

The South African

MISSIONARY

"Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."

VOLUME IX.

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Time As It Passes.

Can Time, as it passes, unnoticed, so swift
That day follows day as a dream—
And months, yea, and years in their
fleeting array,
Like billows, surge by on life's stream;—
Can Time, as it passes, our hearts leave
unstirred,
By wonders and signs that God's love
In warning so solemn, so earnest pro-
vides,
To lead our reflections above?
Shall Time, as it passes and hurries us
on
To glory eternal—or doom—
Unheeding descry us, impenitent, proud,
While perilous days round us loom?
Does Time, as it passes, our characters
mould,
Our angular surface obscure?
Does Time, as it passes, with merciful
hand,
Our manifold weaknesses cure?
Should Time, as it passes, and signs are
fulfilled—
(Preparing earth's ultimate scene)—
Should Time in its march to eternity
prove
We are yet as we ever have been?
Will Time, when it cease and eternity
come,
Of glorious victory tell?—
Shall we bear the palmwreath among
the whiterobed?—
The throngs of the glorified swell?
Let Time, as it passes no more to re-
turn,—
No more opportunities bring—
No more to o'erwhelm us with bounty
or woe,—
No more move to weep or to sing,—
Let Time, as it passes, of us testify:
Redeeming the days of their lot,
They press to the goal of the ransomed
above,—
Press onward to heaven, to God.

Gertrude Flather.

Missionary Volunteers.

WHAT are the youth doing? This is the question on the lips of many at this time. The calls come from all over the field. Aged workers are being laid away, the middle aged are carrying heavy burdens, and the expectant hearts of those in the field cry out, "What are the youth doing?" This question is answered by actions rather than words. The youth of South Africa are rallying to the front. They have heard the call of the Captain of our Salvation, and are answering, "Here am I send me."

Since the number of young persons is so large, it has become necessary for the General Conference to create a distinct department of work for our youth, and this is called the *Missionary Volunteer Department*. Henceforth all societies of our youth are to be under the name of *Missionary Volunteers*. The name is significant, for we are all missionaries whether home or foreign, and best of all we are volunteers. The aim of the department is "The Advent Message to all the World in this Generation."

Since the entire denomination is united in this movement, the youth at the Grahamstown meeting decided to fall into line, and active steps were taken to conform to the plans of the General Conference. The MISSIONARY has kindly opened its columns to us and we hope from time to time to lay the plans of organisation and work before the youth of South Africa. Any suggestions and plans will be greatly appreciated, and as far as is consistent will be carried out. We especially request those of our breth-

ren and sisters who have had experience to be free to suggest.

The first and most important step is consecration to the cause of God. Following comes consecrated labour. God desires to use all, but demands clean hands and pure hearts. An entire conformity to the will of God is the standard and nothing short of this will meet the demands. He is calling "Come to me." Surely no one can deny that God is calling for workers,—those who will labour just where they are. And when the present field is too small, He will provide larger spheres of labour. Will not all now answer "Lord, I gladly follow Thee?"

A FEW SUGGESTIONS ON ORGANISATION.

One of the first recommendations of the General Conference in regard to Missionary Volunteers was, "That only those who are members of the Seventh-day Adventist church, and are willing to engage in active service for Christ, be asked to join the society." The importance of this recommendation can be seen at once. Our business is to get the message before the world, and only those who are willing to help spread it, should be enrolled as members. The call is not for learners or entertainers, but for *workers*, and there is no reason for any being left out. In every church there should be a society; and where there is no church young persons may become members of the conference society. There is a great work to be done in a very short time. Members of societies should work for their associates, and meetings should be of such a nature as to

draw outsiders to attend. If by example and prayer each Vounteer does his part, soon there will be none who are not eligible to the society.

OFFICERS.

"The officers of each society shall be a leader, an assistant, a secretary, and a treasurer." An organist should also be appointed as one of the committee, to lend special help in arranging the music.

TERM OF OFFICE AND MANNER OF ELECTION.

"The term of office shall not be for a longer period of time than six months. Two weeks before the expiration of the term, a nominating committee shall be appointed to bring before the society at the next meeting nominations for officers for the ensuing term. This committee shall counsel with the church elder and the superintendent of the Sabbath-school in making up its report, so that in all things the work of the society may be under the guidance of the church."

REPORTING.

The local secretary shall report to the conference secretary of the Missionary Volunteers, who shall report to the union conference secretary of this department, and he in turn shall report to the corresponding secretary of the General Conference.

It is suggested that where the membership is large enough to make it possible, that the society be divided into companies or bands, each band to do a special line of work. Following are six suggestive divisions.

GOSPEL WORKERS.

Their work to hold Bible readings, cottage meetings, or branch Sabbath-schools.

VISITING WORKERS.

Work,—visiting the poor, sick, imprisoned, aged, and Sabbath-school Home Department members.

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE WORKERS.

Work,—distributing and selling papers, tracts, and books.

CORRESPONDING WORKERS.

Work,—missionary writing and sending literature.

BURDEN-BEARERS.

Work,—cutting wood, carrying coal, sewing, etc., for helpless poor.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Work,—ready for any line of work.

This outline for workers is only suggestive, and should be altered to suit local needs. Additional divisions may be formed. Anything to get this truth before the honest in heart, and to bring joy and comfort to those in need. The children should be formed into junior departments, and consecrated leaders should be found. Let the children be given a work to do also. "All at it, and always at it."

Much prayer should attend the election of officers, and when once elected they should receive the support of every member of the society.

Let us all take hold and make the Missionary Volunteer Department a success in South Africa.

R. G. RYAN.

Bloemfontein.

I REPORT our work here in Bloemfontein among our coloured people.

At Kaffersfontein, Tempe, Construction, and Thabanchu, where our members are spread,—all is still going gradually onward.

We have opened a new place called Gleen Station where one of our sisters lives. The people of this place ask for more help to manage the truth. Brethren and sisters remember them in your prayers.

I report our Sabbath-school work is doing a great work among our older people. I have tried to get some one to instruct our coloured people's children. Though our little congregation is still unable to carry this work I feel much for these poor children who are unable to read or sing or to see the signs of our soon coming Saviour. Dear readers of the MISSIONARY, remember us in this work.

I have spent a fortnight at the out-stations visiting lost sheep scattered in farms. I made fourteen visits, gave eighteen Bible readings, and twelve

sermons. I often get large gatherings, and some ask me to abide with them. People of different churches, Wesleyan, Ethiopian, Lion, Church of England, invited me to help them. I promised to come again and give them all points to read, until we meet and explain questions they do not understand.

J. R. MTIMKULU.

The New Magazine.

I AM sending a sample copy of the new magazine to our workers and church officers. What for?—To enlist your interest and aid in its circulation. The leading topics are timely, and ought to be studied by leaders in church and in state. If all will do something, we shall together do much. The paper will cost you 3d. How many will you use? Let each church send its order at once. Do not delay, for now is our time to give the message, and this paper has "meat in due season" for the people. Send all orders to Tract Society, 56 Roeland St., Cape Town, or Tract Society, Stranack St., Maritzburg, Natal.

The April *Sentinel* is ready to post. Are there not more of our people who could use from six to a dozen or two dozen copies per month, at only a half penny each? How can you do better work, and do it cheaper? If you are reading the *Sentinel*, you will want others to read it. Send in your subscription, only 1/6.

We publish these papers to give the "present truth." We earnestly solicit the aid of every one who loves the truth in the circulation of these papers. Now is our favourable opportunity.

I. J. HANKINS.

Though scoffers ask, where is your gain?
And mocking say your work is vain,
Such scoffers die and are forgot.
Work done for God, it dieth not!
Press on! press on! nor doubt nor fear;
From age to age this voice shall cheer;
Whate'er may die and be forgot,
Work done for God, it dieth not!

—Selected.

A Good Tonic.

TONICS are usually for those persons who are run down and need something to give them an appetite. If there are such canvassers in South Africa we hope that this article will have the proper effect upon them. Most of our canvassers are not running down, but running up good orders, reports, and experiences. Watch for the forth-coming report of our canvassers for the last seven months.

If the following does not put some *Tone* into the reader it will be because tonics can't reach your case. *Please examine carefully.* Brother le Riche's reports since the first of January are as follows: days 36, hours 343, exhibitions 1247, orders 356, value of orders £413 13 0 or an average of £41 7 3 per week for every week. The average for each hour is £1 4 1; or in U. S. money \$5.84. We were taught that \$1. an hour was a good average there.

We wish to call your attention particularly to his last report. Five days, 54 hours, 250 exhibitions, 65 orders, value of orders £83 10 0. This makes an average of eleven hours, thirteen orders, and £16 14 0 a day. By the hour it gives an average of £1 10s. in American money \$7.29. "Praise God from whom all blessings flow!" "There shall be delay no longer."

Brother le Riche is a young man under twenty years of age and is flesh and blood just like the rest of us, but his whole soul is in the message and he feels that the Lord has called him to the work that he is doing. Here is an extract from his last letter: "I am having very good success; in fact from the day I started to canvass, I have had good success . . . I usually work from eight to fourteen hours a day. Last Thursday I worked twelve hours and took £24 14s. worth of orders. I do not leave a man until I get his order. . . I go into the district as well as the towns. Harrismith show was on last week. Had plenty of people in from the district. I simply

The Paper Work.

Natal-Transvaal Conference, for week ending March. 11, 1910.

NAME	TERRITORY	PAPER	NO. SOLD	VALUE OF PAPERS
Mission Company,	Johannesburg,	Signs,	45	1 2 6
		G. Health,	53	13 3
		Life & Health,	287	7 3 6
		Wachter,	3	9
		Sentinel,	25	6 3
Totals,	Agents, 2		413	9 6 3

Cape Conference, for week ending March 18, 1910.

Mrs. E. George,	Somerset Strand,	G. H. & L. & H.	69	1 2 6
Totals,	Agents, 1		69	1 2 6

The Book Work.

Natal-Transvaal Conference, for week ending March 11, 1910.

NAME	PLACE	BOOK	HRS	ORDS	VALUE	HELPS	TOTALS	DEL'D
Mission Company,	Jo'burg, S. P.		47	42	13 13 0	2 0 6	15 13 6	1 13 0
E. Van der Molen,	Charles-town, & Newcastle, D. R.		35	1	1 1 0	1 12 0	2 13 0	8 15 0
C. Dixie,	Jeppes town,	D. R.	19	7	6 12 0		6 12 0	15 3 0
Mrs. Howard,	City & Sub,	D. R.	16	10	8 5 0		8 5 0	13 6
E. Howard,	Newlands,	D. R.	22	26	20 3 6		20 3 6	1 1 0
E. Enochson,	Alberton,	D. R.	30	3	2 15 6		2 15 6	10 4 6
T. G. Crouch,	Pretoria,	D. R.	30½	7	9 6 0		9 6 0	4 17 0
B. Piercey,	Klerksdorp,	P. P.	34	23	23 5 6		23 5 6	
F. C. Purchase,	"	P. P.	27½	12	12 4 6		12 4 6	
J. H. de Beer,	Pretoria,	G. C.	10					22 11 4
Totals,	Agents, 10		271	131	97 6 0	3 12 6	100 18 6	64 8 4

Cape Conference, for week ending March, 11, 1910.

Mr. & Mrs. Terry,	Cathcart, G. C.		38	8	5 7 6		5 7 6	
Lewis Williams,	Hanover, G. C.		4	4	2 12 6		2 12 6	
Hugh Williams,	Colesburg, G. C.		42	5	3 7 6	5 18 0	9 5 6	1 13 0
J. D. le Riche,	Harrismith, G. C., C. K., & Man.		54	65	83 10 0		83 10 0	
Q. H. Jubber,	P. E'beth, C. O. S.		26	27	4 11 6		4 11 6	
P. Ahlfeldt,	Grahamstown, C. K.							6 6
Totals,	Agents, 7		164	109	99 9 0	5 18 0	105 7 0	1 19 6

Natal-Transvaal Conference, for week ending March 18, 1910.

E. Howard,	City & Sub., D. R.		22	50	39 15 0	6 0	40 1 0	19 6
Mrs. Howard,	City & Sub., D. R.		19	17	13 14 6		13 14 6	
T. G. Crouch,	Burgersdorp & Pretoria, D. R.		31½	21	19 16 0		19 16 0	
E. Enochson,	Elsburg, D. R.		24½	5	5 5 0		5 5 0	1 16 0
E. Van der Molen,	Newcastle, D. R.		39	12	11 9 6	14 6	12 4 0	14 6
A. Whelan,	Jeppes. Ext., G. P.		23	29	2 3 6		2 3 6	2 3 6
E. Edie,	Germiston Location, Misc. (1 month)		33		2 10 0		2 10 0	2 10 0
Totals,	Agents, 7		159	167	94 13 6	1 0 6	95 14 0	8 3 6

Cape Conference, for week ending March 18, 1910.

J. F. Terry,	Queenstown, G. C.		25	9	6 5 0		6 5 0	
Mrs. Terry,	" G. C.		26	13	8 17 6	3 6	9 1 0	
P. Ahlfeldt,	F't Beaufort, Steps,		10	7	17 6		17 6	
Mrs. E. George,	Somerset Strand, S. of H,		37	46	13 16 0		13 16 0	
Totals,	Agents, 4		98	75	29 16 0	3 6	29 19 6	

South African Missionary

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Editor: - - - Mrs. R. C. PORTER
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hustled in and got hold of all I could. Took plenty of orders too. My opinion is, that if you desire to take up the canvassing, it must be of the Lord, not of yourself. Do not take on the canvassing work just to make a living out of it. It should be for the love of God and humanity, and if that is your object, you will be diligent in your business. . . . For myself I am glad to be in the work, and my desire is to say every time, wherever needed, no matter what work it is as long as it is in connection with this message, 'here am I, send me.'"

Brother Piercey writes: "Brother Purchase and myself feel that the Lord has been with us all this week, and that He will never desert us so long as we do our duty. We have answers to our prayers every day. Last Sunday morning I visited a gentleman and had a very good conversation with him and another man who came in while I was there, and as I make it a rule never to go out without my prospectus, I managed to work the conversation up to my book, and I canvassed them with the result that I secured two orders for morocco bindings. In the afternoon, I had the same experience as in the morning, so on Sunday I secured four orders in all.

Brother Purchase is having many spiritual blessings and experiences."
G. H. CLARK.

Notes.

—ON account of the illness of one of the compositors in the office, the monthly issue of the *Sentinel*, and the week of prayer coming this week, the *MISSIONARY* is unavoidably late.

—Elder G. W. Shone has changed his place of residence from Wilgehoek, Lindley, O. R. C., to Aliwal

North, C. C. Let all take notice of this in their correspondence with him.

—The Union Conference Committee request that as a fitting close to the week of prayer all churches provide for an aggressive missionary campaign for the coming year. More definite suggestions will be given later.

—Brotner F. T. Rochester who gave up a good position in Grahams-town that he might keep the Sabbath, has secured a position in East London where he has the privilege of the Sabbath. He is devoting his leisure time to the study of the truth, and assisting Brother M. Baker in the location work.

—Brother C. Sparrow and family of Rhodesia are in Claremont for a few days. They have two boys in the College whom they are visiting. Sister Sparrow was needing medical advice, and a visit to the Sanitarium at Plumstead has greatly encouraged her to believe that with care her health will be restored. They go from here to Grahamstown to visit Brother Sparrow's mother.

—A late letter from Brother H. C. Olmstead is full of courage and hope. They are encountering the difficulties in starting a new mission bravely. They are some distance from a source of food supplies, and without conveyance of any kind, but they are cheerfully doing without many needful things. Brother Olmstead says, "Our stock is about down to milk, flour and potatoes." Pray for our self-sacrificing mission workers.

—The second number of the *Signs of the Times Magazine* will soon be ready. It will be a great improvement over the first issue. This Magazine can be sold by many of our church members if they will devote a little time to the work. It will bring financial returns to the individual sufficient to make the work self-supporting while scattering the precious seeds of truth. Now is the time to send in your orders.

—Elder Sturdevant writing under date of March 22, from Salisbury says he was on his way home, having

been absent a month looking up a new mission site. He was greatly prospered and favoured in all his travels. The homes of strangers were opened to him without charge all the way along. A farm of 3083 morgan has been applied for, and Elder Sturdevant received encouragement that the government would make the grant for mission purposes. It is seven miles only from the railroad, and in a thickly populated native district. These natives begged him to come into into their midst and start a school. Elder Sturdevant will tell us more about the plans and prospects a little later.

College Dormitory Fire.

At two o'clock, A. M. April 6th, a fire broke out in the shed attached to the rear of the dormitory of Union College. It was well under way when observed. The alarm was given to Professor Crager by one of the students, and after a hasty inspection he quickly awakened the students. The young men, and Brother C. Sparrow lost no time in making ready to fight the fire. The ladies desired to lend their assistance, and did so by quietly gathering for a short season of prayer. They afterward proceeded to prepare for the worst while hoping for the best.

The heroic work done with the extinguishers and water soon brought the fire under control, and it was extinguished with slight loss. The insurance company sent their agent to investigate immediately, and no doubt the loss will be adjusted speedily.

New pipes had just been laid from the water main to the dormitory. This was a great factor in fighting the fire, as it gave the full force of the water supply from the main.

The cause of the fire is not known. After the fire the school all gathered in the chapel for a praise service. We feel that God has graciously spared us any calamity, and permitted us to see the effect of training our young people are receiving.

R. C. PORTER.