman had! His long, flowing beard is in keeping with his position and bearing. That night we studied and talked with the older men late into the night about the glorious return of our Saviour. All day Friday and Sabbath and Sunday we talked and studied together. When I suggested that they choose some of their boys to attend our school, they consented, and four boys were chosen to accompany us to the district school.

On Monday the old chief conducted us to another area where we were to spend the night with another company of about eighty people. All were responsive to the workings of the Spirit.

The following morning before I left I was called by Chief Edwin to a smaller house, where he desired to talk to me. This experience I shall never forget. The chief's interpreter, two teachers, and I sat quietly while the chief told this strange experience:—

"In 1910 I went to Norfolk Island, where I spent five years in the Melanesian Training College. I returned to the New Hebrides, and for many years was the native priest stationed in the hills of Pentecost.

"Nineteen years ago a village boy by the name of Daniel, a young man with no education, who worked in plantations, returned to his village. He felt a desire to have worship and prayer with his people, for there was no teacher in his village. This urge led him to talk with other teachers, seeking their help. One day he heard a voice speaking to him which said: 'I am the Holy Ghost. I have come to talk with you. I see you are anxious to help your people, but you do not know the way. I am come to help you. You must follow what I say.'

"The voice then commanded three fasts—one of three days, one of five days, and one of ten days. He returned and spoke to Daniel, saying: 'I am the Holy Ghost. I have come to teach you the way of the Trinity. Satan caused war in heaven, and the Trinity and the angels put him out, and he came to this world and lied to the people, but I am come to talk to people in all parts of the world. Jesus came and died to save man, and He went back to heaven, and now I will teach you the true way. Pigs are not good for you to keep; do not eat them; do not make taboo business with pigs; do not buy women with them. You are not to buy and sell your women. God made man. He made woman, too. God gave them mouths to talk to each other. The heathen taboos must finish. Men and women are to talk to each other, but they are to talk good talk. You are to help each other, and if someone is in need of help, you are not to sell to him; you must help each other freely. When making your mats you are not to put the likeness of birds, stars, animals, or anything on them in red dye to make a taboo to them like the heathen do. Kava, tobacco, and dancing are no good.'

The old chief paused for breath, then continued. "These are only a few of the things spoken to Daniel by the Spirit of God. We

believe it was God talking to us, so we hold on to this law given by the Holy Ghost. We have been keeping this law for nineteen years. We must always follow it. When we keep this law the bishop does not want us. They say we are cranky, and they have taken all their things away from our church and school. Once they came and beat some of the boys and nearly killed them because of this law.

"Now I want to tell you that we are all very glad you have come to stay with us and teach us more of the Bible. You are our missionary now; we want you always to come. The new truths of the Sabbath and Jesus' coming we are glad to hear, and if you have other new things from the Bible that we do not have, you come and teach us and we will be glad to do what you tell us to do."

Dear brethren and sisters of the advent cause, is not this the fulfilment of God's promise that in the last days He will pour out His Spirit upon all flesh?

JANUARY 29

A New Outpost

T. C. LAWSON

PASTOR MARTIN PASCOE and his wife and three children are very courageous missionaries. They have gone out into the delta area of Papua to open up mission work. The western coast of Papua is broken by many large rivers coming down for hundreds of miles from the interior, and bringing millions of tons of water, silt, and debris of all kinds, and hence a big delta area has been built up. Most of these rivers are difficult to enter because of sand bars. However, the rivers themselves are navigable through their hundreds of miles of interlacing delta branches.

This country is very flat, low-lying, hot, fever-stricken, crocodile and snake-infested, and this is the kind of country that our workers find themselves in. Pastor Pascoe went into Romilly Sound and travelled up for about ten miles, and there selected a site on an elevated part of the bank to establish his mission. This place was chosen because it was close to a very large native village of about one thousand people. He had no home in which to settle, and so the good ship, the *Daba-rere*, supplied by the Sabbath schools in their Thirteenth Sabbath offering in June of last year, provided a house for the Pascoe family at night, and the day found them on the shore working hard, clearing the land, and literally carving a mission out of the jungle. Some gardens have now been planted, and a temporary house has been erected which will later serve as a dispensary, and school is being held for the natives.

Pastor Pascoe has won the confidence and love of these people. His visiting around in the village has had its effect, and Sabbath by Sabbath over three hundred gather for Sabbath school to hear the stories of Jesus and His power to save. He, with his wife, who is a nurse, has sailed in the *Daba-rere* hundreds of miles round these waterways, visiting the villages and treating the sicknesses of the natives. The people are in dire physical need, and there is much medical work to be done. Sister Pascoe spends a good deal of her time at this work.

There are scores of villages with many thousands of people scattered throughout all these waterways that need the light of the gospel, and we have only one family there as yet. The need of these areas is a tremendous challenge to us, and we must accept it by sending more workers into this needy area. Pray for our workers there, that God will preserve their lives amid the dangers that daily confront them, and that as a result of the work they do for Him the people might see a great light, and be led to know the Lord Jesus Christ and the power of His salvation.

THE MISSIONARY LEADER

PUBLISHED BY THE

AUSTRALASIAN UNION CONFERENCE OF
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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

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