

THE SOUTHWESTERN UNION RECORD.

E. R. Palmer
267 West main St

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE S. W. U. CONFERENCE

VOL. I

KEENE, TEXAS, MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1902.

NO. 29.

The Coming Week of Prayer.

MANY reasons there are which conspire to make the season of devotion that will be observed by our people December 20-27, one of greater importance than any former occasion of the kind. The time has come for decided action in a definite forward movement. The call of God for this is loud and imperative. We are not answering as we should the earnest calls that come to us from whitened fields ready for the harvest. It is most fitting indeed that a season of special devotion and prayer should be held by our people at this time, in which to consider the pressing demands that are now being made upon us for service.

As in former years, distribution will be made to all our people, as far as possible, of the readings that have been prepared for this occasion. The subject dealt with in these readings is that of Service, the special phases being "Saved for Service," "Open Doors for Service," "Macedonian Calls to Service," "Preparation for Service," "True Motive for Service," "Consecration of Means to Service," "Definite Aim in Service."

Our people should sense most keenly and vividly the importance of the present opportunities, and should realize what the week of prayer may be to them. It should lead to a great spiritual awakening, to a revival and a reformation; it should lead those who are discouraged to renew their hold upon God; it should lead those who are worldly to renew their consecration to God, to sever the ties that bind them to the world, and to strengthen those that bind them to the world to come; it should lead many of our brethren and sisters of talent to devote their lives more entirely to the work of God; and it should be the means of leading our people who are enjoying such financial prosperity to make a proper return to God for the

blessings He is bestowing upon them. this message.

I believe that during the coming week of prayer one of the chief burdens of our people should be to plead with God to show us how to answer the calls that are coming to us from all parts of the world. If our people would give themselves up to fervent prayer in behalf of the evangelization of the world, we would see the beginning of a new order of things. We would have volunteers as never before for foreign lands. Our difficulty to-day to obtain the laborers for these fields is greater than our difficulty to secure the means.

Is it not a remarkable thing that the Lord has gone before us, and so prepared all lands for this truth that calls are coming to us from all of them for help? Only a few years ago we had to pioneer these countries, and gain a foothold by dint of hard struggles. No one knew of us, and no call came to us except the mute appeals of countries in darkness without this light. But now all this is changed! These fields are ready for us, and most earnest pleadings come to us for help. What does this mean? Why is the world laid at the feet of our church? Why are scores of earnest appeals sent to us from all parts of the world to give them this message? This is a marvelous thing! It should stir the hearts of our people. This is a fulfillment of the promises made in the sixtieth chapter of Isaiah.

We have never needed a special season of Bible study and earnest prayer more than we do to-day. The special need of this hour is consecration to the work of God. The world is prepared for this message, but our people are not prepared to go forth with it as they should be. The coming week of prayer should be a season of consecration to God and earnest prayer in behalf of the extension of this cause. The great wide world, whom God has sent us to save, needs at once the blessing and salvation of

Clear-sighted, enthusiastic, sturdy service in gospel evangelization is what is needed to-day. This is the call of the hour, and it can only be answered by the coming of the toilers. Cannot the coming week of prayer be made to arouse our people on this point, and give them new views on this great problem? If all our people could receive a revelation regarding the great field to be worked, and the preparation that has been made for our work to be readily accomplished, and the facilities and talents within our own denomination for doing the work, a mighty forward movement would set in from the impulse of the people themselves. Then the great body of the people would, by one mighty uprising, give its service and its means to this great work.

Much will depend upon the attitude taken by the ministers and church officers in making this season the blessing it should be to the churches. The minister, or church officer, who is not awake to the call of the hour, will, very likely, fail to make the readings during the week of prayer accomplish what they are designed to do.

The time has come for us to put aside our fears and doubts, and to engage in this work with a determination that will win. The message we preach is from God, and according to that message the world must be warned in our day, and the end must come. "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."

The earnest calls from whitened fields to-day, are only the bugle call of God to this people to arise and plant the standard of this truth in all lands as a witness to all nations, that the end may come.

A. G. DANIELLS.

THE SOUTHWESTERN UNION RECORD, only 50 cents a year.

Arkansas & Department.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

BROTHER W. W. Guthrie and wife are in Van Buren, report their sales for helps the past week to the value of \$10.00.

THE stormy weather for the past week, has somewhat retarded the work of the canvassers, so that no reports have come in.

THE Week of Prayer begins December 20 and ends on the 27th. By the time this paper reaches its readers, the "Readings" for that time will have reached this office and have been forwarded to the churches and isolated.

It will be remembered by the readers of this paper, that several weeks ago, a circular letter was sent out by Elder A. E. Field to all of our people of this State, concerning the Sanitarium work, and its recognition by the Conference, etc., will state that the matter has been dropped for the present.

WE are glad to see Brother George T. Kerr in Springdale again. He is heartily welcomed by the medical fraternity here. He is looking for a location and will soon send for his family. From his trip to Texas he reports bright prospects for Keene in the future, due to the railroad going through there. Also speaks very commendably of the Keene school.

THE envelopes that have been sent to the churches for the First Day Offerings, we hope, will be made good use of, and the amount collected sent in to the Tract Society at the close of the quarter. They are to be given out the first of each month, thus enabling each one to lay by, weekly, something for the Mission Fund. "The Lord loveth a cheerful giver." The Advent message to the world in this generation, is our watchword for this time. Let us remember that it takes means to carry this message. If we cannot go ourselves we can give of our means.

BROTHER Robinson, of Green Forest, Arkansas, left Springdale this forenoon for Fayetteville, after spending the Sabbath with us. He left word for Brother J. A. Sommerville, of Oklahoma Territory, who is expected to visit his family here about Christmas, to plan to return home

with him about that time to hold a series of meetings at Green Forest, as there is such an interest manifested and an urgent call for a preacher. Brother Robinson has offered to pay Brother Sommerville's traveling expenses to and fro; and also to board him while there.

IN addition to our list of contributions that have been received for the distribution of the *Sentinel* to the members of the legislature we quote the following:

F. M. Neely,	\$.50
Fayetteville Church,	2.75
Mrs. M. E. Dasher,	2.05
J. E. Green,50
Springdale Church,	2.15

\$ 7.95

Total received, \$14.35

Just about half the required amount. Are there not others that would like to help in this good cause? If so, now is the time to respond.

BROTHER S. S. Ryles who is working for the interest of the colored people in this State, under the auspices of the Southwestern Union Conference, reports a promising interest at Newport, and is talking of moving his family there and starting a work. He is, also, anxious to work up an interest for a tent meeting to be held here in this State, amongst his own people next summer. Surely the Lord blessed him in his effort in Kansas last summer and fall, a church being raised up as the result of his labors. And we know that the Lord will water the seed that he is faithfully endeavoring to sow in this needy field.

"Object Lessons."

THE TIME is rapidly approaching for the closing up of this work. We are told that the "essence of all right faith is to do the right thing at the right time," and we learn that the right thing at the right time is, *make an effort to sell this book between now and January 1, 1903.* Methinks I hear some one saying that nothing can be done during the holidays. Is it not then just the time to push the work; for what better present can one purchase for a friend than "Christ' Object Lesson's?" As near as can be estimated eight hundred and sixty copies constitute the quota for this State. Four

hundred and fifty-five copies have been sent out since the first of May. Some had been sent' out prior to that, but not enough to make up the quota. We hope that all will respond to this last appeal so that we can join in the song of victory in the closing up of this branch of the work, and thus be better prepared to take hold of whatever comes to us next. "To many the conviction of the Spirit of God will come through the seed sown by this unselfish work done for the Master." The saving of many precious souls will be the result of the work done in canvassing for "Christ's Object Lessons."

OUR OPPORTUNITY.

IT IS NOW nearing the holiday festivals which will be celebrated by the world by big dinners and pleasure seeking. What shall we do at this time? Shall we spend money for the gratification of appetite? Rather let us count our blessings and return to the Lord a part of His own. He has blessed us all with a certain degree of health and strength, and while we may consider that we could have used more, let each one use well what he has and then more will be the result. Then let us study what the Creator says about our bodies as well as about our spiritual life. One reacts upon the other. Each one has at least a single talent, and if not used wisely, it will be taken away and given to another. Now is a good time to gain an experience in canvassing by selling small books and mottoes which can be secured from the office. The good we might have done will be counted against us. The Lord requires from us what we might have earned, but have not. It is solemn to die, but more solemn to live as each word and thought carries an influence to others. Some may think that our thoughts do not affect other people, but let us see: Our acts are the result of our thoughts; so if we harbor evil thoughts our actions will be molded in that direction, even though we may not openly sin. Sometimes a powerful, well-built steamer suddenly goes down without apparent cause, yet there is a cause for every effect. The case of a finely built vessel is in point. She was built on the New England coast with great care, and from the best timber. To all appearances there was no flaw

in her, but a man had split a nail head when he fastened the copper-plating to the steamer's bottom, and through that small opening the minute insects entered and honey-combed the vessel. Destruction resulted. So a man or woman whom we may regard as almost perfect, suddenly falls. The fall resulted from a life weakened by tampering with sin. A sudden temptation was, likely, the occasion. Remember that a chain is no stronger than its weakest link.

May the Lord help each one to study the life of our blessed Saviour that we may become like Him.

J. C. ANDERSON.

← Texas Department. →

The Bible School.

THE Bible school at Keene, for the two months of January and February, was arranged for because it was felt that there is a need of a real study of the Bible on the vital points of the truth for this time, and an earnest seeking of God together, for greater efficiency and success in His work; and it is desired that all the conference laborers shall take part in, and have the benefits of this school. In trying to plan how they might do this, the Committee met with some difficulties. In the first place the question of funds confronted us. From the state of the treasury and the prospects before us, it was evident that we could not run our increased force full time in the field the coming season; and since it seemed certain that the laborers would have to be laid off for sometime during the year, or run in debt, it was finally decided that all workers be asked to lay off two two months during January and February. This is the least favorable time for meetings and other work anyway, and will give opportunity to attend the Bible school, or Institute, while laying off. It is not compulsory, of course, upon any one to attend. It is left optional with them to continue on in their work if they wish to do so on their own resources during these two months, but we would be glad to have all attend the Institute. This lay-off without pay applies to all, from the president down. Since shifting much of the Conference work on to another last fall, what I have done has been without pay anyway, and Elder Field set the example for the

rest by proposing to knock off his wages during the Institute, although he and others of us, will have burdens in connection with it and the Conference work. Brother McCully, our State Agent, who will have the main burden of the Canvassers' Institute during the time, also lays off without pay. If those having the burden of the work stop their wages during this time, the other laborers could not expect to do less. We regret to have to ask any to do this, but the lack of funds compels us to do it. And right here let me ask the brethren and sisters over the State, whether they wish to have their laborers treated thus, and whether each is doing his or her duty in tithe-paying to prevent it?

We will say to the laborers that money will be advanced to those needing it to carry them through this time, to be applied on their future wages. We shall try to provide free rooms and make expenses as light as possible for those coming in, canvassers and all. Let all bring bedding, however.

Thus, the Committee has arranged the best it could with the money at our command, for the work and for the attendance of the laborers at this Bible school, and we hope every laborer will attend, and that we shall have a feast of good things.

W. A. MCCUTCHEN.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

THE Texas Tract Society is meeting with success selling the "Events of the One Thousand Years." One school girl sold twenty-three in Keene.

THE Southwestern Union Conference committee is called to meet for its winter council at Keene, December 30. Important matters are to be considered.

BROTHER Jas. Butka, State Agent for Oklahoma conference, was in Keene over the Sabbath, visiting his daughter, Daisy, who is a student at the Academy. He reports good book sales in his conference the past season. When he returned he took one hundred copies of our pamphlet, "The Events Connected with the One Thousand Years of Revelation Twenty."

ELDER Riffel, one of our German ministers, spent several days in this place last week, and left to-day for north Texas, where he expects to visit the German companies, and while there will organize a church at Valley View. This is composed of the old Hutto church which has moved in a body to the vicinity of Sanger and Valley View. Brother Riffel also took a supply of our pamphlets.

THE Keene church is moving out in the church school work. At a mass meeting held about a week ago the church voted to assume the management and support of the model school heretofore maintained by the Academy. A board of nine members was elected and organized, and will assume direct control of the school to-morrow. It is proposed to operate this school according to the light given us. The school now has an enrollment of about seventy pupils, with two teachers. It is thought it will soon reach an enrollment of ninety or one hundred and another teacher will have to be employed.

HUMPHRIES, BROTHERS.

—Dealers in—

General Merchandise.

KEENE - TEXAS.

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Dry Goods & Notions

last month, all that our space will permit, we have been receiving weekly shipments in replenishment of our stock. We have the newest thing out in overalls and "overall suits", and some splendid values in good woolen trousers—a job lot of all-wool dress pants so bought that we retail them at regular wholesale prices. A complete line of underwear, hosiery, gloves, gents furnishings, notions, etc.

Our Grocery Line is Complete

and prices the lowest. Produce of all kinds bought. Goods delivered free to all customers. Call and inspect our goods and get prices.

✦ The ✦ Union ✦ Record. ✦

A WEEKLY JOURNAL

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C. N. WOODWARD, - - - - - Editor
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AGENTS:

Oklahoma Tract Society, Oklahoma City,
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Arkansas Tract Society, Springdale, Arkansas
Texas Tract Society, Keene, Texas.

All papers will be discontinued when the time expires, unless promptly renewed.

Subscribers who do not receive their paper regularly should notify the office of publication and not the Tract Society, as the latter are not responsible for the mailing of the papers.

Money, or letters, should not be sent to individuals. All business communications should be addressed, and all remittances and money orders made payable to the S. W. U. RECORD, Keene, Johnson County, Texas.

Entered October 24, 1902 at Keene, Texas, as second-class matter, under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Our New Railroad.

It is now definitely announced that the Dallas, Cleburne and Southwestern Railroad will begin operating their line already built between Cleburne and Egan on the 20th inst. This gives Keene a railroad right at their door, and the prospects are that the service to be maintained will be satisfactory. The road will be operated by the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway, and two trains each way a day will be run, to connect with all their main line trains at Egan, except the late night train from the south.

A neat little depot has been built here, which will probably be large enough to accommodate the business here for some time.

Persons from north Texas or points in the Territories wishing to come to Keene may change at Fort Worth to M. K. and T. Line direct for this place. Freight may now be shipped to this point, and the American Express will also have an office here. We look for this to bring in a new state of affairs at Keene.

A Word of Explanation.

For some time we have heard complaints that the departments of our paper have not been coming up to the expectation of our subscribers. In justice to ourselves, and to remedy it if possible, we wish to explain the situation a little. These complaints have come largely from Oklahoma, with a few from Texas. It is probably not known to all our subscribers that the

matter for the departments is supplied by the different conferences, but such is the case, and, of course, when we do not receive anything for a department we cannot put in matter of local interest, but must supply something of a general character. This has often been the case; at least, it has frequently happened that we have received only partly enough to fill the page. It is impossible for us to tell how this happens. The Tract Societies collect and send the matter for their departments. All can see that there is an unavoidable delay when the reports have to go to the Tract Society office, and when all are collected, be sent on to this office.

In order to remedy this we wish to propose a new plan, which is that all reports from laborers and others be sent directly to this office, where they will be classified, and in due time appear in the paper. This will avoid the delay mentioned above, and we believe will be more satisfactory. The Tract Societies can furnish the matter they wish inserted, the same as heretofore.

We wish to say further that there has never been a report or other kind of matter received at this office which has not appeared in the paper, except in one or two instances where they were too long, or for other reasons, and in such cases we have written the parties furnishing them.

May we not have a trial of this plan?

Time to Renew.

QUITE a number of subscriptions on our lists have expired, some of them some time ago, but we have not dropped the names as we greatly disliked to have any of our people miss the paper. It is contrary to our usual custom to do this, as we expect to drop all names as soon as expired unless renewed promptly, but everyone connected with the RECORD has been very busy this fall and we have not seen time to properly attend to this. The time has now come that we must drop quite a list of names unless renewed before the beginning of the new year. We hope we shall not be under the necessity of doing this, but that we shall receive many renewals before then. Our aim has been to make the RECORD so interesting and readable that no one who has

been a subscriber would want to miss it. We shall still work to the same end. How far we have succeeded in the past will be shown by the responses received from those in arrears.

The Bible School.

WE WOULD call attention again to the article in our last issue from Elder Rupert, concerning the Bible Institute to be held in Keene, Texas. It is only a short time until the date set for the opening, January 4, and those who purpose attending should begin at once to make their preparations. It is very desirable that all who attend should be here at the opening as many of the studies will be followed out in a connected line and those who miss some of the first will have a harder time to get hold of the other ones.

As stated last week it is the intention to go back to the old land marks of our faith, and review the foundations of our positions, and this together with the other branches of study which may be taken advantage of at the same time, should bring a large attendance. The tuition will be free and every arrangement will be made that can be for the comfort of those who attend. There should be many among our church officers and members as well as regular laborers who could profitably set aside these two months for study and a better fitting up for the work.

We are preparing an announcement for this occasion which will be sent out in a few days. We shall send to all those whose names we have, but if any are missed we shall be glad to furnish them on application.

These announcements will give full particulars.

Correlation of Studies in Elementary Instruction.

BY W. H. BUXTON.

THERE IS NO DOUBT in the mind of the writer, that our elementary schools, both public and denominational, are not accomplishing all that can reasonably be expected of them.

It is not an uncommon thing to find young men eighteen or twenty years of age, or even older, who have been in school with more or less regularity

since they were old enough to enter, and yet who cannot read a newspaper paragraph or a verse in the Bible intelligently, write a respectable letter, or add a column of figures with any degree of ease or certainty. Every teacher of experience in rural schools, and most persons of middle age, will recall examples of these belated travelers up the hill of learning. The students I have in mind, are not necessarily either stupid or lazy. Nor do I attribute their condition to the teacher, in any case. The fault is rather with our educational systems.

Again, it is undoubtedly a fact, that while some improvements have been made in educational methods: while a smattering of the rudiments, and even of the higher branches, is more common than ever before; and while the mass of information possessed by society in the aggregate is constantly increasing, yet the percentage of strong, original thinkers, men of judgment and force of character, who can use their acquirements practically, is diminishing.

From the great mercantile and industrial establishments, from the common school and from the college hall, the cry is for men of practical force and independent judgment, who are capable of managing and directing.

The cause of this condition of things is not far to seek—too much memory work, memorizing the words of another without words or ideas of one's own.

* * * * *

Think of the immense amount of time, money, mental and (I may say) physical energy expended to give the rising generation "a very imperfect knowledge of the three R's," and a few fragmentary, and, therefore, useless facts of history, geography and science. There is great need that teachers understand the falsity of the current maxim, "Knowledge is Power." Knowledge is not necessarily power. It is only a tool. Character is power. It is said of Nathan Rothschild that he knew the result of the Battle of Waterloo eight hours before the British government; and that he used this knowledge so as to gain one million dollars. This knowledge would have been of no benefit to one who had not the character to use it.

I verily believe that we have not yet half realized the possibilities of

the elementary schools. We spend too much time upon what some one has called "strictly accurate but absolutely worthless information."

Listen! Let me tell you what the average boy of sixteen years, without over-exertion, without injury to health or spirituality, but to the manifest advantage of both, without destroying his efficiency in useful labor, but in a way that will enable him to labor more effectively, can, with a properly arranged course of study and intelligent instruction, accomplish. At sixteen years of age, a boy or girl of ordinary intellectual and physical strength ought to have gained some such acquirements as these: A familiar acquaintance with the English Bible in its historical setting and simple doctrinal truths; a practical mastery of English and the ability to read and speak one or two of the modern languages; a first hand experimental acquaintance with the elements of the natural and physical sciences and mathematics, together with some training in commercial law, bookkeeping, scientific and practical agriculture and the use of tools. This is not too much to expect. And when we shall have cast aside the mass of higher arithmetic, political geography, technical grammar, descriptions of battles, but improperly called history, etc., that now infests our school rooms and inflicts grievous burdens upon our teachers and pupils, and begin a rationally planned curriculum *in which experimental knowledge of things instead of a mass of verbiage about them*, shall have place; experience will prove that the studies I have mentioned can be easily grasped by the average student in our elementary schools. Now, how shall this desirable reformation be brought about? Let us consider the nature of knowledge.

[To be continued.]

A Seed that Grew.

The following is a letter which we have just received from a gentleman in Texas:

"I received the tracts and am well pleased with them, especially the one on the Lord's Day. I have a book written by Waggoner entitled 'From Eden to Eden.' I find it to be the best work I have ever read, on that line, and decided to keep the Sabbath

from now on."

This gentleman goes on to ask various questions concerning our truth, and seems to be intensely interested. Dear reader, are you sowing such seed as this?

What a Bunch of Tracts Did.

AT A RECENT meeting of the Executive Committee of the Southwestern Union Conference, Brother J. M. Rees related the following interesting narrative, which shows what the circulation of a few tracts may do:

"At the first campmeeting held in North Carolina, we had a missionary meeting, and while we were holding that meeting a man and his wife stepped in the back part of the tent, and I noticed that they were interested in what we had to say. Our meeting had not been in session long until a sister got up and produced a little bunch of tracts, yellow with age, sewed together, and she said, 'Somebody sent me these tracts, and I embraced the truth from them. I do not know where they came from.' Her husband said that he embraced the truth, too, from reading these tracts. And then another arose and said the same thing, and another, until eight people in that congregation had testified that they had received the truth from reading those tracts. They all lived in the same neighborhood. The meeting closed, and the strange woman who had stayed in the rear of the tent, stepped forward to the woman who had spoken first, and facing her said, 'Do you know me? I am your sister, who left North Carolina twenty years ago. We sent you these tracts.' You never saw such a greeting as they had there, and we all wept in sympathy with them. Then when the greeting was all over, the man said, 'Yes, we are the ones who sent you the bunch of tracts. We lived in Kansas, and when we sent those tracts we were so poor that we did not have any money, and we wondered how to get the postage to send them. We prayed that the Lord would help us to get the postage to send them, and the Lord gave it to us, and we sent them.'"

Dear reader, would you not enjoy such a meeting and greeting as this? You can have it; if not in this life, in the world to come.

Oklahoma Department.

Notice to Our Churches.

WE are called upon to help in distributing the December *Life Boat* among our neighbors in the following way: Let each member send the names and addresses of their neighbors with a two cent stamp for each name, to the *Life Boat*, Chicago, Illinois. Then they will send a copy of that number with a personal letter calling their attention to it and notifying them that one of our representatives will call on them in a few days to solicit their subscription. At the same time that they mail these they will send a letter to the brother or sister who sends them the names so that they will know that it is time to call on these individuals.

This is a very good paper and we ought to do all we can to get it among the people. Will the church elders see to it that something is being done? Let us do all we can in helping to rescue the perishing. The *Life Boat* is doing a great work in the world, and if we would all help in it, it would do much more good. I hope that Oklahoma will help in this good work. G. F. H.

FIELD REPORTS.

PERKINS, JENNINGS AND COLUMBIA.—Since my last report I spent several days with the church at Jennings. Although the church has passed through severe trials, it has come out victorious. They are gaining in membership, and have a church school in progress. They are determined to bring the Parable work to a speedy close.

During the past two weeks, I have been at Perkins; further instructing the company and organizing a church of twenty members. Six of these joined by baptism and three by confession of faith. Of the remainder some had moved in from other states and others held their membership at churches quite a distance from this place. Several more are observing the Sabbath and, I trust, will soon be ready for membership. One of these is a man seventy years of age whose mother was in the '44 movement. I am now at Columbia where there is some interest reported. Pray for the work here. C. SORENSON.

ICONIUM, OKLAHOMA.—I commenced meetings at this place November 18. The interest was good from the first, and as a result nine earnest souls have decided to obey the truth and are keeping the Sabbath. Three of these are young people who were converted Sabbath, November 29. Others are studying the truth here and we hope to see some of them take their stand for it soon. Four are awaiting baptism. I held my last meeting with the brethren at this place, Sabbath, December 6. We had a precious season together as the Holy Spirit helped us to realize the glory of this last warning message. We organized the company with Brother John Robinson, of the Right church, as leader. The Right Sabbath-school has been moved to Iconium, and with the new additions, now has a membership of seventeen. O, it is such a precious privilege to have a part in giving this last message of mercy to the world. Remember this little company at the throne of grace. F. H. CONWAY.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

BROTHER and Sister Bonde were at the office one day last week. Brother Bonde has gone to Norman to work in the interest of the Parables, and Sister Bonde is going to teach a family school at Munger.

SISTER Taylor, from the Oklahoma City church, has taken up the canvassing work in this City. We wish her success in the work.

SISTER Gregory is engaged in the Bible work here in the City, and she is meeting with success in her work.

Encouragement.

THE work is onward in Oklahoma. Brother Conway reports nine souls obeying the truth at Iconium, where he held meetings. Others have meetings in progress. We are of good courage and aim to press on until the work is completed.

Let us all remember the week of prayer and seek the Lord earnestly. We will ask all the ministers to be with the churches as far as possible, but as we have not enough ministers it might be well where there is no minister to let the elders exchange. It will encourage the churches some, if they do not have a minister, for an

elder of another church to visit them. Then let us also remember the small companies and isolated ones in our Conference. If some one can go and encourage such lonely souls it would be a good missionary act. Let us help each other as much as we can.

G. F. H.

A Good Example.

THE Pharisees were, in a good many things, in the wrong, and Jesus found much fault with them. He often called them hypocrites, etc., but when they were doing a thing right the Lord recognized that also, and gave them credit for it. That is the proper thing for us to do, find something good in the man and do not look on the mistakes all the time. The Pharisees made many mistakes and right in the connection where Jesus corrected them in a good many things he mentioned one thing that they were doing which he said ought to be done. They were paying tithe on mint, anise, and cummin. They were strict tithe payers even on small things, and Jesus did not find fault with that. He did not tell them to do differently or that they should not be so strict in paying tithe. No, he said these ought ye to have done. That is just the proper thing to do. If they had not left undone the weightier matters of the law as judgment, mercy, and faith, they would have been all right. It is not enough to do one thing and leave the other undone. We must learn now what to do and do the whole thing. I believe if we would all follow this example of the Pharisees in paying our tithe the Lord would not need to say that we ought to be converted and return to him and not rob him as is spoken of in the third chapter of Malachi. When this scripture is studied and obeyed money will flow into the storehouse of the Lord more freely. The Lord does not say that his people bring nothing into the treasury, but he asks them to bring *all* the tithe into the storehouse. They may have brought a part of it and called it tithe, but the Lord was not satisfied, he wants it all. O, how many of our people are just paying a part of it, which could not be called a tithe, for it is not a tithe. Only a tenth part of your income can rightfully be called a tithe. Brother and sister the Lord asks you to bring all the tithe into the storehouse. Hundreds of dollars would come into the treasury if we would pay tithe like the Pharisees did. I know that some of our people are strict in pay-

ing tithe but some are careless and pay only on their larger products as wheat, corn, and cotton; but when they come to garden vegetables like potatoes and cabbage, and also butter and eggs they do not think about paying it at least not on what they use themselves. Now the right way is to pay as the Lord gives it to you, and not take out first what you need and then pay a tithe; pay the tithe first and then use the remaining nine-tenths. Dear brethren let us be honest with the Lord and he will bless us for it. G. F. H.

German Department.

Einander helfen.

Wenn wir die erste Gemeinde betrachten so finden wir daß ein großes gegenseitiges Mitgefühl unter ihnen vorherrschte. Die Gläubigen, welche Vermögen hatten, halfen den Ärmeren, wie aus den folgenden Schriftstellen zu ersehen ist: 1 Kor. 16: 1; Röm. 15: 26; Apg. 11: 29. Dies ist recht und sollte auch jetzt noch so sein. Aber es scheint, daß dieses Mitgefühl schwindet mehr und mehr in unserer Zeit. Es muß schon große Not vorhanden sein, wenn wir willig werden zu helfen. Es heißt eben noch immer, Arzt, hilf dir selber. Wenn eine Gemeinde arm ist und sollte sehr notwendig ein Versammlungshaus haben, da ist man nicht so sehr schnell bereit zu helfen, sondern sie muß sich selbst helfen, oder muß es ansetzen lassen bis sie kann, und wann sie auch nie ein Haus bekommt. Das ist aber nicht wie es sein sollte, und ich glaube, es muß bald anders werden.

Es sind Gemeinden unter uns die sehr notwendig ein Haus haben sollten, die aber zu arm sind eins zu bauen. Aber sie haben angefangen im Glauben, und sind dann vorwärts gegangen! doch sie bedürfen Hilfe, um das Werk zu vollenden. Nun, liebe Geschwister, können wir ihnen nicht zu Hilfe kommen? Es würde ihnen große Freude bereiten, wenn sie Hilfe bekämen, und euch würde ein Segen zu teil; denn es heißt ja „Geben ist seliger als nehmen“ und „Einen fröhlichen Geber hat Gott lieb.“ Liebe Geschwister, laßt uns Gutes tun, und nicht müde werden. Eine kleine Beisteuer würde keinem hart ankommen, und würde den armen Geschwistern eine große Hilfe sein. Wir dachten, es wäre gut einen Baufond zu gründen in dieser Konferenz, woraus wir in solchen Fällen, wo arme Gemeinden sind, helfen könnten. So, bitte nehmt nur Kollektoren auf zu die-

sem Zweck, und sendet das Geld an die Traktat Gesellschaft Tract Society. Box 239, Oklahoma City, Okla.

Gemeinde Schulen.

Es ist erfreulich, daß unsere deutschen Geschwister solches Interesse zeigen für die Gemeindegemeinden. Auch die Schattuck Gemeinde hat beschlossen eine Gemeindegemeinde zu haben. Es werden ungefähr dreißig Kinder derselben bewohnen. Sie fing den 8ten Dezember an und soll drei Monate dauern.

Noch ein Wort über den Zweck dieser Schule. Es scheint, manche verstehen nicht den rechten Zweck dieser Schulen, denn sie rechnen nur auf das Deutsche und denken nur daran daß die Kinder Deutsch lernen, als ob das alles wäre. Während wir als Deutsche mit Recht auf unsere Muttersprache halten, und unsere Kinder in der deutschen Sprache unterrichten sollten, so kann dies doch nicht als die Hauptsache betrachtet werden. Denn unsere englischen Geschwister sehen auch die Notwendigkeit Schulen zu gründen, und da ist doch der Kerngedanke nicht die Sprache zu erlernen, denn das könnten sie in den öffentlichen Schulen gerade so wohl lernen. Dies ist aber nicht der Zweck dieser Schulen, sondern vielmehr, daß unsere Kinder einen christlichen Unterricht erhalten, und daß ihnen Gottes Wort gelehrt wird. Wir haben ein großes Werk zu tun in dieser Zeit, und unsere Kinder sollten vorbereitet werden dazu. Sie sollen noch helfen der Welt die dritte Engelsbotschaft zu geben. Sie sollen Zeugen für Jesum sein. Der Welt Weisheit könnten sie in den öffentlichen Schulen lernen, aber wir haben ein höheres Ziel im Auge, darum laßt alles Bestreben darauf hin sein.

Wir werden versuchen später etwas aus den Zeugnissen anzuführen über diese Frage. Möge der Herr seinen Segen allen unseren Schulen geben, ist mein Gebet.

G. F. H.

Ein gutes Beispiel der Pharisäer.

Jesus hat die Pharisäer oft getadelt. Er hatte viel an ihnen auszusetzen; Er nannte sie oft Heuchler. Er vergleicht sie den übertünchten Gräbern. Aber das Gute, das sie taten, hat er auch hervorgehoben. Gerade in der Strafpredigt wider die Schriftgelehrten und Pharisäer, laut Matth. 23, finden wir, daß Jesus einen Punkt hervorhebt, worin es gut wäre, wenn ihn jeder Siebentagsabend nachahmen würde. Dieser Punkt ist

in Vers 23 wie folgt ausgedrückt: „Weh euch Schriftgelehrten und Pharisäer, ihr Heuchler, die ihr verzeht die Mätze, Tüll, und Rummel, und laßt dahingehen das Schwerste im Gesetz, nemlich das Gericht, die Barmherzigkeit, und den Glauben. Dies sollte man tun und jenes nicht lassen.“

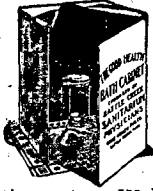
Hier lernen wir, daß sie genau waren im Zehnten bezahlen, sogar von Tüll und Rummel entrichteten sie Zehnten. Jesus hat sie nicht deswegen getadelt, sondern vielmehr hat er das gut geheißen. Er sagt ihnen dies sollte man so tun. Man sollte den Zehnten grade so genau bezahlen. Sie waren ganz im Rechte gewesen nach der Aussage Jesu, wenn sie das andere, nemlich den Glauben, die Barmherzigkeit und das Gericht nicht unterlassen hätten. Also um nur recht zu haben sollten wir das Zehntel so genau bezahlen wie sie, aber das was sie unterlassen haben auch vollbringen. Wie viel aber sind zehntzutage da, welche den Zehnten so bezahlen? Manche denken gar nicht daran daß sie sollten den Zehnten von solchen Kleinigkeiten geben wie Gurken, Gemüse, Butter, Eier u. ä. m. Wieder andere entrichten nur Zehnten von der Weizenernte, und von dem, was sie sonst einnehmen vom Vieh und Gartengemüse, davon wird keinerlei Rechnung gemacht. Wie viel würde aber einkommen, wenn jedes dem Beispiel der Pharisäer folgen würde? Ich bin mir überzeugt daß hunderte von Talern mehr in die Schatzkassen des Herrn einkäme, als wie jetzt einläuft.

Laßt uns deshalb diesem Exempel folgen und den ganzen Zehnten bezahlen! denn wenn wir dies tun, und nicht bis wir es tun, sind wir erst recht bekehrt. So lange wir noch immer ein Teil zurückhalten so lange sagt der Herr noch immer zu uns daß wir uns bekehren sollen. Mal 3: 7-11. Prüft den Herrn doch einmal und bringt ihm den Zehnten ganz in sein Kornhaus. Gebt das zehnte Teil von den Eiern, das zehnte Teil von der Butter und den Kartoffeln — kurzum von allem und allerlei. Wenn ihr nicht gut Rechnung halten könnt, wie mit Eier und Butter, dann nehmet die Eier und die Butter die es gibt in neun aufeinanderfolgenden Tagen in jedem Viertel und verkauft diese und bringt diesen ganzen Ertrag zur Vierteljahrsversammlung. Würde dieser Plan befolgt, so dürften wir bald erfahren, daß weit mehr Zehnten einkommen wie bisher. Versucht diesen Plan einmal, liebe Geschwister, und Gott wird euch segnen darin, denn Jesus sagt auch noch heute wie er dereinst den Pharisäern sagte: „Das sollte man tun.“ G. F. H.

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