

REPORT *of* PROGRESS



THE SOUTHERN

UNION CONFERENCE

Vol. 3

NASHVILLE, TENN., NOVEMBER 16, 1909

No. 45

TESTIMONY CONCERNING CHRISTMAS

IN a testimony published in the *Review*, Dec. 11, 1879, our Lord instructs us how he would have us observe Christmas and New Year days. While both Christmas and New Year are human institutions, yet there is no reason for one not properly observing them. Concerning the first of these days, our Lord in this testimony says: "Christmas day, precious reminder of the sacrifice made in man's behalf, should not be devoted to gluttony and self-indulgence, thus exalting the creature above the Creator. Let us who are partakers of this great salvation show that we have some appreciation of the gift by rendering to God our thank-offering. If we would indulge less in feasting and merriment upon these occasions, and instead make them the means of benefiting humanity we should better meet the mind of God." While giving useful presents to our friends we are prone to forget the dearest Friend of all. Let us make him glad this year by our liberal offerings for missions.

The testimony informs us that "thousands of dollars will be worse than thrown away upon the coming Christmas and New Year in needless indulgences." I hope this will not be true of Seventh-day Adventists. We will have to render an account for every misspent penny. The mission fields, our institutions need the means we worse than waste in useless and extravagant presents. But our Lord does not condemn giving useful presents at Christmas time. Concerning giving presents to children the testimony says, "There are many who have not books or publications upon present truth. Here is a large field where money can be safely invested. There are large numbers of little ones who should be supplied with reading. Children need proper reading which will afford amusement and recreation, and not demoralize the mind and weary the body. Most children and young people will have reading matter; and if it is not selected for them, they will select it for themselves."

What a field lies before us for missionary work. And what more appropriate Christmas present can be given to our friend's children than a year's subscription to the *Youth's Instructor*, or *Little Friend*, a copy of "Garden

TRUTH NEVER DIES

TRUTH never dies. The ages come and go;
The mountains wear away; the seas retire;
Destruction lays earth's mighty cities low;
And empires, states, and dynasties expire;
But caught and handed onward by the wise,
Truth never dies.

Though unreceived and scoffed at through the
years,

Though made the butt of ridicule and jest,
Though held aloft for mockery and jeers,

Denied by those of transient power possessed,
Insulted by the insolence of lies,
Truth never dies.

Truth answers not; it does not take offense;

But with a mighty silence bides its time.
As some great cliff that braves the elements,

And lifts through all the storms its head
sublime,

So truth, unmoved, its puny foes defies,
And never dies.

The lips of ridicule, dissolve in dust;

The sophist's arguments, the jibes are still;
God working through the all-compelling Must,

Has broken those who dared combat his will;
New systems born in wild unrest, arise;

Truth never dies.

—Selected.

Neighbors;" "Elo the Eagle;" "New Testament Primer;" "Christ Our Saviour;" "Best Stories;" etc. We would ask all of our readers to read the advertisements in the December number of the *Watchman*. Do not let us pattern after the world by giving way to our love of feasting and merriment; but let us reach that high standard which the gospel sets before us. "He who is drawing his life from Christ, will have no desire for the frivolous, unsatisfying enjoyments of the world."

"My soul is burdened as I see the great want of spirituality among us. The fashions and customs of the world, pride, love of amusement, love of display, extravagance in dress, etc.,—these are robbing the treasury of God, turning to the gratification of self the means which should be used to send forth the

light of truth to the world. Selfish purposes are made the first consideration."

"Souls are perishing for want of knowledge. Shall we spend our money for that which is not bread? What excuse will we render for this neglect of the important work which is ours to do? Eternity is near." The great harvest is to be gathered. Let us bring our Christmas offerings into the treasury of God, by helping those who are not so well favored as we are, and we shall receive such a blessing, that we shall not have room enough to receive it. Malachi 3:17, 18.

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OCTOBER IN LOUISIANA

HAVE you ordered those "Ministry of Healing" that you subscribed for at camp-meeting? Why not do it now?

Sister Rees reports all the Sabbath-schools except one, paying all their donations to missions. Let us fall into line, and get on the honor roll.

The last week in October, Brother Reynolds made his banner record. He took orders amounting to \$305.50. If you really want to sell books, come to Louisiana.

How many in each church will take advantage of the holiday season, by selling the small books that are being gotten out by the Southern Publishing Association, Nashville, Tenn. Write them.

From New Orleans, Elder Saxby reports five baptized this month. Brother McLennan has several readers on the point of obedience. Sisters Wilson and Walker tell of a busy month; also Sister Goodwyn. Sister Richardson is too busy selling papers to write.

How do you like the new health foods? Or have you not tried them? If not, then send an order at once. Their advertisement is in this paper.

From Sister Saxby we learn that the Welsh Y. P. M. V. S. is now properly organized in harmony with the Testimonies and is moving along nicely.

Brother Hanson tells of two more who are obeying at Bernice. Brother Frank is holding meetings about seven miles from Ringgold. Pray for the success of all the workers.

Sister Young writes from Pineville that her readings have been hindered some by Baptist and Catholic revivals; but she is still of good courage.

Remember your pledges, and be faithful in paying your tithes. The work is being rapidly finished. "We're homeward bound."

E. L. MAXWELL

VISITING THE CHURCHES

It was decided by our conference committee that I should visit the churches in the interest of the special Review. This I have been doing. The 13th and 14th I visited the Hazel School; the 15th, 16th, and 17th, Leach and Trezevant; the 22nd and 23rd, Springville; the 29th, 30th, and 31st, Lane, Tennessee; and November 6th, Memphis, Tennessee.

I spoke in the interest of this ingathering at each of the places visited. It did me good to see the willingness with which our brethren and sisters are taking hold of the work. Several thousand copies of this Review have been ordered by the believers in our conference this time, and we believe a good use will be made of them by all.

The work throughout our conference in all the churches is prospering, and a good spirit prevails wherever I have been. The members seem to have the spirit to do something, and to do it now.

Sabbath, Nov. 6th, was a good day for the Memphis church. The church services and Sabbath-school are well attended. At the next meeting the church was filled, and a good response came back from all as we spoke to them about pushing this work until it is done. Brother Washburn has done a noble work here. More than seventy persons have signed the covenant to keep "the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus."

W. R. BURROW.



LANE, TENNESSEE

SINCE the last report of the work recently done at Lane, we are able to see some results of the sowing. Some seem to be condemned, having heard "enough of it." But we praise the Lord that some of the seed fell on good ground.

About a year ago a certain Methodist lady asked her pastor to give her some Bible references proving Sunday sacredness. He answered that he was very busy just then, but that he would do so. Whether he regrets his rush of business or not, we cannot say; but he may as well write alas! across that page of his fate, for she has sought for herself to know the truth, and finding that "it was man who changed the day," has taken her stand for the truth. As we see this work of grace done in the honest hearts we are reminded of the words of Isaiah: "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth; it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

KITTIE HAMILTON.

WHERE OUR BOOKS ARE GOING

THERE is a sound of going in the publishing work, and we have thought you would be interested in knowing where these books are going. The figures given are for the months of September and October last:—

Southern Union	\$ 7735.19
Southwestern Union	17674.40
Southeastern Union	5766.77
Panama	500.00
Pacific Press Publishing Association, Kansas City	998.20
Pacific Press Publishing Association, Portland, Ore.	415.26
Review & Herald Publishing Association, Washington, D. C.	1278.30
Review & Herald Publishing Association, South Bend, Ind.	439.80
Review & Herald Publishing Association, New York	176.00
Miscellaneous	53.94
Grand Total	\$35037.86

SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE

Alabama	\$2633.11
Mississippi	1788.41
Kentucky	1631.65
Tennessee River	1546.32
Louisiana	135.70
Total	\$7735.19

You will note that over \$31,000.00 worth of books have gone into our own territory. May the blessing of God attend these pages of truth, and many souls be saved as a result of the work of our faithful God-fearing canvassers.

We congratulate Alabama on her splendid showing, and may she be able to retain first place, but our other conferences are hard at work determined to reach the top, so Brother Keate and his workers will have to keep busy. Are there not some more of our brethren who would like to enlist in the canvassing ranks? If so, correspond with your State agent at once, or address this office.

SOUTHERN PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION,
R. HOOK JR., *Manager*.



"GREAT CONTROVERSY" IN LOUISIANA

MUCH has been given us by the Lord's servant in recent years regarding the importance of placing before the world those books containing the message for this time, such as "Great Controversy," etc., but to many of us in the Southland it seems almost like a hopeless task to try to sell those large books where money is as scarce as it is in most localities here. But we should remember that "all his biddings are enabling promises." He says, "Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established: believe in his prophets, so shall ye prosper."

Truly we have come to the time when we should walk more by faith and carry forward his work in his own way.

My experiences have taught me that the Lord especially desires "Great Controversy" sold wherever possible, and I hope a cheaper

edition may soon be brought out so it can be sold everywhere.

Something more than one year ago I felt impressed to sell this book and for a while rebelled against it, fearing I would not make a success of it; but trusting in the Lord, he gave me \$183.00 worth of orders the first week, the most ever taken in one week before.

Last month I tried to place myself in the Lord's hands so I might be used in selling that precious book again, for it appears to me that in few, if any, other books, is the whole truth set forth in such a clear and beautiful manner as in "Great Controversy."

I began last Sunday morning and worked until Friday evening putting in an average of about ten hours a day. It seemed as if the Lord's presence was with me as never before in my canvassing experience. And he enabled me to take \$305.50 worth of orders during the week. To him be all the praise.

Dear fellow canvasser, I am persuaded more and more as the days go by that what is most needed to make a success in our work is less selfishness, more consecration, and a living faith in God that he will help us to glorify his name in bearing "much fruit." John 15:8.

Many of us are living far beneath our privilege and duty in this respect, not permitting the Lord to use us in placing this precious message in the homes of the people.

"Arise, shine; for thy light is come."

I. T. REYNOLDS, F. M.

Pineville, La.



LOUISIANA LEADS

THE good word has just come that Louisiana has reached the goal for 1909 in the matter of the ten-cent-a-week fund. This is the first conference in the Southern Union and among the very first in America to raise an average of \$5.20 a member for missions.

Two other conferences in this union are running a close race for second place, and by a little extra effort during the next few weeks the Southern Union will meet its full share in the effort this year.

As a denomination we have set our stake at ten cents a week a member for missions. But as a denomination we have never actually reached the average. Isn't it time that our faith in the third angel's message reached that point? Remember that every dollar raised in the Thanksgiving Ingathering and in the Annual Offering applies on this fund.

The General Conference Treasurer's report for the first three quarters of 1909 shows that the Mission Board had received from the Southern Union up to October 1st an average of \$3.42 a member. This average had only been exceeded by two other unions in America. No more loyal people can be found anywhere. Now for a strong united effort to raise it to \$5.20 a member before Dec. 31st.

C. F. McVAGH.

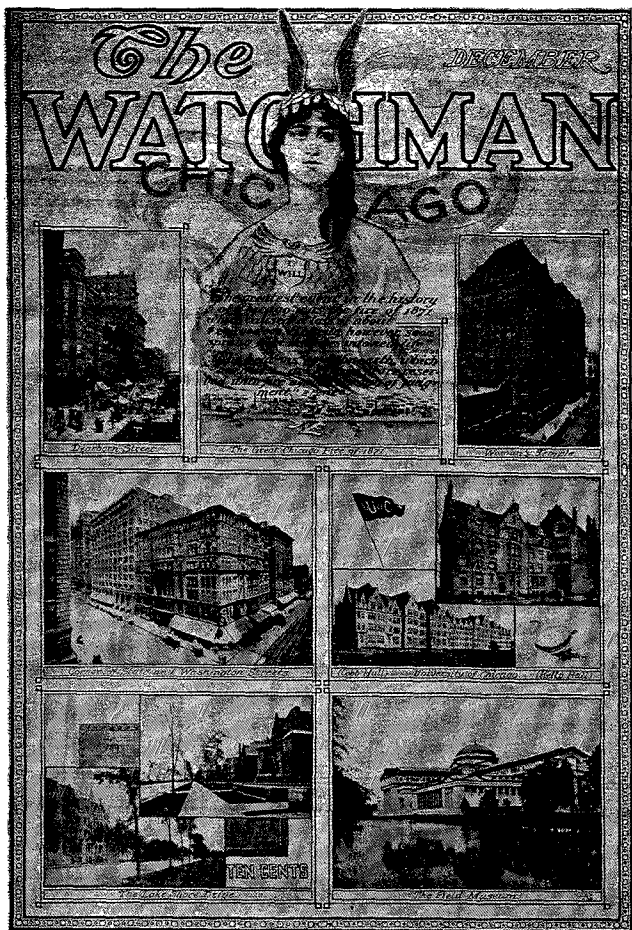


"THE man who fights against sin will never be left to fight alone; God and angels fight with him."

THE DECEMBER WATCHMAN

In the December *Watchman* our editorial staff presents the following subjects:—

Why the Churches are Weak.—“They have



that the Lord may have opportunity to inform himself as to the character of the subjects of the judgment.”

Civic Reasons Justifying Prohibition.—“A very large proportion of the crimes committed are directly traceable to indulgence in intoxicating liquors.”

Of the contributed articles the following are some:—

At the Door. By Mrs. E. G. White. “Probationary time will not continue much longer. Now God is withdrawing his restraining hand from the earth.”

The Coming Reign and Kingdom of Christ—No. 3. By R. A. Underwood. “And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed.”

The Sanctuary in Heaven. By Clarence Santee. “Grand and full of meaning as were those types, and that ministry, yet far beyond in grandeur and significance is the ministry of which these were so faint a shadow.”

Anti-Clerical Rioting in Spain. By Prof. B. G. Wilkinson. “The thirst for liberty burns still in the hearts of the Spanish people.”

Civic Righteousness: What Is It? By Allen Moon. “In short, civic reform must begin with the individual.”

The 2300 Days of Daniel 8:14. By S. B. Horton. “Besides seeing the rise and fall of kingdoms, Daniel was permitted to see a work connected with the heavenly sanctuary.”

accepted the antichristian doctrine of evolution.”

The Knell of Turkish Dominion in Europe.—“Although England had once again saved the Turk from extinction, the Treaty of Berlin did not leave him in any too enviable a position.”

The Hour of God's Judgment.—“There must be some other purpose in the judgment than

Our reports from Turkey, China, and other missionary fields are full of interest and importance.

The Outlook Department contains the usual well-selected topics from a survey of world events.

Don't fail to have your friends secure copies of this interesting number of the *Watchman*.

A SIX-YEAR-OLD BOY'S EXPERIENCE

A WORKER went out one day with the *Missions Review* and took his six-year-old son along. He told him to hand the paper to the people, pointing to the note at the top of the last page, asking them to read it, and then ask for money for the heathen.

The little fellow was so anxious to get to work that he started before the father was ready and secured ten cents from the first one approached. Then he followed his father from store to store and would present his paper to one person while the father was canvassing another.

The Lord blessed his efforts. He gave away twelve copies and secured \$1.02: averaging 8½ cents a paper.

If a child of six can do this work successfully, surely we older ones ought to bestir ourselves and do something.

Parents, the *Missions Review* makes a splen-

did opening for you to train your children in missionary work. All can do something with this. Let us put aside our excuses and go to work. C. F. DART.

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE

Tithe for October, 1909

Individual	\$ 41.80
Mansfield	1.50
Jennings	50.11
Welsh	7.45
New Orleans	168.51
Shreveport (3 mo.).....	53.72
Hayes	5.00
Hope Villa (3 mo.).....	13.90
Hammond	27.96
Hodge (3 mo.).....	15.30
Lake Arthur	20.90

Total\$406.15

Mrs. C. A. SAXBY, Treas.

CANVASSING REPORT

Southern Union Conference

For Week Ending Oct. 29, 1909

ALABAMA CONFERENCE

NAME—	Book	Hours	Value	Deliv'd
R F Thompson	2 wk. D&R	70	\$12 90	\$180 35
C M Cockran.....	BFL	48	52 20	27 00
R I Keate.....	D&R	22		43 80
T R Baugh.....	BFL	25		25 50
H G Moberg.....	BFL	25	21 50	
Mrs J H Smith.....	BS		15 00	15 00
A F Harrison.....	BFL	8	14 90	1 90
R Roberts	BFL	40		34 90
Geo W Brown.....	BFL	50	20 00	15 00
C G Mann.....	BFL	46	16 00	6 00
Alex Woods	D&R	41	11 00	
I W Peevy.....	BFL	32	2 75	

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE

W P Ethington.....	BFL	27		43 50
M Wheeler	D&R	48	19 75	6 25
H E Beck.....	D&R	47	28 00	2 00
H C Carmichael....	dofa	66	118 25	
M J Weber.....	BFL	55	62 50	

LOUISIANA CONFERENCE

C L Collision	2 wk BR D&R	8	26 25	63 00
R C Smith.....	CK	40	58 00	27 30
W M Olmstead.....	MN	40	6 50	4 25
Mrs Jno Almendro...	CK	20		56 25
J N Steel.....	GC	24		17 25
I T Reynolds.....	GC	60	305 50	

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE

J P Campbell.....	sofp	36	40 75	16 95
J S Fry.....	D&R	60		97 25
W H Haddon.....	mofn	4		4 50
Virgil Smith	D&R	45	35 45	7 20
Mrs Cora Smith.....	BFL	5	5 00	

TENNESSEE RIVER CONFERENCE

H C Balsbaugh.....	GC	32	35 00	1 00
C H Chenault.....	D&R	59		125 25
Carrie Goldcamp ...	BFL	22	17 00	1 00
R H Hazelton.....	MISC	28	23 00	
J S Moore.....	D&R	26	33 25	5 45
Mamie Moore	D&R	22	16 10	38 80

SUMMARY

Alabama Conference	406	166 25	349 45
Kentucky Conference ...	243	228 50	51 75
Louisiana Conference ...	192	396 25	168 05
Mississippi Conference ..	150	81 20	125 90
Tennessee River Conf....	189	124 35	171 50

Totals1180 \$996 55 \$866 65

AN OPPORTUNITY

We have on hand copies of recent numbers of the *Watchman*, containing live and interesting matter with which the people should become acquainted.

As an inducement in behalf of circulating these magazines among the people, our agents are authorized to offer them at three copies for twenty-five cents. This means that a copy of the August, September, and October numbers will be sold in sets of three at twenty-five cents a set.

Agent's rates furnished on application.

SOUTHERN PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION.
Periodical Department.

Report of Progress

PUBLISHED WEEKLY

By The Southern Publishing Association of Seventh-day Adventists, 24th Ave. North and Howard Street, Nashville, Tenn.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, 50 CENTS A YEAR

Editor: Mrs. W. M. Crothers

Entered as second-class matter, March 3, 1908, at the post-office at Nashville, Tenn., under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

MISSISSIPPI, NOTICE

Our canvassers' institute will begin December 28 and last three weeks.

If you have a desire to engage in the canvassing work, we want you to come; and if you have not, we want you to come and get a real burden for the work.

Begin to plan now to come.

The place will be announced later. Watch the REPORT OF PROGRESS.

Please write me before coming.

H. G. MILLER.

611 S. Congress St., Jackson, Miss.

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KENTUCKY CONFERENCE

Tithe for October, 1909

Louisville No. 2.....	\$71.18
McKinney	17.19
Richmond	13.65
Henderson	11.64
Locust Branch	10.25
Sand Hill	5.30
Individual	1.50

Total\$130.71

Mrs. CLARA RUSSELL, Sec. and Treas.
Greysville, Tenn.

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A SYNOPSIS NUMBER—NOVEMBER 24

EIGHT THOUSAND new readers for the *Signs of the Times* have been added since the beginning of Home Bible Studies series, October 1. Subscriptions "to begin with the first in the special series" continue to come.

The liberal stock of the first numbers printed to meet this demand is so nearly exhausted, that it is absolutely necessary to do something to give new readers the benefit of the entire series.

To meet this situation, either a supply of back numbers must be printed, which is unsatisfactory to new subscribers at this late date, or a review of the series must appear in a current number.

A SYNOPSIS number will, therefore, be issued under date of November 24, which will clearly review the subjects, particularly the points of our faith presented in the first seven numbers of the series.

This gives special opportunity for home workers to furnish subscriptions they would like to have sent earlier, to interest those near

who have not as yet been reached, and to follow up interests which may have been created in the *Review* campaign.

Here is an opportunity to reach thousands more who are just as likely to accept the truth from reading as those to whom the papers are now being supplied.

Will you not take hold with us in still further increasing this family of readers?

Orders for subscriptions to begin with this November 24th number should be sent at once. The same special prices continue:—

In clubs of five or more to one name and address: each, one year, \$1.00; six months, 50 cents.

Single subscriptions, five or more furnished at one time by one person: each, one year, \$1.00; six months, 60 cents.

Just as far as possible, send all orders to your tract society.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES,

Mountain View, Cal.

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MULAT, FLORIDA

THE following encouraging letter from Brother Griffiths, of Florida, was recently received by Brother Hook, and we gladly pass it along:—

"SOUTHERN PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION:—

"I thought I would write you a few lines to let you know that I am on the road, traveling to my territory. I am anxious to get there. I am sending you a photo of myself and ponies. I am sorry not to see any reports from the Florida Conference. Have they no agents down there? I pray the Lord will bless me in the work. I will do my part, and rely upon the Lord's promises.

"My heart was touched last Sabbath as I wished all my brothers and sisters in the church good-by. I spoke about the canvassing work. There are three more persons in the Marlow church who ought to be out in the work. I pray the Lord that they will go out soon. I must close now, and may God bless you in the work. I remain your brother in Christ.

B. GRIFFITHS.

"R. F. D. 1, Summerdale, Ala."

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AN ENCOURAGEMENT

A LETTER from Brother Christian L. Horning says that after the camp-meeting in Louisville, Ky., he visited four German colonies among the mountains of that State, and had a profitable time while doing so. He afterward went to Mobile, Ala., where he remained a few hours and sold a quantity of the *Christlicher Hausfreund* before continuing his journey to Fairhope, Ala., where he will remain with his brother until spring. Brother Horning is about his Master's business, devoting his time to the sale of our literature and conducting cottage meetings and Bible readings, for which he finds numerous openings. He is of good courage in the Lord and glad to have part in the work. His post-office address is Fairhope, Ala.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

BROTHER HERBERT OWEN, who has spent several years in Spanish Honduras in forwarding the message, is in Nashville for a few days. His talk to the memorial church congregation on Sabbath, November 6, was most interesting and inspiring. He reports his school work as being encouraging. Brother Owen will leave for his field shortly.

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ON Tuesday morning, November 9, at the home of Mr. R. J. Watts, 1747 Salem Street, Nashville, Tenn., Brother B. N. Brown and Sister Grace E. Loveland were united in marriage by Elder C. F. McVagh.

Brother Brown and his bride have been employed in the treasurer's office of the publishing house, and both are held in high esteem by the management and employees. We regret to lose them from the office family, but Brother Brown leaves with a firm determination to engage in the canvassing work and thus give the truth to others as it was brought to him.

They leave us followed by our earnest prayers for their success and future happiness.

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DO N'T flirt. Affection is too sacred a thing to be trifled with. Insincerity in this, as in every other line, leaves its mark for evil upon one's own character as well as being an injustice to those with whom we flirt. "Finnish women," it is said, "never flirt. And it may be that because they do not trifle, and are adverse to frivolity, that they have been accorded rights of franchise equal to those of men." They vote in the municipal elections, and more than forty of them sit in the National Assembly. Their ability and service as legislators have demonstrated, to their country at least, the wisdom of granting suffrage irrespective to sex.—*Youth's Instructor*.

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ANOTHER Y. P. M. V. SOCIETY FORMED

ON Friday evening, November 5, a Young People's Missionary Volunteer Society was organized with eighteen members at the Nashville Sanitarium. The class is composed of the nurses, who, notwithstanding their regular studies, have decided to take the Reading Course. They are also planning to do active Christian help work in the homes of the people in the surrounding district. Praying bands will also be organized. We had a pleasant time talking over the plans outlined by the departmental leaders at Washington, D. C. Our work is growing among the young people. This is encouraging, for in union there is strength, and we need the help of every one of our youth. They are all needed to fight the battles and gain the victories. Let us bear up our young people before the throne of grace, and pray that they may be kept in the hour of temptation, and that God will send his angels to take charge of them and keep them in all his ways.—Mrs. W. M. Crothers.