

# The Church Officers' Gazette

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## The Church Officers' Gazette

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### EDITORIAL COUNCIL

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## Church Officers' General Instruction Department

### Special Appointments for the Month of April

Medical Missionary Day.....April 7  
Offering for Rural Schools.....April 14  
Big Week Rally Day.....April 28

### A New Policy in Communicating Missions Material to Our Churches

BY action of the General Conference Committee a slight change has been made in the use of the back page of the CHURCH OFFICERS' GAZETTE. Hereafter that page is to be utilized by our Mission Board in supplying missionary incidents and other information to our church officers for them to use in stimulating interest on the part of our people in giving for foreign missions. This release of the back page for the use of the Mission Board is made possible by reducing one column of the space that has heretofore been used for general matter, and the Home Missionary Department yielding one column.

This rearrangement in the GAZETTE is part of a program the General Conference Committee is carrying out in its efforts to economize in the administration of its affairs. Our monthly *Missionary Readings* periodical, as such, is to be discontinued, though once a quarter a four-page supplement to the CHURCH OFFICERS' GAZETTE will be published to supply program material for use in our churches in connection with our four Missions Rally Sabbaths.

The plan of discontinuing *Missionary Readings* drops twenty-four pages of foreign mission promotion information which had heretofore been going each year to our church leaders. We now invite church elders and other church officers to keep a close watch of the back page of the GAZETTE for incidents and other up-to-date information which will supply material for their use in placing before our people from month to month the importance of keeping their eyes turned to the great needs of this work in mission lands. A few minutes taken by the church elder in the Sabbath service once or twice each month, means much in stimulating a spirit of giving on the part of our people.

T. E. B.

"WHEN thou hast thanked thy God for every blessing sent,  
What time will there remain for murmur or lament?"

"WHOM God calls, He qualifies."

### Faithfulness in the Payment and Disbursement of the Tithe

"THERE should be an abundant supply in the Lord's treasury, and there would be if selfish hearts and hands had not withheld the tithes, or made use of them to support other lines of work."—*Testimonies*, Vol. IX, p. 249.

We would all rejoice to see an abundance of funds in the treasury. We recognize the need of doing more to warn a world. We are told:

"There should be to-day in the field one hundred well-qualified laborers where now there is but one."—*Ibid.*

But why is there a shortage of money for the work? Because selfish hearts and hands "withheld the tithes," and because some "made use of them to support other lines of work." Two reasons are given why there is not so much money in the treasury as there might be: First, because it has been withheld; second, because it has not been used altogether in the manner which the Lord has directed or intended that it should be used.

Very definite instruction is given concerning the responsibility of the individual to bring the sacred tithes and offerings into the treasury:

"He gave Him tithes of all." Gen. 14: 20.

"In process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the Lord. And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the Lord had respect unto Abel and to his offering: but unto Cain and to his offering He had not respect." Gen. 4: 3-5.

"Jacob vowed a vow, saying, If God will be with me, and will keep me in this way that I go, and will give me bread to eat, and raiment to put on, so that I come again to my father's house in peace; then shall the Lord be my God: and this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that Thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto Thee." Gen. 28: 20-22.

David voluntarily gave liberally to the building of the temple. And the people had a willing heart to give. Not only tithes but liberal offerings gave the Lord a full treasury in David's time.

For the little flock that followed Christ in His early ministry, there was appointed a treasurer. Jesus knew well that Judas was misappropriating money. Jesus could have told the other disciples of this unfaithfulness on the part of Judas, but this He did not do. The trusting eleven gave their contributions, believing that they were giving to the Lord, and so they were. They were not responsible for the misuse made by Judas, but Judas himself had to bear this responsibility.

Jesus stood over against the treasury and beheld the people, rich and poor, cast in their gifts. A widow cast in her two mites, believing that her gift would be accepted of the Lord. It might be possible that her money was not used to the best advantage, but the Master accepted her gift, and commended her for her self-sacrificing offering.

Because some feel that they cannot have confidence in the way things are managed is no excuse for withholding the funds. The responsibility rests upon the individual member to bring the tithe into the treasury, and when placed there, the responsibility rests with those who are appointed to lead out in the work and to distribute the funds. We all would be happy to know that when our money is placed in the treasury, it is used definitely for the purpose for which it is intended. Nevertheless, when we have discharged our responsibility, then we must leave it to the administrators to distribute, and if we have reason to believe that improper use is made of the funds, a plain, open statement in the right spirit to the proper ones is in order.

"A very plain, definite message has been given to me for our people. I am bidden to tell them that they are making a mistake in applying the tithe to various objects which, though good in themselves, are not the object to which the Lord has said that the tithe should be applied. Those who make this use of the tithe are departing from the Lord's arrangement. God will judge for these things. . . . A great mistake is made when

the tithe is drawn from the object for which it is to be used—the support of the ministers. . . .

"The tithe is sacred, reserved by God for Himself. It is to be brought into His treasury to be used to sustain the gospel laborers in their work. For a long time the Lord has been robbed because there are those who do not realize that the tithe is God's reserved portion."—*Testimonies*, Vol. IX, pp. 248, 249.

Surely in these days with open doors in every land inviting us to accomplish more, there first of all should be the discharging of our personal responsibility as members of the church of Christ in bringing in full tithe and liberal offerings to the treasury. Then those who are charged with the responsibility as stewards in the local churches, the local conferences, the union conferences, in our institutions, in our division conferences, and the General Conference, should most earnestly seek to guard and to distribute this money in harmony with the high principles of Christian stewardship, all exercising the greatest care to use the funds for the accomplishment of the very most possible.

In many large mission fields, our present distribution, when measured with the task, seems so very small. On the basis of appropriations for this last year, the money division, taking into consideration the millions for whom these appropriations are made, would indicate that only about one tenth of one cent per annum is given for every inhabitant of many of these needy fields. We cannot get much comfort by a mathematical analysis, but we should be courageous when we know that as individuals and as administrators in this remnant church, we are with all faithfulness giving and using the money that God gives to us, and when this is done, we can confidently expect Heaven's richest blessing to attend the efforts of this people.

Might we not as believers exercise more personal economy that greater sums may be turned to the treasury? And shall we not as administrators give even more careful consideration to the spending of the money placed in our hands, that greater impetus may be given to the cause, and the happy day be ushered in when "this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations"?

"Unmistakable evidences point to the nearness of the end. The way must be prepared for the coming of the Prince of Peace. Let not our church members complain because they are so often called upon to give. What is it that makes the frequent calls a necessity? Is it not the rapid increase of missionary enterprises? Shall we, by refusing to give, retard the growth of these enterprises? . . . From every church, prayers should ascend to God for an increase of devotion and liberality. My brethren and sisters, do not plead for retrenchment in evangelical work. So long as there are souls to save, our interest in the work of soul saving is to know no abating. The church cannot abridge her task without denying her Master. Not all can go as missionaries to foreign lands, but all can give of their means for the carrying forward of foreign missions.

"There are new fields to be entered, and we must have your help. Shall we ignore the commission given us, and thus forfeit the fulfillment of the promise accompanying the commission? Shall the people of God become careless and indifferent, and refuse to give of their means for the advancement of His work? Can they do this without severing their connection with Him? They may think thus to economize, but it is a fearful economy that places them where they are separated from God."—*Id.*, pp. 55, 56.

"Love for lost souls brought Christ to Calvary's cross. Love for souls will lead us to self-denial and sacrifice, for the saving of that which is lost. And as Christ's followers give back to the Lord His own, they are accumulating treasure which will be theirs when they hear the words, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant: . . . enter thou into the joy of thy Lord,' 'who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.' Matt. 25: 21; Heb. 12: 2. The joy of seeing souls eternally saved will be the reward of all who follow in the steps of the Redeemer."—*Id.*, p. 59.

JAY J. NETHERY.

Nashville, Tenn.

"SHE certainly is a good woman," said a servant girl, speaking of her mistress, "because all the four years I have worked for her she has been as sweet and polite in her kitchen as she has been in her parlor." The proofs of Christianity that this world is looking for are "sermons in shoes," that are walking in the Spirit.

"THE mind is always richer for the slander it forgets."

## MEDICAL MISSIONARY DAY

### Suggestive Program for Home Missionary Service

(Sabbath, April 7)

OPENING SONG: "A Present Help," No. 458 in "Christ in Song;" or "Hymns and Tunes," No. 312.

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 58.

Prayer.

Song: "Is Your Lamp Burning?" No. 481 in "Christ in Song;" or "Hymns and Tunes," No. 1244.

Reading: "A Work for This Time."

Reading: "Does It Pay to Have an Annual Medical Examination?"

Study: "Mental Health Habits."

Closing Song: "While the Days Are Going By," No. 486 in "Christ in Song;" or "Hymns and Tunes," No. 124.

### Our Work for This Time

L. A. HANSEN

THE closing days of earth's history will be the stormiest and the most trying. Conditions of suffering, physical and mental, will be greatly intensified. Sickness will prevail more than ever. Human necessities will be the most pressing. But an all-wise God makes provision for this time, and through His own people, will exercise a healing ministry to meet the world's special needs.

Above all things, men need the gospel message. The great prevalence of sickness and suffering makes an occasion of special opportunity to give the gospel. It is when people are in pain that they want relief. Some never know what relief is until they feel the need of it and then find it. Soul healing and the healing of the body are so closely related that often one is not received without the other.

Physical suffering puts men and women where they must have help, whether they want it or not. Sometimes it makes them want God and His truth, but not always. The wise and capable worker will take advantage of the opportunity of reaching those who are susceptible to gospel labor, and will seek to make an opportunity to reach those who are not. As physical relief is given, the way is easily opened for offering spiritual healing, all from the same Lord.

The Author of Christianity demonstrated personally how the gospel is to be given to others. His work consisted largely in ministering to the visible, bodily, and tangible needs of people; but in and with this ministry was bound up the actual work of imparting spiritual life and blessing.

Jesus is no longer on earth in person to carry His healing to the sick of our cities and towns. But He instructed and trained His disciples in His own methods and left them to do His work on earth. He has made provision for the continuation of this work as long as it is needed. His followers in all time are to follow His example, and carry out His instructions as nearly as possible. There is absolutely no allowance made for discontinuing what the Lord has begun and established.

"It is the divine plan that we shall work as the disciples worked. Physical healing is bound up with the gospel commission. In the work of the gospel, teaching and healing are never to be separated."—*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 141.

In the medical missionary work that has in the providence of God been developed among us we have the elements of true gospel labor. Large capabilities have been intrusted to us and extensive facilities have been given us. Whether or not we are making the best use of all this does not alter what God has done for us or what He expects us to do with what He has given us. Undoubtedly the bestowal of such ample means for doing so much good does impose on us great responsibility and obligation.

We have been repeatedly told that many souls are to be brought into the truth through health reform lines. In our sanitariums people are to be taught how to care for their own bodies, and at the same time how to become sound in the faith. They not only are to find physical restoration, but are to be pointed to the hope of eternal life in Jesus.

The health institutions among us are to be schools for educating workers in medical missionary lines. This does not alone mean the training of nurses, but the education of many others in principles of right living. These principles are to be carried into many places by devoted, intelligent, and capable workers.

We should not make the mistake of thinking that God's truths of health originate with our sanitariums or that their practice and dissemination are to be restricted to institutions. While we can be thankful for many centers from which these truths may radiate, we must realize that the radiation from these centers must be far-reaching. Through instruction by means of the doctors' advice to patients, parlor health talks, schools of health, camp meeting sermons, articles in our various papers and journals, and in every way possible, an education in healthful living and its relation to the spiritual life, should be carried into many homes everywhere.

The enemy of truth and the destroyer of souls will make this work as difficult as possible. Much will be done to bring it into disrepute and to ridicule it. Satan probably knows right well the value of this work as an evangelical factor. He no doubt realizes the important place it is to fill in these last days. He recognizes that it is the means the Lord is using in a special manner for reaching many souls in all lands.

The holy dignity with which God has invested true medical missionary work gives us to know that its success rests in its being carried forward with sacred devotion. Divine power will more than meet every obstacle. The blessing of God is promised to every true-hearted, loyal worker in every right effort to advance this work. Ultimate triumph is to attend this phase of God's work along with all other branches.

### Does It Pay to Have an Annual Medical Examination?

D. H. KRESS, M. D.

THERE are any number of men who are confident that they are in possession of the best of health. They may be heard saying, I am never sick, or, I never felt better in my life than I do now, and I never have felt the need of calling on a physician. They feel no need of a medical examination. They consider such an examination a useless expenditure of means.

Feelings are not always dependable, neither can appearances always be relied upon to determine whether or not a man is in health. Several years ago two men walked into my office — they were brothers. One looked rather anemic and was poorly nourished. The other one was well nourished and in fact appeared to be in excellent health. After they were seated, one of them said, "Doctor, which is the patient?" I then ascertained that the one who appeared to be the patient had brought his robust-looking brother, who was in quite a serious condition, for treatment. This man was sick and he knew he was sick, although he appeared to be in health. There are many who are sick and do not know it. Out of 400,000 examinations made of men by the New York Life Extension Institute, not one was found to be without some impairment, and 90 per cent of them were ignorant of it. They thought they were well.

Often some on-coming disease can be detected by a thorough-going and timely medical examination. Men die suddenly of heart failure because they have diseased hearts. Diseased conditions of the heart do not come overnight; they are brought about gradually, and can usually be detected by a careful medical examination years before the organ gives up the struggle. This being so, how important it is to discover these tendencies.

High blood pressure is usually a forerunner of heart failure. Again and again I have taken the blood pressure of men who considered themselves in health, and, to their surprise, found it to be twice as high as it ought to have been. When a man of thirty or thirty-five has a blood pressure of 140 mm. of mercury, he should look carefully into his habits of living and make needed reforms. If he fails to do this, the chances are that at the age of fifty his blood pressure will register 190 or possibly 200 mm. of mercury, and by this time, organic changes of an incurable nature will have taken place in the heart and blood vessels. At the age of thirty the high blood pressure was the result merely of a functional disturbance, due to some irritant circulating in the blood, or some infection, and was amenable to treatment. How important it is to make such a discovery in time.

Conditions which result in kidney diseases, can be discovered in almost every instance by an examination of the urine and blood, years before actual disease of the kidneys occur. An examination of the blood also reveals the on-coming of other

diseases, sometimes of a very serious nature, such as pernicious anemia. An examination of the blood also reveals infections when present, which call for a careful examination of the teeth and the tonsils. If these give no evidence of the source of the infection, a barium meal is given and an X-ray examination is made of the stomach and intestines. Not infrequently a diseased appendix of long standing is discovered in this way, that was not suspected, and could not be detected in any other way. The infection may be found to be due to a diseased condition of the colon, or deformed and prolapsed colon — conditions which when discovered early, are curable. It is commonly stated that there is no cure for cancer, and this is true after the disease is well advanced, but even cancer can be detected in its early stages, and may be cured by a simple surgical operation.

It is estimated that there are not less than 50,000,000 people in the United States with focal infections in the head. Dental infection is especially prevalent. These cannot be detected by a casual examination. The X-ray examination alone is capable of revealing them. These infections, if undiscovered, are the forerunner of neuritis, rheumatism, kidney diseases, and even organic heart disease.

A short time ago a patient came to the sanitarium, accompanied by his wife. While he was having his examinations, she said, "Doctor, I think I will have an examination myself. I am not sick, but I will have it for pastime." She was the picture of health. The physical examination revealed no defect of any kind, but a chemical examination of the blood showed an excessive amount of sugar. In another year this woman would have had an incurable case of diabetes. A few suggestions in regard to her diet was sufficient to save her from this much-to-be-dreaded malady.

We run our automobiles into a garage once every three or four months, if we are wise, to have them looked over by an expert. There is some expense connected with it, but we know it will prolong the life and usefulness of the car. It pays to have the car looked over periodically. A medical examination is not money thrown away. It pays big to have such an examination. Life and usefulness may be prolonged thereby. If no impairments are found, it is a satisfaction to know it, and if impairments are found, they will, in all probability, be of a nature that can be readily remedied.

### Bible and Testimony Study on Mental Health Habits

THE quotations may be clipped and passed out to members of the congregation to read in response to the reading of each statement by the leader.

1. The Christian does not fret and worry, and is cheerful and trustful under all circumstances.

1-a. "Nothing tends more to promote health of body and of soul than does a spirit of gratitude and praise. It is a positive duty to resist melancholy, discontented thoughts and feelings, — as much a duty as it is to pray. If we are heaven-bound, how can we go as a band of mourners, groaning and complaining all along the way to our Father's house? Those professed Christians who are constantly complaining, and who seem to think cheerfulness and happiness a sin, have not genuine religion."—*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 251.

1-b. "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of My righteousness." Isa. 41:10.

1-c. "The condition of the mind affects the health to a far greater degree than many realize. Many of the diseases from which men suffer are the result of mental depression. Grief, anxiety, discontent, remorse, guilt, distrust, all tend to break down the life forces, and to invite decay and death. . . . Courage, hope, faith, sympathy, love, promote health and prolong life. A contented mind, a cheerful spirit, is health to the body and strength to the soul. 'A merry [rejoicing] heart doeth good like a medicine.'"—*The Ministry of Healing*, p. 241.

2. The Christian awakens each morning to meet the day's work with joy and with the expectation of helping some one with whom he may come in contact.

2-a. "The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that

is weary: He wakeneth morning by morning, He wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned." Isa. 50: 4.

3. The Christian does not disparage the value of any one of God's wholesome foods, nor does he fret about the effect of what he does eat, if he has lived up to all the light God has given him.

3-a. "Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labor for that which satisfieth not? Hearken diligently unto Me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness." Isa. 55: 2.

3-b. "Some are continually anxious lest their food, however simple and healthful, may hurt them. To these let me say, Do not think that your food will injure you; do not think about it at all. Eat according to your best judgment; and when you have asked the Lord to bless the food for the strengthening of your body, believe that He hears your prayer, and be at rest."—*"The Ministry of Healing," p. 321.*

4. The Christian recognizes that his body requires care if a "reasonable service" is to be given his Creator, and will therefore study to conform to nature's laws.

4-a. "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." 1 Cor. 6: 19, 20.

4-b. "Health is an inestimable blessing, and one which is more closely related to conscience and religion than many realize. . . . We are all deficient in practical knowledge concerning this matter. The wonderful mechanism of the human body does not receive half the care that is often given to a mere lifeless machine. Men give years of study in preparation for this ministry, and yet so weaken their powers during this preparatory work that they die prematurely. Our workers should use their knowledge of the laws of life and health. They should study from cause to effect. Read the best authors on these subjects, and obey religiously that which your reason tells you is truth."—*"Counsels on Health," p. 566.*

5. Keep a conscience void of offense toward God and man, eliminating the unnecessary use of harmful condiments, stimulants and diseased foods, such as tobacco, beers and wines, tea, coffee, pepper, mustard, soft drinks (e. g., coca-cola), and flesh foods.

5-a. "Happy is he that condemneth not himself in that thing which he alloweth." Rom. 14: 22.

### Twelve Baskets Full

THE wonderful truth that God's resources are inexhaustible is emphasized often in His word. Think of the miracle of the loaves and fishes. Matt. 14: 20. When all had eaten and were filled, we know that there remained twelve baskets full of fragments. Why was this? Could not He who performed the miracle have arranged that there should have been enough and no more? Did not He know to a morsel exactly the necessities of the case? Surely. Yet there were twelve baskets of fragments. Why? It was not to make a mere ostentatious display of His miracle-working powers, or to astound the multitude by a demonstration of His resources. No, indeed. But the fact that there were twelve baskets full of fragments after the five thousand were fed did display the resources of the Saviour, and as we look at those twelve well-filled baskets of fragments, we perceive them to be a reminder of the truth that giving does not impoverish God, nor withholding enrich Him.

God's treasures are inexhaustible. He who provided in years gone by, has twelve baskets still available. He ever sends to us with each blessing the comforting message, "More to follow." Let us not for one moment allow the tempter to lead us to imagine that because we have been drinking long from the living fountain and walking long the pathway of blessing, the resources and blessings of heaven are exhausted. Remember that in God all fullness dwells. Let us live, therefore, in constant expectation of these blessings, even amid trial and disappointment.—*The Missionary Leader.*

"ALWAYS leave home with loving words, for they may be thy last."

### A Bigger "Big Week" in 1928

THE 1928 Missions Extension Fund campaign will be held April 28 to May 5, and this mention of it is to call attention to the great work that is being accomplished in many foreign lands along publishing, medical, and educational lines. More than a million dollars has been raised for this extension program since it was launched in 1921, and the 1927 Big Week was the most successful of any that has been held.

"What a variety of needs are presented in the long list of enterprises that are to be helped by the funds that will be raised in the coming Big Week! How extended are the fields to be benefited! How rich in promised fruitage is every project described!

"Fifty-seven thousand dollars are being given to erect, complete, or add to twelve training schools in Northern Europe, South Africa, Spanish and Indian South America, Spanish and English Inter-America, Korea, Java, Burma, North, Northwest and South India. It is upon such schools as these that we must depend for the efficiency of our future workers in these lands; hence the importance of giving them proper facilities. This the Extension Fund is helping to do.

"And then there is the \$52,000 listed for medical work. Think of the pain alleviated, the prejudice broken down, and the friends made by a single dispensary and its Christian staff set down in the midst of a sick and superstitious community!

"But while erecting and equipping dispensaries and establishing schools, the 'Missions Press Fund,' as it was originally called, has not forgotten its first love. On the contrary, the following pages show gifts to mission printing plants and depositories amounting to \$45,000.

"For example, it enables the Near East to publish 'Steps to Christ' in Syriac and 'The Sure Word of Prophecy' in Persian. It erects a \$5,000 addition to the Shanghai Mission Press. It translates one of Sister White's books into Portuguese and Spanish. It applies \$5,000 on the debt of our mission Bible Houses in Inter-America, and gives \$9,000 on the liabilities of the Canadian Watchman Press and the Sentinel Publishing Company of South Africa. It encourages the little publishing plants in Nigeria, Egypt, and on the African Gold Coast by a gift of \$3,000. It gives a \$5,000 press to Rumania, and produces a book in Lithuanian. It helps publish 'The Great Controversy' in French, and applies \$1,500 toward the books needed by Italy's growing corps of colporteurs. It places a printing press in far-off Bengal, and provides \$2,500 for the production of foreign-language books in North America. And last, but not least by any means, is the publishing plant being erected and equipped in FIJI!"

It is none too early for every pastor or church elder to give careful study to plans that will insure the raising of the church's share of the \$100,000 needed to insure the fullest success of the Big Week campaign.

J. A. STEVENS,

Sec. Gen. Conf. Home Miss. Dept.

### The Hurry Problem

WE all have plenty of time to do all that God wants us to do. This may seem like a startling statement, but it is true. An active Christian worker writes to a friend that there are lots of things he is eager to do, "but—living on twenty-four hours a day is a problem." Yet it is not a problem to God, and it need never be a troublesome or unsolved problem for us. The only reason we ever fail to do things that ought to be done is because we have been doing things that ought not to be done.

Take the "problem" of our prayer life, for example. Some one has said truly that the man who is too busy to pray is busier than God ever intended him to be. A Christian woman, writing to a friend of a wonderful deliverance God had recently made just in the nick of time, says: "I have never in my life seen His hand so evidently, and that alone brings a thrill. When things looked darkest, I quoted to my son Dr. Edersheim's saying, that Jesus was never hurried because He was always sure."

There is a difference between hurry and swiftness. God often works swiftly, when the time comes; He is never in a hurry. Quietness and hurry do not go together. Let us surrender our hurry and restlessness to the Lord, and hear Him say, "In returning and rest shall ye be saved; in quietness and in confidence shall be your strength." Isa. 30: 15.—*Sunday School Times.*

## Church Missionary Meeting Program for the Month of April

As the church has been organized for missionary purposes ("The Acts of the Apostles," p. 9), it surely needs to meet regularly to give consideration to its missionary work. Clearly, no church can fail in holding its missionary meeting and planning for its missionary work without being weakened and becoming inefficient. Less than a thousand churches in North America at the present time hold a weekly missionary service. We hope the new year will find a change in this respect until all our churches hold missionary meetings.

The following suggestive outlines have been prepared for the Church Missionary Meeting.

### First Week

MISSIONARY TOPIC: "Christ United Preaching and Healing."

TEXT: Matt. 9: 35.

SEED THOUGHT: "Medical missionary work is the pioneer work of the gospel. In the ministry of the word and in the medical missionary work the gospel is to be preached and practiced."—*"The Ministry of Healing," p. 144.*

#### Working Plans:

1. Lay plans for the Big Week campaign. All orders for literature to be sold during the Big Week should be sent to the Book and Bible House.

2. Provision should be made to place tract racks in all public places, such as libraries, reading rooms, railway stations, hotel lobbies, etc.

### Second Week

MISSIONARY TOPIC: "Spreading the Truth."

TEXT: Matt. 9: 30, 31.

SEED THOUGHT: "This work [medical missionary] properly conducted, will save many a poor sinner who has been neglected by the churches. . . . If God's people would show a genuine interest in their neighbors, many would be reached by the special truths for this time."—*"Testimonies," Vol. VI, p. 280.*

#### Working Plans:

1. As April is Medical Missionary Month, a home nurses' class, wherever possible, should be formed in every church. If you lack good leadership, form a class for study.

2. Emphasize the work that can be done along medical missionary lines among the foreigners. Of all the lines of work which appeal to the foreigners, none will so touch their heart as this one.

3. Bands which are doing house-to-house work should be encouraged to be on the lookout for interested persons. From now on they should make a careful check-up of every home, endeavoring to secure Bible readers.

### Third Week

MISSIONARY TOPIC: "Christ Is Our Example."

TEXT: Luke 6: 17, 18.

SEED THOUGHT: "Christ's servants are to follow His example. As He went from place to place, He comforted the suffering and healed the sick. Then he placed before them the great truths in regard to His kingdom. This is the work of His followers."—*"Christ's Object Lessons," pp. 233, 234.*

#### Working Plans:

1. Plan for a monthly meeting of the band leaders.

2. Weekly reporting should be emphasized to insure a good monthly report.

3. Immediate plans should be laid to get our magazines and larger books in your city library. Appropriate binders have been prepared for this work, at a small cost. In this way many hundreds get the message every week.

4. Allow time for a short experience meeting in which the lay members may tell their missionary experiences.

### Fourth Week

MISSIONARY TOPIC: "Work for Every Church Member."

TEXT: Mark 16: 15, 18.

SEED THOUGHT: "We have come to a time when every member of the church should take hold of medical missionary work."—*"Testimonies," Vol. VII, p. 62.*

#### Working Plans:

1. As Sabbath, April 28, is Big Week Rally Day, all band leaders should make sure they have literature on hand for the campaign. Every member should be assigned territory, and field days planned. Be sure to enlist the co-operation of the leader of the Missionary Volunteer literature band.

## The Use of the Scriptures

"We speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth." 1 Cor. 2: 13. This passage and 2 Timothy 3: 16, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God," taken together, illuminate a deep mystery. The Greek word in this second passage is *Theopneustos*, meaning literally, "God breathed." It is correctly rendered by our translator's "inspiration." How God inspired, or breathed, His message into the Scriptural authors, by the Holy Spirit, is a mystery to us, as it probably was to them. We have only to do with the great, vital fact, that it pleased God to give us a revelation through "holy men of old."

Holy Scripture is the veritable "word of God"—the mine of infinite thought. His thoughts were designed for all peoples and tongues, and pious scholars translated them so clearly that the simplest prayerful seeker can by them hold fellowship with the Eternal.

Let us then open our Bibles with reverence and thanksgiving, and hold the words of Scripture as unspeakably precious. Luther devoted years to the translation of the Scriptures, but he was not content with that. He wrote vital passages on the walls of his study, and gazed upon them, until they inspired his soul.

The Scripture words are enlightening. They open our minds to wondrous, hidden truths. They are instructive. They teach us, not in human knowledge, but in "the wisdom that cometh from above." They are strengthening. They enable us, as they did Jesus, to repel the tempter. They are sanctifying. By them we "grow in grace." They are comforting. And they are saving, turning death into victory and life.

The Christian may be poor in all else, but if skilled in God's word, no jewel-crowned king is rich as he. Memorize vital Scripture passages,—God's words to the patriarchs and the prophets, in the Psalms, and the words of Christ,—and have them on hand to meditate upon, to guard us in danger, to lighten our path in darkness, and to exalt us to holy-life ideals. —*Rev. Junius B. Remensnyder, Christian Herald, July 3, 1926.*

## The Dignity of Humility

JOHN 13: 4-9. The picture of Jesus stooping to wash the disciples' weary, worn, and dusty feet, is one we need to visualize more often. We are too prone to think of Him as a great teacher, a wonder-worker, a king, and not as a ministering servant. We all know the useful lesson of humility and service which this incident teaches, and we do well to heed it.

Jesus washed the disciples' feet. He began at the bottom, literally. One of the criticisms of the younger generation is that it hesitates to pay the price of success. Young people do not wish to begin at the bottom. Yet many of the barons of present-day industries began there. Perhaps the younger generation is not to blame for its attitude. Too often our educators give the impression that education is to enable folk to avoid work, rather than fit them for it. It is a significant fact that two days before the feet-washing episode, Jesus outwitted the learned leaders who sought to trap Him. Learning and labor are twin virtues, and one supplements the other.

We must begin at the bottom. If we would rise, we must stoop. There are not a few folk who, if they could head the procession, would be at work in the Lord's army. But they are not after work in the lowly ranks. They would rise without stooping. Such folk forget that those in honored places in His kingdom began at the bottom.

Jesus washed the disciples' feet in the upper room. When one stoops to do the Lord's work, he is lifted up, elevated above the ordinary level of humanity. The upper room is symbolic of high and holy service. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me." Beginning at the bottom in the Lord's vineyard means that we are ultimately elevated to the upper room of high privilege.—*Rev. M. M. Thorne, in the Christian Herald, Sept. 18, 1926.*

THE making of money, the accumulation of material power, is not all there is to living.—*Edward Bok.*

### Christian Help Work in Sydney

"AN early fruit of Christianity was mercy to the poor; and especially to the poor followers of Christ. He has left the poor ever with us, as His representatives, to exercise our bowels of commiseration, and thus teach us to feel and practice mercy. To every man professing Christianity, the religion of Jesus Christ says most authoritatively, 'With every man who is pinched by poverty, share what the providence of God has not made absolutely necessary for thy own support.' What God has given us more than we need is intrusted to us for the benefit of those that are in poverty and affliction. He who can, and does not, help the poor, is a disgrace to Christianity; and he who does not lend his hand for the support of the cause of God is a worthless member of the church of Christ. He who shows no mercy shall have judgment without mercy. And he who spends in pampering the flesh what should be given to the poor, shall have a fearful account to give in the day of the Lord." Thus writes Dr. Adam Clarke, in his comments on Acts 11: 29, 30.

During the first quarter of 1927 we were privileged to assist twenty families in our Waterloo and Redfern district, most of these for the whole time. Over £39 was spent in supplying food and paying the expenses of a lady worker during this period. The expenses of the latter were met by the donations of a gentleman in the city.

The visits of our lady worker were much appreciated by the women called upon throughout January and February, but unfortunately in the month of March sickness for a time caused a cessation of these visits. We hope that improved health may soon enable Sister L. M. Harker to continue the work. Her report for January and February is as follows: Bible readings with prayer, 30; other visits, 30; periodicals given, 35; garments given, 50; families given food, 5; cash given, £2. Besides this, 200 other periodicals have been given, and 123 garments, making in all 235 papers and magazines and 173 articles of clothing.

There are eight families receiving parcels of groceries each week, besides the larger number who are receiving parcels of health foods when they need them. We are paying the greater part of the rent of one old couple, only one of whom receives the old age pension.

In one home we found a man very anxious to obtain work. His wife was suffering with a poisoned hand and arm. Their little boy had procured work, and was doing his best to assist in supporting the family.

A deserted wife appealed to us for assistance to obtain whole-wheat food for her child who has rickets. We were glad to have granose biscuits to give her.

A Sunday school has been opened in Waterloo since the end of the quarter, and we hope to tell more about this in our next report. The good people who own the home will make no charge for the room. Pray that children and also adults may be brought to Christ as a result of this work.—*W. R. Carswell, in the Australasian Record, June 13, 1927.*

### Neighbor to Every Man

"THOU shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." A material body, however solid, has motion continually going on within it. A block of granite is simply a mass of motion, in which every atom is moving upon the next atom.

And therein we have a picturesque definition of society. You are in influential relations with your neighbor and you cannot help it. The law of social life is *noblesse oblige*, which is simply another form of the golden rule: "Do unto others as you would be done by." You are a child of God and therefore a brother of all, since He "hath created all men of one blood for to dwell upon the face of the earth."

That makes you neighbor to every other man. And here is the rationale of Christ's word "Go!" I have a brother in the shums; I am his keeper. I have a brother on the Western frontier; I am his keeper. I have a brother in mid-Africa; I am his keeper. Christ says, "Go, carry the gospel to him."—*David J. Burrell.*

The future always holds something for the man who keeps his faith in it.



FROM Brother J. A. P. Green, working in the Inter-American Division, comes the following interesting mission word:

"Idol worship in Colombia is as bad as it was in the worst pagan countries. One old man was convinced that his wife had too many idols in the house. He could not read, and he had nothing to show to his wife that it was wrong. However, he would tell her that God condemned image worship. Probably the old gentleman complained about the expense of burning so many candles. One Sabbath this man was led to our mission church in Sincelajo, and providentially the subject that Sabbath morning was on the law of God. Our native colporteur conducted the service, reading and explaining each commandment. Our brother noticed this stranger in the room, and of course did not know whether he was Catholic or not. He knew this, that he was no fanatic, because then he would never have ventured into a Protestant meeting. The man was interested in the first commandment. When he heard the second, a smile of approval seemed to come over his face. When that sermon was over the stranger was the first to rise to go to the pastor. He said: 'Can you sell me the law of God. It is just what I need.' Our brother had to tell him it was Sabbath, but if the address was left he would deliver the same. Sunday morning the man was home waiting for his chart. After paying for it he said, 'Now I have what I have been looking for. My wife has a houseful of idols. Before I had nothing to show her, but now I have something.' The next day several of his friends visited him, and of course attention was called to the new-found chart hung on the wall. As the friends read it, they said, 'Where can we get a chart like that?' The next day the mission home was visited and several charts on the law of God were sold. Who knows but that there will be a house cleaning, and the true and living God find the way into the hearts of many souls in Sincelajo?"

### While We Wait the Lord's Return

WAITING does not always mean idleness. There are those who do not see the blessed truth of the Lord's return, and who would imply that those who wait for Him sit idly by, with folded hands, looking up into the skies, when there is so much that needs to be done to relieve the sufferings and sorrows of mankind. But God's word makes it plain that to the sincere Christian there is to be no idleness while one waits for God's Son from heaven. No one would accuse an efficient watchman of being an idler. In 1 Thessalonians 5: 6 we read, "Therefore [since Christ is coming again] let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober,"—watch that we may be ready, and that we may sound out the good news of the Lord's coming; be sober, not given to self-indulgence and excesses that would dim our vision or keep us from the rewards to be bestowed at His coming. Another duty that lies before us as we await our Lord is that of comforting or encouraging our fellow Christians, and edifying or building them up in the faith (1 Thess. 5: 11), that the whole body of Christ may be strong and fit and ready. We are to be light bearers in a crooked and perverse generation, "holding steadfast," not "shaken in mind," or troubled. 2 Thess. 2: 1, 2. We are to esteem highly our fellow laborers and those that are over us in the Lord, comfort the feeble-minded, support the weak, show patience toward all, rejoice evermore, pray without ceasing. 1 Thess. 5: 13-17. Shall we not then as children of the light ask God to open our eyes to the myriad opportunities for service that He has set before us, that we may not be ashamed at His coming because of unfinished or untouched duties?—*The Sunday School Times.*

# Junior Missionary Volunteer Meetings

## Suggestion to Junior Superintendents

RIGHT ideals are fundamental in the life of every boy and girl. The Junior Society has embodied the highest ideals in its organization, and seeks to make these habitual in the life of every member. Chapter three in the Junior Manual deals with "Junior Society Ideals." For the purpose of discussion, the subject matter falls naturally into four divisions:

1. The Junior Missionary Volunteer Pledge.
2. The Junior Missionary Volunteer Law.
3. The Interpretation of the Law.
4. The Junior Society and the Home.

*Gardens.*—In many parts of the country April is the month for making gardens. Encourage each Junior to have a flower or vegetable garden of his own, even though it may be only a small plot or a window box. In this way many of them can raise their mission offerings, and it will also bring under their observation many interesting lessons from nature.

J. F. S.

## Setting Our Sails for Tehuantepec.

(For Week Ending April 7)

### Suggestive Program

**Song Service:** (Such songs as "Missionary Band," "Are You Giving?" "Missionary Volunteers," and "Those Grand Old Dollars for Missions," in "Sunshine Songs.")

**Repeat Together Our Aim and Motto.**

**Three Prayers for Missions by Juniors.**

**Talk by Junior Leader:** "Holding the Ropes."

**Map Study:** "Seeing Tehuantepec." (Show a map of Mexico, and locate the Tehuantepec Mission in the extreme southern part. It includes the states of Oaxaca, Tabasco, Chiapas, and the south half of Vera Cruz. Also, glean from an atlas interesting facts about the country, its products, and the people.)

**Song:** "The Missionary Ship." (If possible, have a typewritten copy for each member. Memorize and sing this song often during the entire quarter. See p. 11.)

**Story:** "How a Paper Built a Church."

**Superintendent's Talk:** "The Blessing of Giving." (This should be original thoughts. Glean ideas from "Missionary Volunteers and Their Work," pp. 291-308.)

**Recitation:** "The Offering Box." (To be recited by a small Junior just before the offering is taken.)

**Response.** (Offering, and suggestions as to how Juniors can raise money for missions this quarter. Gardens should be popular at this season. Adopt a reasonable goal, but urge all to make real sacrifices.)

**Close by Repeating in Concert Matthew 28: 18-20.**

### Notes to Leader

*Introduction.*—As stated last quarter, we shall center our thoughts and offerings upon one missionary enterprise a quarter during the year 1928. Our contact with Mt. Roraima has been very interesting, and I am sure we have enjoyed praying and giving for the work there; but now let us turn our eyes upon the needy field of Tehuantepec. At the first meeting see that each one has the correct pronunciation—Tā-wān' tā-pēk'. The Tehuantepec Mission is a small field, but the Lord has His faithful people there as well as in other parts of the world, and it is our privilege to help find and save them. The opportunity before our Juniors this quarter is to help raise \$5,000 to forward the work of this mission. What will be the response from your society?

*Offering Device.*—In connection with "The Missionary Ship" song why not have an offering device of a ship just setting sail for Tehuantepec? As the offerings for missions come in during the quarter, arrange to have the ship progress on its voyage. Or, perhaps you may desire to have two ships, one to carry the offerings of the boys and the other the girls' gifts to missions.

### Story: "How a Paper Built a Church"

ONE copy of the *Signs of the Times* has built a church in Port of Mexico, a city in the Tehuantepec Mission. Would you know how this is possible? A little Mexican Indian woman, Simeona Sulveran by name, was trudging home from the plaza market. Her bare feet were very tired as they came in contact with the hot, sandy street; but her eye was keen enough to catch sight of a paper which had been thrown out from *La Botica de Los Pobres* (the drug store of the poor), where it had been received with other wrappings around merchandise shipped from Mexico City.

Eager always for a magazine, Simeona Sulveran picked it up and was soon reading strange things. It told her that Jesus the Son of God was about to return in person to this earth. Perhaps He would come in her day! The very thought thrilled

the tired body and soul of the little Mexican woman. On and on she read, many things that she had never heard nor thought of before. And then on one page there was a handwritten note which said that any one desiring more free literature could have it by writing to a certain address.

Simeona wrote; the literature came, and the hungry little woman read. Not only did she herself devour every word of precious truth, but she passed on each paper to friends and neighbors. They, too, read, and it was not many months before a little group was gathering in Simeona's tiny hut every Sabbath day to study the Bible. Week after week the company grew until no more could crowd into the hut. A place to hold their meetings became a real problem to the little group; but the dauntless Simeona soon solved the problem. For months she had been saving every possible peso to get herself some teeth. Yes, she would make the sacrifice; they must have a church. So the carefully saved money was put into a church building where they could meet for Bible study and prayer each week.

Did the sacrifice pay? You would think so if you could see the large church which has been raised up as a result of the work of that earnest little group. Indeed, it is now one of the largest churches in the Tehuantepec Mission, with new converts constantly being added.

Now there are many others in the church who are just as devoted and self-sacrificing as was Simeona, so that the Port of Mexico church is really the "mother" of many other groups of believers, and some of them are almost as large as the "mother" church. Many of these poor people have had their homes burned, others have been cruelly beaten and threatened with death; but they will not give up. Not only do they hold fast, but they zealously work to win others to the truth.

During this quarter we ask you to pray for these Indian children of God. Pray earnestly for us. The offerings which you will give will help to open the work in the state of Oaxaca, where four years ago in one large city Protestants were killed and cut into pieces, and distributed among crowds of Indians at a Catholic fiesta as a warning of the fate awaiting any one who dared to become a Christian. But since then the way has been divinely opened for the last great message to enter. Will you share in the fruits from this field by your prayers and your offerings?

J. B. NELSON,

*Superintendent Tehuantepec Mission.*

## The Offering Box

OUR service isn't over yet,  
There's something still to tell.  
It ought to interest us all  
If we can tell it well.

It's something you have often heard—  
Nothing so very new;  
It's what the earth says to the sun,  
The flowers say to the dew.

It's something we shall always hear,  
While on this earth we live;  
It comes to us from everywhere—  
The little, short word, "Give!"

Think of the little, needy hands—  
Hands brown and black and white—  
That reach out to us everywhere  
And ask us for God's light.

God gives so very much to us,  
Don't you want to thank Him?  
Then when we pass the offering box,  
Just fill it to the brim.

—Kate W. Hamilton.

## Talk by Junior Leader: "Holding the Ropes"

MAKE it very real to the Juniors that the Lord is expecting us in the homeland to "hold the ropes," as it were, for the work in mission fields afar. Enlist as many as possible in prayer bands for the Tehuantepec Mission during this quarter. Few of us fully realize how much these workers look to the homeland for help, both in offerings and through our prayers. Of course, the Lord knows all about the needs without our prayers, but think how wonderful it is that He has chosen to work through us, His children. James Gilmour, who wielded such a mighty influence upon the rude Mongolians, said that "unprayed for, I

would feel like a diver in the river bottom with no air to breathe, or like a fireman on a blazing building with no water in his empty hose." So, Juniors, let us support the mission fields with our prayers.

"Down amid the depths of heathen darkness  
There are heroes true and brave;  
Shrinking not from death, or toil, or danger,  
They have gone to help and save.  
But hear them crying: 'Do not leave us  
Mid those dreadful depths to drown;  
Let us feel your arms of love around us;  
Hold the ropes as we go down.'"

## Meeting Temptations

(For Week Ending April 14)

### Suggestive Program

Song Service. (Call for songs that have been of special help to your Juniors.)

Reports, Announcements, Offering.

Silent Prayer, Closed With the Lord's Prayer.

Scripture Reading by the Superintendent: "Matthew 4: 1-11." (Read beforehand "The Desire of Ages," chapters "The Temptation" and "The Victory," and make brief comment.)

Memory Gem: "Old and Young are to form habits of thought that will enable them to resist temptation."—"Counsels to Teachers," p. 20. (Have this on the blackboard where all can see. If the Juniors are keeping notebook thoughts, suggest that they copy it.)

Talk: "More Than Conquerors."

Blackboard Talk: "A Shield Against Temptation."

Recitation: "No."

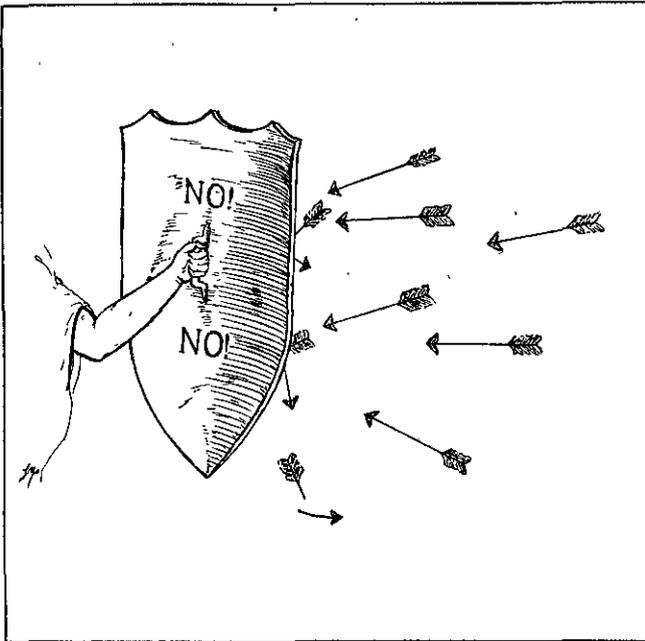
Story: "How Wolves Catch Wild Horses." (Tell, and call for volunteers to make the application.)

Recitation: "Which Side Are You On?"

Discussion: "Meeting Temptation." (Discuss Heb. 4: 15; 2: 18; Ps. 46: 1, 2; 1 Cor. 10: 12, 13; John 17: 15-17, and lead Juniors to tell how they have met and overcome temptations.)

Closing Song: "Yield Not to Temptation."

### Blackboard Talk: "A Shield Against Temptation"



Have this cartoon on the blackboard. Explain that the shield is the strength which we get from Jesus to say "No." The arrows represent temptations which come flying at us every day. But they only glance aside or break and fall when they strike the shield. Call upon Juniors to name the different arrows of temptation which come to them. Write a name near each arrow.

### Talk: "More Than Conquerors"

God means that we should have victory over sin. Salvation would only be half complete if He were able to forgive sin, but not able to keep us from sinning. The apostle Paul knew the power of God, and he assures us that we can be "more than conquerors through Him that loved us." Then why do we fall so many times?

We are not tempted of God. Satan tempts us. So in order to fully understand how to be overcomers, we must know his means of attack.

Satan comes with a sudden surprise, a glaring possibility, and we see only the thing to be gained. It is usually something we very much want, so it is our weakest point. A wind storm in Scotland blew down hundreds of trees on an old estate. Do

you know why? Because the storm came from a direction from which the trees had never weathered a hard storm. In order to be overcomers, we must surrender all to Christ, and not leave one trace of sin anywhere. As Paul wrote to the Thessalonians, "pray without ceasing" for the needed strength.

Another method Satan uses is to encourage us to put a low estimate upon sin. "The little sin, to-day, will not count," he whispers. So the little sin creeps in through a crack, as it were, but the fortification of right has been broken. Other little sins come. Each finds place in the heart more easily than did the first, until we are in the depths of sin. If we would be overcomers, we must give every sin its right value. No matter how small the act, if wrong, it is sin in God's sight. When tempted to commit the first small sin, go to Christ before it has a chance to creep in.

Christ was "tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin." He lived here upon earth as a boy, and He knows how to help Juniors who are tempted. As He overcame, so we may conquer.

But we must have faith in His power. "Faith is the victory." Sherwood Eddy defines faith as "a living relation with God which excludes sin." Faith is taking God at His word, and counting on Him to fulfill His promises. (Read Hebrews 11: 6.) When we keep this connection with God, we shall be "more than conquerors through Him that loved us."

CATHERINE SHEPARD.

### No

SOMEBODY asked me to take a drink.  
What did I tell him? What do you think?  
I told him—No!

Somebody asked me one day to play  
A game of cards; and what did I say?  
I told him—No!

Somebody laughed when I would not swear  
Nor lie nor steal; but I did not care.  
I told him—No!

Somebody asked me to take a sail  
On the Sabbath day; 'twas of no avail.  
I told him—No!

"If sinners entice thee, consent thou not,"  
My Bible said, and so on the spot  
I told him—No!

—Amos R. Wells.

### Story: "How Wolves Catch Wild Horses"

TRAVELERS tell us that the wolves of Mexico have a strange way of catching the wild horses. These horses have a great speed. It is almost impossible for a single cowboy to catch one. The cowboys, when they wish to run them down, have relays of pursuers. First one set of cowboys will chase the horses, then another, and another, until at last the horses are caught by the lasso. But it is only when they are completely tired that they are caught; therefore, it would be impossible for the wolves to catch them unless they used strategy, for the wolves' flight is not so swift as the horses'.

This is the way the wolves kill the wild horses of the Mexican plains: First two wolves come out of the woods and begin to play together like two kittens. They gambol about each other and run backward and forward. Then the herd of horses lift their startled heads and get ready to stampede. But the wolves seem to be so playful that the horses, after watching them for a while, forget their fears, and continue to graze. Then the wolves in their play come nearer and nearer, while other wolves slowly and stealthily creep after them.

Then suddenly the enemies surround the herd and make one plunge, and the horses are struggling with the fangs of the relentless foes gripped in their throats.

### Which Side Are You On?

(Let the speaker, who should be a girl, wear a shawl and carry a poker in her hand to shake vigorously at the right time.)

COME, children, and listen; I'll tell you in rhyme  
A story of something that happened one time.

There was war in the land, and each brave heart beat high,  
And many went forth for their country to die;

But words fail to tell of the fear and dismay  
Which swept the small village of Warren one day,  
When the enemy's army marched into the street,  
And their own valiant soldiers were forced to retreat.  
Such hiding, surrendering, and trembling with fear!  
When what in the midst of it all should appear  
But Grandmother Gregory, feeble and old,  
Coming out from her cottage courageous and bold.  
She faced the intruders who marched through the land,  
Shaking at them the poker she held in her hand.  
"How foolish!" her friends cried, provoked, it is true;  
"Why, grandmother, what did you think you could do?"  
"Not much," answered grandma; "but ere they were gone  
I wanted to show them which side I was on."

Now, children, I've told this queer story to you  
To remind you of something the weakest can do.  
There is always a fight 'twixt the right and the wrong,  
And the heat of the battle is borne by the strong;  
But no matter how small or unfit for the field,  
Or how feeble or graceless the weapon you wield,  
O fail not, until the last enemy's gone,  
To stand up and show all which side you are on!

— Anna R. Henderson.

## "Keep a Level Eye"

(For Week Ending April 21)

### Suggestive Program

Song Service. (Nos. 762, 739, 832, 559, 509, 572, in "Christ in Song.")  
Announcements, Reports, Offering.  
A Drill on the Junior Law.  
Five Words on the Blackboard: "Actions Speak Louder Than Words."  
Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 3: 1-13.  
Prayer.  
Special Music. (Of your own selection.)  
Symposium: "What It Means to Keep a Level Eye."  
Story: "Unforgotten Words." (See "Choice Readings for the Home Circle," one of the Junior Reading Course books for 1928. Or "The Young Witness," and "Borrowing or Stealing—Which?" in "True Education Reader," Book V, are good.)  
Superintendent's Talk: "A Hero of Truthfulness." (Show picture of Samuel on front cover of 1927 Morning Watch Calendar.)  
Recitation: "Be True, Be Kind."  
Song: "The Faithful Thrice." (No. 521 in "Christ in Song.")  
Take a Pledge of Loyalty to the Junior Law, and Close With Prayer.

### Note to Leader

TO-DAY we are to study another phase of the Junior Law, "Keep a level eye." Help the Juniors to understand that it means more than keeping a level eye with our comrades. It means that our innermost lives shall be so true that we shall be able to look unflinchingly to Jesus for help in every time of need, because we are honestly trying to live in a way that is pleasing in His sight.

### Symposium: "What It Means to Keep a Level Eye"

(Paragraphs to be given as a symposium by the Juniors. Encourage the Juniors to give other meanings from those given here.)

1. It means that I will not lie; and when I am asked about anything by my teacher, my parents, or any one, I can look them straight in the eyes without flinching and tell the truth. It means to do this even though I may suffer for it. Even a bad deed is partly redeemed by telling the straight truth about it.

2. It means that I will not make false excuses; that if I have forgotten a duty, I will own up to it like a man, instead of saying I did not have time, or making some other excuse. It means that I will not tell half the truth, but the whole truth and nothing but the truth.

3. It means that I will do what I know God wants me to do, even if it is hard. If my companions propose to do something wrong and hide it from our parents or teachers, it is often easier to consent and avoid their ridicule, but I cannot do that and keep a level eye.

4. It means that I will not steal. Even though a thing may belong to our family, it is not for me alone unless given to me by my parents. I will recognize the ownership of others by not taking anything that belongs to them. I will recognize the ownership of God by paying tithes of what I earn.

5. It means that I will not cheat in my examinations, nor in dealing with any one. I will not cover up a defect of something I want to sell.

6. It means that I will think pure thoughts. I will despise filthy thinking and dirty talk. If my companions are vulgar, I will stop them if I can or will get away from them.

7. It means that I will be unselfish, and think about others and their good qualities and less about my own. I will praise others instead of praising myself.

### Superintendent's Talk: "A Hero of Truthfulness"

THE Bible character, Samuel, was a real hero of truthfulness. (Review briefly the story of how he was given to his mother, Hannah, in answer to prayer, and when he was still a small boy she brought him to live with the great high priest, Eli, in the temple of the Lord. 1 Samuel 1-3.) But even though Hannah placed her boy in the temple of the Lord to be brought up, she did not cease to carry responsibility for him. "Every day he was the subject of her prayers. Every year she made, with her own hands, a robe of service for him; and as she went up with her husband to worship at Shiloh, she gave the child this reminder of her love. Every fiber of the little garment had been woven with a prayer that he might be pure, noble, and true. She did not ask for her son worldly greatness, but she earnestly pleaded that he might attain that greatness which Heaven values,—that he might honor God, and bless his fellow men."

How pleased Samuel's mother must have been that her boy did have a real desire to serve the Lord! He had many temptations, for even though he was in the tabernacle of the Lord, there were many evil influences and sinful examples. "The sons of Eli feared not God, nor honored their father; but Samuel did not seek their company nor follow their evil ways. It was his constant endeavor to become what God would have him." And the Bible tells us that he "grew on, and was in favor both with the Lord, and also with men."

In those days the Lord spoke to His people through His prophets, but there was so much wickedness that for a long time He had not spoken in this way. In Samuel, however, He recognized a spirit which He could use. So one night after the boy had gone to bed, the Lord called to him. (Review briefly the story.)

The message delivered to Samuel was not pleasant, and the next day he went about his duties with a heavy heart. He loved Eli so much that he did not want to be the one to tell him evil tidings. Think how he must have felt when the aged man called him and requested that he tell all that the Lord had revealed to him. It must have been a great trial for the boy. I doubt not that Satan whispered to him to make it appear not so bad as it was; but no, Samuel could be trusted. He told Eli just what the Lord had said.

The same honesty is revealed all through the life of Samuel. God asked him to deliver many hard messages. When the people of Israel insisted on having a king, the Lord sent them word that it would not be best. Who was the trusty messenger to deliver such a message to the rebellious Israelites? It was Samuel whom the Lord could use.

(Draw the lesson that God has a great work for Juniors to do. Let us always be honest in delivering His messages.)

### Be True, Be Kind

Be true, little laddie, be true,  
From the cap to the sole of your shoe.  
Oh, we love a lad with an honest eye,  
Who scorns deceit, and who hates a lie;  
Whose spirit is brave, and whose heart is pure,  
Whose smile is open, whose promise sure;  
Who makes his mother a friend so near  
He'll listen to nothing she may not hear;  
Who's his father's pride and his sister's joy,—  
A hearty, thorough, and manly boy;  
Who loves on the playground a hat and ball,  
But will leave fun bravely at duty's call;  
Who's as pleasant at work as he is at play,  
And takes a step upward with each new day.  
Then be true, little laddie, be true.

Be kind, little maiden, be kind;  
In life's busy way you will find  
There is always room for a girl who smiles,  
And with loving service the hour beguiles;  
A lass who is thoughtful as she is fair,  
And for others' wishes has a care;  
Who is quick to see when the heart is sad,  
And is loving and tender to make it glad;  
Who loves her mother, and lightens her cares,  
And many a household duty shares;  
Who is kind to the aged and kind to the young,  
And laughing, and merry, and full of fun.  
There is always love for a girl who is sweet,  
Always a smile her smiles to greet.  
Then be kind, little maiden, be kind.

— Adelaide Bee Evans.

## Out-of-Door Secrets

(For Week Ending April 28)

### Suggestive Program

**Songs for the Day:** "The Violet" and "Bird Song" (in "Sunshine Songs") and "Living Is Giving," "Beautiful Flowers," and "Our God Is a God of Love" (in "Christ in Song").

**Scripture Repeated Together:** Psalm 23.

**Silent Prayer,** Closed by the Junior Superintendent.

**Talk by Assistant Superintendent:** "Reminders of God." (Base on "Steps to Christ," chapters "God's Love for Man" and "A Knowledge of God," the first seven and eight paragraphs respectively.)

**Symposium:** "A Key to the Bible."

**Illustrated Exercise:** "The Purpose of the Leaves." (See "Bible Nature Series, No. II," by M. E. Cady, pages 163-172. As many Juniors as you desire may take part in this, each one carrying a different kind of leaf. Each should be prepared to tell the name of the leaf he holds, and perhaps further information regarding it, as well as one purpose of leaves. It would be very pretty if each wore a wreath of leaves such as he represents.)

**Recitation:** "Planted Himself to Grow."

**Notebook Talk:** "How to Study Birds." (Base on "Bible Nature Series," No. I, pages 185-187, having each Junior list in his notebook the fifteen points that should be noticed when studying a bird. See also the chapter on "Air Animals" in "Bible Nature Series," No. II. It would be well to describe at least one bird, letting the Juniors fill out each point in their notebooks, and then guessing the bird you have in mind.)

**Song by Three Primary Children:** "Baby Robins" (No. 23 in "Sunshine Songs").

**Recitation:** "The Butterfly."

**Superintendent's Talk:** "Out-of-Door Secrets."

"NATURE is full of lessons of the love of God."—  
"Counsels to Teachers," p. 188.

### Notes to Leader

The purpose of this nature program is to help the Juniors early in life to form habits of looking for "lessons of the love of God." It is now that they will doubtless have more time to become really acquainted with nature than in later life, but if the habit is formed they will continue to see new beauties and new lessons in all future time. In every exercise help the Juniors to connect daily life with the study of God's wondrous creations.

*An Out-of-Door Meeting.*—Out-of-door secrets surely can be studied to best advantage right in the great out-of-doors, so if at all possible, arrange to hold this meeting out in the open. If your meetings are held on a week day, perhaps you can arrange to make this a real outing for the Juniors. Why not ask the Senior Missionary Volunteers to co-operate with you in this? They, too, have had a nature program, and Juniors and Seniors can be of mutual help in discovering some of the secrets of the out-of-doors. At the close of the program, you might engage in a search for wild flowers, tree study, or any turn that will be most profitable in your community.

### Planted Himself to Grow

DEAR little bright-eyed Willie,  
Always so full of glee,  
Always so very mischievous,  
This pride of our home is he.

One bright summer day we found him  
Close by the garden wall,  
Standing so grave and dignified  
Beside a sunflower tall.

His tiny feet he had covered  
With the moist and cooling sand;  
The stalk of the great tall sunflower  
He grasped with his chubby hand.

When he saw us standing near him,  
Gazing so wonderingly  
At his babyship, he greeted us  
With a merry shout of glee.

We asked our darling what pleased him;  
He replied with a face aglow,  
"Mamma, I'm going to be a man;  
I've planted myself to grow."

— Selected.

### Superintendent's Talk: "Out-of-Door Secrets"

It is like a secret—the springtime. To be sure, we know very well that yonder sturdy oak will put forth oak leaves and bear little acorns, but not all of God's creatures and creations are as easily seen and read as the oak. Those who have studied nature and her habits are able to distinguish between trees and flowers even before buds and leaves spring into view, but no mind of man has ever fathomed all the secrets of nature. Great men of science have discovered many things, but the God who

created them all is anxious that even the youngest members of His family shall be familiar with them. Studied with God as our helper, how beautiful may be the lessons gained.

How shall we go about it? The nature-loving poet, William Cullen Bryant, urges us to "go forth under the open sky, and list to nature's teachings." Two men were one day walking along a busy New York thoroughfare when one of them said, "I hear a cricket." His friend laughed at the idea of any one's hearing so small a sound amid the din of trolleys, motor trucks, and general bustle and confusion. But the other only smiled, and picked up a stone lying near the sidewalk. Sure enough, underneath was Mr. Cricket. "How could you hear that little fellow?" asked the incredulous friend. In reply, the nature lover took from his pocket a small coin and tossed it into the air. As it struck the sidewalk, instantly every man for several feet around stopped, put his hand to his pocket, and looked about to see if he had dropped the money. "You see," observed the man who had tossed the coin, "it is easy enough to hear what you are listening for. My ears are trained to hear the sounds of nature."

Professor Wooster of Kansas tells us that "nature study means just the simplest and most natural thing possible; namely, paying attention, day by day, to the thousand and one things in nature which we naturally find of interest, and about which we instinctively desire to know."

In order to learn the most about any one thing, we must concentrate upon that. So as we go out into the woods to study nature, we need to know at least a few things for which we should keep our eyes open. As we look for these things, many more will come to our attention. And as we discover the beauties of nature, let us also search them for the lessons which they have for us. When Jesus was here upon earth, He continually drew lessons from the ear of corn, from the blade of grass, and from the bursting bud. These were sample lessons, as it were, for His children to use.

(Look up in a nature book the birds and flowers that are most sure to be in evidence in your section of the country at this time of year, and as you go out to-day help the Juniors to find them.)

### The Butterfly

OUT in the garden wee Elsie  
Was gathering flowers for me;  
"O mamma!" she cried, "hurry, hurry!  
Here's something I want you to see."  
I went to the window; before her  
A velvet-winged butterfly flew,  
And the pansies themselves were not brighter  
Than the beautiful creature in hue.

"Oh! isn't it pretty?" cried Elsie,  
With eager and wondering eyes,  
As she watched it soar lazily upward  
Against the soft blue of the skies.  
"I know what it is, don't you, mamma?"—  
Oh! the burden of these little things  
When the soul of a poet is in them—  
"It's a pansy—a pansy with wings."

— Eben E. Rexford.

### Symposium: "A Key to the Bible"

"As we observe the things of the natural world, we shall be enabled, under the guiding of the Holy Spirit, more fully to understand the lessons of God's word. It is thus that nature becomes a key to the treasure house of the world.

"Children should be encouraged to search out in nature the objects that illustrate Bible teachings, and to trace in the Bible the similitudes drawn from nature. . . . Thus may they learn to see Him [Christ] in tree and vine, in lily and rose, in sun and star. They may learn to hear His voice in the song of birds, in the sighing of the trees, in the rolling thunder, and in the music of the sea. And every object in nature will repeat to them His precious lessons."—*Education,* p. 120.

(Texts to be quoted or read by Juniors. Urge that many be memorized:)

Gen. 1: 11	Ps. 95: 5	Amos 5: 8
Job 12: 7	Ps. 50: 10	Matt. 24: 32
Jer. 8: 7	Ps. 104: 10	Isa. 58: 11
Luke 8: 11	John 15: 5, 8	Gal. 6: 7
Ps. 1: 3	Matt. 6: 29	Ps. 104: 24

# Senior Missionary Volunteer Meeting

## Suggestions to Senior M. V. Leaders

Nor all societies succeed. Every society is what the officers and the members make it. The officers, however, are chiefly responsible for whether the society shall be a success or a failure; whether it shall fill its divine purpose, or merely serve human aims and objects. The cause of failure, or the secret of success, always lies *within* the society, not *without*. It is not the water outside the ship that carries it to the bottom; it is the water that gets inside.

Why not check up your society by these questions?

1. Is your society accomplishing the work for which it was organized?
2. Do all the officers understand and carry out their duties?
3. Does the executive committee meet regularly for prayer and counsel?
4. Is an accurate record kept of all features of society work?
5. Is the membership list correct and up to date?
6. Is there kept a complete and accurate list of the young people, *not church members*, but coming from Seventh-day Adventist homes?
7. Are the members faithful in attending all church meetings, Sabbath school, prayer meeting, etc.?
8. Is the work of the society planned for a month in advance?
9. Is the society library growing?
10. Do the society meetings begin and end promptly, and are they of the right length?
11. Are your bands carrying on a strong work in their individual spheres?
12. Is each member trying to lead some one to Christ?

STEEN RASMUSSEN,  
M. V. Sec. European Division.

## Turning Our Eyes Upon a New Mission

(For Week Ending April 7)

### Suggestive Program

**Song Service.** (Nos. 34, 170, 238 in "The Gospel in Song." Begin early and spend some time during the meeting memorizing your new song, "The Missionary Ship.")

**Scripture Reading:** Ecclesiastes 11.  
**Repeat in Concert the Missionary Volunteer Aim and Motto.**

**Prayer.**  
**Leader's Introduction:** "Tehuantepec." (See Junior Notes to Leader, also the map study, p. 7.)

**Talk:** "Holding the Ropes." (See p. 7.)  
**Song:** "The Missionary Ship." (Pass out typewritten copies, or have it on the blackboard and take time to copy or memorize it. Sing it frequently.)

**Story:** "One Hundred Souls."  
**Talk:** "More Blessed to Give." (Original thoughts. Also, see "Missionary Volunteers and Their Work," pp. 291-303.)

**Recitation:** "The Money That Belongeth to Our King." (See above book, p. 290.)

**Our Response.** (Engage in a season of prayer. Then discuss the goal which your society should adopt for this quarter. Do not forget the offering.)

**Close by Repeating in Concert the Missionary Volunteer Pledge.**  
**Missionary Volunteers Separate for Bands.** (See page 15.)

### Notes to Leader

**Pray.**—Let this be your watchword during the entire quarter. Nothing but prayer will put upon the hearts of your Missionary Volunteers the burden of the mission field. "Prayer changes things." The most disinterested young person in your society may be won as a result of these mission studies. Pray for yourselves, pray for Tehuantepec (Tā-wān' tā-pēk')! Make prayer, not the offerings, the main theme.

### Story: "One Hundred Souls"

SHE was only an old Indian woman, past sixty years of age, when she heard this precious truth; but she has been instrumental in bringing one hundred souls into its blessed light. Not only are the hundred rejoicing to-day, but she has at least two hundred more in preparation for baptism.

When she herself accepted the truth, Virginia Hernandez could neither read nor write. She saw the light through the eyes of others who read and explained the Bible to her. They did it for the love of the *one* soul that they knew was precious in the sight of our Saviour, but little did they know of the far-reaching results their work would have.

Day after day the truth burned in the heart and soul of the humble little Mexican woman, but what could she do? She talked to others about it, but that did not satisfy. She could not explain it as it had been given to her. She *must* learn to read the Bible. That one fiery resolve burned in the soul of the little old woman for five long years. For five years she studied and she prayed. Well did she know that the remaining years of her strength were few, and she felt that she must hasten to pass on to others the heavenly light that had burst in upon her own soul. Thus fired with a love for others that she might see them rejoicing in the truth, the persevering little woman's prayers were answered. What joy filled her heart as she became able to read sufficiently to pass on the word to others!

The part of Mexico in which Virginia Hernandez lives is a dense tropical jungle. It is beautiful beyond description, with its great palms, cedars, and mahogany trees, interlaced with vines and undergrowth. There the sweet-scented orchids grow in profusion. The sunshine and rainfall both are abundant. Bright-plumed parrots, and flocks of dazzling tropical birds fill the air with chatter and song. Scampering monkeys and other animals make the jungle teem with gay life.

However, this beautiful garden harbors many deadly poisonous snakes, the ferocious Mexican tiger, and the mountain lion. The jungles hum with myriads of insects, flies, and mosquitoes, that bring on fever and malaria to the person who dares to brave their abode. But to Virginia Hernandez there are no obstacles too great to be overcome for the sake of carrying the gospel light. Into these perils she has plunged fearlessly, far from civilization, until the result is what you have already learned — one hundred souls won for Christ. She asks no greater pleasure than to carry on this humble, self-supporting service as long as life and strength shall last.

There are many others in the Tehuantepec Mission who would be just as faithful and devoted as this little woman if once the gospel were presented to them. What will you do during this quarter to help us — by your prayers and with your offerings? I leave the question with you.

J. B. NELSON.

Supt. Tehuantepec Mission.

## The Missionary Ship

(Tune: "The Great Physician")

THE missionary ship is here,  
The ship of grace and glory,  
The ship that travels far and near  
To bear the gospel story.

CHORUS:

Send it along, you praying band,  
Send it along with gold in hand,  
Send it forth to every land  
To bear the grace of Jesus.

The missionary ship behold  
Upon its journey pressing,  
Its sailors eager all, and bold  
To bring the Christian blessing.

And still the missionary ship  
Upon its course is fleeing,  
And happy songs are on the lip,  
And words of kindly greeting.

Still on and on the vessel goes  
To every eager nation,  
With light for darkness, balm for woes,  
And with the great Salvation.

The sinning, suff'ring world around  
Our blessed ship is sailing,  
And where it goes,— O hear the sound! —  
Are songs in place of wailing.

And now may God who rules the sea  
Speed onward this salvation,  
Till all to Christ have bent the knee  
In every tribe and nation.

CHORUS FOR LAST STANZA:

Send it along, you praying band,  
Send it along with gold in hand,  
Send it forth till every land  
Has learned the name of Jesus.

— Amos R. Wells.

## Our Junior Friends

(For Week Ending April 14)

### Suggestive Program

Song Service: (Nos. 21, 44, 50, 90, 94, 122, 182, 194, 203, 268, in "The Gospel in Song," are good.)  
Announcements, Reports, Offering.  
Opening Song: "There's a Work for Jesus." (No. 254.)  
Scripture Lesson: (Sketch briefly the story of Genesis 42, reading the last six verses. Again sketch chapters 43 and 44, emphasizing the blackboard question, verse 34.)  
A Season of Earnest Prayer.  
Leader's Introduction: "Our Junior Friends." (See Notes to Leader.)  
Talk by a Young Man: "My Brother's Keeper."  
Talk by a Young Woman: "A Big Sister That Counts."  
A Question: "Why Should You Be Concerned?"  
Discussion and Decisions. (See Notes to Leader.)  
Closing Song: "As a Volunteer." (No. 112.)  
Missionary Volunteers Separate for Bands. (See page 15.)

### Blackboard Text

"How shall I go up to my father, and the lad be not with me?" Gen. 44: 34.

### Notes to Leader

The purpose of the program to-day is to get a new vision of your relationship as Senior Missionary Volunteers to the Juniors with whom you come in contact day by day. If it is the custom for Juniors to attend your meeting, it will be best to have them meet separately for this program. Perhaps you can plan something special for them. It may be that you will be glad of an opportunity to get alone to try out the nature program which could be planned as a surprise for the Senior young people at the outing suggested. (See nature program.)

Then, as Senior Missionary Volunteers, face the Junior problem in your community. To some extent you are the Juniors' keeper. It is a responsibility, as well as a rare privilege, your opportunity to become a real soul winner right where you are. It will require much prayer and a close walk with the Master on your own part. But if you will give it a thorough trial, you will feel amply repaid in future time. Will you not take for your slogan this year: "Every Junior in our church for Christ!"

In the discussion following the program, encourage every Senior Missionary Volunteer to make a definite decision to be of specific help to one or more of his Junior friends. If the Juniors were each labeled at a certain price, what effort would we not make to save them for eternity! Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman once said that the value of a lad was impressed upon his mind one day when he stepped into Tiffany's great store in New York City and heard the salesman say to a lady, "Madam, this pearl is worth \$17,000." Interested at once, Dr. Chapman asked to see the pearl of such great worth. The salesman put it on a piece of black velvet and laid it on the showcase. As he looked at the pearl, and about the beautiful store, the thought occurred to Dr. Chapman, "What would he do if given the responsibility of keeping all those valuables during one single night? He would want sure protection from the city police department. And as his thoughts ran, his little lad came into them—a pearl of great price, indeed! Was that little fellow not worth more than \$17,000? He was so precious that Jesus died for him. Yet so lightly did it rest upon him as a father that he kept the boy night after night without thinking of special protection. Senior Missionary Volunteers, do you sense the responsibility that is yours in the influence and protection you throw about the Juniors of your community?"

"Juniors will follow the Seniors, you know,  
Wherever the Seniors may stray;  
If the Seniors go wrong, 'twill not be long  
Till the Juniors are wrong as they.

"So with the Seniors we earnestly plead,  
For the sake of the Juniors to-day,  
If the Juniors are lost, what a terrible cost  
Some Seniors may have to pay!"

—Adapted.

### Talk: "My Brother's Keeper"

ALMOST every boy has his hero, and that hero is likely to be a young man. This seems to be an instinct planted by the Almighty Himself. Then here is the door wide open to the Senior. Did I say open? Yes, but you must rap before you enter. He will turn the light on you, and if he decides you are a friend, he will step back from the doorway, and that will be your invitation to come in.

But how can I help him? The first step in being useful and helpful to others is to give up one's own way. I wanted to go with some of the young men on an errand to-night, but I heard Jack telling father how much he wanted to go to the swimming hole, and I know there are several reasons why he can't go unless I go with him. But must I give up my own pleasure?

Jesus' associates were His Father and the beautiful, sinless angels; but He left them all to come down to this poor earth to help His little wayward brothers. He came to keep them out of bad company by giving them His companionship and influence. And, lo! how many, by being associated with Him, have become changed into His image! That teaches me that one thing I am to do for my Junior brother is be such a perfect example that I need not fear for him if, by beholding me, he should grow more like me. I must so live that he will want to know my Saviour because he knows and loves me.

Jack begs father to let him go to the movies with other boys of his age. He chafes under the restraint when father forbids. He thinks that father and mother were young so long ago that they have forgotten how it feels to be young. Now it is for me to show him by precept and example that I do not think it is right for me nor for him to attend moving-picture shows.

Jack has a fiery temper. How can I help him to get control of it? Not by sending back a retort that matches his angry words, but by pouring oil on the troubled waters. "A soft answer turneth away wrath." At some other time, when he is in the best of spirits, I shall be able to say a few kindly words, well thought out, which may help him to overcome his fault. I can kneel and pray with him.

My brother does not take any interest in reading and studying his Bible. If he were enthusiastic over good books, he would not care so much to be "out with the boys." It would be a good idea to procure good books on biography, nature, and mechanics,—those which lie within the range of his understanding,—and we will read them together. The Reading Course books will help me in selecting these.

I will enter into this Junior's sports. We will play ball. We will tramp together in field and forest. We will study together the birds, the bees, and the butterflies, the trees, and the plants. We will work together to distinguish the songs of the different birds, the shape and the bark of the different trees. At night we will study the stars; we will study Orion, and think of the great event that is to be connected with that constellation.

In brief, I will be a true friend to my brother, and realizing that I am "my brother's keeper," I will strive by God's help, to be what I want him to become. FLORA H. WILLIAMS.

### Talk: "A Big Sister That Counts"

WHAT does it mean to be a big sister that counts? First of all, remember you cannot fail in this work if you always ring true. And now, when you adopt a Junior girl, try to recall your own junior days and to look at life through junior eyes. Have you had hardships and sorrows? Well, let them broaden and deepen your sympathies. Let nothing make you feel bitter. Remember all that has come to you can be squeezed into Romans 8: 28. Be optimistic. Love life. You may be pained because your "adopted" Junior makes slow progress. You give much and see little results. Despair not. Love her sincerely; be genuinely interested in all her plans; be sympathetic. Know her. Know her home. Know her father and mother. Go to places with her when you can, and occasionally call for her to go somewhere with you.

Perhaps the Junior that you are sistering is not so promising as some of the other Junior girls. Well, she needs you just the same. Do your duty. Let the story of the mason spur on your fainting spirits. "You are laying a good wall," said a gentleman who saw him at work. "That is what I aim to do, sir," replied the mason. Then looking at the broken brick, the man continued, "They give you very poor material." "That's true, sir, but I am not picking the material. It is for me to build the very best wall I can with the material the employer gives me." And so when we ask the Father to lead us to work for that Junior or those Juniors that we can help most, let us remember it is ours to do our best with the material we have, and leave the results with God.

"Lift me up, so I can see the parade too," cried a little girl impatiently, down from the center of a mass of humanity that was cutting off her vision. A big fireman heard her appeal, and lifted her upon his shoulder. Just then the music from the brass band burst in upon them, and the stern line of policemen that headed the parade swung into sight. Bystanders would never have guessed that the happy, laughing little lady on the

big man's shoulder was the impatient little girl of a moment ago. And in a way she wasn't. Her new vision had changed her.

But turn from this little girl now and see the Junior girls in your own neighborhood in this picture. The needs of the Junior girls are crying, "Lift me up." They need to be lifted up into your hearts, into your interests, into your companionship. They need the help you can give them. And, oh, the difference it will make to the Junior girl who finds a big sister who is genuinely sincere in her interests! Her vision, too, will change, and so will her life.

MATILDA E. ANDROSS.

**"Why Should You Be Concerned?"**

AN old man, going a lone highway,  
Came at the evening, cold and gray,  
To a chasm vast and deep and wide.  
The old man crossed in the twilight dim,  
The sullen stream had no fear for him;  
But he turned when safe on the other side,  
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man," said a fellow pilgrim near,  
"You are wasting your strength with building here;  
Your journey will end with the ending day,  
You never again will pass this way,  
You've crossed the chasm, deep and wide,  
Why build you this bridge at evening tide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head.  
"Good friend, in the path I've come," he said,  
"There followeth after me to-day  
A youth whose feet must pass this way.  
The chasm that has been as naught to me,  
To that fair youth may a pitfall be,  
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim;  
Good friend, I'm building this bridge for him."

— American Youth.

**Seeing God in Nature**

(For Week Ending April 21)

**Suggestive Program**

Songs to Sing: "More About Jesus," "Wonderful Words of Life," "Sunshine and Rain," "His Eye Is on the Sparrow," "Valley Lilies," and "The Spring-Tide." (All in "Christ in Song," or "The Gospel in Song.")

Scripture Repeated in Concert: Psalm 19: 1-7. (From memory, if possible.)

Prayer by the Leader.  
Reports, Announcements, Etc.

Talk: "Seeing God in Nature."

Talk: "Sharp Eyes." (See Talk: "Out-of-Door Secrets," p. 10.)

Descriptions of Two Trees. (Small branches or twigs might be passed around, and Missionary Volunteers called upon to give the name of the tree from which each was taken. If the tree is not too common, even the leaf might not too easily reveal its identity.)

Poem: "Tree-Tall."

Response: "Lessons From Nature." (Urge each one to bring in an original lesson drawn from an animal, a plant, or some form of nature. If one cannot possibly do this, refer him to "Christ's Object Lessons," for practical thoughts to present. Of course, this number should be announced a week in advance.)

Poem: "Trails to God." (See inside back cover of 1928 Morning Watch Calendar.)

Our Walking Club: "Wee-Saw." (See Notes to Leader.)

Missionary Volunteers Separate for Bands. (See page 15.)

**Blackboard Thought**

"As we observe the things of the natural world, we shall be enabled, under the guiding of the Holy Spirit, more fully to understand the lessons of God's word."—*Education*, p. 120.

**Notes to Leader**

The object of this program is to bring God's children a step closer to His wondrous handiwork in all the earth. More and more, educators of the world are becoming bold in their insinuations that "there is no God." So subtly are these impressions woven into textbooks to-day that the mind of a young person is doubting before he realizes that the question has been raised. Seventh-day Adventist young people must keep close to God if they would be sure of their stand. Emphasize the blackboard thought for to-day.

The "Wee-Saw" Club.—Let us make this more than a mere program on nature. Indeed, the program is sent forth with a prayer that it may lead to lasting life-study of nature on the part of many Missionary Volunteers. If at all possible, form a nature club. This does not mean that you must be able to get together often. It does not mean that you must spend a great deal of time in studying books on nature, though that would be very helpful. It does not necessarily mean that you will take walks together, though they would be profitable and enjoyable. It means simply that you will keep your eyes open

for the beauties and lessons to be found in the simple, everyday things constantly about us, and that you will exchange observations as you can. The name "Wee-Saw" is only suggestive, of course. If you do choose that name, it will be of interest to know that it was originally applied to an Indian stalwart of the Great Lakes region of North America. This Indian was exceptionally observing in the things of natural interest and beauty. So often did he greet his friends with the words, "We saw so and so," that they finally nicknamed him "Wee-Saw."

A Day With the Juniors.—Your nature program is listed a week in advance of that of the Juniors, with the thought that perhaps you will be prepared to help the Juniors. If your Juniors have their meetings on a week day, why not arrange with them to hold this one out of doors? Perhaps you can make it a Missionary Volunteer picnic, the Juniors furnishing the program, and the Senior young people co-operating with the Junior superintendent in responsibilities of the day. Instead of games; however, look for buds and flowers, yes, and perhaps if you are not a noisy group you will find the birds not too shy of you. If possible, have a nature reference book along to look up the names of flowers, etc. Make it a day which will linger long in the minds of all because of the desire created to study and observe things in nature.

**Tree-Tall**

I LOVE the courage of a tree  
That lifts its crest on high,  
Though stifling thickets hedge it round  
And lower branches die.  
It knows there's room — such lots of room! —  
Between it and the sky.

Then keep your faith, although at times  
Your world seems cramped and small.  
The tree was in a narrower space  
Before it grew so tall;  
Girt round by shrubs of lustier growth,  
It had no view at all.

So if you find your place in life  
Is little, make it high;  
Be like a tree that sets its will  
To live and not to die.  
You'll find there's room — oh, lots of room! —  
Between you and the sky.

— Claribel Weeks Avery.

**Talk: "Seeing God in Nature"**

(The one giving this talk will find further help in the book "Education," chapter "Science and the Bible." Or, look up the word "science" in "Counsels to Teachers." Quotations given are from "The Ministry of Healing," pp. 410-415, 461, 462. If possible, have all Scripture texts read from the American Revised Version.)

READ ROMANS 1: 20.

The Handiwork of the Master Artist.—"The things of nature that we now behold give us but a faint conception of Eden's glory. Sin has marred earth's beauty; on all things may be seen traces of the work of evil. Yet much that is beautiful remains. Nature testifies that One infinite in power, great in goodness, mercy, and love, created the earth, and filled it with life and gladness. Even in their blighted state, all things reveal the handiwork of the great Master Artist. Wherever we turn, we may hear the voice of God, and see evidences of His goodness.

"From the solemn roll of the deep-toned thunder and old ocean's ceaseless roar, to the glad songs that make the forests vocal with melody, nature's ten thousand voices speak His praise. In earth, and sea, and sky, with their marvelous tint and color, varying in gorgeous contrast or blended in harmony, we behold His glory. The everlasting hills tell us of His power. The trees that wave their green banners in the sunlight, and the flowers in their delicate beauty, point to their Creator. The living green that carpets the brown earth tells of God's care for the humblest of His creatures. The caves of the sea and the depths of the earth reveal His treasures. He who placed the pearls in the ocean and the amethyst and chrysolite among the rocks, is a lover of the beautiful. The sun rising in the heavens is a representative of Him who is the life and light of all that He has made. All the brightness and beauty that adorn the earth and light up the heavens, speak of God. . . . All things tell of His tender, fatherly care, and of His desire to make His children happy."

A Personal God.—"The mighty power that works through all nature and sustains all things is not, as some men of science represent, merely an all-pervading principle, an actuating energy. God is a Spirit; yet He is a personal Being; for so He has revealed Himself. . . . God's handiwork in nature is not God

Himself in nature. The things of nature are an expression of God's character and power; but we are not to regard nature as God. The artistic skill of human beings produces very beautiful workmanship, things that delight the eye, and these things reveal to us something of the thought of the designer; but the thing made is not the maker. It is not the work, but the workman, that is counted worthy of honor. So while nature is an expression of God's thought, it is not nature, but the God of nature, that is to be exalted."

Read Jer. 10: 10-12; Ps. 95: 4-6; Amos 5: 8; 4: 13; 9: 6.

*Creation of the Earth.*—"The work of creation cannot be explained by science. Who can explain the mystery of life?"

"Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear." . . .

"In the creation of the earth, God was not indebted to pre-existing matter. 'He spake, and it was; . . . He commanded, and it stood fast.' All things, material or spiritual, stood up before the Lord Jehovah at His voice, and were created for His own purpose. The heavens and all the host of them, the earth and all things therein, came into existence by the breath of His mouth."

*How to Study Nature.*—"Lo, these are but the outskirts of His ways." Job 26: 14, A. R. V. God has given us two great books to study—the book of nature and the Bible. These two books, having the same Author, must agree. "The book of nature and the written word shed light upon each other. Both make him [the student] better acquainted with God by teaching him of His character and of the laws through which He works." "Before the entrance of sin, Adam and Eve in Eden were surrounded with a clear and beautiful light, the light of God. This light illuminated everything which they approached. There was nothing to obscure their perception of the character or the works of God. But when they yielded to the tempter, the light departed from them. In losing the garments of holiness, they lost the light that had illuminated nature. No longer could they read it aright. They could not discern the character of God in His works. So to-day man cannot of himself read aright the teaching of nature. Unless guided by divine wisdom, he exalts nature and the laws of nature above nature's God. This is why mere human ideas in regard to science so often contradict the teaching of God's word. But for those who receive the light of the life of Christ, nature is again illuminated. In the light shining from the cross, we can rightly interpret nature's teaching."

Men boast of their knowledge of science, but nature is only a part of God's ways, and we understand only a small part of nature. As some one has said, "Science that can catalogue the stars, calculate eclipses, girdle the globe with lightning, and send your messages upon flaming wings, is impotent, with all her vaunted resources, to produce one fiber of a blade of grass, to tell the cause of one vein in the radiant tracery of a flower, or approximate to the most distant definition of what thought may really be."

A law of nature is simply a statement of how God works. The marvelous development of science has come through the discovery of some of these laws. But it is foolish to think that all our problems can be solved by science. Many times the so-called discoveries of science are but theories and speculations of men.

In the Bible is revealed the marvelous love of God in the plan of salvation from sin. M. E. KERN.

### The World's Bible

CHRIST has no hands but our hands to do His work to-day,  
He has no feet but our feet to lead men in His way,  
He has no tongue but our tongues to tell men how He died,  
He has no help but our help to bring them to His side.

We are the only Bible the careless world will read,  
We are the sinner's gospel, we are the scoffer's creed,  
We are the Lord's last message, given in deed and word.  
What if the type is crooked? what if the print is blurred?

What if our hands are busy with other work than His?  
What if our feet are walking where sin's allurements is?  
What if our tongues are speaking of things His lips would spurn?  
How can we hope to help Him and hasten His return?

—Annie Johnson Flint.

## In the Spirit and Power of Elijah

(For Week Ending April 28)

### Suggestive Program

A Song Service of Favorites.

Song: "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God."

Sentence Prayers.

Leader's Survey: "A Prophet and a Crisis." (Sketch briefly the story recorded in 1 Kings 17-19, omitting chapter 18: 30-40.)

Talk: "Preparation of the Messenger."

Poem: "The World's Bible."

Talk: "The Call for a Reformation."

A Word Picture: "The Events on Mt. Carmel." (A Missionary Volunteer with a vivid imagination should be asked to picture in detail the events on Mt. Carmel. 1 Kings 18: 20-40, and "Prophets and Kings," chapter 11.)

Discussion: "Elijah's Message and Ours."

Reports and Announcements.

Closing Song and Prayer.

Missionary Volunteers Separate for Bands. (See page 15.)

### Memory Gem

GOD does not seek silver vessels for His service, and He does not require gold ones, but He must have clean ones.—Moody.

### Talk: "Preparation of the Messenger"

(See also "Prophets and Kings," pp. 119, 120.)

*Elijah was of the inhabitants of Gilead.* Gilead lay east of the Jordan; it was wild and rugged; its hills were covered with shaggy forests; its awful solitudes were broken only by the dash of mountain streams; its valleys were the haunt of fierce wild beasts. "What the highlands of Argyleshire and Inverness were a century ago to the lowland towns of Scotland, that must Gilead have been to the more refined and civilized people of Jerusalem and Samaria." The inhabitants of Gilead partook of the character of their country—wild, lawless, and unkempt. They dwelt in rude stone villages, and subsisted by keeping flocks of sheep.

Elijah grew up like the other lads of his age. In his early years he would probably do the work of a shepherd on those wild hills. As he grew to manhood, his erect figure, his shaggy locks, his cloak of camel's hair, his muscular, sinewy strength,—which could outstrip the fiery coursers of the royal chariot, and endure excessive physical fatigue,—distinguished him from the dwellers in lowland valleys; but in none of these would he be specially different from the men who grew up with him in the obscure mountain hamlet of Thisbe, whence he derived the name Tishbite. There were many among them as lithe, and swift, and strong, and capable of fatigue as he. We must not look to these things for the secret of his strength.

As he grew in years, he became characterized by an intense religious earnestness. He was "very jealous for the Lord God of hosts." Deeply taught in Scripture, especially in those passages which told how much Jehovah had done for His people, Elijah yearned, with passionate desire, that they should give Him His meed of honor. And when he learned that this was lacking—as the dread tidings came, by broken snatches, of what was transpiring across the Jordan; as messenger after messenger told how Jezebel had thrown down God's altars, and slain His prophets, and replaced them by the impious rites of her Tyrian deities, his blood ran liquid fire; his indignation burst all bounds; he was "very jealous for the Lord God of hosts." O noble heart! would that we could be as righteously indignant, amid the evils of our time! O for a coal from that pure flame that burnt on thine inner hearth! —F. B. Meyer.

### Talk: "The Call for a Reformation"

(Source Material: "Prophets and Kings," pp. 123-128.)

THE reign of Ahab and Jezebel reveals the terrible apostasy into which Israel had gradually drifted. While Ahab was of the royal lineage of Israel, his wife, Jezebel, was the daughter of a heathen king, Ethbaal of Tyre, who was a priest of Baal. She maintained a fanatical devotion to the god Baal.

The worship of the true God had a very weak defender in Ahab, against the ardent service Jezebel rendered her god. It was Jezebel's ambition to secure for her god Baal equal recognition with Jehovah throughout the realm of Israel. Ahab not only yielded to her wishes and built her a temple of Baal (1 Kings 16: 32), but he himself worshiped Baal, and added to

## 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?"—Mrs. E. G. White, *Signs of the Times*, May 29, 1893.

### A Word to All Band Leaders

The above words from the spirit of prophecy constitute the charter of our Missionary Volunteer Societies. Who are called? Called to what? What kind of organization? What are they to put into the work? What work? For what two classes are they to work? Does your society meet the conditions?

The form of organization in your society, depending on the number and ability of members, and the needs and opportunities in your community, has doubtless been determined long since, and is, we hope, in excellent working condition.

Do you remember about the "minute men" in history? The Lord wants every Missionary Volunteer to be a minute man, not to work in independent units, but together. Sister White wrote in the *Review and Herald* of June 29, 1897, "The Lord will have a well-trained army, ready to be called into action at a word."

Is your society one of the regiments of this well-trained army? Can you, and do you, spring into action "at a word"?

Did you roll in the Harvest Ingathering dollars last autumn? Many did, we know. Our young people in North America did the best ever. Did you swing into action in getting petitions against the Sunday bill? Did your society take hold of the "Special Opportunity for February"? Oh, there is so much that can be done for the Lord when, like those who rebuilt the wall around Jerusalem, we have "a mind to work." Neh. 4: 6.

Dear officers, if you omit the missionary endeavor, you have missed the main object for which our young people were called to organize. The General Missionary Volunteer Department officers feel this so keenly that we have arranged to have the hands occupy half of the regular hour for the society meeting. Of course, if you have your bands doing successful work at some other hour during the week, that is fine; but by all means have a plan, and work your plan.

Work, work, work, work;  
Swiftly the hours of labor fly,  
Freighted with love let each pass by!  
There is joy in labor  
For the struggling neighbor,  
Work, ever work for Jesus!

We are told that in these closing days of the gospel message, "servants of God, with their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, will hasten from place to place to proclaim the message from heaven. By thousands of voices, all over the earth, the warning will be given."—*The Great Controversy*, page 612.

Do you and your Missionary Volunteers belong to this class?

### Prayer and Personal Work Band

"They [the youth] ought to feel that a responsibility rests upon them to do all they can to save their fellow mortals, even at a sacrifice of their pleasure and natural desires."—*Testimonies*, Vol. I, p. 511.

One excellent means of doing this is presented to our Senior Missionary Volunteers in their program this month on "Our Junior Friends." Let this band call upon God for love and wisdom to do this work for their Junior friends.

One of the most ignominious defeats of the church is to allow young people of the church to drift into the world. Are some of the youth of Adventist families in your church slipping? It is the duty of this band to know, and do something in a personal way to prevent it.

### Christian Help and Gospel Meeting Band

Both the Standard of Attainment studies and the neighborly work should be more interesting every month. Do not allow a failure in some effort, or any other thing, to dampen your enthusiasm. Be diligent in looking for opportunities to help others. Job said, "The cause which I knew not I searched out."

Personal conversations on religion and Bible studies are a natural outgrowth of real Christian help work. Always have it in mind to make openings for cottage meetings; and let this work go right through the summer.

This band has wonderful possibilities for missionary endeavor and for the development of Missionary Volunteers into strong workers.

### Literature and Correspondence Band

"If there is one work more important than another, it is that of getting our publications before the public, thus leading them to search the Scriptures."—*Christian Service*, p. 145.

Remember, Big Week comes during this month. Consult your church elder, and make definite plans for Missionary Volunteers to do a strong work.

In the February GAZETTE eight lines of literature work and three lines of correspondence work were suggested. And there are others. In March we gave sample missionary letters. A wide-awake, devoted band leader in counsel with his band can devise and carry out plans that will be effective.

Many young people who would be timid to approach people without something in hand to talk about, can courageously go with tracts, papers, or small books.

### Discussion: "Elijah's Message and Ours"

In the Bible some remarkable historical person or movement is often used as a symbol in prophecy. Thus the wicked, apostate city of Babylon is used to symbolize the great apostasy in the Christian church. Rev. 18: 2.

In this way Elijah with his message is used to symbolize the last reformation message. Mal. 4: 5, 6. In a secondary sense, John the Baptist was a fulfillment of this prophecy, for he came in the spirit and power of Elijah to prepare the way for Jesus' first coming. Luke 1: 17. Yet John could not have been the complete fulfillment of Malachi's prophecy (John 1: 21), for the Elijah message predicted what was to be just before the great and terrible day of the Lord. This prophecy can meet its fulfillment only in the third angel's message.

It is well, therefore, for us who are connected with this movement to make a special study of the life and times of Elijah, our great prototype.

(Let different members be asked to show the similarity between the Elijah message then and now. The following topics are suggestive; you may think of others:)

1. Call to the worship of the true God. 1 Kings 18: 18-21; Rev. 14: 7.
2. Prediction of judgments to fall. 1 Kings 17: 1; 18: 40; Rev. 14: 9-11.
3. Reformation in the home. 1 Kings 17: 10-24; Mal. 4: 5, 6.
4. Manifestation of great power in answer to prayer. 1 Kings 18: 37-39, 41-45; James 5: 17, 18; Rev. 14: 12; 18: 1.
5. The characterization of Elijah as a model for the people who give the advent message.

his iniquity by permitting Jezebel to wreak vengeance on all who opposed her designs. She became so bold in the promotion of her religion that she "cut off the prophets of Jehovah" (1 Kings 18: 4), and left but a hundred of the ministers of the true religion. How feeble must have been the promotion of the truth of God when only one hundred prophets remained and these hid in caves, while the mass of the people were "limping between the two sides" (1 Kings 18: 21), and apostate prophets were talking of peace. 1 Kings 22: 6.

Such a condition threatened the extinction of the true worship and the establishment of a new order of worship in Israel. The two systems became so fully merged in each other that the people were unable to distinguish between the true and the false. What a terrible condition in which to find God's chosen people, debating the relative place of Jehovah and other gods to determine which is the stronger! But this was not all. The worship of Baal in the form which it had taken in Phoenicia was especially abominable in the sight of God. It not only sanctioned indulgence in moral sin, but made it a part of its system of worship. This form was introduced in Israel.

It will be seen that no formal presentation of a reformation message would arouse the people and lead them to repentance. But the events leading to Mt. Carmel centered the attention upon God's messenger. Through the calamities attending the period of drouth the people were prepared to respond once more to the call to worship the true God.

J. F. SIMON.

"He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways." Ps. 91: 11.

# OUR FOREIGN MISSIONS

THIS page is being utilized by the Mission Board in supplying incidents and information for the use of elders and other church officers.

The information thus provided may be used by church officers in any way they think best in placing before our people at proper times the ever-present need of our expanding work in mission lands.

## A Few Moments With Our Missionaries

### Savages Pleading for Teachers

IN establishing a mission in some strategic center it is wonderful how far the light penetrates round about, with its winning, drawing influence. Missionary J. P. Ramos, on the headwaters of the Amazon, writes:

"After having walked for two months, we have at last arrived," were the words which greeted our ears as an Indian chief with twenty-five companions of the Campa tribe reached our mission headquarters.

"I asked them why they were so long on the journey, and they replied that the heavy rains and the swollen rivers had prevented them from using their canoes, so they had abandoned those and come overland in a round-about way, climbing steep hills and descending rocky heights. The chief then added: 'My people greatly desire to know the true God who loves us and wishes to save us, but it is too far for them to come here and bring their families and little ones. We want teachers who will go and show us the right way, and we will do all that we are taught.' I marveled to see the interest manifested by these poor, ignorant savages, suffering hunger, cold, weariness, and sleeping out in all kinds of weather during their long journey, made with the sole hope of securing a teacher.

"During this year, hundreds of savages from different tribes have visited us and much progress is visible. God is working on the hearts of these people. Many are giving up their vices of chewing the coca leaf, the use of tobacco and strong drinks, as well as numerous forms of superstition which often cause the death of not only adults but also of many children. Shall we not make it possible to send them the long-looked-for teachers?"

### Where Padlocks Are Unnecessary

AT Marovo Lagoon, Solomon Islands, before our missionaries arrived, traders secured their stores with heavy timbers, with loopholes for further guarding their property because of the treacherous character of the natives. Now listen to Missionary H. B. P. Wicks recite experiences with these same people—only they are *not* the same:

"Telina is a small island of about twenty acres in extent, and is the headquarters of our mission work in the Marovo Lagoon, Solomon Islands. It has about eighty people resident thereon. Our mission work began in the Marovo Lagoon twelve years ago in the midst of heathenism. Now that is a thing of the past. Not long ago we returned to Australia on furlough. We packed our suitcases with the things we needed. We then left our house on Telina with neither the doors locked nor a box left inside packed with our things padlocked. We were away five months. On our return not so much as a thread of cotton was missing. And the house had been swept and cleaned regularly by the people of the village. What better evidence do we need than this to convince us that 'the gospel of Christ is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth,' emphasizing anew 'if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold [!], all things are become new'?"

### Able to Stand Alone

MISSIONARY M. M. MATTISON relates this of our native believers of a certain "village" of about 5,000 inhabitants in the Northwest India Union Mission:

"While away during the extreme heat of June and July, the enemy thought it an opportune time to tear down the work in three villages where some of our Christian farmers live. Certain reform societies of the Hindus are rather alarmed because of the hundreds of people from the lower castes who have left their ranks of Hinduism and accepted a better way. Christianity gives these people broader ideas, and creates a feeling in their breasts that they are human, and have certain privileges in common with all men, which are God-given. This society hired special preachers and sent them with musical instruments to our people in order to win them back. Our believers are not educated people, but they gave these opponents an answer for their hope. They said: 'You people are good preachers, sing

well, and have good music. We are not educated. One thing we know: The Jesus Christ we have accepted gave His life for us. No Hindu leader ever did such for us. Go on to some other village.'"

### In the Regions Where Livingstone Pioneered

HERE is an encouraging message from Dr. C. F. Birkenstock, at work in Nyasaland, Africa:

"The work here in Nyasaland is making good progress. We have launched a strong evangelistic campaign in this local field, and are seeing excellent results. The Lord is blessing these efforts very bountifully, and we have for the last three months a total of over 300 new converts, and beside these we have brought back a large number of others who had become discouraged, or left the Bible classes in the past. We hope in another month to have two or three more evangelists out.

"The work at Thekerani [an important outstation of Nyasaland] is doing very well indeed. Brother and Sister Grisham are taking hold of the work like missionaries with years of experience. They recently had the misfortune to lose the roof of their house, it being taken off by a cyclone and carried down the hillside. At the same time the tremendous storm flooded the house, so that practically all they had is ruined. Their courage is good, however, and they seem more anxious than ever to carry on the work that has been started there. We are doing all we can to fix them up comfortably until we can supply them more permanent quarters."

Here is another paragraph from a letter received from Elder H. M. Sparrow, which bears an encouraging message:

"You will be interested to know that, while visiting a section of the Solusi outschools, we were met by a delegation from the Bushman tribe begging us to place a school near Lake Ngami, which is on the northern border of the Kalahari Desert. From these people a man and his wife recently joined the baptismal class, and they are now requesting that we make arrangements for this couple to connect with Solusi for further training in order to enable them to return and give the truth to their own people. This, you see, gives us our first Bushman family to be trained for service among that tribe. Surely the Lord is leading and opening the way for a quick work to be done in that part of the field. You will also be interested to know that our native brethren have set a goal of 1,000 new believers for 1928. This is also very encouraging to us."

### The Wildest Place in the South Seas

MISSIONARY A. G. STEWART sends this gleaned from an experience not so long ago as he and his wife were sailing along the Malekulan coast, in that darkest spot of cannibal heathenism anywhere in the South Seas,—the New Hebrides Islands:

"Words fail to describe the untoward conditions surrounding our esteemed workers as they faced the task of giving this last gospel message to an unresponsive, degraded people, continually engaged in heathen practices of the most debasing nature, dwelling in hovels of filth, and depressed by a state of perpetual fear, in the New Hebrides Islands. Government officials, traders, and planters, though admiring the courage of the missionaries in such an undertaking, did not hesitate to freely express their opinions as to the impossibility of effecting any change among such a degraded and truculent people.

"With undaunted faith in the promise of God, that 'His word shall not return unto Him void,' they began the task of winning these people from darkness to light, from fear to trust, and from savagery to salvation.

"Coinciding with the arrival of Mrs. Stewart and myself, a few years later, in the group, our pioneer workers were establishing a mission on West Malekula, among the wildest cannibal tribes in the group. Well does the writer remember the remark of a fellow passenger on the steamer as we steamed along the coast toward this new field of labor. 'I would not put my foot ashore there,' he said, 'for all the tea in China. It is the wildest place in the group.' But our brave young missionaries landed at that place and began to labor. Along that very coast to-day are several companies of Christian believers who rejoice in the knowledge of a Saviour from sin, and in their daily devotions sing from full and happy hearts the praises of the One who has redeemed them by His blood. The results are marvelous. Grateful hearts, clean bodies, new homes and environments,—all testifying to the power of God to save from the 'utmost' degradation. And so all through the New Hebrides to-day scores of villages are being transformed into Christian communities, and hundreds of men, women, and children rejoice in the privileges and exercises of the gospel of Christ."

Blessed indeed are our missions investments! No one holding shares in God's Missions Enterprise shall ever regret having secured his holdings yielding such dividends even now, and, better still, secured unto him with compounding joy and satisfaction on and on throughout all eternity.

MISSION BOARD.