

"Leaves from the Tree of Life"

SOMEONE has thus described our message-filled literature. And it has been just that to multitudes of people. What a library could be made from the stories of those won to the Lord and His truth through our books, periodicals and tracts. One day a sheep herder, while tending his flock in an isolated section of an eastern state, caught sight of a piece of printed matter lodged in a clump of sagebrush, where it had been carried by the desert wind. On picking up the sheet, he found it was printed in English, and as he read only French he could not understand what was stated. But the picture of the Saviour leading a flock of sheep and carrying a lamb in His arms, was of special interest to him, and so he carried the paper to camp and kept it until he found someone who could read it to him.

It was one of our missionary periodicals, and its contents proved of such interest that the man sent to the publishing house for French literature. Later he was baptized. How did the missionary paper find its way to that desert spot? Nobody knows. It is just another of God's providences in behalf of the literature ministry. A diver finds a tract at the bottom of the bay, a man retrieves a paper from the hoofprint of a horse in a muddy road, a seaman finds a book floating in the cabin of an abandoned ship. Such incidents might be cited at great length, revealing how the rays of light from our truth-filled literature find their way into honest hearts.

But many times more of these "rays of light" should be sent out into the darkness of the present hour. The Home Bible Study League should constantly function in every conference and church. The King's Pocket League should enlist the membership of every church. Hundreds of church members should engage in the sale of our missionary magazines and books. In all these phases of literature ministry we should be sowing the good seed of the Kingdom far

more generously than we have ever done before.

The publishing houses are providing the best literature at the most reason-

able price, of any time in our history, and it is high time to rally our membership to produce the greatest circulation ever known. We have every assurance of the greatest harvest of

souls we have ever garnered from literature seed-sowing.

J. A. STEVENS,
Gen. Conf. Home Miss. Bulletin.



Do You Know?

THAT the SOUTHWESTERN UNION RECORD is costing the sum of \$3839. 80 per year?

That it costs your local conference .018 cents per copy that is mailed to you, or 52 copies at .018 cents is 94 cents each year to send you the RECORD?

That the subscription price of the RECORD has been raised from 50 cents to 75 cents for the year 1936?

That the advertising rates have been changed? See advertisement column for new rates.

That it is costing from \$1.25 to \$2 per month for postage due, because our members do not send their new addresses in advance when moving from one location to another?

YOU CAN HELP

Your conference to hear this expense of sending you the RECORD for 1936 by sending in a donation, marked "Record Expense," to your conference treasurer, if living within the Southwestern Union. If not send the price of the subscription direct to the editor.

By anticipating your date of changing location at least two weeks before moving and sending your new address together with the old direct to the editor.

FOR ALL THIS

We will try to serve you better for the year of 1936.

Finding a Happy Church Home

RECENTLY in a syndicated column this letter was dealt with, and from this article we cull.

"There is no telling how many men, women, and young people have quit going to church, not because they feel no urge to worship and no need of spiritual guidance and inspiration, but because they have decided that there is no place for them in the church socially, and no one cares whether they attend or not. They have little money to give, and they are timid. The easiest way is to stay away. And that is what they do.

"This impression results from the experience of a good many timid men and women who have ventured into a church and found no friendliness. Hurt and disappointed, they have stayed away.

"The other kind of church appears to be mumified. No one speaks to you as you enter, and you can go for weeks without anyone addressing you or asking you your name or inviting you to return. Sensitive, timid people recoil from a congregation the members of which are apparently self-embalmed.

"Just think of what a bitter disappointment it is to one on whom tragedy has descended, as if it were a streak of lightning, and who turned desperately to one of these mumified churches with a silent appeal for help in his despair and confusion. He does not know how to find God there. Or perhaps God has been frozen out. So he goes back home hugging his sorrow and loneliness to his heart until they overcome him or he bravely rises above them. What an opportunity that church has lost."

A live, missionary church would never be that kind, would it? They would be only too anxious to welcome any visitor and to make that visitor feel at home among them.

HENRY F. BROWN.

High Adventure for the King

[The following experiences related at the Field and Book and Bible House secretaries' council held at Keene, November 11 to 14, should be a source of encouragement to our men on the firing line.]

Arkansas-Louisiana



I HAVE a very thrilling story to bring to you brethren about the soul-saving work being done in our conference. We see definite results of the selling of the printed page in our field. To date we know of thirty-four that have been found during 1935 who are Sabbath keepers as the result of reading our literature.

As the result of the work of a colporteur in the Southwestern part of Arkansas a request came for a minister to come and hold meetings. Brother Ruf held ten meetings and organized a Sabbath school of fifteen. This same colporteur has eight more people keeping the Sabbath that he has contacted this year. Some of the people might have several hundred dollars tithe to pay a little later as they are living near a little oil field.

One Sabbath afternoon I went to a home where a little Sabbath school was held. Soon the man of the house came in with wood to put in the fire place. I thought he looked familiar, but could not place him. He came over and sat down near me. Finally he pointed to me and wanted to know if I sold a *Bible Readings* to him about four years ago in Sand Springs, Oklahoma. Then I remembered I had had prayer in the home at the time of taking the order. Now this man and his wife are keeping the Sabbath.

The work is onward in our conference, and we are going on in 1936 to see real things accomplished with the printed page.

D. A. McADAMS.

Oklahoma

A colporteur failed to deliver his book for financial reasons, but the lady ordered the same book from the next colporteur, paid for it, and before the year had closed five of her family were



baptized, and two more are keeping the Sabbath. This sister is now an officer in the Sabbath school.

Finding that his prospective customer already had the book, our colporteur persuaded the man to read it, and in a few months this man, his family of four, and six others in the community, were all baptized.

An old German lady grasped the hand of our colporteur, and weeping, said she thought she would die before she saw any of God's people. She had learned of the message through a German book. Other interests were found and a Sabbath school of seventeen was organized.

Mr. and Mrs. Coop were reared among Seventh-day Adventists, all the while wondering why they kept "Saturday for Sunday." A colporteur sold them a book; then they understood and were baptized. They paid over \$400 tithe last month.

Two families compared the strange doctrine in a book with the Bible, and obeyed the word of God. For over a year they met every Sabbath for Bible study and prayer until another colporteur came along, supplying them with quarterlies. Three of them have now been baptized, and are upholding the light of truth at Edna.

W. L. KINDER.

Texas



While I was canvassing with a young man our customer wanted to know who published the book, and was told it was put out by such-and-such a publishing house. Then he wanted to know what day Christ kept and this question was evaded. Then the man wanted to know what church we belonged to. We told him we were Seventh-day Adventists, and proceeded to tell him all about our work. Then the man, who was smoking, said he was an Adventist, and we told him that Adventists do not smoke. His wife spoke up and said he was trying to stop. The man told this story: Back in 1855 or 56 my father and a neighbor moved into the community. Soon after that a man came selling *Daniel and the Revelation*. They bought the book, read it, and taught it to their families. Then they bought another book,

read it, and taught it to their families. We found fifteen or eighteen keeping the Sabbath, and a Sabbath school is now organized.

At Goose Creek a man and his wife came up and said they had accepted the truth through reading *Great Controversy* sent as a gift from an aunt.

Last spring I discovered a woman and her father who accepted the truth through reading a magazine.

A colporteur sold *Great Controversy* to a man down in the Valley. He read part of the book and then hid it in the bottom of a trunk. At the time there was a small child in the family. He grew up and became ill. He read everything he could find, and after discovering the *Great Controversy* in the truck read it, and is now a Seventh-day Adventist. This young man is one of the most active members in the church.

A. E. VAN NOTY.

Texico

[Brother Kieser has been in Texico only a short time, so of necessity his experiences are taken from his former field of labor.]

Down in the Central American Union we had some very interesting experiences in our colporteur work. A young man spent several months canvassing on one island. The priest opposed his work a great deal. A church school teacher helped him with the interested people—the teacher gave the studies, and he interpreted for him. Soon thirty-two were baptized members of the church. One man was very zealous and soon won sixteen souls to be added to the church. This man said he would give his whole time to the work if he could have ten dollars. This was arranged and now he has brought in another company of about thirty people.

In Cuba a very staunch Catholic family had built a little chapel on their place for meetings. One of the daughters learned something of the truth, and was cast out of the family. One day a colporteur sold them *Our Day*. Some of the brothers read the book and decided their sister was right. Now they have about thirty or forty in the group. The mother accepted the truth, and then



the boys and their wives, and some neighbors, also the man from whom they rented their homes. They built a church and are using the little chapel for their church school. All this was due to the selling of one *Our Day*. W. D. KIESER.

First Sabbath Offering

IT IS of the greatest importance that the first Sabbath offering for church missionary work be taken in every church whether the first Sabbath service is observed or not. It is taken for granted that every church is engaged in some phase of literature ministry, and the funds gathered in the first Sabbath offering provide the means for much of this work. Such funds should be held sacredly for the purpose to which they are given and not diverted to meet other church needs. It is also provided that the club of *Church Officers' Gazette* required for the missionary officers of the church should be paid for from this fund.

GEN. CONF. HOME MISS. BULLETIN.

Monthly Meeting of Church Board

WHEN discussing problems and plans relative to the missionary program of the church, the church board automatically becomes the missionary committee. In order to achieve great things in advancing the evangelistic work of the church it is imperative that a meeting of the board be called at least once a month. No business organization would get very far without frequent meetings of its directors. So it is with God's program in the church at work.

The missionary leader of the church should have a program well mapped out to present at the monthly meeting of the board. In the January issue of the *Church Officers' Gazette* will be found a suggestive month by month outline of topics for presentation to the church board. Of course, this is only suggestive and can be adjusted to meet the needs of every church. We present the following suggestive program for January: (a) Set date and time for the regular monthly meeting of the church board, bearing in mind that this meeting should not be later than the middle of each

month. (b) Plan monthly check up on mission fund goal. (c) Appoint members to take some definite part in the missionary service held on the first Sabbath of each month. (d) Plan for the church club of the *Signs of the Times*. (e) Study the topics for the church missionary services of the month and make definite assignments to those who are to assist. (f) Adopt necessary measures for perfecting the missionary organization of the church. (g) Give consideration to the "foreign periodical" opportunities and plan for needed literature.

GEN. CONF. HOME MISS. BULLETIN.

The Maker of Films Uses Them

THE old adage, "Physician heal thyself," is still used today. There is so much commercialism in the world that many people are suspicious that everything is commercial. The following paragraph will show that the maker of the layman's stereopticon films, Brother D. W. Mayse, of San Diego, is not commercial, but is distinctly a personal worker.

"D. W. Mayse and John McConaughey have been conducting a layman's effort in Coronado, and have sent in a list of nine people who have been baptized as the result of this effort. They say, "This experience has been a great one for us, and our hearts are glad to see what the lay people can do with the help of the Lord. This makes sixteen people we have brought into the message in fourteen months."

It pays to be a lay worker, and the stereopticon helps you to be an efficient one. HENRY F. BROWN.

Home Missionary Leadership and the Colporteur Work

"THERE is a special work to be done for our young people by those bearing responsibility in the local churches throughout the conferences. When the church officers see promising youth who are desirous of fitting themselves for usefulness in the Lord's service, whose parents are unable to send them to school, they have a duty to perform in studying how to give help and encouragement. They should take counsel with parents and youth and unite in planning wisely. Some youth may be best fitted to en-

gage in home missionary work. There is a wide field of usefulness in the distribution of our literature, and in bringing the third angel's message to the attention of friends and neighbors. Other youth should be encouraged to enter the canvassing work to sell our larger books." *Testimonies*, Vol. 9, pp. 77, 78.

In harmony with this statement from the Spirit of prophecy, the following recommendation was passed at the various conferences last summer:

We recommend, "That every church be responsible for the placing of at least one full-time colporteur in the field, and that one or more representative be enlisted in the sale of our various magazines."

With multitudes of young people in our territory desirous of coming to school, but unable to do so because of the financial stress in which they find themselves, and in view of the vast territory that we have that is unworked, should we not, as missionary officers in the church, seriously take to heart the instruction given by the Spirit of prophecy, and search out one or more young people and place upon their hearts the burden of colporteur evangelism.

HENRY F. BROWN.

We Show Our Faith by Our Works

"WE are living in the most solemn period of this world's history. The destiny of earth's teeming multitudes is about to be decided. Our own future well-being, and also the salvation of other souls, depend upon the course which we now pursue. We need to be guided by the Spirit of truth. Every follower of Christ should earnestly inquire, 'Lord what wilt Thou have me to do?' We need to humble ourselves before the Lord, with fasting and prayer, and to meditate much upon His word, especially upon the scenes of the judgment. We should now seek a deep and living experience in the things of God. We have not a moment to lose. Events of vital importance are taking place around us; we are on Satan's enchanted ground. Sleep not sentinels of God; the foe is lurking near, ready at any moment, should you become lax and drowsy, to spring upon you and make you his prey.

Home Missionary Topic January 11, Reporting—A Christian Duty

"Many are deceived as to their true condition before God. They congratulate themselves upon the wrong acts which they do not commit, and forget to enumerate the good and noble deeds which God requires of them, but which they have neglected to perform. It is not enough that they are trees in the garden of God. They are to answer His expectation by bearing fruit. He holds them accountable for their failure to accomplish all the good which they could have done, through His grace strengthening them. In the books of heaven they are registered as cumberers of the ground." GREAT CONTROVERSY, P. 601.

What One Minister Did

I AM trying to change the _____ church into a working church instead of a workers' church. And I know my program will meet success, since I have copied it from the Spirit of prophecy. I devoted several successive prayer meetings last September to God's program of finishing this work. "Warn to Win" became our watchword. Five various fields of missionary work were opened to as many bands, and every member was urged to choose his field and join a band specified in some type of soul-winning work. One was the Hospital band. Its title reveals its field. Another was the "Letter to the Editor band," for those who have some gift in writing. The newspapers constitute its field, and already the articles are appearing. A third band was a Home and Sabbath School band, and non-Adventist children are being gathered into the Sabbath school started with them. We have six or eight such groups started now. The Bible Workers' band was headed by our Bible worker, and includes all those who have some ability along this line. Both theory and practice are being taught. Our biggest band is the Literature band, and the *Present Truth* is being used. They call regularly at the same hours weekly, and are reporting an interest being stirred up. These interests, of course, are turned over to the Bible Workers' band to deal with, though the papers continue to come.

If I am here the next Ingathering season, these bands will be Ingathering bands, and quite a different program will be carried on than this year.

O. B. GERHART.

Soul-Winning Sabbath School

INASMUCH as the missionary society includes all the church, "The Sabbath school is an important branch of the missionary work," *Testimonies Vol. 5, p. 389*, and should be utilized as a soul-winning agency, not only for our own members, although the goal, "Every church member in the Sabbath school and every Sabbath school member in the church," is excellent. But Sabbath school and Home Missionary officers should branch out and reach outsiders. "Sabbath school teachers can instruct the children in the truth, and they take it to the home circle." *Testimonies, Vol. 4, p. 51*. This refers, undoubtedly, to the children of non-Adventists. Therefore "The Lord desires that those engaged in the Sabbath school work, should be missionaries, able to go forth to the towns and villages that surround the church, and give the light of life to those who sit in darkness." *Testimonies on Sabbath School Work, p. 74*.

To train these new officers as to how this is done, the Sabbath School department has prepared a little leaflet, *Branch Sabbath Schools*, that will be

Is This the Time?

Is this the time, O church of Christ, to sound

Retreat? To arm with weapons cheap and blunt

The men and women who have borne the brunt

Of truth's fierce strife, and nobly held their ground?

Is this a time to halt, when all around Horizons lift, new destinies confront, Stern duties wait our movement, never wont

To play the laggard, when God's will was found?

No! Rather strengthen stakes and lengthen cords,

Enlarge thy plans and gifts, O thou elect,

And to thy kingdom come for such a time!

The earth with all its fullness is the Lord's;

Great things attempt for him, great things expect

Whose love imperial is, whose power sublime.

CHARLES SUMNER HOYT,
in the *Christian*.

sent to those addressing the conference Sabbath school secretary. And the General Conference, in the recent Autumn Council, recommended, "That all conference and church workers give more diligent study to those plans which are already in operation, as set forth in a leaflet entitled *Branch Sabbath Schools*, and that they give attention to possible adaptation of the general plan to all sections of their local field."

Having such wonderful opportunities as we have in the Southwest, why should not every Sabbath school set a goal for branch Sabbath schools just as truly as they set a goal for offerings? We believe that without great difficulty, we could double our Sabbath school membership in this line.

HENRY F. BROWN.

How Do You Use Our Literature?

AN ELDERLY sister related that at a meeting many years ago the minister instructed the believers that every periodical should be placed in the hands of some other individual after it had been read by the Adventists themselves. Then he told of having visited a member of the church, who was feeding the chickens on a copy of the *Signs of the Times*. He felt so pained that he rescued the paper, soiled as it was, and placed it in someone's hands who would read it.

We wonder if God will hold guiltless our members who have great stacks of the *Signs*, the *Review*, the *Instructor*, and other of our papers, aging and discolored, and at times even used for kindling, when there are multitudes who are mutely holding out their hands pleading for the bread that our members have in abundance. Meditate on these things. Clean out your house. Scatter all of those papers through reading racks, or from house to house. Use our literature in missionary endeavor.

HENRY F. BROWN.

Are You Sickly?

HERE is a prescription from the Divine Physician, who knows how to diagnose the cases of sickly church members.

"Doing good is an excellent remedy for disease." *Testimonies, Vol. 2, p. 29*.

"In fellowship with God, with Christ, with holy angels, they are

surrounded with a heavenly atmosphere, an atmosphere that brings health to the body, vigor to the intellect, and joy to the soul." *Testimonies*, Vol. 6, p. 300.

"The pleasure of doing good to others imparts a glow to the feelings, which flashes through the nerves, quickens the circulation of the blood, and induces physical and mental health." *Testimonies*, Vol. 4, p. 50.

"Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh? Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily." Isaiah 58:7, 8.

With such prescriptions from our Physician it should be said of us, "There was not one feeble person among their tribes." Psalms 105:37.

HENRY F. BROWN.

Organize Prayer Bands

"AMONG God's people there should be at this time frequent seasons of sincere earnest prayer. The mind should constantly be in a prayerful attitude. In the home and in the church let earnest prayers be offered in behalf of those who have given themselves to the preaching of the word. Let believers pray as did the disciples after the ascension of Christ.

"The members of our churches need to be converted, to be more spiritual minded. A chain of earnest, praying, believers should encircle the world. Let all pray in humility. A few neighbors may meet together to pray for the Holy spirit. Let those who cannot leave home gather in their children and unite in learning to pray together. They may claim the promise of the Saviour, 'Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am in the midst of them.' . . .

"How much more might have been accomplished had the time spent by God's people in faultfinding been spent in encouraging one another in active service. How much better for voices to blend in prayer in holy unison than to be employed in finding fault. We have no time for faultfinding or criticism." Mrs. E. G. White in *Review and Herald*, January 3, 1907.

Do You Want a Deeper Christian Experience?

HERE is one way how to get it, a recipe from the Good Physician:

"Nothing will give greater spiritual strength and a greater increase of earnestness and depth of feeling than visiting and ministering to the sick and desponding, helping them to see the light and to fasten their faith upon Jesus." *Testimonies*, Vol. 4, p. 76.

"Our Day" Wins

A BOOK was stolen by a man down in Brazil. It was *Our Day in the Light of Prophecy*, under the Brazilian title, of course, of *Nossa Epoca*. The man who had stolen the book had twinges of conscience, so gave the book to another man, who read it through and decided that he would look for the "Nossa Epoca people."

He went to the largest city near and visited the Baptists and the Methodists and other denominations, from church to church, but said "No, these aren't Nossa Epoca people."

One night, somewhat discouraged, thinking he would never find them, he walked by a little hall where a man was preaching, and sauntered in. He listened carefully to the sermon, and it sounded something like the "Nossa Epoca doctrine." And at the end of the sermon he boldly walked up to the preacher and asked him, "Are you a Nossa Epoca man?" The evangelist was somewhat surprised and asked him what he meant by the question. And when the explanation came out, he assured him wholeheartedly that he was a "Nossa Epoca" man. So this man is now in the truth.

HENRY F. BROWN.

ARKANSAS-LOUISIANA

H. C. Hartwell, President
O. J. Bell, Secretary
1215 Marshall St., Little Rock

News Note from Hot Springs

THE colored church at Hot Springs National Park was blessed with a spiritual treat during the Week of Prayer. Elder Williams of Pine Bluff and Elder T. H. Coopwood came on Wednesday and remained with the church until Sabbath. As they left the believers, they exhorted them to be faithful until the coming of the Lord.

L. J. PEAKS.

OREGON HOPKINS.

OKLAHOMA CONFERENCE

J. J. Reiswig, President
L. R. Alexander, Secretary
217 N. W. 7th, Oklahoma City

Elder Trotter Chosen Secretary of Colored Department

WE ARE very happy to announce to our colored constituency that Elder Trotter, who was with us for about six or seven months assisting Elder Young in the effort at Tulsa last summer and following the effort, and remained with the work here to carry on the interest in Tulsa and also assisting in the Harvest Ingathering work, has now been chosen by our colored committee as secretary for the colored department of this conference and also as the colored minister for this state.

I am sure that our people will rally to Brother Trotter's leadership, and give him their loyal support in this great and important work. There are thousands of people of that race in this state who have not yet heard the wonderful message regarding the soon coming of Christ. Surely we owe them this truth and the blessing that it brings. We pray that the Lord may richly bless Elder Trotter as he takes up the duties in this field and that the Lord will help the colored constituency of this conference to take hold of this work in such a consecrated earnest way that the greatest success that has ever attended the efforts thus far, may be found in the colored work in this field during 1936.

We are planning to conduct several institutes in our colored churches this winter. We cannot give the definite dates here, but are hoping that it will be around the twenty-second or twenty-third of January to the close of the month. Definite dates will be given later, and we have the promise of having Elder Peterson, and in all probability Elder Young, with us at that time.

J. J. REISWIG.

Standing for Principle

WHILE we do not encourage our youth in the participation of high-school athletics nor sports of worldly nature, yet we must confess that we appreciate the stand taken by some of our youth attending public high schools as set forth in the Oklahoma

City Times newspaper of December 25.

"Friday is the big day for high school basketball games, but there are at least two high schools in Oklahoma county which never schedule games on Friday.

"All basketball games at Jones high school and at State Center school are scheduled for either Tuesday or Thursday. The reason is that several members of the teams of both schools are Seventh-day Adventists whose Sabbath begins at 6 P. M. Friday.

"The players,' say school officials, 'have a perfectly good reason for not playing and we respect it.' All of the opposing teams have gladly obliged, they say, in accepting another day for games."

And yet, how much better it would be if all of our youth were attending the schools of the denomination, where they can obtain a Christian education and not be subjected to the pressure of high school and college athletics. However, we respect the attitude of these youth who, while taking part in these athletics, have nevertheless stood for principle on the question of Sabbath observance.

WESLEY AMUNDSEN.

TEXAS CONFERENCE
G. F. Eichman, President J. O. Hanson, Secretary 112 St. Louis Ave., Fort Worth, Tex.

At the Close of the Year

MANY of our people follow the practice of squaring up at the close of the year. Some made pledges at campmeeting for missions and conference relief to be paid at the close of the year. Some pay their tithes only once a year, and that is at the close of the year.

Some have made their church pledges to be paid at the close of the year. Others leave their Harvest Ingathering work till the close of the year. Let me urge our people to square up, and start the new year with all 1935 obligations discharged.

We will close our books for the conference about January 10 or 12, and hope that our people will have all of their remittances in on time so that when we close our books everything will be in that belongs in 1935.

G. F. EICHMAN.

Many Blessings

REPORTS come to us from various parts of the conference that the Lord has blessed wonderfully during the services of the recent Week of Prayer. Many victories were won, and a number took their stand for the Lord. For such good reports we thank the Lord.

Showers of blessings came to the Lord's children during the Week of Prayer. I trust that we will continue to faithfully serve the Lord during the new year, and as a result of such service the Lord will continue to shower blessings upon us.

G. F. EICHMAN.

Colored Church Officers' Meeting

AT A recent meeting of the conference committee it was voted to hold a church officers' meeting for the colored churches in the Texas Conference.

The officers who are invited to attend this meeting are: the elder, where the elder cannot come the leading deacon will take his place; the treasurer; the missionary leader, where the missionary leader cannot come we recommend that the missionary secretary come; we accept no substitute for the treasurer except where there is an assistant; the Sabbath school superintendent, if the Sabbath school superintendent cannot come we suggest the secretary and where the Missionary Volunteer leader cannot come we suggest the Missionary Volunteer secretary.

The meeting is to be held in the San Antonio church from January 31 to February 3. Besides the local workers in that department we expect to have with us the departmental secretaries of the conference, Brother Young of the union, and Brother Peterson of the General Conference. Information will be sent direct to the churches regarding transportation and entertainment. We urge that the officers attend, as this is a very important meeting and we have a splendid agenda to cover.

G. F. EICHMAN.

News Notes

E. W. Storing has been on the sick list recently, but he is well again and about his work.

C. L. Chastain is busy arranging

for the building of the new church and school at Orange.

J. D. Smith and family spent a few days with friends at Shreveport.

R. E. Loudon has been busy getting located at San Antonio.

W. L. Barclay reports that the Elgin church has also gone over the top in the Harvest Ingathering campaign.

Brethren Clark and Eichman attended a Home Missionary council at Keene one day last week.

TEXICO CONFERENCE
R. P. Montgomery, President T. R. Gardner, Secretary 419 Rencher St., Clovis

With the San Angelo Church

IT WAS a real pleasure to spend a week with the brethren of the San Angelo church. We had meetings every night and during the day I visited our people in their homes. We have good, faithful believers in San Angelo.

We straightened up the church records, dropping the names of those who have moved away and of others who have gone back into the world. The membership now stands at about thirty-two.

Brother Aclin, elected Sabbath school superintendent, was also chosen as leader of the church. We are in hopes that an elder will be developed soon so the church can function in a better manner. O, for greater faithfulness in our churches so that they will not be without leadership!

At the present writing I am with the Lubbock church holding a week's series of meetings.

R. P. MONTGOMERY.

News Notes

R. P. Montgomery spent the week at Lubbock holding a series of meetings with the members there.

W. D. Kieser went to Hereford on Sabbath to assist G. A. La Grone with the election of church officers.

W. H. Hanhardt has been visiting the company at Silver City and other places in the southwestern part of the conference.

Mrs. F. E. Draper of Dallas visited her daughter, Estelle, for several days during the holidays.

"Who Makes Epidemics?"

"WHO Makes Epidemics?" is the title of a most interesting and helpful article, by Dr. Henry Vollmer, Medical Director of the St. Helena Sanitarium and Hospital, in the February *Health*. In a clear and understandable way, Dr. Vollmer shows us how to prevent the great loss from illness and disease. This exceptional treatment of the subject of rational preparation for meeting the extra drafts on vital resources caused by the modern system of living, is something you will want to let your neighbors have the privilege of reading.

Health is 15 cents a copy, and this February issue contains over a dozen other equally helpful features.

S. D. A. rates on subscriptions. A reduction of 50 cents is allowed all church members on their personal subscriptions, or orders as gifts to friends or neighbors. You pay the Bible House only \$1 (\$1.25 in Canada, \$1.50 in foreign countries) for twelve issues, each filled with vital health-building instruction. Send your order to your Bible House today.

COLPORTEUR REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 21, 1935

Texas, A. E. Van Noty, Sec.

	Hrs.	Val.	Del.
Marion Brown	47	57.25	75.75
M. M. Ashley	19	30.00	21.00
Mrs. Lynch	7	1.00	1.00
Mrs. Marion Borwn		2.50	2.50
Mrs. S. K. Guss			4.75
Mrs. C. P. Clark		2.00	2.00
Mrs. Hattie Miller		2.00	2.00
Mrs. J. A. Brinker		2.00	2.00
Mrs. L. C. Putnam		1.50	1.50
B. E. Wagner	1		16.50
Lewis B. Smith	26	3.50	9.00
Total	100	101.75	138.00

Texico, W. D. Kieser, Sec.

R. B. Sheets	46		40.00
Mrs. Annie Eubank	49	32.75	50.65
Mrs. Lula Becton	43	10.25	10.75
Chas. Van Dusen	19	11.75	1.95
R. D. Murray			26.25
Mrs. W. R. Alexander	2		6.00
<i>Magazine Workers</i>		12.80	12.80
Total	159	67.55	148.40
Grand Total	259	169.30	286.40

"A Christmas Present"

ZETA had no father or mother that she knew of. She had lived with a wandering band of gypsies until about a year ago when she had been left in a large city to make her own way through the world. Now all day long she cried, "Newspapers, Dispatch and Herald," to the passers-

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Advertising rates are: 75 cents for the first fifty words, and one cent for each additional word. Two cents per word for ads of less than fifty words with minimum charge of 50 cents. Each additional insertion, if run consecutively, will be at the rate of one cent per word. Payment must accompany ad. Stamps received.

by, but Zeta didn't sell many papers—not even enough to buy herself any thing to wear. In the winter she often went cold and hungry for days.

One winter night she stood on the corner, cold and hungry. She cried papers until she could cry no more. After awhile she pulled forth a picture of her mother and said, "O, Mother, I wish I had you now. I wouldn't be cold and hungry, and alone in this world." Then exhausted by the cold, she fell on the icy street where she was soon found and sent to the hospital.

A wealthy man paced the floor of his library. His name was Mr. Alfred Wilmar. The library was richly furnished with a luxurious rug, beautiful table, and many book cases filled with books. There was but one picture: it was of a young lady with curly hair and laughing eyes. He looked again and again at the picture and sighed, "What a lonely Christmas for me without you! What will I do?" This was his wife who had been dead not quite a year. Six years ago his little girl had been stolen and she had never been found. "She must be with her mother," thought he.

Now he was wondering what he could do to have a happy Christmas. Tired out by pacing the floor, and still not having thought of anything, he sat down and read the paper. The headline caught his eye: "Cheerless Christmas." He read the piece which told about many sad and cheerless Christmases. But the saddest was of an orphan girl who sold newspapers for a living and who was sick in the hospital, due to cold and hunger. A tear glistened in his eye. It was very sad. Then all of a sudden he jumped from his chair and cried, "It is my duty."

Late on the afternoon of the twenty-fourth Zeta, being in her bed, looked

at the picture and cried, "O! if I could only have a real Christmas and a Santa Clause and—" "Hello, how are you this afternoon?" interrupted the nurse. She had a strange man with her. Zeta at once liked him—he had such a kind face. "This is Mr. Wilmars, and if you are well enough he will take you home, and you will have a real Christmas," said the nurse. Zeta was overjoyed, and soon she was covered up nice and warm in a low green automobile. Through the street they went until they came to a fairy palace it seemed to Zeta.

The next morning Zeta had presents and still more presents. At the very bottom of her stocking was a tiny wrist watch. Zeta's joy was complete. She was so happy she was well. In the room she sat down on a low foot-stool by the fire and began to tell Mr. Wilmar, who was about to decide to adopt her, of her life. "This is the picture of my mother,"

(Continued on page 8)

Obituary

VAN DOLAH—Peter C. Van Dolah was born in Dearborn County, Ind., Oct. 5, 1851. He died at his home at Leedey, Okla., Dec. 15, 1935, at the age of 84 years.

He married Sallie C. Ferguson on July 25, 1877, at Kingsville, Mo., and to this union six children were born, four of whom died in childhood.

He accepted the truth when he was 28 years of age, and was faithful to it until his death. He leaves to mourn: His wife one son, one daughter, six grandchildren, and one great grandchild. Since there was no resident Seventh-day Adventist pastor, the funeral service was conducted by Baptist and Methodist ministers. He was laid to rest in Shirley cemetery.

CORDY VAN DOLAH.

Southwestern Union Record

A WEEKLY JOURNAL

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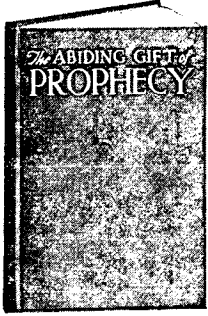
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Just Off the Press



DURING the many years of his ministry Elder Daniells gave special study to the gift of prophecy in the church. At meetings of ministerial groups and General Conference councils he often presented

this subject. The General Conference asked him to prepare these studies so they would be available to all our people. This he has done, and *The Abiding Gift of Prophecy* is his last contribution to the cause he loved.

The scope of this interesting and instructive work is clearly set forth by the author in these words:

"This volume deals with but one theme—*The Continuing Gift of Prophecy*. That prophetic gift has been God's chosen method of revealing Himself to the human race after man had been ruined through sin.

"This prophetic gift bestowed was to abide with the church from Adam to the second advent of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, when He comes to take His redeemed people to Paradise. It did not cease with the apostles, but is traceable through the centuries to the last days of human history, just before the return of our Lord."

Elder L. E. Froom makes this clear statement:

"The fundamental premise of the writer is uncontrovertible—that when sin had broken direct communion between heaven and earth, God gave the prophetic gift to men, vouchsafing it to His church, and that gift has never been permanently withdrawn since its bestowal. There have, of course, been intervals when no prophetic voice was heard. But this as well as the other spiritual gifts, have reappeared periodically through the centuries, to direct in crises, to instruct and to warn, and at times to predict, as God might elect and as the church might need, thus to carry out the undeviating and abiding provision of God."

Elder Watson recently wrote about this new book as follows:

"One cannot read page after page, and chapter after chapter of this stirring book without sensing a distinct building of confidence in the purpose

and work of the prophetic gift all through the history of God's people in a sinful world. It greatly aids in understanding and appreciating the remarkable ministry of the gift in the remnant church?"

You will surely want a copy of this new book. Why not order it at once? Your Book and Bible House can supply you. It contains 379 pages, and comes in two bindings:
Blue, washable cloth \$1.85
Black, limp \$2.85

College News Notes

Dean Laurence has returned from his trip to Tennessee. He left his wife with her parents to return at a later date.

The three Harkey brothers, Calvin, Edwin, and Wayne, are visiting their mother and friends.

The dormitory families went to Fort Worth Christmas afternoon to visit the zoo and botanical gardens in the park. Although it was very cold, the outing was enjoyed by the entire group.

The truck driven by U. M. Cook to Colorado and points west, returned Friday evening. This brought back seven of our girls, who reported a happy time while at home, but are also glad to return to school.

Branson Chrispens is away for a few days at Clovis, New Mexico.

Mr. J. R. Tucker is spending a few days with his son Clarence, at the home of Professor and Mrs. J. A. Tucker. Mrs. C. E. Bell is also at the Tucker home visiting her daughters.

Martha Meyers spent the week-end in Fort Worth with Geneva Casey.

Mrs. Flora Moyers and Miss Laurietta Wilcox, of Union College visited in Keene during the holidays.

Beginning the New Year

IT IS inspiring to begin a New Year—to turn over the leaf and look on a clean white page in the book of our lives. At such a time one naturally asks oneself, "What is the thing of outstanding importance, that which should never be lost sight of, as I plan my life for the New Year?" Here is the answer: "The development of all our powers is the first duty we owe to God and to our fellow men." *Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 331.

The Home Study Institute is helping hundreds of men and women, and a still larger number of ambitious young people, to do this thing—develop their powers in a systematic way and make something beautiful out of their lives. It will be a valued privilege to us to hear from many others in the next few weeks. Our door is open wide to all knowledge-hungry persons. We appreciate receiving letters from young people and also older ones who desire to develop the talents that God has given them, and then reach out and help their neighbors. Let us hear from you today.

M. E. OLSEN, *President*,
Home Study Institute,
Takoma Park, Washington, D. C.

Sunset Calendar

For Friday, January 10, 1936

New Orleans, Louisiana	5:18
Little Rock, Arkansas	5:17
Shreveport, Louisiana	5:27
Muskogee, Oklahoma	5:25
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma	5:34
Galveston, Texas	5:37
Dallas, Texas	5:39
San Antonio, Texas	5:52
El Paso, Texas	5:18
Santa Fe, New Mexico	5:09

"A Christmas Present"

(Continued from page 7)

she said, bringing forth the picture. He looked at it and then cried, "Your mother? This is my wife, and you are my lost child!" "O! Daddy," cried the child, flinging her arms around his neck.

Her best Christmas present was her daddy, and his was his dear lost child.

—Selected.

Colporteur Institutes

Ark.-La., New Orleans Jan. 2-11	
Texico, Clovis Jan. 9-18	
Oklahoma, Jan. 16-25	
Texas Jan. 23-Feb. 3	

Field Secretary Directory

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