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Church Officers' General Instruction Department

Special Appointments for the Month of February

Home Missionary Day February 4
Foreign Missions Rally Day February 18

Organization, With a Few Effective Rules and Regulations

INSTRUCTION given us concerning the general conduct of the work of God away back in 1893, is as pertinent and essential as when first sent by Mrs. E. G. White from Australia, and presented to the General Conference session that year. It is found in the *General Conference Bulletin*, 1893, page 24:

"We had a hard struggle in establishing organization. Notwithstanding that the Lord gave testimony after testimony upon this point, the opposition was strong, and it had to be met again and again. But we knew that the Lord God of Israel was leading us, and guiding by His providence. We engaged in the work of organization, and marked prosperity attended this advance movement.

"As the development of the work called us to engage in new enterprises, we were prepared to enter upon them. The Lord directed our minds to the importance of educational work. We saw the need of schools that our children might receive instruction, free from the errors of false philosophy, that their training might be in harmony with the principles of the word of God. The need of health institutions had been urged upon us, both for the help and instruction of our own people and as a means of blessing and enlightenment of others. This enterprise also was carried forward.

"All this was missionary work of the highest order. Our work was not sustained by large gifts and legacies; for we have few wealthy men among us. What is the secret of our prosperity? We have moved under the order of the Captain of our salvation. God has blessed our united efforts. The truth has spread and flourished. Institutions have multiplied. The mustard seed has grown to a great tree. The system of organization has proved a grand success. Systematic benevolence [tithing] was entered into according to the Bible plan. The body 'has been compacted by that which every joint supplieth.' As we have advanced, our system of organization has still proved effectual.

"In some parts of the work, it is true, the machinery has been made too complicated; especially has this been the case in the tract and missionary work; the multiplication of rules and regulations made it needlessly burdensome. An effort should be made to simplify the work, so as to avoid all needless labor and perplexity.

"The business of our conference session has sometimes been burdened down with propositions and resolutions that were not at all essential, and that would never have been presented if the sons and daughters of God had been walking carefully

and prayerfully before Him. The fewer rules and regulations that we can have, the better will be the effect in the end. When they are made, let them be carefully considered, and, if wise, let it be seen that they mean something, and are not to become a dead letter. Do not, however, encumber any branch of the work with unnecessary, burdensome restrictions and inventions of men. In this period of the world's history, with the vast work that is before us, we need to observe the greatest simplicity, and the work will be stronger for its simplicity.

"Let none entertain the thought, however, that we can dispense with organization. It has cost us much study and many prayers for wisdom that we know God has answered, to erect this structure. It has been built up by His direction, through much sacrifice and conflict. Let none of our brethren be so deceived as to attempt to tear it down, for you will thus bring in a condition of things that you do not dream of. In the name of the Lord, I declare to you that it is to stand, strengthened, established, and settled. At God's command, 'Go forward,' we advanced when the difficulties to be surmounted made the advance seem impossible. We know how much it has cost to work out God's plans in the past, which has made us as a people what we are. Then let every one be exceedingly careful not to unsettle minds in regard to those things that God has ordained for our prosperity and success in advancing His cause.

"The work is soon to close. The members of the church militant who have proved faithful will become the church triumphant. In reviewing our past history, having traveled over every step of advance to our present standing, I can say, Praise God! As I see what God has wrought, I am filled with astonishment and with confidence in Christ as Leader. We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history. We are now a strong people, if we will put our trust in the Lord; for we are handling the mighty truths of the word of God.

"We have everything to be thankful for. If we walk in the light as it shines upon us from the living oracles of God, we shall have large responsibilities, corresponding to the great light given us of God. We have many duties to perform, because we have been made the depositaries of sacred truth to be given to the world in all its beauty and glory. We are debtors to God to use every advantage He has intrusted to us to beautify the truth of holiness of character, and to send the message of warning, and of comfort, of hope and love, to those who are in the darkness of error and sin.

"Thank God for what has already been done in providing for our youth facilities for religious and intellectual training. Many have been educated to act a part in the various branches of the work, not only in America but in foreign fields. The press has furnished literature that has spread far and wide the knowledge of the truth. Let all the gifts that like rivulets have swelled the stream of benevolence be recognized as a cause of thanksgiving to God.

"We have an army of youth to-day who can do much if they are properly directed and encouraged. We want our children to believe the truth. We want them to be blessed of God. We want them to act a part in well-organized plans for helping other youth. Let all be so trained that they may rightly represent the truth, giving the reason of the hope that is within them, and honoring God in any branch of the work where they are qualified to labor.

"We are still free to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience. As the disciples of Christ it is our duty to diffuse light which we know that the world has not. Let the people of God be 'rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.'"

Tithes Not Our Own

OCCASIONALLY we hear of well-meaning brethren who are wondering if it is not all right for them to invest their tithe as they may choose, rather than to send it through the regular channels to the conference office. It seems to us that the Lord has not left any room for question on this point. He has told us plainly that the tithe belongs to Him, and He has told us just as plainly where we are to bring the tithe which belongs to Him. According to Heaven's orders, the tithe is to be brought to the storehouse (the treasury).

The individual is responsible before God for his faithfulness or unfaithfulness in tithes and offerings until he has placed

the tithes and offerings just where God told him to place them, and at that moment his responsibility ceases. God will hold those who are in charge of the treasury responsible for the way the tithe is used. No person has a right to spend the tithe for any other purpose whatsoever. It is his duty, as a responsible creature before God, to place the tithe in the treasury.

Any other plan than this would lead to confusion and irregularity. If each person was left at liberty to invest the tithe as he might choose, we would not be able to carry forward God's work with any continuity of effort whatever. Each individual church member will be rewarded or punished by God according to his faithfulness or unfaithfulness in returning all of God's tenth to God's storehouse, regardless of the question of whether the tithe is used wisely or unwisely after it has been placed in the storehouse. God will hold the men and committees who direct in the expenditure of the tithe which has been placed in the storehouse, responsible for the way in which these sacred funds are expended.

"Some have been dissatisfied, and have said, 'I will not longer pay my tithe; for I have no confidence in the way things are managed at the heart of the work.' But will you rob God because you think the management of the work is not right? Make your complaint, plainly and openly, in the right spirit, to the proper ones. Send in your petitions for things to be adjusted and set in order; but do not withdraw from the work of God, and prove unfaithful, because others are not doing right. . . . The tithe is the Lord's, and those who meddle with it will be punished with the loss of their heavenly treasure unless they repent."—*Testimonies*, Vol. IX, pp. 249, 250.

The Lord has given us very definite warning against choosing our own way in the use and disposal of our tithes, making it plain to us that He can accept us as faithful stewards only as we harmonize with the plan and instruction that He has given us.

"God has given special direction as to the use of the tithe. . . . He has made our duty on these points very plain. The portion that God has reserved for Himself is not to be diverted to any other purpose than that which He has specified. Let none feel at liberty to retain their tithe, to use according to their own judgment. They are not to use it for themselves in an emergency, nor to apply it as they see fit even in what they may regard as the Lord's work. . . .

"God desires all His stewards to be exact in following divine arrangements. They are not to offset the Lord's plans by performing some deed of charity, or giving some gift or some offering, when or how they, the human agents, shall see fit. It is very poor policy for men to seek to improve on God's plan, and invent a makeshift, averaging up their good impulses on this and that occasion, and offsetting them against God's requirements. God calls upon all to give their influence to His own arrangements. He has made His plan known; and all who would co-operate with Him must carry out this plan, instead of daring to attempt an improvement on it. . . . The tithe is sacred, reserved by God for Himself."—*Id.*, pp. 247-249.

These are days in which the candidates for God's kingdom are being tested on every point. The spirit of covetousness is seen on every hand in the world. May God help us as His faithful children to overcome that wicked spirit, and to measure up fully to His requirements, not simply as a matter of duty, but in order to place ourselves in the channel of heaven's rich blessings, which will be poured out upon us through heaven's wide-open windows. As God's stewards, let us be faithful servants in His vineyard until the work is finished.

S. A. RUSKJER.

To Workers for God

THE Lord has given to every man his work. It is his business to do it, and the devil's business to hinder him if he can. So sure as God has given you a work to do, Satan will try to hinder you. He may throw you from it; he may present other things more promising. He may allure you by worldly prospects, he may assault you with slander, torment you with false accusations, set you at work defending your character, employ pious persons to lie about you, editors to assail you, officials to accuse you, and excellent men to slander you. You may have Pilate and Herod, Annas and Caiaphas all combined against you, and Judas standing by you ready to sell you for thirty pieces of silver; and you may wonder why all those things come upon you. Can you not see that the whole thing is brought about through the craft of the devil, to draw you off from your work and hinder your obedience to God?

Keep about your work. Do not flinch because the lion roars; do not stop to stone the devil's dogs; do not fool away your time chasing the devil's rabbits. Do your work. Let liars lie, let sectarians quarrel, let corporations resolve, let editors publish, let the devil do his worst; but see to it that nothing hinders you from fulfilling the work that God has given you.

He has not sent you to make money. He has not commanded you to get rich. He has never bidden you defend your character. He has not set you at work to contradict falsehood which Satan and his servants may start to peddle. If you do these things, you will do nothing else; you will be at work for yourself and not for the Lord.

Keep about your work. Let your aim be as steady as a star. Let the world brawl and bubble. You may be assaulted, wronged, insulted, slandered, wounded, and rejected; you may be abused by foes, forsaken by friends, and despised and rejected of men; but see to it with steadfast determination, with unflinching zeal, that you pursue the great purpose of your life and object of your being, until at last you can say, "I have finished the work which Thou gavest me to do."—*Selected*.

The Spirit of Forgiveness

ARE we not to forgive others as we expect to be forgiven? How does God forgive? When you walked on the sands of the seashore, you noticed that the next rolling hallow washed away all the prints of your footsteps. Is it not so that the blood of Jesus washes away all the stains of sin? "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Scarlet and crimson are considered ineradicable colors. Blood is the bleacher that makes them white. Christ's sacrifice is the antitoxin for the poison of sin. He is the Lord, your Healer, that you may be made blameless, without spot or wrinkle.

God forgives forever. He sinks our sins, like a millstone, in the bottom of the sea. The ocean of His love flows over them in eternal oblivion. He will never make mention of them again, for they are separated as far as the east is from the west—an infinite distance. They are hidden in the land of annihilation.

Can we forgive men their trespasses as God forgives us? Can we be like Him? Christ is made sin for us, and by His stripes we are healed; therefore God, the Father, can tear the black page from the book of life, blotting out our sins as a thick cloud. He turns His back upon our past, taking the forgiven soul into His arms of tenderness as a mother would a child.

Forgiveness, it is said, is the odor which flowers yield when trampled upon. The poet truly says,

"The sandal tree perfumes, when riven,
The ax that laid it low;
Let man, who hopes to be forgiven,
Forgive and bless his foe!"

Should we not, like our Lord, pray for those who despitefully use us, loving our enemies and blessing them that curse us, as Christ did on Calvary? Behold your Saviour, beaten with rods, crowned with thorns, mangled with nails—what is His cry? "Father, forgive them!" His blood flowed for pardon, He rises from the tomb to forgive, He ascends to heaven to be a pleading Intercessor for guilty souls.

What kind of world would earth become without forgiveness? Adam fell; Abraham lied; David sinned; Peter denied; Paul murdered; all the disciples forsook Jesus and fled. What if there were no mercy enduring forever, no hope, big with immortality, no peace like a gentle river? Could God be just and continue the creation of man through all the centuries, with no possibility of restoration and pardon? Such a condition is unthinkable. The cross is the golden glory of the world's hope; the Christ is the infinite Forgiver and Saviour; through Him, man is redeemed and enters a more glorious Eden, the very Paradise of God.—*J. S. James, in Eastern Tidings*.

Do your duty and don't swerve from it. Do that which your conscience tells you to be right, and leave the consequences to God.—*B. R. Haydon*.

Home Missionary Department

ORGANIZING THE CHURCH FOR SERVICE

Suggestive Program for First Sabbath Service

(Sabbath, February 4)

OPENING SONG: "Saved to Serve," No. 474 in "Christ in Song." Prayer.

Missionary Secretary's Report.

Offering.

Missionary Reports Gathered.

Special Music or Song: "Stand Like the Brave," No. 508 in "Christ in Song."

Testimony Study: "The Church at Work."

Talk: "The Organization of the Church for Service."

Talk With Blackboard Illustrations: "The Great Object of the Church."

Testimonies.

Song: "Watch, for the Time Is Short," No. 555 in "Christ in Song."

Benediction.

Note to Leaders

The program for February 4, coming as it does the early part of the new year, is of the utmost importance. It is very essential that every church get a good start in their missionary activities for the year. The first step to be taken is the organization of the church for service, as nothing can be accomplished without thorough organization. There are at least four successive steps in the development of a simple and effective organization, as follows:

1. Formation of a missionary committee.
2. Division of territory.
3. Formation of prayer and district bands.
4. Organization to give special training in various lines of missionary work.

The elder, who by virtue of his office is the missionary leader unless another person is selected and elected, should take the leadership in organizing the church for service. He should call the missionary committee or the church board together, including the missionary secretary, and they together should give careful study to this important phase. At this time you should take action as to the missionary program your church will follow for the ensuing year. This will greatly help you in organizing your church.

To organize properly, you will need to have a map of the city, also a list of the church members with their addresses. You will further notice in the program we have made mention of time for short testimonies. This should not take more than ten minutes at the most. But it will lend enthusiasm to the meeting if our people are given a little time in which to relate several soul-winning experiences.

Under "Helps for Pastors and Missionary Leaders" you will find some information which will prove helpful to you in organizing the church for work. Our prayers and interest will follow you as you seek to follow more perfectly God's plan for His church. We are on the eve of a mighty awakening in the church, and only as we rightly relate ourselves to the "loud cry" movement will success crown our efforts.

HOME MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT.

The Church at Work

Question.—What is the work of the church in this hour of the world's history?

Answer.—"Sound an alarm throughout the length and breadth of the earth. Tell the people that the day of the Lord is near, and hasteth greatly. Let none be left unwarmed. We might have been in the place of the poor souls that are in error. We might have been placed among barbarians. According to the truth we have received above others, we are debtors to impart the same to them."—*Testimonies*, Vol. VI, p. 22.

Ques.—From how many does God require personal service?

Ans.—"God expects personal service from every one to whom He has intrusted a knowledge of the truth for this time. Not all can go as missionaries to foreign lands, but all can be home missionaries in their families and neighborhoods."—*Id.*, Vol. IX, p. 30.

Ques.—If every one responded, what would be the result?

Ans.—"Were every one of you a living missionary, the message for this time would speedily be proclaimed in all countries, to every people and nation and tongue."—*Id.*, Vol. VI, p. 438.

Ques.—What does the great commission call us to do?

Ans.—"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. 23.

Ques.—In order to accomplish this work, how must the church be organized?

Ans.—"If there is a large number in the church, let the members be formed into small companies, to work not only for the church members, but for unbelievers. If in one place there are only two or three who know the truth, let them form themselves into a band of workers."—*Testimonies*, Vol. VII, page 22.

Ques.—In this organization what is assigned every member?

Ans.—"Every one who is added to the ranks by conversion is to be assigned his post of duty. Every one should be willing to be or do anything in this warfare."—*Id.*, Vol. VII, p. 30.

Ques.—What is needed most in our churches?

Ans.—"That which is needed now for the upbuilding of our churches is the nice work of wise laborers to discern and develop talent in the church,—talent that can be educated for the Master's use. There should be a well-organized plan for the employment of workers to go into all our churches, large and small, to instruct the members how to labor for the upbuilding of the church, and also for unbelievers. It is training, education, that is needed. Those who labor in visiting the churches should give the brethren and sisters instruction in practical methods of doing missionary work."—*Id.*, Vol. IX, p. 117.

Ques.—What is the greatest help that can be given our people?

Ans.—"The greatest help that can be given our people is to teach them to work for God, and to depend on Him, not on the ministers."—*Id.*, Vol. VII, p. 19.

Ques.—What is the assurance God gives us if we co-operate with Him?

Ans.—"God will do the work if we will furnish Him the instruments."—*Id.*, Vol. IX, p. 107.

Ques.—What reward will be given those who work for God?

Ans.—"Our reward for working with Christ in this world is the greater power and wider privilege of working with Him in the world to come."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 361.

The Organization of the Church for Service

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS are to-day longing for the time to come when the work of sounding the last warning message will be finished, for they know that the coming of the Saviour will be delayed until "this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations." Men and women have grown gray in the service of the Lord while they have looked forward to the great consummation. The days of the last generation are rapidly slipping away, and now every student of prophecy is convinced that we are standing upon the very verge of eternity. Conditions in the world have been shaping so ominously and rapidly that we look forward to to-morrow with apprehension. If the "final movements" are to be "rapid ones," it is very apparent that in a few short months this world could be plunged into the "time of trouble, such as never was;" and yet the "four angels" are "holding the four winds of the earth." It is very evident that something is retarding God's program for the finishing of the work.

The reason that this program has not been carried out as promptly as was intended, has been clearly revealed to the people who are responsible for the proclamation of the message of the third angel. This message is to close with mighty power. It is to be the hour of crisis in the battle between the working "with all power and signs and lying wonders" to "deceive" if possible "the very elect."

This is to be the hour of crisis in the battle between the forces of good and evil; and the General who has never lost a battle, expects and commands that every soldier in His ranks shall be thoroughly trained, and shall take his or her place in this final engagement. It is evident from the following statement of our General that the bugle will not sound the advance until His forces are thoroughly organized, and every

soldier trained in active service: "The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers." No earthly battle was ever won by the officers of an army marching alone against the enemy; nor could that army expect success if only 50 per cent of its men accompanied the officers.

If we will consider for a moment that only about 50 per cent of the members of the Seventh-day Adventist churches have reported for active service, we shall be face to face with one of the retarding factors in the finishing of the work. We talk about the difficulties which confront us in carrying the "gospel of the kingdom" to "every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people;" but one of the greatest problems confronting the church to-day is the enlisting of the other 50 per cent of our membership in service, for the work of God will never be finished until this is accomplished.

Seventh-day Adventists have effected a remarkable organization in the carrying forward of their world work, and those who have had their attention directed to it are filled with surprise and astonishment as they see what is being accomplished by such a comparatively small denomination. Our organization is wonderful because we have followed the instruction given by God in the days of Moses for the benefit of the children of Israel. This organization may be likened to wheels within a wheel, the common center, or hub, of which is the church. The first wheel is the local conference or mission, the next the union, the third the division, and the outer wheel the General Conference; but the church constitutes the center of this great wheel which is to accomplish a world work. This hub of a wheel is where the power develops into action. The most thoughtful care should therefore be given to the organization of the church, for uncertain indeed will be the progress of a wheel when only 50 per cent of the hub is functioning.

The Lord has given very definite instruction concerning the construction and organization of the church, for in this hub is to develop the power which is to give motion and strength to local, union, division, and General conferences. Let us consider some of the specifications of the construction of this hub: "The formation of small companies as a basis of Christian effort has been presented to me by One who cannot err."—*Testimonies*, Vol. VII, pp. 21, 22. Another statement gives the purpose of the formation of bands in our churches: "Let there be in every church, well-organized companies of workers to labor in the vicinity of that church."—*Review and Herald*, Sept. 29, 1891.

A church that takes an interest in doing home missionary work will be enthusiastic concerning foreign missionary work, and this is the reason that such explicit instruction is given regarding the organization of the church for service. In the hub is to develop the power which will cause the great missionary wheel to roll on to triumph in the far-away mission fields of earth.

Concerning the general organization of the church for service, the call to universal action has been sounded repeatedly. "God expects personal service from every one to whom He has entrusted a knowledge of the truth for this time."—*Testimonies*, Vol. IX, p. 30. "Every one who is added to the ranks by conversion is to be assigned his post of duty. Every one should be willing to be or to do anything in this warfare."—*Id.*, Vol. VII, p. 30. "Time is short, and our forces must be organized to do a larger work."—*Id.*, Vol. IX, p. 27.

This is a call to organize the 50 per cent of our membership who have not yet enlisted for active service. It is evident that 100 per cent of our members could do a much larger work than 50 per cent are accomplishing; and it is also evident that the Lord expects a much larger work from His people, for He says: "We are not, as Christians, doing one twentieth part that we might do in winning souls to Christ."—*Review and Herald*, Aug. 23, 1881. The reason given for expecting this larger work is because "the time is short." If God's people to-day could realize how short the time really is, the church missionary committee would begin to function in every church, and missionary secretaries would be among our most active officers.

"If Christians were to act in concert, moving forward as one,

under the direction of one Power, for the accomplishment of one purpose, they would move the world."—*Testimonies*, Vol. IX, p. 221. One writer has said, "It is impossible to throw a tallow candle through the side of a tent, but you can shoot it through an oak board. Melt a charge of shot into a bullet, and you can shoot it through the bodies of four men. Focus the rays of the sun in winter, and you can kindle a fire with ease." So it is with the activities of men in the sounding of the last warning message.

"The secret of our success in the work of God will be found in the harmonious working of our people. There must be concentrated action. Every member of the body of Christ must act his part in the cause of God, according to the ability that God has given him. We must press together against obstructions and difficulties, shoulder to shoulder, heart to heart."—*Review and Herald*, Dec. 2, 1890. C. E. Wood.

The Great Object of the Church

THROUGH the prophet Isaiah God lays down the fundamental principles clearly, explaining the mission, object, and purpose of the church. "I the Lord have called thee in righteousness, and will hold thine hand, and will keep thee, and give thee for a covenant of the people, for a light of the Gentiles; to open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house." Isa. 42: 6, 7.

What pictures unfold before our eyes as our spiritual vision dwells upon these verses! In these two short verses is contained all the work of the church, for both believers and unbelievers. We must never forget that a vital part of the work of the church consists in what goes to rebuild and strengthen its own membership in service and Godly living. Paul prayed, "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved." Rom. 10: 1.

As the first part of this challenge from God as recorded in Isaiah, "I the Lord have called thee in righteousness," we are first called to a life of victory and righteousness in Christ, then God sends His church forth to warn the world and to "show forth the praises of Him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvelous light." Only a saved church can be a true witnessing church. Otherwise it will witness only to a set form of creeds or doctrines, and not to a living experience as exemplified in the lives of its followers.

The portion of the scripture we are concerned about to-day has reference to the work of the church. In one short phrase God sets before us our mission, "To open the blind eyes." This, my friends, is your mission and mine. We are not only sent to warn men, but to win men. And this mission extends as far as we find the habitations of men, whether to the cold, frigid regions of the north, or the hot, tropical countries around the equator. "The church is God's appointed agency for the salvation of men. It was organized for service, and its mission is to carry the gospel to the world."—*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 9.

We can readily see that if we are to carry forward the work of the church and bring the message of salvation to all, the church must be thoroughly organized for that service. A church without a missionary organization would be like an army without its various departments and officers. And an army without organization becomes a mob. And yet many of our churches are in exactly the same condition. The only thing that holds them together is the fact that they have a place to meet, and a Sabbath school. But God intends that our churches shall be more than "filling stations." He designs they shall impart as well as receive. "Every true disciple is born into the kingdom of God as a missionary. He who drinks of the living water becomes a fountain of life. The receiver becomes a giver."—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 195.

The program of the church as mapped out by our Great Commander is a comprehensive one. To carry the gospel to all the world means the training of church members, educating our boys and girls, building publishing houses, schools, sanitariums, and all the other branches of our work necessary for the carrying out of this program. But all of our vast organization can never finish the work if we are lacking in organization in our local churches. It is down in the front-line trench

where the hand-to-hand fighting goes on; and it is down in the local churches, yea, into the smallest band of believers, where the fighting goes on, and where our organization must be the strongest. Our work is so far-reaching that the servant of God has said regarding the work of every church around the wide world: "Wherever a church is established, all the members should engage actively in missionary work. They should visit every family in the neighborhood, and know their spiritual condition."—*Testimonies*, Vol. VI, p. 296. To fulfil this will mean organization. So the servant of God further stated, "Let there be in every church well-organized companies of workers to labor in the vicinity of the church."—*Review and Herald*, Sept 29, 1891. This plan of organization, Sister White says, was "presented to me by One who cannot err."—*Testimonies*, Vol. VII, pp. 21, 22.

How far has your church gone in working in harmony with the Lord's plan for the finishing of His work? Perhaps you will find here the reason for your lack of service and results. Can we expect the blessing of God to rest upon our churches if we do not work in harmony with His wishes? Some say the band arrangement will not work. My friends, I believe that anything that has God's seal of approval upon it will work. The trouble is not with the plan, but with us. God says to organize the church into bands, and if we perseveringly try to follow out His plan, it is bound to succeed.

The following diagram will help you to visualize the church at work. Although it does not represent all the work of the church, yet it includes practically every line of service we are called upon to do. You will notice we have divided it up into two parts: first, "Training of Church Members," which is a vital part of the church at work; and second, "Field Work," under which we have listed all our various campaigns and general house-to-house work. It might be well, in presenting this to your church missionary committee, and also the church, to have this drawn on a large blackboard, and then in a simple way outline the work of the church and what organization is essential for success. Now you may not be able to follow all the lines of work as outlined, for your church may be small, and perhaps you lack the band leaders necessary, but you can make a beginning, and step by step work on until you have reached the ideal.

Object of the Home Missionary Department and the purpose of the church:

- To lead our people into service
 - Arousing our churches for service
 - Revival meetings
 - Organizing the church for service
 - Training of church members
 - Home missionary conventions
 - Bible training class
 - Home nurses' class
 - Field Work
 - Systematic distribution of literature
 - Present Truth*
 - Family Bible Teacher
 - Christian help band
 - Visiting jails and prisons
 - Visiting hospitals
 - Giving away flowers, clothing, etc.
 - Home Bible Study League
 - Correspondence
 - Field work campaigns
 - Harvest Ingathering
 - Big Week
 - Signs of the Times*
 - Review and Herald*
 - Religious liberty

Our churches are not like the churches of the world, where they have a branch of the church designated as the "missionary society." We have no branch called the "missionary society" in our church, for we believe the whole church is organized for missionary work. "The entire church, acting as one, blending in perfect union, is to be a living, active missionary agency, moved and controlled by the Holy Spirit."—*Testimonies*, Vol. VIII, p. 47. However, a very important part of organizing the church for service is the enlisting and placing of every member in his allotted place where he is to work for God. This, too, is the plan laid down for us in the "Testi-

monies: "Every one who is added to the ranks by conversion is to be assigned his post of duty."—*Vol. VII, p. 30*. If we had followed out this instruction years ago, and clearly outlined the work of each member when he was admitted to church fellowship, perhaps our churches would be better working churches to-day, and we should not have so many who take no active part. This is the work of the missionary committee, to see that all have a place to work. Of course this will mean much hard work, and a detailed study of the plan, but it is the only way it can be done.

My friends, shall we not enter this work with enthusiasm? Too long have we waited for an unseen Power to take possession of us for the finishing of the work, but shall we not now call our churches to greater service? "Time is short, and our forces must be organized to do a larger work."—*Id., Vol. IX, p. 27*. All heaven is waiting for us to go to work. The angels are anxiously waiting and wondering why we tarry so long. It will not be long now before we hear that glorious shout from the redeemed that will tell us of the coming King. He is now "even at the door," and this little time of peace we are enjoying to-day is our opportunity to carry this glorious message to earth's remotest bounds. We pray for its speedy consummation. Then the Lord will say in that closing day, when the message is sweeping onward with greater power, "The Lord shall go forth as a mighty man, He shall stir up jealousy like a man of war: He shall cry, yea, roar; He shall prevail against His enemies." "And I will bring the blind by a way that they knew not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known: I will make darkness light before them, and crooked things straight. These things will I do unto them, and not forsake them." Isa. 42: 13, 16.

E. F. HACKMAN.

Helps for Pastors and Missionary Leaders

WHY not begin the new year right? Have you in your library a full list of the books and leaflets prepared by the General Conference Home Missionary Department for your help in organizing and training the church for service? How often we hear the question, "How am I to go about organizing the church for service?" and, "Tell me how to train our people so they may become successful soul winners." For years our department has given study to just such problems, and if you become a skilled leader you will need the tools and helps provided. Order from your Book and Bible House at once.

Home Missionary Series

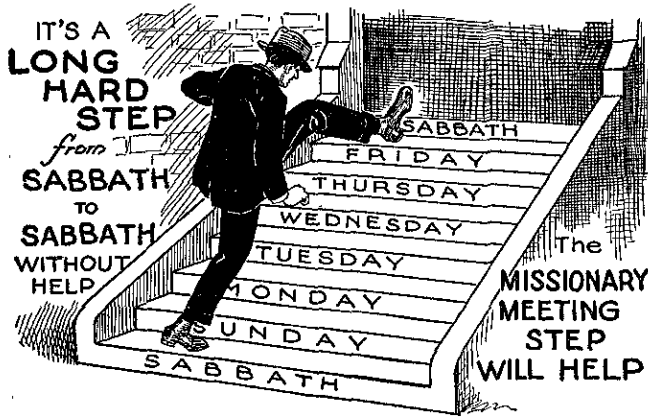
No.	Name of Leaflet	Price
1.	The Relation of Church Members to the Finishing of the Work	\$.01
2.	Organization of Churches for Home Missionary Work .....	.01½
3.	The Missionary Meeting .....	.01½
4.	Reporting: Why and How .....	.01½
5.	The Duties of the Church Missionary Secretary .....	.01½
6.	The Best Method for Winning Souls .....	.01
7.	The Use of Tracts .....	.01
8.	How to Use Periodicals in Soul-Winning Campaigns .....	.01
9.	Magazines—Their Place in God's Work .....	.01
10.	Small Books as Soul Winners .....	.01
11.	Missionary Correspondence .....	.01
12.	The Home-Foreign Mission Field .....	.01
13.	The Spirit of Service .....	.01
14.	Earning Money for Missions .....	.01
15.	The Business Side of the Home Missionary Work .....	.01
16.	Bible Work .....	.01
17.	A Mischievous Error .....	.01
18.	The Place of Prayer in Missionary Work .....	.01
19.	The Work of the Church .....	.02
20.	The Time and the Work .....	.05
	The Home Bible Study League	Free

Books

Christian Service (cloth)	1.25
Christian Service (flexible leather)	2.00
How to Give Bible Readings (paper) .....	.50
How to Give Bible Readings (cloth)	1.00
Lessons for Home Missionary Institutes	1.00

HOME MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT.

SQUARE thyself for use; a stone that may fit in the wall is not left in the way.—*Persian Proverb*.



Missionary Prayer Meeting Suggestions

February 1

TOPIC: "Our Very Best."

TEXT: Galatians 6:6-10.

SEED THOUGHTS: If we do what we can and our best, we have God's assurance that we shall reap our reward in due season. God does not say what the reward will be, or when it will come, but it will come, and it will be a soul-satisfying reward from One who is all-wise. "The Lord has a great work to be done, and He will bequeath the most in the future life to those who do the most faithful, willing service in the present life."—"Christ's Object Lessons," p. 330. (See also "Testimonies," Vol. IX, p. 56; Vol. II, p. 24; Vol. VI, pp. 477-478; Vol. V, p. 488; "Christ's Object Lessons," pp. 373-375. We are in Christ's service to do our very best.

February 8

TOPIC: "Never Give Up."

TEXT: Luke 22:31-34.

SEED THOUGHTS: Peter fell, but Christ kept on trusting him and praying for him, and he became one of the most useful of the apostolic band. (See "Christ's Object Lessons," pp. 152-156.) This is the way we can best help others. One of the two robbers repented on the cross. We can keep on praying, no matter what happens, and prayer brings the Almighty to our aid. Study the parable of the importunate widow in Luke 18:1-8.

February 15

TOPIC: "God's Purpose for His Church."

TEXT: Ephesians 3:10.

SEED THOUGHTS: Organized for service, and its mission is to carry the gospel to the world. Christ's commission to His church is, "Go ye into all the world." The church is to show forth His glory. It is God's fortress, His city of refuge, which "He holds in a revolted world." His church is to be a blessing to the world, and is to reveal His character to men. (See "The Acts of the Apostles," pp. 9-24.)

February 22

TOPIC: "Witnessing for Christ."

TEXT: Acts 1:8.

SEED THOUGHTS: All to bear witness for Christ. "The Desire of Ages," pp. 347-348; "Christ's Object Lessons," p. 125. Daily. "The Acts of the Apostles," p. 55. Under all circumstances. Id., pp. 466, 467. Examples of Paul as a faithful witness. Id., pp. 446-456. Also Paul before Felix. Id., p. 423.

February 29

TOPIC: "No Time for Delay."

TEXT: Zephaniah 1:14.

SEED THOUGHTS: Always ready for service. "Testimonies," Vol. IX, pp. 48, 32. No time to lose. Id., Vol. VI, p. 22; Vol. IX, pp. 126, 127. We are nearing the close of this world's history, and it is time to sound an alarm. Vol. VII, p. 270; Vol. VI, p. 22. No time now for self-serving, and we endanger our own salvation if we hold back. Vol. IX, p. 56; Vol. V, pp. 460, 461.

PRAYER is not out of fashion to those who keep up to date in God's service.—*The Expositor*.

Model Church Organization

"The organization of the church at Jerusalem was to serve as a model for the organization of churches in every other place where messengers of truth should win converts to the gospel. . . . Later in the history of the early church, when in various parts of the world many groups of believers had been formed into churches, the organization of the church was further perfected, so that order and harmonious action might be maintained. Every member was exhorted to act well his part. Each was to make a wise use of the talents intrusted to him."—"The Acts of the Apostles," pp. 91, 92. The small hut encouraging beginnings in the way of Christian help hands, literature bands, the Dorcas societies, etc., can be greatly strengthened and introduced everywhere. The people of the world admire and appreciate a Christian society that exhibits a vital, active Christianity.

The most powerful means of advancing the home missionary cause is our example. Doing and teaching—that was Christ's method. Acts 1:1 says, "Jesus began both to do and teach." May we be preserved from the faults which Christ blames so severely in Matthew 23:3, 4: "All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not. For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers."

Attention, Pastors and Church Elders!

THE General Conference Committee has set aside, by definite action, February 12-25 as our annual *Signs of the Times* campaign. We believe so much in the ability of the *Signs* to win souls, that we are willing to set aside a definite time so that this matter may be taken up in all our churches. In fact, it is our urgent request that every church have a club of *Signs*. Our goal is at least one subscription for every member.

As we look back over the soul-winning history of our pioneer missionary paper, we can safely say it is the greatest soul-winner of us all, and the year 1927 was its best. Evidently the older and more experienced it becomes, the stronger work it does. Making fifty-two weekly visits every year, with the first copy of each month a special color number, it brings the third angel's message so vividly to the attention of the reader that he has no choice but to accept or reject it.

In one remote town of Indiana, the president of the local conference tells of eighteen who are keeping the Sabbath. This is the work of one Seventh-day Adventist who sent a club of *Signs* to interested people. We had no church there prior to his effort. Now there is a fine little church with a membership of eighteen. Would you add to your membership this year? Let the *Signs* be your right-hand helper. It never fails. The *Signs*, brethren, will soon be sending you special promotion matter and experiences to assist you in presenting this matter to your church. Our subscription list now stands at 53,000. Think what the result would be in souls if every one of our 2,400 churches in North America responded with a good club of *Signs*. "More Signs Means More Souls."

GENERAL CONFERENCE HOME MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT.

Jesus Our Storehouse

IN Jesus dwell all the promises of heaven. Have you ever tried to think of anything that heaven would lack? Sin, and the things that sin has caused, will not be there, but everything that the heart can wish is there for you and me, and we are told that in Jesus there is all fullness. That means fullness of strength to meet temptations, fullness of joy to bring happiness, fullness of understanding and sympathy. He is like a great lake or reservoir, and all that we have to do is to raise our hearts to Him each time that difficulty or temptation or a task faces us. We may draw upon Him for our supply, and still there is all the fullness of heaven left.

CHRISTIANS are like pianos, grand, square, upright, and are no good if not in tune.



An Experience From Hungary The Prayer of Faith Heals the Sick

IN 1925, while engaged in house-to-house work with a health paper, Brother — went to the home of a very sick lady. She would not listen to him, however, and endeavored to turn him away with the words: "This paper is no good to me. I have had hemorrhage of the lungs for two months, my doctor has given me up, and nobody can help me now." After making further inquiries as to her condition, our colporteur comforted her by saying that Jesus Christ, who was the Great Physician, had not given her up, and that if she desired it, he would pray for her. Needless to say, the sick woman was very much astonished to hear the book evangelist speak to her thus, for nobody had ever spoken to her in such a manner before. So she did not refuse the health paper, and also consented to his praying for her.

The next day, Brother — was giving a Bible study in the same village, and to his utter amazement the sick woman for whom he had prayed the previous day, was present. She afterward related her experience, telling him that while he was kneeling down and praying for her, she felt a healing power within her. Meanwhile she had heard of the Bible study that was to be held, and felt impressed to get up from her bed of sickness and attend the little meeting. She was intensely surprised at her own strength in being able to undertake the quarter of an hour's walk to the place where the Bible study was to be held, after having been in bed for more than eight weeks. At the close of the meeting she ordered a Bible and arranged with the worker for more Bible studies. She fully regained her health, and for more than a year has been a baptized member of our church. Before her baptism, she visited her native town where several relatives were living. Owing to her wonderful experience, three of them are now enjoying fellowship with us. Two of them are very successful book evangelists.

Colporteur Invited to Canvass Methodist Congregation in New York City

LAST week Brother Frank Rizzo, our first regular Italian colporteur in this conference, canvassed a Methodist minister. This minister liked the book so well he suggested that Brother Rizzo attend his church the next Sunday and give his congregation an opportunity to purchase this book. So our colporteur attended his service that Sunday night, and after delivering a short sermon to his people, the pastor introduced our colporteur to his congregation, and invited him to speak. The colporteur came forward, and, of course, brought his prospectus along with him. He canvassed the entire church, and secured an order for his book from one third of the members present, and was invited to return later when more of the members would be there and thus give them an opportunity to secure the book. The colporteur talked to one of the members after the meeting, and has him interested in our truth. He arranged for this member to receive Bible studies. Surely the Lord is directing the work of this God-fearing colporteur. A few weeks ago two precious souls were baptized into this truth as a direct result of Brother Rizzo's colporteur work. This colporteur has delivered more than \$2,500 worth of our literature to the Italian people in New York City in the first nine months of this year. Let us unite in praying God's continued blessing upon this faithful minister of the printed page.—*W. Pergande, in Atlantic Union Gleaner.*

Encouraging Report

DANIEL RODRIGUEZ moved to La Union, Salvador, eighteen months ago, and started to do what he could in the tailoring business. He was so poor that he had to rent his sewing machine; but he loved the truth; and found time to do missionary work. As the result of his personal work, there are eight in the town of La Union who have accepted the truth, one of these being a lawyer. He did not confine his missionary activity to the town, but visited the surrounding country, and three persons in Conchagua are to-day rejoicing in the truth as the result of his visits, and many others are interested in the message in the districts where he has scattered the seeds of truth.

Valentin Laro sold some small books in San Vicente, Salvador, a few years ago, but left the country before he saw any fruits from his labors. The seeds of truth contained in those books have germinated and developed into a foliage which gives promise of remarkable fruitage. Two young men who purchased some of these books accepted the truth, and have developed into modern Waldensian missionaries. They are traveling merchants, but they make a specialty of carrying the message with their merchandise. As the result of their missionary work, a company of twenty-eight believers meet for worship in San Vicente every Sabbath. In this company there are four traveling merchants, and they are scattering the truth in all the surrounding country, and the Lord is greatly blessing them both financially and spiritually.

These young men brought the truth to the attention of a merchant and his family. This merchant owns the largest retail dry goods business in the city. His son has already accepted the truth, and has removed his share of the business to a separate store; and the father told us at the time of our visit that he also had fully decided to close his business on the Sabbath. Some became agitated about this, and tried every plan to turn them from their purpose, using as a last resort the boycott; but the merchant told us that he is doing more business than he did before.

One interesting thing concerning this family is the fact that the father, mother, and two eldest children were born in Bethlehem of Judea. In 1921 they returned to their native land and town, taking all their children with them, at a transportation expense of \$12,500. Here in the town where Jesus was born, the eldest son found a wife among his own people, who is now also rejoicing in the truth. To make this trip to Palestine, the merchant closed his store for one year, so he should not find it too great a sacrifice to close it on the Sabbath each week. He told us that he is so interested in the study of the Bible that he arises in the night to read it. Such developments as these indicate how the Lord will "finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness." No minister has ever labored in this city of San Vicente, and what has been accomplished there has been entirely the result of the missionary activity of the lay members of the company.—*C. E. Wood, in Field Gleanings From the South Caribbean.*

An Experience From England

ONE of our colporteurs was recently going from door to door with *Present Truth*, the English missionary paper. He said:

"When I presented my work, the gentleman refused. Just then his wife came to the door and said to me, 'I will ask you one question: Why does not the church keep the right Sabbath, Saturday?' I replied, 'Do you keep Saturday in your home as the Sabbath?' Upon receiving the answer, 'Yes,' I further asked, 'What place of worship do you attend?' 'None,' was the reply, 'because there is nowhere to go on that day. We are a sect of our own. Yes,' she continued, 'the Bible tells that the seventh day is the Sabbath, and we keep it.' 'And so do I,' was my reply. They were quite surprised and pleased, and promised to come to church."

So the colporteur is ever finding souls who are looking for light and truth. We are told in the spirit of prophecy that many are right on the border of the kingdom, waiting to be gathered in. One of the colporteurs' duties is to help the work of gathering in these waiting ones.

Junior Missionary Volunteer Meetings

Suggestion to Junior Superintendents

THE strength of a society can be measured by the fidelity of its leaders to the purposes, aims, and ideals for which it was founded. This calls for frequent reference to the charter so that no vital points may be neglected. Our charter is the Junior Manual. Leaders in Junior work will find it helpful to follow month by month the suggestions in this column, which will serve as a guide through the Manual. Officers of the Junior society will be glad to assist the superintendent in a check up of the society. We suggest that the superintendent carefully review each chapter, and impart to the society officers the main essentials, at the same time directing their attention to the Manual for more complete information. The current month should be devoted to a careful study of Chapter I, dealing with the purpose of the Junior society.

Outline: 1. Instruction from the spirit of prophecy.
2. Characteristics of the Junior age.
3. Suitable leadership.
(Order the Junior Manual from your Book and Bible House, price \$1.)
J. F. S.

Offerings for Mt. Roraima Mission

THE following story and poem are to be used as offering stimulators. (See also blackboard drawing, page 12.)

Story: "Help the Helpless"

"I WONDER why God just let us have the little angel for so short a time and then took him away?" said a young father with unspeakable anguish in his broken voice as his burning eyes turned again to the bier of rough bamboo poles where his little son lay stiff and cold. The speaker was an Indian of about twenty-five years, who himself was stretched out on a grass mat beneath the palm-thatch roof that was to him and his the only home they had ever known. The same dreaded disease that, like the destroying angel of the Egyptian plagues, had taken the life of his first-born, was preying upon his vitals. He moaned feebly as the pains gripped him, and tossed his head from side to side in a vain effort to rid himself of the innumerable flies that were seeking shelter from the broiling tropical sun, and their dinner from the filth and squalor of the hut. At the pathetic words of her husband, the mother of the little, still form on the bier, hugged another little brown, squirming body closer to her breast as if to shield it from the great unknown, while she wiped her eyes on the bottom of her loose shirt waist.

The father's name was Cayetano Martinez. He lived right across the ravine from his father and brother, each of whom had large families. They all lived and died just like Cayetano. They all had the same great longing in their hearts for something better—they knew not what; and they all felt bitter and disappointed that civilization had passed them by on the other side like the priest and Levite of the parable.

I had been visiting them for several weeks, seeking an opportunity to help them in some way. When dysentery, the most dreaded of all tropical ailments, began its work among them, I had redoubled my efforts. Their village was about twelve miles from where I lived, so I could make only a short visit every day. Despite my efforts against the unsanitary conditions existing, no precautions whatever were taken. The flies were allowed to revel in the filth which was not disposed of until I came, and then the flies lighted on the babies' faces and their food. But still the poor bereaved father and mother, with just as big an ache in their hearts as you and I can have, wondered why "God had taken" their little one from them.

Their neglect was not willful, and hence not criminal, but just due to an appalling ignorance of the simplest sanitation. And there are about two million more "Cayetanos" here in this mission; and they all have the same need. If they can learn to appreciate the bodies that God has given them, and how to

live and care for themselves and families, they can also appreciate spiritual truths.

It is no longer a theory that these people can be changed; it is a proved fact. We have more than a thousand members from among this very class whose lives have been literally transformed. They were born in degradation, and from their earliest youth they were steeped in vice. While still babies in the arms of their mothers, they learned to drink and smoke. But now they are clear-eyed, sober, honorable citizens, and are anxious to help their own people. They need education and guidance in doing right until they learn to stand alone. Your offerings will do this great work.

O. C. BARRETT.

Always Giving

GIVING, giving, always giving,
Is my Lord to me;
Giving of His grace and blessing,
Sinful though I be.
And shall I withhold from giving
While He gives to me?
Cling to earth and earthly treasures,
Though the need I see?
No, I'll give to spread the message,
Give to Him I love,
Give to herald wide the coming
Of my blessed Lord;
Give as I have been forgiven,
Give to send His word
To poor souls who sit in darkness,
Knowing not the Lord.

C. P. BOLLMAN.

How God Used a Humble Girl

(For Week Ending February 4)

Suggestive Program

Song Service: Nos. 51 and 52 in "Sunshine Songs for Boys and Girls." Two Prayers by Juniors.

Announcements. (Have the blackboard reminder, p. 12, where all can see, and check up on mission offerings. Have you raised one third of the amount you plan to give this quarter? One month is gone.)

Guess Who: "Childhood Days." (A Junior should tell of Ellen G. Harmon White's childhood days without giving her name. See "Testimonies," Vol. I, pp. 9-13.)

Superintendent's Talk: "God Always Leads." (Briefly and simply make it clear to the Juniors that Mrs. White was called by God. Glean thoughts from "The Great Second Advent Movement," by J. N. Loughborough, pp. 198-201, 466; or the introduction to "The Great Controversy," especially pp. vii and viii. Close talk with prayer.)

Bible Study: "The Gift of Prophecy." (See Junior Standard of Attainment Manual, p. 10.)

Leader's Talk: "Obeying When God Calls." (See "The Great Second Advent Movement," pp. 182, 188, 202; or "Pioneer Stories," by A. W. Spalding, pp. 248-258, middle of page. Emphasize the fact that God expects strict obedience when He calls us to a task.)

Story: "A Doubting Thomas." (See "The Great Second Advent Movement," pp. 255-258.)

Stories: "A Vision of the Advent People." (Mrs. White's first vision, found in "Testimonies," Vol. I, pp. 58-61; "Early Writings," pp. 13-20; or "Pioneer Stories," pp. 253-255, middle of page.)

"Keeping Humble." (Second and third visions. See "The Great Second Advent Movement," pp. 211, 212; "Testimonies," Vol. I, pp. 62-65; or "Early Writings," pp. 20, 21, par. 1.)

Recitation: "Thank God."
Close With Song and Prayer.

Note to Leaders

The Juniors growing up to-day do not have the direct assurance of the reality of the spirit of prophecy such as we have had who saw and talked with Sister White in years gone by. There is danger that they will not be firmly established in this vital Seventh-day Adventist doctrine. To-day help them to become acquainted with Sister White, and the work which God did through her. At some time during the meeting show her picture. Perhaps you can obtain small ones which the Juniors can keep in their notebooks.

Thank God

THANK God for fearless prophets
Who've firmly stood for truth,
And penned on earth God's messages—
Safe guides for age and youth.

Thank God for servants, willing
To face the scorn of men,
To show Christians their mistakes,
And help them back again.

Thank God for men and women true,
Who heed the Spirit's voice,
And read God's messages to them,
And make His will their choice.

Thank God that His prophetic light
Shines all along the way,
And shows us Christ will come again
In our own time and day.

—Selected.

Why I Like Abraham Lincoln

(For Week Ending February 11)

Suggestive Program

Songs. (Nos. 71, 539, 264, 659, and 832 in "Christ in Song.")
 Sentence Prayers.
 Leader's Talk: "A Character Worth Studying." (See Notes to Leaders; also "True Education Reader," Book Four, pp. 295-297.)
 Talk: "The Boyhood of Abraham Lincoln." (See "True Education Reader," Book Four, pp. 291-294.)
 Recitation: "Why One Boy Likes Abraham Lincoln."
 Song: "Look for the Beautiful."
 Talk: "Honest Abe."
 Symposium: "Character Sketches."
 Responses: "What I Like Most in Abraham Lincoln." (Ask the Juniors to tell in a sentence what they like most in Abraham Lincoln. The Junior superintendent should tactfully draw lessons.)
 Song: "Building for Eternity."
 Close by Repeating Junior Pledge.

Notes to the Leader

Emphasize to-day the reason why it is worth while for Juniors to study the life of Abraham Lincoln. On the blackboard draw a log house or sketch an open fireplace with a boy sprawled before it, reading. Or perhaps the Junior boys will build a miniature log cabin for exhibition.

Sometimes boys and girls think that their studies are hard and troublesome. Let them remember Abraham Lincoln, a poor boy, with practically no schooling, poring over his books after a hard day's work, by the light of a pine-knot fire, who by keeping steadily at it became one of the most remarkable speakers that the world has known, and the author of some of the finest writings in the English language. He gave seven rules for living which are fine for every Junior (list on blackboard):

"Do not worry. Eat three square meals a day. Say your prayers. Be courteous to your creditors. Keep your digestion good. Exercise. Go slow and go easy."

After these rules he added: "Maybe there are other things that your special case requires to make you happy, but, my friend, these I reckon will give you a good lift."

Why One Boy Likes Abraham Lincoln

OF all the Lincoln stories told
 I think that one's the best of all
 About him and the little bird,
 And how he heard its call.

You, know, the one that tells about
 How Lincoln, on a summer day,
 Riding on horseback with a friend,
 Along a tree-lined way,
 Heard doleful peeps that seemed to come
 From out the tangled wayside grass;
 And though he had no time to spare,
 He could not bear to pass,
 E'en though his journey called for haste,
 But stopped his horse, dismounted there;
 And searching in the tangled grass,
 And stepping with great care,
 He found a little weakling bird
 That fell from out its mother's nest.
 He climbed the tree quick as he could,
 And put it with the rest!

Why, such a story makes you know
 He never could be mean or glum!
 It makes you wish so hard to have
 A boy like him for chum!

—Minnie Leona Upton.

Talk: "Honest Abe"

ANOTHER good quality of Lincoln's life was his strict honesty, which caused him to be called "Honest Abe." The story is told that when a boy he borrowed from a neighbor a book, "Life of Washington." He read it at night until the candle burned out, and then he put it between the logs in the loft where he slept. During the night a heavy rain came up, and the book was wet through and through. After drying the book as well as he could, he went and told the neighbor what had happened to the book and offered to work for him to pay the damage. He worked three days pulling corn to pay for it.

Other incidents that show his strict honesty, even in little things, occurred while he was clerking in a store. One evening in counting the cash, he found there were a few cents too much, and discovered that he had made a mistake in making change for a lady, there being about six cents yet due her. After he closed the store, he walked several miles to her home to make the matter right.

At another time, it is said, when he arrived at the store one morning, he noticed on the scales a weight that he had used the night before. The weight was not the one that he had intended to use, but was a smaller one. So the purchaser

had received two ounces of tea less than had been paid for. Lincoln made this right also.

Lincoln's strict honesty and great kindness were two of the things that made him great.—"Bits of Biography."

Symposium: "Character Sketches"

Kindness to Animals.—A few days before his eighth birthday, a flock of wild turkeys approached the new log cabin; and Abraham with a rifle gun, standing inside, shot through a crack and killed one of them. The rest of the flock flew away. Abraham went out and stroked the broken wing, gently and tenderly. His little sister, Sarah, was praising him for his fine marksmanship, but he did not seem to hear her. Touching his shoulder, she said, "I am glad of your fine luck!" But when Abraham raised his head, there were tears in his eyes, and he told her he was not glad but sorry that he had killed the fowl of the air. "I will never kill any larger game," he said. That was a big promise to make, but Abraham Lincoln made it and kept it, for never again did he purposely kill any living creature.

Reverence.—One time at the old meeting house on the hills, there was a group of boys in the corner behind the big stove,—as far away as they could get from the eyes of the preacher. One of the boys was throwing chestnuts to the girls on the other side of the stove, and once in a while he threw one at some one who was taking a nap. After the doxology, Abraham Lincoln quietly walked up to this boy and said, "Bob, if you do that again, I'll pick you up by the back of your neck and carry you out." Bob didn't do it again, for every boy knew that Abraham meant what he said, and they honored him for his stand.

Helpfulness.—President Lincoln was walking with a friend about Washington, and turned back for some distance to assist a beetle that had gotten on its back, and lay on the walk, legs sprawling in air, vainly trying to turn itself over. The friend expressed surprise that the President, burdened with the cares of a warring nation, should find time to spare in assisting a bug. "Well," said Lincoln, "do you know if I had left that bug struggling there on his back, I wouldn't have felt just right. I wanted to put him on his feet, and give him an equal chance with all the other bugs of his class." This also applies to helping men and women, boys and girls, upon their feet, and giving them an equal chance with all others of their class.

Courtesy.—Every morning about eight o'clock President Lincoln was at his office. Of course he had many visitors. Some days the crowd was so great that he could not attend to the letters that came to him. But no matter how crowded his office, nor how high his desk might be piled up with important mail, he never lost his patience, and never seemed to be in a hurry. Some of his visitors were prominent men, but many of his friends from the backwoods came to see him, too. "On one occasion, while he was receiving some distinguished political leaders from a distance, an elderly woman in a big sunbonnet, coarse shoes, and a short dress appeared, carrying in her hand a package wrapped in brown paper, and tied with a white string. Lincoln turned at once to greet her, inquiring for her 'folk.' Handing him the package, which contained a pair of coarse blue woolen stockings, she said with pride: 'I wanted to give you somethin', Mr. Linkin, to take to Washin'ton, and that's all I had. I spun that yarn and knit them socks myself.' After thanking her heartily, Lincoln escorted her to the door with as much courtesy as if she had been a queen. Such incidents, showing the friendly attitude of the plain people toward the man who had worked humbly among them, were frequent and gave Lincoln much pleasure."

Love for Children.—Many beautiful stories of Lincoln's love for and kindness to children are told. One time at an afternoon reception at the White House, three little girls slipped in with the visitors. They were children from a poor family, and shabbily dressed. But they were as curious as any child to see the White House. Once inside, however, they felt afraid, and hurried from room to room so as to get out quickly. But the President saw them and called out, "Little girls, are you going to pass me without shaking hands?" Down bent his tall, awkward form, and he shook each little girl warmly by the hand. The honored visitors stood by spellbound at this great man's simple and sincere love for children.

I Will "Do My Honest Part"

(For Week Ending February 18)

Suggestive Program

Opening Song: "Singing as We Journey." (No. 264 in "Christ in Song.")

Reports and Mission Offering.

Scripture Text: "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might." Eccl. 9: 10.

Prayer by the Superintendent.

Volunteers on the Junior Law. (Call for Volunteers to repeat the Junior Law. Drill until all know it.)

Leader's Talk: "Do My Honest Part."

A Story: "Seebly and Ollie Poot," or, "With a Will, Joe." (The first is found in "The Measure of a Man," by A. W. Spalding, pp. 40-43, a 1926 Senior Reading Course book. Explain these boys' names by writing them on the blackboard. For the second story see "Choice Readings for the Home Circle," pp. 885-887. This is one of the 1928 Junior Reading Course books.)

Recitation: "The Zigzag Boy and Girl," or, "Do With Your Might." (The second is in "Choice Readings for the Home Circle," p. 887.)

Special Song: "The Oil Can Brigade." (No. 32 in "Sunshine Songs for Boys and Girls.")

Talk: "Too Big for His Job."

Recitation: "Your Privilege: Go to It!"

Superintendent's Talk: "Who Is the Greatest?"

In Closing, Repeat Together the Junior Pledge and Law.

Leader's Talk: "Do My Honest Part"

A PART of the Junior Law is to "Do my honest part," and we Juniors promised to do it. Nobody likes a slacker. He isn't satisfied with himself, and he proves it by all the time bragging how much he does, one way and another, which is one way of saying, "Don't look at me! Look at the picture I make of myself. That's the kind of lad I want you to think I am."

But the boy and the girl who buckle down to good hard work when there is anything to be done, are the ones who get satisfaction out of life. They learn how to do things, and so when they come up to hard problems, they don't flatten out like softies, but they go at it and do it.

The boy and the girl who do their honest part are the ones who take on the home chores and the work in the house, who get their studies in school, not just to squeeze through, but to learn everything the best they can and be able to use it, and who put all their strength and might into everything that comes to them to do, in play and work and study.

They are the boy and the girl whom everybody likes to have around because they help and don't whine. And they are the boy and the girl who will do great things for God.

A. W. SPALDING.

The Zigzag Boy and Girl

I KNOW a little zigzag boy,
Who goes this way and that;
He never knows just where he puts
His coat, or shoes, or hat.

I know a little zigzag girl,
Who flutters here and there;
She never knows just where to find
Her brush to fix her hair.

If you are not a zigzag child,
You'll have no cause to say
That you forgot, for you will know
Where things are put away.

— Selected.

Talk: "Too Big for His Job"

ONE day during the Revolutionary War, when the American Army was building its camp at Valley Forge, Gen. George Washington, without his uniform, walked out along the camp street to where a squad of soldiers were putting up a log hut. There were four men working, and they had over them a corporal, who is the officer of lowest rank in the army.

As General Washington came along, the men were trying to hoist a heavy log up high on the wall, while the corporal stood by, blowing and blustering because they were having such a hard time of it.

Washington stopped, and after a second he said to the officer, "Why don't you go in and give them a lift?"

"What!" said the corporal, "me go and work with the privates? Why, I'm their officer! I'm the corporal!"

"So," said Washington, "you are the corporal, are you?" and he smiled. Then he jerked off his coat, stepped down to one end of the log, put his six feet of bone and muscle under it, and gave it a lift with the men that brought the log up in a hurry. Then he looked at the corporal sternly, and the foolish man shrank from his gaze. "The next time you have a job

too big for you, corporal, like lifting a log," he said, "send for the commander of the army, General Washington."

Your Privilege: Go to It!

WHEN there is a work to do
That some one must carry through,
If you feel it's up to you,
Go to it.

Let the job be what it may,
Conscience is your guide—ohey!
Will oan always find the way—
Go to it.

Don't give up when skies are gray!
Let the storm heat as it may,
You can drive the clouds away,
Go to it.

When you've slaved from dawn to dawn,
Hope delayed and courage gone,
Take a new grip and—hold on!
Go to it.

What's been done in days gone by
You can do! Brace up, and try!
Claim the duty! Win, or die!
Go to it.

Make hay while the sun is high!
Night is coming, by and by;
Into song change every sigh—
Go to it.

When some pleasure heaves in sight
To which you have gained the right,
Then, with all your will and might
Go to it.

Follow your Creator's plan;
Do the very best you can
For yourself and fellow man—
Go to it.

Live, that when with earth you're through
Folks will justly say of you:
"He was brave, and kind, and true!"
Go to it.

— Charles H. Gabriel.

Superintendent's Talk: "Who Is the Greatest?"

WHEN Jesus was with His disciples on earth, He often found them quarreling about which one was the greatest. Peter thought he was the greatest, James and John thought they were the greatest, Judas Iscariot thought he was the greatest, and so each one of them thought about himself. Every one of them was afraid to work for the others because he thought they would then count him a servant, and say that they were greater than he. So no one was ever quite ready to do his honest part.

The last night Jesus was with them, they came into the room where they were going to eat the Passover supper, and they were all thinking about which one of them was the greatest. We can imagine Judas saying, "I am the greatest one," and Peter replying, "No, you are not greater than I." Then we would expect John and James to speak up and say, "No one can set himself above us." Then doubtless Thomas and Matthew and all the rest would say, "If you think we are going to wait on the rest of you, you are certainly mistaken."

There was no servant there, and so there was no one to wash their feet, which were dusty with walking. But do you think any one would fetch a basin and water and towels? No, sir! Not one of them was going to wait upon any of the others. So they sat and looked at one another, each one trying to prove by being sulky that he was greater than the rest.

Pretty soon Jesus rose, went to the water pitcher and filled a basin with water, then He took a towel and came and knelt down before one of them and began to wash his feet. Peter was ashamed of himself, and I think every one of them was. But they had to let Jesus wash their feet, and when He had finished, He said, "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. . . . Verily, verily, I say unto you, the servant is not greater than his Lord."

Jesus had acted as a servant in washing their feet, and they should do the same. He that is really greatest is the one that is most willing to do the work and be the servant of all.

A. W. SPALDING.

When to Say "No" to Ourselves

(For Week Ending February 25)

Suggestive Program

Songs. (Choose such songs as Nos. 581, 559, 521, 66, 59 in "Christ in Song.")

Bible Reading: "Self-Control."

Prayer.

Reading: "When to Say 'No' to Ourselves."

Recitation: "A Little Word, but Hard to Say."

Reading: "Stop and Weigh."

Illustrated Talk: "Tire Trouble." (The Junior giving this should bring an old inner tube to meeting, and illustrate how nails, etc., puncture the tire.)

Superintendent's Remarks: "Questions on Self-Control." (See Superintendent's Note.)

Memory Drill: "The Law of Self-Control."

Song: "Dare to Do Right." (No. 67 in "Christ in Song.")

Superintendent's Note

This lesson on self-control can be made of more practical value if the children are encouraged to take part in a sort of round-table talk following the superintendent's remarks. The superintendent should take charge of this, and guide the Juniors by asking questions or giving hints. The week before the meeting ask each Junior to write on a slip of paper one thing to which he ought to say "No." Suggest that they ask older folks to help them. Tell them to be ready to explain *why*. In the meeting let them read what they have written, and give their explanation. Here are suggestive questions:

1. Why should we say "No" to ourselves at all? (Hint: To develop character or will power, to choose the right.)
2. What does self-indulgence mean?
3. How did Daniel say "No" to a king's command? (See Dan. 1: 8 or Dan. 6: 10.)
4. When did Jesus say "No"? (Let the story of Jesus' temptation be briefly talked over.)
5. How does Jesus help us to say "No"? (Hint: By example, through conscience, by reading the Bible the Holy Spirit speaks to us.)

Bible Reading: "Self-Control"

(Before the meeting hand out slips giving questions and texts. Let the Junior ask the question on his slip and read the answer from the Bible.)

1. WHAT shall we do when tempted to do wrong? James 1: 12.
2. What shall we do when we feel lazy? Prov. 6: 6-9.
3. What shall we do when tempted to lie? Ps. 31: 18, first part.
4. What shall we do when angry? Prov. 15: 1.
5. What shall we do when tempted to be dishonest? Heb. 13: 18.
6. What shall we do when selfish? Rom. 15: 1.
7. What shall we do when ready to boast? Prov. 27: 1.
8. What shall we do to be like Jesus? Matt. 16: 24.

Reading: "When to Say 'No' to Ourselves"

THE boys were in town for the day. Mother was going away for the day. They had money for lunch. "I know what I'll have for lunch," said John. "What?" asked James. "Pie," cried John, "all pie, nothing else. Just pie." "But," objected James, "you know that pie does not agree with you. You are sure to be sick afterward." "I don't care," said the boy; "I'm going to have pie for lunch, no matter if I am sick."

And he did. He liked pie very much, and he ate a good deal more of it that day than he ought to have eaten, even if it had agreed with him. The result was that he was very sick, and suffered for days after. He should have said "No" to his liking for pie. We must learn to say "No" to things that are not good for us. Most people eat too much of the things they like, regardless of the effect. That is why so many are fat. They eat too much sugar and starch. They go by their taste, and not by their needs. They think that if they are not really sick, it is all right. But it is not all right. The effect may be felt years afterward. Can we say "No" to sweet and delicious things? — *Christian Endeavor World*.

Reading: "Stop and Weigh"

ONE morning an enraged countryman came into Mr. Martin's shop. He left a team in the street, and had a good stick in his hand. "Mr. Martin," said the angry countryman, "I bought a paper of nutmegs here in your store, and when I got home, they were more than half walnuts; and that's the young villain that I bought 'em of," pointing to John.

"John," said Mr. Martin, "did you sell this man walnuts for nutmegs?"

"No, sir," was the ready reply.

"You lie, you villain!" said the countryman, still more enraged at his assurance.

"Now look here," said John, "if you had taken the trouble to weigh your nutmegs, you would have found that I put in the walnuts gratis."

"Oh, you gave them to me, did you?"

"Yes, sir, I threw in a handful for the children to crack," said John, laughing at the same time.

"Well, now, if you ain't a young scamp," said the countryman, his features relaxing into a grin as he saw through the matter.

Much hard talk and bad blood would be saved if people would stop to weigh things before they blame others. "Think twice before you speak once," is an excellent motto.—*Evangelist*.

A Little Word, but Hard to Say

"No" is such a little word

It shouldn't be hard to say.
But of all the little words I know,
It's the hardest in every way.

When Tom comes out and says,
"A-fishing we will go,"
I'm very busy helping pa,
But I just can't say, "No."

Or Billy Jones comes 'long, and says,
"Let's play a game of keeps, Joe."
I know that I should straighten up,
And boldly answer, "No."

If Sam is smoking cigarettes,
A habit very low,
And says, "Take one, they're very fine,"
I'll surely answer, "No."

Let every boy in every land,
Whether Tom or Bill or Joe,
Whenever things look wrong to him,
Just up and answer, "No."

— E. N. W.

Illustrated Talk: "Tire Trouble"

PEOPLE who own automobiles have a great deal to say about "tire trouble." There are a great many kinds of tire trouble. In the first place, a tire often gets punctured by a nail running into it. Then there are "blow-outs" caused by the inner tube giving way. Then there are leaky valves, by which the air slowly leaks out. There are also sand blisters, caused by little particles of sand getting into the tire and making a swelling in it, which soon gives way. And finally tires may get rim cut, which means that the steel rim which fastens them on wears them through by rubbing. The result of these things is what is known as a flat tire, with all the air gone out, and the automobile bumps on the hard rim.

Boys and girls have tire troubles, too. I have seen boys and girls get so vexed about things that they just exploded in a burst of temper like a blow-out in a tire. I have known them to run up against something sharp and difficult which took all the buoyancy out of them, just like a nail causing a puncture in a tire. I have known them to tell a lie, although nobody else knew it, and it bothered them so inside that it was like sand on the inside of the tire causing a sand blister. I have known them to fret about things so that all their enthusiasm leaked away just as the tire that had a leaky valve. And finally I have known them to be rim cut by associating with some sharp-tongued boy or girl. The result of all this was a flat tire, and these boys and girls just went bumping along without any happiness or lightness of heart. They couldn't get anywhere with their work or their play.

The only cure that I know of for a boy or girl with a flat tire is more of God's uplifting strength. God says that they who trust in Him shall run, and not be weary.—*Howard J. Chadley, in "Fifty-two Story Talks to Boys and Girls."*

Memory Drill: "The Law of Self-Control"

I WILL control my tongue, and will not allow it to speak mean, vulgar, or profane words.

I will control my temper, and will not get angry when people or things displease me.

I will control my thoughts, and will not allow a foolish wish to spoil a wise purpose.

— W. J. Hutchins.

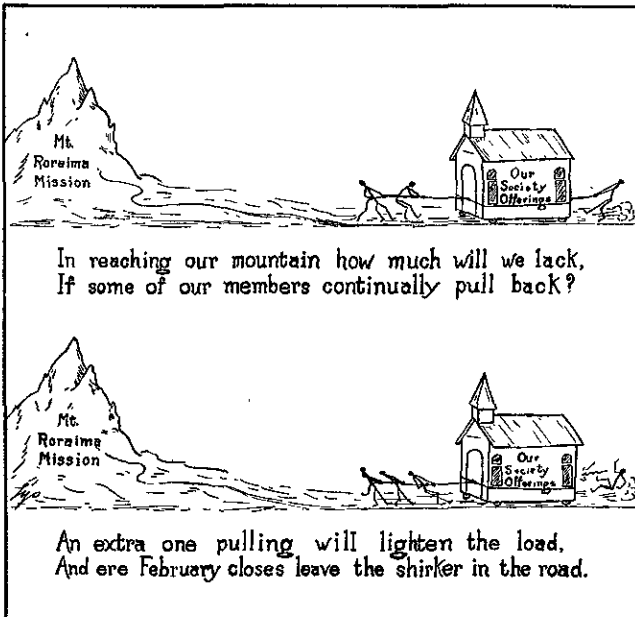
Senior Missionary Volunteer Meeting

Suggestions Corner for Senior Leaders

A *Weekly Officers' Meeting* is prerequisite to a successful Missionary Volunteer Society. This meeting can very well be connected with your Prayer and Personal Workers' Band each week, especially if the band is comprised largely of society officers. However, do not curtail the size of this band in order to combine the two. (See "Service Bands," page 16.) What can you do in these weekly officers' meetings?

1. Get a definite list of young people for whom you should work: Those who have left the society; those who attend but are not Christians.
2. Engage in definite prayer for those on your prayer list.
3. Go over the program for the next meeting. It is not the object of the weekly officers' meeting to make out the program. That should be done beforehand by one or more persons appointed. But it is more important to go over the program already planned. This gives all officers an interest in the meeting, and helps them to know how to pray definitely for it. Every program should have a definite object. If it is a drive to increase attendance, prepare a good program, work hard, and then *pray* for increased attendance.
4. Study how to promote definite features, such as Morning Watch, Bible Year, Reading Courses, missionary activities, social features, and all society goals.
5. Discuss last week's meeting. Get the habit of exchanging constructive criticism. This is the way to develop competent leaders.

M. E. D.



The Spirit of Prophecy in the Remnant Church

(For Week Ending February 4)

Suggestive Program

- A Song Service of Favorite Songs. (Have one or two chosen to avoid lagging at the start.)
- A Moment of Silent Prayer, Followed by the Lord's Prayer in Unison.
- Announcements. (Call special attention to your society mission offerings. Have the blackboard reminder in a conspicuous place.)
- Leader's Remarks: "God's Leadership." (Base your remarks on "Story of the Advent Message," by Matilda Erickson Andross, chapter VI, first section; also, the introduction to "The Great Controversy," especially pp. vii and viii. Call upon Missionary Volunteers to read texts quoted therein.)
- Talk: "Obeying When God Calls." (See "Story of the Advent Message," pp. 58-61; or, "The Great Second Advent Movement," by J. N. Loughborough, pp. 182, 183, 202, 212, 218.)
- Story: "A Doubting Thomas." (See "The Great Second Advent Movement," pp. 255-258; or, "Life Sketches," pp. 95-98.)
- Talk: "Applying the Test." (Glean only a few thoughts from "Story of the Advent Message," pp. 61-65; or "Early Writings," pp. 21-24.)
- Notebook Study: "Nature and Influence of the 'Testimonies.'" (See that all are supplied with pencils and paper. As each quotation is read, jot down an index word and the reference on the blackboard that all may copy and preserve the study.)
- Response: "The Spirit of Prophecy Reading Course." (Interest as many as possible in beginning this course at once.)
- Recitation: "Thank God." (See p. 8.)
- Close by Memorizing in Concert: Amos 3: 7; 2 Chronicles 20: 20, last part.
- The Bands Meet.

Note to the Leader

Your purpose to-day is to instill in the heart of every Missionary Volunteer a firm belief in the spirit of prophecy. You

may wish to eliminate some parts suggested and put in a Bible study. See the Senior Standard of Attainment Manual, "Studies on Bible Doctrines," Lesson 25, part 2. Or select texts from "Bible Readings for the Home Circle," chapter, "The Gift of Prophecy."

Notebook Study: "Nature and Influence of the 'Testimonies'"

(All references to "Testimonies for the Church;" 654: 2, mean page 654, par. 2.)

1. Is it necessary for us to understand the "Testimonies"?
"As the end draws near . . . it becomes more important for those who accept present truth to have a clear understanding of the nature and influence of the 'Testimonies,' which God in His providence has linked with the work of the third angel's messags from its very rise."—*Vol. V, 654: 2.*
2. Cannot the "Testimonies" be substituted for the Bible?
"The 'Testimonies' were not given to take the place of the Bible. . . . The word of God abounds in general principles for the formation of correct habits of living, and the 'Testimonies,' general and personal, have been calculated to call their attention more especially to these principles."—*Vol. V, 663: 1, 2.*
3. What leads to doubt of the "Testimonies"?
"The 'Testimonies' of His Spirit call your attention to the Scriptures, point out your defects of character, and rebuke your sins; therefore you do not heed them. And to justify your carnal, ease-loving course, you begin to doubt whether the 'Testimonies' are from God. If you would obey their teachings, you would be assured of their divine origin. Remember, your unbelief does not affect their truthfulness. If they are from God, they will stand."—*Vol. V, 234: 3.*

4. What is Satan's plan in regard to the "Testimonies"?

"It is Satan's plan to weaken the faith of God's people in the 'Testimonies.' . . . Satan knows the deceived ones will not stop at this; and he redoubles his efforts till he launches them into open rebellion."—*Vol. IV, 211: 2.*

5. To whom should we apply the warnings and reproofs given in the "Testimonies"?

"Some do harm by making them [the Testimonies] an iron rule for those who have had no experience in reference to them, but they fail to carry them out themselves."—*Vol. V, 669: 4.*

Response: "The Spirit of Prophecy Reading Course"

THE Spirit of Prophecy Reading Course consists of six books chosen by the individual reader from the twelve listed below. Three of these chosen must be from the list of large books given; the other three may be taken from either list.

Large Books

Patriarchs and Prophets
Prophets and Kings
The Desire of Ages
The Acts of the Apostles
The Great Controversy

Small Books

Education
Steps to Christ
Christ's Object Lessons
Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing
Early Writings
The Ministry of Healing
Messages to Young People

The six books must be read within a period of three consecutive years, in order to constitute the course. When the reading is completed, the General Conference Missionary Volunteer Department offers as an award your choice of the following list of books:

Gospel Workers
Education
Early Writings
Christ's Object Lessons
Life Sketches
Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing

To obtain a gift book, send to your local conference M. V. secretary three items of information: The name of the Missionary Volunteer completing the course, a list of the six books read, and title of the gift chosen.

Mission Offerings

KEEP the blackboard stimulator in a prominent place during the entire month of February. (See also mission story and poem on p. 8.)

One of the Enemies of Youth

(For Week Ending February 11)

Suggestive Program

Opening Songs: Nos. 587, 594, 67, 66, 598, in "Christ in Song."
Prayer.
Announcements, Offering, and Secretary's Report.
Leader's Remarks: "3,400,000 Miles." (See Notes to the Leader.)
Blackboard Talk: "Cigarette Figures." (Have blackboard bordered with cigarettes and curls of smoke.)
Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 6: 19, 20, and "The Ministry of Healing," pp. 327-329.
Poem: "Starting on Life's Journey."
Symposium: "A Physical, Mental, and Moral Enemy."
Testimonies of Great Men. (Many were given in the No-Tobacco number of "Our Little Friend," Oct. 28, 1927. Ask Missionary Volunteers to search out other sources.)
Talk: "A Savage Origin."
In Conclusion. (Have sufficient anti-tobacco pledges, M. V. Pledge No. 8, on hand to give out for every one to sign, and take an oral pledge that every Missionary Volunteer will do all in his power to stamp out this great enemy of youth.)
Closing Song: No. 316 in "Christ in Song."
Benediction.
Bands Meet.
 (We are indebted to C. P. Sorensen, Missionary Volunteer secretary of the Potomac Conference, for most of this program.)

Notes to the Leader

The purpose of this program is to show to every young man and young woman in your society the evils of tobacco using. Cigarette smoking creates a desire for stronger stimulants, "undermines the physical strength, dwarfs the body, stupefies the mind, and corrupts the morals." The old corncob pipe bites, but the cigarette is a mild, slow, insidious, and most malignant poison, and for that reason to-day it is a favorite. Cigarette smoking is one of the first symptoms in the life of a young person apostatizing or dropping out.
 There are two hundred tobacco stores to every book store in this country. In other words, we have 500,000 tobacco stores and only 2,500 book stores. Statistics show cigarettes sold in the United States:

1914	18,869,520,643
1920	47,430,105,055
1925	79,979,763,871
1926	(about) 86,000,000,000

Emphasize the fact that during the war there was an increase in one year of ten million cigarettes smoked in this country. Note increase since. That is one result of the war.

Approximately 3,400,000 miles of cigarettes were smoked in the United States during the twelve months that ended with June 30, 1926. Women inhaled about 15 per cent of these miles. Some one has said that two out of every five girls between the ages of fifteen and fifty smoke.

In three years, 1923-25, one tobacco firm spent \$5,000,000 in newspaper advertising. Another spent during the same period \$4,250,000. Another concern spent in billboards alone in 1924, \$4,000,000. Why all this expenditure? Explain how the appeal is made,—opera singers smoke cigarettes because they are mild (that is the deception), makes you manly (and womanly). That was Eve's temptation—her eyes would be opened.

Every year close to two million acres of land is used on which to raise tobacco. This land might be used for more profitable purposes. Tobacco depletes the soil of valuable elements.

Blackboard Talk: "Cigarette Figures"

"I AM not much of a mathematician," said a cigarette; "but I can add to a man's nervous troubles, I can subtract from his physical energy, I can multiply his aches and pains, and I can divide his mental forces; I can take interest from his work, and discount his chances of success."

About 86,000,000,000 cigarettes were smoked last year by about 75,000,000 of our population. This means an average of over 1,100 cigarettes for every person over fifteen years of age. (Figure out cost on blackboard, counting each cigarette cost three fourths of a cent.)

The cigarette bill of our nation for 1926 was about \$688,000,000. Figure out the average cost for these 75,000,000 adult smokers of our 118,000,000 population. In figuring the 1927 national cigarette bill add \$75,000,000 to the 1926 bill. Find the average cost.

If a man spends only 10 cents a day for cigarettes, how much will he spend in thirty years, not counting the interest on his money? Likewise how much if he spends 20 cents daily, and 30 cents daily? Many spend much more. (Call upon some one to read Isaiah 55: 2.)

Symposium: "A Physical, Mental, and Moral Enemy"

Leader.—Mr. Coundoures, the veteran Greek-American tobaccoist, who is said to have introduced the Turkish cigarette into England and America, and who has manufactured and sold billions of cigarettes, said that he considered cigarettes a poison

to any one who smokes more than two or three a day. Of all smokers, how many smoke *only* two or three daily?

1. **Dwarfs the Body.**—The boy who begins smoking in early youth is stunted in his growth. Many of these results are permanent, and can never be remedied.

2. **Nerve Centers.**—"Cigarette smoke has a violent action on the nerve centers, producing a degeneration of the cells of the brain, which is quite rapid among boys; unlike most narcotics, this degeneration is permanent and uncontrollable. In my opinion, there are enough degenerates in the world without manufacturing more by means of cigarettes."—*Thomas A. Edison.*

3. **Corrupts Morals.**—"Cigarette smoking weakens the body physically, and also mentally and morally. It weakens our resistance to temptations, leaves no stability. Cause of disease: Bulging of artery, chronic catarrh of nose, heart trouble, high blood pressure, and sour stomach."—"The Home Physician and Guide to Health," p. 83.

4. **Criminal Tendencies.**—The cigarette habit, if formed in early life, develops criminal tendencies, regardless of what a boy's heredity may be. Of our boys brought into our juvenile courts 93 per cent and more are cigarette addicts.

5. **Blunts Mentality.**—Careful studies by Dean Hornell, for two years, of men attending Ohio Wesleyan University showed that nonsmokers succeeded in obtaining 84 per cent of the high grades, while smokers obtained only 16 per cent of them. Dr. George Lewis states that in fifty years no tobacco user had taken first honors at Harvard.

6. **Hereditary.**—"The unhealthful practices of past generations affect the children and youth of to-day. Mental inability, physical weakness, disordered nerves, and unnatural cravings are transmitted as a legacy from parents to children."—"The Ministry of Healing," p. 328. With the girls and womanhood of to-day smoking, the hereditary influences will be still greater. What will the next generation be?

Starting on Life's Journey

You'RE starting, my boy, on your journey
 Along the great highway of life,
 You'll meet every day with temptations,
 Each city with vile men is rife.
 Although they may know that tobacco
 Makes a strong man nervous and slow,
 You'll find them ready to offer
 Cigarettes to you where'er you go.

They will tell you to smoke and be "manly,"
 With never a hint of the greed
 That's willing to profit in money
 On boys who take up with the weed.
 They may know that cigarette smokers
 Are turned down when hunting for work,
 Because every wise man in business
 Knows that smoking makes a boy shirk.

In good sense and grit is your safety—
 For the boy who thinks just a spell,
 Knows a habit can only prove harmful
 Which adds to him naught but a smell.
 So, if you'd really be manly,
 Do the things that will add to your joy,
 And the things that make you feel stronger
 As you grow to a man from a boy.

—Selected.

Talk: "A Savage Origin"

AMERICA is the home of many good things, but it is also the citadel of many evil things. History tells us that the evil habit of chewing and smoking tobacco originated in America. America and tobacco were discovered at the same time by European navigators. The sailors whom Columbus first sent to the island of Cuba brought back the report that the naked savages carried with them curious lighted fire brands in their mouths, from which they "drank smoke" and puffed it from their nostrils like devils. This is the first intimation and report which the civilized races had of tobacco and of smoke inhalation.

Great Britain was the first country among civilized nations to adopt this filthy and obnoxious custom of the savage Indians of North America. During the Elizabethan age nearly all men and women smoked in England. It was known as the "golden age of tobacco." It became such a public nuisance that public sentiment in time demanded that the nuisance should be abated, and legislation was passed to forbid smoking in public, and in

time smoking was looked upon as a "vulgar" practice. But nine of every ten who gave up smoking took to the use of snuff, which was not such a public nuisance, but more filthy and equally injurious to the health. The men and women of real refinement, stability, and moral stamina, not only refused to adopt this vile habit which appealed to the animal passions in man, but they started another wave of reform which swept over Great Britain, and wiped the snuff habit out as they had done with the smoking of tobacco.

Then came the Crimean War, and with it was introduced the modern cigarette among the English, French, and Spanish soldiers who were associated together on the battle field and army cantonments.

But it was not until this late World War that the cigarette habit became very prevalent in America. The rich cigarette manufacturers of America and Europe exploited our soldier boys in the army cantonments and on the battle fronts, and published advertisements and hung them up everywhere, telling the boys that the cigarette "calmed the nerves, soothed their fears, and drowned their sorrows." Soon most of the soldier boys indulged in the cigarette habit to great excess, especially when they could obtain them free from the Y. M. C. A. and other societies that were raising large funds at home for this very purpose. The cigarette manufacturers enjoyed this co-operation and patronage immensely, as it poured millions of dollars into their coffers. This exploitation of our soldier boys was the greatest crime committed by the enemies of civilization and real progress during the whole of the World War. The youth of America and Great Britain again imitated their heroes of the war, and soon not only were our boys smoking the cigarette to great excess, but our young maidens.

The cigarette habit has not only become a public nuisance, but national and racial menaces where the habit has become so prevalent as to include the youths of both sexes. It strikes a vital and most effective blow at the future greatness and destiny of nations, and the nation that can and will protect its youth from the ravages of this destructive foe will be more than a match in every enterprise of competition in life for the nation who does not safeguard the vital mechanism of manhood and womanhood. The nation that neglects her youth will destroy her own future and seal her fate and destiny. In the struggle for existence in this present-day conflict it is purely and unmistakably a question of the survival of the fittest.

C. S. LONGACRE.

The Mission of Abraham

(For Week Ending February 18)

Suggestive Program

(P. P. refers to "Patriarchs and Prophets.")

Song Service: "Faith Is the Victory," "Higher Ground," "Faith of Our Fathers."

A Morning Watch Drill, and Prayer.

Scriptures: Genesis 12: 1-5; Hebrews 11: 8-19.

Leader's Remarks: "God's Light Bearer." (Base on Notes to Leader; also P. P., p. 125.)

Talk: "Abraham Called." (See outline based on P. P., pp. 126-129.)

Story: "The Greatest Test of Faith." (Recorded in P. P., pp. 148-152.)

Recitation: "The Word of God."

Talk: "The Friend of God." (Base on P. P., pp. 153-155. Stress the fact that this great test of faith and obedience brought Abraham into closer understanding with God. Loyally he stood the test, and now the promises of God were renewed in increased fullness, and Abraham stood out more than ever as "the friend of God.")

Quartet: "He Whispers His Love to Me." (No. 144 in "The Gospel in Song.")

Character Sketch: "Father of a Nation."

Blackboard Notes: "By Faith—Sacrifices." (List on the board key words of Abraham's faith and sacrifices. Connect up with present-day calls to missionaries.)

Closing Song: "How Firm a Foundation."

The Bande Meet.

Notes to the Leader

To-day we are to study another epoch in the history of the great conflict between sin and righteousness. As the people again multiplied on the earth, they forgot God, and rapidly sank into the same condition of idolatry and sin that brought on the flood.

But God would not again devote the world to physical destruction. Their language was confused, and they were scattered into separate nations, the bounds of whose habitation had been set by natural barriers of mountains, deserts, and seas.

Then God chose Abraham, who was born near the time of Noah's death, to be the head of a nation that should preserve the true worship. Abraham was the first great missionary after the flood. Through his life and ministry the knowledge of the true God was spread far and near.

The Hebrew nation, of which he was the father, preserved

the truth of God in the ancient world, and through the seed of Abraham Christ came. Thus in Abraham all nations have been blessed. Gal. 3: 8.

Talk: "Abraham Called"

(See "Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 126-129.)

1. Abraham's first call.
 - a. Why necessary to leave home?
 - b. What explanation was he to give his friends?
 - c. To what kind of country was he called?
 - d. What excuses did he give?
 - e. Memorize in unison: "God had spoken, and His servant must obey; the happiest place on earth for him was the place where God would have him to be."—P. P., page 126.
2. Tell what it means to have the faith of Abraham.
3. The divine voice speaks again.
 - a. Departure from the land of his father.
 - b. What had Abraham and Sarah accomplished while living in Haran?
4. The land of Canaan promised to Abraham.
5. The altar of prayer set up.
6. Severely tested by famine and hardships.
 - a. What lessons was Abraham to learn?
 - b. Memorize: "God leads His children by a way that they know not; but He does not forget or cast off those who put their trust in Him."—P. P., p. 129.
7. How does God discipline His children to-day?

The Word of God

O WORD incarnate, living word!
Thou art the voice of God to me.
In thee He speaks, the mighty God,
And tells what saints in Christ can be.

When sorrows blight the joys of earth,
When friends forsake and all seems dross,
Like waters cool in heat and dearth,
Thy comfort compensates our loss.

When death smites down our loved and best,
And leaves us stricken dumb with pain,
Thy promises give peace and rest,
Revive our hearts to hope again.

When sin has shot its deadly shaft,
And brought us low in guilt and shame,
We turn to thee our hearts bereft,
And find sweet peace in Jesus' name.

O word incarnate, voice divine!
We turn from earth to feed on thee;
As manna sweet, each word of thine
New faith and life imparts to me.

—Irwin H. Evans.

Character Sketch: "Father of a Nation"

THE character of Abraham is one of the finest and noblest in all history, sacred or profane. Reverence, confidence, love, and submission toward the Most High, appear through all his life in colossal proportions. Along with these there were evidently in his character great shrewdness and common sense; he had large knowledge of the world, and much skill in the orderly management of its business; great self-possession, good temper, meekness, and patience; warm domestic affections, and an expansive, genial heart, that looked much to the welfare of others, and was ever ready, for their sakes, to sacrifice his own. He was "not slothful in business," but "fervent in spirit; serving the Lord."

His generosity and nobility of disposition gave an elevation to his character which has never been surpassed in any mere man. He had not the stirring and ambitious temper of some great men, that must always be devising enterprises corresponding to their capabilities; but his calm wisdom, his self-possession, and his goodness were fitted to command the love and confidence of all, and in time of danger would have made him the mainstay of any community.

Of his personal appearance we know nothing; but we can readily fancy it to have been marked by an imposing massiveness and symmetry, corresponding to the remarkable structure of his mind. There could not have been a man more fitted to fulfill the duties and to sustain the honors that devolved on the father of a nation and the patriarch of a church.—*Blakie's "Bible History."*

My Gift to God

(For Week Ending February 25)

Suggestive Program

Song Service. ("Christ in Song," Nos. 316, 305.)

Sentence Prayers.

Leader's Talk: "My Gift to God."

Repeat Memory Gem in Unison.

Poem: "The Surrendered Life."

Talk: "The Reversed Life."

Reading: "How Can I Make the Surrender?" (See "Steps to Christ,"

last three paragraphs of chapter on "Consecration.")

Talk: "Yielded and Wielded."

Reports and Offering.

Close by Repeating in Unison the M. V. Pledge.

The Bands Meet.

Memory Gem

"THE surrender of all our powers to God greatly simplifies the problem of life. It weakens and cuts short a thousand struggles with the passions of the natural heart."—Mrs. E. G. White, in *Youth's Instructor*, Feb. 2, 1893.

Leader's Talk: "My Gift to God"

We often speak of God's great gift to man. To-day we shall speak of our gift to God. Jesus became the Son of man so that we might become sons of God. The only adequate response to God's gift is our own life freely surrendered to God and under His control.

Some years ago great trouble arose in Trafalgar Square, London, England. The government was perplexed to know how to deal with the difficulty. The government did not want to set aside free speech, yet further trouble was sure to arise with the assertion of unbridled and misguided liberty. How was the problem settled? By the assertion of the rights of the crown. As soon as Queen Victoria had asserted her rights, there was peace, and quiet submission to law.

It is even so in spiritual things. Our hearts are by nature filled with turmoil and strife. Sinful passions assert their assumed rights. There is trouble, and we cannot control the forces of evil. What is needed? The assertion of the crown rights of the Lord Jesus. Let Him exercise His purchased rights over us as His Lord of peace, and all will be well.

I have in mind a ship out on the bay, swinging with the tide, seeming to follow it, yet it cannot, for it is anchored down deep in the water. So many a soul is swaying toward heaven apparently following the Master, but making no progress, because it is anchored to some secret sin. Let us to-day learn the lesson of complete surrender.

The Surrendered Life

Is it hard for the flower, when summer comes,
To turn its face to the sun?
Is it hard for the flaming red orb to sink
When its course for the day is run?
Is it hard for the dew to moisten the earth
When night's dark shade doth fall?
Is it hard for the bird to answer again
The note of its mate's sweet call?

Or merely for man is it hard to achieve
The will of the Mind above—
For man who doth daily and hourly receive
Fresh proof of the Father's love?
Is the only strong straining against God's will
To be on the part of His child,
While everything, joyous, fulfills His behest,
From mart to the tangled wild?

All life that is fully surrendered to God
Sweeps on with a step serene,
Moved by the bounding, unlimited force
That throbs in the earth's fresh green.
Thus, as tree and floweret in forest and glade
Adorn, without effort the sod,
The fragrance and power may be felt of a life
Wholly surrendered to God.

—Mary L. Cumming.

Talk: "The Reversed Life"

It is a great blessing to be stopped when we are heading in the wrong direction. For oftentimes we cannot stop ourselves, —if, for example, the power of some bad habit relentlessly drives us away from that which we know is right. It is then that we need the experience of the reversed life. As the engineer in the cab of a locomotive moves a lever and reverses the whole action of that locomotive, so that it stops and runs in exactly the opposite direction, so our Lord Jesus Christ is ready to reverse every natural inclination and tendency of our sinful nature, if we will let Him. If we have a feeling

of unlove in our heart, let us just remember that the Lord Jesus is here within us to reverse that; and as, in complete surrender, we quietly trust Him to do so, He will replace the feeling of unlove with a supernatural, Christ-consisting love. We may ever other conscious temptation to wrong-doing that we so ever know: Christ is here to reverse it, instantly, omnipotently, triumphantly, making us always more than conquerors. For us sinners to accept the reversed life is to dare to receive from God His promise that "as He is, so are we in this world."—*The Sunday School Times.*

Talk: "Yielded and Wielded"

ONE of the most vital things for a Christian to do is to yield himself fully to Christ, and permit himself to be wielded by His Spirit. There is nothing that produces greater joy, and blessing, and usefulness of life.

It means simply to renounce all personal desires and ambitions, and all dependence on one's own abilities, becoming emptied of self, and holding oneself open to any impressions that God's Spirit may wish to make upon mind and heart. It means being willing, quietly and confidently, to take up the task indicated by God, having the sweet assurance that He accompanies us as we are about the divinely appointed task, and that He will follow after to reap the fruits of the effort expended.

When we have realized that it is "not I, but Christ," who is working through our members yielded to Him "as instruments of righteousness," then have we entered on the life that is yielded to our blessed Lord Jesus and wielded by His Holy Spirit. To let oneself rest in the will of God as one floats with outspread arms on the surface of the water, is the secret of being yielded to Him. To let oneself be carried about as a sailing vessel is swept along by tide and breeze toward the desired haven is the secret of being wielded by His Spirit. In the first instance there is no self-effort, which would be disastrous to restful floating; and in the second there is but the setting of the sails aright, and accepting the power that is freely provided.

There are two invisible, titanic forces pulling upon the hearts of men. One is the up-pull, Godward. The other is the down-pull, devil-directed. The combined powers of darkness are doing all possible to drag away from God the affections, the desires, and the activities of His children. But the greater influence of His grace, and mercy, and might, and glory, is being likewise exerted in their behalf. And God's power being the greater, and having behind it the assurance of His promises which never fail, it simply remains for the child of God to make his choice, whether he shall "yield" himself an instrument of "unrighteousness unto sin," or an instrument of "righteousness unto God." Ours is the yielding. His Spirit is the wielding. We yield to Him. He wields us.

We all want His power. We pray for it. We must do more. We must also pay for it. We must pay the price—but not of the power itself. We have nothing with which to pay for that. It was paid for by the Lord Jesus Christ when He died that we might live. He became "sin for us, who knew no sin," that sin might "not have dominion" over us. But we must pay the price of the condition upon which His power can have entrance into our lives. And that price is the complete yielding of ourselves to Him.

He longs to wield every one of us for His own glory. And most gloriously does He do so to just the degree that we yield ourselves to Him. To be fully yielded is to be fully wielded. This is what Paul meant when he said, "Not I, but Christ liveth in me." This is what the Lord Jesus intended when He said, "It is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost." This is what He meant when He said, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

Shall we not all stop just here, bow the head, and say, "Come, Lord Jesus, fill me now. I yield to Thee. Wield Thou me, henceforth and forever!"—*Adapted.*

Check Up on February

1. How many members do we have in our society?
2. Are our bands organized and working?
3. Do we get reports of missionary work?
4. Where do we stand on our mission offerings?
5. What are we praying for?

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER SERVICE BANDS

"Young men and young women, cannot you form companies, and, as soldiers of Christ, enlist in the work, putting all your tact and skill and talent into the Master's service, that you may save souls from ruin? Let there be companies organized in every church to do this work. . . . Will the young men and young women who really love Jesus organize themselves as workers, not only for those who profess to be Sabbath keepers, but for those who are not of our faith?"—Signs of the Times, May 29, 1893.

The number of bands which you will have in your society depends entirely upon the size of your organization and the needs and opportunities of your community. The suggestions on this page are given with the average-sized Missionary Volunteer Society in mind. Some societies may be still further subdivided, while others may be so small as to necessitate the whole society working as one unit. However large or small a society may be, there should be at least one strong Prayer and Personal Workers' Band.

Your conference Missionary Volunteer secretary will be glad to keep in close touch with your society. Solicit his advice, and look to him for definite suggestions as to how the bands can operate to the best advantage in your particular community.

Co-operate in the regular campaigns carried on by the church as a whole; for instance, Religious Liberty drives, Temperance rallies, Harvest Ingathering campaigns, etc. The Missionary Volunteer Society leader should be a member of the church missionary committee. It is his duty to keep band leaders informed on the various activities of the church as a whole. Working with others is the greatest of all arts; be sure your Missionary Volunteers are well versed in it.

The time when your bands should meet varies, of course, with your own specific community; but we suggest that the best plan is to divide the regular Missionary Volunteer hour, giving half of the time to the program, and the remaining half to band promotion and activities. The first band meeting will be spent largely in organization. Let all be done decently and in order. Endeavor to enlist every young person in one of the bands which meets at this time. (See section below for suggestions on Prayer and Personal Workers' Band meeting time.) Study your talent, your opportunities, and your resources, until you are sure of the best methods for your society; then see that every Missionary Volunteer has a part to act.

Prayer and Personal Workers' Band

"Whatever one's calling in life, his first interest should be to win souls for Christ. He may not be able to speak to congregations, but he can work for individuals."—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 822. Make this a blackboard motto for the month, and repeat it often in unison. Study paragraphs following this quotation.

Have you settled upon a definite time for your Prayer and Personal Workers' Band meeting? Bear in mind the suggestion given last month that this is not a band which meets simultaneously with other bands in the society. The officers of your society, who are the prime members of this band, should belong to other bands, thus strengthening the hands of the band leaders. Every band leader should be a member of the Prayer and Personal Workers' Band.

A prayer list is an essential in this band. Your society secretary should have a list of all young people of your church. Make it a point to be friendly and helpful to any in need of physical or spiritual help. Pray for these in your band meetings. Have personal prayer lists, each band member being definitely responsible for remembering in prayer every day one or more in whom you are interested. Ask for specific things and expect definite answers from God.

Literature and Correspondence Band

A Special Opportunity for February.—A glance at current papers and magazines reveals the fact that present-day educators are teaching doctrines not in harmony with the Scriptures. They mock at the idea of a God who created all things. What can young people do to mold these molders of opinion, these guides of the rising generation of youth? you may well ask. You can help to answer your question, for we have a remarkable piece of literature which ranks among classic books on education,—the book "Education" by Mrs. E. G. White. An educator in one of the European governments translated this book into the language of his people, published it under his own name, and scattered it broadcast as an authority in education. Though he surpassed his rights in this, what matter to us? The essential thing is that the grand truths of Christian education be heralded abroad. What that European educator recognized in the book "Education," many other educators will see when once led to read it. And now what can you do? Earnestly consider what can be done for the teachers of public and other schools in your territory. Call upon the society executive committee and the church elder to help you arrange for one or more of your number to canvass all the teachers in your vicinity for "Education." Your conference Missionary Volunteer secretary will be glad to give you suggestions and supply a suggestive canvass. As a society can you not donate a copy to the public library of your community?

Opportunities for Literature Work. Your community will present its own peculiar needs and possibilities. We give here a brief outline of ways in which you may work:

1. House-to-house work with literature.
2. Selling small books.
3. Selling or taking subscriptions for weekly or monthly magazines.

4. Reading rack service.
5. The King's Pocket League.
6. Books and magazines placed in public libraries.
7. In other public buildings place magazines in waiting rooms.
8. Morning Watch Calendars in hotels. Thousands of these little booklets were placed before the public by this means during 1927, and many letters of appreciation have been received by the publishers from those who frequent hotels. One woman spoke of the refreshing breath which it brought to her to find this devotional touch in a hotel. For the most part the work of 1927 was done late. Shall we not place these devotional reminders early this year? Many Book and Bible Houses give special rates for this work.

Opportunities for correspondence work are available to those who are unable to visit homes with literature week by week. Encourage band members to study the literature which they send out, thus adding a personal touch and a prayer which will mean much in the results obtained. Following are a few ways in which you may work:

1. Correspond with and send suitable literature to personal acquaintances.
2. Procure names of interested ones from colporteurs and evangelists.
3. Send literature to names listed in your city directory or the telephone directory.

Opportunities for the kind of work to be carried on by this band are many and varied. First of all, if possible, choose a leader who is familiar with your community. Once acquainted with the homes, the institutions, hospitals, jails, etc., you will not be able to keep up with the opportunities. Place the responsibility for searching out opportunities upon different individuals or groups. Your local Red Cross chapter will be a valuable source of information.

Bible studies and many heart-to-heart talks should be the natural outgrowth of your Christian help work done in the community, together with the instruction received in your Standard of Attainment study. As you go from place to place with helpful Christian cheer, you will find hearts that are hungry for just such comfort as can be found only in these truths which we hold dear. Encourage Missionary Volunteers to rise above the timidity which hesitates to speak about the higher things. Few will resent it, and you will be joyfully surprised at the many who are only waiting for some one to speak just such a word.

Christian Help and Gospel Meeting Band

Your study basis for this band, as suggested last month, is the Standard of Attainment. Make clear to every one that this is a study of the Bible doctrines and denominational history which every Seventh-day Adventist young person should know. Take up the study of one subject at a time, preferably Bible Doctrines. The new Bible Doctrines Manual costs only 15 cents; the Denominational History Manual, 10 cents. Order from your Book and Bible House. (The denominational history is based on the book, "Story of the Advent Message," by Matilda Erickson Andross.)