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The THRILL of HOME VISITATION

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HAVE you ever taken part in Home Visitation Day? Have you ever experienced the thrill of contacting your neighbours and spending a few minutes talking with them about the nearness of the coming of Christ? It is the thrill of a lifetime, and should be the experience of all who profess the name of Christ not just once in a lifetime, but as a regular, continuous experience.

When Jesus gave the great commission to His disciples to "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature," Mark 16: 15, He realized that it meant contacting the inhabitants of every home in existence with the gospel message. He had already given the disciples some training in this type of work when He sent the twelve on a missionary tour (Matt. 10:11-13). Later on He sent the seventy on a house-to-house mission. They had wonderful experiences and when they

returned to Him, "the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through Thy name." Luke 10:17.

Jesus has not found it necessary to change this plan of house-to-house evangelism for any other plan that may have more glamour in it. He knows that it is a successful plan, that is why He has inspired His church to have Home Visitation Days throughout the year. It brings joy to His heart when He sees His people going out from house to house, two by two, as the disciples did in olden days. It would bring greater joy to His heart if He could see this programme being carried on regularly throughout the year by every church in the Southern Asia Division, because Jesus knows that time is very short and a great work of evangelism must yet be done.

Frequently He counsels us through the Spirit of Prophecy that more house-to-house work must be done than has been done in the past. He knows the joy that will be ours when we engage in this pleasant work for Him.

Word reaches us that our church members in Ceylon have caught a vision of the importance of house-to-house evangelism. The church members of the Colombo churches rent a bus, then go to some outlying village or town. They then visit as many homes as possible and after a brief visit they leave a piece of literature and try to get enrolments for the Voice of Prophecy. In the evening, before returning home, they hold an open air meeting where a brief message is presented to the crowds that gather. This is a plan that could well be followed in other parts of the Division. These home missionaries return to their homes

WORLD-WIDE HOME VISITATION DAY MARCH 6

Are YOU planning to do YOUR part?

with joyous hearts as did the disciples, because they have been doing the bidding of the Master.

On one occasion I was planning a series of evangelistic meetings. For weeks before the meetings began the territory about the church, for a mile in every direction, was well saturated with Spirit-filled literature. The distribution was systematic, each church member covering the same territory each week. After the first meeting a young girl of about fourteen came to me and said, "Pastor, did you see that elderly couple sitting on the fourth row from the front? They are in my territory and I asked them to come. Isn't it wonderful? I'm so happy."

There were many other church members there that night who were

happy also because people from their territory, whom they had been visiting from week to week, had come to the meeting.

Yes, it is a wonderful thrill to follow the plan of Jesus and go from house to house with the gospel message. We want to share this thrill with you. Sabbath, March 6, is World-wide Home Visitation Day. It would indeed be wonderful if every church member in Southern Asia took part in this programme, and started a week-by-week Home Visitation plan that would not stop until God's work has been finished and every home in Southern Asia has been given an opportunity to learn of Christ's Gospel message. *Remember the date for Home Visitation—March 6.*

large buildings, or great display that God requires, but the *harmonious action of a peculiar people*, a people chosen by God and precious. Every man is to stand in his lot and place, thinking, speaking and acting in harmony with the Spirit of God. Then and not until then, will the work be a complete, symmetrical whole."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, p. 293. Thus it is very evident that the place to begin is with the people comprising our churches.

You will not be surprised now to hear this admonition:

"Ministers, preach the truths that will lead to personal labour for those who are out of Christ. Encourage personal effort in every possible way."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, p. 124.

"Those who have the spiritual oversight of the church should devise ways and means by which an opportunity may be given to every member of the church to act some part in God's work. Too often in the past this has not been done. Plans have not been clearly laid and fully carried out, whereby the talents of all might be employed in active service. There are but few who realize how much has been lost because of this."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, p. 116.

"Many pastors fail in not knowing how, or in not trying, to get the full membership of the church actively engaged in the various departments of church work. If pastors would give more attention to getting and keeping their flock actively engaged at work, they would accomplish more good, have more time for study and religious visiting, and also avoid many causes of friction."—*Gospel Workers*, p. 198.

What the church needs in these days of peril is an army of workers:

Who have educated themselves for usefulness;

Who have a deep experience in the things of God;

Who are filled with earnestness and zeal;

Who are sanctified and self-sacrificing;

Who will not shun trial and responsibility;

Who are brave and true;

Men in whose hearts Christ is formed the "hope of glory;"

Who, with lips touched with holy fire, will "preach the Word"! (See *Christian Service*, p. 244.)

March 6, 1954 is the day of great opportunity. It is the day for the church in Southern Asia to fulfil prophecy.

UNITED ACTION WILL FINISH THE TASK

O. W. LANGE

Home Missionary Secretary, Northeast Union

NOW is the time for the church to arise and do its final work! Upon the Remnant Church rests the great responsibility of warning the doomed world in these perilous times.

The Church, as depicted by Bible prophecy, has been in its Laodicean state—pleased with its good offices, satisfied with plenty, soothed by its good works into a state of lethargy. God calls us to be zealous and to repent. "When the reproach of indolence and slothfulness shall have been wiped away from the church, the Spirit of the Lord will be graciously manifested. Divine power will be revealed. The church will see the providential working of the Lord of hosts. The light of truth will shine forth in clear, strong rays, and as in the time of the apostles, many souls will turn from error to truth. The earth will be lightened with the glory of the Lord."—*Christian Service*, page 43.

We are told that, "A revival and reformation must take place under the administration of the Holy Spirit."—*Christian Service*, page 42. And interestingly enough, the Lord's servant gives a most encouraging

picture of the work of the church when that reformatory movement takes place. "Many were praising God. The sick were healed and other miracles were wrought. . . . Hundreds and thousands were seen visiting families, and opening before them the Word of God. Hearts were convicted by the Holy Spirit, and a spirit of genuine conversion was manifest. On every side doors were thrown open to the proclamation of the truth. The world seemed to be lightened with the heavenly influence. Great blessings were received by the true and humble people of God."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, page 126. This shows an active Spirit-filled church fulfilling its appointed task.

How can our churches be awakened? How can they be prepared? What do they need? Where do we begin? Left to our own devising for the solution to these questions we would doubtless flounder and perish with the world. But God has not left us alone. He has provided us with a blueprint and clues to help.

God makes it clear that it is not the material things that are needed—"It is not numerous institutions,

"Many were praising God. . . . Hundreds and thousands were seen visiting families and opening before them the Word of God." Dear fellow-believers if you are looking for the coming of Jesus, if you are expecting a place in the new earth, it will be indicated by the attitude you take toward the unwarned around you.

Fear and darkness is enveloping the earth. We must press together working harmoniously, "shoulder to shoulder, heart to heart" with but the one purpose of finishing the task and being fully prepared for the coming of the Lord.

The plan outlined for the Home Visitation Day offers wonderful opportunities to every leader—every church member. In every church let the members meet together for special prayer and go out in groups two by two visiting in the homes of the people. Let us prepare our hearts for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. He has been promised to the church in great abundance. Let us claim the promise *now* that the true revival and reformation foretold by God's servant may take place amongst us now and the work be finished.

In the Northeast Union we plan to use the "Truth for Our Times" in the major languages. We are recommending to our churches that they use the packets of these truth-filled papers which have been so kindly prepared by Pastor Skau at the Oriental Watchman Publishing House. Each packet contains a full set of the papers. We are recommending that every church member take at least five of these packets and that he visit at leave five homes.

When the visit is made they are to learn the name and address of the individual they are visiting which they will write on one packet. They will give out one paper each week during the following weeks carefully checking off each paper as it is given away and noting any special interest that the individual may show from time to time. If an interest develops the church member will invite one of the workers to visit the person or he may be enrolled in the Voice of Prophecy Correspondence School or both.

By following up the first visitation day in this way, many interests will be cultivated and many souls drawn to the Saviour.

Shall we not stir ourselves to do our appointed task—bring the blessed hope to thousands and receive the "great blessings" promised to the "true and humble people of God!"



PERSONAL CONTACT IN MISSION WORK

N. O. DAHLSTEN
*Home Missionary Secretary, Ceylon
Union*

THE last command that Jesus gave to His disciples before He left them was, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, . . . and I will be with you." Matt. 28:19, 20. It was a command to go and tell the people what they had seen and heard. That they carried out this order is evident from the record in Acts 5:42 where it says, that "they ceased not to teach and to preach Jesus Christ" even though some tried by force and threats to keep them from doing this. It is perhaps of this experience that the apostle John speaks when he says "that which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled . . . declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us." I John 1:1-3.

The command to "go" is as pertinent today as it was when spoken to the disciples nearly two thousand years ago. And it will not be withdrawn until the glad day when the gospel work shall have been finished in the earth and Jesus returns. It does not apply to any one group alone among the professed followers of Jesus. It is a command to every individual who calls himself a disciple of Christ to make known the glad message of salvation.

It is said that at a meeting of a certain church group, where the question of how best to carry out this command was discussed, many conflicting views and ideas were expressed, until a certain gentleman who was present by special invitation arose and said, "Ladies and gentlemen, what are your marching orders? If I understand it right, your orders are to 'go' and that means everyone of you."

God expects every child of His to become an important link in the chain of salvation let down from heaven to save a lost world. The plan of redemption calls for the active participation of redeemed men and women in co-operating with God to rescue men from the snares of sin

and death. The Christian is to become a witness and give evidence concerning the things which he has seen and heard. He must tell the truth and nothing but the truth concerning what he knows and what he has seen and heard of the power, love, and truth of God.

Witnessing for Christ is a work which cannot be done by proxy or dilatory methods. Personal, direct and systematic efforts must be put forth if the good news of the gospel is to be given to all the world in this generation. The preacher, the evangelist and the church members must all share the burden of witnessing for Christ. Every person born into the kingdom of God is to look upon himself as a missionary. "The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers."—*Gospel Workers*, p. 352.

In that wonderful sermon on the mountain Jesus said, "Ye are the salt of the earth." Diffusion and direct contact is here inferred. A lump of salt is no good as long as it remains in that form. It must be diffused and come in contact with the substance it is to season if it is to become useful. Just so with the Christian. If he is to fill his place in God's plan, he must, like the salt, come into direct contact with his fellowmen and witness to them of the blessings that the gospel has brought to him personally.

It is not enough to witness for Christ in an impersonal and indirect way by giving money for the support of a certain drive or effort.

These of course help, but what is needed today is a personal and direct method of missionary work. And what are the methods? Well, house-to-house work is one of the most effective ways of doing this.

Personal work characterized the ministry of Christ and was one of

the secrets of His success. He looked upon humanity not as a mass, but as individuals and took as much interest in a single person as He would in the large gathering of five thousand. Nicodemus and the woman of Samaria are examples of this, to mention only a few. He entered the homes of the people and shared in their joys and sorrows. In this way He won their confidence and was able to lead them to a knowledge of the truth. If we would follow Christ's method of house-to-house work and take a personal interest in our friends and neighbours we would see more results of our efforts to win souls for the kingdom.

One of the most effective ways in which light can be communicated is by private, personal effort. In the home circle, at your neighbour's fire-side, at the bedside of the sick, in a quiet way you may read the Scriptures and speak a word for Jesus and the truth."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, p. 428.

There are many who shrink from performing such a work. They are timid and fear to make direct contacts. For this reason it would be well if every church could have a class on how to do such work. The church should be the training centre for such activities. The blessing of the gospel must be shared with others through direct contact and personal ministry. This will be possible where the heart is filled with the love of God and a burden for lost souls. "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ: . . . we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." 2 Cor. 5:20.

MY NEIGHBOUR

W. F. STORZ

*Home Missionary Secretary,
South India Union*

PROBABLY the most neglected people so far as spiritual help is concerned are our neighbours. Our meeting becomes commonplace and therefore our conversation also usually becomes commonplace. But let us remember that from the spiritual aspect we are our brother's keeper. After all, who is the one who will be held most accountable for my neighbour, the one who lives a mile away or I who live next door?

"One of the two which heard John

speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ. And he brought him to Jesus." John 1:40-42.

Very recently a young man was baptized, who on the day previous to his baptism made the statement, "I have not prepared my brother for this baptism, he will be ready for the next one." He was evidently sorry that he could not have his brother ready so that they could be baptized together, but he was preparing him just as soon as possible. Oh, for more like zeal in our service for our Master. Let not our Christianity become so commonplace to us that our witness to our neighbour be forgotten.

"Every sanctified heart will be pressed into service as an instrument of divine power."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, p. 47. This includes every individual who has a personal experience with the Lord. This does not mean only the man of the house. It means all! We are told by the servant of the Lord that, "The Saviour will reflect upon these self-sacrificing women the light of His countenance, and this will give them a power that will exceed that of men. They can do in families a work that men cannot do, a work that reaches the inner life. . . . Discreet and humble women can do a good work in explaining the truth to the people in their homes. The Word of God thus explained will do its leavening work, and through its influence whole families will be converted."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, p. 128, 129.

Children also are included among those who have a definite work to do in winning souls. "With you the children should share spiritual as well as physical burdens. By helping others they increase their own happiness and usefulness."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 7, p. 63.

So with every member of the family working for his neighbour, it will not take long to enlighten whole neighbourhoods with our gospel message. This is the purpose of the Home Visitation Day programme. This work cannot be finished and Jesus cannot come until we "preach the gospel to every creature." Who is going to finish this gigantic task? Not one fewer than those whom the Lord numbers as His own. For He tells us through His servant that, "The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church-mem-

bership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, p. 117.

May the Home Visitation Day of March 6 be the day when a hundred thousand inhabitants of this great Southern Asia Division are introduced to Jesus, their Saviour, because you and I have individually done our small part.

"PRAY FOR THEM"

R. F. JURIANZ

*Home Missionary Secretary,
Northwest India Union*

"PREACHING will not do the work that needs to be done, . . . sermons will not do it. By visiting the people, talking, PRAYING, sympathizing with them, you will win hearts."

"Go to your neighbours . . . sympathize with them, PRAY for them . . ."

"Singing and PRAYER and Bible readings are needed in the homes of the people."

I had read these and similar statements many a time, but I had not been impressed with the necessity for praying in the homes. I felt that this instruction was for America where the people all have a Christian background. I could not see how we could go into non-Christian homes and pray to a Christian God. But when we had a Home Visitation Day in the Bombay church sponsored by Elder J. E. Edwards, I decided I'd try it out and I did.

My wife and I, as one of the teams on that day, visited about eight homes during the two hours and had prayer in every home except one. Some of those we visited were Catholics, others were Hindus, but all appreciated the fact that we prayed *with them* and *for them*. For months afterwards we visited the same people weekly and have had some wonderful visits together.

I have been completely convinced of the importance of praying for our neighbours. The passages I have quoted reveal the importance of this. Let us as we visit the homes of the people on March 6, the World-wide Home Visitation Day, plan to pray with the people, sympathize with them and by using Christ as our text, draw them closer to Him who loved them and died for them.

OUR MARCHING ORDERS

LOUIS K. DICKSON



GOD'S call for the establishment of the Remnant Church is clearly heard in the striking prophecy of Revelation 14:6, 7. We find our marching orders as a church within that same prophecy in the words, "Fear God, and give glory to Him." This is a call to evangelism—world evangelism. The messenger of the Lord has said:

"The Lord God of heaven will not send upon the world His judgments for disobedience and transgression until He has sent His watchman to give the warning. He will not close up the period of probation until the message shall be more distinctly proclaimed. . . .

"The message of Christ's righteousness is to sound from one end of the earth to the other to prepare the way of the Lord. This is the glory of God, which closes the work of the third angel."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, p. 19.

Thus it is plain that if we would be in tune with God's plan for His people now, we must "fear God, and give glory to Him"—that is, we must give to Him His rightful place in our lives and glorify Him by sounding His message everywhere.

God would have His people elevate Him and His service into first place in their lives and manifest this fact to all the world. "Get thee up into the high mountain," is the command of our great Leader (Isa. 40:9). It was a common thing in ancient times when a multitude was to be addressed or a proclamation was to be made, for the crier to go into a mountain where he could be seen and heard. Thus Jotham, addressing the men of Shechem, is said to have gone and "stood in the top of mount Gerizim, and lifted up his voice." (Judges 9:7.) The thought is that the messengers of the joyful news were to make themselves distinctly heard by all the inhabitants of the city and land. This was always done in times of great emergency.

We have reached a time in world history when we need to adopt emergency tactics in bringing God's

message of salvation and warning to a world about to be destroyed because of sin. Time is short. Every means possible must be used so that no one will be missed. Every hand is needed now. Millions upon millions are about to perish, and they must be told of the only means of escape.

The remnant people of God have been given this great world emergency task. This is beyond question the moment when the entire world should be hearing the voice of the last message of mercy—the everlasting gospel.

"There is a great work to be done, and every effort possible must be made to reveal Christ as the sin-pardoning Saviour, Christ as the Sin-Bearer, Christ as the bright and morning Star; and the Lord will give us favour before the world until our work is done."—*Ibid.*, pp. 20, 21.

Let us not present merely a religion of profession, but rather a religion of demonstration and uttermost salvation. We face conditions that are baffling and utterly beyond the control of man. We see our churches and our people undergoing fierce trials and temptations. Soon the final scenes of earth will be enacted and the coming of Jesus will take place. The remedy for sin must be held high before the world and be declared now, as it were, from the mountaintop. We must take every possible step to elevate the gospel message before the entire world.

God is calling you and me to make very prominent in our lives and service the only true answer to the world's dilemma. We lack power for this great task, but we must ever remember that while God calls upon us to come to Him for the added strength we need, it must be that we come on the grounds that our present strength and ability are well invested to their full capacity in His service.

ADDED POWER FOR WITNESSING

Is it possible that our re-inforcements of power from on high tarry because the forces we already have

are drowsing? If the church is to meet successfully God's call for this mighty hour, she must increase greatly the streams of light and truth and swell them into a great flood, an accomplishment which is altogether possible with the power God has already bestowed. Oh! let us bring to full tide now the facilities God has already placed in our hands. As this is done, power will be added with which to finish the work.

The talk about crises has certainly been overdone, but beyond a shadow of a doubt the present hour is the time of times for pressing the advantage that the forces of the Advent Movement now have on virtually every continent of the globe.

Why do we falter? Why do we shrink from entering in when God has so signally opened the way before us? If the latent capacities that God sees in the church were now exercised, they would make possible the meeting of the present unprecedented situation of opportunity and need around the world.

Diligence in the business of serving the Lord would throw these energies into action, and a mighty work would be accomplished. Surely the times to which we have come should awaken us all to the urgency of this matter. The peril that we face is that while men are exceedingly businesslike in the things that redound to their personal gain, they are exceedingly unbusinesslike in the things that have to do with the interests of the church.

Why do we drop our alertness, our sharpness and shrewdness, when we face God's great commission? Why do we become dull and sluggish in the church when we face the

(Continued on p. 16)

GOD'S CARE *for* HIS PEOPLE

A. F. JESSEN

THINKING it might encourage some who read this article, as they see how God cares for His people in times of trouble, I relate the experience I had when the Pakistan Express Passenger train crashed at Jhimpir on January 21, 1954, seventy-five miles out of Karachi at 5:30 a.m.

There were two railway tracks. On one was our train, going from Lahore to Karachi, having eleven bogies and a large deisel engine. On the other was an oil freighter with 15 to 20 tanks filled with oil coming from Karachi. The oil freighter had been derailed, and one bogie had evidently come across our track or close to it. The freighter was on a bend of the line, so our driver could not see it till close by.

Our train, travelling between 50 and 60 miles an hour, struck the obstruction, and the engine and first carriage, a third class, jumped the tracks, and were standing at an angle of about 25 degrees at the bottom of the 7 ft. embankment. The oil tank was then evidently pushed across the track, and the second bogie, a third and inter, crashed into it. It was crushed and twisted all out of shape, making a mass of wreckage about 15 ft. high. The third bogie, in which I was, consisting of first and second class, was smashed into more than a thousand pieces. It was just a shapeless mass of broken planks, etc., with the tubular oil tank, about 15 ft. long, on top of it, and the deisel oil flowing all over it. Within four minutes of the crash, the smashed bogies, with well over a hundred people in them, were a blazing inferno. I had been in bogie No. 3.

An hour later, an engine came from Hyderabad, and four bogies were uncoupled and pulled back. The engine, with the four bogies, loaded the thirty to forty wounded, mostly from No. 1 bogie, which jumped the rails, and it took any passengers who wanted to get in, and went back to Hyderabad, a few miles back.

Now let me tell you how the Lord cared for me in that smashed bogie, —smashed beyond recognition as a carriage. I was in an upper berth of a six-berth second class compartment. There were first class compart-

ments at both ends of our bogie. About 5:30 in the morning I was awakened by a jolt, and the carriage had a crazy motion. There were smashing sounds outside, and I was immediately aware that it was a wreck. I asked the Lord to save me, and then I lay waiting a few seconds. Then followed a tremendous impact, and a few screams. I seemed to be gently moved from one position to another. I did not hit against anything at any time during the crash. Just before the final crash, I was turned face downwards. I drew up my legs and hunched my back, and wondered whether God wanted me saved; if not, whether death would be instantaneous, or whether I would be pinned down with a mangled body. The final crash came, and still I was not thrown against anything, —nothing struck me, and I thankfully said, "Lord, you have saved me."

Then I felt water flowing over me; it was soon up to my waist. (I found out later it was deisel oil.) I thought we must have fallen into a river, and I wondered if I was saved yet. Then there were shouts of, "Fire, fire!" I said, "Lord, please help me to get out of this." I was lying about three feet under the debris. My bunk was over me, and I was lying on a mass of smashed planks—yet I was quite comfortable. I pushed upwards, and my bunk moved; then, pushing aside broken boards, I came out on top, without a scratch or a bruise.

Immediately on impact the oil tank had caught fire, and the flames by this time were more than forty feet high, and there was a terrible roar from the burning. A biting cold wind blew the flames over my head as they came closer and closer. I heard someone screaming for someone to save him, and there, about three feet under the wreckage, was one of my travelling companions, pinned down, with a chain pressing on his throat, and broken planks over him so that he could not move. I did my best to lift the wreckage, but could not. I shouted for help, and finally a man came, and together we tried to lift, but in vain. The man then ran away, because the fire was just upon us. My friend, who

was pinned down, Mr. Abbasi, an electrical engineer in the Royal Pakistan Air Force, begged of me not to leave him to be burnt up. I called upon God to help me lift that wreckage, and when I bent down to lift, "Someone" lifted with me, and we were able to lift high enough to set Mr. Abbasi free. He flung his arms around me crying, "You have saved my life, you have saved my life." The flames were right upon us, but my oil-soaked pants did not catch fire, neither were we scorched. Hand in hand my friend and I ran away from the flames. I excused myself from my companion, and went about fifty yards away behind a grove of cactus, and there I thanked the Lord for caring for me so wonderfully, and I re-dedicated my life to His service.

At bedtime the night before, my travelling companions were getting into their pyjamas, and I had mine out, but decided that, as we would reach Karachi about daylight, I would sleep in my pants, shirt and socks. Later in the night it was very cold, in spite of being covered with two blankets, so I got up and put on my sweater. So, though all my belongings were destroyed by the fire, I had something to wear all day.

The breakdown special took us away from there at 1 p. m. We arrived in Karachi at 4:30, and by 5:30 I was in our Mission Hospital. Brethren Brown and Fouts took me down town where I was able to buy shoes, socks, trousers, and a shirt. I am indeed thankful that I was saved from the horrible sight of the trapped and twisted bodies being burnt, by being so intent and busy in rescuing my fellow-passenger. I did not see one dead body. All had been burnt up in that terrible fire which continued for many hours. One oil tank after another burst and spilt its contents over an area of several hundred square yards, feeding that awful fire.

I have tried to imagine how the angel protected me from bumps and bruises, apart from death, for though all in my compartment were saved they were badly cut and bruised. It is hard to understand how the angel did it, but I know he did it, and I am so thankful to be spared for further service.

I AM the church clock. You may think of me as an insignificant fixture on the wall. But I want to tell you that I have more influence than the church elder or the church deacon, by far. In fact, I receive more attention than anyone in the church.

Even the preachers dare not ignore me. If they do, others remind them of my presence and keep them informed of my progress. And sooner or later they find it to their advantage to keep on good terms with me.

I want to ask you a serious question. You've heard of clock watchers. Do you—you in the back row just in front of me—do you want your preacher to be a clock watcher?

You think you don't. I think you do. You don't want him to be a five o'clock clock watcher. When you call him up and you're in trouble and you need him right now, you don't want him to say it's after five o'clock or he's tired or he's already done his day's work or he's on vacation or he'll try to stop by next week. Of course not!

You don't want your preacher to be a clock watcher when he's taking his time for you. But when you come to church and he's taking your time for God—then you do! The minute it's twelve o'clock you want me to tick right up into his consciousness and louder and louder until he stops.

Now while you're all sitting right in front of me, it's a good time to think this over.

GOD SPEAKS THROUGH HIS SERVANTS

There are some red books that you talk about a lot. In one of them it tells about the evil of long sermons, and how some sermons ought to be cut in two. That's good counsel.

But it seems to me—maybe I'm wrong—but it seems to me that those same red books have often spoken about the minister being a mouth-piece for God, and God speaking through him. What I can't understand is this: What right do you or I have to tell God when to stop speaking through His messenger?

Now if God doesn't speak through His ministers, it's different. But in that case why do you come to church? Why not just join some club or society if you want to listen to some man's ideas?

In a political rally, or something like that, I think I ought to be in full control. But in church?

I'm not used to talking. I usually just tick. But this is one time I wish a church clock could strike, and strike hard.

The Church Clock

MARJORIE LEWIS LLOYD

This really troubles me. You see, I feel so well acquainted with you. I've heard you sing and pray and testify for years. You give your lives to the Lord, you say. All that you have is His. But not your time! The Lord can have one hour a week, and not a minute more. God can say anything He likes, just so it is smooth and encouraging, up to twelve o'clock. But not a word more!

Isn't there a text that says, "Speak unto us smooth things"? But I guess people don't even want smooth preaching after twelve o'clock.

One thing I've never been able to figure out. If we had church on Monday, it would be different. But where do all you people go when you rush out of here on Sabbath? I thought it was a day of worship. Then what do you have to do that is so much more important than church? I've heard it explained about how some women have to get home because their husbands are not Christians. I think there are two or three like that. But does the whole church have to go along with those women?

I heard somebody say, "When you get home from church you get involved." Whatever that means, I know at least one preacher was afraid his people were getting "involved" in too many things on the Sabbath. It must be something, because I've noticed hardly any of you are ever able to come to church on Sabbath afternoon for a meeting or for missionary work. Too involved, I guess.

Paul preached till midnight. Remember? But if he had been in this church, he would have had to stop at nine—or nine-fifteen at the latest. If he had talked till ten o'clock, his audience would have walked out.

Another thing, I wish someone would explain to me about good manners. It seems rather rude to me when people begin winding their watches and shaking them and turn-

ing on noises and walking out just because I say it's twelve o'clock. If they'd been listening to the sermon, they never would have known. And so often it's the ones who come latest who are eager to leave the church earliest, I've noticed.

Now here's the way it seems to me. I don't think a preacher should be long-winded. It isn't that. But if God is speaking through the preacher, I think you ought to sit and listen until the preacher has finished. Any time God sees that He can't use a man any longer, He will do the removing. And He won't just move him. He'll take him clear out of His work. But that is God's business.

I don't want to gossip. I hear and see too much of it. But you know, I'm in churches everywhere, not just here. And this happened a long way from somewhere. I saw it with my own eyes. Surely the Spirit of God spoke through the minister that day. But I couldn't help ticking, and my hands pointed to five minutes past twelve. The sermon was finished. The minister asked the people to stand for a prayer of consecration. But somebody on the platform was watching me. And he stepped up to the minister and said, "Your time is already up!"

I was so ashamed. I was glad I could cover part of my face with my hands. Is it any wonder that church clocks sometimes stop in amazement?

Somebody read a text once that said, "Touch not Mine anointed, and do My prophets no harm." But I guess that man hadn't read it.

You know, I've heard a lot about how the ministers should be controlled by the Spirit, but you folks here in front of me don't seem to want it that way. You want them to be controlled by me—not Spirit controlled, but clock controlled.

I've noticed that God usually gives men what they want. And someday, if you still want a clock watcher instead of a Spirit-filled preacher, God will probably give you your desire. That will give Him a chance to answer the prayer of some church that has been so busy praying for the right kind of preacher that it forgot to install a clock.

You know, I like to be forgotten. Nothing would make me happier than to look down on a praying, reviving congregation and know that God is in control and I am completely forgotten.

I'd like to be shunned. Really I would!

A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

To the Members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church Everywhere

GREETINGS:

The momentous events occurring all about us today indicate clearly that Jesus is about to return to earth. This will be the greatest event of all time. He will come in the glory of the Father, in His own glory, and in the glory of all the holy angels.

What a day of glory that will be for His faithful people. How sad and terrible for those who are not ready.

I have been impressed much of late that as the present leader of the church I should call your attention to the seriousness of these times, the lateness of the hour, and the absolute necessity of our being ready when Jesus comes. Nothing else is so important.

Remember, brethren and sisters, the earnest words of Jesus: "And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." Luke 21:34-36.

Jesus' repeated admonition to the church was, "Watch and be ready."

The question that comes to me over and over again is, "Are our people ready?"

Brother or sister, how is it with you? Are you ready? Is everything in your life just as you want it to be when He comes?

If Jesus should come tomorrow would you greet Him with joy or with fear? Some, like the five wise virgins, will be ready. Shall we be among them, or among the foolish who permitted their lamps to go out?

Long ago we were told that a revival of primitive godliness was the greatest of all our needs. That I am sure is still true. We need a revival. That means we need to confess our sins and turn to God with our hearts

in preparation for the end.

"Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: and rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth Him of the evil. . . . Blow the trumpet in Zion. sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God? Then will the Lord be jealous for His land, and pity His people. Yea, the Lord will answer and say unto His people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen." Joel 2: 12-19.

This is true revival. It cannot come until we stop doing wrong and begin to do right.

Beloved, how is it with your soul? What is your present relationship to God and the truth?

Are you as earnest and zealous as you once were? Have you by faith confessed all known sin to God and claimed His forgiveness? Are you

faithful in Sabbath-keeping and in church attendance?

Are you zealously trying, in God's strength, to lead others to Christ and into the church?

Are you faithful in tithing and in helping to support the great mission programme of the church with your means?

If not, then the revival is still needed.

As your present leader I do now appeal to you to join in a supreme and immediate effort to begin a real revival in every home and in each church throughout the world.

Let this revival first begin with the leaders and then spread to the whole church.

It is for this alone that Christ is waiting.

"Had the church of Christ done her appointed work as the Lord ordained, the whole world would before this have been warned, and the Lord Jesus would have come to our earth in power and great glory."—*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 633, 634.

"If those who claimed to have a living experience in the things of God had done their appointed work as the Lord ordained, the whole world would have been warned ere this, and the Lord Jesus would have come in power and great glory."—Mrs. E. G. White in *Review and Herald*, Oct. 6, 1896.

Just as soon as His people are ready, Christ will come.

Why should we not let Him prepare us now for His coming?

Sincerely your brother in Christ,

W. H. BRANSON

RE
WORLD-WIDE HOME

"Signs Of The Times"

Saves Souls

W. E. KUESTER

"GOOD morning, here is your copy of the *Signs*. It is a religious magazine enjoyed by millions, and has the largest subscription list of any religious publication in the world."

"Oh, I don't know," answered Mrs. Reynolds, receptionist at the Child's Photographic Studio in Windsor, Ontario. "We have already subscribed for most of the magazines for our reception room. But, well, yes, I guess I will take one," she said, changing her mind as she saw the friendly smile on Mrs. Jackson's face as she held out a Canadian *Signs of the Times*.

Mrs. Reynolds paid for the paper, and turning, gave it to Mr. Fairbairn, manager of the studio. He was a large, self-assured man, a businessman of the world, used to holding his own in all matters.

"Here is a paper I just bought from a woman who came to the studio," she announced.

"*Signs of the Times*," he read, opening its pages. "Why, it's a religious paper," he sputtered. "What in the world did you buy that for!"

"Oh, I don't know," answered Mrs. Reynolds. "Only the woman smiled nicely and seemed to feel we would enjoy it. Hmmm, look at that—a coupon one can tear out and secure a free Bible correspondence course. Why don't we send for it?"

On an impulse Mr. Fairbairn did. He studied the first lesson, answered the questions, and returned them to the correspondence school. With each lesson he found his interest increasing. A new world was opening up to him. He studied and searched his Bible with eagerness, and he urged his receptionist to enrol for the lessons also.

At the office headquarters Miss Hull, the Bible correspondence course instructor, watched intently as Mr.

Fairbairn's returned lessons indicated a growing and strengthening interest, which gradually ripened into the resolve to accept each truth he had studied. Finally the decision was made to go all the way with God's people. Miss Hull invited him and Mrs. Reynolds, who was by then an ardent student of the school also, to attend the Ontario-Quebec camp meeting. There Mr. Fairbairn became a member of the Adventist faith in July, 1952.

Although forty-three years of age, Mr. Fairbairn, owner and manager of a number of photographic studios throughout Ontario, determined that he would study and become an evangelist. Accordingly, in January, 1953, as soon as he could arrange his business affairs, Mr. Fairbairn left Windsor and started west, where he enrolled as a student at Canadian Union College. There, during the past school year, he pursued the course that would best fit him for a place in God's service.

Meanwhile, in May of 1953 in the Windsor church, Mrs. Reynolds was buried with her Lord in baptism. She managed Mr. Fairbairn's photographic studio in Windsor while he was in school, and her determination is to attend one of our schools and become a Bible instructor. Even before baptism she had been letting her light shine, enrolling every employee of the studio in the Bible correspondence course, and upholding and defending fearlessly the truths she has learned to love.

And all this—two precious souls won to the faith of Jesus, and two potential workers for the cause of God just because Mrs. Jackson, a church member, faithfully did her part in distributing the *Signs*. We will never know the extent of the influence of this one *Signs* until we meet in heaven.

Prayer is not intended to work any change in God; it brings us into harmony with God.—Mrs. E. G. WHITE in *Youth's Instructor*, Aug. 18, 1898.

The Triumph of Righteousness

HARRY W. LOWE

WE OFTEN talk of the growth of evil and forget that therein lies a great danger. We must not think and talk and preach about the overspreading wickedness to the neglect of that greater truth, the triumph of righteousness. We are not to be haunted by fear of satanic fury; we are to be consumed with the love of an all-conquering Christ. Because Christ is greater than Satan, it follows that truth is greater than error and righteousness is greater than evil. Ultimately Christ, truth, and righteousness must triumph over Satan, error, and wickedness.

When God established His standard of righteousness in His holy law, it became certain that He must at some time terminate the conflict between right and wrong, and vindicate Himself as a just and holy God before the universe. "He hath appointed a day," said Paul, "in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that Man whom He hath ordained." Acts 17:31. Here we have the specific day of judgment, the standard of righteousness, and the Judge, Christ Jesus. (Compare Acts 10:42.)

All the major Christian churches agree that "we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ," Rom. 14:10; but most, if not all, of the liturgical groups have deferred the day till it is beyond human history. Yet the whole teaching of Scripture locates the judgment in time, and impresses its proximity on man over and over.

The ancient Hebrew understood each year at the typical day of judgment that the priest's atonement for the individual was made "that ye may be clean from all your sins before the Lord." Lev. 16:30. Forgiveness of sin was the pre-requisite to life and happiness with God's people. (Lev. 23:29, 30.) "On the Day of Atonement it is sealed who shall live and who are to die."—*Jewish Encyclopedia*, Vol. 2, p. 286.

We are to stand before the judgment seat of "the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom." 2 Tim. 4:1. This appearing

(Continued on p. 16)

BER

TATION DAY—MARCH 6

SOUTH INDIA UNION MISSION

President: O. O. Mattison

Secretary: I. K. Moses

Treasurer: D. O. Calkins

Office Address: 9 Cunningham Road, Bangalore

PROGRESS IN THE SOUTH TAMIL MISSION IN 1953

PASTOR A. MANUEL, *District Leader*
—Palamcottah

THE South Tamil Mission is a field of opportunity for God's work. It consists of numerous villages and a few towns. As I look back on the year 1953 I am humbly led to thank God for what was accomplished. We have a fine group of workers who moved forward with a strong faith in the Lord to work toward our different goals. It was wonderful to see the Lord's blessing in helping us to reach all of our goals. All honour and glory to God only!

The Uplift work was the first item taken into consideration early in the year. The territories were well arranged for the work by Pastor V. D. Koilpillai, the former president of the Mission. Mr. O. S. Mathews then was our Uplift secretary who encouraged all the workers to reach their personal goals. Many of them reached their goal within the specified time. Our Uplift goal was Rs. 6,000, but we went over the goal, the total collection being Rs. 6,252-4-0. This year our goal is Rs. 6,500 and we are endeavouring to reach it in two weeks!

The next important item was Evangelism which was our watchword. There were many openings for evangelism during 1953, but due to lack of workers we were unable to honour all requests. It is not an easy task to bring souls to Christ out of this sin-darkened world. As a result of the united labours of our workers throughout the South Tamil Mission, there were 176 baptisms in 1953, against a goal of 175. The number baptized in 1953 was 70 more than the number for 1952. Several village, town, and city efforts were conducted last year, and we have extensive plans for wider evangelism this year.

Further, we have a particular interest to enter new places where we have little or no work. The financial stability of our Mission also was very encouraging. The tithe goal was Rs. 16,000, and by the

grace of God we realized Rs. 16,398-7-0.

Another important factor to be mentioned is that the South Tamil Mission was very fortunate in having an ideal laymen's institute held by Pastors J. E. Edwards, W. F. Storz, and R. H. Broderson at Prakasapuram. Pastor R. J. Ritchie, the M. V. secretary for the Division, conducted a successful young people's rally at Prakasapuram and encouraged all the churches to organize many new societies. So, 1953 was a year of victory to the South Tamil Mission and God has marvellously blessed the work entrusted to us.

The year 1954 is before us to work for the Master. Please pray for our success as we continue to labour in His vineyard, in 1954.

YEAR-END ACTIVITIES AT MADRAS

GRACE SCOTT

TINY tots from the Cradle Roll, church school children, youthful Missionary Volunteers, Dorcas ladies, workers, laymen—yes, every member, from the smallest two-year-old to old pioneers of the church joined in the bustle of activity that heralded the close of 1953 at Madras.

December opened with the annual Dorcas Sale which also rather uniquely featured work done by the church school children and teachers. Miss Warhurst from Bangalore opened the sale with an interesting resume of Dorcas work, and the many eager buyers streamed into the gaily decorated school building. The verandah was a riot of colour from the beautiful Bangalore flowers arranged in artistic pottery vases painted by the school children and teachers; and the Bangalore vegetables added to the show. The linen stalls, children's clothes and painted woodwork done by eight- to ten-year-old school boys, attracted many buyers, and the low-priced used clothes which Mrs. Farthing received from England, catered to the needs of the poor. The children especially enjoyed the Pony rides sponsored by

the School, and the "eats" donated by the members quickly vanished. Nestles Company very kindly provided cups of Milo, all the profits of which they gave to Dorcas. The total proceeds amounted to about Rs. 400.

December 15 saw the school begin another scene of activity; for the Parents'-Teachers' Association met to discuss the progress of the school and to witness a distribution of prizes to children who had striven hard during the year. The parents were agreeably surprised at the end of the meeting to be presented by a miniature Santa Claus, with gifts made by their own five- to eight-year-olds in the handwork classes, taken from a Christmas tree decorated by them as part of their art project.

The parents were invited on the following day to attend the school concert which was, to use the words of one of the audience, "Superb." Almost every one of the 60 students took a part very ably, and in costume, song, and dialogue, illustrated the truths of our message. The opening Rainbow Song, flannelgraphed and illustrated with coloured streamer rainbows told of God's loving care for His people; the action poems taught obedience and kindness to birds, and the health play, depicted the dream of a little girl who decided to always clean her teeth. Toothpaste, toothbrush, white and decayed teeth, appropriately dressed, showed her her duty, and brought out lessons in healthful living. The climax and highlight of the whole programme was a brilliant multi-hued musical mime—telling the story of the humble little Fir Tree who was helped by the forest-trees, rabbits, birds, sunbeams, snowflakes and frost (all in gay costumes) to grow into the Christmas Tree chosen from all others by the children. The students and teachers deserve hearty congratulations for the hours of hard work they put in to make this concert a real success, and provide a good sum towards the equipment fund.

However, December 24 was the biggest day for the Tamil and English church which turned out hundreds-strong for the three-part Christmas-eve programme. Mr. Scott and Miss Lynsdale, the Church School principal, ably managed to get the unwieldy crowd of children and adults interested in games; then the Missionary Volunteer Society put out a splendid programme. A translated talk gave us a good idea of how we as Adventists should observe Christmas; the dialogue conducted

Miscellany

during a whirl of wrapping parcels, explained how the Church Choir and School boys helped with their Carol singing to raise enough money to provide 102 children with outsize bon-bons and 23 families with tempting hampers. Pastor Farthing and Brother Whittaker took part in a playlet depicting the composing of the well-known carol—"Silent Night." This was brought to a close by the carol being rendered in German. A flannelgraphed symposium representing how Christmas symbols originated in other countries concluded a very enjoyable M. V. programme.

Two days later followed the Thirteenth Sabbath programme in which the tiniest members had an opportunity to witness in song and tableau for the Baby who was once as old as they. A four-year-old Mary put her "Baby" to sleep in a manger, while

two- and three-year-old shepherds and kings brought their gifts. The Pageant of Mission Fields was picturesque; as the Puritan girl and Red Indian boy, Spanish donna and Mexican boy, Hawaiian girl and South Sea boy in costume told of their country's needs, one realized the unity of spirit that the Message brings.

These activities indeed brought the members nearer in spirit to each other and helped toward a more stable Christian experience, for were they not working for others and savouring the truth of the words of inspiration:

"Christmas is coming. May you all have wisdom to make it a precious Season. Let the older church members unite heart and soul with their children . . . devising ways to show respect to Jesus by bringing Him gifts and offerings."—*Review and Herald*, December 9, 1884.

WEST PAKISTAN UNION MISSION

President: D. S. Johnson

Secretary-Treasurer: N. R. Fouts

Office Address: 32 Mozang Road, Lahore

SARGODHA EFFORT

G. F. HILL

PASTOR A. M. Akbar with Brethren J. E. Ali Bakhsh and I. J. David as his assistants began meetings on the fourth of October in Sargodha. Although this city is only one hundred miles from Lahore this is the first effort that has ever been held by the Seventh-day Adventists in that city. At the opening meeting nearly four hundred people came to hear the lecture on "Is World Peace Possible? If So How and by Whom?" Since the shamiana could only accommodate two hundred people it was necessary to remove the rear portion and allow the people to stand on the outside. The attendance was good throughout the series and even though the other churches discouraged their members from attending and the weather was quite cold toward the close, more than one hundred people were still attending when the Sabbath and other testing truths were presented.

In addition to the interest gained in the city during this effort the surrounding villages have opened their doors to our workers. Many requests

have come for us to hold efforts in these villages and I trust in the near future we will be able to answer this "Macedonian Call."

On the evening of the 21st of October I had the privilege of accompanying Pastor Akbar and his co-workers to one of these villages and presenting the wonderful topic of Christ's second coming. Although it was a small village more than two hundred people gathered in the newly-built chapel and listened very attentively as these truths were presented to them.

On the evening of the 20th of October, Doctor Shrewsbury presented the importance of healthful living. In a country where sickness is so prevalent it is important that we stress these points more.

To follow up the interest in this new area Brother Rehmat Peter has been sent with his family to Sargodha. While the effort was in progress and Brother Ali Bakhsh was ill Brother Peter was associated with Pastor Akbar; so he has a good knowledge of the interest and we expect to have a strong group there soon. Pastor Akbar is laying his plans for large efforts this year and it appears that 1954 will be a banner year for Pakistan's soul-winning programme.

• THE evangelistic effort being held in the Ahilya Ashram in Poona City by the HERALDS OF TRUTH is meeting with marked success. The attendance is excellent and the spirits of the laymen are high. Pastor W. L. Barclay reports that the members of both the Poona City church and the Salisbury Park church are taking a keen interest in the effort. The continued prayers of the SOUTHERN ASIA TIDINGS family are solicited.

• SALISBURY PARK welcomes Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Shorter, Roland Jr., Shereen, and Carol Anne to Salisbury Park. Pastor Shorter will be taking over the pastoral correspondence work of the Voice of Prophecy school while Pastor W. Hume McHenry and family are on furlough.

• PASTOR N. G. Mookerjee has accepted the invitation to serve as pastor of the Bangalore church. He and Mrs. Mookerjee will be greatly missed by friends and fellow-believers in Salisbury Park and vicinity. The members of the Poona City church will especially feel their loss as Brother Mookerjee has given so much time and effort to building up that church during recent months.

• MISS Emma Lehmann, now serving as teacher in the Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School, will be returning to Vincent Hill School to re-join the teaching staff.

• PASTOR and Mrs. C. John of Salem Church, South India, spent a few days in Salisbury Park visiting their nephew, Brother S. James.

• THE Salisbury Memorial church and the Spicer Missionary College church were especially privileged to have the opportunity of hearing in advance the report which President R. H. Pierson plans to deliver at the General Conference session. As we listened to his thrilling report of progress in Southern Asia since the last General Conference session, we were filled with gratitude to God for His many blessings and inspired to work even harder to keep pace with God's opening providences.

• YOUR STORY HOUR being broadcast at 9:30 every Sunday morning from Radio Ceylon is being enthusiastically received by the listening public. Pastor A. E. Rawson reports that he is being deluged with

letters of appreciation for this new service. The Tamil broadcast is also meeting with approval. It is expected that these broadcasts will be greatly improved when the Voice of Prophecy Studio is completed. All workers are urgently requested to do all in their power to capitalize on the interests created by these radio contacts.

• ON January 29 Pastor and Mrs.

R. J. Ritchie, Mrs. Nellie Ritchie with her daughter Geonelle and her mother Mrs. Killoway, sailed from Bombay for Canada where they plan to take up residence and serve in the organized work. These workers will be greatly missed. We wish them bon voyage and many more years of happy service in the Cause of God in Canada.

—J. F. ASHLOCK

Ganesh Chandra Baroya of Buruabari, Faridpur, was set apart for the ministry. Elders D. E. Rebok of the General Conference, D. W. Hunter and R. J. Borrowdale officiated. May God bestow upon Pastors Sarkar and Baroya in a larger measure the unction and power of the Holy Spirit that their labours to the church at large may be crowned with greater success in the years to come.

"GOD PROSPERS A FAITHFUL FARMER"

R. J. BORROWDALE

IN ONE of the villages of the Northeast Union lives a shining example of faithfulness. He has a few acres of land no better than that of those around him. He became an Adventist after a little village effort we held there some years ago and began paying tithe about a year before he was baptized.

One day while I was there he came to the local worker and whispered quietly to him and after some little time together he went away.

The worker turned to me and smiled and said, "That is one good man anyway. He has just paid me his tithe as his crop has just been measured." When I asked how much it was he said, "Eighty-five rupees." That is more than any other man in that local mission at that time had ever paid.

I made a point of going over to the man's house and talking quietly with him about tithing. He said that what the Lord asked was not as much as the landlord asked and got and that the Lord fulfilled his promise and blessed his fields, whereas the landlord did nothing at all for him. He has prospered every year and it does seem the Lord has taken care of his little patch of land and spared him when others have suffered from pests and disasters of various kinds.

This believer says that many people seem to try to figure out how little they could give the Lord and get by but he had found that when he paid a faithful tithe and gave as generously as he could the Lord dealt with him the same way and the more he gave the more he seemed to have anyway.

He declared too that tithing means giving the Lord not just a tenth but the first tenth. That is, when he gathered eggs for instance he put each tenth one aside right away and sold them and turned in the money. He rather proudly told me there

NORTHEAST INDIA UNION MISSION

President: D. W. Hunter

Secretary-Treasurer: M. S. Prasada Rao

Office Address: Karmatar P. O., Santal Parganas, E. I. Ry.

EAST PAKISTAN NEWS

R. S. FERNANDO

TRAVELLING to and in the East Pakistan delta districts is a little rough to say the least and we wish to take the time to express our sincerest appreciation to the many recent visitors to our field. The Union officers and Departmental secretaries contributed much to the work by conducting six institutes and conventions in 1953. These gatherings helped to place before us a clear vision of the work. Our medical work gathered prestige when Doctor N. A. Buxton visited Gopalganj and Jalirpar.

Early in the year we were greatly honoured by the first official visit of our Division president, Pastor R. H. Pierson, and his wife. This visit was soon to be followed by others from the Division—Pastors A. J. Johanson, R. S. Lowry, W. L. Barclay, M. E. Kemmerer and A. E. Rawson.

Our Union and Division visitors returned to tell the world that "half had not been told" and soon world tourists—visitors from the General Conference—were attracted to East Pakistan. How happy we were to associate with Elder Edwards in a five-day lay institute. Forty-nine laymen pledged to win 317 souls before they meet again in another year.

The visit of Elder H. M. S. Richards struck the headlines in the East Pakistan press placing before the educated Moslem "the Seven Day Advancement" as we were referred to by a clerk of the Dacca University. We feel sure that the rally broke down prejudice and that it brought the activities of the denomination before the people. And it has also brought to the forefront the urgent

need of city evangelism in a state such as ours. Even though we have been working all these years in the rural areas the city people seem to know us well. That one night-meeting brought to our attention several secret disciples of Christ. Two meetings were held at Curzon Hall to care for nearly 2,000 who attended the Rally.

The V. O. P. schools operated from India and West Pakistan and the radio messages from Ceylon and Beirut, in the Middle East, are opening doors hitherto closed among the English-, Urdu- and Arabic-speaking people and baptisms are being recorded. From unentered sections of our field come appeals that we must hasten to answer. "You have not come yet but I am coming to you for I am thirsty and *you have the water*" is typical of the appeals that come from all quarters. When we consider the greatness of the unaccomplished task and the weakness of our means we are almost tempted to flee like Jonah from our responsibilities. We are encouraged to learn that the opening of a Bible Correspondence School for the more than 60 million Bengali-speaking people living in the North East Union territory can soon be realized. Plans are now being made for Pastor S. K. Haldar to enter the city of Khulna where one of our pioneer missionaries, J. C. Little, lies buried. Pray for our evangelistic work during the noon hour.

In a dignified service held at Gopalganj, Jitendra Nath Sarkar of Mymensingh, Garo Hills, was ordained to the gospel ministry. Elders J. E. Edwards of the General Conference, D. W. Hunter and U. N. Haldar officiated. During the constituency meeting held at Karmatar,

wasn't a vine around the place or a chicken or a goat or a thing that the Lord had not had His tenth from before anything else was taken. Far from his being the loser he was

better off than he had ever been before, besides being the happiest man around on account of having the Lord Himself for a partner in his farm and home business.

the rays of light from Dorcas travelled with material help.

Not only the women shared this privilege but a new band was organized for the junior boys and girls. Miss Ina White was an enthusiastic junior leader who met with them after busy working days. On the day of the big Dorcas sale the juniors, wearing banners marked "Junior Dorcas Band," supervised their own table.

The Publishing House truck was used to purchase food in large quantities for the bountiful Christmas baskets distributed to fifty-five needy families. The Dorcas also made it possible for at least 250 children to receive a bit of Christmas cheer.

Many hours were spent in sewing garments, making fancy work, knitting sweaters and booties, and cooking delicious food for the big Dorcas sale. It was well attended by the public and members of our compound. A well-planned musical programme followed the sale. The proceeds from the sale amounted to Rs. 952-0-0 making possible more works of love and mercy.

"Angels of God are watching to see how we treat these persons who need our sympathy and love. This is God's test of our character."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 3, p. 511.

NORTHWESTERN INDIA UNION MISSION

President: A. F. Jessen

Secretary-Treasurer: R. L. Juriansz

Office Address: 16 Club Road, Byculla, Bombay

POONA DORCAS WELFARE SOCIETY

NORA BARCLAY

Help somebody bending 'neath a heavy load,

You can ease their burdens on the toil-some road,

Lift them out of shadows into love and light,

Turn some heart to singing, morning, noon, and night.

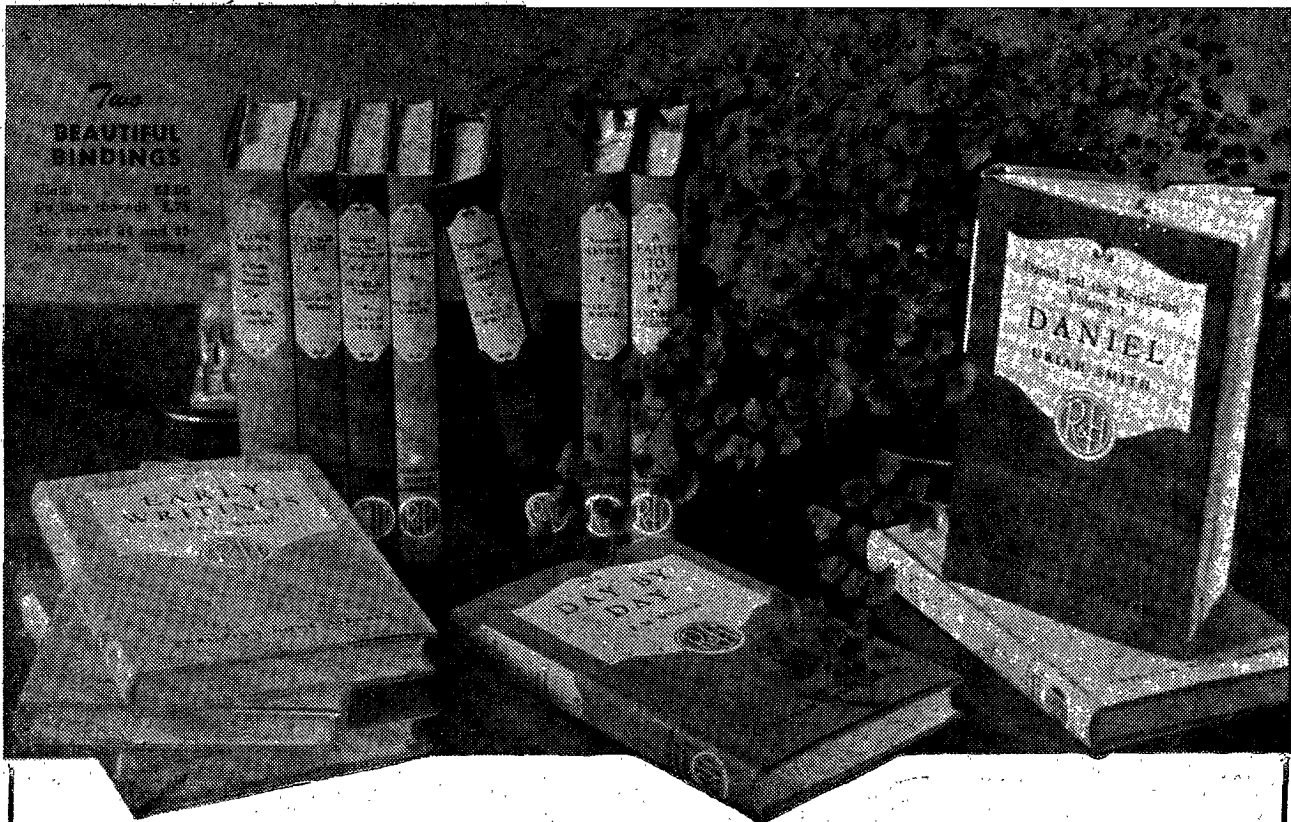
IN THAT wonderful sermon on the mount Jesus Himself uttered these words, "Blessed are the merciful." There never was a time when there was a greater need for the exercise of mercy than today. The poor are all around us, the distressed, the afflicted, the sorrowing, and those who are ready to perish.

"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." James gives us this true picture of real Dorcas work. This is the privilege of every Dorcas worker, man, woman or child.

During the year 1953 the Poona Dorcas Welfare Society under the leadership of Mrs. L. J. Larson worked hard to accomplish the true aims of Dorcas. In addition to helping the needy members of our Poona churches with clothing, food, tuition fees, and medical care, the Poona Dorcas went beyond the needs of its own members and into Poona itself to let its light shine. Into the Old Ladies' Home, and the Poor House and into a charity hospital of Poona



Ready and waiting for the Sale to open. Some of the members of the Junior Dorcas Band and their leader, Miss White.



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NEW LIFE FOR JACY

DON R. CHRISTMAN

Sabbath School Secretary, South Brazil Union

"HERE comes the medicine boat!" "Here comes the medicine boat!" The joyous shouts, coming from a little boy playing along the river's edge, soon caught the attention of the villagers. The women stopped washing and beating their clothes, or left their work in the little garden patches. The men put aside their fishing nets and other crudely-made equipment and before many minutes had passed, the entire village was at the water's edge watching anxiously as the slow-moving little medical boat came closer and closer.

As is the situation in scores of other Araguaia River settlements, there are no doctors, nurses or hospitals here. Lahyr Montebello and his wife, both graduate nurses, knew that their stay could well be for a week or more—but there were other villagers down the river who were awaiting their arrival.

Among those waiting for urgent medical attention was little three-year-old Jacy who had been brought in the arms of a sympathetic neighbour. Jacy had no father or mother now. When he was just a year old, his father had killed another man in a drunken dispute. A few days later the relatives of the slain victim had taken Jacy's father away from the village and guarded him as he dug his own grave. Then, standing on the edge with head lowered so he could look upon his final resting place, a revolver was placed against his back. Jacy's mother, knowing what was happening, heard the one lone shot.

It was too much for her physically and mentally. Her grief was such that she lost her mind and soon died.

There was no one to care for little Jacy. Relatives had more of their own children than they could properly feed, so Jacy was left to just everybody . . . and usually nobody.

Because of a lack of food Jacy was soon suffering from various deficiency diseases—one of which was rickets. His little abdomen was greatly distended and life held no hope for anything but sadness. A slight fall which ordinarily would only have caused a small bruise broke Jacy's right leg. This occurred just a

few days before the arrival of our medical boat, and now one of the motherly villagers held little Jacy in her arms waiting for Brother and Sister Montebello to come ashore.

With their supply of medicines, appropriately chosen to treat the various diseases they were certain to find, they lost no time in beginning their work. Their eyes fell upon little Jacy and immediately he won their hearts. The broken bone had to be reset and little Jacy, who had become so accustomed to pain, cooperated beautifully.

A home was found for Jacy. Yes, it was a Christian home. Brother Montebello took him to a nearby village where one of our believers had opened a small orphanage.

Last week Brother Montebello arrived in Sao Paulo after a two thousand mile trip from his home in Araguacima. He came for medical supplies for the coming year as well as to lay plans with Union leaders for extending the work along a thousand-mile stretch of the Araguaia River. Among his various snapshots was one of little Jacy looking ever so well. "You should hear him sing and say his prayers," said Brother Montebello. "He is such a good little Christian."

Three-year-old Jacy is one of the 5,195 persons who have been treated by Brother and Sister Montebello during the last two years. As I listened to the first-hand report from the lips of our self-sacrificing worker I rejoiced that God had so inspired this devoted missionary couple to work for these thousands of yet unreached souls.

"I think we had our most thrilling experience on the last trip down the river," said Brother Montebello. "On September 29 (1953) six persons were baptized. This is the first-fruit

of our work. Some of the seed sown has already developed." There are many other interested persons who are studying our message among the various Indian tribes and with God's continued blessing, groups and churches will soon be established.

Hopefully Brother and Sister Montebello are looking forward to the day when they will be able to have a suitable medical missionary launch. Their little "Pioneer" is not much larger than a good-sized row-boat. At night they must sleep on the sand and this is very dangerous because of the wild animals such as the leopard-like oncas as well as the malaria-carrying mosquitoes.

Part of the overflow of your Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, March 27, will go toward the purchase of a medical launch for furthering our medical missionary work on the Araguaia River. May God so bless you that you will be able to return a double portion to Him at this time.

Southern Asia Tidings

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**Plan now for a liberal
Thirteenth Sabbath Offering
to help in purchasing a
Medical Launch for this
needy field.**



Are you responding to Christ's appeal to take the Gospel Message to your friends and neighbours?

THE TRIUMPH OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

(Continued from p. 9)

is the great Second Advent which begins the last events in the judgment of wickedness and the triumph of righteousness. God is always prepared, and obviously "when the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him," heaven has decided previously who are the sheep and who the goats, who the saved and who the lost, among the assembled nations of the earth. (Matt. 25:31, 32.)

This decision is not arbitrary. It is heaven's investigation of its own account of men's deeds recorded in the books of remembrance (Mal. 3:16), iniquity (Isa. 65:6, 7,) and life (Rev. 20:12). The witnesses are the angels (Matt. 18:10), and the law of God the standard of judgment. (James 2:11, 12). The mediator is

our High Priest Jesus, "who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens." Heb. 8:1.

This investigation began in A.D. 1844, when the cleansing of the heavenly sanctuary from sin began. (Dan. 8:14; 9:25). To prepare for the next great event, the triumphant appearing of Christ with the settled destiny of all men in His hands, God sends His last judgment-hour message to the world. (Rev. 14:6-12.)

We know not the hour, but we are certain of the events. Above all, we know that the "Judge of all the earth" will arise and vindicate His justice and His righteousness in judgment before the world so completely that "every knee shall bow to Me, and every tongue shall confess to God." Rom. 14:11. It is because of the redeeming love of Christ that all men and angels shall bow "and that every tongue should confess that Jesus

Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Phil. 2:11.—*Review and Herald*, October 1, 1953.

OUR MARCHING ORDERS

(Continued from p. 5)

world's great need and the shortness of time? Is it not time for the church to gird up her loins and trim her lamps and go forth as a mighty, well-trained army to meet the onslaught of the enemy against the souls of men? Have we not treated God's call too casually and the interests of the church of God too lightly?

Will you now, dear reader, consecrate your latent capacities to His service? Will you now say to your appealing Lord and Master, "Here am I; send me"?