

South African Missionary

Vol. III.

CAPE TOWN, APRIL, 1905.

No. 4

Are We Guilty?

Of what? Withholding that which the Lord says is His. Surely no honest man would withhold or use money belonging to another man. Much less would a Christian use for himself anything that belongs to God. But does not everything belong to God? True, but a portion of the all He gives to us as *His stewards*, and another portion He reserves as His own. He says, "The tithe is the Lord's." Lev. 27:30. The tithe of what? "All the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree is the Lord's; it is holy unto the Lord. And concerning the tithe of the herd, or of the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the tenth shall be holy unto the Lord." Vs. 30, 32. When the Lord told Aaron that he should have no inheritance in the land, he did not leave him without any support, but He said, "I am thy part and thine inheritance among the children of Israel. And behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tenth in Israel for an inheritance for their service." The Lord then promised to pay His ministers "*the tenth in Israel.*" He reserved the tenth as His own for this purpose. If we do not recognise this, and if we use the entire ten tenths of our income, we are robbing the Lord's treasury; we are withholding the money with which He supports His ministers. As a result the gospel word is hindered; and, too, by those who profess to be its friends.

The Lord has said that if we were faithful in tithes and offerings, there would be no lack of means to carry on His work. Who then

is responsible when the treasury is exhausted? I wonder if every Seventh Day Adventist in this land is faithful in turning the tithe into the Lord's treasury. Let us all remember that "*the tithe is the Lord's.*" No matter what we may think about it: no matter whether we recognise any obligation or not; no matter what our practice is or has been, this does not change the fact that "*the tithe is the Lord's.*"

I. J. HANKINS.

Our Opportunity

It has been very encouraging to note the progress that is being made by our canvassers. After repeated efforts to get a man to lead out in this department of the work in the Cape Conference, one has been secured. The outlook is cheering as we see men entering the work. In the Natal-Transvaal Conference success has attended their efforts to train and put workers into the field. We do hope that 1905 will see a revival along these lines, such as we have not witnessed in a long time.

Success in any branch of the work requires men of faith. Men who believe that God gave them their work have an incentive to cause them to persevere. *Faith* and *perseverence* must go hand in hand with the successful worker. Our field is a hard one in many respects; but this should cause us to cling closer to Father's strong hand for aid.

Is it not time that more of us were planning to be more actively engaged in the Master's work? The servant who *waits* for the

return of his lord from the wedding has his loins girt about and *lights burning*. Are you waiting? Is your lamp burning brightly? or is it like the foolish virgin's, "going out" (margin)? This is no time to falter and hesitate. Our best is demanded for God.

Do not be afraid to make sacrifices for the cause of Him who gave so much for you. The opportunity to do so will soon be passed forever. Let me exhort my brethren in South Africa to work while the day lasts, for soon the night cometh. Ask Father what He would have you do and then *do it* by His help. My heart is with you in the work for Africa.

Madeira, April, 11.

W. S. HYATT

Questions on Tithing

Query: Brother A. teaches school and receives thirty shillings per week. Out of this amount he pays fifteen shillings for his board and lodging; how much tithe should he pay?

Sister B. receives thirty shillings per week for teaching, and her board and lodging free; how much tithe should she pay.

Brother C. receives from his farm an income of £200 a year, besides vegetables, fruits, etc., for his family; how much tithe should he pay? He owns his farm; no rent, no interest.

Brother D's entire income is £200 a year. Out of this he must pay rent and support his family; how much tithe should he pay?

Brother E. works for his board and clothing; what is his tithe? Genesis 28:20-22.

When Abraham recovered the spoils from the King of Sodom, how much tithe did he give Melchizedek? Genesis 14: 20. Did he first take out the tithe, and then provide for the young men out of the nine-tenths remaining, or did he feed the young men first, and then tithe the balance? What lesson is there for us in this experience?

I. J. HANKINS.

"Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse."

Obituary

HOWARD.—Mrs. Catherine Howard peacefully departed this life at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Ingfield, in Johannesburg, April 14, 1905. Sister Howard was born at Church Town, Lancashire, England, April 30, 1844, and many years ago came with her husband and family to Cape Town. She was baptised by Elder Hankins September 1, 1889, and united with the Cape Town church. During all these years she has been a faithful member of the church and an earnest supporter of the cause of present truth in South Africa. During the early years of the message in this country she did excellent service in the canvassing field, and sold many hundreds of pounds worth of our books.

In 1903 Sister Howard again entered the canvassing work in Johannesburg, and the Lord blessed her work with marvelous success. But a short time ago, while thus engaged in canvassing, she contracted typhoid fever which resulted in her death. The funeral service was conducted by Elder H. J. Edmed at Bramfontein. The MISSIONARY deeply sympathises with the members of her family, who will not by any means be the only ones to mourn her loss. But we look with joy to that hour that is coming "when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live."

O. O. F.

Natal-Transvaal Conference

We are glad to add a few lines for the MISSIONARY in reference to our recent Conference and camp-meeting at Dundee. I endorse most heartily all that Brother Hyatt reported in last issue. Out of the one hundred members that compose our conference, there was an attendance of about sixty persons. Only four and one-half hours of the ten days were devoted to conference business; and the only regretful incident of the season was the reading of the financial report which

showed that our income is not nearly enough to support the great work that we have in our hands. But even here, there was no sound of murmuring, no faulting. As the company were brought face to face with the necessity of decreasing our expenses and limiting our staff, and running our book work on a more thoroughly cash basis, they adopted the reports by promising God that henceforth they would shun debt and do all in their power to assist the conference financially.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, H. J. Edmed; Vice-President, M. A. Altman; Conference and Tract Society Treasurer, J. C. Baumann; Conference Secretary, I. R. Armer; Secretary to Tract Society, Geo. Blaver; Sabbath-school Secretary, Mrs. M. A. Altman. The address of each of the above persons is given in another column.

Brother Herman Schmidt was granted ministerial license, and will also act as assistant canvassing agent this year. The supervision of the canvassing work was allotted to the writer. Three persons offered to join our canvassing ranks; viz., Miss C. Dixie, and Messrs. Webber and Butterfield. Brother Fiedeler has also entered this work.

After the camp-meeting broke up, we held a canvassing school for three weeks, the students living in tents on the camp-ground and assisting in the meetings which we continued to hold each evening. Studies were conducted in the Testimonies, methods of work, language, and books. Some lessons in singing and simple treatments were also given, and when the time came to "break up," all felt that the Lord had richly blessed our endeavours to reach a higher standard of proficiency. During this season the canvassers secured twenty-seven yearly subscriptions for the *Sentinel* in Dundee. As a result of the school, encouraging reports have already begun to come in. These will be reported in their proper place.

We were grateful for the helpful association of Elders Hyatt and Altman in these meetings which have done so much to give us a

deeper experience in the love of God, and which have set a new spirit at work among our membership. We could scarcely afford so expensive a luxury as a camp-meeting, but the results have amply justified the expense. We are passing through deep waters financially just now, but with the new life with which the Lord has infused our work, we feel sure that the song of victory will rise from this field before long. We ask a deep interest in all the prayers of God's people.

Since the camp-meeting, Elder Altman and wife, Brother C. Robinson, and Misses Robertson and Strachan and the writer have formed a company to continue the work in Dundee, which is going very hard. There seems to be an interest in some hearts, but it is hard to induce the people to attend meetings. We are strongly opposed by the Rev. W. Wilkinson Rider, who preached against us last Sunday. We had only twenty-five persons to hear our reply last evening. But our courage does not fail; we feel that victory must be given to us inasmuch as we have followed the light the Lord has given us, as far as we know, in continuing the work here.

As some may wonder why Brother J. H. Camp is not on our official list this year, I will say that he has desired to enter business on his own account, for which purpose he severed himself from Conference work. While we regret this step, yet we trust that Brother Camp may prosper and continue to assist the cause of God that he has served so long.

We feel impressed with the weight of responsibility which the Lord has placed upon us in giving this message throughout our field in this generation. But as we see our church members arising into activity, our courage rises. I am convinced that means and workers will come to our help as fast as the churches shoulder their work and cooperate in that great campaign of the ages which is to close very soon, and accomplish the glorious victory that will eclipse all the other victories written in heaven or earth. May the Lord give us all a humble part in its accomplishment.

H. J. EDMED.

First Week of Prayer and Quarterly Meeting at Heisterbach

As many as could commenced the week of prayer here at the appointed time. The brethren at "Moihoek," Harrismith district, met together for prayer daily until Friday, when the majority joined us here. We also had a representation from "Frankfort" and "Tigerkloof." Sister Wocke at Bloemfontein also observed the season and did what she could with those there. The whole time was full of blessings to us here. We had heavy rains during the time and other matters might have had a marring effect, but prayer bringing the good "Spirit of God" among us worked out rich blessings for every one.

I rendered the readings in Dutch—as in fact every one of my services are conducted—and they were much appreciated and caused hearts to be tender. In short they had all the effect they were designed to have. The first and last Sabbaths were observed by many of us as fast days. Personally I never enjoyed better. At our all-day services Sabbath and Sunday, we had a nice number of people present belonging to the Dutch churches. These came distances of from five, ten, fifteen, and twenty miles. The otherwise quiet farmplace (painfully quiet sometimes) was quite enlivened with the presence of the people and their vehicles. Four adults were baptised and one added who had been a Baptist. Illness, and in other cases, individuals who had to attend cases of sickness, prevented six others from attending for baptism and to be joined to the church. I hope to visit some of these within a fortnight and possibly baptise them.

Our baptismal service made a deep impression. The day was perfect and the scene was indeed a very solemn one, all standing around a natural pool outside, and some good Dutch hymns were sung by all present. Equally impressive was the celebration of the ordinances of humility and the Lord's Supper, as the meaning was explained and the manner observed by us was witnessed and partaken of

for the first time by some. Better and more tender testimonies could not have been uttered, and it was very touching to hear a father and son admit that all they saw and heard was the truth. They asked for our prayers on their behalf, that they might have strength to live out the light they had received. I had Brethren De Lange, T. Lowrens and H. Moolman address the people also, which I am sure was appreciated as coming from their own people.

Sister Victoria Sutherland gave a very telling and appreciative talk on Christian education in all its phases. She had the children sing, and it was remarkable and touching to see some of these young ones pray in public. After seeing and hearing what they did, all of our people in the various districts would like to have similar schools.

We were unable to make a special offering as nearly twenty pounds had to be raised to fix up our hired meeting house. A fairly good tithe has been paid, as also the contribution of the sixpence-per-week, besides Sabbath-school offerings, and over five pounds during the quarter as fourth-Sabbath offerings for local use. The strangers left Sunday evening, and our own people on Monday, happy and rejoicing. The church numbers nineteen baptised adults and two organised Sabbath-schools and missionary societies. I praise the Lord for the work going among the Dutch people, and the undeserved blessings I personally experienced. I could say much on the various scattered people interested who were not present. Those present represented an area of about two hundred miles. Think what these lights dotted about means in this country, where the cruel ravages and results of war are still painfully felt and seen, especially in these country districts.

J. M. FREEMAN.

Klipdam

Dear little MISSIONARY :—

I am sure you will feel glad to convey to your readers the good experience we gained

during the week of prayer. I have no hesitancy in saying that this week of prayer has been the best I have experienced since the organisation of this church.

We commenced on Sabbath, March 25. On Sunday we had our second reading and season of prayer. From Monday we had our meetings every morning at 5:45 A.M. Some of our brethren live quite a mile and a half from here, and had to walk the distance, and though we had rain for three days and they had to walk through mud, water, and wet grass, still they attended every morning but one. It would have made your hearts glad to hear the earnest prayers and good testimonies that were borne by these dear brethren. Some gained new experiences, and some new light. We all felt that God came very near to each of us, and felt called upon by God's Spirit to make a more determined stand for the principles of truth, which we all did.

As the sun was rising early on the morning of April 1, and we were just closing the last meeting in the week of prayer, nearly every one expressed regret that the week was over, but determined that they would continue to rise early and study God's Word for themselves in their homes.

While God came near to us and imparted such rich spiritual blessings, Satan was not asleep, for we have all had a very bad experience in temporal things; however, we know that He in whom we trust holds the world in His hands, and He has promised that He will never leave us nor forsake us, and this is our confident hope. Wherefore, we faint not; but though our outward man is decaying, yet our inward man is renewed day by day. For our light affliction which is for the moment, worketh for us more and more exceedingly an eternal weight of glory, while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. 2 Cor. 4: 16-18. A. R. V.

J. G. COOKS.

The Coloured Work

I feel that I ought to write and tell the readers of the MISSIONARY something of what the Lord is doing through my labour lately at Salt River and around that vicinity. My heart is very much encouraged to see quite a number turning from darkness to light. It was my pleasant privilege to take Brother Walston and, later on, Elder Hankins with me to the most interested of my readers. They were both much pleased to find the interest manifested, and the people were glad to see them.

God is surely working wonderfully on the hearts of the coloured people. On Rentskie's Farm a poor, old sister, about eighty years of age, heard of the Sabbath from some of the Salt River brethren, and she immediately accepted it. The place has been so much stirred over the matter that others have investigated, became convinced, and have also accepted the truth. I visit there occasionally to try to keep up the interest. At Parow there is also a good deal of stir about the truth. Brother Daniel May has been letting his light shine, and God has been blessing his efforts. A family among those he is working for have begun to obey; others are greatly interested. Brother May is looking forward to the time when a company will be organised there.

I find that the believers are not only interested in the truth themselves, but they are doing what they can to spread the light to their neighbours and friends, and they are also faithful in paying their tithes and offerings for the advancement of the work. For instance, one sister has a sick husband at home, who has been out of work for quite a while. When she met me a few days ago, she asked me to come to her home and fetch the tithe she has been saving up, remarking that although she has been much pushed for means, she could not think of touching the tithe. At another house where I began to hold readings, questions were asked and from those questions I took the subjects of my readings.

"Be satisfied with nothing but your best."

At one reading the tithing question came up and, I must confess my faith faltered, as these people had not yet decided in favour of the truth. However I went on and at the end of the reading, one man said, "I have to receive £75 as gain on my trade, and if you go with me to the bank to draw it, I will pay you the tithe to pay into your church," and so he did; and some time after that he and all in his house took their stand for the truth. If this should meet the eye of any who are withholding from the Lord His own, I hope a lesson may be learned from this experience. Brethren and sisters, Brother Tickton and I need your prayers for the blessing of the Lord in our work at Salt River.

D. C. THEUNISSEN.

East London

The week of prayer resulted in great blessing to the little company of Sabbath-keepers in the location. Before the week of prayer, for about a month, it seemed as though the devil was working to break up and destroy among the coloured members. One man and his wife had about given up, and nearly all had some difficulties. The Kafir portion seemed all right with the exception of one, an old Zulu. I had the privilege of conducting the first reading on the Sabbath, but as I could not be with them all the time, I was glad that Brother Moko could carry on the readings and conduct the prayer meetings. The good Spirit of the Lord came in, and hearts were convicted and confessions were made until, when we came to the close on Sabbath, April 1, all were united, and love and happiness were manifested in every countenance. On Sunday two followed their Lord in baptism. One had been waiting baptism, and the other was the result of the week of prayer.

After the baptism the company was organised into a church of nineteen members, nine of whom were coloured people, and ten Kafirs. A leader, church clerk, and two

deaconesses were elected. A deacon was not elected on account of their being so few resident brethren. All the company signed the covenant, and in the afternoon we celebrated the ordinances; the members living in other parts were leaving for their homes, and we thought good to embrace the opportunity when all could be present. The testimony meeting which followed showed that victory had been obtained, and some tears flowed. To the Lord be all the praise. The work is His; ours is the privilege to coöperate with Him.

For my own part, I praise the Lord for the message to my soul in the reading by Sister White, "Preparation for the Lord's Coming." This reading alone was worth spending a week over. I felt to, and did consecrate myself anew to Him, especially my lips, tongue, and ears, that I might be kept from speaking disparagingly of anyone, or listening to those that do.

Yours in the blessed hope,

G. W. SHONE.

Field Notes

—The following extract is from a letter received recently from Brother De Jager, Northern Transvaal, will be of interest:—

—"I was at Petersburg at the time of the opening of the Natal-Transvaal Conference, and having been prevented from attending the same, I went on a missionary tour, with the result that some persons accepted the truth, some of whom desired to be baptised. . . . We also heard of others who stood up for the truth, and even proclaimed it." The writer has written with a view to visiting this good brother shortly.

—A native minister with whom Brother Boshoff has been working, and who is desirous of learning our message, wrote to the camp-meeting from Volksrust, wishing us the Lord's blessing. Thus the work goes before the ministers can reach the openings which the Lord is making for the message.

—Sister Van Bart of Umkomass sends us £1 from her home Sabbath-school as the offerings for the past quarter. This family does not have the privileges of meeting with others of like faith, but the Lord upholds them and keeps them faithful. All isolated families should organise themselves into Sabbath-schools and should send regular reports and offerings.

—From Johannesburg we learn that a thoroughly organised missionary spirit is taking hold of that little church, and the Lord is richly blessing their activity. Six reports were sent me (as samples, no doubt) which give the following satisfactory items: Letters written, 8; letters received 6; Bible readings held, 3; periodicals distributed, 105; periodicals sold, 35; pages of tracts distributed, about 7,495; books sold, 13; books loaned, 5. This work was done in February month, when several of those reporting attended the camp-meeting. Sister Annie Grant says, as a result of her house to house work, that one lady, an intelligent nurse, has begun to keep the Sabbath; others are deeply interested. "I believe tract work to be one of the best means of getting the truth before the people." Again, "If there is a work I enjoy more than another, it is the tract work." Three other sisters report that their tract work has aroused a great interest. Would that this spirit to do faithful house to house work would spread throughout our churches. Readers, what are you doing in this line? Do not these reports encourage you? Get to work, "Now!"

—Sisters Bell and Edmed have been sending

a copy of the *Sentinel* each month to all the railway station-masters in our territory, and in January issued a circular inviting them to subscribe. Result,—several encouraging letters and a few subscriptions.

—Brother Gibb, who has been very ill for some time, is now on the road to recovery. We are thankful for this evidence of God's love, and such answers to prayer. At one time we almost despaired of our brother's recovery.

—Brother J. H. De Beer reports that a young Dutch brother in Brother De Jager's family, who has recently embraced the truth, desires an education to fit him for a place in God's work. This conference needs an intelligent Dutchman very sadly, and would like to see a young man encouraged. Is there not some one who would like to help this young man?

—The official address of this conference, and Tract Society from the first of May, will be as follows: The International Tract Society, Stranack Street, Maritzburg, Natal. The telegraphic address is "*Watchman*," Maritzburg, Natal.

H. J. EDMED.

—Sister Hyatt and Sister Albert White left Cape Town on the 13th of April to join the Somabula Mission near Gwelo, at which place they arrived safely and are now engaged in the work. Elder Armitage, who is the superintendent of this mission, is at the Cape Sanitarium, slowly recovering from his recent illness. Elder Armitage's wife is with him. During their absence from the mission, Brother A. H. White is in charge.

Cape Colony Canvassing Report, March, 1905

AGENT	TERRITORY	Book	Hours	Ord	Misc	Total	VALUE		Deliv'd	VALUE	
							£	s		£	s
I. B. Burton	Ceres	Great Controversy	110	6	42	48	£10	5 0	9	2	14 6
B. P. De Beer	Paarl	Great Controversy	97	36	61	97	27	11 9	41	3	6 0
John De Beer	"	"	27	8	51	59	8	5 0	7		12 0
Mrs. E. George	Sea Point	Story of Redemp'n	30	45	10	55	10	15 6	7		7 0
Chas. Haupt	Diep River	Miscellaneous	178		111	111	14	16 6	69	21	3 6
Wm. Haupt	Graaf Reinet	Great Controversy	105	68	69	137	46	10 6			
C. H. Shaw	East London	Masterpiece	45	31	2	33	39	0 0			
R. Sutherland	Rondebosch	Great Controversy	79	28	9	37	18	9 0	7		17 6
A. Tickton	Salt River	"									
P. J. Vermaak	Graaf Reinet	Great Controversy	79	3	59	62	6	3 9	62	6	3 9
9 Reports			741	225	414	564	181	17 0	202	£35	4 3

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE
South African Union Conference
of Seventh-Day Adventists.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, 2/6 PER YEAR.

Editor: - - - - - O. O. FORTNER.
 Kenilworth, Cape.

—Elder and Sister Hankins recently went to Port Elizabeth to hold meetings and to look after the interests of the work there.

—Some time ago the Cape Town office began to reproduce the The Sabbath-school lessons in Dutch by means of a copying machine, but this machine had become so worn out that the typing was illegible. Now a new neostyle has been secured by means of an exchange, and the lessons are coming out in good order. It is the wish of the office to place these lessons in the hands of every Dutch Sabbath-keeper. If you know of any who are not receiving them, please send their names and addresses to the office in Cape Town.

—On the morning of April 28 our aged Sister Lang departed this life. Sister Lang's Christian experience and missionary activities extended over many years. After a long and useful life spent in the service of her Master she has lain the armour down, but will soon take up the crown which surely awaits her at the last day. The funeral service was conducted by Brother Walston on Sunday afternoon, April 30, and the interment took place at the Maitland Cemetery in the presence of a large number of friends. "Blessed are they that die in the Lord."

—Brother and Sister W. H. Anderson have arrived at the Cape, having just returned from their furlough in America. After spending a few days at the Cape, they will start out on their long northward journey to the site of the new mission in Barotseland. Brother Anderson's aged mother is accompanying them. This is a missionary enterprise that should enlist the interest and sympathy

of every one whose desire is to see this message go to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. While these devoted missionaries go to the darkened portions of Africa to set up the banner of the gospel and standard of righteousness, let us uphold them with our prayers.

—Are you doing the best you can to circulate the *Sentinel*, our missionary paper? 2000 are used here at the Cape every month; 432 at Port Elizabeth; 250 at Maritzburg; 174 at Uitenhage; 1300 at Johannesburg; 66 at Sweetwaters; 80 at Klipdam; 50 at Rokeby Park; 30 at Grahamstown; 25 at East London; and a few smaller clubs at various places. It seems to us that some of these clubs ought to be larger, and these papers ought to be going to some places where there are none at present. If you want to help give the warning message, in what better way can you do it than to circulate the *Sentinel*?

—The week of prayer was a season greatly enjoyed by all the churches from which we have received reports. From every place the word comes that "it was the best ever experienced by our church." So it was with the churches in Cape Town and Claremont. In Cape Town we felt the presence and power of the Lord in great measure. We appointed the meetings half an hour earlier than usual so as to give more time, but even then we could never close the meetings on time, as all were full of good experiences and wanted to give expression to them. When the week came to an end, not a member was ready to have the meetings closed, so we continued the meetings every evening of the following week. The Cape Town offering amounted to £17:6:8. We trust that the blessings and victories gained in each church may not be lost amidst the cares and perplexities that may follow, but that we may go on from victory to victory until the warfare is over and we are ready to greet the Prince of Peace.

—Remember that the address of the Union Conference, *Sentinel*, and the MISSIONARY is Kenilworth, Cape.