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Church Officers' General Instruction Department

Sabbaths with Special Programs for May

Home Missionary May 3
Missions Rally May 17

Shall 1924 Prove a Jubilee Year for Our Missionaries?

WE know many interests center upon local church elders and leaders, each demanding attention, and all of which are important. Some of these interests are local, some pertain to the conference, others relate to the union in which the church is located, while again others pertain to that world-wide work resting upon Seventh-day Adventists as a whole in giving the third angel's message to "every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people." It is concerning this last phase of these responsibilities we wish here to speak.

As in various ways announced, this is our jubilee year of foreign missions endeavor. Fifty years ago the denomination sent out its first missionary to lands outside the United States. This was in 1874. In 1875 [the next year] our offerings to missions were 536.57. Ten years later they amounted to \$21,649; twenty years afterward (1905) they were \$169,335.11; while in 1920, after thirty-five years of mission giving, \$3,251,550.01 was contributed. These figures include mission gifts throughout the whole world. In North America only, this same year (1920) \$2,267,124.44 was given; while for last year (1923) \$2,307,069.19 was given by the United States and Canada, or more than 45 cents each week by every church member. A phenomenal growth surely! yet with every year demands were made by the mission fields far in excess of the denomination's ability to fulfil.

This very jubilee year our mission fields are greatly crippled because of restricted budgets, allowing but little, if any, advance work. For this our missionaries are not jubilant. The great question is, How shall we meet the demands pressing in from every quarter? The answer devolves upon our churches at home, from Maine to California, from the North to the South. This missions task quickly resolves itself into the raising of funds; for missionaries cannot be sent forth, nor supported in their fields, without money. And the unswerving policy of the Mission Board has been, and still is, to go no faster than our brethren and sisters provide the money to meet the expenses.

The Average of Sixty Cents Each Week for Missions

It has been devised that as a goal for each church an average of sixty cents per member every week be gathered

for missions. The question, therefore, for each local elder or leader, with his associate officers, to consider is, Shall our church raise for missions this year a sum at least equal to this amount? Perhaps your church is one of those that did it last year. If so, good; if not, shall it be done this year?

Some church members should pay much more than others, because God has blessed them with greater prosperity, placed more means with them in stewardship. This goal of an average of 60 cents each week does not, therefore, determine the amount any member should give; that is ever, to be held upon the scriptural basis,—“as God hath prospered.” “Upon the first day [“day” is a supplied word] of the week let every one of you lay by him in store [to be handed in later], as God hath prospered him.” 1 Cor. 16: 2. It should therefore be the aim of each church elder by precept and example to establish regularity in mission giving week by week.

To this end the cards, or folders, provided for each member to designate his attempted weekly goal, with place prepared to keep his own personal record of missions giving, be that giving through the Sabbath school or the church direct, is an excellent one. This encourages systematic giving, that stewardship in giving according “as God hath prospered,” the Bible plan for the support of God's work in returning unto Him tithes and offerings.

How One Church Did It Last Year

A small church in California, of thirteen members, none of whom are spoken of by the elder as wealthy, not only reached their 60 cents each week goal, but far surpassed it. Perhaps other elders will be glad to know how this little church did it. It may be emphasized here that the elder himself is a returned missionary—thus the needs of mission fields are already upon his heart. He writes:

“I will submit the amounts given during 1923 for foreign missions: Sabbath school offerings, \$863.17; Harvest Ingathering, \$159; Week of Sacrifice, \$108.96; Week of Prayer, \$34; total, \$1,165.13. During the remaining two Sabbaths [of 1923] we shall probably receive enough to total \$1,200 for the year. This, you see, will average \$1.77 a week per member.

“You may ask what we have done to bring about this splendid offering in our little church. In the first place, the members have willing hearts, and do not want to see any missionaries recalled. We seek to keep constantly before the church the missions and their needs, but do no urging whatever. Very likely our experiences for many years in mission lands helps us to emphasize the importance of the message's going quickly to the heathen lands in all the world. We have no devices, such as ships, motor cars, bicycles, etc. (no objection, however, to these if others wish to use them), to stimulate children or adults in giving, believing that a better way is to keep the minds of the believers filled with the word of God as contained in the Gospels and prophecies.

“One thing to which we attach more importance than any other, is the influence of the Sabbath school lessons when studied each day, on the minds of the brethren and sisters. In some schools we have visited I have noticed that if asked to close their Bibles and answer the questions, the great majority of Sabbath school members can give no clear-cut answer to the questions, but venture a guess. No new truths are learned, and so the life-renewing effect of constantly receiving into the heart the living word of God, is lost. ‘Thy words were found, and I did eat them.’ Jer. 15: 16. ‘The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.’ John 6: 63.

“We have no other way of stimulating our members to systematic and liberal giving, except as I have indicated above.”

What this little church through the study of God's Word and devotion to God's world-wide message did out in California, every other company equally blessed with Heaven's gifts may do. And think what the results might be, what rejoicings would follow, yea, what a jubilee year it indeed

would be with our missionaries, were every church to do as well as this one.

A Sample Letter Because of the Cut in Mission Budgets

Here is a sample letter to the Mission Board, illustrative of what cuts in mission budgets mean to our missionaries. Similar letters could be quoted from field after field, had we the space. All of which might be eliminated had the Mission Board treasury received during 1923 this average of 60 cents a week from every church member, instead of the 45 cents (plus) received last year.

"We were all greatly encouraged to think that after we had waited for several years to get a second evangelist for Kiangsu, finally one was in sight. Now we have just received word that East China does not get a man this year. This does not dishearten us, for we are not made out of material as flexible as that, but it makes us feel bad, exceedingly bad. If tears would help, I am sure they would flow freely. Our situation in this union, briefly stated, is this: We have one evangelist in Shanghai, K. H. Wood; one Bible woman, Sister B. Miller. Our union treasurer looks after the Kiangsu Mission, the book work and home missionary work is also attended to by one union man. The Kiangsu director's good wife has been in bed the last three months, with no sign of improvement. Should he have to leave, it would mean that Sister Miller would have all the work to do, and she, too, is down because of overwork, and has been in bed a number of weeks.

"I do not know what you folks can do to help us, for really I feel you have spared nothing to help the work here in China. But I did want you to know our situation. We shall have to double up and spread ourselves over as many responsibilities as possible. We will use to the best of our wisdom the money sent us. We bear in mind it represents sacrifice and loyal devotion to the cause of foreign missions."

Counsel How Mission Funds May Be Supplied

"The work of evangelizing the world has been greatly hindered by personal selfishness. Some, even among professing Christians, are unable to see that the work of the gospel is to be supported by the means that Christ has given them. . . . Thousands upon thousands are perishing in sin, and a lack of means is hindering the proclamation of the truth that is to be carried to all nations and kindreds and tongues and peoples. . . .

"In place of complaining of the officers of the General Conference because they cannot respond to the multiplied calls for men and means, let our church members bear a living testimony to the power of the truth by *denying self* and giving liberally for the advancement of the work. . . . Let every unnecessary expense be cut down. Let every family bring their tithes and offerings to the Lord."—"Testimonies," Vol. IX, pp. 52, 53.

And if we all do this during this our jubilee year of missions, with the church leaders truly *leading*, every church, large and small, will enter into the fulfilment of that promise, "I will . . . open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." Mal. 3: 10.

T. E. B.

Some Things to Settle Now

1. Am I truly converted? Have I honestly turned my back on the things of this world, and set my face steadfastly toward Zion? Do I enjoy the assurance of sins forgiven, and is my life a daily testimonial to the power of Christ in victory over every besetting sin?

2. Do I truly believe that the coming of Christ is so near that it should be the dominating factor in my every thought for the future and all my daily duties? Am I planning so honestly for it that every associate can discern it, and thus be led to believe it?

3. Am I treating my everyday, unbelieving associates in the home or out as I would wish them to treat me if I were out of the ark of safety and they had the key that would unlock the door for me?

4. The Lord said by the apostle Paul that the church is "the body of Christ." Am I loyal to "the body of Christ"? Am I as careful and sorry for an ailing and weak member of the church as I would be for a lame member or a bruised part of my body?

5. I am a member of the family called the "the family of God," the "household of faith," "Israel," which has started upon a movement toward the homeland, and by profession I have worn the name of my Lord—Christian. Do I loy-

ally and cheerfully join with my brethren and sisters in the enterprises God has set on foot for the finishing of the movement and work, or do I criticize them?

6. When the time comes for me to join in the ordinances of the Lord's house, do I excuse myself and remain away, or am I present at the "table of the Lord" and take part?

7. Am I following truly the instruction about the family altar? Do my children hear my voice in prayer? Have I a place for secret devotion? Before I enter upon my daily work, before I leave the room for my office, before I go into the classroom, do I think to pray?

8. Have I made a covenant with God by sacrifice, or am I trying to get Him to come to my terms in making a covenant that costs me little or no inconvenience? Am I honest with God in my money matters?

9. Am I planning to put forth an effort in some special way, such as selling our small books and magazines, so that I can keep up my apportionment to missions? Am I planning to help in the Harvest Ingathering this year, so I may increase my former giving?

10. Did I read the Bible through last year, and do I make the daily study of the Sabbath school lesson a practice? Do I realize that through the Scriptures I am to receive the bread of life? Does my soul prosper, and is it in health because of daily feeding upon this word?

11. Shall I make my "calling and election sure" *now*, or await "a better season," like Agrippa, until too late?

F. A. WRIGHT.

Recipe for Communion Bread

INTO one cup of flour thoroughly mix a trifle of salt and two tablespoons of cocoanut cream, or that from other nuts. Use just enough cold water to form a stiff dough. Manipulate until when pulled apart it gives forth a sharp, snapping sound. Remember it must be quite stiff, or it will not do this. Roll evenly thin, about the thickness of pasteboard, and with the tine of a table fork or other sharp instrument, mark it off in squares of about one-half inch, but do not cut through. Bake in one or two sheets as is most convenient. To obtain the cream, grind finely the meat of one cocoanut. While grinding there will be yielded more than enough cream to fill the above recipe.

MRS. D. A. FITCH.

Recipe for Unfermented Wine

SECURE good grapes. The small wine grape is preferable. Strip the grapes from the stem, and stew them in an enameled saucepan till brought to a boiling heat. Drain through a coarse cloth. Then boil the juice for fifteen minutes. Just before it boils, skim off all the scum that rises. When at boiling heat, pour into strong bottles, which have been thoroughly cleansed, and are kept warm, that they may receive the hot wine without breaking. Fill to within half an inch of the cork, and cork immediately with good solid corks. Cut off the corks close to the bottle, and seal with sealing wax. Then set away in a dark place, and do not move it about unnecessarily.—O. A. Olsen.

It will be observed by church elders and leaders that Sabbath, May 17, has been set apart for the Missions Rally special program. This is the second occasion, during this our jubilee year, provided each local church to give special attention to its standing in its various activities in providing mission funds. These "square-up" days are important occasions. Each church desires to do its part, to reach its sixty cents each week per member goal at the end of the year. And this may prove true, a really accomplished task; neither will it prove to be such a difficult one, provided the goal is reached each quarter.

Let the officers, therefore, especially the treasurers, ascertain the accurate, up-to-date standing of the church on its missions offerings, and report to the church on this day, so that upon this special Sabbath, May 17, any deficit may be made up, and the church experience a little jubilee service of its own for having accomplished its laudable task during the greater part of the first six months of the year. If this part of the year is successful, your church may be sure of winning its yearly goal.

T. E. B.

Home Missionary Department

EVANGELIZING MINISTRY OF THE PRINTED PAGE

Suggestive Program for Home Missionary Service.

(To Be Held Sabbath, May 3).

OPENING SONG: "The Call for Reapers," No. 547, in "Christ in Song."

Scripture Lesson: Luke 15: 3-8.

Prayer.

Song: "Rescue the Perishing," No. 479, in "Christ in Song."

Report of Missionary Work Done.

Offering for Church Missionary Work.

Sermon or Reading on the Theme, "Evangelizing Ministry of the Printed Page."

Prayer in Behalf of Colporteurs in world-wide field and for all engaged in scattering the printed page.

Closing Song: "Hold On," No. 570, in "Christ in Song."

Note to the Leaders

May we suggest that the keynote of this missionary service in all our churches, whether by a sermon from the desk, or the reading of the matter furnished herewith, be the emphatic statement with which all are familiar: "The world is to receive the light of truth through an evangelizing ministry of the word in our books and periodicals."—*Testimonies*, Vol. IX, p. 61. One of the strongest assurances of the Spirit of God to the pioneer leaders in the third angel's message, was that through the printed page streams of light were to encircle the world; and steadily through the intervening years has that tiny torch of truth established by Elder James White in 1849, known as "the little paper," burned on with ever-increasing brilliance, until today we do see the earth encircled with the rays of light of the divine message. Each year sees a new advance in furnishing facilities for producing truth-filled literature in many tongues, and for penetrating remote corners of the globe.

You are more or less familiar with the results attending the circulation of our literature, and will have personal experiences to relate, which will add to the interest in this service. To read the experiences of our colporteurs from day to day is like reading a modern chapter in "The Acts of the Apostles." God is mightily at work in the earth, preparing the hearts of the people for truth and sending the messenger with the printed page to satisfy the longing for light and guidance.

May God's richest blessing attend you in the presentation of this fundamental missionary theme, and may the call to service be sounded more distinctly than ever before, and find a ready response on the part of all our dear people to enter the harvest field more extensively and stay by the work till the close of the day.

HOME MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT.

The Evangelizing Ministry of the Printed Page

RELIABLE statistics reveal that in North America there are 101,129 Seventh-day Adventists, and that throughout the world the number is increased to 208,771. These two hundred and eight thousand, seven hundred and seventy-one Seventh-day Adventists are not scattered over the world by chance. Every one has been especially called of God and led by the Spirit of truth to the place which he occupies in the organized work of the third angel's message, and for a definite purpose. "The Lord has His eye upon every one of His people; He has His plans concerning each."—*Testimonies*, Vol. VI, p. 12. What is the divine plan for each believer in the third angel's message? This is a question well worth considering and finding the correct answer; and here it is: "The Lord now calls upon Seventh-day Adventists in every locality to consecrate themselves to Him, and to do their very best, according to their circumstances, to assist in His work."—*Id.*, Vol. IX, p. 132.

Again we inquire, What is the work in which God requires the assistance of every Seventh-day Adventist? It is clearly stated: "God expects personal service from every one to whom He has intrusted a knowledge of the truth for this time."—*Id.*, p. 30. "To every one work has been allotted, and no one else can be a substitute for another. Each one

has a mission of wonderful importance, which he cannot neglect or ignore, as the fulfilment of it involves the weal of some soul, and the neglect of it the woe of one for whom Christ died."—*Mrs. E. G. White, in Review and Herald, Dec. 12, 1893.* And so interested is God in the carrying out of His divine plan for the salvation of the world through the personal service of His children, that it is stated, "All heaven is looking with intense interest upon the church, to see what her individual members are doing to enlighten those who are in darkness."—*Mrs. E. G. White, in Review and Herald, Feb. 27, 1894.*

The work of Seventh-day Adventists, individually and collectively, is outlined as follows: "The prophecy that John's mission fulfilled, outlines our work,—'Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make His paths straight.' Matt. 3: 2, 3. As John prepared the way for the first, so we are to prepare the way for the second, advent of the Saviour."—*Testimonies*, Vol. VII, p. 139.

As one of the ways in which this preparatory work is to be done, we read: "The publications sent forth from our printing houses are to prepare a people to meet God. Throughout the world they are to do the same work that was done by John the Baptist for the Jewish nation. By startling messages of warning, God's prophet awakened men from worldly dreaming. Through him God called backsliding Israel to repentance. By his presentation of truth he exposed popular delusions. In contrast with the false theories of his time, truth in his teaching stood forth as an eternal certainty. 'Repent ye; for the kingdom of heaven is at hand,' was John's message. This same message, through the publications from our printing houses, is to be given to the world today."—*Id.*, p. 139.

As to the comparative value of literature work with other lines of "personal service" which the Lord expects of "every one to whom He has intrusted a knowledge of the truth for this time," we are plainly told, "If there is one work more important than another, it is that of getting our publications before the public, thus leading them to search the Scriptures."—*Colporteur Evangelist*, p. 89.

It is through the evangelizing ministry of the printed page that "the world is to receive the light of truth;" and today there comes to every believer the kindly persuasion of the Spirit of God, "Let us now, by the wise use of periodicals and books, preach the word with determined energy."—*Testimonies*, Vol. IX, pp. 61, 62. And then follows the definite inquiry: "Who will go forth now with our publications?" and the comforting assurance: "The Lord imparts a fitness for the work to every man and woman who will co-operate with divine power. All the requisite talent, courage, perseverance, faith, and tact will come as they put the armor on. A great work is to be done in our world, and human agencies will surely respond to the demand. The world must hear the warning. When the call comes, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' send back the answer clear and distinct, 'Here am I; send me.'"—*Id.*, Vol. VI, p. 333.

Today, in this Home Missionary service, the call of the Master comes to us, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" with the printed page of truth to enlighten those who are in darkness. And remember that "all heaven is looking with intense interest upon the church, to see what her individual members will do. Does He hear your answer, clear and distinct, 'Here am I; send me'?" Surely there can be no failure to respond. The Master may send us far away to a strange land and people, or He may send us to our next-door neighbor, or to the citizens in our home town or county. It matters not, just so we go in response to His bidding. There need be no delay, for even as we put on the armor for service, "all the requisite talent, courage, perseverance, faith, and tact will come." What more could we ask?

Those who have gone forth into the field of literature ministry have demonstrated over and over again that the Lord does impart "a fitness for the work to every man and woman who will co-operate with divine power." The experiences of our literature workers thrill the heart with a

sense of God's presence in the daily affairs of life, and convince us that the day of miracles is not past. Today, as in the days of the apostolic church, God is sending His messengers to men and women who are praying for light, and marvelous transformations of grace are the result. Just a few of these recent experiences are given herewith, for the encouragement of all in ministry endeavor, and for the honor and glory of Him who hath called us and permitted us to become "laborers together with" Him:

Experience No. 1.—One of our Bible workers in a mission field was giving Bible studies to a high-class Dutch family. There was a servant in the family, an ignorant Mohammedan woman, seventy years of age, whose heart was hungry to hear the word of God; and although she did not come into the room, she would listen through the keyhole, cupping her hand behind her ear to catch the words uttered by the Bible teacher. She became very much interested, and after a time asked the Bible worker if she would teach her from the Bible. Of course the request was granted, and the old lady became a Christian and accepted the truth.

Then she wanted to work for the Master, but she hardly knew what she could do. She could not read, was advanced in years, and suffering from tuberculosis. Finally, in counsel with some of our workers, she decided to try to sell our literature, although it really seemed to the workers that it was a hopeless venture. As she could not read, she would often present the papers and tracts upside down to the people. But she was anxious to work for the Lord, and the promise of the Lord to supply the lack of fitness, was truly demonstrated in her case. Day after day she would return to the mission with the papers she had left and the money she had taken in on sales, handing all over to the workers to "fix up" for her. She traveled into the interior of the country selling the literature, and everywhere she went people were impressed with her earnestness and devotion. She did a great work with the literature, and helped to awaken an interest in the truth in unentered places. When she died, people of all classes sent flowers as a token of their appreciation of her humble and unselfish efforts to help others.

Experience No. 2.—Two young ladies, sisters, were attending Sunday school, each in a separate class. The lesson for the day was on the ten commandments, and the young ladies were intensely interested in what the teacher was saying. They had not had many educational advantages, and knew very little about the Bible; did not even own a copy of their own; but they were very conscientious and eager to learn from the Word of God. Prayer had been a daily habit with them, and their honest desire to do right was noted by their heavenly Father, and in due time they were brought face to face with truth, in which they are now rejoicing.

As the Sunday school lesson progressed, attention was given to the fourth commandment, and it was repeated and explained by the teacher. Then, for the first time, the query arose in the mind of each of the sisters, "Which is the seventh day? Is Sunday the seventh day?" Both young ladies seemed to be impressed in the same way, although neither knew how the other felt until after the Sunday school was over. Each put the same questions to the teacher in a very explicit and eager way, but the explanation given was not satisfactory. The teacher called the superintendent to his assistance, and the superintendent explained to the young ladies that Sunday was the first day of the week, and that the seventh day was the day kept by the Jews, but that it did not make any difference which day of the week was observed, etc. But they kept repeating the question, "Is Sunday the Sabbath? Is it?" until the Sunday school officers were glad when the class period was over and the session dismissed.

These young ladies had never heard of any one keeping any other day than Sunday as the Sabbath, but they were convinced there was something wrong somewhere, and determined that they would pray about it, and would get a Bible and try to find out what was right.

A few days after this, a stranger called at their home, saying she had religious literature to sell, and asked for a few moments' time to talk with them. At first they said they were too busy for an interview just then, but as they were talking it over between themselves, one of them said, "It may be this is an answer to our prayers. We'd better be sure about it, and in order to find out, let us ask the lady which is the seventh day." So they returned to the stranger at the door, and began by saying, "Do you know which is the seventh day?" "Yes," replied the stranger, "the seventh day of the week is Saturday." "Which day is the Sabbath?" was then eagerly asked. To which she replied, "Saturday, the seventh day of the week, is the true Sabbath of the Lord." "Do you keep that day?" they asked. "Yes, I am glad to tell you that I do, and this little book which I have with me explains why it is that the

majority of the people in the world are observing the first day of the week instead of the seventh, and what it means to keep the true Sabbath."

"Come in, thou blessed of the Lord!" was the reply. "You are sent in answer to our prayers. We did not know anybody on earth kept the seventh day as the Sabbath, but we are convinced that it is the Sabbath, and have been praying that God would send us some one to explain the matter to us." It was a wonderful experience to both literature worker and honest inquirers, and many precious seasons in the study of God's Word followed, and the two young ladies now rejoice in the truth of the third angel's message, and are living witnesses of how God leads His children out of darkness into light.

Experience No. 3.—What was accomplished through the sale of one copy of the *Watchman Magazine* is related by the young lady in whose hands the magazine was placed, as follows: "I was brought up in church, but at a certain time in my life began to drift away, because there was not power enough in the church to hold me. From going to church occasionally and discontinuing prayer, I gradually reached the point where religion held no place in my life. I had found no happiness in the church, I found no happiness in the world. The only difference between the two was that the world brought me a far greater portion of unhappiness. In fact, that unhappiness became so great I cared not whether my life continued or not. But there is a blessing in all misery if we will only learn. I found it so in mine, for when misery had done its work, a great longing for truth took possession of me. I sent a prayer to the Father to send me truth, not caring what that truth was or where it might lead me. For a number of months this prayer (which was the first that had left my heart for a long time) continued to go up.

"One day while seated at my desk in my office, an elderly gentleman of the firm walked over and threw a magazine on my desk, remarking, 'Perhaps you will be interested in looking at this little publication. A young lady down at the Custom House, a few minutes ago, insisted upon my buying it. I did not want it, but finally took it to get rid of her. You may like to look at it.' It happened to be a copy of the *Watchman Magazine*. I picked it up, and began to go through it. There was not a thing in it that interested me, with the exception of one article,—an explanation of the 'beast' and the 'number of the beast' of Revelation. This explanation was so radically different from anything I had ever read or heard, that it immediately arrested my attention. In the article mention was made of a little book called 'Bible Prophecies Unfolding,' for which I sent to the publishers. Would you know what that book was to me? I will tell you,—it was God's answer to my repeated prayer for truth. On the cover of the little book I found an advertisement of a work entitled 'Daniel and the Revelation.' This I sent for next, and it proved the last link in the chain that bound me to God's glorious message for today.

"Then began my search for the people that kept the Sabbath and preached this truth, which did not end until my conviction led me to keep the Sabbath by myself, after which God opened the way for me to connect with His people here on the earth. So once more a faithful magazine worker was the means of carrying truth to a darkened mind and peace to a burdened heart, which resulted in another colporteur, for I have dedicated my life to the sale of truth-filled literature."

Experience No. 4.—A young lady student in our school in France had an experience which tested her courage, but which will ever serve to strengthen confidence in the power of God to help in time of need. She had worked four days in a small town in Southern France, and sold only one book. Upon returning to deliver the book, the lady who had ordered it refused to take it, and it was evident that her priest had aroused opposition in the community, and that it was useless to hope to sell any more books in that town. On returning to the hotel, the young lady was met by the priest and a policeman, and the following conversation took place:

PRIEST: "What right have you to circulate a book among us that does not have the approval of the Pope?"

STUDENT: "I have not asked for the Pope's approval, but for the approval of God. To me that is sufficient."

The priest then proceeded with accusations against Protestants, and setting forth the merits of the Catholic Church. He was very angry. The young lady listened calmly, and when given opportunity to reply, explained that the book was being sold by students, and that their object was to distribute a work that would be a moral uplift to humanity. "You will not ignore, sir," she said, "that the state of the world today is deplorable, and that one cannot put forth too great efforts to turn the tide that is sweeping it on to destruction."

PRIEST: "It is not by circulating such a book as this that you will benefit the world. I have never seen young girls of your age rambling over the country like this to do

a work for the uplift of humanity. You are a poor, lost child, and an agent of the devil."

STUDENT: "I beg your pardon, sir, but my business is to make war against the devil. Consequently, I cannot be his agent; for if this were true, his kingdom would not be able to stand."

PRIEST: "What is your religion?"

STUDENT: "I am a Seventh-day Adventist."

PRIEST: "Adventist—Adventist? What then are your doctrines?"

STUDENT: "We believe in the return of our Saviour, salvation by faith in a personal Saviour, and we observe the Bible Sabbath."

At this the priest became furious, and broke in with: "I was right in saying that you are a lost child. See how you are behind the times. You observe the Sabbath of the Jews. Do you not know that the day of rest has been changed?"

STUDENT: "I know, sir, that your church has changed the day of rest, but are you absolutely certain that she had good authority for doing so? I have not been able to find one word in the Bible concerning this change."

The priest arose excitedly, and exclaimed: "Be cursed, you impudent little saucybox. How dare you scorn the teachings of the church?" He threatened the young lady that if she did not leave town at once, severe measures would be taken.

But at this point the policeman interfered, and having been shown the colporteur's license, assured the priest that as liberty of conscience exists in France, the young lady was free to practise what she believed.

To make a long story short, from that moment a change came over the priest, and both he and the policeman asked for an explanation of the book, and each ordered a copy. They shook hands with the young lady as they left the hotel, and as they were going out the priest said to the policeman: "I am very much surprised at what has just taken place. That young lady knows what she believes, and is not like some Protestants who are not able to prove their belief."

Experience No. 5.—An insight into the impression made upon the hearts of ungodly men by coming in contact with the consecrated literature worker is furnished in the following experience, written by a Spanish convert to the truth. The colporteur referred to is Brother Rafael Lopez, who, shortly after the time to which the early part of the experience refers, was murdered by bandits in the wild interior of the Andes.

"It was in the year 1920, a year of material prosperity for me. I enjoyed the high esteem and confidence of the people among whom I lived, and it might truly be said that I wasted my substance in riotous living. I had founded a home which recognized no god save that of vice and idolatry, of which we were indeed fervent worshipers. I knew that there existed a Creator, but was not conscious of any obligations to obey Him, for I had been taught that Christ had done it for me already, and I had nothing whatever to do. In the light of this teaching I lived in unbridled liberty.

"When in this condition, I am sad to say, I loved neither my wife nor my mother, nor even my children, and I made light of the God that made me. However, after I would be through with the dissipation of the night's carousal and had returned to my home, in the quiet, impressive silence of those advanced hours, I often recognized a voice from within pleading with me and inviting me to repentance. In response I would often lift my eyes to the starry heavens, and unconsciously entreat help. But these emotions were as transient as the gusts of wind that fanned my cheeks. Still I prayed that God would answer me and send the help I needed.

"It was a beautiful June morning, when I was in my store, that a man, short of stature and becomingly attired in black, entered. He wore a smile. His face was slightly marred by a defect in one eye, which became more apparent as he removed his hat. I noticed that he was somewhat bald, and I judged him to be about forty years of age. Greeting me with a cordial handclasp, he inquired in Spanish,

"Are you Mr. Julius Garcia?"

"Yes, sir," I answered, "at your orders!"

"My name is Rafael Lopez," he said, and immediately began the presentation of a book entitled, 'Practical Guide to Health,' for which in less than ten minutes I readily subscribed.

"I then ventured to inquire his nationality. He told me he was from Porto Rico, but that he had no home, no country, and that he was a pilgrim in this world. Then reaching out his hand to me, he said good-by.

"While awaiting the delivery of the book for which I had subscribed, I learned that the little old bookseller (as the people styled him) was a Christian. This was welcome news to me, and served to quicken my anxiety for his return, when I might be enabled to learn the way of salvation.

"On the morning of June 28 we accidentally met in the drug store of Dr. —, where the man was delivering a book. Later I found him in the posada, or lodging house, and throwing away a recently lighted cigarette, I greeted him, at the same time explaining that I wished to procure my book. He did not reply immediately, but stood silently for about half a minute. When he spoke, this is what he said:

"Are you in search of more light?"

"Yes," I replied, lowering my eyes for shame, not because of his question, but because of an invisible power which made me feel so unworthy before this unknown man. Today I know it was the result of thirty seconds of fervent, effectual prayer in my behalf.

"At 3 P. M. of the same day, being the time agreed upon, the man came to my home. I introduced him to my wife and children. Without delay he offered a short, impressive prayer, the first I had ever heard. My wife and I bowed our heads and joined reverently in it. I learned more in that hour and a half's study than in the seven previous years, even with a Bible in my possession. At the close of the study he asked me if I would not like to pray, whereupon with a trembling voice I presented in broken phrases my supplication to God.

"He returned in the evening, bringing the boots I had lent him to use while his were being repaired at the shoemaker's. We then had another profitable study.

"At five o'clock the next morning he came to say good-by, and while he arranged the saddle on the donkey, I received counsel and admonition which I shall never forget. We parted with sincere prayer, and following to the gate, I continued to watch him until his form was lost in the distance,—lost to be seen no more on earth. With his departure I seemed to feel an indefinable sense of loss, like some vacuum that had been created in me. But now I know that instead of having taken something away, he had left me filled with the love of God, and an ardent desire for the return of Jesus. My wife cried, and my tears flowed freely.

"It was July 3 that we decided to obey God's commandments, for since the visit of 'the man' there had reigned in our house a peace that had hitherto been unknown. In October, seventeen precious souls embraced the holy truth of Jehovah, and a few months later we were visited by Elders Baxter and Fitch, who established us and helped us in many ways. A little later a brother came to labor among us a short season, and as a result of his labors for three months, twenty-one followed their Lord in baptism.

"And then came the Sabbath morning when, as we were congregating for service, a telegram came stating that Rafael Lopez had been assassinated in the Andes. This news struck us all like an unexpected avalanche, leaving us bewildered and paralyzed mentally. My wife and I retired to our home near by, to mourn in silence the tremendous loss we had sustained. Since that never-to-be-forgotten Sabbath, whenever we see any relic of his, it occasions a tear from the eye of my dear wife, because it was he whom the Lord chose to turn the tide of affairs in her life and in our home. A few months later I attended a general meeting at which Brother Fitch exhibited the shoes that Brother Lopez was wearing at the time of his assassination, and the hat, blood-stained and pierced in five places by bandit balls, mute but eloquent witnesses of his martyrdom. These seemed to urge us forth to take up and carry forward diligently the work he so nobly laid down. Jesus has done all for me. He has purchased me with the price of His blood. He has drawn me to Him with the cords of His love. Although the Bible says, 'I will gather you two of a family,' I praise God that every unit of mine has been gathered, and is rejoicing in the truth that saves."

If these few incidents serve to inspire our brethren and sisters everywhere to have some part in the literature work, and to begin at once, they will have served their purpose.

GENERAL CONFERENCE HOME MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT.

Missionary Organization Perfected

THE whole field of the whole church is the whole world. God's plan is to herald the gospel to all the world for a witness to all nations, then the end shall come. For the accomplishment of this great task, He has established the church. "The church of Christ has been organized on earth for missionary purposes, and it is of the highest importance that every individual member of the church should be a sincere laborer together with God, filled with the Spirit, having the mind of Christ, perfected in sympathy with Christ, and therefore bending every energy, according to his intrusted ability, to the saving of souls."—*An Appeal*, p. 28.

The territory of the apostolic church was the world. "Christ opened the world before them as their field of labor."—*Testimonies*, Vol. VIII, p. 15. The method of work seems to be clearly outlined in the instruction the Lord gave just before His ascension: "Ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:8. First, the message was to be given in Jerusalem; here were neighbors and friends that must be reached; then to outlying regions,—in all Judea, and in Samaria," and on till it compassed the earth.

Just so has God outlined the task of the church today. "The gospel commission is the great missionary charter of Christ's kingdom. The disciples were to work earnestly for souls, giving to all the invitation of mercy. They were not to wait for the people to come to them; they were to go to the people with their message."—*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 28. "The Saviour's commission to the disciples included all the believers. It includes all believers in Christ to the end of time."—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 322. Thus we see how necessary it is to plan carefully to use every member of the church in some line of missionary endeavor.

The portion of the "world field" for which the local church is particularly responsible, is, first, that territory adjacent to the church or that which is readily accessible. Then through the efforts of the correspondence band in the missionary society, the missionary territory of the church may be extended far and wide. We should, therefore, give earnest study to the best methods of working the portion of the Lord's vineyard allotted to each church.

The church missionary committee should procure a map of the city or town, and divide the territory into districts. Each district should be sufficiently large to require the efforts of from eight to twelve people, in order to care properly for the missionary work within its boundaries, doing systematic house-to-house work. (See Acts 2:46; 5:42.) Each of these district bands should be under the leadership of a wise missionary worker.

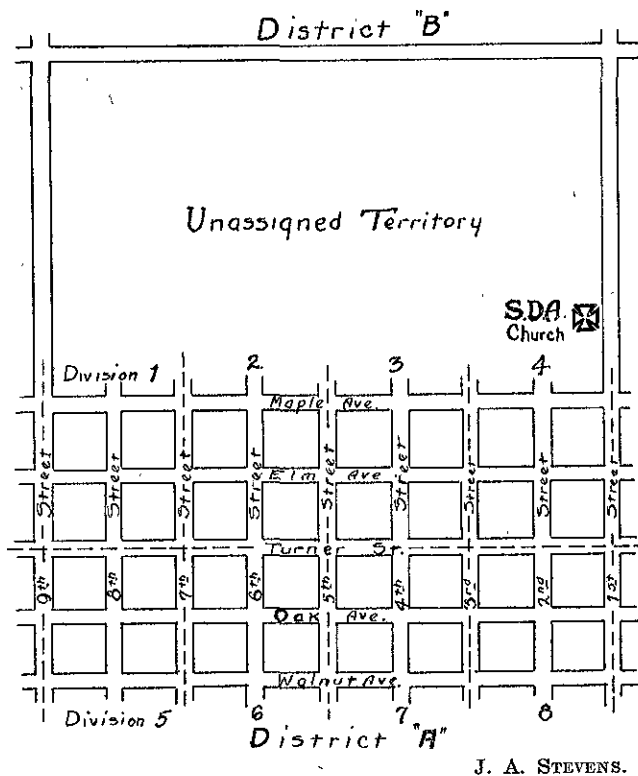
The districts should be subdivided into the same number of sectional portions as there are members in the band, each band member being assigned a definite territory for continuous missionary effort. Only in this way can the best results be assured, as it gives the worker the needful opportunity of becoming personally acquainted with each family in the subdivision. By providing each worker with a copy of the Missionary Workers' Record Book, it is easy to preserve a record of the families visited, literature distributed, interest developed, etc. Such a record is valuable for reference in building up permanent interest.

Where such careful attention has been given to the church missionary organization, good results have been apparent,—in the number of souls won, and the increased amounts gathered in Harvest Ingathering and other campaigns.

This plan of organization is the same as that followed in the General Conference organization of our world-wide work. The world field is primarily under the direction of the General Conference. It is divided into division conferences, and these in turn are divided into union conferences or union missions. The union conferences have their territory divided into conferences, and the conferences divide their territory into districts. Now these districts are to be again divided, each church assuming full responsibility for the missionary task committed to it by the gospel commission to "preach the gospel to every creature." The district organization of the local church is to be so arranged that every member is to have his own particular field for which he is responsible. Thus the organization extends from the General Conference, in its world-wide scope, to the individual believer in the message; and by united effort on the part of individuals and groups of individuals the work will be speedily finished, and the Lord will come to take the faithful workers home.

Where a church is not already efficiently organized for missionary work, the officers should take immediate

steps to perfect a permanent missionary organization of their territory. The conference home missionary secretary will be glad to aid in such an effort where needed, and thus the foundation will be laid for successful soul-winning work. Read Home Missionary Series Leaflet, No. 2.



The Perplexities of One Church Missionary Leader

"I HAVE been selected as missionary leader for the year 1924," writes a perplexed worker, "and feel my inability to cope with the situation without help and advice. In the GAZETTE you ask for suggestions as to how the Home Missionary Department can co-operate with missionary leaders in keeping before the church the imperative need of the hour, and I am asking you to help me plan for this in our church. I shall have to be perfectly frank with you in stating our need, and must tell you that we have not been working in a systematic way for about two and one-half years. I had charge of the missionary work about three years ago, and by cajoling, pleading, and constantly urging, I succeeded in getting quite a number to go with me in the Harvest Ingathering work, and we gathered more than we had ever done before or have since; but it was such nerve-racking, hard work. I don't want to use the same methods again.

"My problem is this: Now that you have changed plans and have but one missionary program a quarter, and the pastor of the church does not want to share the weekly prayer meeting with the missionary meeting, how can I plan to keep up the interest which I may create in missionary lines? We must continually work and have meetings to keep the interest alive. We cannot get our people out to but one evening meeting a week, and that is the weekly prayer service. I hope you can suggest some way to help me arouse the enthusiasm to engage in soul-saving work; for as the people become active in service, they will be more interested and enthusiastic in all the meetings of the church. I know if we as a people would see how great our need is of going to God in prayer constantly, God would show us the way. We must learn to pray without ceasing, and it is hard for some of us to learn it in this busy old world."

Our Reply

Your problem is not an isolated one. Many other missionary leaders are also perplexed to know just how to surmount seemingly impossible obstacles to success in building up a strong missionary organization. Your pastor certainly needs your fullest co-operation in his efforts to win souls and build up the spirituality of the church members; and it is equally essential that the missionary officers of the church have the absolute confidence and co-operation of the pastor in their endeavors. Dr. Goodell declares, "The ideal plan for the extending of God's plan is not through one evangelist or even one pastor, it is by the united efforts

of the membership associated with a consecrated pastor."

I would suggest that you proceed as follows:

First, organize the active members into working bands, appointing a leader for each band. Encourage these bands to hold a meeting once each week for study, plans, and prayer. These band meetings may be held at the homes of the members either in the evening or afternoon, or possibly at the church, just prior to the prayer meeting.

Second, encourage every working member to be present at every prayer meeting, and to take an active part by bringing into the meeting reports of the missionary work being done along various lines. We have been told that if at the midweek meetings missionary experiences "were brought in by consecrated workers," the meeting "would not be dull, tedious, and uninteresting. It would be full of intense interest, and there would be no lack in attendance."—*An Appeal*, pp. 16, 17. Nothing is more inspiring in a prayer meeting than the recital of what God is doing in behalf of special cases, and the request for united prayer in behalf of the people for whom missionary effort is being put forth. In due time your pastor will come to realize more fully than he perhaps does at the present time, that prayer and work go hand in hand, and that the stronger the missionary spirit in his church, the more interest will be manifested in the prayer meeting. By patience, tact, and much prayer no doubt the time will soon come when it will be possible to blend the prayer meeting with the missionary meeting, at least to the extent of having a workers' meeting precede the prayer service, at which time papers may be wrapped for mailing, and missionary letters written. It is a good plan to take the bundles of papers which are wrapped in the workers' meeting, into the prayer service, and present them to the Lord for His special blessing on the printed sheets as they go forth into the world to tell the message of truth.

Third, if in your church the plan is followed of devoting one Sabbath service each quarter to a home missionary topic, plan to make these quarterly meetings intensely interesting. This is easily within the possibilities of a live, energetic missionary leader, and suggestions are offered through the CHURCH OFFICERS' GAZETTE. In addition to this quarterly service, I would suggest that you request your pastor to allow five minutes' time on the first Sabbath of each month, for the presentation of a monthly report of the missionary activities of the church. Care should be taken to make this report brief, and yet filled with actual facts of interesting experiences from the correspondence band, the Bible workers' band, the medical missionary band, etc. This report could be read during the few minutes which are generally allotted to the making out of missionary reports, just before the offering is taken, and would not in any way interfere with the order of the regular service.

I fully believe that it is possible for you to bring about a revival in your church. "The Lord is willing to do a great work for all who truly believe in Him. If the lay members of the church will arouse to do the work that they can do, going on a warfare at their own charges, each seeing how much he can accomplish in winning souls to Jesus, we shall see many leaving the ranks of Satan to stand under the banner of Christ. If our people will act upon the light that is given, . . . we shall surely see of the salvation of God. Wonderful revivals will follow. Sinners will be converted, and many souls will be added to the church."—*Testimonies*, Vol. VIII, p. 246. J. A. STEVENS.

"If the missionary meeting were a meeting where such reports [missionary experiences] were brought in by consecrated workers, it would not be dull, tedious, and uninteresting. It would be full of intense interest, and there would be no lack in attendance."—*An Appeal*, pp. 16, 17.

"Your duty cannot be shifted upon another. No one but yourself can do your work. If you withhold your light, some one must be left in darkness through your neglect."—*Testimonies*, Vol. V, p. 464.

Suggestions for Missionary Meetings

May 7

TOPIC: "The First Love."

TEXT: Rev. 2: 4, 5.

SEED THOUGHTS: (1) "He that loveth not knoweth not God." 1 John 4: 8. To know Christ is to serve Him, and give ourselves in service for others. "When the love of Christ is enshrined in the heart, like sweet fragrance it cannot be hidden. Its holy influence will be felt by all with whom we come in contact. The Spirit of Christ in the heart is like a spring in the desert, flowing to refresh all, and making those who are ready to perish, eager to drink of the water of life."—*Steps to Christ*, p. 82. (2) Spiritual indolence is a serious symptom. The servant who buried his talent was cast out. (3) The "first love" may be regained. "When the reproach of indolence and slothfulness shall have been wiped away from the church, the Spirit of the Lord will be graciously manifested."—*Testimonies*, Vol. IX, p. 46.

SUGGESTED HELPS: "Mount of Blessing," pp. 119-128.

MISSIONARY ACTIVITY: This meeting may be used to arouse some to devote time to the sale of magazines. An hour each week, or even one hour each month, could be well spent in this line of missionary endeavor. In addition to the missionary influence of circulating our good magazines, there is the matter of financial profit. Many of our church members could easily secure their missions money by selling a few magazines each month.

May 14

TOPIC: "The Privilege of Discipleship."

TEXT: John 17: 18-21.

SEED THOUGHTS: (1) As God sent Christ, so Christ sends His disciples. (2) "The Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister." "The Saviour's life on earth was not a life of ease and devotion to Himself, but He toiled with persistent, earnest, untiring effort for the salvation of lost humanity."

SUGGESTED HELPS: "Christ's Object Lessons," pp. 190-192; "Steps to Christ," pp. 81-88.

MISSIONARY ACTIVITY: Summer will soon be here, and there will be a temptation to let the adversary of souls have a free hand during the warm weather. Do not allow this spirit to enter your church. There is to be no "armistice" in our Christian warfare. "Church members are to put forth the continuous, persevering efforts that He [Christ] put forth."—*Testimonies*, Vol. IX, p. 32. Keep the correspondence band work going strong. Have a club of *Signs* or *Present Truth* for use during the summer months.

May 21

TOPIC: "The Proof of Discipleship."

TEXT: John 15: 14.

SEED THOUGHTS: (1) "If ye do." Here is the crux of our service for God. Either we obey or we don't. (2) "He only serves who acts up to the highest standard of obedience." (3) "Good works do not purchase the love of God, but they reveal that we possess it."

SUGGESTED HELPS: "Christ's Object Lessons," pp. 282, 283; "The Desire of Ages," pp. 640, 641.

MISSIONARY ACTIVITY: The schools will soon be closed for the summer. Now will be a good time to encourage your members to sell small books as well as magazines. Wonderful results have come from the sale of even one book. There is also a financial consideration. Why not organize a class for a brief study on selling magazines and small books?

May 28

TOPIC: "The Test of Discipleship."

TEXT: John 15: 8.

SEED THOUGHTS: (1) The vine planted by Christ will be fruitful. "All who would be sons and daughters of God must prove themselves coworkers with God and Christ and the heavenly angels. This is the test for every soul." (2) "Christ hungers to receive from His vineyard the fruit of holiness and unselfishness. He looks for the principles of love and goodness." (3) "In due season we shall reap."

SUGGESTED HELPS: "The Desire of Ages," pp. 662-680; "Christ's Object Lessons," pp. 284-306.

MISSIONARY ACTIVITY: Christian help work offers constant opportunity to our church members to do some ministry that will tell on God's side. In every locality there are people in need of the help our members can give along health lines. Between three and four million people are sick all the time. Study how to be helpful in these times of affliction. Your Dorcas Society or Christian help band will be glad for all the co-operation your entire membership may want to give them in this work. Perhaps some farmer has lost his horses or cows. Possibly some one could lend a horse, or provide milk for children, or help with the backward work. Possibly the mother has been sick, or overburdened with her many duties. Tacitly offer the help so evidently needed in such cases. Study how your church may be a real blessing in the community.

Missionary Volunteer Department

Devotional Meeting for May 3

Topic: "Why I Ought to Go to Camp-Meeting."

Senior

1. Song Service.
2. Opening Exercises.
3. Mission Board Bulletin.
4. Symposium: "Why I Ought to Go to Camp-Meeting."
 - a. "To Obtain Spiritual Help."
 - b. "To Better Understand My Bible."
 - c. "To Meet Friends."
 - d. "To Help Some One."
 - e. "To Hear the Latest Reports of the Work of the Denomination."
5. Recitation.
6. Responses.
7. Closing Song and Prayer.

Junior

1. Song Service.
2. Opening Song.
3. Morning Watch Drill.
4. Mission Report.
5. Special Music.
6. Superintendent's Talk: "A Neglected Chance."
7. Talk: "A Boy Who Loved God's Service."
8. Talk: "Why Boys and Girls Ought to Go to Camp-Meeting."
9. Exercise: "Wait on the Lord."
10. Reading: "Why I Want to Go."
11. Close by repeating "Mizpah."

Senior Notes

The Program as a Whole.—It is not too early to begin to think about the camp-meeting season. Perhaps you live in a section of the country where the camp-meeting comes early, or it may come later in the summer. If very late, it may be best, after consultation with your officers, to postpone this particular program until a month or six weeks before the time for the meeting to begin. But do not forget to stress especially the value of camp-meeting. Emphasize it strongly and persistently. Your society may desire to have a special reception tent on the grounds. This might be a good thing to plan for. You may have a young married couple who would live in a part of the tent, keep it in order, and make it homey, and assist in looking after the young people who come to the camp-ground. In choosing your helper, co-operate and counsel with your church pastor or leading elder and with your conference Missionary Volunteer secretary.

1. *Song Service.*—Choose songs that bring in the thought of service.

2. *Opening Exercises.*—Do not forget your announcements, your band work, and your reports and goals. Keep the various details in mind, and bring them forward for mention as occasion requires. Do not start something and then forget it or drop it. Do not be a quitter in Missionary Volunteer work.

3. *Mission Bulletin Board.*—Service is the great fundamental in mission work. Look for this feature in telling your facts and incidents.

4. *Symposium.*—This is divided into five parts. You may well choose five speakers to take five minutes each to highlight and outline the various reasons and advantages in attending camp-meeting. Choose young people who are consecrated, and who really understand what it means to get the most from the camp-meeting season. Remember that while it is right and proper to go to camp-meeting and meet friends and visit with them, the influence that you have there will count for eternity. What sort of influence should you have? The Junior Notes have some excellent thoughts that may be referred to, and the *Review and Herald* contains additional help. No speaker is expected to exhaust the subject, but merely to name some of the special advantages.

5. *Recitation.*—An appropriate recitation may be found.

6. *Responses.*—This is perhaps the most important part of this program. Just before asking others to express themselves in regard to their desire to attend the camp-meeting, lay before your members whatever plans your executive meeting may have developed in connection with your own local conference meeting. (See first note.) After five members have outlined from their own experience the various reasons why it is worth while to make sacrifices in order to attend, then ask for others to express themselves. Ask them to give something from their own personal experience,

if possible, that will illustrate some of the reasons why it has been worth while for them to attend camp-meeting. Let the statements be personal and practical.

7. *Closing.*—Several short prayers would be fitting, asking for guidance in the matter of making arrangements for attending the camp-meeting. U. V. W.

Junior Notes

The purpose of this program is to fire the hearts of the boys and girls with a desire to attend the coming camp-meeting because of the spiritual benefits to be received there.

Morning Watch Drill.—The Morning Watch texts for this week have for their subject a call to a closer walk with Jesus. They are especially fitting then in this program for inviting the boys and girls to camp-meeting. Have the texts given out sometime before the meeting. Ask each Junior receiving a text to be responsible for its recitation from memory. After the text is once recited, all can join in repeating it. Have one of the older Juniors conduct the drill.

Mission Report.—The report of your mission news committee should be a regular feature. Appoint a new committee each week, instructing each to bring in some interesting item, picture, or story of recent events in the mission fields. The *Review and Herald* should furnish ample material for this.

Superintendent's Talk: "A Neglected Chance."—Draw a word-picture of the terrible condition of the kingdoms of Israel and Judah when Hezekiah came to the throne. Show how Israel was tottering on the edge of ruin, just about to be captured, when God gave them one more chance to turn to Him. He put it into Hezekiah's heart to invite them to a Passover feast that they might again receive instruction and turn to Him. Study 2 Chronicles 30 for details; also "Prophets and Kings," page 288. Show how the message was received by the various people. Draw the parallel. We are living in the last days, when our chances to study and turn to the Lord are rapidly becoming fewer. Will we respond to every opportunity?

A description of the feasts as given in "Patriarchs and Prophets," pages 537-539, will also add detail to the talk, and help in making it vivid. The attitude of every true Christian is set forth in Psalms 122:1. Recount the result of the failure to respond on the part of Israel. How can Juniors respond? They can want to go. They can ask parents to take them. And should circumstances over which they have no control deny them the opportunity, they can pray for the conversion of every Junior on the ground.

Talk: "A Boy Who Loved God's Service."—Ask a Junior to tell the story of the boy Samuel, how he faithfully attended to the duties of the temple. (See 1 Sam. 3:1; "Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 573, last paragraph.) It was because of his faithfulness in duties connected with God's service that he became the great prophet he was. Ask the Junior preparing this talk to think of the ways attendance at camp-meeting may be a help to God's cause. Speak of the ways in which each Junior who goes can do his part, no matter how humble, in making the meetings a success. No Junior is too young to take some small part.

Talk: "Why Boys and Girls Ought to Go to Camp-Meeting."—The article of that name was supplied by one who has had the Juniors on a camp-ground many times. The Junior giving this should endeavor to present all the thoughts in it without reading it. Talk it, just the way you would to a chum. A very carefully prepared reading, however, is better than a poor talk.

Exercise: "Wait on the Lord."—Give out each verse in this poem to a different Junior. Also pass out the texts printed at the close of each. After each stanza is recited, the Bible verse that corresponds with it should be read.

Reading: "Why I Want to Go."—This is supplied. Insist on careful preparation. H. H.

"Wait on the Lord"

WAIT on Jesus, though of sinners
Thou may'st feel thyself the chief;
In His precious blood He'll cleanse thee;
He will cure thy soul's deep grief.
1 Tim. 1: 15.

Wait upon Him; in thy darkness
Rest thyself upon His love;
Soon His light will break upon thee,
Soon His faithfulness thou'lt prove.
Job 11: 16, 17.

Wait upon Him; take thy troubles,
Great and heavy though they be;
Cast upon Him every burden;
He'll support and comfort thee.
Ps. 55: 22.

Wait upon Him, though temptation
Come against thee like a flood:
Jesus fought, and Jesus conquered;
Jesus all His foes withstood.

Rev. 3: 21.

—The American Messenger.

Why I Want to Go

CAMP-MEETING time was drawing near, and that afternoon the subject at the young people's meeting had been on the importance of attending. As Ralph and Frank were walking home together, their conversation followed the thought of the meeting.

For a few moments there was silence, then Ralph spoke: "I have been thinking of the text which says, 'Ye shall seek Me, and find Me, when ye shall search for Me with all your heart.' Do you remember the early morning meetings when we search for the Lord, and how He is found? Well, I want to go to camp-meeting for the blessing of the early morning hour."

"Your text with 'search' in it reminds me of the one which says, 'Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of Me.'" answered Frank. "You know the Bible study hour in the big pavilion is a great help to me, for there I learn more of Him whom we found in the early morning meeting."

Ralph seemed to be thinking, and they walked along in silence a few minutes. Then he said, "Mother told me that when she was a girl she took a friend who was not a Christian to camp-meeting. This girl attended all the meetings with mother, and there became acquainted with the Saviour, gave her heart to Him, and was baptized. Do you suppose we could get George to go with us? You know his parents feel they cannot afford to take the entire family, and he is not as faithful in attending young people's meetings as he used to be. What do you say?"

"I am with you. I believe father and mother would be glad to let him tent with us, and if we save between now and then, we can help him buy his meal tickets. It does seem to me that one should go to camp-meeting to help others as well as to receive help."

Again Ralph spoke, "Have you ever noticed how much more you enjoy an article in the *Instructor* or the *Review* if you have met the author? It just seems to me I can hear him talking."

"Yes," said Frank, "and going to camp-meeting makes me feel that our little society here is related to every other society in the conference, and that we are a part of the great whole, and really have a share in the progress of our denomination. When I hear those wonderful reports of the progress of the work in foreign fields, I feel the money I have given in Sabbath school, or in the society, has helped support that very missionary, and I have really had a part in the spread of the message."

"Well, if we were to receive an invitation from the governor of the State to attend a banquet, we would do all we could to go. Our leader said this afternoon that camp-meeting is a time when Jesus says, 'Come unto Me.' I certainly would hate to fail to meet Him, for I know He will be at camp-meeting."

Here they reached Ralph's home, and Frank went on alone, whistling.

RACHEL HAUGHEY.

Why Boys and Girls Ought to Go to Camp-Meeting

SOME of my boy and girl friends, when they hear this title, will say, "Why did he put the word 'ought' in there? There is no 'ought' about my going to camp-meeting. I can hardly wait for the time to come, because we have real Christian good times at our camp-meetings."

Well, then, why do you go?

One big reason I go (I don't tell this to everybody) is because my heart gets hungry, and I do things that are not right (though I don't really mean to), and I don't feel good, and hardly know whether I am a Christian or not. At camp-meeting I find the way of salvation, and am taught how to get rid of sin and believe in Christ.

What about the Bible studies you have in your Junior meetings? Bible study always helps us, doesn't it?

And do you remember the prayer bands we had last year? I thought you would. We couldn't forget the joy that came to us when we prayed for some one, and then saw that one give his heart to Jesus. The more you work to help some one else, the greater your own blessings are. It always works that way.

Then, too, camp-meetings keep us in touch with our church, and what our ministers and teachers and every one is doing. Juniors do not like to go along blindfolded, and not know what is going on, do they?

Don't let me forget another big reason why we Juniors go to camp-meeting—it is because we have a special invitation, all written out, from a King!

Not a *real* King? Yes, indeed, a real King; not some old dead king in Egypt or somewhere else, but our own King, Jesus has given us a special invitation to be sure to meet Him at camp-meeting. We can find a way to go somehow. Let the neighbor milk the cows and feed the cat, and, if necessary, we can take Rover along (only keep him tied up during meetings). Now, I am going to look for you. I can just see your faces. Shall we have roll call the first meeting? Then we shall elect our band leaders, and then—but there's so much I can't tell it all here, so I'll tell you the rest of our plans at camp-meeting.

F. G. ASHBAUGH.

Devotional Meeting for May 10

Senior and Junior

Topic: "Mother."

1. Song Service.
2. Opening Prayer for Mother.
3. Announcements
4. Recitation.
5. Talk: "Great Mothers"—Mothers of the Bible.
6. Special Music.
7. Reading: "For Ages and Ages."
8. Recitation.
9. Talk: "Young Mothers."
10. Recitation.
11. Talk: "Why We Honor Our Mothers."
12. Responses.
13. Closing Prayer.

Notes

In Honor of Mother.—It is well that we should take some time in special honor of our mothers. How the word does bring visions of sacrifice, of sympathy, of understanding, of tenderness and high resolve and great love! It is impossible to do too much in honor of mother! Begin at least three or four weeks before Mother's Day to plan for this program. You may need a special committee to work with your regular staff. You will, of course, desire to decorate your meeting place with flowers. If it can be done without too great expense, you will wish to have either white carnations (Mother's Day flower) for all your speakers to wear or some clear white flower to be given out at the door to all who come in as a special mark of regard. Issue some special invitations to the mothers of the church to be present; reserve a place for them in the most favored spot. Not only invite your own mothers, but mothers whose sons and daughters may have left. And do not forget the young mothers. Labor and plan and devise ways and means of making this meeting of special delight and importance for and in honor of your mother, and mothers. You will do this remembering what motherhood means and what it stands for.

The following bit of history in reference to the institution of Mother's Day may be of interest to the leader, and can well be passed on to the society in the introductory talk:

"Miss Anna Jarvis, of 2031 North Twelfth Street, Philadelphia, is the young woman to whom the nation owes the inauguration of 'Mother's Day.' The death of her mother caused the devoted daughter to set aside one day in each year consecrated to the memory of the one she loved. Miss Jarvis, believing that nearly all who had lost a mother felt as deeply grieved as herself, began a nation-wide movement to have the day observed. Little by little her efforts grew until now the observance is national and international.

"Since a day was set apart as 'Mother's Day' in 1908, State after State and country after country has responded to the call, until the observance of this day has become world-wide. Starting in our own land, it has gone to Alaska, Philippine Islands, Canada, Mexico, Europe, Madagascar, Fiji Islands, Barbadoes, China, Japan, Korea, Australia, Africa, and Palestine.

"Mother's Day was made a national day on May 10, 1913, when the House of Representatives in Washington passed a resolution recommending observance of the day by the House and Senate, the President, his cabinet, and all government officials.

"The day may be observed by wearing the carnation; doing some act of kindness; writing a letter to the mother far away; or by a small gift or tribute to the loved one."

A Joint Meeting.—It is suggested that this meeting be participated in by both Juniors and Seniors. Remember this is in your planning. The Juniors will be ready to help in giving out flowers, in the recitations, and in fact all through the program. Make it a real joint session.

1. *Song Service.*—Choose especially appropriate songs.
2. *Opening Prayer.*—The one who makes this prayer should give special thought to it—all prayers should be from the heart. Ask the great Father's blessing upon mother, upon the home, upon the sons and daughters who

have known a mother's love, and for the others who have not had the wonderful privilege of a loving mother's care.

3. *Announcements.*—These should be as brief as possible, so as not to disturb the general order of the meeting. If you have a society bulletin board, post your regular announcements there, and save the time of this particular service.

4, 8, 10. *Recitations.*—There are given elsewhere a number of poems and verses suitable for recitation. Choose from these according to the member who will give the selection. In arranging the program, endeavor to make the sentiment expressed cumulative—the best at the last. It may seem at first glance that there are too many recitations suggested, but remember that in honor of mother we instinctively respond with deep feeling, with sentiment; and there is nothing that touches the heartstrings and so well expresses affection as poetry. Other verses may be easily found elsewhere.

5. *Talk: "Great Mothers."*—Along with the material here given on some of the great mothers of history, remember the great mothers of the Bible. In the Old Testament there are frequent references to "his mother" and what influence she had. Use your concordance.

It would add to the interest of this talk if the one giving it should outline briefly some of the achievements of the sons which made the mothers great:

"To be well born is a great thing. And among the most precious assets of ancestry is that of a good mother. The mothers of men of genius have frequently been remarkable women. And to them the world owes much.

"Cæsar's mother was 'a strict and stately lady of the old school, uninfected by the cosmopolitan laxity of her day.' Consequently, though the Cæsars were wealthy, their household was simple and severe. Its greatest son 'was always passionately devoted to his mother, who shared his house up to the time of her death,' when he was forty-six years old.

"Charlemagne's mother also was 'a matron of the old school,' and made her mark visibly upon the nature of her son, who 'grossly deteriorated' after her death in his forty-second year.

"Martin Luther took after his mother, who, although she had a reputation for mildness, whipped him until the blood came for stealing a nut!

"Emerson was two thirds his mother, albeit from his father he inherited a trace of eccentricity.

"Cromwell's mother was 'strong, homely, and keen' of face; 'with a firm mouth and penetrating eyes, a womanly goodness and peacefulness of expression.' She survived her husband thirty-seven years, remaining throughout her life to her ninetieth year by her son's side, 'was lodged by him in Whitehall Palace, and royally interred in the abbey.'

"The mother of William the Silent was devout and affectionate, 'enduring a long life of calamity and bereavement with heroic serenity and courage,' and died after an honorable career, aged seventy-seven.

"Napoleon attributed 'his elevation to his mother's training, laying down the maxim that the future good or bad conduct of a child depends entirely on the mother.'

"I was always a careless boy," says Thomas Edison in his biography, 'and with a mother of different mental caliber, I should probably have turned out badly. But her firmness, her sweetness, her goodness, were potent powers to keep me in the right path. I remember I used never to be able to get along at school. I don't know why it was, but I was always at the foot of the class. I used to feel that the teachers never sympathized with me, and that my father thought I was stupid, and at last I almost decided that I must really be a dunce. My mother was always kind, always sympathetic, and she never misunderstood or misjudged me. But I was afraid to tell her all my difficulties at school, for fear she, too, might lose confidence in me.

"One day I overheard the teacher tell the inspector that I was "addled," and it would not be worth while keeping me in school any longer. I was so hurt by this last straw that I burst out crying, and went home and told my mother about it. Then I found out what a good thing a good mother was. She came out as my strong defender. Mother-love was aroused; mother-pride wounded to the quick. She brought me back to the school, and angrily told the teacher that he didn't know what he was talking about. In fact, she was the most enthusiastic champion a boy ever had, and I determined right then that I would be worthy of her, and show her that her confidence was not misplaced. My mother was the making of me. She was so true, so sure of me, that I felt that I had some one to live for, some one I must not disappoint. The memory of her will always be a blessing to me."

6. *Special Music.*—Endeavor to have some special music appropriate for the occasion. There are several leaflets published by Sunday school houses that contain simple music. At this season of the year there are always many songs, both new and old, that can be used.

7. *Reading: "For Ages and Ages."*—This is appropriate as a reading, or if you have some one in your society who

is a good story-teller, let him give it in his own words. It should be presented by an older Junior. It will be found elsewhere.

9. *Talk: "Young Mothers."*—Someway in thinking of mother we so often picture a white-haired mother. Some of us may perhaps visualize a mother such as the famous Whistler has put on canvas. This is right and fitting, but let us not forget the young mother. To her the ideals of a strong, true, and noble mother are invaluable. She has them; we can stress them. It is for this reason that it is well to have one of your best speakers on this topic. The following is by Arthur W. Spalding, secretary of the Home Commission of the General Conference; use it as your foundation for your talk:

"Everybody loves mother. That, at least, is the popular attitude. And truly, around the name of mother cluster all the most happy and blessed memories of life—to those who are fortunate in having good mothers. As a matter of fact, there are thousands of men who, when the mother cult is brought to the fore, keep silence, with sad or cynical thoughts of their childhood; for their mothers did not measure up to the ideal set forth by the mother lovers. Could there be any sadder thing in life, anything more tragic in its effects upon the world, than for a man not to have had in his life the influence of a mother who is all a mother should be?

"Mother! We who have grown to manhood and womanhood, when we speak of 'mother,' doubtless envisage the sweet, lined face, framed by snowy hair, that is perhaps our latest memory of mother. And so, generally speaking, when we meet to honor mother, the patron saint of our devotions is the silver-haired mother of generations, and that is very well.

"We read about the mothers
Of the days of long ago,
With their gentle, wrinkled faces
And their hair as white as snow;
They were "middled-aged" at forty,
And at fifty donned lace caps,
And at sixty clung to shoulder shawls
And loved their little naps.

"But I love the modern mother
Who can share in all the joys,
And who understands the problems
Of her growing girls and boys;
She may boast that she is sixty;
But her heart is twenty-three—
My glorious, bright-eyed mother
Who is keeping young with me."

—Florence Howard.

"But let us not forget that the making of a mother begins long before, and if one is to be a worthy mother, a mother who measures up to the standard of our devotions and to the necessities of her position, she must prepare her mind and her soul while she is yet a young woman. So my interest centers on the young mother, the mother of the babe, who is meeting for the first time the problems of parenthood, and who is determining in her conduct today whether she shall bless the world in the persons of her children, or whether she shall fail in her work, and so curse the world and be cursed by it.

"Parenthood brings with it so much ineffable love, so much of the spirit of our Creator and Father, God, that it makes of burdens, blessings, of perplexities, joys. Yet we are not to hide from ourselves the fact that it also places upon the shoulders of parents the greatest responsibilities that ever men and women can assume, and that it brings with it a multitude of duties and harassing problems. Particularly upon the mother do these duties and problems devolve in the early years of the child. And when I see the courage and the cheer and the energy with which many of these young mothers, often little more than girls, wrestle with these problems, I am constrained to speak my benedictions with reference not alone to the aged mother, but also to the young mother. And I pray for her the addition of the knowledge and wisdom and grace that she must have to be successful.

"The science of parenthood is a chief part of the science of Christianity. To be a successful mother or father, training one's children to lives of nobility and usefulness, is to go far toward being a successful Christian. And to fail in that greatest work of child training, is in great degree to fail in Christian life. 'The restoration and uplifting of humanity begins in the home. The work of parents underlies every other. . . . The success of the church . . . depends upon home influences.'—*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 349.

"As young parents, we cannot without great blame neglect the training we need to make us better, more efficient fathers and mothers. Young mothers, would you win the deserved love and gratitude of your children in future years? Then set yourselves now to secure all that you need in training for motherhood. 'Never will education

accomplish all that it might and should accomplish, until the importance of the parents' work is fully recognized, and they receive a training for its sacred responsibilities.'—'Education,' p. 276.

"To the father as well as to the mother belongs the responsibility for the training of the children, and fathers should seek as earnestly as mothers to fit themselves to understand their children and to be their companions and guides. The failure of many a mother is to be explained chiefly by the failure of the father; for while without question the mother has the greater opportunity and therefore the greater responsibility in the early life of the child, yet the intelligent co-operation and leadership of the father is vitally necessary.

"Not is it alone those who have already become parents who should ponder the problems of parenthood. Every young man and young woman approaching the age of marriage should study the science of child culture and home-making. Too easily, perhaps, young people fall into the romance and the sentimentality of courtship and marriage, but alas! how few by serious consideration and study of the great business of life which they are approaching, fit themselves worthily to fulfil its duties.

"Let us give honor on this blessed Mother's Day to the white-haired mother who has met and mastered the science of home education; but let us not fail also rightly to honor and encourage the youthful mother who is but starting on the way. And, one and all, old and young, let us see to it that we earnestly study the science which is above all other sciences, the science of saving, training, and developing souls,—the souls of children now in their most plastic state. The best way to honor Mother's Day is to do our part in making better fathers and better mothers."

II. *Talk: "Why We Honor Our Mothers."*—This is intended to lead up to the responses. This talk should be given careful preparation, using the following by Mrs. Marther E. Warner:

"We are thankful for the privilege of meeting again today, to unite our voices in honor and praise of our dear mothers. We love them. We are proud of them; and it makes us happy to tell them so. But it is impossible for us to think long of mothers without thinking back to home. For home is where a mother lives and reigns supreme.

"Home is her kingdom, love her dower;
She seeks no other wand of power
To make home sweet, bring heaven near,
To win a smile and wipe a tear,
To do her duty day by day,
In her own quiet place and way."

"While it is true, a Christian mother works in a quiet way and in a quiet place, and her name seldom, if ever, reaches the world, yet, no other work equals hers in importance.

"A mother's influence goes with her child, clear to the brink of the grave. Quite often the child does not realize this, and years and years of life may be spent in sin; but there comes a time when he will want to go back to mother's knee.

"Not long since, I was called to the bedside of a man who was very ill, so ill that all hopes of his recovery had been given up. This man's mother died when he was a tiny boy. And so he grew up without any home training, without any respect for man or God, and naturally he developed into a hard, grasping, wicked man. He had, by means both just and unjust, accumulated a fortune, and as he lay there so ill, he begged the doctor to give him something to prolong his life; and he offered money, much money, but the doctor could do no more.

"After a time, the man apparently fell into a stupor, so we left him alone with the nurse, while we quietly waited in an adjoining room, ready to be of help if needed.

"Just as the sun was sinking in the west, we heard the voice of the man, clear and strong, so we tiptoed to the door to listen, but we did not know what we should hear. For it seemed to us, as if the faces of the people whom he had defrauded, must rise up before him, and their despairing cries go with him to the grave, and we expected to hear him beg for mercy, but,—oh, when will mortals ever learn not to judge, not to condemn?—for as we listened, we did not hear cries of fear; no, no, we heard the voice of a man praying. Praying a little prayer that brought tears to my eyes—

"Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray, Thee, Lord, my soul to keep;
If I should die before I wake,
I pray Thee, Lord, my soul to take."

"He was a little child again, back at his mother's knee, and he said his little prayer. And I thought, if mothers only knew, if they only realized how far-reaching their prayers were, they would never stop praying until each child was safe in the kingdom of God; and then they would keep on praying.

"Dear mothers, don't ever think your work is not ap-

preciated; don't ever say your work is an unimportant service; don't ever think, when your day has been full to overflowing, with the little over-and-over duties for your children, that you are accomplishing nothing; for you are helping your little ones to build characters, not for this world only, but for eternity. And, O, it seems to me that on the new earth the Lord will have erected a great monument for the mothers, the little mothers who have worked and prayed so faithfully here.

"There is nobody just like her. For tenderness and patience, for long-suffering and understanding, for sure remembrance, or, if need be, for quick forgetfulness, there's 'only one mother the whole world o'er.' Every good woman reminds us of her. Every dimpled baby is a text thought of her. Violets and 'cello tones, pretty trinkets and soft colors, gentle deeds and the silence of the house of worship, all are messengers of God whispering: 'Mother! mother!'

"Far, far away we said good-by to her; but she would not be left behind; she is with us, always with us. 'God could not be everywhere, so He made mothers.' We had boasted to ourselves that we were men, no longer held by apron strings; and now we find it true, for the strings are become chains, and we are proud of our shackles. Who would have guessed from knowing us that mother sits throned in our hearts? But there she is, the one who knows us best, the one who counts upon us most, and by her very expectation makes us men such as we had not dreamed to be. Ay, God did a good thing when He gave us mothers.

"Come, then, let us appoint her this day in May an extra birthday, not to add to her years, but to add to her joys. Let us send her an extra note, an extra gift, an extra assurance of loving mindfulness; for nobody loves like her, and nobody else in all the world can be made so happy with so little if that little be from her boy. God bless our little mothers!"

12. *Responses.*—This is the place where your members can express themselves. Encourage them to tell of what they expect to do to make their mother's life easier and her sacrifices appreciated. For the timid ones there are a number of short sentences that may be used as thought provokers in telling what we can do. These may be clipped and handed out before the meeting.

a. To manifest an interest in whatever interests or amuses her.

b. That, though she is old and wrinkled, she still loves pretty things.

c. To make her frequent simple presents, and be sure they are appropriate and tasteful.

d. To remember that she is still a girl at heart, so far as delicate little attentions are concerned.

e. To give her your full confidence, and never do anything which you think she would disapprove.

f. To make her a partner so far as your different ages will permit, in all your pleasures and recreations.

g. To lift all the burdens you can from the shoulders that have grown stooped in waiting upon and working for you.

h. Never to intimate by word or deed that your world and hers are different, or that you feel in any way superior to her.

i. To treat her with the unvarying courtesy and deference you accord to those who are above you in rank or position.

j. To study her tastes and habits, her likes and dislikes, and cater to them as far as possible in an unobtrusive way.

k. To bear patiently with all her peculiarities or infirmities of temper or disposition, which may be the result of a life of care and toil.

l. To remember that her life is monotonous compared with yours, and to take her to some suitable place of amusement, or for a little trip to the country, or to the city if your home is in the country, as frequently as possible.

U. V. W.

For Ages and Ages

"Say, mother!" The door that had opened in front of a human whirlwind swung shut only a little more gently, while the young voice went booming through the house: "Mother! say, mother!"

But there was no answer. Harry stopped short for a moment, struck by the unusual silence, the lack of something that made this house a home. Then he made for the kitchen—only to look into emptiness; then, with the briefest knock, into mother's room, the bathroom, the sewing-room. Then he strode to the stairs, and sent a hail into the upper regions: "Mother! O mother!"

How still the house was! Whatever could be the matter? Harry took two steps at a time upstairs, swung open one door after another, but with no reward of what he sought. This was serious! Why, mother always was at home. If she was going away for an hour any time, she'd always tell a fellow, so he could go over to Jack's, or Harley's, or somebody's. Never left a fellow like this. Why, how would he get anything to eat?

That was what that first, "Say, mother!" had meant. Harry had come in hungry. He never came in any other way. Oh, well, there was something to eat, of course: he'd go and look. But every echoing footstep through the hall, the dining-room, the kitchen, was a challenge, "Where's mother?" By the time he reached the pantry, Harry discovered he wasn't hungry. This was no way to treat a chap! Why, he—he—might get sick or something.

When a fellow's sick, he needs his mother. There was that time when he had the mumps—sister Dot had given them to him. And then she laughed at his swollen, aching jaws; said he looked like a squirrel with a bushel of nuts in his cheeks. Harry felt again that injured rage which had brought the helpless tears to his eyes—Dot had had only a touch of the thing. But then, there had been his mother. It wasn't so much that she could do anything for 'em, but she was there, and she didn't laugh. Even daddy had grinned at him, and just said, "Stick it out, old man! Worst may be over." But mother had cuddled his aching head, and ran her fingers through his hair, and—"Oh, shucks! where is mother?"

Maybe she had gone down town and got run over! As daddy said, you never knew, these days, when you went forth, whether you'd come back with your shield or upon it—whatever he meant by that. Maybe she was in a hospital now, or at the undertaker's. Those were awful creepy places. Oh, well!

Mother was a whole hospital in herself. 'Member that time when his bike got tangled up with a dog, and flung him twenty or thirty feet on the stone road, and stove up his elbow and his arm; and mother cleaned it out and disinfected it; and he just about fainted; and she dressed it and bandaged it? Kept him out of ball-playing for a month—but mother was right there, Johnny-on-the-spot!

Where could mother be? Say, he wished he'd told her something last night. 'Twasn't a thing a fellow liked to tell on himself, but he could always tell mother: she understood. There was that scrape last Fourth of July—pretty near got him into jail, he reckoned. It took nerve to tell mother: it always did something to her eyes that made you feel sorry; but she stood by. Daddy had a hand in that, too; Daddy was a brick. But mother—say, where could she be? *Might* have got hurt; might be lying dead somewhere now. Oh, say!

Harry went out on the back porch, and looked over the home acre as far as he could. He went out to the garage, and the chicken house. "Hey, mother!" he called; but nobody answered. He thought she might be down in the berry patch at the foot of the hill, and he wandered down there. But no mother!

Slowly and disconsolately he climbed the slope toward the house. The weight of the world seemed resting on his young soul. The sun didn't shine. The house—why, it looked like some foreign place, looked like somebody must be dead that lived there. He stood kicking the pebbles, his hands in his pockets, his head down, frowning. Why, it had been hours since he came home! He hadn't seen his mother in ages! Maybe he'd never see her again! It was awful! Where was mother?

Suddenly the back door opened, and at the sound Harry looked up. There stood mother! For a minute he was dazed: how could she have come back from the dead? Then he made a dash for her, and tackled her around the waist with a bearlike hug. "Mother!" he shouted, "where have you been? Why, I thought you must be dead!"

"Why, son," she said, "I just stepped down to Mrs. Simmons' with a dozen eggs. I haven't been gone five minutes."

Harry looked wonderingly into her astonished face. He gave her another bear hug. "Say, mother!" he said, "I'm hungry."

A. W. SPALDING.

When Mother Tucked Me into Bed

Oh, long ago it was, and still sometimes it seems so sweetly near—

The tender lilac-scented air, the frogs' full chorus, shrill and clear,

The drowsy, clinging, smoky scent of bonfires smoldering in the yard,

The sweet, far call of some late bird, the bark of distant dogs on guard.

Ah me! 'tis all so wondrous clear—her lingering touch upon my head,

Her tender kiss, her brooding eyes—when mother tucked me into bed!

How faintly sweet the lilac scent! How soft the gentle, stirring air!

How dear that loving, work-worn hand so softly laid upon my hair!

Her mother face! her mother eyes! Oh, childhood's sweetest memory!

Through all the years, through sorrow's tears, that note of music comes to me.

Outside, the smoky springtime's scents—the frog song coming clear and shrill,

The cowbell's drowsy monotone out in the pasture on the hill—

The murmured fragment of a prayer—her touch upon my drowsy head—

Oh, dearest memory of all—when mother tucked me into bed!

—Harriet Crocker LeRoy.

Be Kind to Mother

My boys! be kind to mother,
For she's been kind to you,
She's sought to lead you safely
Your life's brief pathway through.
She's cared for you and loved you,
And tried to save you pain,
And give a kindly counsel—
I hope not all in vain.

She wants to see you happy,
She wants to see you true.
Her hope and pride are centered,
Believe it, boy, in you.
How much of joy and comfort
Is in your power to give
This faithful, loving mother,
If rightfully you live.

Be manly, true, and honest
In everything that's done,
And show her that her counsel
Is treasured by her son.
Be kind, when old age sprinkles
Its snowflakes in her hair,
And make her last days happy
With loving words and care.

—Selected.

The Bravest Battle

The bravest battle that ever was fought!
Shall I tell you where and when?
On the maps of the world you will find it not;
'Twas fought by the mothers of men.

Nay, not with cannon or battle shot,
With sword or nobler pen!
Nay, not with eloquent word or thought,
From mouths of wonderful men.

But deep in walled-up woman's heart,
A woman that would not yield,
But bravely, silently bore her part—
Lo! there is that battlefield.

No marshaling troop, no bivouac song,
No banner to gleam and wave;
But, ah! these battles they last so long,
From babyhood to the grave.

Yet, faithful still as a bridge of stars,
She fights in her walled-up town—
Fights on and on in endless wars;
Then, silent, unseen, goes down.

O ye with banners and battle shot,
And soldiers to shout and praise,
I tell you the kingliest victories fought
Are fought in these silent ways.

—Joaquin Miller.

Devotional Meeting for May 17

Senior

Topic: "The Second Coming of Christ and the Signs of the End."

1. Song Service.
2. Silent Prayer, followed by several short prayers.
3. Announcements.
4. Collection.
5. Special Music or Hymn.
6. Introductory to topic and key thought.
7. Talk: "Christ Will Come to Earth Again."
8. Talk: "His Coming Will Be Preceded by Many Signs."
9. Responses: "Being Ready."
10. Closing Song and Prayer.

Junior

Topic: "The Second Coming of Christ."

1. Song Service.
2. Opening Exercises.
3. Mission Report.
4. Leader's Talk: "The Promise."
5. Symposium: "Signs"

}	In heaven."
}	In earth."
}	Among men."
6. Special Music.
7. Superintendent's Talk: "Being Ready."
8. Responses.
9. Closing song and prayer.

Senior Notes

Advertise.—Prepare at least one good poster telling of the subject and the time and the place. Mention on the poster the fact that there will be special music, song service, recitation, and other features of particular interest as you may have planned for. Put up the poster in the vestibule of the church, or in the school, or anywhere that it is appropriate and people will see it. Plan also on having carefully prepared announcements made *the week before*, telling of the topic, perhaps the speakers, and anything else about the meeting. In your announcements don't forget the various band leaders and secretaries who are working hard. When credit is due, see that it is given publicly whenever possible. Be more generous with praise than with criticism. Proper praise is a great stimulus to additional effort.

1. *Song Service.*—Yes, it is difficult to have a lively song service every time, but it is worth the effort. It helps to get your members and those who attend there on time, and it assists in putting your audience in a right frame of mind for the service which follows. You should have a chorister who is willing to help and counsel. Back him up in his efforts. Don't forget the Missionary Volunteer Rally Song, and its accompaniment, "The Captain Calls for You." These are songs that you can call for frequently to stimulate and help in lifting the meeting. They are published on a single sheet, and cost but seventy-five cents for a hundred copies.

2. *Silent Prayer.*—After the last of the songs used in the song service, the leader may well ask all to kneel or stand with bowed heads for a moment or two of silent prayer. Ask some one to follow with a short, audible, public prayer, or if desired, several short prayers.

3. *Announcements.*—This is the place to speak of the work of the bands, and for the educational, devotional, and social secretaries to make announcements. If you have special officers for special services, give them time to reach the society as a whole. The secretary's report may also be read at this period. The secretary should understand that her duties do not consist wholly of telling what was done at the last meeting, but in telling of the various activities of the society,—a word about the missionary work, something of the way the Reading Course books are going, and so forth. The secretary, in rounding up these items, can contribute greatly to the success of the society's efforts, and keep the work before it.

4. *Collection.*—Remember your mission's goal and your expense needs along with your home missionary work. Is your society working on a budget system?

5. *Special Music.*—The topic lends itself well to special musical selections. Endeavor to have a duet or a solo or even a trio or quartet. Don't think that you must have only those who have had long experience in doing these things. Remember the society is the place for your members to learn how, and to gain experience.

6. *Introduction to Topic.*—The leader or associate or assistant should take about two minutes to introduce the topic of the evening or afternoon. Something about world conditions, the recent statement of some public official as to these special times, will be useful in making the introduction suit the mental appetites of those present. In connection with this two-minute introduction, read the following quotation from "The Desire of Ages," page 635:

"The world, full of rioting, full of godless pleasure, is asleep, asleep in carnal security. Men are putting afar off the coming of the Lord. They laugh at warnings. The proud boast is made, 'All things continue as they were from the beginning.' 'Tomorrow shall be as this day, and much more abundant.' We will go deeper into pleasure-loving. But Christ says, 'Behold, I come as a thief.' At the very time when the world is asking in scorn, 'Where is the promise of His coming?' the signs are fulfilling. While they cry, 'Peace and safety,' sudden destruction is coming. When the scorner, the rejecter of truth, has become presumptuous; when the routine of work in the various money-making lines is carried on without regard to principle; when the student is eagerly seeking knowledge of everything but his Bible, Christ comes as a thief."

7. *Talk: "Christ Will Come to Earth Again."*—This talk should be outlined around the following texts chosen by Elder Meade MacGuire:

John 14: 1-3: He promised to return.

Matt. 24: 27: He foretold the manner of His coming.

Acts 1: 9-11: So also did the angels.

Luke 21: 27. He will come with power and glory.

This first part may be in the form of a short Bible study. In connection with the reference in John 14, and the promises of His return, the following incident will help:

"Journeying the other day from Boston to Denver, I noticed in the car two boys. I heard one of them ask the other, 'Where are you going?' 'Oh, out West!' was the answer. And I was sure that the boy had no idea where 'out West' was: whether it was a large place or a small place, or how he was going to get to it.

"But he evidently wasn't troubling himself about it. His father had been 'out West,' wherever that was, and had been making there a new home for the family. And now he had gone back to Massachusetts, where they had been living, and was taking the family with him to the new home 'out West.' The boy wasn't worrying because he didn't even know where 'out West' was, much less how to get there. His father knew; that was enough. His father had already prepared the new home, and now he was bringing them all to be with him there.

"The other boy asked him once, 'But where is the place?' And he simply said, 'Oh, I don't know: papa's got a house out there for us.'

"So Jesus told His disciples: 'I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.'

"We sometimes wonder where the new home will be. People often ask, 'Where is heaven?' Nobody can tell us. But as the little boy's father was taking his family to the new home 'out West,' and they did not worry about roads or trains, so Jesus told His disciples, 'I am the way.'

Remembering the subject that Christ will come to earth again: Some say Christ comes to a person at death; some say He comes at conversion; some say He will come in a "secret rapture" to the elect. Elder Carlyle B. Haynes says:

"The time for the return of Christ is nearly here. This conviction has taken strong hold of students of Bible prophecy throughout the world. Jesus Himself, when He was on earth nineteen centuries ago, promised to return; and He foretold the occurrence of definite signs which would enable His people in the last days to understand that His coming was near. Most of these signs have been fulfilled; and those which have not been fulfilled are in process of fulfillment.

"The teaching of the Bible in reference to the second coming of Christ is so plain that it has won its way to a very wide acceptance among Christian people. The Scriptures give such prominence to this truth, that all who study them must be convinced that the men who wrote the Bible, regarded this doctrine as being of supreme importance.

"Today, as in the days of John the Baptist, while the doctrine of the second coming of the Lord is widely accepted by Christian people, nevertheless there are many and conflicting teachings in reference to the manner and purpose of our Lord's return. The Scriptures clearly point out that the return of Christ will be counterfeited:

"For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.' Matt. 24: 24.

"The man who is seeking for light cannot afford to make a mistake on this question. The highest duty of every man is to compare scripture with scripture, and by a study of the Bible and by prayer, to come to a knowledge of the truth for himself, aided by the special illumination given by the Spirit of God.

"A description of the restored earth with the redeemed race upon it, is given in the last two chapters of the Bible. The second coming of Christ will prepare the way for the establishment of this new earth, where the people of God will dwell throughout eternity.

"When Jesus comes the second time, He will come as 'King of kings, and Lord of lords,' to reign forever. (Rev. 19: 11-16; Dan. 2: 44; 7: 14; Micah 4: 7; Luke 1: 33.)

"Of this kingdom the people of God are joint heirs with Christ, and His coming will assure to them the kingdom that has been promised to the faithful. (Rom. 8: 17; Matt. 25: 34; Rev. 5: 10.)

"With all these wonderful purposes to be worked out by the coming of Christ, we cannot afford to give up the precious doctrine of His coming. It is indeed a 'blessed hope.' As we contemplate the stupendous events of the near future, the events which cluster around the coming of Christ, there comes from our eager hearts the cry of John, 'Even so, come, Lord Jesus.' Rev. 22: 20."

8. *Talk: "His Coming Will Be Preceded by Many Signs."*—Elder Meade MacGuire outlines this by Scriptures as follows:

a. In the heavens:

Luke 21: 11: Great signs from heaven.
Matt. 24: 29
Joel 2: 31
Rev. 6: 12, 13 } The sun, moon, and stars.

b. In the earth:

Luke 21: 25, 26: Distress of nations, etc.
James 5: 1-8: Capital and labor trouble.
2 Tim. 3: 13: Evil men wax worse.
Isa. 2: 2-5: Great peace efforts.
Joel 3: 9-14: War preparations.
2 Tim. 3: 1-5: Formality in religion.
Matt. 24: 14: Gospel to all world.
1 Thess. 5: 3-5: The world will be unprepared.

It is impossible in the space allotted to this program to give all the valuable material that should be examined in preparing for this talk. There are today many who feel that Christ will come next year, or perhaps this year, or at some certain time. We should indeed be ready for His coming whenever it may be, but His church has received some very definite instruction as to the danger of pointing out a definite time for His return. In the *Review and Herald* of Jan. 17, 1924, there is a very important article by Mrs. E. G. White. It should be read carefully by the one who takes this part. Especially note the following:

"Again and again have I been warned in regard to time setting. There will never again be a message for the people of God that will be based on time. We are not to know the definite time either for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit or for the coming of Christ. . . .

"I saw some were making everything bend to this next fall; that is, making their calculations, and disposing of their property in reference to that time. I saw that this was wrong for this reason, instead of going to God daily and earnestly desiring to know their present duty, they looked ahead, and made their calculations as though they knew that the work would end this fall, without inquiring their duty of God daily. . . .

"The times and the seasons God has put in His own power, and why has not God given us this knowledge? Because we would not make a right use of it if He did. A condition of things would result from this knowledge among our people that would greatly retard the work of God in preparing a people to stand in the great day that is to come. We are not to live upon time excitement. We are not to be engrossed with speculations in regard to the times and the seasons which God has not revealed.

"Jesus has told His disciples to 'watch,' but not for a definite time. His followers are to be in the position of those who are listening for the orders of their Captain; they are to watch, wait, pray, and work, as they approach the time for the coming of the Lord; but no one will be able to predict just when that time will come; for 'of that day and hour knoweth no man.' You will not be able to say that He will come in one, two, or five years, neither are you to put off His coming by stating that it may not be for ten or twenty years.

"It is the duty of the people of God to have their lamps trimmed and burning, to be as men that wait for the Bridegroom, when He shall return from the wedding. You have not a moment to lose in neglect of the great salvation that has been provided for you. The time of the probation of souls is coming to an end."

It is important, too, that we study the signs of the times, and know what is the meaning of events. To this end follow out the outline as given by Elder Meade MacGuire, and note how the signs have been worked out before our very eyes.

9. *Responses: "Being Ready."*—If there is time, give a few moments to short statements from your members on the idea of being ready for His coming,—our duty to be ready, and our desire to have Christ come again.

10. *Closing.*—Let it be appropriate, with songs and prayer suggesting the need of watchfulness in our doing His will.

Additional Helps.—All our denominational literature abounds with books, tracts, and periodicals that treat of this question. The *Signs of the Times*, *Watchman Magazine*, *Review and Herald*, and *Youth's Instructor* contain many timely articles. The first two periodicals especially contain valuable matter. U. V. W.

Junior Notes

The purpose of this program is once again to make vivid the second coming of Christ. It corresponds in the senior lessons with a series of programs on the Standard of Attainment. So, while the program should be inspirational, do not neglect the opportunity of making sure that the boys and girls know the reason for the hope within them.

Leader's Talk: "The Promise."—Give a two-minute talk on the sureness of Jesus' coming. Call for all to repeat the promise of His coming (John 14: 1-3), as He told it to His disciples. Then describe the manner of His coming. Acts

1: 9-11; Matt. 24: 21; Rev. 1: 7. Also study the chapter in "The Great Controversy," "God's People Delivered," especially pages 635-645. You cannot help but make the description vivid after studying such a word-picture. Quote or read some of the most striking sentences.

Symposium.—Give three of your Juniors each a three-minute talk. One is to tell of the signs of Christ's coming as portrayed in the heavens, and how prophecy concerning them was fulfilled. Luke 21: 11; Matt. 24: 29; Joel 2: 31; Rev. 6: 12, 13. (For description of fulfilment, see "The Great Controversy," pp. 306-308.)

The last two talks are based upon signs taking place in the earth. Those belonging to the earth, strictly speaking, are far fewer (Matt. 24: 7) than those taking place among men. So the subject matter may be more evenly divided, the first dealing with the earthquakes, famines, wars, rumors of wars, futile efforts at peace, etc. Matt. 24: 7; Luke 21: 25; Joel 3: 9-14; Isa. 2: 2-5. The fulfilment of these is evident; the recent great Tokio disaster, the World War, and the efforts to establish a world peace, the League of Nations, etc., are all a fulfilment of prophecy.

The last talk may deal with conditions prevailing among men,—hearts failing for fear (Luke 21: 26); strife between rich men and laborers (James 5: 1-8); crime becoming worse (2 Tim. 3: 13); there will be little true love of God (2 Tim. 3: 15); and the most encouraging feature, the fact that the gospel will go to the whole world (Matt. 24: 14).

Have a blackboard in a conspicuous place, and as these talks are given, ask each to put down the text used and a catch phrase to remind the members of what each text says.

Then when the talks are over, the leader should quickly review the ground covered. Pin a paper over the texts, and pointing to one of the phrases, ask those who can find the text containing the thought to rise. Make the drill quick and thorough.

Special Music.—Many of our good old Adventist hymns are unfamiliar to the younger generation. This program offers a splendid opportunity to practise and sing some of those rousing songs on Christ's second coming, which so cheered the hearts of the pioneers of the message. In "Hymns and Tunes," No. 1147 ("Christ in Song," No. 845), No. 1157, and No. 1169 ("Christ in Song," No. 914) are especially appropriate. There is a section of "Old Melodies" in the hymn book, from No. 1140 to No. 1191. Teach the boys and girls a few of these to use in this program.

Superintendent's Talk: "Being Ready."—Let the theme of your talk be, "What do these things mean to us?" Use as an illustration the incident mentioned in the Senior Note No. 7. Christ will come to the earth again. We must be as ready to return with Jesus as we would be to go to a new home our earthly father might prepare for us. What does it mean to be ready?—To be ready without spot. Many will be lost who want to be saved. Such is the situation which faces every boy and girl. The sureness of Christ's nearness makes it a necessity for each to know his sins are forgiven, and that he is ready to meet the Saviour. Make the talk an informal heart-to-heart appeal for the spiritual welfare of the boys and girls with whom you associate.

Responses.—This may take the form of asking each Junior to tell what sign appeals to him the most strongly in showing that Christ is near. H. H.

Devotional Meeting for May 24

No topic is assigned for this week, so that the conduct of the service will be wholly in your own hands. It may be a good time to consider some of the various special lines of your society work, such as the goals, the Reading Course, the special missionary activities. If you have a specially profitable service on this date, and your topic and its consideration have been beneficial to your members, tell other societies about it by sending in your report to The Suggestion Corner. U. V. W.

Junior Notes

DEAR JUNIORS: This is a chance to plan a meeting all by yourselves. What shall it be about? Have any of your members ever expressed a wish to have a program on a certain theme? Now is the chance. Kindness to animals, thoughtfulness, how to keep the temper, are interesting topics. Then you might try having the girls get up a program all by themselves, or perhaps the boys. There are so many interesting things to do; just ask your superintendent to help you plan the very best program of the year. H. H.

Devotional Meeting for May 31

Senior

Topic: "The Church of Christ on Earth."

1. Song Service.
2. Opening Exercises.

3. Mission Bulletin Board.
4. Bible Study.
5. Exercise: "An Arithmetic Lesson."
6. Recitation: "What to Tithe."
7. Responses: "Why Pay Tithe?"
8. Closing Song and Prayer.

Junior

Topic: "My Honest Part to the Lord."

1. Song Service.
2. Opening Exercises.
3. Mission Report.
4. Repeat Junior Pledge and Law.
5. Leader's Remarks: "Being Honest."
6. Bible Study.
7. Exercise: "An Arithmetic Lesson."
8. Recitation: "What to Tithe."
9. Drill.
10. Readings: "Interesting Experiences."
11. Closing hymn and Prayer.

Senior Notes

1. *Song Service*.—Somewhere in the time allotted to the singing of the songs (take fifteen minutes for song service) swing into the singing of the Rally Song, or its companion piece, "The Captain Calls for You."

2. *Opening Exercises*.—Your announcements, collection, filling out of missionary report blanks, and so forth, come in here.

3. *Mission Bulletin Board*.—Is your committee functioning? What interesting experiences, what interesting and thrilling stories, what well-chosen facts about mission fields, have you to give?

4. *Bible Study*.—The study given covers the work of the church in a brief but comprehensive way. A Bible study may be very interesting if it is conducted properly. If texts are given out, ask that the substance of the text be given in answer to the question. Do not give out all the texts, but only those which are key texts. Refer to other texts yourself, either by quoting them or giving them in substance. A blackboard with the texts on it will help to impress upon the members the truths brought out. The following study is by Elder Meade MacGuire; he has also chosen the selections from Mrs. White's writings:

1. All of Christ's true disciples constitute the church, and are called His body.

- a. 1 Cor. 12: 12, 20, 27. Many members, but one body.
 - b. Rom. 12: 4, 5. One body in Christ.
 - c. Eph. 1: 22, 23. The church which is His body.
 - d. Col. 1: 18. He is the head.
2. He directs in its organization.
- e. Titus 1: 5. Ordain elders in every city.
 - f. 1 Peter 5: 1-4. Elders to take the oversight.
 - g. Acts 14: 23. Ordained them elders in every church.
 - h. 1 Tim. 3: 1-13. Duties of officers explicitly stated.

3. Duties and responsibilities of the church.

i. 1 Cor. 11: 23-29. To keep in memory His sacrifice and His promise to return.

j. John 13: 4-8, 14. To keep humble and to love one another.

k. Matt. 28: 19. To give the gospel to the world.

l. 1 Cor. 9: 11-14. To support those who preach.

"The Passover was ordained as a commemoration of the deliverance of Israel from Egyptian bondage. God had directed that, year by year, as the children should ask the meaning of this ordinance, the history should be repeated. Thus the wonderful deliverance was to be kept fresh in the minds of all. The ordinance of the Lord's Supper was given to commemorate the great deliverance wrought out as the result of the death of Christ. Till He shall come the second time in power and glory, this ordinance is to be celebrated. It is the means by which His great work for us is to be kept fresh in our minds."—*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 652, 653.

"In washing the feet of His disciples, Christ gave evidence that He would do any service, however humble, that would make them heirs with Him of the eternal wealth of heaven's treasure. His disciples, in performing the same rite, pledge themselves in like manner to serve their brethren. Whenever this ordinance is rightly celebrated, the children of God are brought into a holy relationship, to help and bless each other. They covenant that the life shall be given to unselfish ministry. And this, not only for one another. Their field of labor is as wide as their Master's was. The world is full of those who need our ministry. The poor, the helpless, the ignorant, are on every hand. Those who have communed with Christ in the upper chamber, will go forth to minister as He did."—*Id.*, p. 651.

5. *Exercise: "An Arithmetic Lesson"*.—This may be given by older Juniors or as a dialogue. If it is impossible or inadvisable to present it in this way, then permit it to be given by some speaker who will take the members into his confidence, and go over the problem of tithing and meet the various objections.

"Do you remember the old school days? Can you recall the explanations and analyses? And do you think the ex-

ercises of the mathematics class have no reference to life's great problems? Let us consider an arithmetic lesson which touches one of the vital problems of Christian life: "

An Arithmetic Lesson

TEACHER: Class in decimal fractions, take your places. T. Payer, you may recite first. Please solve this problem, and announce your result: A man has a farm of forty acres, on which he raises wheat, 15 bushels to the acre, which he sells at \$1 a bushel. He pays \$12 for fertilizer and \$8 for hired help; what should his tithe be?

T. PAYER: Forty acres of land yielding 15 bushels of wheat an acre would make a total yield of 600 bushels. This, at \$1 a bushel, would give \$600. His income is \$600, less the expense and hired help. This equals \$20. Six hundred dollars less \$20 equals \$580. The tithe of \$580 equals \$58. Therefore he should pay \$58 tithe.

TEACHER: Your reasoning and answer are correct. T. Dodger, you may recite. What would be the tithe of a man who runs a grocery store, and does an \$8,000 business during the year?

T. DODGER: A man who thus deals, loses much by bad debts and accounts, his money is tied up in his business, and he can't tell what he should pay. He should simply pay tithe on what he can spare, or not at all.

TEACHER: Dodger, your reasoning and answer are both wrong. They show that you have not yet got hold of the real principle of tithe paying. You may go to your seat and study your lesson. I. N. Different may now recite. What would be your answer to the question?

I. N. DIFFERENT: Why, I don't think it will make any great difference. If a man does the best he can, that is all he can do.

TEACHER: I see that you, too, have wasted your time. You and Dodger have doubtless been sitting together, and you have been studying how to avoid the necessity of tithe paying, rather than seeking the truth with reference to it. You, too, may pass to your seat. B. F. Aithful, you may answer the question.

B. F. AITHFUL: The man should average his per cent of profit. If he sells on an average of 20 per cent gain, he has gained 20 per cent of \$8,000, or \$1,600. Therefore he should pay one tenth of \$1,600, or \$160.

TEACHER: You are right. That student who says he doesn't know what the tithe should be, shows that he has not learned his lesson: X. P. Ditious, you may quickly tell what is a man's income who pays \$100 tithe a year.

X. P. DITIOUS: If he pays an honest tithe, \$100 will be one tenth of his whole income. If \$100 is one tenth, ten tenths will be ten times \$100, or \$1,000.

TEACHER: Correctly answered. I see that Q. U. Ery's hand is up. Did you wish to ask a question?

Q. U. ERY: Yes; how can it be possible for a man to live and support a family on \$1,000? Is there not room for supposing that the man has failed to pay a full tithe?

TEACHER: A just observation. But you will notice that the answer was, "If he pays an honest tithe."

I. N. DIFFERENT (Aside in a whisper to Dodger): I wish the teacher would pass over this subject. I'm in a hurry to get to interest or profit and loss. I don't see any use in spending so much time on this.

DODGER (Also in a whisper): Yes, I'm sick of hearing all this long talk and analysis. I don't see what good will come of it anyway.

TEACHER (Noticing the dark looks and disorderly conduct): If you would each spend more time in diligent study of the lesson, you would soon be more proficient in your recitations. [To entire class] This is a subject of the greatest importance. Upon its proper understanding depends a proper doing; and thereupon hangs either the enjoyment or the loss of the greatest blessings. See that you diligently prepare your minds to know the truth, for thus only can you make real advancement. If you neglect this matter, you run a very great risk of a dismal failure in the final examination.

I will now give you a problem in profit and loss to study over until the next recitation: "What shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

T. H. JEYS.

6. *Recitation: "What to Tithe"*.—This is given elsewhere in the GAZETTE.

7. *Responses: "Why Pay Tithe?"*.—Let this be in the nature of an experience meeting. If possible, get your members to tell from their own experiences something of what it has meant to them in blessing and prosperity to pay tithe. For those who have none of their own to relate, some are given. Of course these are true, and many more could be easily given if space permitted.

Interesting Experiences of Tithe Payers

Here is a testimony from the Transvaal. A brother, telling what tithing had done for him, says: "I was in

'debt, and couldn't seem to struggle out. I had come home without a penny, and the debt hung over us. Just then came the truth. I started to keep the Sabbath, and lost twelve shillings a week out of my wages.'

"How are you going to live?" was the question the evil one kept pressing upon him.

"Then I saw the truth regarding the tithe," he said. And now the enemy kept saying, "How are you ever to do it and pay your debts?"

"But I began to pay the Lord's tithe; and, brethren," he said, "I was quickly able to pay off my indebtedness."

In the fertile southeastern portion of South Australia is a prosperous little place named Millicent, where is a company of Sabbath keepers. "Quite recently the district was visited by a plague of caterpillars, which destroyed acres of beautiful grain and grass crops. It seemed as if nothing could stop them. One man was the proud possessor of a particularly fine field of grass, soon to be cut for hay. The devastating pest bared his land as if it had been plowed and harrowed. Right beside was a huge field of oats belonging to one of the brethren lately come into the truth. Brother Norman watched the caterpillars, like Attila's horde, pouring through the fence toward his crop. His workman, who is not a Seventh-day Adventist, remarked quite seriously, 'You need not fear, they will not touch your oats, because you keep the commandments of God.' Sure enough, our heavenly Father was true to His promise in Malachi 3:11. On visiting there some days afterward, I saw the dead bodies of these devourers lying thick along the edge of the corn, as if the angel of God had allowed them to come to the danger point, and then 'breathed in the face of the foe as he passed,' smiting them with death before they touched one blade. The bare acres on the one side of the wire fence, and the full waving heads of strong, healthy corn on the other, were an overwhelming evidence of the reality of God and His fidelity to His promises."

U. V. W.

Junior Notes

Vary the order of the usual opening exercise. The first items are listed just to make sure that they are included. Write the Junior pledge and law in some conspicuous place. After it has been repeated, the leader should explain that the program of the day is to be on giving an honest part to God. He should follow this statement by a short talk on being honest with God. The following outline may suggest a line of thought:

We cannot even realize that we are selfish with God unless we open our hearts to Him. True honesty with Him depends first upon loving Him. Illustration: The cactus sends its roots deep beneath the hot surface of the desert, and draws up moisture. It would be a source of refreshing to animals lost in the hot wastes of sand if it did not horde its moisture under a hard, thorny skin. Those who do not know the love of God in the heart are like the cactus, reaching out for all they can get, and giving nothing. Illustrate by telling the story of the foolish rich man (Luke 12:16-21), emphasizing the last verse: "So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God." The true child of God not only recognizes the heavenly Father as the giver of everything good, gladly returning a tenth, but his heart so overflows with love that he gives much more than God asks. Being honest with God means giving our time, strength, and money as He tells us through His Word and the voice of the Holy Spirit.

Bible Study.—On page 9 of the Junior Standard of Attainment Manual begins a series of questions and answers relating to tithe and offerings. The Junior conducting this study may ask the questions, and have them answered by other Juniors who read the text. Write the text on the board as it is called for, then opposite it write some phrase that will give the thought of the text. When you have finished, review briefly what all the texts teach.

Exercise: "An Arithmetic Lesson."—See the Senior Notes, where the material is furnished. It should be given by seven Juniors.

Recitation: "What to Tithe."—This poem is more suitable for older Juniors.

Drill.—This program is really a Standard of Attainment program. Opportunity should be given to impress on each mind the proof texts presented in the Bible study. For suggestions as to a drill, see the last paragraph of the Junior Notes on the Symposium in the program for May 17. The superintendent should conduct this so as to insure a snappy response. Perhaps a brief review of proof texts concerning Christ's second coming would also be in place. Every Junior should be well grounded in the beliefs which make him what he is.

Readings: "Interesting Experiences."—In the Senior Notes, under the paragraph heading, "Responses," are two incidents showing how God fulfilled His promise to tithe payers. Give out each incident to be read.

H. H.

What to Tithe

One tenth of ripened grain,
One tenth of tree and vine,
One tenth of all the yield
From ten tenths rain and shine.

One tenth of lowing herds
That browse on hill and plain,
One tenth of bleating flocks,
For ten tenths shine and rain.

One tenth of all increase
From counting-room and mart,
One tenth that science yields,
One tenth of every art.

One tenth of loom and press,
One tenth of mill and mine,
One tenth of every craft
Wrought out by gifts of Thine.

One tenth! and dost Thou, Lord,
Ask but this meager loan,
When all the earth is Thine,
And all we have Thine own?

—The Churchman.

Missionary Volunteer Programs for Advanced Schools

For Week Ending May 3

Topic: "Why I Ought to Go to Camp-Meeting."

Yes, it is near the end of the school year, and there are the graduation exercises and examinations and a hundred and one details that need attention. However, you will not desire to forget the immediate future—how about the summer months? What are the Missionary Volunteer members going to do with their summertime? What about the camp-meeting season? How we do look forward to some time when old acquaintanceships may be renewed, and we may have a chance to talk of old times, the "old" in this instance referring back only to the last year, perhaps. Take the topic as given above, and divide it up for a number of short talks: (1) Personal salvation; (2) Bible study; (3) Opportunity of meeting friends and acquaintances in a social way; (4) To help some one; (5) To learn of the progress of the denomination. It may be that you would like to add others. In your handling of the topic be sure to stress the spiritual benefits to be obtained, and the need there is for strong young men and women at the camp-meeting to assist in the young people's meetings, for leadership, and to help others. What better incentive for college men and women?

For Week Ending May 10

Topic: "Mother."

It is hardly necessary to give suggestions to college young people on such a topic. The regular outline contains some material that may be found helpful. For college, a time for writing that letter home would be most appropriate indeed. Endeavor to leave a definite impression and an impulse to action that your members can perform, can practise.

For Week Ending May 17

Topic: "Signs of the End."

Bible references and notes are given by Elder McGuire in the Senior part of the regular program. College students may well take time to review world conditions—fundamental conditions. In doing this, strive not for the sensational argument and the wild statement of some irresponsible politician, or some statesman spreading propaganda. Look for underlying causes in the social, the physical, the political, and the religious world. Remember that there have been dark periods in the world's history, and strive to answer clearly and logically why Seventh-day Adventists believe these times especially important and significant.

U. V. W.

Missionary Volunteer Topics for June

You may have, if you desire, the printed list of topics for the year by sending to the educational secretary of the Missionary Volunteer Department. For June the topics outlined are as follows:

June 7. Skilled Workmen (Education—Scholarship).
"Others Fought to Win the Prize."
June 14. Health.
June 21. The End of the Conflict and the Home of the Saved.
June 28. The Far Eastern Mission Field. (Get your committee to working on this quarterly mission goal topic.)