

Southwestern Union Record



OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTHWESTERN UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS.

VOLUME 15. :: KEENE, TEXAS, (JOHNSON COUNTY), TUESDAY, SEPT. 12, 1916. :: NUMBER 34-3 6

A PRAYER

The following stanzas were read by Elder F. A. Allum of our Western China mission at the last General Conference. The Spirit of God sent a thrill into every heart as this man of God appealed to the delegates for more men and means to hasten the gospel of salvation to the millions of this great dark continent. The appeal was more like a prayer, and Brother Allum's willingness to leave all that is dear to a man in this world and wend his way into the regions of heathen darkness with the message of hope, light, and life should stir us to great activity and sacrifice.

"Stir Me"

Stir me, O stir me, Lord, I care not how,
But stir my heart in passion for the world;
Stir me to give, to go, but most to pray;
Stir, till the blood-red banner be unfurled
O'er lands that still in heathen darkness lie,
O'er deserts where no cross is lifted high.

Stir me, O stir me, Lord, till all my heart
Is filled with strong compassion for these souls;
Till Thy compelling "must" drives me to prayer;
Till Thy constraining love reach to the poles,
Far north and south, in burning, deep desire;
Till east and west are caught in love's great fire.

Stir me, O stir me, Lord! Thy heart was stirred
By love's intensest fire, till Thou didst give
Thine only Son, Thy best-beloved One,
E'en to the dreadful cross, that I might live;
Stir me to give myself so back to Thee
That Thou canst give Thyself again through me.

Stir me, O stir me Lord; for I can see

Thy glorious triumph day begin to break;
The dawn already gildes the eastern sky!
O church of Christ, awake! awake!
O stir us, Lord, as heralds of that day!
The night is past, our King is on his way.

Who can read these blessed words of consecration to God for humanity and not find their eyes moisten with tears and their hearts respond with a desire to help answer this prayer? Time is almost finished; souls are dying for want of the bread of life. It is in our hand to give them. What can we say in the reckoning day, if we refuse to do all that heaven makes possible?

J. W. CHRISTIAN.

VALUE OF UNITED EFFORT

"And five of you shall chase an hundred, and an hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight." Lev. 26:8.

In the war in Europe all the advances have been won by the strong concentration of large numbers of men and guns at given points, which caused a pressure before which no resistance could stand. We have here an important object lesson of the power of united effort. What a power there would be in our Home Missionary work if every church member would respond to calls to meet issues, and every man, woman and child would begin at once to do his utmost to make the plans proposed a success.

We know something of the power of united effort, for the opposition of Seventh-day Adventists to Sunday laws has created such an impression on the lawmakers, that they have been made to believe there are at least three million of them. The unity of effort multiplied our numbers by forty. But our members did not take part in those efforts. Probably a small proportion did the large part of the work. How much greater impression might have been made had all taken their share in the work.

It may be said that it is not possible for all members to take part in any one effort. This may be true to

a certain extent, but the exceptions need be very few. Let us see if this is not so.

Some issues are general, affecting whole countries. Others are limited to states or provinces. Most of them are met through the circulation of literature in some form. For illustration we will suppose a Sunday law has been prepared to go through Congress. To meet it, leaflets are to be circulated and petitions signed. None are so busy that they could not circulate some of the leaflets at least. Almost all could get at least one petition form filled up. Even the invalids could get the signatures of some of their visitors. If they had no visitors, they could send leaflets by mail. If helpless or blind they could still help by praying regularly and earnestly for those who could be hands and feet for God. Only those acutely ill, and perhaps those caring for such cases, would seem to be unable to do something for God's cause.

Has not the time come when God's people should be watching for every opportunity to do something to finish His work? They should not need to be urged or exhorted to take part in soul-winning efforts. A simple statement of plans that will bring the message to those yet unwarned, should be sufficient in every church.

A general may make the finest possible plans for his campaign, but only by his soldiers carrying the plans into effect can he win a victory. The leaders in God's work may be guided by His Spirit to the best possible soul-winning plans, but success can only come through willing people using the plans to reach souls.

In God's work every effort that every member can make is needed. No effort is too small to be worthy of God's blessing. Shall we not therefore see to it that we unite together to make the work a success?

EDITH M. GRAHAM.

"Now, just now, it is time for us to be watching and waiting. The Word of the Lord reveals the fact that the end of all things is at hand. The opportune time for us to work is now, just now, while the day lasts."

Oklahoma Conf.

Office, Oklahoma City, Okla.
Box 644

President - Elder John Isaac
Sec.-Treas. - William Voth

MUSKOGEE (Colored)

The colored camp meeting was held at this place August 5 to 15. Among the visiting ministers were Elder T. Murphy, of Texas, and Elder Miller, of Leavenworth, Kansas.

The Lord came near and blessed in each meeting. Harmony prevailed throughout the meeting and our people renewed their vows to God.

Many of the people of the city attended some of the day sessions. We think the camp was a means of spiritual strength to our new converts, brought out as a result of the effort begun July 5, which is still in progress.

Our conference president, Elder Isaac, Elder C. B. Stephenson, and Brother Voth, our secretary-treasurer, were in attendance. Elders Isaac and Stephenson gave some timely instruction, each using one of the day sessions. Our people were glad to have these brethren present.

The help of brethren Murphy and Miller was much appreciated.

M. G. NUNES.

WANTED—At once, a lady—Seventh-day Adventist preferred—to help in family of five. Three will be in school. Will pay reasonable price. Do not answer unless interested. Mrs. R. C. Harding, Route 3, Grandfield, Oklahoma. 35-1tp.

"The great secret of happiness in married life is found in a myriad of little acts and compliances and surrenders upon both sides. Matrimony is an enormous compromise. Perfect courtesy, an incessant guard upon the temper that no irritability shall become a habit, and the constant conviction that where two have equal authority a harmonious decision can be always reached only by the utmost reasonableness,—these are little amulets that will banish the evil spirits and keep the home serene; and the touchstone to enable people to live thus is sincere, deep, and fond love for each other."

WHY HE WAS NOT PROMOTED.

He watched the clock.
He was always grumbling.
He was always behindhand.
He didn't believe in himself.
His stock excuse was "I forgot."
He wasn't ready for the next stop.
He did not put his heart in his work.
He learned nothing from his blunders.
He felt that he was above his position.

He whose principles were most spotless and worthy, has left His children the largest legacy, though He died penniless.—Herald of Light.

"Does it do one particle of good to fret and worry?—No; and it does do a great deal of good to keep a pleasant face."

South Texas Conf.

Office, San Antonio, Texas
Box 755

President - Elder E. L. Neff
Sec.-Treas. C. C. Mattison

OBITUARY

EWART.—Verda Marie Ewart, little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ewart, of Fant City, Texas, was born at Windom, Minn., October 21, 1910, and died of cholera infantum near Fant City, August 2, 1916, age 5 years, 9 months, and 11 days.

Little Verda was sick only twenty-four hours, the latter part of which she was unconscious. She fell asleep without a struggle. She was exceptionally bright for her age. The Sabbath school was her delight. On the last Sabbath of her life she admonished some of her class to have a better lesson the next time, little dreaming that on the next Sabbath her funeral would occur. She leaves a little brother, (upon whose birthday she was buried,) father, mother, and many relatives to mourn her loss. The parents are sustained by the promise given in Jer. 31:16.

Words of comfort were spoken by the writer, in the Methodist church at Three Rivers, assisted by Elder Cunningham (Baptist), using 1 Sam. 20:3, last part, as text.

H. F. NEUMANN.

West Texas Conf.

Office, Amarillo, Texas
Box 46

President - Elder C. J. Buhalts
Sec.-Treas. - J. S. McMullen

WICHITA FALLS

Following the camp meeting we spent two days cleaning up the camp. We certainly appreciated the assistance of some of our brethren in this work. We then came to Wichita Falls to hold meetings. We were fortunate in securing a central location for our tent.

The Lord began to impress the people at the very first service, and some remained for half an hour or more to ask questions. The attendance has averaged about the same during the twelve nights we have held meetings, and the interest has continued to increase, some staying an hour or more after the services to inquire regarding the truth.

We have had an opportunity to visit the people in their homes from the first. A contractor who operates several teams is talking of taking his stand for the truth. Another has expressed a desire to be baptized and join the church. One young man is inquiring about our schools. We feel that God has wonderfully blessed us so far and we ask your prayers for our continued success.

I trust all our members will make a strong effort with the Harvest Gathering work and secure all the means possible for missions.

C. J. BUHALTS.

THE LORD'S SECOND COMING

"There was a large attendance at the meeting held in the People's Hall, Snyder, last week," says the Southern Cross of a recent date, "to consider the prophecies of the Bible in relation to the second coming of Christ. The principal speaker was the Rev. S. Sharp, who took for the subject of his address, 'The Second Coming of Christ—Personal, Imminent.' The second coming of Christ is of course one of the cardinal teachings of this denomination: and it is interesting to note, from time to time, and in many parts of the world, meetings organized by other denominations to emphasize the same thing.

North Texas Conf.

Office, Keene, Texas
Box 51

President - Elder David Voth
Sec.-Treas. - A. M. Woodall

OUR WORKERS

It will undoubtedly be of interest to our brethren and sisters in the North Texas Conference to know where our workers and what they are doing.

Elder Leach and Brother Wolfe have just finished a successful tent effort at Hail and are now at Ladonia with the tent. Brother Leach writes: "We secured seven converts at Hail and will have baptism tomorrow evening, a little before sundown. . . . We still expect to get one or two more at Hail, with a possibility of more."

Brother and Sister Sweany are at Waxahachie, holding cottage meetings and doing house-to-house work. We would be glad to see a nice company of believers raised up at this place. Elder Sweany writes that a few have commenced to attend the Sabbath meetings.

Elder Cubley and Brother and Sister C. U. Taylor are commencing a series of tent meetings in Weatherford this week and we expect to get good news from this company.

Brother and Sister Corwin are in Fort Worth, holding cottage meetings and giving Bible readings, and they both have all they can do. We are glad that the Lord is blessing them in their work and that souls are accepting the truth.

Elder Stueckrath is conducting a tent effort at Otto. He is meeting with some opposition, but we hope the Lord will give him the victory.

Elder Murphy and Brethren Yates and Jones are expecting to start tent meetings in Fort Worth at once for the colored people.

Elder Taylor has worked in the interest of the College up to the present, but will leave for Oklahoma soon. The Oklahoma Conference has invited Elder Taylor to make Oklahoma his field of labor and he has accepted the invitation. We are sorry to see Elder Taylor leave this conference, for we need him in this field; but if the Lord is calling him to another field, we wish him the blessings of God.

Brethren and sisters, remember our dear workers in your prayers. They

are meeting with opposition wherever they go and they need our prayers. We should see a large number of souls accept the truth as a result of the present efforts.

DAVID VOTH.

NORTH TEXAS CONFERENCE OFFICERS

Conference President—David Voth.
Secretary and Treasurer—A. M. Woodall.

Secretary and Treasurer of Tract Society—W. F. Field.

Field Agent—Chas. L. Collison.

Home Missionary, Missionary Volunteer and Educational Secretary—C. U. Taylor.

Religious Liberty Secretary—David Voth.

Sabbath School Secretary—Mrs. A. M. Woodall.

PLACE FOR SALE

Ten acres of good fruit and truck land; good new house, 24x31 feet, porch in front, 22x7 feet; barn; orchard; vineyard. One-third mile from College. A bargain if sold soon. J. T. Moore, Keene, Texas. 33-1tp

FOR SALE OR RENT

A neat four-room cottage near the church at Keene. Good cistern and well, 1 acre of ground enclosed with chicken wire and iron fence in front, shade trees and cedars.

Rent for \$6.00 per month or rather sell for \$625.00. ½ cash, balance on easy terms. Apply to the RECORD office. 33-1tc.

"Opportunity is the flower of time; and as the stalk may remain with us when the flower is cut off, so time may remain with us when opportunity is gone."

FOR SALE

I now offer my farm of 73 acres, known as the O. T. Hancock farm, one mile north of Keene, for sale. I have a good farm house of six rooms; new barn 30x40 feet; good water; good crop this season; 75 young bearing peach trees; pear trees, grapes, and berries. There is enough timber on place for posts and wood. For price and terms on either of the above, call on or write to C. E. Smith, Box 107, Keene, Texas. 31-6tc

LETTER FROM MISS ALBERSWORTH

We quote the following from a letter received from Miss Olga Albersworth, formerly of Keene, but now of Watertown, S. D. Miss Albersworth is Sabbath school secretary of the South Dakota Conference:

"We like South Dakota very much. It has been quite warm here this summer, but is very pleasant now. We have such fine twilights here.

South Dakota is noted for its number of automobiles, it being estimated that there is a car to every twelve persons; in consequence of this I get plenty of rides as I visit the Sabbath schools. We have fifty Sabbath schools now, with a membership of 1290, who gave last year \$5325.67. The second quarter, which is just in the past, was our banner quarter, the offering amounting to \$1,539.82.

"I enjoy my work here very much, and everyone is so nice to me. Mother and I often think of the dear friends in the South and wish that we could see them all again. Probably we will some time.

"We have a nice office here with all latest equipments. This is a town of about 12,000 inhabitants, with good railroad connections. We have seven tent companies in the field this summer and they are all meeting with good success.

"I think the RECORD is getting better all the time, and I can hardly wait each week until it comes."

FOR SALE.—Residence in Keene, near church and school. Four rooms and sleeping porch; two and one-half acres of land; apples, berries, peaches, plums; good well and cistern; soft water piped to house and barn. Price very reasonable. Call on or write, C. E. DAVIS,

SUNBEAMS OR CLOUDLETS

The difference between the melancholy woman and the cheery one is generally the difference between selfishness and unselfishness. They both have their sorrows; they would not be human if they had not—but the former forces her burden upon other people, while the latter sets herself to lightening theirs.—E. T. Fowler.

"Highest of all is friendship with the Lord Jesus Christ."

COLLEGE ITEMS

Remember the date and place, September 20—SOUTHWESTERN JUNIOR COLLEGE!

The Misses Baker, of Ketchum, Oklahoma, are among the first students to arrive.

Miss Jessie Olson is expected Wednesday.

There were about twenty-five or thirty young people at the Oklahoma camp meeting who expressed their intention to attend the Southwestern Junior College.

Messrs. Staben and Nulk are delivering their books this week.

Arthur King, of San Antonio, arrived in Keene Sunday morning.

Arthur Luther is among the new arrivals at our college.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Dortch spent Sabbath with Mr. Dortch's parents at Dalworth.

Messrs Smith and Yates motored to Dalworth, returning evening after the Sabbath.

Mr. Lawrence Warren is spending a few days in Keene. He expects to make his delivery of books this week.

Miss Lillie Lankford, who has been doing magazine work in Little Rock, Arkansas, is expected to return in a few days.

Elder J. W. Norwood returned last week from Washington, D. C., much improved in health. He and his family have accepted a call to Walla Walla, Washington, where Elder Norwood will engage in evangelistic work.

Mr. Roy Atcheson is helping in the broom shop this week.

All students should bring their trunk checks to the treasurer's office. Those arriving the week school opens will have their trunks brought to the homes free of charge.

Miss Willa Mae McCutchen, who spent the summer in Georgia, returned to Keene last week and is getting ready for the opening of school.

Mrs. W. E. Nelson returned to Keene last week, after spending several weeks with her parents in Iowa.

Mr. J. W. Grant and family and Miss Lela Leslie returned from an extended auto trip in the southern part of the state. Mr. Grant expects to attend school this year.

"The wise man is the teachable man, the man who will receive reproof. 'Whoso loveth correction loveth knowledge, but he that hateth reproof is brutish.'"

COLPORTEUR'S WEEKLY REPORT
Southwestern Union Conf.

Name	Address	Book	Hrs.	Ords.	Val.	Helps	Total	Del.
NORTH TEXAS, September 2								
D. D. Clark, Trinity		PG	29	11	35.00	.25	35.25	5.00
J. C. Larson, Clarksville			6	1	3.00		3.00	
Vernon Martin, Clarksville			18	2	6.00	.50	6.50	
W. R. Hixon, Hillsboro			44	25	78.50		78.50	
W. P. Cooper, Greenville			42	1	3.00	1.25	4.25	
W. A. Fawcett, Hillsboro			39	10	32.00	.35	32.35	
J. B. Carter, McKinney		GC	11	4	12.00		12.00	57.00
E. M. Davis, McKinney			27	15	45.00		45.00	11.00
A. Prewitt, Mt. Pleasant		BR	52	21	69.00	.30	69.30	
R. R. Sweany, Clarksville		HM	14	7	16.00	1.00	17.00	
N. J. Liebman, Dallas		PPF	30	9	18.00	2.30	20.30	.50
Jodie Birdwell, Nacogdoches		Mis	5	9	5.10		5.10	
C. U. Taylor, Avinger					61.00	145.00	206.00	206.00
		Bibles			20.00		20.00	
		Mag			46.00		46.00	46.00
Agents 13			317	115	449.60	150.95	600.55	325.50

WEST TEXAS, August 26								
Bertha Chesnut, Wichita F.		PPF	8					24.50
Lillian Chitty, Cisco		BF	33	21	30.00	3.65	33.65	
H. H. Cowan, Vernon		DR	43	11	34.00	.95	34.95	
Velma Field, Wichita Falls		PPF	9			3.05	3.05	17.50
J. T. Fortner, Foard City		BR	34	20	63.00		63.00	
C. H. McColrey, Post City		BR	34	3	10.00	.95	10.95	
C. G. Parkins, Sweetwater		BR	44	21	39.50	1.50	41.00	
H. W. Spraggins, Wichita F.		BR	30	12	36.00	1.80	37.80	
Claudia Ward, Hereford		PPF	13					82.00
M. P. Sparks, Abilene		Mag	6					2.70
		Mis						137.75
Agents 10			254	88	212.50	11.90	224.40	264.45

WEST TEXAS, September 2								
H. E. Blackwelder, Snyder		PG	40	16	54.00	.35	54.35	4.00
Bertha Chesnut, Stamford		PPF	30	1	1.50		1.50	
Lillian Chitty, Eastland		BF	27	16	22.00	2.50	24.50	
Ethel Clouse, Snyder		BF	48	14	15.50	1.20	16.70	
H. H. Cowan, Vernon		DR	23	3	9.00	1.05	10.05	
Velma Field, Stamford		PPF	29	6	12.00		12.00	
J. T. Fortner, Foard City		BR	25	9	29.00		29.00	
C. Johnston, Clyde		PG	46	6	18.00	2.35	20.35	
Gertie Johnston, Cisco		BF	33	14	17.50	2.00	19.50	
W. B. Parkins, Sweetwater		BR	47	14	33.00	1.30	34.30	
C. G. Parkins, Sweetwater		BF	11	8	12.00		12.00	
H. W. Spraggins, Wichita F.		BR	28	14	43.00	6.30	49.30	
M. P. Sparks, Abilene		Mag	2					1.20
Agents 13			389	121	266.50	17.05	283.55	5.20

SOUTH TEXAS, September 2								
C. H. Chenault, Edna		DR	33	12	36.00		36.00	
A. W. Krueger, Victoria		PG	21	4	14.50		14.50	
E. R. Laureano, Cuero								50.00
A. A. Prewitt, Sour Lake		GC	25	1	3.00	6.85	9.85	
J. W. Wilson, Elgin		HM	28	24	71.00	3.75	74.75	
Agents 5			107	41	124.50	10.60	135.10	50.00

Name	Address	Book	Hrs.	Ords.	Val.	Helps	Total	Del.
NEW MEXICO, September 2								
C. H. Reese & Wife, Alamogordo	HW				33.85		33.85	33.85
F. G. Truitt, Tyrone,	PG	22	40		208.00		208.00	208.00
Ethel Coberly, Roswell	Mag				52.50		52.50	52.50
Agents 4		22	40		294.35		294.35	294.35
GRAND TOTALS—Agents 45								
		1089	405		1347.45	190.50	1537.75	939.50

THE STUFF THAT BILL LIKES

They stood in front of a gorgeous chart at the old Three Corners school-house that Sunday morning, just before the new Sunday-school opened. For the moment the wonders and joys of the spring were forgotten—forgotten the songs of the birds, the flaming beauty of the azaleas in the woods, the calm majesty of the mountains about them. These were the common heritage of the mountain child, subtly sensed but little spoken of. But there before them were symbols of new and foreign wonders, that excited the imagination and stirred the crude springs of eloquence to action.

It was really a marv'ous chart, purchased last year by the school district—but never used. On its sheets was graphically portrayed in colors something of every science schools should teach,—language, arithmetic, physiology, history. There on history's page they had stopped, this little group of half-grown boys and girls, around the new "furrin" teacher, who with her family had come to live among them. They never had been privileged to examine this chart before. Their teacher, Miss Sallie, who had herself gone through six grades of school, maintained that there was no need for such foolishness. "They don't need history and physiology and geography and all such up here to help them grow corn and cotton," she said. And so she taught the "three R's" alone, and that only after a sort. No wonder, then, that these her pupils were excited, after their stoic fashion, over the mysteries of the chart.

Sadie Goelet and Ida Corn, entrenched behind the teacher, forgot their nervous giggling over their unusual boldness in joining such a company of masculine adventurers after knowledge,—Sam Hill, John Howard ("Long John"), and Bill—Bill Bishop. Bill led. Bill always led. And Bill was the spokesman now.

"What's this here boat going down?" he asked. It was the sink-

ing of the "Maine," and Mis' Eva, the teacher, told them the story.

"Who's these fellers in the corner?" pursued Bill, "and what fer?"

"This one is President McKinley," she said, "and that is Garfield, and that one Lincoln. They were presidents of our country who were assassinated."

"What's that?" demanded Bill. "Oh, you mean them fellers that was shot? I heard tell of that McKinley."

And so the history lesson went on, a name here and a story there, until finally, prompted by the eager stirring of his followers, Bill demanded, "Say Mis' Eva, will you teach this stuff in your school when you start it? If you do, I'm coming. I like that stuff. Say," he exclaimed, suddenly turning on his companions, "wouldn't you fellers come?"

"Yeh," drawled "Long John."

"You bet," said Sam Hill.

And from the rear came astonishingly from feminine lips the response, "We would."

"Never did hear anything like that in school," continued Bill, "nothin' but a-b, ab, and two and two makes four, and sich. I'd like to git holt of sich stuff as this."

"Well," promised Mis' Eva, "we'll study history, the history of our own country, and some other too, and we'll study geography to help us know where all the people live that we study about."

"And there's history in the Bible, too, a great deal more than we can ever get in Sunday-school. I suppose you'd want to study that, too."

"I reckon," said Bill. "Factis, Mis' Eva, we fellers has got too big to come to reg'lar school. They ain't nothin' but kids in it, you know, and they get the same as we do. I got all that readin' and writin' and sich when I was a baby like them. And you know, as soon as we-all get big enough to hoe and plow and tend the crop, we have to stay out. And we stay out, and stay out, until the babies catch up with us. And so we don't come no more. But this here

stuff, I reckon it would make us come. And the kids wouldn't be in it. Oh, of course," he admitted generously, "they could listen too, but they've got to take their milk, and this here's corn pone and side meat."

Then Sunday-school was called and the conversation ended. But as Mis' Eva went home that day, there was "stuff" of a robust nature in her head. The school, so hoped for, seemingly so nearly impossible in their circumstances, must and would be opened. Her faith in God's promise of help grew up from its mustard seed into a lively sprout, that bade fair to be a tree. With a lighter heart she entered the little log house that she and her husband, her father and mother, her brothers and sisters all occupied while waiting for the frame house that was yet in the saw logs. She looked out upon the little acres on the hills, stumpy, freshly sprouted, where day by day her husband toiled with the sleepy ox-team. Sometimes they had seemed to make a very black question mark, but today they formed a cheering exclamation point. And before her, behind the freshly split pickets, was her pride, the home garden patch, a dozen square rods, the nucleus of a hoped-for market garden and canning enterprise, and even now marvelously big to mountaineer eyes. She even threw a loving glance at the big stone fireplace, where six months before, with burning face and aching back, she had taken her first lessons in open-fire cooking, ere the dollars were found that purchased a stove. The poor clothes that she had patched and mended and turned and made over for the family, they were bonds of fellowship today. She felt afresh the oneness of heart and life with these her new friends. She was partaker with them of the poverty, the meagerness of resource, the privation, and the trial that were her common lot.

But she had something else: she was a sharer with God in the knowledge of a wider truth, the power of a practical gospel to regenerate and uplift. She and hers were messengers of hope and joy and service. She had the stuff that Bill liked, Bill and his kin. She could be a fellow with her Lord Jesus Christ in service to sick bodies and chafing minds, to narrowed souls aspiring for higher things. Here in the heights of the North Georgia mountains, where the haze of the Blue Ridge seemed to shut them into a

world by themselves, they could be and they would be the agents of a living and loving God, the under-shepherds of a shepherdless flock, a flock wayward in part, in ways and at times, yet yearning for pastures green and waters pure. Like Bill, they might not call it asphodel and aquovita: it might all be, in homely phrase just "stuff;" but the prime point was that it was stuff that Bill liked.

Friends, I have written above a true incident in one of our new Georgia mountain schools, an out station of the Hurlbutt School. To this outstation, less than a year ago, went two of our Seventh-day Adventist families and entered upon their self-supporting missionary work. They plan to start their school this fall. They are one of several such stations here in Georgia—a new field for the Seventh-day Adventist rural school work.

Some of you might like to help by sending barrels of serviceable clothing, or in some other way. To anyone interested in helping in our Southern work, I shall be glad to send information upon application. Address me at The Hurlbutt School, Reeves, Georgia.

A. W. SPAULDING.

EXAMINE YOURSELVES

"Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves." 2 Cor 13:5.

How may we examine ourselves, and by what means may we know if we are in the faith?

There may be more than one answer to this question, but the Scriptures give us one way of testing the reality of our profession which is worthy of study.

"Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. Wherefore, by their fruits ye shall know them." Matt. 7:17, 20.

It is by the outward actions of the daily life that the inward conversion will be manifested. The life of the true believer is summed up in these words, "I am crucified with Christ; nevertheless I live; yet not I but Christ liveth in me." Gal. 2:20.

If Christ lives in a person, the life of that person will be like the life that Christ lived when on earth. "He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked." 1 John 2:6. The great aim

and purpose of Christ's life was the salvation of sinners, the winning of souls for His kingdom. This will be the purpose of all who love Jesus.

"All who receive the gospel message into the heart will long to proclaim it. The heaven-born love of Christ must find expression. . . . It is unnatural for any to keep these things secret, and those who are filled with the love of Christ will not do so. In proportion as the Lord has made them the depositaries of sacred truth will be their desire that others shall receive the same blessing." "Christ's Object Lessons," p. 125.

These statements make plain one way by which we may examine ourselves. Let us take our Morning Watch Calendar, and carefully note down all we have done during the past day to make known to others the love of Christ and the last message connected with His second coming. As we put these things down, and see what proportion of our thought and time has been given to soul-winning work, we will better realize what is our real spiritual standing. This is doubtless why the Lord has led to the connection of the reporting system with our missionary work. He knows human hearts and their need of something that will help them to know if the love of Christ is really working in and through them. It is so easy for us to deceive ourselves and think we are right, when we are really far from God.

"Many who profess to be Christians neglect the claims of God, and yet they do not feel that in this there is any wrong. They know that the blasphemer, and the murderer, the adulterer, deserves punishment; but as for them, they enjoy the services of religion. They love to hear the gospel preached, and therefore they think themselves Christians. Though they have spent their lives in caring for themselves, they will be as much surprised as was the unfaithful servant in the parable to hear the sentence: 'Take the talent from him.' Like the Jews, they mistake the enjoyment of their blessings for the use they should make of them." Id. p. 365.

I would therefore urge all our people to try this plan of daily noting down in the Morning Watch Calendar the home missionary work they do, and when it is set down, of laying it before God, and praying that the efforts that have been made, small though they may be, may be used by

Him in His great work for souls. This habit has been cultivated by some, and they say it is a continual inspiration to them. It has increased their love for God and for perishing souls. What it has done for some it will do for all who will follow the plan.

EDITH M. GRAHAM.

A LESSON IN PRAYER

Nehemiah, the Hebrew exile, occupied a position of influence and honor in the Persian court. As cupbearer of the king, he was familiarly admitted to the royal presence, and by virtue of this intimacy and his own high abilities and tried fidelity, he became the monarch's counsellor. Yet in that heathen land, surrounded by royal pomp and splendor, he did not forget the God of his fathers or the people who had been entrusted with the holy oracles. With deepest interest his heart turned toward Jerusalem, and his hopes and joys were bound up with her prosperity.

Days of peculiar trial and affliction had come to the chosen city. Messengers from Judah described to Nehemiah its condition. The second temple had been reared, and portions of the city rebuilt; but its prosperity was impeded, the temple services disturbed, and the people kept in constant alarm, by the fact that its walls were still in ruins, and its gates burned with fire. The capital of Judah was fast becoming a desolate place, and the few inhabitants remaining were daily embittered by the taunts of their idolatrous assailants, "Where is your God?" The soul of the Hebrew patriot was overwhelmed by these evil tidings. So great was his sorrow that he could not eat or drink; he "wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted." But when the first outburst of his grief was over, he turned in his affliction to the sure Helper. "I prayed," says he, "before the God of heaven." He knew that all this ruin had come because of the transgressions of Israel; and in deep humiliation he came before God for pardon of sin and a renewal of the divine favor. He addressed his petitions to the God of heaven, "the great and terrible God;" for such the Lord had shown Himself in the fearful judgment brought upon Israel. But with a gleam of hope, Nehemiah continues, "that keepeth covenant and mercy for them that love Him and

observe His commandings." For repentant and believing Israel there was still mercy.

Faithfully the man of God makes confession of his sins and the sins of his people. "Let thine ear now be attentive, and Thine eyes open, that Thou mayest hear the prayer of Thy servant, which I pray before Thee now, day and night, for the children of Israel Thy servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel, which we have sinned against Thee: both I and my father's house have sinned. We have dealt very corruptly against Thee, and have not kept the commandments, nor the statutes, nor the judgments, which Thou commandedest Thy servant Moses."

And now taking fast hold, by faith, of the divine promise, Nehemiah lays down at the footstool of heavenly mercy his petition that God would maintain the cause of His now penitent people, restore their strength, and build up their waste places. God had been faithful to His threatenings when His people separated from Him; He had scattered them abroad among the nations, according to His Word. And Nehemiah finds in this very fact an assurance that He will be equally faithful to fulfil His promises. His people had now returned in penitence and faith to keep His commandments; and God Himself had said that if they would do this, even though they were cast out into the uttermost part of the earth, He would gather them thence, and would cause the light of His countenance again to shine upon them. This promise had been given more than a thousand years before; but it stood unchanged through all the centuries. God's Word cannot fail.

Nehemiah's faith and courage strengthen as he grasps the promise. His mouth is filled with holy arguments. He points to the dishonor that would be cast upon God, were His people, now that they have returned to Him, to be left in their state of weakness and oppression.

Nehemiah had often poured out his soul thus before God in behalf of His people. Day and night had he offered this prayer. And as he prayed a holy purpose had been forming in his mind, that if he could obtain the consent of the king, and the necessary aid in procuring implements and material, he would himself undertake the arduous task of rebuilding the ruined walls of Jerusalem, and seeking to restore the national strength. And now in closing his prayer he entreats the

Lord to grant him favor in the sight of the king, that this cherished plan may be carried out.

Four months he was compelled to wait for a favorable opportunity to present his request to the king. During this period, while his heart was oppressed with grief, he constantly endeavored to carry a cheerful and happy countenance. In his seasons of retirement, many were the prayers, the penitential confessions, and the tears of anguish, witnessed by God and angels; but all this was concealed from sight. The regulations of Eastern courts forbade any manifestation of sorrow within them. All must appear gay and happy in those halls of luxury and splendor. The distress without was not to cast its shadow in the presence of royalty.

But at last the sorrow that burdened Nehemiah's heart could no longer be concealed. Sleepless nights devoted to earnest prayer, care-filled days, dark with shadow of hope deferred, leave their trace upon his countenance. The keen eye of the monarch, jealous to guard his own safety, is accustomed to read countenances and to penetrate disguises. Seeing that some secret trouble is preying upon his servant, he suddenly inquires, "Why is thy countenance sad, seeing thou art not sick? this is nothing else but sorrow of heart."

This question fills the listener with apprehension. Will not the king be angry to hear that while outwardly engaged in his service, the courtier's thoughts have been far away with his afflicted people? Will not the offender's life be forfeited? And his cherished plan for restoring the strength of Jerusalem—is it not about to be overthrown? "Then" he says, "I was very sore afraid." With trembling lips and tearful eyes he reveals the cause of his sorrow,—the city which is the place of his father's sepulchre, lying waste, and its gates consumed with fire. The touching recital awakens the sympathy of the monarch without arousing his idolatrous prejudices; another question gives the opportunity which Nehemiah has long sought: "For what dost thou make request?" But the man of God does not reply until he has first asked the support of One higher than Artaxerxes. "I prayed," he says, "to the God of heaven."

A precious lesson is this for all Christians. Whenever we are brought into positions of difficulty or danger, even when surrounded by those who

love and fear not God, the heart may send up its cry for help, and there is One who has promised that He will come to our aid. This is the kind of prayer that Christ meant when He said, "Pray without ceasing." We are not to make ejaculatory prayer a substitute for public or family worship, or for secret devotions; but it is a blessed resource, at our command under circumstances when any other form of prayer may be impossible. Toilers in the busy marts of trade, crowded and almost overwhelmed with financial perplexities, travelers by sea and land, when threatened by some great danger, can thus commit themselves to divine guidance and protection. And in every circumstance and condition of life, the soul weighed down with grief or care, or assailed by temptation, may thus find comfort, support, and succor in the unfailing love and power of a covenant-keeping God.—Mrs. E. G. White.

A VALUABLE MISSIONARY PAPER

In the Present Truth Series we have a very valuable series of missionary papers, because in each paper one of the special features of our faith is taken up very clearly and fully. The subjects are arranged in logical order and the papers are well illustrated and attractive in appearance. They are also very inexpensive, being 10c for fifteen copies, 15c for twenty-five, 30c for fifty, 50c for one hundred, and \$4.00—or less than half a cent each—for one thousand copies.

These features make them very suitable for missionary correspondence. With the first letter, Present Truth Series No. 1 may be sent, and the succeeding numbers can follow, until the whole series have been sent and the persons have been given a comprehensive knowledge of the message.

They are equally suitable for house-to-house work. Here is the experience of one church in using this plan for circulating them:

The Rochester, New York, church has circulated twenty thousand of the Present Truth Series. They made a house-to-house canvass in this work for a number of days.

The entire city was districted, a leader appointed for each district, and a general leader over the entire work. When the members presented the papers they assured the people there was no charge for them, but that if they felt it would be a privilege

to contribute towards the work of interesting people in Bible study, any donation from one cent up would be gratefully accepted and used to extend the work.

When the members had finished their work, they had collected sufficient money to pay for the papers and had a nice fund left.

This plan could be followed by other churches with equal success, but instead of stopping with the circulation of one number, the work could be continued month by month until the entire series of twenty-five numbers has been distributed. This would give the town or city so worked a good knowledge of the principles of this message.

Another church distributed these Present Truth Series as follows:

Last February we began systematic work with the Present Truth Series. We planned to warn the entire city, so a map was made on cardboard, and each member was assigned a certain territory. We had a nice band of workers and they worked with a will. However during the summer most of our members were away and only a few remained to carry on this work. In spite of this we are still handling one thousand copies of the paper.

We can never know how much has been done by all this work of our members until the great day of God's revealing, but the visible results are most encouraging. Nine families are now calling for readings, one person has promised to keep the Sabbath, and another wishes to be baptized and unite with the church.

The Present Truth Series may be used in the tract-lending envelopes, and taken from house-to-house in a systematic way, just as the tracts are. Being carefully arranged, they will give the message in logical order, so that it will be the more easily grasped.

We trust our members will realize the value of these papers in their home missionary work. If they can be systematically, and widely circulated all over this country, they can not fail to have a telling influence for the truth.

EDITH M. GRAHAM.

HOW THE "SIGNS" MAY BE CIRCULATED

Years ago, before we began to publish magazines, a good many "Signs"

weekly were sold from house to house by church members who made a regular business of this work. We believe this plan of circulating the "Signs" can and should be revived, and that good success will attend it.

The aim of those who take up this work should be to work up a regular round, where they may deliver their papers each week. The worker should therefore take a definite section of territory. He should divide his territory into sections for each day's work, and make a note in his notebook that he will work this section on Monday, the next on Tuesday, and so on. This is important, because when people consent to take a paper each week, they want it on the same day of the week. It is annoying to most people to get their paper on Monday one week, on Friday perhaps the next, and on Wednesday the third week. Therefore the worker should be very particular to call punctually at the appointed time each week, when the people are expecting their papers.

The worker should get out early in the morning, as the mornings are the best time for finding the people at home. He should take with him a notebook, pencil, and some small change. All periodical workers should see that their dress is neat, and that their appearance will rightly represent the message they carry.

The name of the first street worked should be entered in the note book, and as each house is visited the result should be noted against its number. If no admittance can be obtained, it may be marked, "out." Empty houses should be noted.

If the paper is refused at your first visit, do not hesitate to call with it the following week, unless you are plainly told never to come again. I remember one periodical worker who had no memory for locations, so could not remember who had accepted the paper and who had refused. She therefore called at every house in her territory each week, and when told that she had been informed the week before that the paper was not wanted, she would sweetly apologize for troubling them and explain how it happened. The result was that many who refused at first were won over by her persistent calling and pleasant manner.

Before going out, the paper should be well studied and a few good selling points selected. In these troubled times there are many articles appear-

Southwestern Union Record

A WEEKLY JOURNAL

Published by the Southwestern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Z RUBOTTOM Editor and Business Manager

J. W. CHRISTIAN C. E. SMITH Associate Editors

Entered October 24, 1902, at Keene, Texas, as second-class matter, under act of Congress of March 3, 1879
Subscription price, per year..... \$.50
Clubs of ten, one year..... 4.50

SUBSCRIPTIONS

The RECORD will be discontinued when subscriptions expire. Subscribers should renew about two weeks before time expires, to be sure of receiving every number. Make remittances by post office order, express money order, draft or check, payable to the Southwestern Union Record, Keene, Texas. Do not send stamps. We are glad to correct any errors on our part, and will supply subscribers with missing copies promptly.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Our space is limited, and we do not solicit general advertisements. We are glad, however, to accommodate our friends who wish to advertise places for sale, or other notices considered proper to admit to the columns of this paper. We reserve the right to reject any or all advertisements. Approved advertisements will be inserted in the RECORD, reading notice style, at the following rates: Forty words or less 50 cents for each insertion, and one cent per word for each additional word. Cash must accompany copy for all advertisements.

Word has come from Brother R. J. Brown, secretary-treasurer of the Central China Mission, announcing the arrival of a son on July 17.

Mrs. Irene Jewell underwent an operation at the Southwestern Sanitarium last week, and is now recovering nicely.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Trustees of Keene Independent District School will receive bids for the treasuryship of the funds of said district until September 20, 1916.

O. F. WARREN, Pres.,
J. R. HUDSON, Secy.

Education begins its work with the first breath of human life.—Richter.

ing in the "Signs" that appeal to most thinking men and women.

If this work of selling the "Signs" is to succeed, the workers must consecrate themselves to God and seek Him earnestly in prayer day by day, that he will send His angels before them to prepare the hearts of the people.

EDITH M. GRAHAM,