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EDITOR T. E. BOWEN
ASSOCIATE EDITORS M. E. KEEN, C. V. LEACH

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Church Officers' General Instruction Department

Sabbaths with Special Offerings During 1921

July 16 Midsummer Offering for Missions
October 8 Offering for the Work for the Colored People
December 17 Annual Offering for Missions

Special Programs

May 7 Rally Day—"Missions Publishing Fund"
June 11 Medical Day
August 13 Educational Day

Regular Programs

Missionary Reading in Interest of Missions every third Sabbath each month (except December 17). First Sabbath each month, Home Missionary Service.

Weight for Weight

OUR standard of judgment is narrow,
Our knowledge less wide, you may see,
By looking at self, O how shallow!
How far from the place we should be!
With failures greater than knowledge,
Our judgment oft failed in the test,
Our faults if weighed in the balance,
Would far, far outweigh all our best.

Yet do we not try to pass judgment
On others who cannot now see
The matter, in fact or in substance,
As we think that it ought to be?
We judge by our own narrow standard,
In matters too high for the soul,
Condemning ourselves in the action,
As back on our heads it doth roll.

Remember the Master's injunction,
Consider hereafter 'tis true,—
The judgment you mete out to others
Is sure to return unto you.
Our brother, true, has faults many,
Our own, by a count, are not few;
The blood of the Lamb is for cleansing
The faults of our brother and you.

Boast not, my friend, you are whiter
Than are others washed in the blood;
The cleansing for sin is perfect,
Cost the life of the Son of God.
Think not of your righteous doings,
Give glory to God on the throne;
Weigh not the faults of your brother,
Lest the Judge shall weigh out your own.

W. H. MERRILL.

Washington, N. J.

The First Angel's Message Announcing the Hour of God's Judgment

[The elder will increase the interest of the study by having persons in the congregation prepared either with the books from which to read the quotations at the proper time, or with slips on which the quotations have been copied.]

REVELATION 14: 6. The angel having the everlasting gospel is the first of a series of three angels.

"Our faith in reference to the messages of the first, second, and third angels was correct. The great waymarks we have passed are immovable. Although the hosts of hell may try to tear them from their foundation, and triumph in the thought that they have succeeded, yet they do not succeed. These pillars of truth stand firm as the eternal hills, unmoved by all the efforts of men combined with those of Satan and his host. We can learn much, and should be constantly searching the Scriptures to see if these things are so. God's people are now to have their eyes fixed on the heavenly sanctuary, where the final ministration of our great High Priest in the work of the judgment is going forward,—where He is interceding for His people."—*Life Sketches,* p. 278.

Rev. 14: 7. The burden of the message is, The hour of God's "judgment is come." Men are to fear God and give glory to Him.

"The message itself sheds light as to the time when this movement is to take place. It is declared to be a part of the 'everlasting gospel;' and it announces the opening of the judgment. The message of salvation has been preached in all ages; but this message is a part of the gospel which could be proclaimed only in the last days, for only then would it be true that the hour of judgment *had come*. The prophecies present a succession of events leading down to the opening of the judgment. This is especially true of the book of Daniel. But that part of his prophecy which related to the last days, Daniel was bidden to close up and seal 'to the time of the end.' Not till we reach this time could a message concerning the judgment be proclaimed, based on a fulfilment of these prophecies. But at the time of the end, says the prophet, 'many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.'—*The Great Controversy,* pp. 355, 356.

Acts 24: 25. This message could not have been given in Paul's day, for the judgment was then future.

2 Tim. 4: 1. The day of judgment is connected with the coming of Christ.

Luke 21: 36; 20: 35. The righteous are "accounted worthy" before Christ comes.

Rev. 22: 12. Christ brings His reward with Him.

Rev. 10: 1-10. This message is based upon the contents of a "little book," which announces that time shall be no longer.

Rev. 10: 11. As this is followed by another world-wide message, it is not real time, but prophetic time, that ends.

Dan. 8: 14. Daniel is the only "little book" that gives the 2300 days,—the longest prophetic period in the Bible, which ended in 1844.

Rev. 10: 1-3. The proclamation of this message is compared to the roar of a lion.

Lev. 23: 23-32. Ten days before the earthly sanctuary was cleansed, the warning was sounded throughout all Israel.

About ten years before 1844, Bible students began to study the prophetic period of 2300 days, and began to warn the world, preaching that the judgment day was near. Joseph Wolff preached it in Asia and Africa; Edward Irving and more than three hundred ministers proclaimed the same message in Europe; while William Miller and his collaborators declared the message in America. (See "The Great Controversy," pp. 357-370.)

Zech. 9: 9; Luke 19: 35-40. The disciples fulfilled prophecy at the time of Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, but they were disappointed.

"The experience of the disciples who preached the 'gospel of the kingdom' at the first advent of Christ, had its counterpart in the experience of those who proclaimed the message of His second advent. As the disciples went out preaching, 'The time is fulfilled, the kingdom of God is at hand,' so Miller and his associates proclaimed that the longest and last prophetic period brought to view in the Bible was about to expire, that the judgment was at hand, and the everlasting kingdom was to be ushered in. The preaching of the disciples in regard to time was based on the seventy weeks of Daniel 9. The message given by Miller and his associates announced the termination of the 2300 days of Dan. 8: 14, of which the seventy weeks form a part. The preaching of each was based upon the fulfilment of a different portion of the same great prophetic period."—*"The Great Controversy," p. 351.*

Rev. 10: 8-10. In like manner God's people fulfilled prophecy during the ten years prior to 1844. As they studied the prophetic symbols in Daniel, the thought of Christ's coming in 1844 was sweet to them, but the disappointment was bitter.

"With unspeakable desire those who had received the message watched for the coming of their Saviour. The time when they expected to meet Him was at hand. They approached this hour with a calm solemnity. They rested in sweet communion with God, an earnest of the peace that was to be theirs in the bright hereafter. None who experienced this hope and trust can forget those precious hours of waiting. For some weeks preceding the time, worldly business was for the most part laid aside. The sincere believers carefully examined every thought and emotion of their hearts as if upon their deathbeds and in a few hours to close their eyes upon earthly scenes. There was no making of 'ascension robes,' but all felt the need of internal evidence that they were prepared to meet the Saviour; their white robes were purity of soul,—characters cleansed from sin by the atoning blood of Christ. Would that there were still with the professed people of God the same spirit of heart-searching, the same earnest, determined faith. Had they continued thus to humble themselves before the Lord, and press their petitions at the mercy-seat, they would be in possession of a far richer experience than they now have. There is too little prayer, too little real conviction of sin, and the lack of living faith leaves many destitute of the grace so richly provided by our Redeemer."—*Id.*, p. 373.

Heb. 10: 32-34. God desires that this experience should be kept in remembrance by His people.

Dan. 7: 9, 10. The people expected the judgment to take place on earth, and were disappointed in the location of the judgment, not in the event.

It was by God's appointment that while heaven was interested in the opening of the judgment in heaven, Christ's followers on earth should have their love and thoughts all centered on the movements of their Saviour. (See "The Great Controversy," pp. 374, 457.)

S. N. HASKELL.

Questions Considered

The Treasury and Church Offerings

"WILL you kindly explain who is the proper person to count the money when an offering has been taken in the church? Is it proper for both the elder and the deacon to do so? If they do, does it not seem that they lack confidence in the treasurer?"

Where the church treasurer is other than a deacon, it would give the impression of lack of confidence were these officers to make a habit of counting money before placing it in the hands of the treasurer. There might be some special occasion where the church wished immediately to know the result of some offering when the elder or deacon, or both, could assist the treasurer in counting the money. Usually, so far as we know, the Sabbath morning offering, consisting of tithe, offerings for missions, church expense,

etc., is taken charge of by the church treasurer immediately at the close of the service; and further, it is his duty, thus to look after it immediately. No other officer is expected to take the responsibility of caring for it, unless the treasurer, for some good reason, is absent. In that case it would be quite proper for him to have an understanding with some deacon (if there is more than one), or in the absence of the deacon, with the elder, to take care of the offering until it is placed in the treasurer's hand. Usually, even in this emergency, the tithe envelopes would be handed the treasurer unopened and money uncounted. It is taken for granted that the treasurer is capable of looking after this part of the church work faithfully and efficiently, or he would not have been elected to this office by the church. If he is not, then one should be obtained who is qualified.

Church Board, Absent Membership

"Of whom does the church council consist? Is there any difference between the church council and the church board? If there is any difference, of whom does the church board consist? How long should we retain members who have not reported?"

We understand the terms "church council" and "church board" are synonymous. The church board, simply stated, consists of the elder or elders, deacon or deacons, deaconess or deaconesses, clerk, treasurer, missionary secretary, Sabbath school superintendent, and Missionary Volunteer leader. The church, by vote, may add any other brother or sister to the church board it deems wise, but without such additional members the officers just mentioned would be considered the working advisory church board, with the senior elder chairman, where no pastor is provided by the conference.

Absent members should be retained until the church is satisfied every means has been exhausted to get in touch with them. In a five church, with its alert clerk, seldom will a member be lost track of. The clerk will see that the member is transferred to his nearest church when he moves away. For this reason, church clerks ought to be changed only when necessary, and should be encouraged to correspond freely with members who are not by letter transferred to another church, thus keeping the church informed as to their whereabouts and spiritual condition. The clerk's records should note address of every member, and when last heard from if at a distance. A book may be used for this purpose, or a card index in a large church. No set time can be given for dropping a name. But if after a year's faithful effort to locate a member, no trace of his whereabouts is found, the church board would be justified in recommending to the church that the name be dropped. This action should be taken upon the merits of each individual case, and only upon failure, after honest and faithful effort on the part of the church, to obtain information, and not upon the basis of reducing church membership, thus lessening the amount of some monetary church goal. As the antidote against thus losing members, careful instruction should be given by church officers, recommending members to request church letters at the time they move to another place. Church letters are important, and church clerks should faithfully keep in touch with absent members until their membership has been transferred.

Treasurer of any Special Church Committee

"Is it proper for a special committee, appointed by the church or church board to accomplish some church repair work or building enterprise, to have a subtreasurer receiving and disbursing its own money, rendering a report occasionally to the church treasurer?"

Yes. A church building committee could thus operate, provided the church delegates to it authority to carry forward its work, and the church treasurer himself is not a member of the committee. In case he is a member of such a committee, naturally he would handle the funds. In case a subtreasurer is chosen, the church treasurer, after receiving and recording money paid in on the building enterprise, would turn it over to the subtreasurer, whose duty it would then be to account for its disbursement. On completing the work, this subtreasurer would render to the

(Concluded on page 6)

Home Missionary Department

THE CAMP-MEETING—PRIVILEGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Suggestive Program for First Sabbath Home Missionary Service

(To be held May 7)

OPENING SONG: "Never Stand Still," Christ in Song, No. 651.

Responsive Scripture Reading: Ps. 103: 1-22. (Christ in Song, No. 972).

Prayer.

Special musical selection, or "Harvest Home," Christ in Song, No. 629.

Report of missionary endeavors for the month, with display of pulse chart for the church.

Brief Address by Leader: Camp-Meeting Time.

Reading: The Camp-Meeting; Its Privileges and Responsibilities.

Camp-meeting question box.

Collection for missionary supplies.

Closing Song: "The Will, The Will of Christ," Christ in Song, No. 473.

Benediction.

Note to the Leaders 1

Do you wonder why one home missionary service out of twelve should be devoted to the interests of the camp-meeting? Possibly some may fail to see in the annual camp-meeting a feature of home missionary work. Please bear in mind that, "properly conducted, the camp-meeting is a school where pastors, elders, and deacons can learn to do more perfect work for the Master. It should be a school where the members of the church, old and young, are given an opportunity to learn the way of the Lord more perfectly, a place where believers can receive an education that will help them to help others."—*"Gospel Workers," p. 404.*

The camp-meeting affords opportunity for a postgraduate course in home missionary work. Successful physicians, teachers, and specialists in all lines find it necessary to take postgraduate work at frequent intervals, in order to keep up to the highest standard of efficiency. These postgraduate courses are under the direction of the most skilled and experienced instructors, enabling the student to secure intensive training of the highest type. Home missionary workers need this help.

The Great Missionary, who left the heavenly throne to live and die with sinful men and redeem them, will be present by His Spirit at the camp-meeting to inspire and to bless home missionary workers in these closing hours of probation. The leaders, who are giving their entire time and energy to the promotion of all the features of the great Layman's Missionary Movement, will be there to explain and instruct and help. The exchange of experiences in missionary work during the past year, by collaborators from all parts of the conference, will be of mutual interest and benefit.

Urge a full attendance at the camp-meeting this year. The articles by Elder Numbers will help in presenting the matter to your church members. The question box feature of this program should be carefully arranged for, with a view to calling forth information on all questions which naturally arise concerning the date and location of the camp-meeting, how to go, what to take, etc. It might be well for you to drop into the box a few appropriate questions, before the service. Then if you ask others to help by making appropriate inquiries, giving the congregation an opportunity to contribute questions, a few minutes may be spent with profit and interest.

HOME MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT.

Camp-Meeting: Its Privileges and Responsibilities

THE importance of the camp-meeting as a feature for promoting the interests of the cause of God cannot be over-estimated. When properly conducted, the camp-meeting is one of the most effective methods of reaching all classes of people with the gospel. "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; . . . that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth." Isa. 52: 7. Seventh-day Adventists have a message for the whole world, and it is our duty faithfully to proclaim it to every kindred, tongue, and people before the close of probation.

The camp-meeting is an important instrumentality in reaching the people in the great centers of population.

¹See "Special Notice," page 7.

Many times, as the reasons for our faith are presented at the camp-meeting, prejudice is broken down as it could not be through any other means. The people are stirred when they hear the presentation of such themes as The New Earth, The Prophecy of Daniel 2, The Second Coming of Christ, The Millennium, The Signs of the Times, The Sanctuary, The Sabbath, The Judgment.

While it is our duty to warn the world, there is another object in holding our camp-meetings, as clearly set forth in "Testimonies for the Church," Vol. VI, pp. 32, 33:

"They [the camp-meetings] are to promote spiritual life among our own people. . . . Christ reveals Himself to us, that we may reveal Him to others. Through His people are to be manifested the riches and glory of His unspeakable gift.

"God has committed to our hands a most sacred work, and we need to meet together to receive instruction, that we may be fitted to perform this work. We need to understand what part we shall individually be called upon to act in building up the cause of God in the earth, in vindicating God's holy law, and in lifting up the Saviour as 'the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.' John 1: 29. We need to meet together and receive the divine touch that we may understand our work in the home. Parents need to understand how they may send forth from the sanctuary of the home their sons and daughters so trained and educated that they will be fitted to shine as lights in the world. We need to understand in regard to the division of labor, and how each part of the work is to be carried forward. Each one should understand the part he is to act, that there may be harmony of plan and of labor in the combined work of all."

Who Should Attend?

All should attend,—the old, the young, the middle aged, —every one. Especially should the young be present. Three times a year Israel went up to Jerusalem to attend the feasts of divine appointment. As long as they were faithful in keeping these appointments, the Lord protected the herds and flocks at home. But as time passed, they grew careless and became unfaithful in attending the annual gatherings, and as a result the Lord withdrew His protection, and the wild beasts destroyed the flocks, and their prosperity ceased.

In these days people sometimes think it necessary to remain away from the camp-meeting in order to take care of home duties. It is right to take care of the interests at home, but in the majority of cases arrangements can be made whereby these affairs can be looked after while in attendance at the camp-meeting. Too often the enemy of righteousness creates obstacles to prevent God's people from attending the camp-meeting, for he knows that if they stay away from these seasons of spiritual blessing they will lose much, and be less fortified against his deceptions. The testimony of many is convincing that God blesses those who regularly attend the camp-meeting, and much more than compensates for the investment of time and money involved.

Responsibility for Making the Camp-Meeting a Success

All have a part to act in making the camp-meeting a true success. If prayer bands are organized as soon as the workers begin to pitch the camp, and are continued throughout the entire meeting, they will have a marked effect upon the meeting. The attendance from the town or community may be greatly increased if the campers are organized into companies to visit the homes, inviting the people to attend the meetings. In "Testimonies for the Church," Volume VI, page 36, we read: "At some of our camp-meetings, strong companies of workers have been organized to go out into the city and its suburbs to distribute literature and invite people to the meetings. By this means hundreds of persons were secured as regular attendants during the last half of the meeting who otherwise might have thought little about it." We are also told, "There is something for every one to do. Every soul that believes the truth is to stand in his lot and place, saying, 'Here am I; send me.' Isa. 6: 8. By engaging in work at the camp-meeting, all may be learning how to work successfully in their home churches."—*Id., p. 49.* All who attend camp-meeting should have a part in inviting others to share in the spiritual blessings of the meeting:

The columns of the daily papers should be used as far

as possible in advertising and reporting the meetings. Some writers are especially adapted for this kind of work, and should carry this responsibility.

The camp-ground is a good place to demonstrate to those not of our faith that we are a people who believe in law and order. As people visit the grounds they will observe how the campers live, and it is very important that they receive the right impression in this respect. It is said that order is heaven's first law. We have overwhelming evidence that God is a God of order. The heavenly bodies move in perfect order. The psalmist said, "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth His handiwork." Not only do we see order in the heavenly bodies, but we see it in the whole creation. There was order throughout the entire camp of Israel. There was a place for every man, and every man was in his place. The Israel of today should learn a lesson from the history of ancient Israel, as to organization and strict sanitary conditions.

Advantages

The advantages afforded by the annual camp-meeting are numerous from the spiritual standpoint. To many, the camp-meeting marks the date of birth into the kingdom of God, and these occasions are always landmarks in Christian experience. They afford an excellent opportunity to the missionary worker to become familiar with our denominational literature, and to secure a good supply of books and tracts. The servant of the Lord had a view of the sale of literature at camp-meetings. It was a time when the ministers presented clearly the perils of the last days and the importance of making haste in the circulation of our literature. The people were stirred. Some took only a few books, and others purchased many. Nearly all the purchasers paid for the books they took. A few arranged to pay later. These books were bought for the occasion, to be sold at reduced prices. Some expressed dissatisfaction. The narrative reads:

"One said, 'A stop must be put to this work, or our business will be spoiled.' As one brother was carrying away an armful of books, a canvasser laid his hand upon his arm, and said, 'My brother, what are you doing with so many books?' Then I heard the voice of our Counselor saying: 'Forbid them not. This is a work that should be done. The end is near. Already much time has been lost, when these books should have been in circulation. Sell them far and near. Scatter them like the leaves of autumn. This work is to continue without the forbiddings of any one. Souls are perishing out of Christ. Let them be warned of His soon appearing in the clouds of heaven.'"—*Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. IX, p. 72.

Great things can be accomplished for God through the printed page. In the sixteenth century, Luther used the printing presses as a mighty factor in spreading the message due the world at that time. The truth presented through literature in the time of the Reformation touched the hearts of the people and caused them to take their stand for right; and it will do the same today. "In a large degree through our publishing houses is to be accomplished the work of that other angel who comes down from heaven with great power, and who lightens the earth with his glory."—*Id.*, Vol. VII, p. 140. To become familiar with the entire line of truth-filled literature, and to learn how to make it serve the most effective purpose, is by no means one of the least advantages to be gained by attending camp-meeting.

Preparation for the Task Before Us

As a denomination, a great task is committed to us. Conference workers alone cannot finish the work. By personal work on the part of the members of our churches, many will be brought into the truth. There are scores of cities, villages, and country places where the light of truth must be carried by the laymen. Every day there are opportunities by which to enlighten some one, and fulfil the Scriptural injunction, "Speak ye every man the truth to his neighbor." Zech. 8: 16.

Nothing in the world is so dear to God as the souls for whom Christ died. We have a message to hear that saves them from the second death. Christ came to seek and to save that which was lost, and to us He says, "As My Father hath sent Me, even so send I you." John 20: 21. As Christ called sinners to repentance, so this is the work

He has given us to do. Shall we not labor with such devotion and earnestness that sinners shall be drawn to Christ? The gift of God's Son for the world, reveals the evil of sin, and the great value of the sacrifice it took to redeem us. "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." 1 Peter 1: 18, 19.

It has been said that "the greatest want of the world is the want of men,—men who will not be bought or sold; men who in their inmost souls are true and honest; . . . men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole; men who will stand for right though the heavens fall." This is also the greatest want of our work today. We need just such men and women of thought and consecration, to proclaim with power that "God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3: 16.

The apostle Paul exhorted Timothy to reprove and rebuke sin wherever he found it, but he also admonished him to do so with patience and love. There is need that we show the same patience and love which Christ had for the erring; but we should always realize our responsibilities, and never tolerate sin.

The Lord has bidden us not to forsake "the assembling of ourselves together, . . . and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Heb. 10: 25. We cannot afford to remain away from the camp-meeting, or from any place where prayer is wont to be made. The time is very short, and every church member should awake to a more earnest and active ministry in behalf of perishing souls, and avail himself of every opportunity to share with the people of God in seasons of special blessing. F. H. ROBBINS.

Beneficial Effects of the Camp-Meeting

THE annual camp-meeting has proved an inspiration to many a disheartened soldier of the cross. The earnest missionary appeals from the workers have found a response in the hearts of many whose vision was limited, and who, up to the time of the camp-meeting, had no definite plans for engaging in the Master's work. As the needs of the field are presented, it thrills the heart to see men and women of all ages dedicate their strength and service to the work of God. The writer well remembers a camp-meeting experience of some years ago when, in response to a call for workers, an aged brother signified a desire to give more of his time to missionary labor. After a few days' special instruction, he devoted his entire time to a particular line of Christian service, and has been continuously at work for the last ten years. Through his faithful and persevering labor, the truth has entered thousands of homes.

At another camp-meeting, the workers were assembled for a consecration service. An ordained minister arose and said that the conviction resting upon him was that he ought to engage in house-to-house visitation as well as do his duty in the pulpit. He stated that on account of natural reticence, he had shunned this kind of work, but he was determined to do his duty in this respect henceforth. The example of this minister was followed by the entire camp, and some wonderful victories in personal experience were gained, which meant much to that conference during the entire year.

At another meeting, a Bible worker who had been too timid to engage in the Harvest Ingathering work, received the inspiration to set an individual Harvest Ingathering goal of \$100. In due time she not only reached the goal, but went far over this amount. This experience was a great victory in her life, and enabled her to encourage others who were having difficulty in getting started in the work.

The Field Day effort has come to be a part of every camp-meeting, and affords opportunity for all to get experience in missionary work in various lines. During a recent camp-meeting field day, the president of the conference took charge of a company, and after starting them to work, vis-

ited several homes himself. At one home where he called, the people seemed to be especially impressed to invite him in to pray and study the Bible with them. As a result of that one effort, that family are now in the truth. Was it not worth while? Such experiences are frequent in field day efforts, whether on the camp-ground or in the vicinity of the local church.

One of the most valuable features of missionary meetings on the camp-ground is the exchange of experiences. In nearly every meeting, there are those who are stirred to activity by hearing the experience of some other worker. The inspiration created and the enlarged vision obtained at the annual camp-meeting are invaluable in the yearly missionary program of any conference. E. R. NUMBERS.

The Camp-Meeting Alphabet

A ttend the very next camp-meeting.
 B e there early, rain or shine!
 C ome to receive personal victory.
 D o not remain away, for the
 E nd of all things is at hand, so
 F orsake not this assembling all together.
 G reet the camp collector cheerfully;
 H elp the cause of truth liberally,
 I mproving every opportunity to give.
 J oin heartily in the singing.
 K eep the grounds neat and tidy.
 L et your next-tenant neighbor sleep.
 M anage your children, keeping them
 N ear you and teaching them to
 O bserve the program and regulations.
 P atronize the camp grocery.
 Q uibble not with confirmed quibblers.
 R emember the Sabbath day is holy.
 S tand in line at mealtime.
 T ake plenty of literature home.
 U se no meeting time for visiting.
 V ote promptly in business meetings.
 W itness daily for Jesus, and
 X tend the invitation, "Come."
 Y ield not to Satan's suggestions.
 Z ealously will — God has a way!

— *Australasian Union Record.*

Special Instruction Available at Camp-Meeting

FROM the opening of the first meeting to the benediction at the closing service, the program of the camp-meeting is filled with interesting, inspiring, and helpful instruction. Some of the lines of instruction of special importance are these:

Missionary Topics and Personal Instruction.—In harmony with the instruction in the following paragraphs, special effort is made to give practical help in personal work:

"Properly conducted, the camp-meeting is a school where pastors, elders, and deacons can learn to do more perfect work for the Master."—*Testimonies for the Church,* Vol. IX, p. 82.

"In connection with our camp-meetings in past years, God's servants have improved many precious opportunities for instructing our people in practical methods of presenting the saving truths of the third angel's message to their friends and acquaintances. . . . It would be pleasing to God if far more of this practical instruction were given the church members who attend our camp-meetings, than has usually been given in years past."—*Id.*, p. 81.

Instruction in Christian Living.—As it is impossible for our people to lift others to a higher standard of Christian living than they themselves have reached, the first and most important place to begin is with our own people. A very important part of this phase of the camp-meeting program is—

Parents' Meetings.—No camp-meeting is up to the standard if the parents' meetings are neglected. Some one has said that "home missionary work is missionary work in the home." There is no better opportunity to inaugurate a home training movement than during the camp-meeting. Most parents are burdened to know how best to conduct the affairs of their home so as to make it a light in the community where they live. Our leaders should give special thought and prayerful consideration not only to the parents' meetings, but to every phase of the home life as an important feature of the camp-meeting program.

Missionary Officers' Meetings.—The camp-meeting affords an excellent opportunity for church leaders to obtain special

help for performing their duties. An hour a day should be set aside for this instruction. Opportunity may be given for questions and exchange of experience, which will make these meetings intensely interesting and profitable. In addition to special meetings for church officers, there should be meetings for the lay members in which all lines of church missionary activity are clearly outlined.

Methods of Christian Service.—Some of the most effective methods of Christian service are the following: Christian help work, medical missionary work, personal work, hospital work, literature work, missionary visits, missionary correspondence, Bible work. The Field Day effort will afford excellent opportunity for experience in literature work and missionary visitation. If it is at all possible, an hour each day should be set aside for giving instruction to the lay members in Bible evangelism. There is no better opportunity to help all get the necessary preparation for engaging in Bible work. Whatever line of instruction or work is started at the camp-meeting, it should be continued in the local church, under the direction of the church officers, throughout the year. E. R. NUMBERS.

Suggestions for Missionary Meetings

First Week

OPENING EXERCISES.

Scripture Lesson: The Vital Connection. John 15: 1-8
 Illustration: Uncoupled from the Power.

Uncoupled from the Power

IN a roaring factory some years ago, one of the machines stopped, and there was a hasty summons for the foreman. The one who operated it was a "green hand," and the foreman's remarks to him as he remedied the difficulty were emphatic and uncomplimentary. "Can't you see what your trouble is? You're disconnected, man; uncoupled from the power. The belt's off. What did you suppose keeps the machines going? Thought you did it all yourself, did you? Well, the power's outside o' you, just recollect, and you'll get the benefit just so long as you keep connected up, and no longer!"

A thousand times the homely illustration has both warned and encouraged me. Our affairs are at a standstill once God's power is not available to draw on. The great thought to take home is that the power is never arbitrarily taken away from us. When through sin or neglect we fail to keep up close, unhindered connection with God as the one source of spiritual power, we have no strength for resistance or accomplishment.—*Selected.*

On Letting Your Shadow Shine

WHAT the Lord Jesus said was, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." But some people who haven't light try in its place to make their shadow shine.

Now a man's shadow is connected with light: it is made by the man's getting in the way of the light. If the light falls on you, it makes a shadow; if it gets within you, you yourself become a light. So said Jesus, "Ye are the light of the world," because He who is the light desires not to be next us, but within us.

I knew a man once who thought he kept the Sabbath: then on Sunday morning he took his wood out to his front yard and chopped while people were going by to church. And a spiritual sister of his used to hang her week's washing to dry in an upper hall where some of her roomers must pass on their way to Sunday school. They said they were letting their light shine; what they were really doing was letting their shadow fall on people's lives. And it didn't shine, not a bit.

That man and that woman were not keeping the Sabbath. "I have seen the light," they testified. Yes; but if that light be darkness within you, how great is that darkness! The Sabbath is the rest, God's rest of soul, that comes through the indwelling of Christ. It is peace, it is love; it is manifested in good works toward our fellow men. If the rest of Christ's righteousness is within us, it will show

forth in the ministry to others which made up the life of Christ. It will not cause unnecessary pain, it will not be self-assertive, nor argumentative, nor obnoxious. It will feed the hungry, soothe the sorrowing, instruct the ignorant, save the perishing. It will be so unobtrusive that its presence may often not be recognized, but at its passing, men will say, "The light was here."

Your shadow can't shine; don't try to make it. Forget self, study Jesus of Nazareth, and His light will be within you and will shine forth.—*Watchman Magazine*.

Second Week

Opening Exercises.

Scripture Lesson: The Prosperity of the Christian. Ps. 1: 3; Eccl. 11: 6; Isa. 55: 11.

Illustration: Missionary Pebbles.

Missionary Pebbles

THERE are occasionally small missionary deeds which produce tangible results, and, seemingly, are providentially revealed as assurances that all may know there will be success in the performance of all good works, even though there are no immediate evidences of it.

Some of these revealed results of the smallest efforts remind us of the constant enlargement of a pebble-produced wave in a large body of water. It is said that a pebble-produced wave never ceases expanding until it reaches the shores in all directions from the place of its creation.

We should not overlook the fact that a missionary deed, though it be a mere pebble on the sea of humanity, produces its influencing waves that end only upon the shores of the sea of glass.

Recently a brother sent *Present Truth* for a year to a family who had kept him overnight without charge. The paper cost him fifteen cents. Today, as the result of this subscription, this family of four adults are in the truth, and are systematically placing *Present Truth* in all the homes in their community. For fifteen cents' outlay, as conscience money for hospitality, there are four working members giving the message to hundreds. Who cannot cast missionary pebbles in the great sea of humanity and be assured their expanding waves will continue until the end of time? —*Selected*.

"As Lights in the World"

A SISTER in a recent home missionary meeting reported that she had received word from her brother and his wife, in another State, that through the literature she had been sending they have accepted the third angel's message, and have gathered in enough others to start a little company. This is in a place where there were no Adventists living. Such experiences should encourage us to work faithfully for our loved ones. "In due season we shall reap."

This is the day of opportunity for God's people. Many in the darkness of world perplexity and confusion are groping about for light. God calls upon His people to shine. "In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light hearers. To them has been intrusted the last warning for a perishing world. On them is shining wonderful light from the word of God. They have been given a work of the most solemn import,—the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages. There is no other work of so great importance. They are to allow nothing else to absorb their attention."—*Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. IX, p. 19.

Spurgeon well said: "Believers should be diligent in these last days." He continued: "Put all your irons into the fire; use every faculty for Jesus. Be wide awake to watch opportunities, and be quick to seize upon them. Believe that the smallest sphere has in it or around it glorious openings for enlargements. Let us not be content with what we are doing while there is yet much land to be possessed."

Brethren and sisters, let us remember that we are not converted for our own sakes alone, but are sent into the world, as Christ was sent into the world, to glorify the Father, and lead souls back to Him. It is truly a great

privilege to occupy such a position in the plan of God. For the great witnessing before us we need more spirituality, more enthusiasm, a deeper feeling of individual responsibility, and stronger leadership in our local churches everywhere. Let us, as leaders, be faithful to the trust He has committed to us.

ERNEST LLOYD.

Third Week

Opening Exercises.

Seed Thought: "The Church a Serving Body."

Texts for Consideration:

Eph. 6: 7: The true basis of service.

Rom. 12: 1: Reasonable service.

1 Chron. 29: 5: An important question.

The Church a Serving Body

THE normal church is a serving church. No church has a right to exist if it does not serve the community in which it is located. What does your church mean to the people about you? It must do something more than hold its services and keep the doors of its building open at stated times for worship. It should be a positive force for righteousness. Unless a church is making itself felt as a power in the moral and spiritual uplifting of the people who are under its influence, it is making a sad failure. A church is not merely a guidepost along life's highway pointing out the right path, but is a moving army, fighting sin and error, rescuing the fallen, defending the weak, and enlisting new recruits in the army of King Jesus.—*"Normal Evangelism,"* p. 97.

An Interesting Experience

WE are indebted to Elder J. L. McConaughy, home missionary secretary of the Lake Union Conference, for passing on to us an account of the following encouraging incident, of which Prof. B. H. Phipps, principal of Bethel Academy, writes:

"About a month ago a young man in northern Wisconsin, who had been raised in the Lutheran faith, called on one of his friends who was boarding at the home of a Seventh-day Adventist lady. While at this home, he asked the lady for some reading matter, as having just lost his position he had some extra time to indulge in reading and was anxious to get hold of interesting books. The lady replied that all she had to offer was reading matter of a religious nature, and suggested that this might not suit him. But he replied that he would be glad to read anything she had, and so he was furnished with a copy of one of our church papers. He became very much interested in the articles in the paper, and during the next two or three days spent considerable time in studying the Bible on the subjects presented in the paper.

"Not long after this, the young man made a visit to his sister's home. This sister had recently purchased a copy of 'Bible Readings' from a student colporteur, and this book appealed to the young man and led him to continue Bible study. Before leaving his sister's home, he decided to keep the Sabbath, and made up his mind that he would endeavor to find the student who had sold the book. The sister knew that the colporteur was a student in an Adventist school near a certain town, and upon diligent inquiry he found his way to our school at Bethel. He has been with us now nearly two weeks, and has taken his stand for the truth, and is very much interested in the Bible classes. He is planning to enter the work as a canvasser next summer.

"We have read with pleasure many similar experiences of persons seeking the truth in mission fields, but this has taken place right here in one of our own conferences, and I feel certain that the Lord guided his mind to the truth in the first place, and then directed him to Bethel Academy, so that he could prepare for usefulness in the cause. This experience has brought a great deal of pleasure to me, and we are looking forward with real happiness to his growth in the truth."

Questions Considered

(Concluded from page 2)

church treasurer a statement of these disbursements, accompanied by vouchers to balance with money received, for filing among the church treasurer's permanent records. For the usual upkeep of church property, the treasurer, as a member of the church board, should account for receipts and expenditures entering into the church expense account.

T. D. B.

Fourth Week

Opening Exercises.

The Worker's Prayer: Ps. 141: 3; Ps. 19: 14.

Reading: The Talent of Speech.

Experience and Praise Service.

The Talent of Speech

As followers of Christ we should make our words such as to be a help and an encouragement to one another in the Christian life. Far more than we do, we need to speak of the precious chapters in our experience. We should speak of the mercy and loving-kindness of God, of the matchless depths of the Saviour's love. Our words should be words of praise and thanksgiving. If the mind and heart are full of the love of God, this will be revealed in the conversation. It will not be a difficult matter to impart that which enters into our spiritual life. Great thoughts, noble aspirations, clear perceptions of truth, unselfish purposes, yearnings for piety and holiness, will bear fruit in words that reveal the character of the heart treasure. When Christ is thus revealed in our speech, it will have power in winning souls to Him.

We should speak of Christ to those who know Him not. We should do as Christ did. Wherever He was, in the synagogue, by the wayside, in the boat thrust out a little from the land, at the Pharisee's feast or the table of the publican, He spoke to men of the things pertaining to the higher life. The things of nature, the events of daily life, were bound up by Him with the words of truth. The hearts of His hearers were drawn to Him; for He had healed their sick, had comforted their sorrowing ones, and had taken their children in His arms and blessed them. When He opened His lips to speak, their attention was riveted upon Him, and every word was to some soul a savor of life unto life.

So it should be with us. Wherever we are, we should watch for opportunities of speaking to others of the Saviour. If we follow Christ's example in doing good, hearts will open to us as they did to Him. Not abruptly, but with tact born of divine love, we can tell them of Him who is the "Chiefest among ten thousand," and the One "altogether lovely." This is the very highest work in which we can employ the talent of speech. It was given to us that we might present Christ as the sin-pardoning Saviour.—*"Christ's Object Lessons," pp. 338, 339.*

The Benefits of Cottage Meetings

COTTAGE meetings are sanctioned by the example of the early disciples, for "daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ." When Peter was liberated from prison by the angel, he came immediately to the house of Mary, the mother of John, "where many were gathered together praying." The book of Acts clearly shows that meetings for prayer and study were frequently and regularly held from house to house; and when Paul was at Philippi he met with some persons who were accustomed to assemble outside the city, by the side of a river, to engage in prayer. Here Lydia was converted. (See Acts 16: 12-15.) There are some advantages to be secured in cottage meetings which cannot be attained by our regular church meetings:

1. Properly conducted, they afford an opportunity for more of our lay members to take some part in public worship and witnessing.

2. By holding these meetings at or near the homes of those whose interest in the church needs quickening, a deeper spiritual life may be encouraged.

3. The meetings may be held at the homes of aged, infirm, or sick persons, and thus be a means of blessing to such as cannot attend the church services.

Let me emphasize the suggestion that there is real need today of prayer and Bible study meetings in many Adventist homes, conducted with a view of deepening the spiritual life of those who are already members of the church, but who should be more earnestly engaged in forwarding the mis-

sion of the church. Cottage meetings have long been the blessed means of reaching and winning individuals and families who first became interested in God's message for this time through a piece of literature or through some neighborly visit. Here is a field of opportunity for every earnest and tactful member of the church.

It is well to determine, in the beginning, the object which is to be sought in each case, and then to direct the meetings judiciously for the accomplishment of the end desired. Persons who are placed in charge should be duly instructed concerning promptness, brevity in prayers, logical arrangement of simple Bible studies, prepared and presented with a view to increasing the interest of the friends in the personal study of God's word and its message for this time.

The cottage meeting affords a good field for the training of the young and for the exercise of the talents of new converts. The saintly Theodore Cuyler, in the volume commemorative of the twenty-fifth anniversary of his settlement as pastor, commends this feature of Christian service in the following language: "We urge upon all converts the duty of immediately engaging in the devotional services and spiritual activities of the church. . . . Unless a new convert begins at once to take part in these things he is apt to remain tongue-tied for life. To pray and to 'speak in meeting' are not the sum of Christian duty; but it is equally true, that to 'neglect the gift' of utterance for Christ, or not to develop it, is both a loss to the individual and to the church."

Cottage meetings offer to every member of the church an excellent opportunity for the development of "the gift of utterance" in the things of the kingdom. Under careful supervision this important phase of missionary activity may accomplish great good for the church in these days of enlarged opportunity. Wise leaders will foster the organization of lay Bible readers' classes for simple cottage meeting work.

ERNEST LLOYD.

Special Notice to Church Elders and Leaders

SINCE arranging the topics for home missionary services during 1921, which call for the consideration of camp-meeting interests on the first Sabbath in May, the General Conference has asked the Home Missionary Department to join in the Big Week effort in behalf of the extension of publishing house facilities throughout mission fields. In planning this Big Week campaign, the date chosen is May 8-14, with the Sabbath just preceding this week, May 7, as Rally Day throughout the churches in North America. Plans have therefore been made accordingly, and the church elders and leaders in North America have been fully advised concerning these plans, and will have in hand another suggestive Rally Day program for Sabbath, May 7, in addition to that which appears in the GAZETTE, on camp-meetings.

We would suggest that the Big Week Rally Day program be given preference on Sabbath, May 7, as it is important that all our brethren and sisters co-operate in the Home Missionary Big Week effort, and that there be concerted action. We hope, however, that it will be possible to give due consideration to the camp-meeting program in connection with some other Sabbath service. Where this is not possible, the matter could be kept prominently before the people at the prayer and missionary meetings throughout the month of May. This is a case where home missionary interests overlap, due to the urgent demands of God's cause. May the Lord guide you in planning for the successful promotion of both programs—Rally Day for the Missions Publishing Fund, and the call to the annual camp-meeting.

HOME MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT.

Words of cheer and encouragement spoken when the soul is sick and the pulse of courage is low,—these are regarded by the Saviour as if spoken to Himself. As hearts are cheered, the heavenly angels look on in pleased recognition.—*"Ministry of Healing," p. 159.*

Missionary Volunteer Department

Devotional Meetings for May 7

Topic: *Missionary Volunteers at Home.*

Senior

1. Opening Exercises.
2. Bible Study: Honor Due Parents.
3. Reading: The Letter He Was Ashamed Of.
4. Symposium: To Father.
5. Special Song: "Love at Home," Christ in Song, No. 580.
6. Dialogue: The Home Club.
7. Reading: She Waved Her Hand. See page 12.
8. Consecration Service.
9. Close with a prayer for fathers and mothers everywhere.

Junior

1. Opening Exercises.
2. Bible Study: Honor Due Parents.
3. Talk by the Superintendent.
4. Dialogue: The Home Club.
5. Special Song: "Love at Home," Christ in Song, No. 580.
6. Recitation: Which Are You?
7. Recitation: Mother's Comfort. See *Instructor* of April 26 or May 3.
8. Reading: A Day with Bess. See *Instructor* of April 26 or May 3.
9. Consecration Service.
10. Close with sentence prayers.

Plans and Suggestions

Missionary Volunteers at Home.—That is the subject today. It cuts close to the heart of our work. As Missionary Volunteers, home is the mission field that should receive our most intensive efforts. Aim to be ideal Missionary Volunteers at home, if you fail everywhere else. However, if a young person succeeds in being an ideal Christian at home, he cannot be a failure, for truly "the light that shines the farthest shines the brightest" in the home. Where can we find words sufficiently strong to show the duty of Missionary Volunteers to be all that Jesus would have them be in the home? Try to emphasize the home phase of our Missionary Volunteer work today, and help your young people to sense more deeply than ever before that being a genuine Christian in the home is one of life's greatest opportunities and one of its sweetest privileges. If those who still have their parents with them could only feel for a short time the gnawing heartaches of those who have lost their last opportunity to be kind to their parents, nothing could ever induce them to be unkind or neglectful of father and mother. Nothing could dissuade them from lessening the burdens of others in the home. That older sister or brother would not be the burden bearer. All would share the home burdens. May the young people in your society, by the grace of God, become ideal Missionary Volunteers in their homes.

Opening Exercises.—Have a good, stirring song service. Sing songs on kindness, love, helpfulness. Select the songs before time for the meeting. Follow the song service with the secretary's report and prayer.

Consecration Service.—Make this a real consecration to better lives at home. There may be confessions that should be made in public. Each one will know whether his should be made to the society or privately, to his parents, brothers or sisters, or other individuals. Let us clear everything up that clouds the home life. Yes, everything, even if it is hard. Fill the consecration service with words of gratitude. Have a season of prayer for better lives at home and for fathers and mothers, who bear burdens of which young hearts never dream.

Blackboard Motto.—

Are You an Ideal Missionary Volunteer at Home?

Special Senior Note

The dialogue on the Senior program, although quite Junior in style, has an excellent suggestion for Seniors. Have two of the younger members of the society give it.

Another matter: As Senior Missionary Volunteers, are you doing what you can to keep up the family altar in your home? Think this over seriously. If you value your own spiritual growth and the spiritual growth of others in the home; if you would make your home a real blessing to those who enter it even as guests, keep up the family altar. The family altar does not take the place of secret prayer; neither does secret prayer take the place of family prayer.

The ideal Christian home is held up by both of these splendid pillars.

Special Junior Note

The superintendent will find in the Senior program plenty of material for his talk.

Honor Due Parents

1. WHAT is one sad characteristic of this age? 2 Tim. 3: 1, 2.
2. What promise is given to Missionary Volunteers who honor their parents? Ex. 20: 12; Eph. 6: 2, 3. How can we best honor them?
3. What is our duty toward our parents? Prov. 1: 8.
4. What does the Bible say of the disobedient child? Prov. 15: 5; 20: 20; 30: 17.
5. How does the Lord regard obedience in children? Col. 3: 20; Eph. 6: 1.
6. Give one reason for exercising care in choosing friends. Prov. 28: 7.
7. What is said of one who robs his parents? Prov. 28: 24. [Explain how we are likely to rob them.]
8. What example of obedience has Jesus left us? Luke 2: 51.—Adapted from "Bible Readings for the Home Circle."

The Letter He Was Ashamed Of

[The following letter was written by a young man just after college commencement. After he had dropped it into the mail box, he thought of what he had written and felt ashamed to have written what seemed but the gushing sentiment of a boy. Eighteen years later his mother died. Among her most treasured possessions he found this letter, worn almost to shreds with much handling and blotted with many tears. Then this man confessed of this love letter to his mother: "It is the most fruitful letter I ever wrote." May it stir every young person who hears it read to do his full duty to his parents.—M. E. A.]

MY DEAR MOTHER:

My college days are over. The other students have gone. The future is uncertain. The campus is still, and I have been thinking of you, with a heart too full to talk much, if I should see you, but I do want to write. I have been thinking how you must have felt when the last of us had gone and you were alone after the years of patience and anxiety in raising a large family. What a life you have lived, so full of sorrow and sacrifice and suffering! You have given so much and have received so little. . . . But tonight, with the college days and college friends gone, I can see how you have hovered over me all along the years. I remember, when I was so small that I wore the little red-and-white dress, that one day, playing barefooted, I stepped on a piece of glass, and when the blood gushed I screamed. You had me in your arms in a minute, the blood from my foot running down the front of your apron. You soon had the gash cleaned and bound, and then you took me in your arms and pillowed my head on your breast and rocked me to sleep and contentment.

There is no place so restful as a mother's breast, and tonight I wish that I were a child again, pillowed in the same warm nest, with your arms around me, and could hear the soft tones of the old familiar hymn, "There's a land that is fairer than day," which you used to hum to us. . . .

And then the typhoid came, and we were all sick but you. The fever ran its course with each of us, and you, mother mine, did all the nursing for many months, except what the kind neighbors did to help; and when there were no more of us to feed upon, the fever left. But some of us had gone, never to return, and the rest were poor and young. I should think that would have broken your spirit, if not your heart. But I can see now that sickness and death are not the worst things that can happen, and that the worst was yet to come. The days which tried your courage and faith were the days when we came into our teens and fell into temptation.

It is a triumph to rear a boy to manhood with a healthy body. It is a greater triumph to rear one to manhood with a healthy soul. And when I look back over my life, I wonder how a boy without a mother to love him ever comes through to a manhood of honor. It seems to me that you have saved me a hundred times; and since I have been away from home, your faith and confidence in me and your love for me have gone with me all the way.

Do you remember when I found the purse with six dollars in it, and how I wanted to keep it because we needed

the money so badly? But you said: "No, my son, we must find the owner. It does not belong to us."

For several weeks we failed to learn whose purse it was, and every day I became more hopeful that we would never learn, but you would not let me spend the money. And the day we did find the owner was about the bitterest day of my youth, until I went with you to deliver it to the gentleman who had lost it, and then somehow my grief turned to joy.

How wise you were to take me with you! In that hour you taught me not to covet what might come into my possession by accident, and not to conceal and hold anything for myself which was not mine.

Do you remember when Henry took me into his father's cellar and gave me some wine? I was worried, because you had talked to us a great deal about the evil which liquor does in the world. I think you knew there was something on my mind. I tried to tell you that night before I went to bed, but couldn't. I was afraid it would break your heart. I lay awake nearly all night, thinking, and next morning, after prayers, when you had prayed in your simple way that God would go that day with your boys and hold their hands and keep them from evil, I couldn't stand it, and when we had started to school, I ran back and threw my arms around you and told you about the wine.

O mother of mine! It must have been almost a death stroke. I could feel your body grow rigid, and then your arms closed about me and held me frantically, as if you feared I would be snatched away. For a long while, you said never a word, and we did not hear the "last bell," but when I could look into your face, it was white and drawn and old, and all the soft lines were gone out of it, while your eyes were brimming with tears that dripped over the lashes and ran down your cheeks and fell upon your breast.

Well, there was no school for me that day. Do you remember how we talked about life and what it means, and how necessary it is that a boy should be strong enough to withstand temptation; and before the others came home, you took me to the bedroom and we both prayed about it until we found peace? When we came out of the room with your arm around me, I knew then that nothing could ever tempt me to touch liquor of any kind again. . . .

And, mother, (are all mothers as wise as you have been?) you remember my first party, when I was to take my "first girl"? I remember it in every detail. It was an epoch in my life, as it is in every boy's. I was very nervous and very anxious, and a little bit ashamed, and very, very proud, and pretty badly frightened, with all of it hidden, as I thought, beneath a demeanor of indifference and scorn. But you understood me and many other things as well, and the evening before the party you had me go with you to Mrs. Homer's house, nearly a mile away; and when we were returning, the stars were coming out and a soft wind was blowing, and we sauntered slowly, chatting in a familiar way. You led the conversation around to the subject of the party. . . .

Mother of mine, at home in your old rocker, these and a thousand other things I have been thinking about. And tonight, with college days behind and life before, I want to tell you, that now I can see what your life has been through the years of suffering and service and sacrifice.

I want you to know that I know what a wonderful mother you are.

And, mother, I love you. I love you, and shall love you always.

To Father

Every Bit as Well.—"A young clergyman in a London church lost his wife. They had a little child. The parishioners hoped that some relative would come to take care of it, but none appeared. Two or three years passed. One Sunday when the pews were crowded, the clergyman came up the aisle leading the child, whom he seated in the corner of the front pew. The service went on until the sermon began. In his sermon the minister spoke of the mother of Christ, and her agony of heart at the cross. Said he: 'Think what a child's life is without a mother's love! Who

else can wrap a babe in swaddling clothes? Who can tend, who can cherish, who can love, but a mother?' In the depth of his feeling, the rector's strong voice halted, as if for an answer; and in the hush of the great congregation a little, childish voice spoke out, very sweetly and clearly, 'A faver would do just ev'ry bit as well, papa dear.'—"*The Lover's Love,*" pp. 31, 32.

A Father's Love.—"At the close of a meeting in Joliet, Ill., I sat down beside an honored evangelist, Rev. H. W. Brown, and among other things in his career he told me this story:

"A number of years before, he had a remarkable work of grace in the lake region of Wisconsin, in that town of the strange name, Oconomowoc. After his work of grace, he returned one day for a little visit, and as he stepped off from the train, he saw at the station an old man named James Stewart. Knowing him well, he asked him why he was there. The old man replied that his boy had gone away from home, and had said to him, 'Father, I will return some day, but I cannot tell when,' and, said he, 'I am waiting for him to come back.'

"Strange as it may seem, thirteen years afterward Mr. Brown revisited that old town, and the first man he saw when getting off the train, was this old father. The father met him, saying, 'Mr. Brown, he hasn't come yet; but he will come, and I am waiting.'

"Just then," said my friend, 'I lifted up my eyes and saw one walking down the aisle of the car, and said to myself, if I were not sure that the boy was dead, I should say that that was the son.'

"But other eyes had seen him, too; and with a great bound, the old father sprang to the steps of the car, and when the boy reached the platform, in less time than I can tell it, he was in his father's arms. The old father sobbed out, 'O my son, thank God you've come, you've come;' and then, turning to my friend, he said, 'Mr. Brown, I should have waited until I died.'—*J. Wilbur Chapman.*

A Little More Love for Father.—"Daughter, stay a moment in your pleasures; have a little chat with father; give him a hug and a kiss as you pass his chair. He may scarcely look up from his reading, but be sure he is pleased just the same. Take a little time from your young friends and give it to father, who is doing everything for you.

"Son, do not look on father simply as the man who makes the money for you to spend. You will never know the times his children hurt his feelings by their thoughtlessness and ingratitude.

"Did you ever observe father looking at you so earnestly, with that searching gaze that seemed to look through you and beyond you, that you wondered why?

"He may be dreaming of the future he would like for you to make, the man he wishes you to be. You may fall short of all he would desire for you, but you can give a little more love to father."—*Alma Penderster Hayden.*

The One Who Loved Me Best.—"The sweetest, tenderest memories of my past life are of my father, and so I shall let his character portray the beauty of the word. He was the grandest man I have ever known,—my mother's provider, protector, and sweetheart for forty-eight years.

"He was surely one of the dearest of fathers, my instructor, loving parent, and comrade. As a child the happiest hours I knew were spent at his knee. Together we read God's word, and together we read the poets, and, as I grew in years, history, both modern and ancient. Of an intensely sentimental temperament, my preference was for the singers, and how I reveled in his interpretations of Shakespeare, Byron, and Milton. O, the richness of those days! On a dark, starless night we would study 'The Raven,' and on a bright, sunshiny morning he would bid me bring him Shelley, and we would read, verse about, that matchless poem, 'The Lark.'

"Dear father! He watched my mind expand as I watch a red rose as it opens—a petal at a time. Each day we loved each other more, and his delight grew, as he found my ideas broadening and my ideals reaching higher.

"Although the years brought other ties into my life, they never weakened this one between father and daughter, and until death at eighty-three, we were still companions,—he the brilliant teacher, I the adoring pupil."—*Jennie Wright Howell.*

Dad's Dreams.—"The good old dad! He is growing old, and his face has lines of care; his steps are slow that were free and bold, and silver is in his hair. And still he works at his weary chores, as the long hours roll away; and not for him are the glad outdoors, and the joyous holiday. His face is sad, but a pleasant smile anon through the sadness gleams, as he rests his head on his hands awhile, and closes his eyes and dreams. His dreams are all of his boys and girls, and honors that they'll enjoy; of little May with her golden curls, of Jack, who's a stalwart boy. And Tom is certain to conquer fame, for Tom is a splendid son; he'll bring renown to his father's name, when the old man's work is done. And Jim will probably learn to preach; he's pious, and clean, and smart; and throngs

will gather to hear him teach the lessons that lift the heart; his voice will tell of the day of wrath, when the portals shall unfold; he'll lead the wanderers to the path that leads to the gates of gold. And Kate, sweet Kate, with the thoughtful brow, and her brave, aspiring heart, will leave the rut that she travels now, and shine in the world of art. And all of his loving girls and boys will useful and helpful be, and live their lives till they earn the joys that dwell in eternity. The old man raises his head once more, for his dreams are flown away, and he goes ahead with his weary chore, but his heart is light and gay."—*Walt Mason.*

The Home Club

TOM: "Hello, Jack. Coming out tonight?"
 JACK: "No, Tom, I can't tonight. Got a date."
 TOM: "That so? Where?"
 JACK: "Home Club."
 TOM: "Say, that's a new one, isn't it? Where does it meet?"
 JACK: "At my house."
 TOM: "Who belongs to it?"
 JACK: "My father and mother, brother Bob, sister Nellie, and myself."
 TOM: "Huh, that's a great club. What's the idea?"
 JACK: "The object," recited Jack proudly, "is to enrich the home life of the family and to develop a deeper sympathy and understanding among us."
 TOM: "Sounds good enough. Tell me more about it."
 JACK: "Well, you see we're all connected with so many organizations that they keep us busy nearly all the time, and we're not able to be at home much in the evening. Take it all in all, we're hardly at home together except for meals. "Mother was reading the other day about a man who was out so much that he said he didn't feel at home with his family, and even when he had nothing to take him out he would go to the club, where he felt better acquainted than he did with the members of his own family. That gave mother the idea for the home club. She said that unless we had something like that, we'd have to be introduced to each other before long. "So one night, when it rained hard and none of us felt as if we wanted to go out, mother suggested her plan. We were to agree to set aside, if possible, one night in the week in which to stay at home and get acquainted with each other. If something came up so that it was absolutely impossible for us all to be at home on the night agreed upon, we were to take an hour after supper for the meeting of the club. We talked the idea over and finally agreed to it, and decided on Thursday night as the best for all of us. "We organized right there, and laid our plans for the meetings. We've been meeting regularly ever since. This is Thursday, and that's why I can't go out with you tonight."
 TOM: "That's a good reason, sure. If it isn't a secret, I'd like to hear what the meetings are like."
 JACK: "We usually begin with music. Nellie has been selected a committee to look after the music, and whenever she sees a new piece that is good she brings it home. If it's a piano selection she plays it over, and if it's vocal music we all practise it until we can sing it. "After that we have fifteen minutes for stories and experiences. Each one of us tells some good story he has heard, or some interesting experiences he has had during the week. For instance, one day father ran across a man who was in Russia when the revolution broke out, and he learned many interesting things from him that were not in the papers. We often save good stories for the club meetings instead of telling them when we first hear them. "Next comes a discussion on some subject of interest, such as the latest developments in the news of the day, some interesting phase of Missionary Volunteer work, and the like. We all express our opinions freely on the question in hand. Sometimes one of us reads a timely magazine article or we take turns in reading a book, a chapter or two at a meeting. "The last part of the evening we call the 'Problem Hour.' Then we each present some problem we have met during

the day, or speak of anything about our work that troubles us. Sometimes I read my English essay and the others criticize it, or I ask advice about a problem in mathematics that doesn't come out right. Sometimes father has a little business problem that bothers him, or Nellie has found something in her Sabbath school work that perplexes her. All of these are talked over, and each one of the family is given a chance to offer suggestions or solutions for the problems that have come up.

"After that we spend the last fifteen minutes in a devotional service. We select a chapter of the Bible that seems to fit the problems we have been discussing, and read it in turn. Then each offers a short, simple prayer. The meeting closes with the singing of a hymn."—*Adapted.*

Which Are You?

SAID Benny: "When I grow a man,
 I'll milk the cows, and spilt the wood;
 I'll take my mamma out to ride,
 And do a million things I should."
 And thus the minutes, one by one,
 Found Benny dreaming in the sun.

Said Teddy: "Shall I get some chips?
 And shan't I bring the eggs in, too?
 I'll draw the baby in her cart,
 And then she won't be teasing you."
 And thus the minutes, one by one,
 Slipped by, while Teddy's work was done.
 —*Selected.*

Devotional Meetings for May 14

Topic: *The Continent of Opportunity, No. 3.*

Senior

1. Opening Song.
2. Scripture Lesson: Calls to Service.
3. Prayer.
4. Secretary's Report.
5. Symposium: Makers of South America.
6. Talk: Echoes from South America.
7. Talk: Special Calls for Recruits for 1921.
8. Round Table: Our Response.
9. Close with a prayer for our workers in foreign fields.

Junior

1. Opening Song.
2. Scripture Lesson: Matt. 21: 28-31.
3. Prayer.
4. Secretary's Report.
5. Superintendent's Talk: Calls from South America.
6. Talk: Tupac Amaru.
7. Reading: Among the Indians.
8. Talk: A South American Patriot.
9. Talk: Summer Plans to Meet the Needs of South America.
10. Close with prayer.

Plans and Suggestions

Aim today to get better acquainted with South America. If you have been gleaning material, you doubtless have enough of your own for an inspiring program. However, we are supplying some material as well as suggestions; and we send these forth with an earnest prayer that your society may today have a real consecration service for the sake of South America and its needs.

Blackboard Motto.—Same as used in South America program last month.

Special Senior Notes

Scripture Lesson.—Have a roll call on service. Announce the roll call the week before. Ask all to come prepared to respond with texts which call to service; for instance, Matt. 28: 19, 20.

Symposium.—Assign the chapters in the book, "Makers of South America," to different members. Ask each to study his chapter thoroughly and then give in his own words a two-minute talk on the leading characteristics of the man whose biography he has studied. These chapters contain material for thrilling talks.

Round Table.—After the Missionary Volunteers have listened to the list of special requests, ask all to talk freely about the needs of South America and what they are willing to do to help supply them. What will your society do to help save the 60,000,000 in our sister continent?

Special Junior Notes

Superintendent's Talk: Calls for South America.—Use the material in Nos. 6 and 7 of the Senior program. Omit, however, that portion of "Echoes from South America" which is taken from the letter of Mr. Ford.

Talk: Tupac Amaru.—Have the Junior giving this talk read carefully the chapter, "Tupac Amaru," in "The Land of the Golden Man," pages 21-29. The Junior may tell a little of the splendor and wealth of the early Inca kings, of their beautiful palaces and terraced gardens; then, of their slavery and misery after the Spaniards had defeated them; and finally tell of the noble efforts of Tupac Amaru to gain freedom for his people. Remind the society that this is the very land where Brother Stahl is now carrying on his wonderful work.

Reading: Among the Indians.—Read the letter from Mr. Orley Ford which is printed in the article, "Echoes from South America."

Talk: A South American Patriot.—This talk should be based on the chapter, "General San Martin," pages 39-49, of "The Land of the Golden Man." South America owes much of its recent progress to the fact that General San Martin freed the country from the oppression of despots.

Talk: Summer Plans to Meet the Needs of South America.—This should be given by the new leader, the leader for the summer months. He should show the society where it stands in regard to its goals. He should have some definite plans ready to suggest for the summer, so that there will not be a standstill during vacation time.

Echoes from South America

SOME of our workers have long been giving their best efforts to South America. Elder F. H. Westphal has labored there for 27 years, Elder F. W. Spies for 25 years, Elder J. Lipke 24 years, Dr. R. H. Habenicht 20 years, Elder F. L. Perry 16 years, Elder R. Suessmann and Brother L. Lotz 13 years each; several others have been at the South American battle front for 10 years or more.

There are about three hundred young people in the Chile Conference. Many of these are not receiving a Christian education. Why? One reason is that their training school cannot accommodate all.

Around Lake Titicaca we have forty schools with fifty-six teachers. The enrolment is very large. The mission station at Pomata, on the south side of the lake and about eighty miles from Puno, has been in operation about four years. Last year, however, this mission had a church membership of between two and three hundred, and seven out-schools. Of a meeting held at this mission last year Elder J. L. Shaw says:

"Announcements had been sent out that the recently completed church would be dedicated while we were there, so people gathered in from the surrounding country. The men sat around the wall on a bench made of earth, while the women sat on the floor in the center. The church, made of sun-dried brick and covered with thatch and floored with boards from packing cases, accommodates four hundred persons. Soon it will not be large enough, for many are seeking the truth. A large baptismal class was under instruction.

"Between services the little, well-arranged dispensary was freely patronized. So many were seeking medicines that it was only with difficulty we made our way in. The interest our missionaries about the lake have taken in the sick and suffering, and the manner in which they have cared for them, have won the hearts and the confidence of the people. In all their needs they turn to the missionaries. They look to them as their teachers, for they have no schools; as their medical helpers and advisers, for they have no doctors; as their protectors from robbers and government officials and others who take their property, for they have been denied their rights for many generations. We rejoice in the good work going forward at Pomata. In a thorough, painstaking manner, Brother and Sister Ford, working single-handed and often beyond their strength, are building up the various interests of the station. The Lord is blessing their efforts, and many who were sitting in darkness have seen a great light. Another couple is needed at Pomata to help these faithful workers in the task to which they have set their hands."

The Indians around Lake Titicaca are calling for more help. When our workers who visited South America last year were traveling from one station to another, they were met by Indians begging for help. Elder Shaw describes the delegation thus:

"We had gone only a few miles when we were met by a delegation who earnestly requested us to turn aside from our journey and visit their brethren in a near-by village. They wished us to send a teacher for their school. For miles they ran in front of our horses, thus wishing us God-speed on our way, as we could not stop. Finally we halted.

Brother Stahl made a short speech and prayer was offered. The Indians were then urged not to go farther from their houses, so they turned back."

Brother Orley Ford, director of the Pomata Mission, in a letter to his home folks, says:

"Last week we took an interesting trip up into the mountains to a place whose inhabitants have been calling ever since I have been here (about three years) for us to send them a teacher. Lillie [Brother Ford's wife] and I, three teachers, my translator, and two who came to be our guides, went. It was a hard trail to follow over the mountains, up gulches, across swift streams, over high precipices, etc. When about ten miles from the place, we were met by a group of about twenty Indians on horseback, carrying banners and playing their native instruments. They were all dressed in their brightest colors. One man had a bright green saddle. They had come out to meet us and escort us to the place we were going. I was sorry that I didn't have my camera along to get their picture. They surely were glad that at last they were to have some one to teach them. We got there about noon, and ate dinner. The feast the natives had prepared for us consisted of chuño, soup, and roast meat. We had a meeting, and then went on a little farther to another place. All followed us to hear more. In this place I preached to them until dark. We planned to leave at daylight the next morning; but after I had eaten supper and gone to bed, they came into the little six-by-ten house where Lillie and I and four native workers who had come with us were sleeping, and asked if I wouldn't preach to them again the next morning. I told them that I would speak to them at daylight if they wished. I had little idea they would show up that early, but before we were up they were all back. There were about fifty of them crowded around the house. I did not get away until about nine o'clock, as they couldn't get enough of the wonderful truth to satisfy them. We were glad to be able to leave one of the native workers with them. It is interesting to see such hunger for the gospel, but pitiful to think of the hundreds and thousands of places in this country where it would be the same story if some one could only go to them.

Special Calls for Recruits for 1921

HERE is a list of calls from South America. Behind every one of the twenty-nine items listed, there is a need that would stir our hearts to the depths if we could only know it as the workers there do.

Austral Union Conference:

1. City evangelist for Buenos Aires.
2. Home missionary secretary for union.
3. City evangelist for Chile Conference.
4. German worker for Chile Conference.
5. Superintendent for Northwestern Argentine Mission.
6. Teacher for Alto Parana school.
7. Superintendent for the Buenos Aires Publishing House (provided William Kirstein is allowed to return to the United States).

South Brazil Union Conference:

8. Ordained minister for Sao Paulo.
9. Licensed minister for Sao Paulo.
10. Manager for Brazil Publishing House.
11. Licensed minister for Santa Catharina.
12. Licensed minister for Santa Catharina.
13. Superintendent for Matto Grosso.
14. Worker for Brazil Publishing House.
15. Worker for Brazil Publishing House.

East Brazil Union Mission:

16. Departmental secretary for union.
17. City evangelist for Rio de Janeiro.
18. Superintendent for Bahia.
19. Field missionary secretary for Bahia.
20. Superintendent for Pernambuco Mission.
21. Superintendent for Amazon Mission.
22. Superintendent for Ceara Mission.

Inca Union Mission:

23. Mission worker for Lake Titicaca Indian Mission (L. Clark).
24. Educational secretary for Titicaca Indian Mission.
25. Assistant teacher for training school at Lake Titicaca Indian Mission.
26. Evangelist (ordained) for Lake Titicaca Indian Mission.
27. Additional worker for Ilave Pamapa Indian Mission.

28. Additional worker for north side of lake.
29. Additional worker for Pomata.

The Mission Board is looking to the Missionary Volunteers in North America to help answer these calls this year. Our workers in South America are praying that our young people may get a vision of the needs down there,—a vision that will cause them to give liberally so that many in South America who know not Christ may be saved. In the hearts of the needy millions of South America is a deep, unsatisfied longing for something the Roman Catholic religion has failed to give them. Their great need comes to us as a Macedonian call. Their need of help is our opportunity to serve. Their need of light from above lays upon us a solemn obligation to give them the light that others have sacrificed to give us. If we do not pass on the heavenly light that shines on our pathway, we shall fail of doing our duty.

Suppose some day in heaven the Master should come to you and say: "Do you remember the year you denied yourself many things in order to give liberally for the work in South America? Well, this group over here is from South America, and I want you to know now that it was your gifts and your prayers that carried the message of salvation to them." Would it be worth while to go without some of the things we are planning to get this summer, in order to help some one else reach heaven? Surely! But how sad it would be to meet at the judgment bar some one from South America who was lost because we had failed to do our part. May the Father give our young people a vision that will inspire them to lay their all upon the altar, saying, "Father, all that I have is thine; I promise Thee to go without some things I much desire this year, in order to give liberally to South America."

M. E. A.

She Waved Her Hand

It was commencement day in one of our great midwestern colleges. The stately procession of the senior class, preceded by the president, members of the faculty, and the commencement orator, was marching into the beautiful and historic chapel. The galleries were crowded with home friends and visitors.

One of the senior girls looked up into the gallery, and at last she saw her father and mother looking down upon her. To their eyes she was the only one in the long procession. He was a home missionary pastor. The mother was a home missionary pastor's wife. Long years they had sacrificed to prepare for the daughter's education. Many things they had gone without in order that this day of opportunity might come to her. The joy of the hour was in the fact that she understood it all. So, while the organ sounded its measured strains, and the procession moved with orderly dignity to the front seats, with girlish disregard for any conventionalities she waved her hand to father and mother in the gallery.

A great many people saw it, and were glad. Somehow or other they seemed to understand the camaraderie of that loving act. I heard her father talk about it afterward as if it were the proudest moment of his life. "She waved her hand," he said with satisfaction in his voice. "It was worth all it cost."

There are many moments in life when the wave of the hand or a spoken word of cheer is as fine an expression of appreciation and loyalty as one soul can give to another. If a serpent's tooth is not sharper than a thankless child, then a child's appreciation must be one of the supreme joys of life. Thank God for the countless thousands of appreciative sons and daughters who bring back hearts and lives full of loving loyalty to the home that reared them in appreciation of sacrifice long continued and cheerfully made. Are you appreciative? — *Ernest Bourner Allen, D. D.*

"Go ye, and teach the next one whom ye meet —
Man, woman, child, at home or on the street —
That 'God so loved' them each in thoughts so sweet
He could not have them lost through sin's defeat.
So shall our land be saved from sore defeat
And gathered with the nations at His feet."

Devotional Meetings for May 21

Topic: *Honoring God's Flag.*

Senior

1. Opening Exercises.
2. Scripture Lesson: Ex. 16: 16-30; 31: 13-17.
3. Paper: True Sabbath Observance.
4. Symposium: The Sabbath.
5. Reading: "You're in the Army Now."
6. Talk: Honoring God's Flag.
7. Round Table: Better Sabbath Keeping for Me.
8. Close with prayer.

Junior

1. Opening Exercises.
2. Superintendent's Talk: Honoring God's Flag.
3. Symposium: The Sabbath.
4. Talk: An Ideal Sabbath.
5. Reading: Getting Along Without Sabbath. See *Instructor* of May 10 or 17.
6. Round Table: What I Can Do to Make Sabbath Keeping Better.
7. Close.

Plans and Suggestions

Honoring God's Flag.—The Sabbath is God's flag, and today we are to learn how we may honor it better. We send this program forth, with the prayer that all may come to sense more fully the sacredness of the Sabbath. "The Sabbath is a golden clasp that unites God and His people."—*"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. VI, p. 351.* This month we are considering two of the sacred institutions that have come down to us from the garden of Eden,—the home and the Sabbath. May the Holy Spirit come especially near and speak through those who take part on the program, so that hearts may be touched, and eyes may be opened. May He come in and work whatever reformation is needed in our home life and in our Sabbath keeping.

Opening Exercises.—Sing several Sabbath songs. Sing them earnestly, enthusiastically, and from the very depths of your heart. Then have two or three earnest prayers, remembering all who are trying to honor God's Sabbath and praying that many more may learn to honor it; and finally that we may learn to keep it as we should. Do not forget the secretary's report.

Symposium: The Sabbath.—Pass these questions to eight of the members several days before the meetings. Some of them may be answered by a Bible text, as, for instance, the first one—Gen. 2: 1-3. Others should be answered by a sentence, as, for instance, an acceptable answer to the second would be, "The purpose of the Sabbath is to become better acquainted with God through His word and the book of nature." Let the leader conduct the study by asking the questions. The Junior Standard of Attainment Manual, pages 7 and 8, will be helpful in this exercise.

Round Table.—In both societies try to get every one to take some part. Our subject today is a live topic. In many of the State legislatures there are Sunday bills pending. Is there one in your legislature? Do you value the Sabbath enough so that you would rather go to prison than fail to be true to God's flag?

Blackboard Motto.—

"It means eternal salvation to keep the Sabbath holy unto the Lord."—*Testimonies, Vol. VI, p. 356.*

Special Senior Note

Paper: True Sabbath Observance.—Ask some one to write a short article on this subject. It is an exceedingly important one. We need to know God's traffic laws, for every week we pass through a bit of time territory that He has reserved for Himself. For helps in preparing this paper, see the Bible and "Testimonies for the Church," Vol. II, pp. 582-585, 701-705; Vol. IV, pp. 114, 115; and Vol. VI, pp. 349-368.

Special Junior Notes

Superintendent's Talk: Honoring God's Flag.—Base the talk on the illustrations used in this article. Bring out the point that our Sabbath keeping is a sign of the presence of Jesus in the heart. To be true Sabbath keepers, we must first love and serve Him.

Talk: An Ideal Sabbath.—Have some Junior describe what he thinks would be an ideal way to spend the Sabbath. The following outline is merely suggestive:

Friday evening: House cleaned, clothes ready, baths taken, shoes blacked, etc. Family gathered for worship at going down of sun.

Sabbath morning: Every one up in plenty of time for breakfast and worship. All at Sabbath school on time.

Sabbath afternoon: The afternoon spent in taking walks, doing missionary work, reading the Bible or our papers. Worship at sundown.

Have the Junior emphasize the point that we cannot observe the Sabbath outwardly unless we love it with the whole heart.

The Sabbath

1. WHAT was the origin of the Sabbath?
2. What is the purpose of the Sabbath?
3. What preparation should we make for each Sabbath?
4. Name some things which you have noticed done by our Junior or Senior Missionary Volunteers on Sabbath, that are not in harmony with true Sabbath keeping.
5. Name some things which it would be perfectly proper for us to do on Sabbath.
6. What can Missionary Volunteers do to promote Sabbath observance?
7. Name some of the benefits of true Sabbath keeping.
8. What was Christ's attitude toward Sabbath keeping?

"You're in the Army Now"

ABOUT a month after I had donned the khaki and had become a unit in Uncle Sam's great fighting machine of four million men which made possible the successful outcome of the greatest war in history, I was transferred almost four thousand miles from my far Western home to a camp on the Atlantic coast. When I reported for duty, I found that I had been given a pleasant position on the camp personnel as secretary to Captain G—, chief of military police. A sergeant informed me that the captain then had the "fitu," and that I could busy myself as I chose until he returned. With this arrangement, I had no trouble in getting Sabbaths off, as there was no one to whom I was to report for duty.

In about two weeks the captain returned. He was pleasant, and I was sure that my assignment was going to be agreeable to me. There was little work to do, but he was particular, and wanted his work done at his own time and in his own way. This troubled me only as I thought of what he might do when I asked to be excused from duty on Sabbath.

One Tuesday evening he stayed in the office a little later than usual, and I felt impressed that this was the opportune time to speak to him about being excused from Sabbath duty. I walked to his desk, saluted, and said, "Sir, I am a Seventh-day Adventist, and Saturday is my day of rest, so I have come to ask your permission to be excused from duty on that day."

"Well, there is no day of rest in the army, and you're in the army now," he answered sharply.

"I realize that I am in the army, sir, and I am thankful for it; and while I am in the army it shall be my purpose to discharge all duties faithfully; but this is one point on which I must draw the line."

"You mean that you will not work on Saturday?"

"I do not see how I can, sir."

"Well, you are up against working on Saturday or going to the guardhouse. You have your choice. Think it over between now and Saturday."

I knew that the captain was not a man to play with words, and that when he said a thing he meant it and had power to carry it out. I went back to my desk and tried to think what to do, and prayed silently that He who commands the armies of heaven would be with me.

Soon I returned to the captain's desk. "Captain," I said, "if I write a letter through military channels to Major General Du Vall, the commanding general of the camp, will you forward it?"

"Yes, I will forward your letter. Not that I think his decision will be any different from mine, but then the ruling will come from camp headquarters, and will be final."

Needless to say, I lost no time in writing the letter which would determine whether or not I should go to the guardhouse. The letter was brief, merely stating our beliefs and my request to be excused from duty on the Sabbath; but I pinned to the letter three typewritten pages of rulings passed by different camps throughout the country favoring Adventists, which I had received from the General Conference Commission on Military Affairs, through Elder C. B. Haynes.

Wednesday passed. I ate and slept but little, but I read my Bible and "Steps to Christ," and prayed that the Lord would see fit to have my request granted. Thursday passed

in much the same way, only I had confidence that my prayers had been answered. When I reported for work as usual Friday morning, the captain handed me the reply from headquarters. It read, "Request approved, by command of Major General Du Vall. [Signed] CAMP ADJUTANT."

It was with a grateful heart that I read this, and with a consciousness that I could say from experience, as did David, "The Lord of hosts is with us." DELL MOORE.

Honoring God's Flag

UPON the flagship, in the navy, the officer in command of a fleet or squadron displays his flag. He is entitled to do this as a sign of his presence and command. So the Lord has given us the Sabbath as a sign. It is truly God's flag to us. "Pointing to God as the Maker of the heavens and the earth, it distinguishes the true God from all false gods."

Ezekiel 20: 12 tells us that God gave us the Sabbath to be a sign between Him and us that we might know that He is the Lord. If we love the Lord, surely we shall recognize His sign. As one has said:

"The Stars and Stripes, the Union Jack, or the flag of any nation, floating at the masthead, will never make a rebellious heart loyal; but a loyal heart will not tear down the flag and trample it underfoot."

Neither shall we, if we love the Lord, trample His Sabbath — His flag — underfoot.

The Sabbath is the only day of the week that God reserves for Himself. He has commanded us "to keep it holy," and not to do our own pleasure on that day. Most of us can quote Isaiah 58: 13:

"If thou turn away thy foot from the Sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on My holy day; and call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honorable; and shalt honor Him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words."

But do we always take delight in the Sabbath day, honoring God, and doing His pleasure in place of our own? Our hearts are thrilled when we learn of those who have stood loyal and true to their country's flag, even though it meant danger and perhaps even death. And how the stories of those who have stood firm for the Sabbath under adverse circumstances, inspire and thrill us! But are we ourselves, even when circumstances are favorable, as careful to honor God's flag as we should be?

We are told that during all the week we are to have the Sabbath in mind, that we may make preparation to keep it. Sister White says:

"On Friday let the preparation for the Sabbath be completed. See that all the clothing is in readiness, and that all the cooking is done. Let the boots be blacked, and the baths taken. It is possible to do this. If you make it a rule, you can do it. . . . Before the setting of the sun, let all secular work be laid aside, and all secular papers be put out of sight."—"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. VI, pp. 355, 356.

And we need to be careful, also, that we do not cause others to trespass upon the sacred hours. The following incident might furnish us food for a bit of reflection: A Missionary Volunteer was to have part on the society program one Sabbath evening. She had a number of gowns from which to choose something suitable for wear this particular Sabbath, but the one she selected required — or at least she thought it did — the making of a piece of neckwear of quite complicated design. The material was not taken to the dressmaker until Friday, but as the necessity (?) of the case was urgently pleaded, the material was taken in. The seamstress, herself a Sabbath keeper, was obliged, in order to complete the work, to neglect her own customary preparation for the coming day of rest, and then to deliver the flimsy ornament after the setting of the sun. Have we ever permitted our vanity or our own desires thus to lead us to cause others to dishonor God's flag?

Those two Missionary Volunteers who on Sabbath morning, when attending the camp-meeting, were busy with their camera, taking each other's pictures, were certainly not seeking God's honor. One had even dressed up in a borrowed uniform to pose for the picture. Were they not finding their "own pleasure"? Surely some other day should be chosen for things of this kind.

Do I hear some one say, "But how are we to tell what it is proper to do on the Sabbath day?" Let us consult the Guidebook, for the Lord of the Sabbath tells us there how we are to treat His day. We learn from His word that it is right, and a great privilege, to do good on the Sabbath. To spend its hours in unselfish ministry for others is honoring it in God's way.

The Lord means that the Sabbath shall be a priceless blessing. It should be to us a time of physical rest, mental growth, and spiritual uplift, and it will be if, no matter what we do,—whether we read or rest, walk or talk, stay at home or go forth to minister to others,—we do it with the sole purpose of glorifying God, becoming better acquainted with Him, or advancing His work.

Suppose there were no Sabbath rest, no Sabbath worship. Should we not look back with longing to this wonderful privilege? Then let us honor God's day as it comes to us, and strive to keep it in a manner that will meet His mind.

IRENE STUART CURTISS.

Devotional Meetings for May 28

Senior

Topic: *Our Gospel Meeting Work.*

1. Song Service and Prayer.
2. Secretary's Report.
3. Scripture Lesson: Acts 10: 25-48.
4. Talk: Do Something.
5. Reports from band leaders.
6. Talk by Society Leader: Our Plans for June.
7. Consecration Service.
8. Close by repeating the Pledge together.

Junior

Topic: *Summer's Test.*

1. Opening Exercises.
2. Morning Watch Drill.
3. Superintendent's Talk: Summer's Test.
4. Recitation: Vacation Time.
5. Talk: A Junior Missionary Volunteer's Vacation Plans.
6. Special Song.
7. Talk: Dreams or Deeds.
8. Reading: Mattie's Joy Shop. See *Instructor* of June 17 or 24.
9. Round Table: Assignment for Summer.
10. Close with the Pledge.

Senior Notes

Make this a society rally day. Before time for this meeting, your executive committee should study the needs of your Gospel Meeting Band work. Lay plans. Then let the band study the plans your executive committee suggests for their indorsement. Then present these plans enthusiastically, together with reports of previous months. After the Gospel Meeting Band work has received due attention, get reports from the leaders of other bands. Ask your band leaders to study carefully the first section of "Testimonies for the Church," Volume IX. Those pages will give them many practical suggestions.

The society leader should give a short, enthusiastic talk on plans for June. In the consecration service ask the Missionary Volunteers to speak of personal experiences in missionary work.

Junior Notes

Superintendent's Talk: Summer's Test.—This talk should be given by the new Junior superintendent, the one who is to have charge of the Juniors through the summer. Base the talk on the article of that name; be sure, however, to adapt it to the summer plans for the Junior Missionary Volunteer Society.

The new superintendent should have definite plans to lay before the Juniors at this time. The time and place of the Junior meetings during the summer should here be announced, also the plans for summer work should be definitely arranged and ready to lay before the members of the society. Make the Juniors feel that it is a test of loyalty to stick by when circumstances make it a little hard. Is the Junior Missionary Volunteer Society of — going to stand the test?

Talk: A Junior Missionary Volunteer's Vacation Plans.—If school has not closed, the church school teacher may be requested to give this subject to her language classes as a composition study the week previous to this meeting. The best paper, or perhaps the two or three best, may be used as the basis of talks by the writers.

Round Table: Assignments for Summer.—The new leader of the Christian Help Band should be prepared to suggest definite kinds of work which the boys and girls can carry on during the summer. Vacation means time to work or

time to be idle, and in idleness lurks temptation. Some Juniors have found missionary gardens a profitable experiment. There will be plenty of time for missionary letters and for visits to hospitals. Ask the boys and girls to choose certain kinds of work they can do during vacation.

Blackboard Motto.—

Work for souls as those who must give an account

Do Something

A WORD was coined during the war, the very sound of which is disagreeable. It may have been unjustly applied at times in the intensity of feeling, but the word itself betokens one who deliberately chooses to shirk his duty.

To be called a shirk was the strongest epithet which, before the war, could be hurled at such a delinquent. Now comes the stronger, more suggestive word, "slacker."

Volunteers and slackers are the zenith and nadir of human experience. They stand at the antipodes. They won't mix. They can't get near enough to each other to mix. Their very natures are an antithesis.

We are volunteers, Missionary Volunteers. The battle cry is sounding, Volunteers to the front! This motto upon our ensign just as plainly says, Slackers to the rear. And so the separation goes on.

In this warfare, the lines of activity are so many and so varied that every talent of every Volunteer may be engaged. The call is a call to service. It may be easier to settle back into the breeching than it is to pull up into the collar, but volunteer soldiers *pull*.

Definite service is called for. "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."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 327.

"The value of a soul, who can estimate? Would you know its worth, go to Gethsemane, and there watch with Christ through those hours of anguish, when He sweat as it were great drops of blood. Look upon the Saviour uplifted on the cross. Hear that despairing cry, 'My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?' Look upon the wounded head, the pierced side, the marred feet. Remember that Christ risked all. For our redemption, heaven itself was imperiled. At the foot of the cross, remembering that for one sinner Christ would have laid down His life, you may estimate the value of a soul."—*Id.*, p. 196.

The worth of a human soul may only be comprehended in terms of Gethsemane and Calvary. Like a mighty Niagara they are pouring over the precipice, down, down to eternal ruin.

Among the many lines of Christian endeavor open to young people none, perhaps, are more fruitful than gospel meetings or Bible studies in the homes of the people. Individuals or families that have become interested through reading or otherwise may be found who will gladly open the door of their homes to those who have some knowledge of the message and a desire to impart it to others.

No long-continued line of study or extended experience is required. One who has passed the Standard of Attainment examinations ought to be able to conduct a good Bible study upon almost any theme of vital interest.

Oftentimes a simple Bible reading, prayerfully conducted, will lead to such an interest that gospel meetings may be started. These may be in a private home or in some school-house or hall. It is truly wonderful to see how God has used young people, and even children, to preach His message. We shall see more of this as the work closes:

"As the children sang in the temple courts, 'Hosanna! Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord' (Mark 11: 9), so in these last days, children's voices will be raised to give the last message of warning to a perishing world. When heavenly intelligences see that men are no longer permitted to present the truth, the Spirit of God will come upon the children, and they will do a work in the proclamation of the truth which the older workers cannot do, because their way will be hedged up."—*Counsels to Teachers*, p. 176.

Through the activities of the Gospel Meeting Band at one of our schools last year, twenty persons in the vicinity be-

gan the observance of the Sabbath, and fifteen of these have been baptized and have united with the church.

Even though your society be a small one, do not neglect this most important phase of missionary work. You may think that there are no members qualified to lead out in this work. Pray much; ask God for a burden; prepare a simple Bible study or talk; select some good songs; make use of charts or other illustrative material as far as consistent; and *do something*. The biggest mistake a man ever made is to do nothing. Leave the results with God.

Remember, a soul won for Christ is a star in your crown throughout eternity. One writer puts the matter of soul-winning in this striking way:

"Suppose some one were to offer me a thousand dollars for every soul that I might earnestly try to lead to Christ, would I endeavor to lead any more souls to Him than I am endeavoring to do now? Is it possible that I would attempt to do for *money*, even at the risk of blunders or ridicule, what I hesitate or shrink from doing now in obedience to God's command? Is my love of money stronger than my love of God or of souls? How feeble then my love of God! Perhaps this explains why I am not a soul-winner."

C. A. RUSSELL.

Summer's Test

"THERE'S no use trying!" Lillian dropped her pencil on the half-finished report and sat back in her chair, her face the picture of despair. "There's no use trying," she continued; "the officers of our Junior society have worked fearfully hard to keep up our meetings and missionary work through the summer, but just look at these reports. Our attendance has dropped more than thirty per cent, and the reports of work done are not more than half as large as they were last winter."

It was an older friend who received the benefit of that little speech, and here she broke in with, "But Lillian, don't get discouraged. You must remember that summer is the testing time."

"Testing time! What do you mean?"

"Well, let me ask you a question before I answer yours. Why did you throw the lettuce left over from dinner into the garbage can?"

"Why, it wilts so quickly these hot days that it wouldn't be good for supper."

"Exactly! but did you ever draw a lesson from that fact? Have you stopped to think that the same hot days that wilt the vegetables in market and spoil the fresh fruit on the tray, change the broad acres of grain to golden and ripen the fruit on the trees? The difference lies in being 'rooted.' When the hot, testing days come, the superficial Christian yields to the temptation to do nothing, and at once decay of his spiritual life sets in; on the other hand, the earnest young Christian works faithfully, drawing inspiration even from the discouragement about him, and day by day he grows more like his Saviour. I know it is hard to be faithful during the hot summer days. I know it is easy to find ten apparently good excuses for leaving our missionary work undone. But after all, we cannot be unfaithful and still expect to succeed."

This bit of conversation reminds me of a notice that caught my eye as I was walking down the street in Boston one hot July morning. The notice was on a church, and thinking it probably concerned the delegates to the National Educational Convention, I stopped. These were the words I read: "This church will be open all summer." Such a notice is a danger signal, and reflects sadly upon general conditions; but it commends the individual church for its faithfulness when interest is slack and discouragements are numerous.

What will be the record of your society during the summer? Doubtless it "will be open," but will there be a drop in the reports of work done, a falling off in attendance? Summer may lessen the need of certain kinds of missionary work, but think of the rare opportunities it offers for almost every line of missionary activity. The work on the farm, in the kitchen, the office, or the shop does not stop for hot weather. Then should our business for the King? M. E. A.

Vacation Time

GOOD-BY, little desk at school, good-by:
We're off to the fields and the open sky;
The bells of the brooks, and the woodland bells,
Are ringing us out to the vales and dells,
To meadow ways fair and to hilltops cool.
Good-by, little desk at school!

Good-by, little desk at school, good-by:
We've other brave lessons and tasks to try.
But we shall come back in the fall, you know,
And as gay to come as we are to go,
With ever a laugh and never a sigh.
Good-by, little desk, good-by!

— Frank Walcott, in *Little Folks*.

Dreams or Deeds

Do you know Johnnie Martin? I do. Johnnie is a queer chap. "Some day," as he tells me, he is going to do great things. Maybe he will paint a wonderful picture, or write a great book, or become a ruler over many men, win a war, make a great fortune, or build marvelous bridges, or invent "somethin'."

O sure! "Some day" he is going to do a great deed and make the world sit up and take notice!

One day he dreams of the sea; the next, after watching a blacksmith shoe a horse, he decides that is the most delightful work of all. But whether it be blacksmith, writer, artist, soldier, statesman, bridge builder, or inventor that holds his attention at the moment, no thought of preparing himself for this work ever enters his head. Taking careful aim is so humdrum. When the pigeon he wishes to shoot comes along, his attention is distracted by the cawing of the crow; and I assure you that for every crow he kills, he loses a dozen chances to bag the bird he is hunting.

Early in life Lincoln determined to make his life worth while. Did he ever lose sight of that aim? Never! Slowly and steadily he aimed, learning to do the small things well, that he might do the big things better.

If you are going to be a big man you must first be a big boy. If you are going to be a sweet and lovely woman, you must begin by being a sweet and lovely girl.

If you hope to be good, honest, and true-hearted like Abraham Lincoln, when you grow up, you must begin this minute to cleanse yourself of all petty vices and meannesses. If you lie and steal while a child, the probabilities are that you will lie and steal as a grown-up.

Don't be "Johnnie Martin." Begin today to take aim by steadying yourself in all your work and play.

Be earnest; be industrious; be winners.

And so this summer are you going to be a Johnnie Martin, just lying around in the hammock and dreaming big dreams of what you are going to do and how happy you are going to make poor old Grandma So-and-so some day, or of all the literature you're going to scatter next winter? Are you going to be a dreamer or a doer?—*Adapted*.

Society Leaders!

How is the new financial plan working? Are you getting more accurate reports? If not, *educate your members*. Keep it ever before them. Perhaps you yourself do not remember what the resolution says:

"We recommend, 1. That all money given through the church by the young people be placed in envelopes so marked as to indicate the source of the contribution.

"2. That all entries of Missionary Volunteer money on the church treasurer's books be indicated as Missionary Volunteer money."

First, be sure your society members understand why the request is made of them. Explain that the funds which go to foreign missions through the church — collections taken at Sabbath morning services or at any other service *except Sabbath school* — may apply on the Missionary Volunteer goal for 1921. Show that to get the most accurate report of all funds, it will be necessary for each society member to place his offering in an envelope on which he has marked the letters M. V., instead of throwing it into the plate loose.

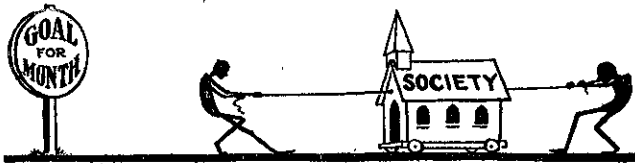
Second, Talk the plan over with the church treasurer. Be sure he understands it.

Third, fourth, and last, Educate! educate! educate! Don't let a meeting pass without reference in some way to the plan. And be sure you and your brother officers follow it!

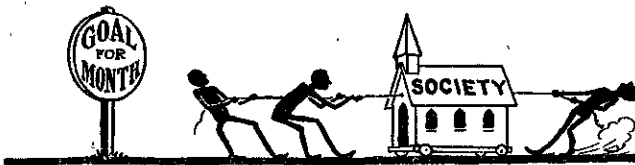
H. H.

Making the Most of May

Missionary Volunteers! You who
Are planning to make the most of May,
Know and remember always that
"In union there is strength." But
Notice, your strength must be added, not subtracted.
Going in different directions does not mean progress.



There are societies where two or three pull together. However, it is dreadfully hard work when Even one of the officers hangs back. Of course, if



Most of the officers pull together, they can Overcome the friction caused by one laggard, to Some extent. But that is not the way To make the most of May.



Only in perfect union can the most be done For the Master we serve.



May will be pre-eminently successful if All will pull together under the direction of Your divine Master.



M. E. A.

Remember the last meeting in June is Missions Survey Day. Are you getting ready for it? Have you appointed a committee to gather material for this program?

Missionary Volunteer Programs for Advanced Schools

For Week Ending May 7

Topic.—Choose one of the regular programs for today—the subject which you feel will mean most to your fellow students. Then draw upon your school library for additional material.

For Week Ending May 14

Topic: Making Vacation Count.—After school closes—what? What are your plans for the summer? What is your highest ideal? Is it a good time? Every student Missionary Volunteer should remember that the close of school means a change in service, not cessation from service. Every month, every week, every day of vacation should register service for the Master. There should be constant growth in mental strength, in physical endurance, and above all in spiritual power.

Are the young people in your school resolved that this shall be true? Can you persuade all of them to make this resolution and then help them to carry it out? A writer on college life once said of a young man: "He devoted himself so assiduously to student activities during the school year, and so little to studious activity, that he came to the vacation months wholly unprepared for their real duties."

We hope this will not be true of even one Missionary Volunteer in your school. May all go out from school better prepared to wrestle with life's daily problems. May they prove to all they meet that it pays to send young people to college. On the one hand, it should make them humble, kind, courteous, sympathetic; on the other, strong, initiative, practical, resourceful leaders in all kinds of soul-winning work. It should make them more efficient workers in the home, the church, and the community. Think of these things as you meet today. Help one another to go forth from the schoolroom to do exploits for the Master during the summer months. Here are a few suggestive topics for today's meeting:

1. Opportunities and duties of the student in his home:
 - a. To his parents.
 - b. To his church.
 - c. To the children and youth in the church.
 - d. To the community. (He and the other young people in the church should do systematic missionary work.)
2. The student colporteur.
3. The Bible worker, the tent master, etc.
4. Winning students for next year. (Remember those who cannot go away to school can study at home. Inspire young people with a "will," and help them to find their way.)

It would be very interesting for you to have symposiums on the various topics given. Pray earnestly and work diligently to inspire every student to make his vacation count for God.

Junior Superintendents!

MAY will witness the close of a great many church schools. Will all the Junior Missionary Volunteer Societies close when the schools shut their doors? Summer is the time of opportunity. Released from study, the boys and girls will find something to do. Will such energy be turned into channels of usefulness?

Much depends on the summer Junior superintendent. If you are leaving for the summer, be sure a successor is ready to take your place. This superintendent should have been appointed as assistant Junior superintendent at the regular annual church election. If this has been neglected, call the fact to the notice of the church board. At any rate, see that some one is chosen to take charge during the summer.

It is a good plan to ask the new superintendent to meet with the society and with the various Junior Missionary Volunteer committees during the month of May, so that the work will not be new to him.

H. H.

You'll Want Them

YES, you will want them! Want what? The new Missionary Volunteer leaflets and the Morning Watch Pledge. The leaflets just off the press are:

No. 70. "Two Pictures," a true story showing the value of a purpose and the influence of reading on the lives of two young women. Price, 2 cents.

No. 71. "Keep the Home Fires Burning." Price, 2 cents.

The Morning Watch Pledge is also new. Do not say, "Oh, it's too late for that now!" Get a quantity. Use it for keeping up the interest in the Morning Watch. Pledge, No. 11, price, 50 cents a hundred.