

REPORT *of* PROGRESS

FOR
SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE

AND
SOUTH-EASTERN UNION CONFERENCE



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TO ALL OUR BRETHREN IN SOUTH CAROLINA

"THANKSGIVING week" among Seventh-day Adventists will touch a new string in the melody of the third angel's message.

As a people we have *enjoyed* giving to advance present truth. Now we propose to allow others, and even invite them, to enjoy this blessing with us; for "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

The truthfulness of this statement of Scripture will be experienced by many a soul during the week of Nov. 22 to 28. A special number of the *Review*, setting forth our mission field work, is in preparation. We shall only need to let the people see what we are doing in order to get them to help us in this great world-wide work. This *Review* special will be furnished to all our people for free distribution.

It is planned for *all* our people to enter into this work of giving away this mission number of the *Review* to their neighbors and friends, and to solicit offerings for missions during the *entire* Thanksgiving week. And those who cannot possibly leave their occupation or business to engage in this work are invited to sacrifice their earnings during this week to forward the mission work.

To me this seems one of the greatest strides this people has ever made in the work of sending the gospel of the kingdom to all the world in this generation. Surely it is a leap to the front in the closing up of the controversy between Christ and Satan. The third angel's message must lighten the earth with the glory of its harmonious truths. This work must come to the front, and attract the attention of *all*, even as Christ did on the occasion of his triumphal ride into Jerusalem. This truth must rise to prominence before it receives crucifixion at the hands of the world. Then hurrah for the palm branches. "Cry aloud, spare not," for the voice of the third angel must be heard above the confused noise of modern Babylon, above the screeching cry of the angry elements, and the terrific groans of a tottering earth. As the clear, musical voice of Jesus was heard on the great day of the feast above the confused noise of the temple, saying, "If any man thirst, let him come unto

me and drink," so will the voice of the third angel ring out in clear, distinct notes saying, "Come out of her my people."

May the Lord of the harvest help us to speed the work that will hasten his coming.

R. T. NASH, *Pres. S. C. Conf.*

WILLING SERVICE

THE above heading introduces a servant, and specifies the kind of servant. A servant is a person who serves, one who is of use.

Note the statement God makes concerning his Son Christ: "Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth." Isa. 42:1. And later from the same source comes this statement: "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him." Matt. 17:5.

What was the secret of Christ's success? Was it because he was God's own Son, his *only* Son, and special favor was shown him because of his relationship?—By no means. Christ's position on earth was the same as that you and I have the privilege of occupying, so far as heavenly favor is concerned. The secret of the success of Jesus was *willing service*. "I do nothing of myself" (lay no plans of my own devising), but work and speak "as my Father hath taught me." He has sent me, and has not left me alone; "for I do always those things that please him." John 8:28, 29.

If our service is acceptable to the Father and Son, it must be the same kind of service that was rendered by the Son—willing service. And none but he who has become a servant from freedom of choice, can do willing service.

How many of us are called into the Master's service? God has appointed "to every man his work." "Not more surely is the place prepared for us in the heavenly mansions than is the special place designated on earth where we are to work for God." But God will not pick us up and carry us to the place appointed. "The Lord does not force any man to work; but to those who will place themselves decidedly on his side, he will give a willing mind. He will bless the one who works out the spirit which he works in." "We need

so much,—O so much!—humble men who feel it a pleasure to do their very best."

But how am I to know my place? See Eccl. 9:10. The thing for you and me to do is to accept the first opening, and leave the rest with the Lord. Kind friend, has any opening been presented to you? Look at the appeals being made for consecrated men and women to connect with the book work. Should you connect with this work for one day, you would decide that the strong appeal of the field is sufficient evidence that your service is needed.

Rich are the blessings that await those who connect with the canvassing work to-day. Thousands of people are waiting to welcome you into their homes. Come over and help us, is the earnest request we extend to you.

H. B. TILDEN,

Field Agent N. C. Conf.

RED OAK, GA.

ABOUT fifteen miles from Atlanta, we have a few Sabbath-keepers in the country. These people have been keeping the Sabbath for some years, but for some reason not all of them saw the importance of walking in all the light, and they did not comply with the requirements of truth, thus fitting themselves for baptism and the Lord's coming.

Immediately at the close of the camp-meeting, Elder H. F. Courter went out to this place and held meetings a few days, and an interest sprung up and a desire to know more of this precious truth. We had the use of a school-house in the community. Elder Courter was compelled to leave, and the interest was such that I thought it wise to go out there myself. Although I had planned to go to Macon with a tent, it was deemed advisable by the committee that I follow up the work at this place. A part of the time I was assisted by Carl Maxwell, but he soon left to attend the Foreign Mission Seminary at Washington, and then Elder Smith Sharp, of Graysville, came, and he and the writer labored together for four weeks.

Although it was a very busy time of the year for the farmers, we had good attendance; the Lord gave freedom in presenting the spe-

cial points of the message for this time, and grand victories were gained for the truth. Some who had been for years trying to "taper off" from the use of tobacco gave themselves to God more fully, and found in this message cleansing power and freedom from sin.

Of course Satan is on hand to fight at such times as this; but this time, as always, it was found that nothing can be done against the truth, but for the truth. Some opposers to God's law thought it best to call in some of their preachers and "show up the truth." So Sunday night, Sept. 23, we gave way and listened to a minister representing what is termed the Christian denomination. He spent over an hour and a half in ridicule and misrepresentations, and a few moments at the close, and that by request, in reading the Word of God. The result was a great victory for the truth; for some who had become interested in the truths we had been presenting left the house in disgust, and some of those who had been foremost in getting him there, some of his own followers, said to me afterward, that they were as ashamed of it as any one could be, and they told the gentleman that he had made a great mistake, and further it is now reported that the trustees have stated that he cannot have the use of the house again.

The stronger the opposition to this message, the brighter it shines to those that love the truth. As a result of the work at this place, it was my privilege to baptize six precious souls Sunday, Oct. 4, and as we left, many came to us and invited us to return at any time, and we would be welcome. I am expecting to see more fruit as a result of the work here. Many friends were made for the truth, and a nucleus is now formed, around which we may expect growth. There are several who are keeping the Sabbath besides those who were baptized. The faithful labors of all those associated in the work are greatly appreciated. Paul may plant, Apollos may water, but God gives the increase.

Pray that the work may be prospered, and souls may continually be added to the faith.

GEO. W. WELLS.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS AND NOTES

SISTER J. W. BEACH, of Hildebran, is spending a few weeks at Nashville, having been called there by the sickness of a friend.

Elder D. T. Shireman left on the evening of the 5th for Ohio, *via* Washington, D. C. He will visit relatives and friends, among them his sister, whom he has not seen for a number of years.

The fall term of the Toluca Industrial School opened September 28 with prospects for a profitable fall and winter term. Brother Shields is in charge.

The last report from Baker's Mountain is to the effect that eight persons have signified their intention to obey all of God's commandments, among them one of the most influential men in the locality.

Brother and Sister George Crawford drove over to Hildebran to attend the regular quarterly meeting service there. They spent Sun-

day at the tent at Baker's Mountain, visiting at the Office in Hickory returning home. They report an encouraging interest in their neighborhood near Lenoir.

In an effort to supplement the work of our canvassers we have asked them to send us from time to time the names of interested persons. One of those to whom we have been mailing the *Watchman* writes thus to the agent who sold him a copy of "Coming King:" "I have for some time been enjoying the privilege of reading one of the best papers published. It is most fully and pointedly upon what our people generally should read, instead of much of the literature now being published in the periodicals printed in our country. . . . It seems to me that the work in which you are engaged is of eternal interest, and of great importance to all."

JESSIE V. BOSWORTH.

STILL OF GOOD COURAGE

ONE brother writes after a rather hard effort at delivery that he is "not discouraged, nor do I intend to give up, but push on with still greater effort; for I know that my very soul is set for service for my Master, even if it be very slow."

This is the kind of effort that will be crowned in the end with success; so let us push ahead and do all we can in this work while it is called "to-day." Rom. 8:28 is still good, even though it was written a long time ago. May God crown all faithful efforts.

A. L. MANOUS.

A DRUNKARD AND A TOBACCO FIEND

A FEW weeks ago, a drunkard came to the Atlanta Sanitarium, filled with poisonous narcotics, and very intoxicated; but notwithstanding he was kindly taken into the sanitarium by the manager and physician in charge, and baths and treatments were administered to relieve him of pains and headache.

Finally, a brother began to talk with him in regard to his eternal welfare, and prayed for him in the physician's office. God most wonderfully and miraculously heard prayer in behalf of the poor drunkard. The Lord gave this inveterate drunkard a change of appetite, taking from him his taste for alcoholic liquors and tobacco. "Now," he exclaimed, "I have something that will keep me from going back to these awful habits."

The writer met the man a few weeks later, and he said, "I've not used either liquor or tobacco since." And he is now keeping the Sabbath faithfully. His wife and younger son are also walking in the light with him, and we are looking for his elder son to be converted to the truth in the near future.

Through this mighty miracle the way has opened for me to hold meetings in his home. A number of others are deeply interested. It pays to be kind and Christlike to unfortunate men; for Jesus died for them as well as for the less unfortunate.

To the dear Lord we give all the praise and glory; for he took that drunkard, and wrought a miracle in his behalf. The prayer of faith

will not only save the sick (James 5:15), out it will also save the drunkard from a terrible grave. God is good; for he uses poor and feeble instrumentalities to do his work. The writer's heart wells up in thanksgiving and joy for this work. The Lord's wonderful power to convert and restore men to sound bodies and minds is not more limited in these last days than it was in ancient times. May he increase our faith in his work.

The Atlanta Sanitarium is furnished and equipped to do excellent work for the sick.

J. F. BAHLER.

A GOOD RECORD

THE following is a report of the canvassing work in the Kentucky Conference, as read at the camp-meeting at Moreland, Sept. 24 to Oct. 4:—

Hours work	7,697
Orders taken	2,679
Value orders	\$3,987.50
Books delivered (including helps)...	2,296
Value delivered	\$2,468.25

Nearly all of the above work has been done during the past four months. We began with one agent, and increased to sixteen regular agents, although there have been twenty-seven in all that have canvassed.

One of the best things, to my mind, is that out of the twenty-seven agents, seventeen are native Kentuckians, eight have their homes here, and only two were imported.

The actual sales amount to 31c per hour. One canvasser averaged 79c per hour. There have been approximately 700,000 pages of present truth placed in the homes of the people, which is from one and a half to two pages to every family within the Kentucky Conference territory. You may be sure I praise God for this.

When the people have a mind to work, something can be done.

C. F. DART.

THE MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER READING COURSE

It is now a little past the time for the Young People's Missionary Volunteer Reading Course to begin, but it is not too late for those who have not begun to take up the study. There ought to be hundreds of youth in the South-eastern Union Conference who would begin now and continue the course to completion.

As has already been stated in this paper, "Great Controversy" is the first book to be read. Every one of our young people ought to be familiar with the historical and prophetic truths it contains. The book on missions is "Daybreak in the Dark Continent." Many a man whose life has been a blessing to the world, has received his inspiration to become a missionary from reading the life of another devoted to the saving of souls in the regions beyond. No doubt the result will be the same in the case of many of our youth.

Most of our people have the *Instructor*, in which the lessons appear, beginning with the issue of October 6. They also have "Great Controversy." "Daybreak in the Dark Continent" costs 50 cents in cloth, 40 cents in

paper, and as no tuition is required, the course is inexpensive. Those who have not these supplies should order the last-named book through the *Review and Herald*, Takoma Park Station, Washington, D. C., the other book and *Instructor* through the regular channels.

Will not the parents and church officers do all in their power to induce just as many young people as possible to take the Reading Course?

Young people, begin at once, take a few minutes each day for systematic reading, let nothing divert you from your purpose, and you will successfully complete your undertaking.

Without delay please send your name for enrolment to your conference Missionary Volunteer secretary.

MRS. METTIE S. LENKER.

CLEVELAND, TENN.

THE camp-meeting for the colored people held here, closed Sept. 21. The ten days spent here were days of spiritual refreshing. The early morning prayer-meetings will be remembered for God's blessings. Our program, arranged for practical instruction on all lines indicated by the spirit of prophecy, was carried out as far as possible. Instruction from this source was especially helpful, and we praise God for this precious light. Our mothers' meeting drew the parents near to God.

Elders Pogue and Bird cheerfully assisted, and rendered valuable service in presenting the truth in its beauty. The subject of the law was presented in a most convincing manner, the eager, interested faces revealing the power of the Word.

The meeting has produced gratifying results. Many are in the "valley of decision," and a few have taken a stand. The field is fully ripe for a good worker to remain and turn the interest into a complete victory, for the "truth" in gathering out a commandment-keeping people, ready to meet the Lord. Our brethren, poor in this world's goods, returned home with happy, grateful hearts for the signal blessings of our gracious Lord, the purifying doctrine of the Lord's soon coming welding them in bonds of brotherly love as never before. Helpful talks on health were given by Sister Worthington, who remains behind to give some sufferers here the benefit of her valuable treatments. PAGE SHEPARD.

MISSIONARY SIFTINGS

GETTING HELP FROM THE BIBLE

Opening Song.

Prayer.

Minutes.

Scripture Reading. Ps. 119:9-16.

Subject: "Getting Help from the Bible."

"With what Spirit Do You Read the Bible?"

"How Should the Bible be Read?"

"Why Should We Read the Bible?"

Selection of Song.

Reports of Labor.

Collection for Literature Fund.

Closing Song.

Benediction.

OFTENTIMES young Christians say, "I can-

not find the beautiful things in the Bible, nor can I acquire a taste or relish for it. I want to love it, and to use it so as to receive help from it, but it does not open its riches to me. I appreciate the wealth and beauties which others find in it, and point out to me; but when I look for them, they do not discover themselves to me. After I have read a chapter and found nothing beautiful or helpful, another will read it and point out the sweetest bit of beauty, and the rarest words and suggestions of comfort and helpfulness, not one of which I had seen. They seem to have been hidden from me, like coy birds amid the branches; but when another came, they flew out, and in their shining plumage sat on the boughs, or perched aloft, and sang snatches of heavenly song. I read the book, but I confess it yields me no honey, no food, no wine of life."

It is quite possible that this experience is more common than we think or many are honest enough to confess. There are few, if any, who find in the Bible all the beauty and blessing that lie in its pages. Not one of us gets from it the utmost possible help, and no doubt most of us in reading pass by many rare and precious things which we fail to see at all.

Yet it surely need not be a sealed book to any one. It does not aim to hide its good things away, so that man cannot easily find them. It is not intended to be a book that great scholars only can understand. No doubt a knowledge of the languages in which the Bible was originally written explains many an obscure passage, and resolves many a difficulty; yet it is not a book for the learned alone, but for the unlettered and little children as well. In proof of this we have only to remember that oftentimes those who find the richest blessing and treasures, and the sweetest joys in the Scriptures are not the greatest scholars and the grandest intellects, but God's little ones, strangers to the world's lore and ignorant of its wisdom.

We must come to it as to the oracles of God, infallible and authoritative. We must hear the voice of God in its words. Then we must come in the spirit of docility, ready to be taught. Some read it, not to learn what they ought to believe, but to find in it what they themselves do believe already, to have their opinions confirmed or their conduct justified. Only those who come like little children, with teachable spirits, to hear what God will say, and ready to accept it, however it may clash with their own opinions and preferences, can find the Bible an open book, disclosing to them its most precious things.

It must also be read thoughtfully, slowly, and patiently. Many of its richest gems lie deep, and must be digged for.

With What Spirit Do You Read the Bible?

Very much depends upon the spirit with which we come to the Bible. In the minds of many Protestants there is almost as much superstition regarding this sacred book as there is among Romanists regarding the crucifix or rosary. Soldiers entering a battle fling away their cards and put Bibles in their pockets. They feel that they are safer then. Many think if they read a certain portion every day,

though they give no thought to the meaning, that they have done a holy service and are safe for the day. But the mere reading of so many chapters does no one any good. It would be as well to say Latin prayers and fumble over a string of beads for ten minutes. To receive blessings from the Bible, it must be read thoughtfully with inquiry and meditation. It must be allowed to read itself into our heart and life.

As to the method of reading, several suggestions may be made. It is important to have a good copy of the Bible well bound, with clear plain type, and with references. On many passages there is no commentary so helpful as the reading of the references. Scripture interprets scripture. Hence a copy without references is shorn of much of its value. We want a copy, too, that will last for many years. A book is like a friend; it grows familiar and confidential with use. At first shy and distant, it lets us into its heart after we have long pored over its pages. It opens of itself to the choicest chapters, and it seems to carry its sweetest secrets on the surface for us. A Bible that we have long used seems to say things to us we never hear from a strange book or a new one. Besides, it is good to mark our Bible as we read it. Any precious passage that we find may be indicated on the margin by some sign, or by drawing a line about it or under the sacred words. Thus we write our own spiritual history on the pages of our Bible. These marks are memorials also, showing where we once found blessings—stones set up to mark our Bethels and Peniels and Ebenezers. A book thus read, and with such treasures in its pages, becomes in a few years inestimably sacred and precious. Hence the importance of having at almost any cost the very best copy of the Bible that can be obtained,—one that can be used for a lifetime.

MRS. W. M. CROTHERS.

(To be continued.)

WORK IN FLORIDA

We are always glad to read the good reports coming in every week, and to know that the work is onward in the great Southern field.

Bro. J. H. Lawrence and I closed our series of tent-meetings in Selma, Sept. 19. We rejoice that twelve dear souls took their stand for the truth. Though the contest with the enemy was severe, the Lord gave the victory.

We left on the 20th, Bro. J. H. Lawrence for Mobile and I for Montgomery, to strengthen the good work in those two important cities. After spending a few days in each place getting the school work well started, and other important matters attended to, we left for Pensacola, Fla. We have pitched our tent and are getting ready for another campaign, hoping, praying, and expecting great victories in favor of the truth. We ask the earnest prayers of the many readers of *PROGRESS*, that a goodly number may be brought out here also. T. B. BUCKNER.

"OUR duty is to be useful not according to our desires, but according to our powers."

Report of Progress

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GENERAL MEETINGS IN ALABAMA

Birmingham October 23 to 28
Oaklevel October 30 to November 5
Elkwood November 6 to 12

ELDER R. A. UNDERWOOD, president of the North Pacific Union Conference, was in Nashville last week. He came South to attend the annual meeting of the Nashville Agricultural and Normal Institute, and is occupying the few days before the meeting opens in getting acquainted with the Southern field and its institutions.

FROM a letter recently received from Brother Albert F. Prieger, who is canvassing in Alabama, we quote the following:—

"We are certainly glad to see how the Lord is prospering our humble efforts in selling 'Daniel and the Revelation.' I thought this book could never be sold, yet in sixty-five hours I gave sixty-four exhibitions in the country, and took fifty-eight orders for 'Daniel and the Revelation,' besides twenty-two for 'Best Stories.' 'Daniel and the Revelation' is certainly the book for the times."

This is a good report. Perhaps there may be others who think that "Daniel and the Revelation" cannot be sold. There have been many in the past who thought our large books could not be sold in the South, but the experiences of our canvassers during the past year have demonstrated the fact that the large books sell as easily as the small ones. We need a hundred more canvassers in the Southern field. Who will respond to the call?

THE PETITION WORK

THE right of petition is guaranteed by the first amendment of the Constitution of the United States, the same amendment which guarantees religious freedom to all so far as national legislation is concerned.

The object of our petition work is threefold,—to preserve as long as possible the blessings of liberty; to prevent the passage of measures that would restrict religious liberty; and above all, to enlighten the people upon the great issues involved in religious legislation, particularly in Sunday legislation.

The blessings in the petition work are likewise threefold,—a blessing to those who are interviewed and asked to sign the petitions; a blessing to those to whom the petitioners are

sent; and a blessing to those circulating them.

The petition work affords an excellent opportunity to converse with the people in regard to the truth for this time.

Petitions and memorials played an important part in the great struggle for religious freedom in this country, fought out in old Virginia in Revolutionary times. Instance the many earnest and able petitions and memorials of the Baptists and Presbyterians, and Madison's masterly memorial and remonstrance.

Petitions and protests against religious legislation had much to do in defeating the Blair and Breckinridge Sunday-rest bills in 1888, 1889, and 1890.

Accompanied by earnest efforts, appropriate letters, and the free distribution of literature, petitions may yet be the means of accomplishing much good in the closing work of God in the earth.

W. A. COLCORD,
Secretary Religious Liberty Bureau.

TO MEDICAL MISSIONARIES IN THE CUMBERLAND CONFERENCE

ALL Seventh-day Adventist physicians and nurses in the Cumberland Conference are requested to send in their names to the medical secretary, together with any interesting items of experience of mutual benefit. Have you been able to see God's hand leading you? Tell it. Is the work in your hands progressing? Tell it. Do you wish to identify yourself more fully with God's work for this time? Tell it. R. A. LOVELL, Med. Sec. Cum. Conf. 510 Walnut Street, Knoxville, Tenn.

WHAT WILL LOUISIANA DO?

It is time to begin now to plan to take some active part in the great "Thanksgiving Ingathering for Missions," which will be carried on in every conference in the United States in November.

For those who do not fully understand the plan, I will say that it is that we devote the week from Nov. 23 to 28 to soliciting funds for foreign missions from our neighbors who are friendly to our work, but not of our faith. A special issue of the *Review* will be provided for all who desire to do this work.

There will be some who cannot spare the time to do as outlined above, and for all these it is planned to allow them to give the proceeds of the week's work, or their wages for the week, to the work of missions.

It is hoped that every one will embrace this opportunity to show their love for this truth, and by these means that a large offering may be poured into the "storehouse" for the furtherance of the work.

A very few years ago our work in foreign lands was limited to just two or three countries. To-day it is everywhere. Softly and as extensively as the "latter rain" comes to ripen the fruit-laden fields for the harvest, this message is reaching the honest ones in every nation, enlivening them by the Spirit, and warning all of the solemn, surely approaching judgment hour. Silently and swiftly, as the faint gray streak of dawn grows into the blazing sunlight, this truth is being proclaimed by

the power that "rebuked the Red Sea, and it was dried up," to make a way for his chosen people. What part will you have in the work? Your part in the reward will be determined by your faithfulness now.

Let each one bring a thank-offering at this time, that we may know the joys of sacrifice, and we will soon be given the fulness of the joys of eternity. Ps. 50:3-5.

E. L. MAXWELL.

THEN AND NOW

PREVIOUS to 1879 no large denominational subscription books had been sold. In fact, we had none. Up to that time no one had comprehended the great possibilities of advancing the message through the sale of our books to those not of our faith, but all can now see how willingly the general public has patronized us along this line. Is it reasonable to expect even greater and more direct financial aid from the world in the future?

The prophet Isaiah (60:5) assures us that the time will come when "the forces [“wealth,” margin] of the Gentiles shall come unto thee [the church]." This wealth of the Gentiles is the Lord's, and at the command of his church when he can trust it with his possessions; but his people must sense their need of it, and of the blessings associated with its accumulation. It will not come to them without an effort on their part.

The Thanksgiving Ingathering plan is a manifestation of our faith in the fulfilment of the time when the Gentiles are to help carry this message to all the world. It really seems strange that some such plan has not been adopted before. It is the same idea as calling upon the world in the sale of books. They have patronized us liberally in book sales, so it will be in soliciting for donations—success will come to those of faith and consecration. No one can afford to miss the blessings that will come as the result of promptly moving out in faith as the opening providences of the Lord are revealed.

"NOTHING succeeds like success," and from the reports of those working with periodicals, this branch of the work is surely to remain at the front.

One agent selling *Life and Health* in Detroit, Mich., writes: "I like the work better every day; the people come up eagerly to get the papers." Another agent in Buffalo sold one hundred copies in five hours and four hundred papers in five days in Chicago. Another agent taking a trip ordered 1,300 copies of *Life and Health* in lots of 50 to 100 to various towns along the way.

Liberty is also moving right along. One order for 1,000 copies to one individual in Oakland, Cal., was followed by a wire order for 5,000 copies for the Oakland Missionary Society.

The importance of the truth presented in the present number of *Liberty* demands a circulation of at least 100,000 copies. It gives the third angel's message straight. Our states need the warning as well as any others.