

# REPORT *of* PROGRESS



THE SOUTHERN

UNION CONFERENCE

Vol. 3

NASHVILLE, TENN., DECEMBER 21, 1909

No. 50

## LITTLE BY LITTLE

"Little by little," the torrent said,  
As it swept along in its narrow bed,  
Chafing in wrath and pride.  
"Little by little," and "day by day,"  
And with every wave it bore away  
A grain of sand from the banks which lay  
Like granite walls on either side.

It came again, and the rushing tide  
Covered the valley far and wide,  
For the mighty banks were gone.  
A grain at a time they were swept away;  
And now the fields and meadows lay  
Under the waves for the work was done.

"Little by little," the tempter said,  
As a dark and spreading snare he spread  
For the young unwary feet!  
"Little by little," and "day by day,"  
I'll tempt the careless soul astray,  
Into the broad and flowery way,  
Until the ruin is made complete.

"Little by little," sure and slow,  
We fashion our future of bliss or woe;  
As the present passes away,  
Our feet are climbing the stairway bright  
Up to the regions of endless light,  
Or gliding downward into the night,  
"Little by little," and "day by day."

—Selected.



## FEDERATION OF CHURCHES

It was my privilege last week to visit Louisville, Ky., for the purpose of reporting for the *Watchman* the first annual meeting of the executive committee of the Federation of Churches in the United States. This was a meeting of a good deal of significance. Bishop Hendrix, president of the Federation, evidently has in his mind's eye a time not very far distant when practically all the religious work carried on by Protestants will be done by "eight or, at most by not more than ten of the larger denominations." He thinks that the smaller bodies have served their purpose if they ever had any real mission, and should now give place to the stronger organizations.

So-called Sabbath reform was touched upon very lightly in the public meetings but it was stated more than once that it was the purpose of the Federation to make its influence felt in shaping municipal, State, and national legislation in the interests of "civic righteousness." One speaker defined the duty of government to be, to make it as easy as possible for people to do right and as hard as possible for them to do wrong. It was, however, more in a strong undercurrent than in outspoken utterances that the real *animus* of Church Federation was seen in the Louisville meeting.

The January and February numbers of the *Watchman* will discuss this important subject quite fully.

I was glad of the privilege of meeting some of the Kentucky brethren. The work in Louisville is in a very encouraging condition. Elder Hayes is finding plenty to do there, and is seeing some fruit of his labors. Elder Burrill, president of the conference, was also in Louisville and though recognizing the difficulties of the field is of good courage. The work in Kentucky is well organized, and the brethren have a mind to work. C. P. BOLLMAN.



## LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

ELDER J. M. IRVING, who has been located in Lexington for almost a year, has begun the medical course in Louisville Medical College, and his departure is keenly felt by the Lexington brethren. But Brother James Myers moved to the city about the time of Elder Irving's departure, and, having gathered the scattered believers together, has begun Sabbath-school work. We spent a week assisting them to organize, and left the company with the following named officers: Sabbath-school superintendent, Jas. Myers; secretary, Mrs. Jas. Myers; tithe treasurer and librarian, Julia Ester.

One more has promised to observe the Sabbath. Another seems deeply interested, and I think will also obey. Several subscriptions were taken for periodicals, and seven "Ministry of Healing" were sold. The situation appears more hopeful to me than in the past.

A. O. BURRILL.

## THE LAW OF EXPEDIENCY AS APPLIED TO RELIGIOUS LIBERTY WORK

"ALL things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient [margin, profitable]." 1 Cor. 6: 12.

From this scripture it will be observed that the question of expediency is one with which the Bible deals, and therefore can be considered with profit by us. The International Dictionary defines the term as follows: "The quality of being expedient or advantageous; fitness or suitableness to effect a purpose intended; adaptableness to self-interest; desirableness; advantage; advisability."

There is no department of this great work where the law of expediency should be exercised more than in this one. Illustrations can be cited all through the Bible where wise expediency was exercised by God's faithful people. Samuel the prophet of old, exercised expediency when he was directed by Jehovah to anoint Saul as king, in that he did not advertise what he was to do; but apparently went to a city in the land of Zuph to sacrifice.

The Saviour's exhortation to his disciples to be as wise as serpents and as harmless as doves, is but another way that he employed in teaching them to exercise expediency in the work of soul-saving. Numerous examples of this kind can be cited in the labors of Christ for perishing men.

Observe Christ upon the occasion when the poor, unfortunate woman stood helpless and trembling before her accusers. The Saviour might have unfolded to them the dark catalogue of sins of which they were guilty, but instead, he silently traced in the sand with his finger these few simple words, "He that is without sin, let him cast the first stone." The reader will remember the result of this act of divine wisdom, for in our imagination we can see these wicked and self-condemned Pharisees with shame departing with bowed heads from the scene.

Another exhibition of this principle of divine expediency was manifested when the Saviour was questioned by the Pharisees as to the source of his authority. How easy it would have been for him to tell them in a few simple words; but, no, the wiser way was

to apply the law of expediency. Thus he proceeded to ask them the question, "Was the baptism of John from heaven or of men?"

Again, when the Pharisees and Herodians sent their delegates to him for the purpose of entangling him in his talk regarding the great question involving the limits of civil authority, we have displayed in his reply another remarkable example of divine expediency. After asking them to show him the tribute money, he added, "Render unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's and to God the things that are God's."

Again, we see Christ journeying on foot with his disciples to Emmaus upon the day of his resurrection. When they reached their destination, the record states, "He made as though he would have gone further;" but the disciples said, "Abide with us; for it is near evening," and he went in "to tarry with them." Was it wrong for Jesus to make as though he was going further?—No; but you will say that it was a wise and tactful way for him to work under this particular circumstance, for he did not wish to tell them in plain words that he was the Christ. He desired that they should recognize this for themselves.

This divine principle was also exhibited in the lives of the apostles. The ninth chapter of first Corinthians abounds in examples of this kind in the work of soul-saving. The apostle Paul says in this connection: "And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law; to them that are without law, as without law (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ), that I might gain them that are without law. To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some."

Doubtless the most signal illustration on the point of expediency recorded in the New Testament is the one that is found in Acts 16:3, when the chief apostle "took and circumcised him [Timotheus] because of the Jews which were in those quarters; for they knew all that his father was a Greek." This incident might appear to the careless reader a compromise of principle, in view of the fact that the practise of circumcision was regarded by those who believed the gospel as a denial of one's faith in Christ, when practised as a means of salvation; for the ceremonial law, of which this was an important part, had been done away at the cross. However, the salvation of precious souls was greater in the apostle's mind than any obsolete ceremony. It was he who said under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, "Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the keeping of the commandments of God." 1 Cor. 7:19. From this it will be plainly seen that an obedience that is produced by the Holy Spirit was of the greatest importance. K. C. RUSSELL.

(To be Continued)

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"THE most blinding dust ever thrown in men's eyes is gold-dust."

### ALABAMA CANVASSERS' INSTITUTE

THE exact time and place has not been fully decided on yet, but it will probably be held about the first part of February in Birmingham or Marlow. This announcement is sent in early so that our canvassers and those who are thinking of taking up this important work can begin to lay their plans to attend.

The railroad fare of the regular canvassers and those going from the institute into the field will be paid by the conference.

We are planning for an important series of Bible studies and also a course of studies with demonstrations of simple treatments of common diseases.

Each night we expect to have a preaching service. All who can should plan to attend.

More definite announcements will appear later.

R. I. KEATE, *State Agent.*

*Fort Payne, Ala.*

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### MISSISSIPPI CANVASSERS' INSTITUTE

BRETHREN and sisters, this will be my last opportunity to speak to you before our institute will begin.

Are you planning to attend? I mean you my brother farmer or merchant. I hear you excusing yourself saying, "I cannot become a worker for God." Listen, please, to what God has said: "No matter what may have been your occupation, if farmers, mechanics, teachers, or pastors, if they had wholly consecrated themselves to God they would have been efficient agents to work for the heavenly Master."—*Home Missionary Work*, p. 5.

If we should take from our ranks of workers all those who have once been farmers and mechanics, and those engaged in other common occupations, how many do you suppose would be left? Let us not excuse ourselves any longer. God has a great work for you to do. We are living in an age of great opportunities. How are we treating them?

I trust a goodly number are planning to attend our canvassers' institute to be held at Watervalley, Miss., beginning December 28.

This will be a golden opportunity for you to receive instruction and training for service.

The needs of this great State demand that we should have at least fifty attend this institute and prepare for hard, earnest work. Who will say, "Here am I; send me."

Again I request those who have not yet paid their pledges to the canvassers' fund to do so as soon as possible, as we will need the means to conduct the institute.

Please write me for any further information desired before coming.

H. G. MILLER.

*611 S. Congress St., Jackson, Miss.*

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### A LETTER

FROM a letter received from a sister in the country several miles from town, I quote the following:—

"It was the 19th of May when I made my first tiny order of only five temperance numbers of the *Youth's Instructor* just to see if I could sell them, knowing they were so much needed in our community. In all I have

sold thirty-four temperance papers and five others, making thirty-nine in all, amounting to \$3.80 in about four months. Now to a regular worker that would look like nothing; but I was glad to do even that much, and think I did well considering my opportunities and experience.

"At first it rained nearly all the time, and I had to pick my chances between showers when I went to the store or on other errands. Then the fruit ripened, and that confined me close at home; but I made fruit customers my paper customers, and watched for every opportunity at home or abroad. . . . I helped mamma all I could, and canvassed between times."

Let us notice some commendable points: This sister is situated where most people would say there is no opportunity to sell papers. She saw a need and made an effort to do something. She had never tried to sell magazines before. But instead of saying, "There is no use for me to try," she sent for five papers, and this small effort encouraged her to do more.

While she did not neglect helping her mother, she canvassed between times. Things were against her, but she did not give up. She watched for chances between showers, and when on errands. She sold papers to fruit customers, and watched for every opportunity at home and abroad.

While the amount done is small as compared with that of regular, experienced workers, she has reported it instead of saying, "It is not worth reporting."

Dear reader, we have many opportunities of selling our splendid magazines right around us. Let us improve them. How many will learn a lesson from this sister and go to work? Let me hear from you.

C. F. DART, *Miss. Sec. Ky. Conf.*

*Moreland, Ky.*

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### WATERVALLEY, MISSISSIPPI

LAST July we came to this place, a town of about six thousand inhabitants, and began to canvass.

From the very first the Lord has given us good success and now an interest to learn more of the truth is springing up on every hand. Many are interested, some of whom have called at our home to inquire about our faith.

The son of one of the wealthiest men in the county has become interested through reading "Daniel and the Revelation," and has expressed a desire to canvass for the book. He expects to attend the institute to prepare to enter the work.

We shall be glad to welcome to the institute our canvassers and any others who have a burden for the work. The harvest truly is great. Why not have more laborers? Why say, "No man hath hired" me, when the Lord of the harvest says, "Go work to-day in my vineyard"?

Soon the harvest will be past and the summer ended. Can we enjoy eternity if we have failed to make a covenant with Him by sacrifice?

Come, enter the work,—there is room for all—and get the blessing and experience for which you are longing but have failed to receive.

On arriving here go north along the railroad one block to a blacksmith shop on Calhoun Street. Then go east to the end of the street; or else phone us No. 117.

VIRGIL SMITH,  
MRS. CORA SMITH.

AN INTERESTING LETTER

THE following letter has been received in response to a copy of the *Missions Review* sent out accompanied by a letter. We have referred this case to the president of the Wisconsin Conference, and we hope that a response will be made to this request:—

“Enclosed, I send you \$5.00 for the cause. I pray God that it may be the means of saving some poor soul. I believe in the truth, and also believe that Mrs. E. G. White is a prophet for this time. I have seen her and heard her speak.

“There is no doubt in my mind in regard to the Adventists having the truth for this time. It is Bible, and I love it. I have one daughter, but she is not a Christian. Please pray for her and her husband. I long to see them saved.

“This village is near Lake Geneva, a beautiful summer resort, and contains about eight hundred people. Many of them I have known since I was a girl of sixteen, and now I am sixty-one. I wish some of your Bible workers would come among these people, ‘as wise as serpents and as harmless as doves,’ and teach them the truth as they taught me in Minneapolis.

“I was at your world’s conference and heard your leading elders, and Mrs. White. I have good rooms and live alone in them. I want to ask you if two young ladies could come here to work this and other villages about here, and stay with me. I could give them one room all to themselves, and they could cook in my kitchen and use my things. I could give them \$3.00 per month, and that is all that I could do. I have an organ and a good sitting-room, in which they could have meetings if they wished.

“I shall pray for the Lord to direct in this matter. I have two cows and one calf to take care of, and about fifty chickens. I do not always do my kitchen work very well, but will do all I can to make it pleasant for them, as I would for Christ himself. I am not very strong. I sell milk for a living, and in cold weather it takes lots of time.”

WHERE ARE THE CHILDREN?

THIS was most likely the question asked by a number of parents in a certain church-school district last week, for from this school of about fifty little burden-bearers comes the report, “Our room furnished ten dollars for the Bethel Girls’ School, Canton, China, last week, and we are still working for more.”

STATE AGENT’S REPORT FOR THE SOUTHERN UNION CONFERENCE

For November, 1909

Conf.	Agts.	Hrs.	Ord.	Val.	Del.	Grd.	Total
Ala.	18	1433	780	\$1173.70	\$719.10	\$1892.80	
T. R.	14	978	672	856.75	615.15	1471.90	
La.	10	801	354	693.25	444.65	1137.90	
Miss.	7	677	148	352.35	775.60	1127.95	
Ky.	5	809	138	352.50	677.20	1030.75	
Tot.							54 4697 2162 \$3428.55 \$3232.20 \$6660.75

I am glad that the time has arrived to send in a report for November. Such a report is indeed encouraging. I am also glad to see the work hold up so well. The amount of orders this month comes within two hundred dollars of that of October. While the value of books delivered reaches the highest mark of the year,—over thirty-two hundred dollars worth. I am in hopes that December will show up good, and I believe that it will.

The Lord is working for his people. Why do we not show more interest ourselves? I hope that all of our faithful canvassers will have the week of prayer readings, and will study carefully the article by Elder O. A. Olson on “The Closing Work.” It is certainly good, and how our people can sit still at such a time as this is more than I can understand.

Our first institute will be in the State of Mississippi and will begin on the 28th of this month “promptly on time.” Brother Miller, the State agent, has written me that it will be at Watervalley on the Illinois Central Ry.

Now, dear brethren and sisters, we expect a good time at this meeting. We hope Elder Lowry, the president will be with us to teach the Bible class. I will be on hand the first day. Let all who can arrange to attend this meeting, and come prepared to remain all through, and then enter the work.

We are certainly living in a very solemn time in this world’s history, and we as a people should not only give of our means, but give ourselves to be used to hasten the coming of the Lord. Yours for advancement.

A. F. HARRISON.

How was it done? Just by the teachers and boys and girls planning and then working out that plan with prayer and activity. One plan would not work in all places, but would not some plan carry in every place? Who can better devise the plan than the interested ones—teachers and pupils?

What would be the result if each church school, large or small, would set apart two or three months for a certain definite field? It might be possible you would find those history and geography lessons would be more easily learned when those lands became lands inhabited by living children, men and women, who have or have not heard the gospel.—*Selected.*

Should there be other teachers who would like to help in some worthy place, correspond with your nearest Young People’s Volunteer Society Secretary.—*Ed.*

CANVASSING REPORT

Southern Union Conference

For Week Ending Dec. 3, 1909

NAME	Book	Hours	Value	Deliv’d
ALABAMA CONFERENCE				
Ross Lindsay	BFL	56	\$102 00	\$
E A Keate	BFL	43	39 25	
R T Jacks	BFL	25	34 00	
H G Moberg	BFL	26	1 00	20 00
B Griffith	BFL	18	17 90	40
W V Wilson	BFL	13	3 50	8 00
K Skidmore	BFL	43	21 50	13 25
Geo W Brown	BFL	45	20 50	5 75
R Roberts	BFL	18		8 00
I W Peevy	BFL	40	7 50	7 00
KENTUCKY CONFERENCE				
H C Carmichael	DofA	70		72 75
M Wheeler	D&R	43	28 00	3 00
M J Weber	BFL	30	26 75	2 00
LOUISIANA CONFERENCE				
Mrs E A Frank	—	32	28 00	4 50
Wm Olmstead	—	43	46 50	14 40
John Harzman	—	45	39 75	6 00
J N Steel	—	36	29 25	10 00
C L Collison	—	40	19 75	36 25
I T Reynolds	—	50	27 50	70 75
MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE				
J S Fry	D&R	45		82 00
S A Oberg 3 wks	GC	97	122 85	12 00
W H Haddon	moJN	28		11 50
TENNESSEE RIVER CONFERENCE				
H C Balsbaugh	GC	22		74 30
Annie Benton	JUV	15	10 25	
R H Hazelton	MISC	35	6 50	60 00
J G Marlatt	D&R	63	26 70	85
J S Moore	MISC	50	17 00	17 10
Mamie Moore	D&R	35	57 05	1 25
C H McColrey	D&R	24	38 30	2 75
G W Powers	CK	44	29 25	9 25
Mrs A Reynolds	JUV	50	15 90	3 00
Christine Ross	JUV	6	13 75	
SUMMARY				
Alabama Conference	...	327	427 15	62 40
Kentucky Conference	...	143	54 75	77 75
Louisiana Conference	...	246	190 75	141 90
Mississippi Conference	..	170	122 85	105 50
Tennessee River Conf.	...	344	214 70	168 50
Totals	.....	1230	1010 20	556 05

MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE, NOTICE

THERE will be a general workers’ meeting held in connection with the canvassers’ institute at Watervalley, Miss., beginning December 28 and continuing about three weeks. We hope that all ministers and other workers, as well as canvassers who expect to labor in the Mississippi Conference the coming year, will be there. Public services will be held each night during the institute. W. S. LOWRY.

A NEW YORK preacher attributes the falling off in the churches to the fact that the “pulpit is out of touch with the times.” Well, we do not think any disinterested observer would have considered the Lord and his apostles “in touch with the times.” The vital thing is to be in touch with the Holy Spirit.—*Recorder.*

# 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.

## NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the biennial meeting of the Southern Union Conference Association of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at the church-school building, Twenty-third Ave. North, and Seifried Street, Nashville, Tenn., on Wednesday, January 26, 1910, at 10 A. M., for the purpose of electing a board of directors for the ensuing biennial term. Also to take into consideration the advisability of revising the constitution and by-laws of said association, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Dated Nashville, Tennessee, November 30, 1909.

Signed,—

C. F. McVAGH, *President*,  
W. A. WILCOX, *Secretary*.

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## CONFERENCE ENTERTAINMENT

THE next biennial meeting of the Southern Union Conference will be held in Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 20-30, 1910, official announcement of which will be made in due time. The object of this notice is to ascertain the names of delegates and visitors who expect to attend this meeting, in order to make proper plans for their entertainment.

Plans will be made to furnish meals at moderate rates, but it will be necessary to have additional bedding. Those who can do so conveniently should bring bedding in their baggage.

It will assist us, and benefit whomsoever this may concern if all who intend coming to this meeting will send the undersigned word as soon as possible.

S. B. HORTON.

For Committee.

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## ALABAMA CONFERENCE

### Tithe for November, 1909

Individuals	\$78.94
Montgomery	45.50
Birmingham	41.78
Marlow	16.55
Mobile	13.15

Total .....\$195.92

MRS. HELEN M. KEATE, *Treas.*

## NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the second annual meeting of the constituency of the Southern Publishing Association of Seventh-day Adventists will be held Thursday, January 20, 1910, at 11 A. M., at the Seventh-day Adventist church, on Twenty-third Ave. North and Seifried Street, Nashville, Tenn., for the purpose of electing a board of directors for the ensuing year, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before said meeting.

R. HOOK JR., *Secretary*.

Dated Nashville, Tenn., Nov. 29, 1909.

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## NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the biennial meeting of the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists will be held at the church-school building, Twenty-third Ave. North and Seifried Street, Nashville, Tennessee, on Thursday, January 20, 1910, at 9 o'clock A. M., and continue till January 30 for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing biennial term, and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Each State conference will be entitled to one delegate at large, and one delegate of each fifty of State membership organized into churches.

Send names of delegates to the secretary as soon as possible.

Signed,—

C. F. McVAGH, *President*,  
S. B. HORTON, *Secretary*.

Dated, Nashville, Tenn., Nov. 30, 1909.

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## KENTUCKY CONFERENCE

### Tithe for November, 1909

Louisville	\$76.02
Individual	51.50
Henderson	40.63
McKinney	32.67
Bowling Green	19.90
Richmond	12.80
Grove	9.37

Total .....\$242.89

CLARA JACOBS-RUSSELL, *Treas.*

Graysville, Tenn.

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## MISSISSIPPI CONFERENCE

### Tithe for November, 1909

Meridian	\$70.31
Ellisville	1.43
Ingomar	11.50
Vicksburg	35.50
Enid	298.18
Individual	30.70
Pine Grove	58.07
Hatley	66.67
Quitman	10.00
Corinth	17.50

Total .....\$599.86

F. R. SHAEFFER, *Treas.*

## SABBATH-SCHOOL QUARTERLY

ORDERS for the Sabbath-school quarterlies for the first quarter 1910 should be sent in at once.

In the past a number have placed a standing order for six months or a year in advance, and find this to be an excellent plan. The lessons will then reach you in plenty of time for the first Sabbath in each quarter.

Send in your yearly subscription at 20 cents per copy at once, and try this plan for a year.

THE new Morning Watch Calendar for 1910 is ready. There are so many ways in which these dainty booklets may be used. Several of the teachers in this conference are using them for their morning exercises in their schools; they make excellent gift booklets; and the Sabbath-school teacher can find nothing better as a remembrance for the pupils:—price, 5 cents each, with extra envelopes, if required.

WE have quite a large supply of the Ingathering number of the *Review* on hand, and we will be glad to supply any one that can make use of them. By some oversight more were sent to this office than ordered.

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## CHRISTMAS GIFTS

AT this season of the year many are making presents to their friends. While doing this, would it not be well to consider the advisability of giving your friend a book. This would be a lasting benefit to them. We have the "Ministry of Healing," in stock, and we would be conferring a two-fold blessing when giving the book. Both the person to whom it is given, and the sanitarium would derive a benefit from the sale of it. The price is within the range of all, \$1.50 per copy. Send in your order to-day, so that you may not be disappointed.

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## GOLDEN GRAINS

MANY people seem to enjoy spending their time in idle talk, laughing and jesting. But Paul in his letter to the churches tells the members not to let men deceive them in this way. He also tells them not to keep company with such people. They are children of darkness, and Christians are no longer of darkness, but of light in the Lord.

We as Christian people should let our light shine and show to the world the fruits of a life given to Christ. We should have nothing whatever to do with the little mean things that are done in secret, and it is a shame even to speak of them. We should try to fill each day just as full of good as we can. We must be careful how we walk, and where we walk, and how we spend our time. Once the day has gone by we can never bring it back, and if we wasted it at the time, it is wasted forever and that time is lost. Be careful how you spend your minutes.—*Selected.*