

# The Church Officers' Gazette

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## The Church Officers' Gazette

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## Church Officers' General Instruction Department

### Special Appointments for the Month of February

Christian Home.....February 6  
Foreign Missions Rally.....February 20

### That Silent Membership List

1. "PLEASE tell me," writes an inquirer, "if young folks who do not yet earn money, so cannot keep up their full sixty-cent-a-week offerings, are taken into the church on the same basis of membership as are others who contribute their share to missions?"

Yes, most certainly. Children and youth who have found their Saviour and have given their hearts to Him, and who by proper examination are accepted for baptism, enter the church upon the same basis as do other believers, rich or poor, high or low. Fitness for church membership is ever to be decided upon the basis of one's personal acceptance of, and relationship to, Christ, the great Head of the church, and upon their acceptance of the truths Christ has given His people, comprehensively spoken of as the third angel's message, rather than upon any ability financially to help support the church in carrying forward its appointed work on earth.

While even the children and youth will give their freewill offerings as they are able, simply because they are unable to put into the treasury as much as others, in no way whatsoever are they to be penalized because of this by being placed upon an inferior "silent membership" list on the church records. Not at all. Instead, they are to be held in that same tender regard as are all other members who may be able to bestow the larger gifts. And were we to estimate the value of gifts, who knows which of them bestows the larger gifts? Remember the widow's two mites. No one but He who sat opposite the treasury that day long ago is able to determine the real value of any gift, and to say who has given most.

There is to be but one church membership list. Young and old enrolled upon this sacred scroll share alike church privileges.

2. "Was there ever a plan which called such [young people and old people unable to give] 'silent members,' not reporting them to the conference as members, that some church or Sabbath school financial goal could be reached? If so, is it in use at the present time?"

We regret to say that such a "retired membership list" or "silent members list" has by some churches near the close of the year been carried for reasons cited in the above question,

but not with denominational approval. On the contrary, careful consideration has been given at two or three General Conference Committee Councils, and this practice of maintaining an uncounted church membership list has been strongly condemned as an unwarranted handling of names going to make up any church membership list. It is to be hoped, therefore, it can be said truthfully that no such wrong use is being made of any portion of any church membership list at the present time.

There is to be but one counting of a church membership, and that is to include all names on the clerk's church record book not voted letters and not having actually been received by other churches. In other words, no church can hold out a name under discipline, or one who may have been voted a letter of transfer until that member is reported back by a return letter stating he has been accepted and voted into the membership of the receiving church. Then, and not until then, can the issuing church count him no longer a member.

3. "When a member who has always done his share financially, becomes unable to do so because of old age or sickness, should he then be transferred to this 'silent members list'?"

No such transfer should be effected, as has been mentioned above. But going a step farther, without reference to a "silent list" at all, instead, referring to his regular membership standing, we have this, quoting from a church manual soon to be published, touching the question of dropping names from the church roll, the same principle underlying the receiving into membership the same classes of individuals under consideration in question 1 above, we read:

"Members Not to Be Dropped for Pecuniary Reasons.—A member should never be dropped from the church rolls on account of his inability to render financial help to any of the causes of the church. Such a course makes church membership rest on a financial rather than a spiritual basis. It is the duty of every member to support the work of the church in a financial way to the very extent of his ability, but he should never be deprived of his membership simply through inability to contribute."

In our ardor to reach even very commendable mission goals, church officers should be very careful not to invade in any manner the sacred precincts of the church membership list in ways mentioned above, for though there be diversities in gifts distributed by the Spirit among members, all are of Christ's body and are made one together in Him. James 2: 1-9.

T. E. B.

### Church Officers as Undershepherds

We are living in the most important time in the history of the world. Therefore, it is a time for action; a time to heed earnestly the admonition: "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might."

I have been wondering if church officers are really doing all they should do in the way of shepherding the flock over which they have been placed. Or have they been depending too much upon the pastor or district leader to do their allotted work? When a person permits himself to be elected to the sacred position of an officer of the church or Sabbath school, this work should never be delegated to another, but he should endeavor to fulfill most faithfully the duties of that office.

Jesus, the Great Shepherd of the flock, says: "Feed My lambs." Do the lambs of your flock hear your voice earnestly entreating them to come to the Saviour? "When Jesus told the disciples not to forbid the children to come to Him, He was speaking to His followers in all ages,—to officers of the church."—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 517. Jesus is personally acquainted with every member of the church. He knows your name and the place where you live. "Every soul is as fully known to Jesus as if he were the only one for whom the Saviour died. The distress of every one touches His heart. The cry for aid reaches His ear."—*Id.*, p. 479.

Do you as a church elder know your sheep and lambs by name? Do you know the houses in which they live? Are you familiar with their environment? Jesus says, "I am the good shepherd, and know My sheep, and am known of Mine." No church elder does his duty unless he not only supplants the flock with spiritual food, but also looks after the upbuilding of the characters of the church members, having a protecting care over them. When some of the members are absent, he should endeavor to learn why. The elder should himself call on those who are ill, or see that some member of the church visits them. It is also the duty of the church officers to have a fatherly care over all the church members, and to encourage them to be faithful in all their responsibilities, and especially should he see that they are true to the Lord in paying tithes.

"Today the same tender, sympathizing heart is open to all the woes of humanity. Today the hand that was pierced is reached forth to bless more abundantly His people that are in the world. 'And they shall never perish; neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand.' The soul that has given himself to Christ is more precious in His sight than the whole world. The Saviour would have passed through the agony of Calvary, that one might be saved in His kingdom. He will never abandon one for whom He has died. Unless His followers choose to leave Him, He will hold them fast."—*Id.*, p. 480.

"The same Spirit that dwelt in Christ as He imparted the instruction He was constantly receiving, is to be the source of their [workers, including church officers] knowledge and the secret of their power in carrying on the Saviour's work in the world."—*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 365.

If every church officer would do his duty, not only would the church be a spiritual church and would therefore grow in membership, but in this way the minister would be released from a large part of his responsibility in the church, and left free for evangelistic work in new territory. In 1 Peter 5:2 we read: "Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof."

"In Christ the cry of humanity reached the Father of infinite pity. As a man He supplicated the throne of God, till His humanity was charged with a heavenly current that should connect humanity with divinity."—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 363. M. LUKENS.

### Forgetting

It is my firm conviction that a majority of the troubles in the church are caused by people who cannot forget. How often we hear the expression, "Well, I forgive, but I can't forget." The sad part of it is that they see to it that no one else forgets. At every opportunity the same old tale is repeated. The same old bitterness is again kindled anew in the heart, and soon the minister has to be called in to settle a serious trouble in the church because some one "can't forget." It is an excellent thing to have a good memory, but it is more blessed to have a "good forgetter."

It is dangerous to look back. The engineer of a railroad train or the driver of an automobile has to keep looking ahead and keep going forward. If either looked back for the fraction of a second, disaster might come. The train or the automobile is going somewhere, and to get there it must go forward; otherwise there is no destination reached.

You and I are engineers of a machine greater and more intricate than any ever built by man—the man machine itself. Let us take this machine onward. Through trouble, discouragement, failure, mistakes, misunderstandings, criticism, and what not, let us say with the apostle Paul, "This one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Phil. 3:13, 14.

"To forget—that is what we need, just to forget. All the petty annoyances, all the vexing irritations, all the mean words, all the unkind acts, the deep wrongs, the bitter disappointments—just let them go, don't hang onto them. Learn to forget. Make a study of it. Practice it. Become an expert at forgetting. Train the faculty of the mind until it is virile. Then the memory will have fewer things to remember, and it will become quick and alert in remembering the things that are worth remembering. It will not be cumbered with disagreeable things, and all its attention will be given to the beautiful things, to the worth-while things." R. S. FRIES.

## Home Missionary Department

### CHRISTIAN HOME DAY\*

#### Suggestive Program for First Sabbath Service

(February 6)

OPENING SONG: "Homeward Bound," No. 740 in "Christ in Song."

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OFFERING.

SOLO OR QUARTET: "The Homeland," No. 855 in "Christ in Song."

PRAYER.

READING: "What Is the Family Altar?"

ADDRESS: "Take Heed to Yourself."

DISTRIBUTION OF CIRCULARS.

CLOSING SONG: "Hold Fast Till I Come," No. 894 in "Christ in Song."

BENEDICTION.

#### Note to Leaders

"The success of the church . . . depends upon home influences."—*Ministry of Healing*, p. 349. No more vital work can be done by the church than to build up its homes. This must be no spasmodic effort, but regular, systematic teaching and training of parents and children. The Home Commission of the General Conference is engaged in the work of parent education. It needs the earnest, intelligent co-operation of every church officer in enlisting the interest of parents. We ask this co-operation of you.

The first Sabbath in February is designated as Christian Home Day. It comes but once a year. Surely upon this day the church should give attention to the great work of building Christian homes. A suggestive program is herewith given, with material for use. A supply of leaflets is also being sent you. Will you please see that these are distributed at the meeting? Then lend your influence to the organization and maintenance of either a mothers' society or a parents' council, as described in the leaflet. A Sabbath program once a year is not sufficient; study all the year round is necessary to the training of parents.

#### What Is the Family Altar?

MAN'S need of communion with God was sensed from the beginning. In Eden, while innocence still held the race, there was a special hour of the day when the Creator met with His children. "In the cool of the evening" God walked in the garden and communed with Adam and Eve. After the fall our first parents, shut out from their former home by the flaming cherubim, established their place of communion at its gate, and as they were instructed, offered there the sacrifice of the atoning lamb. Thus the place of prayer was designated by the altar whereon the emblem of grace was offered.

When Abraham, the father of the faithful, entered Canaan, he marshaled in order his household of a thousand souls, and trained them to be the representatives of God in the earth. His home, his encampment, was a school of righteousness. "Abraham's influence extended beyond his own household. Wherever he pitched his tent, he set up beside it the altar for sacrifice and worship. When the tent was removed, the altar remained; and many a roving Canaanite, whose knowledge of God had been gained from the life Abraham His servant, tarried at that altar to offer sacrifice to Jehovah."—*Education*, p. 137.

But Abraham's family altar was not all there was of religion in his home. It was the keynote of the life in that home, a life lived as in the presence of God. No family worship today can be successful except as it accords with the whole life of behavior and of teaching.

"Not until parents themselves walk in the law of the Lord with perfect hearts, will they be prepared to command their children after them. A reformation in this respect is needed, —a reformation which shall be deep and broad. Parents need

\* The entire program for this service is furnished by A. W. Spalding, secretary of the Home Commission of the General Conference. —EDITOR.

to reform, ministers need to reform; they need God in their households. If they would see a different state of things, they must bring His word into their families, and must make it their counselor. They must teach their children that it is the voice of God addressed to them, and is to be implicitly obeyed. They should patiently instruct their children, kindly and untiringly teach them how to live in order to please God. The children of such a household are prepared to meet the sophistries of infidelity. They have accepted the Bible as the basis of their faith, and they have a foundation that cannot be swept away by the incoming tide of skepticism.

"In too many households, prayer is neglected. Parents feel that they have no time for morning and evening worship. They cannot spare a few moments to be spent in thanksgiving to God for His abundant mercies,—for the blessed sunshine and the showers of rain, which cause vegetation to flourish, and for the guardianship of holy angels. They have no time to offer prayer for divine help and guidance, and for the abiding presence of Jesus in the household. They go forth to labor as the ox or the horse goes, without one thought of God or heaven. They have souls so precious that rather than permit them to be hopelessly lost, the Son of God gave His life to ransom them; but they have little more appreciation of His great goodness than have the beasts that perish.

"Like the patriarchs of old, those who profess to love God should erect an altar to the Lord wherever they pitch their tent. If ever there was a time when every house should be a house of prayer, it is now. Fathers and mothers should often lift up their hearts to God in humble supplication for themselves and their children. Let the father, as priest of the household, lay upon the altar of God the morning and evening sacrifice, while the wife and children unite in prayer and praise. In such a household, Jesus will love to tarry.

"From every Christian home a holy light should shine forth. Love should be revealed in action. It should flow out in all home intercourse, showing itself in thoughtful kindness, in gentle, unselfish courtesy. There are homes where this principle is carried out,—homes where God is worshiped and truest love reigns. From these homes, morning and evening prayer ascends to God as sweet incense, and His mercies and blessings descend upon the supplicants like the morning dew."—*"Patriarchs and Prophets," pp. 143, 144.*

Let the family altar in Seventh-day Adventist homes everywhere be thus the sign and symbol of a life in every respect filled with the love of God, and therefore attuned to the righteousness of His law. Thus, and thus only, will prayer at the family altar be acceptable to God and result in the salvation of souls, both of the household and in the community about.

### Take Heed to Yourself

IN one year (the latest year of crime statistics), 2,173 men and 152 women in America died in the electric chair or on the gallows or were committed to life imprisonment for murder. Somebody's child, every one of them was. There were 44,062 convictions obtained for major crimes in the United States alone, and many times that number for lesser crimes and misdemeanors. Somewhere a mother, somewhere a father, was primarily responsible for almost every one of those misshapen lives that did those deeds of infamy.

There were 195,939 broken homes recorded in America's divorce courts in one year, and several times that number of children were subjected to influences which breed crime; for the evidence is given by Courts of Social Relation that 80 per cent of juvenile crime is committed by children of parents divorced or separated. Thousands of girls are living the professional life of shame, but these are only a small proportion of the great modern army of the sexually delinquent, and any such number of women must be matched by at least an equal number of delinquent men. Divide as we may among all the factors of society, the responsibility for these distorted and misdirected lives, yet hundreds of thousands of parents must face the judgment seat of God to answer in chief part for this burden of crime. And this is in America alone! What, then, is the sum in the whole world?

Do you question whether parents should be held responsible

for this evil? Listen: "What the parents are, that, to a great extent, the children will be. The physical conditions of parents, their dispositions and appetites, their mental and moral tendencies, are to a greater or less degree reproduced in their children."—*"Ministry of Healing," p. 371.*

"It is by the youth and children of today that the future of society is to be determined, and what these youth and children shall be depends upon the home. To the lack of right home training may be traced the larger share of the disease and misery and crime that curse humanity. If the home life were pure and true, if the children who went forth from its care were prepared to meet life's responsibilities and dangers, what a change would be seen in the world! . . .

"This work rests, in a great degree, with parents. In the efforts put forth to stay the progress of intemperance and of other evils that are eating like a cancer in the social body, if more attention were given to teaching parents how to form the habits and character of their children, a hundredfold more good would result. Habit, which is so terrible a force for evil, it is in their power to make a force for good. They have to do with the stream at its source, and it rests with them to direct it rightly."—*Id., pp. 351, 352.*

God foresaw the state of wickedness in the last days, and He gave us this promise: "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord: and he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse." Mal. 4: 5, 6.

The voice of Elijah has been heard through the Spirit of prophecy since the inception of the work of our church. In the very first little collection of Testimonies, the fourth article is on "Parental Responsibility," and ever since then messages to parents on Christian home making and child training have made up a great part of the instruction given.

No father and no mother can afford to ignore this message. No one who tosses off the responsibility of parenthood as a light and trifling thing, can escape the penalty for misuse of God's legacy. The indifference of parents is the greatest sin of today, and is directly responsible for the flood of crime that is sweeping the earth. Some day fathers and mothers will find there is no exception to the rule that what the parent sows and what he allows to be sown in the fallow ground of his child's mind and heart, he will reap within a few years in a harvest either of crime or of righteousness and service.

The responsibility of parents does not end with praying for their children, nor with weeping over their errors. It is demanded that parents study to know how to train their children and how to save them from the evil influences of the world. "Upon fathers as well as mothers rests a responsibility for the child's earlier as well as its later training, and for both parents the demand for careful and thorough preparation is most urgent. . . . Never will education accomplish all that it might and should accomplish until the importance of the parents' work is fully recognized, and they receive a training for its sacred responsibilities."—*"Education," p. 276.*

Often parents fail to awake to the situation until their children have reached the age of youth and are utterly out of hand. Then they come with weeping to the ministers of Christ, begging for help to save their children. The time to train the youth of the church is first of all while they are little children. As the child is trained, so, in almost certain direction, the youth will develop. It is folly to wait until the snow flies to sow your grain for the winter's supply of food.

Will the parents of the Seventh-day Adventist Church arouse to their responsibility? Will they devote themselves to earnest and systematic study for the making of Christian homes and the right training of their children? They are the makers of society. They are the molders of their children's lives. Who is to determine the characters of these children? The Sabbath school alone cannot do it. The young people's society alone cannot do it. The church school alone cannot do it. The key to the whole arch is the parent. Without the parents' earnest, intelligent, diligent effort we cannot hope for any great work on behalf of our children and youth.

It is no small science, this matter of training our children. It requires study as well as prayer and effort. The Home

Commission of the General Conference is holding out a helping hand to parents, if they will co-operate. The leaflet to be distributed today tells of the plan. What is the answer of the parenthood of this church?

### The Church Missionary Service

PRAYER .....	2 minutes
REPORTS .....	4 minutes
PRESENTATION OF TOPIC .....	8 minutes
CLOSING .....	1 minute

#### Suggestive Missionary Service Program for Sabbath February 6

MISSIONARY TOPIC: Our Missionary Paper—*The Signs of the Times*.

TEXT: 1 Chronicles 12: 32.

SUGGESTIONS: As in the days of ancient Israel, God has in these last days intrusted His people with "understanding of the times" and made them "know what Israel ought to do." "Seventh-day Adventists have been chosen by God as a peculiar people, separate from the world. By the great cleaver of truth He has cut them out from the quarry of the world, and brought them into connection with Himself. He has made them His representatives, and has called them to be ambassadors for Him in the last work of salvation. The greatest wealth of truth ever intrusted to mortals, the most solemn and fearful warnings ever sent by God to man, have been committed to them to be given to the world, and in the accomplishment of this work our publishing houses are among the most effective agencies."—*Testimonies*, Vol. VII, p. 138.

"The light of truth is shedding its bright beams upon the world through missionary effort. The press is an instrumentality by which many are reached whom it would be impossible to reach by ministerial effort."—*Id.*, Vol. V, p. 388.

It was June 4, 1874, that the first issue of our pioneer missionary paper, the *Signs of the Times*, came from Seventh-day Adventist presses; and never once since that time has it failed to make its scheduled appearance and to be started on its way throughout the world in ever-increasing numbers. The *Signs* has been appropriately termed our "silent evangelist," for it recognizes no bounds of lock or key, but drops down onto the library table or the office desk, and silently awaits the opportunity to preach its volume of sermons to friend or foe, religious or irreligious, the heart-burdened and bewildered souls longing for guidance through the perplexities of life. Its attractive title—*The Signs of the Times*—has caught the eye and arrested the attention of millions, making constant friends, and leading souls into the light of God's message of truth for this day. This periodical is indeed our "most able minister" in missionary endeavor. It has the distinction of being especially mentioned by the Spirit of prophecy in the following manner: "This paper has been increasing in interest and in moral worth as a pioneer sheet since its establishment." Reference is also made to the *Signs* as an instrumentality in the great field to do a "specific work in disseminating light in this day of God's preparation." (See *Testimonies*, Vol. IV, p. 598.)

Although entering upon its fifty-eighth year, the *Signs* was never more attractive or effective than it is today. Each week over 77,000 copies are printed. Brother J. R. Ferren, the circulation manager, writes: "It certainly gives one a thrill to stand by the *Signs* press from week to week, and think that it keeps one press running more than a full week just to run out the *Signs* edition." Think what it means—77,000 silent preachers proclaiming the signs of the times each week in all parts of the world. The press is indeed a most effective agency at our command. Are we satisfied that we are fully discharging our responsibility in regard to the missionary literature it provides?

From the headquarters of the denomination there is sent out through the missionary service today a huge call in behalf of a larger use of our pioneer missionary paper, the *Signs of the Times*; and from church to church all down the line there echoes the inquiry, "To what extent is your church making

use of the *Signs* as the silent preacher of truth in your community?" There is unmistakable need of enlarging our borders in literature distribution, both through personal house-to-house method and through the mails. No better financial investment in souls can be made than through the church club of the *Signs*, and no more inspiring or speedily resultful missionary work can be engaged in; but eternal vigilance is required for keeping the *Signs* club renewed and in constant working order, and also for steadily increasing gain in the number of *Signs* put into circulation. With a true understanding of the times in which we live, and knowing what Israel ought to do at such a time, let all loyally support the mighty *Signs* army going forth to the front each week, and be sure that the effective service of this literature army is made available in your immediate vicinity in a steadily increasing scope.

Not long ago a church in Florida decided to prepare the local soil for an evangelistic effort by systematic distribution of the *Signs* from house to house. A club of 800 *Signs* was provided, and the work carried on with prayer and faithful persistence for eight weeks. Then the evangelist began his meetings, and recently made the following report: "We have had a wonderful effort. The meetings lasted thirteen weeks. The interest grew, and never lagged, the attendance averaging about five hundred each night. We have baptized forty-one people thus far, and we have prospects of many more. The *Signs* did a great deal to make this result possible."

A dentist residing in North Dakota writes: "Some way or other, I know not how, a copy of the *Signs of the Times* came to my reception room, and in it I found an article on the second coming of Christ. For years I had been interested in the prophecies of the Bible, and had been looking especially for light on the prophecy concerning Christ's second coming, but my minister and my friends assured me that I was looking for something which could not be found. But when I found the *Signs* and noticed the heading of the article, I immediately sat down to read it, keeping my patients waiting until I had read every word and sent off my subscription for the paper, not only for myself, but for four of my friends, for a year.

"From that day I entered upon a new Christian experience. I would go to bed reading the *Signs*. Little by little I grew stronger in the message of truth, and the *Signs* grew dearer and dearer to my soul. I just could not keep silent, but had to tell my minister and friends what I had found. To my surprise, they were not willing to listen to me, and were decidedly opposed to the change in my religious views. This caused me deep sorrow, but nevertheless I could not stop telling of the joy which had come to me. I realize that I have lost much time in all the years before I saw the truth, and I must now work doubly hard to make up for lost time, as there are only a few more years in which to win souls for the Master. I now work for Christ and practice dentistry to help pay expenses."

There are thousands of dentist's offices where the *Signs* would be a welcome visitor and reach an audience in a very receptive mood, for who is not glad to turn attention to attractive current literature, while awaiting his call to the dental chair?

Are all the dentist offices in your city supplied with the *Signs*? Does your club of *Signs* include your public library reading room? There is a wide range of territory for the use of the *Signs*, and this is an opportune time to plan for larger and more aggressive missionary effort.

#### Suggestive Missionary Service Program for Sabbath February 13

MISSIONARY TOPIC: Tract Racks.

TEXT: Matthew 13: 31, 32.

SUGGESTIONS: In the early days of our work, no mention was made of "tract racks," but we do read that "in the year 1874 a barrel of tracts was sent from Battle Creek, Mich., to New York," and from this barrel supplies of literature were placed on steamers going to different parts of the world. This was indeed a fulfillment of the divine command to "cast thy bread upon the waters," and the promise, "Thou shalt find it after many days," was fulfilled in at least one instance, as a pledge of the greater harvest to be brought to light in the eternal home. Elder L. F. Passebois relates the experience as follows:

"Some of the literature out of this barrel was placed on board a ship and addressed to the American consul in Egypt. It reached its destination, and a native boy at work in the consul's office picked up the tract entitled, 'Is the End Near?' and read part of it, becoming greatly interested. Suddenly being called to go on an errand, he left the tract on the table, and when he returned and tried to find it, it was nowhere to be seen. For years he pondered over the statements he had read, desiring further information and wishing he knew how to secure another copy of the tract.

"In 1899 I arrived in Egypt, and in opening up our work we distributed hundreds and thousands of tracts, and among the others was the tract entitled, 'Is the End Near?' A copy of this tract fell into the hands of Mr. Awada Adbel Shaheed, who was none other than the office boy in the consul's office in former years, but had now become a minister of the gospel among the Egyptians in Luxor. With great joy he recognized the tract he had been searching for so long, and sent for me to come and see him. I was unable to leave my work and go to him just at the time he sent for me, but he did not wait for me to come, but took the train and traveled several hundred miles to learn more of the truth. After spending a week with us at the mission, he was baptized, and then began to preach the third angel's message. The tract had done its work, and the fruitage became apparent after many years."

The history of Christian warfare testifies to the mighty power that gospel tracts have exerted in every century since the invention of printing. These silent messengers are no respecters of persons, speaking to the heart of the autocrat as well as the beggar. They go into busy offices, enter the most secluded home circles, and slip into the uttermost prison cell, while the man on the street finds their message so personal as not to be refused a reading.

While we do not follow the method of distributing tracts by the barrel in these days, we do find the tract rack a modern convenience. Attractive tract holders are provided, which are appropriate to place in hotels, railway stations, restaurants, barber shops, stores, street cars, garages, etc. It is a most enjoyable experience to become responsible for a particular tract rack, seeing that it is kept filled with our small literature, which attracts and holds attention, and although the tract may be considered the "least of all seeds," it often develops into the fruitage of well-grounded and established believers in the truth.

The tract rack is faithful in literature ministry at all hours of the day. It will work for you while you sleep, provided only that you keep it supplied with ammunition. Young people and old people, timid people, and those who cannot find time for missionary work during the regular hours of the day, can all help to keep the tract racks filled by making the evening walk or drive serve to good purpose in inspecting and replenishing the literature racks.

If you do not have a tract rack in use at the present time, write to your conference home missionary secretary for particulars as to the most practical and economical rack to purchase, and establish the tract rack work as soon as possible, keeping not only one rack, but a dozen or more fully supplied with Words of Truth Series, Leaves of Autumn, Bible Students' Library, Bible Facts Cards, etc.

#### **Suggestive Missionary Service Program for Sabbath, February 20**

MISSIONARY TOPIC: Soul-winning Experiences.

TEXT: Luke-10: 1, 17-20.

SUGGESTIONS: Our text brings to view that memorable occasion when the seventy disciples returned from their missionary tour and related their soul-winning experiences. Jesus was present on this occasion, as He always is when His children are gathered together in His name, and as He listened to the joyful story which each had to tell, He "rejoiced in spirit," and offered a prayer of gratitude to His Father for the evidence of the power of the divine life made manifest through humanity. Nevertheless, Jesus gave a word of caution to govern missionary reports for all time, when He bade His missionaries rejoice because of their contact with heaven rather than because of the power which had been bestowed upon them.

The few moments allotted for soul-winning experiences in this meeting should be filled with brief reports of recent events in any line of service. And where there is ready response, no time will go to waste. The following missionary experiences may serve to good advantage as incentives to faithfulness in service:

One cold, rainy evening, a young lady connected with the gospel mission work, stood in her accustomed place on the street corner, handing out tracts and inviting the passers-by to attend the gospel service in the mission near by. That evening, when the gospel message had been presented and an opportunity given for personal testimony, a man arose and said that the reason he was present at the meeting was because he had received a tract handed him by a lady standing on the street corner, and he thought that a religion that would induce a lady to stand out in the rain and the cold to hand tracts to fallen men and women, was a religion worth having, and he desired to know more about it. When the call was made for those who desired the prayers of Christian workers, this man's hand went up, and what the result of that night's experience will be, time and eternity alone will reveal. This missionary worker might have reasoned thus: "It is damp and cold this evening, and as my service does not amount to much anyway, I think I will remain at home. Perhaps some one else will be at the meeting to help sing and pray and work for the unconverted, and it will not make much difference if the tracts are not distributed just this once." But if she had failed to be in her appointed place at that particular time, that soul might not have been reached, and the responsibility would have been placed upon her. It often seems monotonous to perform the same round of small duties day after day, and we are liable to grow careless and indifferent. It is the work of faith that meets the approval of God. He simply asks us to do our part, and then adds His blessing, no matter how small the duty. It always pays to be faithful in small and seemingly unpleasant duties.

Another experience is related by a sister in the State of Washington, as follows:

"People tell me that it is not the gift of words or speech that enables me to make friendly contacts with people, but they attribute it somewhat to my white hair, which they think calls forth the courteous attention which I always receive. It is true that I am sixty-five years of age, and that my head is hoary, but I know that it is the presence of God which gives me whatever success I have had. I always enter the homes with a prayer on my lips, whether I am selling the Home Workers' books, Big Week books, circulating the calendar petition, or doing Harvest Ingathering work, and my Saviour does the rest.

"I have had a part in the Harvest Ingathering ever since it started. At times, although far from well, I have gotten up from bed and gone out and collected \$10. One day I had been working all the forenoon and had not collected anything, and was turning home rather depressed. But as I was passing by a certain house, a voice seemed to say to me, 'Stop in this place.' I obeyed, and the lady gave me \$5. That was four years ago, and each year since then she has given me the same amount, except this year (1931), when she gave me \$6. Between August 15 and Christmas I gathered \$108 in Harvest Ingathering. The Lord takes care of His people when they go out trusting in Him. "While distributing the calendar number of *Present Truth*, and obtaining signers to the petition in my neighborhood, I called at one house where there was a very fierce dog. Now I am not afraid of a barking dog, but this was a very ugly-looking dog, and came snarling around at my back. I sent up a prayer to God for protection, and walked right into the yard and up to the house, where I met the man and his wife who lived there. The man grabbed the dog, and said to me, 'Madam, how did you get in here? This dog has never let any one by him before.' I explained that I had prayed that God would protect me, and had faith to believe He would do so, and had just walked on up to the house. This seemed to set those people thinking, and they willingly signed the petition. My petition was about two yards long, with 150 names. It is my earnest desire always to be ready and willing to do God's bidding."

### Suggestive Missionary Service Program for Sabbath February 27

MISSIONARY TOPIC: Work in Local Unentered Territory.

TEXT: Matthew 24: 14.

SUGGESTIONS: "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world, . . . and then shall the end come." This oft-repeated statement of our Saviour's is familiar to Seventh-day Adventists, who are so diligently striving to send and to maintain an ever-increasing force of missionaries in the darkened lands of heathenism. But let us remember that "in all the world" embraces the unentered territory in our own land where the message of truth must be preached before the end can come. While lifting up our eyes and looking on the whitening fields abroad, we must carefully guard against a distorted vision which overlooks the situation at our very feet.

The tragedy of the "Titanic" disaster is still vivid in memory. It is said that a vessel equipped with the Marconi system of wireless passed within a few miles of the ill-fated ship. The vessel came near enough to the scene of disaster to have rescued every passenger on the "Titanic," but it passed on its way, entirely unmindful of the hundreds of perishing souls within easy reach. Do you ask why the ship did not turn aside at full steam and rescue the drowning people? The answer is that the wireless of that vessel was so keyed that it could receive calls only from a distance of a hundred miles or more. This was the reason that it did not hear the S O S call from the "Titanic" so near at hand. This is a pathetic illustration of what is taking place every day in the Lord's work. Many Christian men and women feel a real interest in the heathen of far-away lands, but their souls are so keyed as to receive calls from afar only, while thousands of fellow beings within the limits of their own city, town, or neighborhood are sinking beneath the waves of infidelity and despair, knowing nothing of the message of hope which God has sent to the world.

Today we pause to survey the unentered territory right at our very door. Let us first, as individuals, survey the unentered territory lying within our own homes or in the street or block in which we live. Has the "gospel of the kingdom" been brought to the attention of the occupants of the rented apartments or rooms in your home? If not, here is the initial point of contact. How many homes on your street or in your block have been supplied with truth-filled literature, or the occupants brought into touch with the messenger of truth through personal contact. We cannot expect the work of God to be finished in all the world until we have faithfully discharged the duty lying nearest to us. As a church, it would be well to take a look at the map of your city today, and mark the sections where the light of the third angel's message has not penetrated, and then divide up the territory and see that every home and business house is supplied with suitable seeds of gospel literature, supplemented by personal interviews and evangelistic effort as may be called for. We must not stop here, however, but extend our survey to the unentered counties in the conference. It is surprising how many of these neglected spots loom up before us as living monuments of neglected duty. If every church would assume the responsibility of faithfully warning just one of these neglected counties, a mighty voice of truth would be heard throughout the land. Why not enter heartily into this effort to reach all local unentered territory? It is our Master's instruction which we are following, and His divine presence attends all such effort.

In the home and the immediate neighborhood and city environment, literature should be distributed from house to house, followed by Bible studies, invitations to attend church and evangelistic services, and Christian ministrations to the sick and needy. Here is a field for personal testimony concerning the power of the gospel in our own lives, and the joy of the Christian's hope of the soon-coming Saviour.

The work for an unentered county or other remote district, calls for the organization of the Home Bible Study League, as fully described in Home Missionary Series No. 15, and also in the CHURCH OFFICERS' GAZETTE for November, 1930. Further information or needed assistance in establishing contact with unentered territory will be provided by the home missionary secretary of your conference. Let us "tune in" for the S O S call nearest to us, and fulfill our responsibility to rescue the perishing.

### A Few Hours Each Week

BY ERNEST LLOYD

ONE of our leading Home Missionary workers tells of a sister who so *plans her work* that a few hours each week are given to making calls with our literature. She is situated just as hundreds of others are, but makes it a regular business to get in touch with *all the families in her vicinity*, and others as she can extend her work. She makes acquaintance first, and then, as the way opens, gets them to reading. This sister has had the privilege of seeing several families come into the truth during the past two years. The reason is very simple. Results are sure to follow such endeavor. 1 Cor. 15: 58, last clause. In a letter from this sister, she reported the sale of thirty-five small books and the distribution of several hundreds of our periodicals.

The librarian of one of our country churches received a letter from her tract society office with reference to having some one take up the sale of our small books. No one volunteering, *she concluded to do it herself*, although it meant covering considerable distance on foot. In the few hours given to visiting in the neighborhood, she "secured orders for twenty-seven books, held two Bible readings, allayed prejudice in two instances, and now a number of homes are open for our literature." This neighborhood work is certainly bringing results. The Lord is calling for more of it, for more *personal work*. And there are so many ways in which it can be done. Open doors, and doors that would open with a little *gentle pressure*, beckon to us from every side.

In a certain home there had been considerable sickness. A brother had visited the family occasionally, carrying cheer and sympathy to them. It was a good medicine. The last time he called, the lady of the home said to him, "I believe you people have the truth." She had been reading some of our literature, and although the brother was worn for sleep, she begged him to explain some of the prophecies of Daniel to her sick husband, while she sat near and listened.

Today there is a restlessness, an anxiety, a real heart's desire on the part of many around us for the truth, for the genuine gospel. We are to watch for such, plan to help them, plan to place in their hands the literature that will lead them to study the word of God for present truth.

In every neighborhood there are those who are waiting for the light of present truth. Shall we not get so in touch with our Lord that we will make it a part of our business—our Father's business—to do more personal work for those about us? The promise contained in the following instruction from the Spirit of prophecy will not fail: "Visit your neighbors, and show an interest in the salvation of their souls. Arouse every spiritual agency to action. Tell these whom you visit that the end of all things is at hand. The Lord Jesus Christ will open the doors of their hearts, and will make upon their minds lasting impressions."

*Mountain View, Calif.*

"THE church is accomplishing great things today, not through the large gifts of the few, but through the moderate gifts of the many. Let no one lightly esteem the influence of small means. Every stone is essential to the strength and symmetry of the bridge. Some of the most important stones in a bridge are often quite out of sight. Thus many obscure members are the real strength and power of the church. Let us fill our niche faithfully, no matter how small or obscure that niche may be. 'I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do much, but I can do something.' Whoever will say that and act upon it, will be a real helper to the King, and a builder of the kingdom."

EVERY Christian has something to do for Christ in this world. The fullest hands must make room for some little part of the Master's work. A heart of love for Him makes the sweeping of a room, the plowing of a field, the sawing of a board, the making of a garment, the selling of a piece of goods, the minding of a baby, all actions, as fine as the ministry of angels.  
—J. R. Miller.



# THE MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER SOCIETY

## Officers' Page

Senior Slogan: "All things through Christ." Junior Slogan: "Something for Jesus every day."

### The Successful Missionary Volunteer Program

FROM observation of our Missionary Volunteer programs, covering a number of years, I believe that the successful program depends upon about three things,—enthusiasm, organized interest, and spirituality. A program rarely gets to be either interesting or spiritual without enthusiasm. The flyers who made such wonderful records in crossing the Pacific stressed the preparations for the flight to a nicety of detail. And the officers who will put interest into a program will be enthusiastic enough to have the program so prepared in all its details that it will get across the ocean of failure that swallows up so many Missionary Volunteer meetings.

Some enthusiasm killers I have particularly noted are: (1) Failure to begin on time; (2) selecting songs after meeting begins; (3) officers tardy; (4) badly balanced programs; (5) programs with no other objective than entertainment. I have been in meetings where a GAZETTE had been cut to pieces and handed out piecemeal, and read so wretchedly that one questioned whether what was read had previously been seen by the reader.

Then the program should reveal a progressive, organized interest. Have a five or ten minute study on Bible doctrines or denominational history. Let it be lively and interesting.

Another feature of the program could be a current event number. Let some member tell of some current event and its significance in Bible prophecy. The Chinese Revolution; The Development of the Radio; The National Conventions, etc. These are all intensely interesting. But let no one expect to take any part in a program without preparation.

A ten-minute review of a Reading Course book would be a fine number for any program. Review of Spirit of prophecy books would be even better. For years it has been my custom to write to old acquaintances not of our faith on the occasions of distress or death in the home. Scarcely ever do the people written to respond by letter. But perhaps years after, when I meet them, the first thing is "that letter." I sent such a letter once to an old minister of another denomination on the occasion of the sudden death of his son, an only child. I got no answer, but years after, on an accidentally meeting him in a crowded city, the first words were, "That letter." And what he said amply repaid me for all my writing. Our young people can make use of the pen and have some real reports occasionally for our programs.

Two purposes of our meetings are to edify our young people and get them interested in edifying others. It is a splendid plan to district the town or neighborhood for the circulation of our literature. And what material for programs could be gathered from the field as the bee gathers honey!

And then comes the spiritual part, "Have faith in God." He stands ready to help us all to be successful soul winners. Keep your thoughts, your ears, your eyes for God; and He will honor you with success. No one can direct a dead automobile; but let the power be applied, and the car starts to moving and the man at the wheel can send it wherever he wishes. So if you will just start doing things, the Master Steersman will take the wheel and head you the right way to the goal of complete victory in Him. But He can do nothing as long as you are parked at the curb.

BERT RHODES.

### Band Work for Senior and Junior Young People

THE bands in your Missionary Volunteer Society are really the thermometers that tell the progress you are making. If the bands are active and faithful,—the prayer band, the literature and correspondence band, the Christian help and gospel meeting band, or whatever you may call your bands that do these various kinds of work,—you can depend upon it that you will not find it difficult to have interesting and helpful society meetings. If young people are working in the society, they will be faithful in attendance and in taking part in the programs; but the thing that will arouse the most interest and co-operation is to have frequent reports of the work that is being done through your bands.

*Slogans Will Help.*—Therefore, let us make use of the ones suggested, for Seniors and Juniors, at the top of this page in connection with the band work. If you already have a worthy slogan that is an impetus in your work, continue with it. But be sure you are leading out with a word or phrase that will inspire young people to follow.

*How Many Bands?*—If your society is small, you may not be able to foster all the bands listed above, but in most communities there are opportunities for service in all these lines. Combine your bands or make them up in any way that is practicable, but search out the needs, and do your best to meet them. Make openings for soul winning by distributing literature, inviting young people to your society meetings, giv-

ing Bible studies, and in other ways that the Lord will open up to you as you seek to be used by Him.

You have a fine opportunity to discuss your band work in connection with the church board meeting this month, for the older people are recommended to give special study to "work in local unentered territory." See the Service Band instructions for February 27. See also the special suggestions for tract rack work on February 13.

*How to Organize Bands.*—Senior Missionary Volunteer Societies will find help for organizing bands in the Senior Manual, "Missionary Volunteers and Their Work," pp. 229-286. Junior superintendents can follow these instructions, as well as the suggestions for Missionary Activity in the Junior Manual, pp. 70-90.

E. E. H.

### CHRISTIAN HELP WORK

First, it is Christian  
Second, it is help—Christian Help  
Third, it is work—Christian Help Work  
Christ, Our Pattern,  
spent all His time doing

### CHRISTIAN HELP WORK

Can we consistently call ourselves Christians  
and neglect to do the same work?  
If we are Christians,  
let us spend our time as Christ did  
and then we will be doing—

### CHRISTIAN HELP WORK

—Far Eastern Constitution Builder.

### Missionary Volunteer Banners

EVERY Missionary Volunteer Society should own a set of these beautiful banners,—Our Aim, Motto, and Pledge for the Senior Society, and Our Pledge and Law for the Junior. They will be an inspiration, hung before your young people from week to week. The banners come in felt, a beautiful dark-green background, with sewed-on Old English letters in gold with brown shading. Gold fringe and harmonizing rods and tassels make them artistic indeed. Senior sets of three—Aim, Motto, and Pledge, \$12. (Approximate sizes: Aim and Motto, each, 16 x 26 inches; Pledge, 25 x 42 inches.) Junior set of two—Pledge and Law, \$10. (Approximate sizes: each, 22 x 33 inches.) Order direct from the United States Poster Company, 330 H Street, Northeast, Washington, D. C.

E. E. H.

### If You Would Become a Public Speaker

1. NEVER speak without having something to say.
2. Always sit down when you have said it.
3. Remember that speech is "dumb show" when it is not audible.
4. Think definitely, pronounce naturally, and do not speak too fast.
5. Welcome articulate interruptions, no matter how hostile.
6. Two things should never be lost—your temper and the thread of discourse.
7. Remember that the eyes are as eloquent as the tongue.
8. Never hesitate to let yourself go at the right time.
9. Never read your speech, but always have the heads of your discourse handy.
10. And never forget Cardinal Manning's words: "Be full of your subject and forget yourself."—*Moody Institute.*

### How to Forget Fear

A JUNIOR superintendent once told me a beautiful story about a member of her society. This little girl had heard the superintendent say that in their prayers they should ask for just what they wanted, and so one day her petition was this: "Dear Jesus, I am afraid to lead the meeting next week. Please help me to think so much about the subject that I will forget to be afraid."

That's the whole matter, packed into a nutshell by a child's unconscious wisdom. When we are too timid to express our thoughts on any subject, it is because we have not labored hard enough to get thoughts that will not go unexpressed. When we are afraid before men, it is because we are not enough in earnest before God.—*Amos R. Wells, in "Through Life's Camera."*

Look ahead. Consult the Notes. What helps do you need?

## Senior Missionary Volunteer Meetings

### My Bible

(Program for Week Ending February 6)

BY C. P. SORENSEN

NOTES TO LEADERS: "My Bible" suggests that this is to be a personal message to each member. It is not too late to urge daily study of the Bible through the Bible Year.

Scripture Reading: Luke 10: 38-42; Matthew 5: 6.

Blackboard Gems: It is hoped that every society has a blackboard on which to place these gems:

"Let the student take the Bible as his guide, and stand firm for principle, and he may aspire to any height of attainment."—*"Ministry of Healing,"* p. 465.

"Better than all other knowledge is an understanding of the word of God."—*"Testimonies,"* Vol. IV, p. 27.

"If the youth will draw from the storehouse of the Bible the treasures it contains, . . . they will have no desire for questionable excitement or amusement."—*"Messages to Young People,"* pp. 389, 390.

Talk: "Whence Came My Bible?" Study the following books: "The Bible Year" (prepared by M. V. Department), pp. 7-10, 13-16; "How We Got Our Bible," by J. Paterson Smyth; "Will the Old Book Stand?" by H. L. Hastings; "The Bible: Is It a True Book?" by C. B. Haynes. From time to time an issue of *Present Truth* deals with the Bible from a historical standpoint.

Symposium: "What My Bible May Mean to Me." We take it for granted that every society has the book, "Messages to Young People," in its library, inasmuch as it was in our 1931 Senior Reading Course. Look for one outstanding sentence or brief statement on each of the following pages: 21, 96, 185, 189, 253, 255, 257, 260, 262, 274, 389, 397, 426, and 431.

Music: We suggest No. 384 in "Christ in Song" as one of your songs, and No. 131 in "The Gospel in Song" for special music.

Poems: "The Vaudois Teacher," see Junior Program, p. 12, or "The Sufficing Bible," by Amos R. Wells, p. 48, in the book, "The Life That Wins," or p. 12 in "The Bible Year." See also the Junior Program, p. 12.

### Bible Doctrines: Christ the Only Saviour

1. How did man lose his fellowship with God? Isa. 59: 1, 2.
2. What is man's condition without Christ? Eph. 2: 12; 4: 17-19.
3. Who only can bring salvation to men? Acts 4: 12; John 14: 6.
4. By what significant name was He called? Matt. 1: 21.
5. What relation does Jesus sustain to us in this plan of salvation? Heb. 2: 17.
6. In view of this, what are we admonished to do? Heb. 4: 15, 16.

D. A. OCHS.

### Talk: How I Can Study My Bible

THERE are various ways we may study and read our Bible. Here are some suggestions:

1. *Topical.*—We, as Adventists, aim to search out all the facts on various topics or doctrines to gain complete information on the subject. In the Sabbath school we frequently study the cardinal points of our faith and other truths. The Standard of Attainment study is also carried on by this method.

2. *Consecutive.*—Cover-to-cover Bible study.

3. *Chronological.*—Study in the order in which the books of the Bible were written. The 1929 Morning Watch Calendar listed them chronologically. Some may have preserved these calendars.

4. *Book.*—In order to appreciate and understand better, we often make a detailed study of one book, its history, its writer, and the background that called forth certain statements.

5. *Verse.*—Often by study and meditation we realize depths of thought in a verse not gleaned by a hasty look. Our Morning Watch is an excellent example of the verse method.

6. *Historical Study.*—We may study the history of some individual or people, and learn from their experiences, failures, and triumphs. Under this heading would come character study by stories, also narratives in their historical settings.

Surely there are ways for each of us to study. Let us read the entire Bible, learn all its characters, lessons, and experiences, that we may be fortified against the attacks of the evil one.

C. P. S.

Is your society following the Bible Doctrines studies weekly?

### Discussion: What My Bible Means to Me

THE one leading out should know his subject well. Following are certain questions which may tend to direct the discussion:

Is the Bible a modern book?

Does it deal with the problems of life today?

What is inspiration?

How much of the Bible is inspired?

Is Bible history reliable? "Patriarchs and Prophets," p. 113.

Do the Bible and science agree?

Is the geography of the Bible true?

If Bible history were unreliable, science at variance, and geography false, what effect would it have on your faith?

Does the Bible set a standard of living? If so, why then does it not mention specifically "movies," "tobacco," "coffee," etc.?

Can we understand all parts of the Bible equally well?

Will we ever understand fully some things? "Steps to Christ," chapter, "What to Do With Doubt," last par.

Why does the Bible record the bad as well as the good?

Can I doubt certain Biblical statements, and still be sincere? "Steps to Christ," p. 116.

Why do men misinterpret simple Scripture? Ibid.

Is the Bible interesting to read?

What new thing have you learned from the Bible this past week?

Is it possible to make a wrong use of the Bible? "The Great Controversy," p. 521.

Am I tempted? Might there be any relation between my temptations and my study of the Bible? Id., p. 600, and "Education," p. 190.

Can I be saved without reading the Bible? "The Great Controversy," pp. 593, 594.

Why do we not read the Bible more?

C. P. S.

### Right or Wrong

(Program for Week Ending February 13)

BY MRS. A. E. KING

NOTES TO LEADERS: An Indian who was asked to define conscience said, "It is a little three-cornered thing in here. When I do wrong, it turns around and hurts very much. If I keep on doing wrong, it will turn until it wears the edges all off, and then it will not hurt any more." Some people follow their consciences as a man follows a wheelbarrow, pushing it before him the way he wants it to go. Conscience is a matter of education. We can never get away from it. A painter wished to paint the conscience of man. He painted a horse running as fast as possible, followed by a swarm of hornets, and added the legend: "Your running is in vain."

*Suggestive Songs:* No. 208 in "Christ in Song." (Have four voices sing the stanza, all join in the chorus.) No. 554 in "Christ in Song."

*Roll Call:* Answer by repeating texts or quotations on "Conscience." This exercise should be previously arranged. See quotations on p. 9. Suggestive Bible texts: Col. 3: 15; 1 Peter 3: 16; Heb. 13: 18; 10: 22, 2; 9: 14; 2 Tim. 1: 3; 1 Tim. 1: 19; Rom. 2: 15; John 8: 9; Matt. 27: 3; 1 Sam. 24: 5.

*Secretary's Report:* Plan with the society officers to conduct the report this week in the form of a dialogue. It may take the form of an executive committee meeting at which time the previous meeting was being discussed.

*Poem:* "Signals on Life's Highway." See the book, "Social Plans for Missionary Volunteers," p. 64. It is very effective to have signals of red, yellow, and green flash on just at the time when that particular light is mentioned in the poem. This can be accomplished by having extension cords with the three colored bulbs. These can be kept in place by means of a heavy cardboard or a light-weight board in which three holes have been cut, attached to the table. As the first red light is mentioned, have some one turn off the regular lights, just as the speaker turns on the red. Then keep the red burning until the amber is mentioned, and so throughout the reading.

### Bible Doctrines: The Everlasting Gospel

1. WHEN was the promise of the gospel first proclaimed? Gen. 3: 15.

2. Name three men who preached the gospel in the patriarchal age. Jude 14, 15; 2 Peter 2: 5; Gal. 3: 8.

3. What words reveal that Moses was acquainted with the gospel of Christ? Heb. 11: 24-26.

4. How many prophets preached this salvation through Christ? Acts 10: 43.

5. How widely is this gospel to be preached? Rev. 14: 6.

6. When this gospel is preached to all the world, what will then take place? Matt. 24: 14.

D. A. OCHS.



**Talk: Color Blindness**  
(Proverbs 14:12)

ONE of the interesting and severe tests which a candidate for a naval career has to meet on his entrance to the Naval Academy at Annapolis, is his power to detect colors. On a table there is a tumbled up and confused mass of all colored yarn. At one side there are several full skeins of yarn, one for each of the principal colors,—red, blue, green, yellow, and so on. The examining doctor picks up one of the latter,—for instance, the red one,—and asks, "What color is that?" The boy says, "Red." Then the doctor points to the big pile, and says to pick out such pieces as appear to be of the same color as the large skein. The candidate selects the reds of various shades. This test is carried on with all the principal colors. Many a youth has been rejected because he was pronounced color-blind by the examining doctor. A defective eyesight might cause him the loss of his ship through a failure to read color signals correctly.

The matter of color blindness is of special interest and importance in handling railroad trains. It has been found by careful experiments that from two to two hundred persons in every thousand are unable to distinguish clearly one color from another, some persons being so totally blind to color that they cannot see the difference between the color of a strawberry and its leaf. When we consider that the danger signal on the railroad at night is a red light, it is of the greatest importance that an engineer or a switchman should be able to distinguish red from white or green, for a mistake on this point might mean the destruction of the passengers. And the perils from color blindness are largely increased by the fact that those who are afflicted with it are likely to count their sight as good as anybody's, unless they are confronted with positive evidence through some plain and practical test.

There is moral vision. There is a moral color blindness which is far more serious in its results. Many people are morally color-blind because they take the wrong path and think they are right. Isaiah said of such people, "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!" It is that of which Solomon is speaking in our text. It is that of which Jesus Christ was speaking in Matthew 6: 23.

But you ask, "How can we know the difference between right and wrong? Has not God given to each one of us in our conscience a sure test of moral light and moral darkness?" Most assuredly He has not. Conscience is a creature of education. Left to itself, it is not a safe guide, because it may have been educated wrongly. You say, "If a person does as well as he knows how, will he not be all right?" That depends altogether on how well he knows. If a person's conscience is ignorant or has been taught that wrong is right, then he will do wrong and not right when he follows his conscience. If a person is morally color-blind, he is likely to do wrong conscientiously. Some of the most cruel and terrible things that have ever been done in this world, have been done by conscientious people with the truest of motives. Conscience tells us what we ought to do right, but conscience does not tell us what is right. Conscience lays down no laws for us to observe, but it reminds us faithfully to observe the law as it has been laid down before us.

"How can I know what is right and what is wrong?" God has given us His word to reveal to us the right, to put up danger signals where paths diverge to evil ways. He has given His Son Jesus Christ to show us a righteous life, and calls upon us to educate our consciences in the light of the Bible and in the light of the life and words of Jesus Christ.

The captain of a great steamship carries with him not only a compass but a chronometer, by which he determines the vessel's longitude. The chronometer is not itself the true standard of time, but it is conformed as nearly as possible to that standard, and then its rate of gain or loss is carefully noted in order that true time may be learned from it. A wise shipmaster is exceedingly watchful of that piece of delicate mechanism on which depends his knowledge of his bearings and the safety of his voyage. Before each voyage it must be newly tested by the sun in the heavens, and at all times it

must be delicately handled and carefully shielded from rude jarring, lest its fine adjustments be destroyed.

If our consciences are to be true guides, we must test them daily by the Sun of Righteousness, and guard and watch them lest by rude, careless association with evil, the accuracy of the conscience be lost, and we be left on the mid-ocean of life without a true guide.

Let us hang up this signal lantern in our society to guide every youth safely over the journey of life.

Suggestion for the lantern: Take a piece of black cardboard 10 x 14 inches, and draw the lantern with flame-colored crayon. At the close of the talk have a member come forward with it and hang it in some conspicuous place.

MRS. A. E. K.

**Quotations**

*Our Conscience Should Be Regulated.*—Conscience is like a watch—it may look right, and you may go by it on the assumption that it is right, and find that you have missed your train because it was all wrong, after all. The watch must be set by the sure time, and regulated from time to time as comparison with the chronometer shows it needs.—*Matthie D. Babcock.*

*Martin Luther's Conscience.*—Martin Luther, the Giant of the Middle Ages, rather than go contrary to his conscience and do an act unworthy of a man, exclaimed in tones of thunder that echoed around the world: "If I had a thousand heads, I would lose them all rather than recant."—*George H. Knox.*

*Conscience From Other Angles.*—Life is full of dangerous crossings, and conscience is the flagman.—*Lippincott's Magazine.*

Labor to keep alive within your breast that little spark of celestial fire called conscience.—*George Washington.*

Trust that man in nothing who has not a conscience in everything.—*Lawrence Sterne.*

Conscience is your magnetic needle, reason is your chart.—*Joseph Cook.*

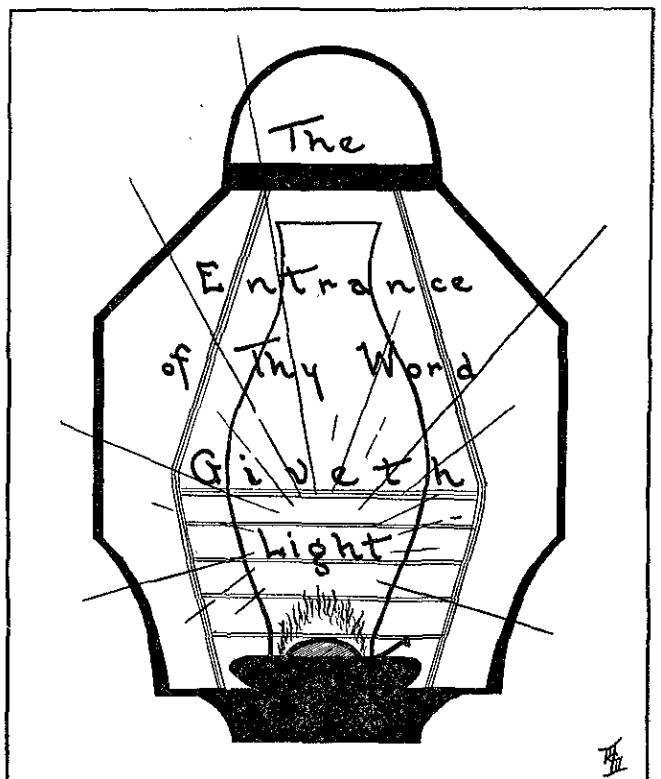
**Blackboard Talk: Life's Ledger**  
**The Ledger of Life**

Wrong	Right

Read each item of the suggestive list separately. Let the young people decide upon which side of the ledger of life they belong. Enter into a brief discussion of each, and close with a few remarks on the power of choice, and how it is possible to keep the conscience void of offense, tender and alert, by always keeping life's ledger well balanced.

Suggestive list: Dance, Truthfulness, Honesty, Movies, Card Playing, Cheerfulness, Vanity, Purity, Happiness, Meekness, Dishonesty, Smoking, Service, Drinking, Deceitfulness, Prayer.

MRS. A. E. K.



Prayer bands should plan early for Missionary Volunteer Week.

## Wanted for the Lord's Service

(What Is My Life Ambition?)

(Program for Week Ending February 20)

BY R. J. CHRISTIAN

NOTES TO LEADERS: Of prime importance are the remarks of the leader. Today your responsibility is to help the youth of your society to realize their value to the Lord, and to hold before them the greatest of all ambitions, the giving of the life to Christ to be lived for Him and by Him. Urge those who take part to use the material given here as a basis for talks, not parts to be read. Your society is not a success while the members are satisfied merely to read their parts. We are training future workers, and there is no better place to start than in their home Missionary Volunteer Society. Give time for discussion by the society. Make the members feel it is *their* society.

Opening Song: "Thy Life Within Me," No. 318, in "Christ in Song;" Closing Song: "The Larger Prayer," No. 830.

Scripture Reading: Matthew 16: 24-27.

The Poem, "Go Ye," was written by Elder Urquhart, who is following his greatest ambition and is now settled at our mission, Outside East Gate, Seoul, Chosen (Korea).

The Talk, "The World's Greatest Challenge to Youth," may be made the basis of a discessional meeting or a consecration service. See also the article, "Discovering God's Will for My life," by H. T. Elliott, in the *Review and Herald*, Aug. 20, 1931.

Be sure to read "Messages to Young People," pp. 36-40, "Hsights That May Be Attained."

### Bible Doctrines: Salvation by Faith

1. WHAT is necessary on our part to obtain salvation? Heb. 11: 6.
2. What is faith? Heb. 11: 1.
3. How is faith developed? Rom. 10: 17.
4. What does it take to free man from condemnation? Rom. 5: 1.
5. How are we kept from the power of sin? Rom. 1: 17.
6. What is the fruit of faith? Gal. 5: 6.
7. What is the relation of a life of faith to the law? Rom. 3: 31.

D. A. OHS.

### Go Ye

Go ye unto all nations,  
And publish everywhere  
The good news of salvation,  
And make disciples there.

So spake the risen Saviour  
Unto the sons of men;  
And this is our commission  
Till He returns again.

Then how can we, His children,  
The Master's words disdain,  
When still the wide world over  
Vice, sin, and darkness reign?

And how can we be idle,  
Or riches strive to claim,  
When heathen souls are dying,  
Nor know the Saviour's name?

Oh, let us pause to listen  
Unto the Saviour's call;  
And give the great commission  
Our goal, our time, our all.

—Edward J. Urquhart.

### Bible Study: What to Do With Youthful Ambition

Matt. 9: 37, 38. The promise of a plentiful harvest.

We are to pray.

John 4: 35. The promise of the reapers' reward.

We are not to delay.

Matt. 25: 14, 15. The promise of ability or talent.

We must not say, I cannot.

See "Messages to Young People," p. 206, par. 2, "A Work to Do."

1 Sam. 14: 6 (last part), 7. The Lord works regardless of the number. God honored the youthful ambition of two lads who determined they could and would.

Isa. 6: 8. We should each respond, "Here am I; send me." R. J. C.

### Talk: Ambition

AMBITION is an eager, or inordinant, desire for preferment, honor, superiority, power, or the attainment of something. Our subject for consideration is the directing of this eager desire. Inasmuch as we are young, with a life and eternity before us,

it is well for us to consider this matter from a profit-and-loss viewpoint. In what way can we direct our ambitions so as to realize the greatest profit, both to ourselves and to those with whom we come in contact? (Quote Matt. 16: 26.) From this we can see the necessity of directing our ambitions, for surely none of us would want to exchange worldly honor for eternal happiness, and yet this is just what happens when we fail to figure ambition in the light of eternity.

Ambition is a power from within that must not be smothered; it must be directed. (Draw an illustration from this quotation from Shakespeare:

"Cromwell, I charge thee, fling away ambition;  
By that sin fell the angels."

The ambition here mentioned is an earthly ambition, while the ambition mentioned in Matthew 16: 24, 25, is an eternal desire.) From the standpoint of profit and loss there is only one answer as to the better avenue in which to direct our ambitions. If we are ambitious for self, and selfish honor or preferment, we are assured that we shall lose life itself; while if our ambitions turn toward a life of service for others, we are assured that we shall find a greater life, and come at last within the group which receives the good reward as mentioned in our Scripture reading. (Quote Matt. 16: 27.) R. J. C.

### Talk: The World's Greatest Challenge to Youth

MANY allurements are held out to our youth. There are promises of wealth and fame if certain courses are followed. Young blood is full of desire to conquer, and every youth looks about for new fields of opportunity and new heights of glory. This is proper and good, providing we are using the correct standards as we determine wherein lie honor, fame, power, and influence. Every leader of the youth has been confronted with the question: What should I take up for a life work? To me there is but one answer, and that is found in Acts 16: 9: "Come over into Macedonia, and help us." Throughout the ages young men and women have found wonderful satisfaction in dedicating their lives to the giving of the everlasting gospel. This, to me, is the greatest challenge of the hour.

Fields of conquest? Think of India with her 335,663,457 people, and so far we have only six doctors, twenty-nine nurses, and sixteen hospitals and dispensaries to serve that great population. Think of it, one doctor for every 55,940,000 people! India constitutes a field of conquest that is staggering to any youth. Here is ample room for youthful ambition.

To those who seek honor, think of the honor of being assigned the post of ambassador to the millions of Africa, an ambassador for the King of kings and Lord of lords. While the task seems at first to be overwhelming, yet the efforts of a consecrated youth would not be lost should he be laboring alone in darkest Africa, for he would be working for heavenly tribute, and the reward is sure.

For those who seek "the better position," think of being assigned the responsibility of going to the thousands of Indians who live along the Amazon and Orinoco, as well as hundreds of other rivers in the great South American continent, as the peace representative to the thousands of tribes who know not Christ. Think of the satisfaction that comes to one when, after the giving of the glad tidings, hundreds find peace in Jesus Christ.

The greater our ambition the greater should be our desire to serve in the smaller tasks, for true greatness is measured in small things well done. The noblest ambition in any man exactly measures the man. The supreme ambition of the apostle Paul was to serve the Lord, and to help others to know Him and serve Him. We are saved to serve. The essence of Christianity is not selfishness; it is sacrifice. There is no sacrifice in a life of ease or selfishness or vain pleasures, of worldly fame and gaudy show. Sacrificial service means hardship, self-denial. There is power in sacrificial service. Sacrificial service means giving. It is not in demanding your legal rights, but in doing your duty. This is just what it means to be a Christian.

Therefore, to the youth who wants to tackle the *big order*, the task calling for real ambition, real courage, real heroism, let me recommend: A life of service dedicated to the world's greatest cause, the giving of the everlasting gospel to the entire world in this generation. R. J. C.

## The Message of the Stars

(Program for Week Ending February 27)

BY C. A. RUSSELL

**NOTES TO LEADERS:** Through no study are we so impressed with the vastness, the grandness, the dependableness of God's love to us, as through the study of astronomy. Herschel, the renowned astronomer, said, "All human discoveries seem to be made for the purpose of confirming the truth of Bible statements." One of the great telescope makers of today, Alvan Clark, said, "Some people say there isn't any God. Nonsense! Of course there is." Professor Olmsted said, "No one can be a lover of astronomy and an atheist at the same time."

Read "Steps to Christ," the chapter entitled, "A Knowledge of God," first four paragraphs: "Education," p. 115, par. 4. Look up in the "Index to the Writings of Mrs. E. G. White," the word "Stars." Here you will find several references to lessons which we may draw from the stars.

Have at least one good educational and inspirational talk on the stars. The talks in the Junior Program, p. 14, could be adapted, but be sure to see "In Starland," by Mrs. Fannie Dickerson Chase, for further information. You will become enthusiastic about star study if you read this book. Your public library will also have helpful books on astronomy.

*Responsive Scripture Reading*, Psalms 19; memory verse, Isa. 40: 26; benediction, Ps. 19: 14.

*Memory Gem*: "If the stars should appear one night in a thousand years, how would men believe and adore and preserve for many generations the remembrance of the city of God which had been shown!"—*Ralph Waldo Emerson*.

*Suggestive Songs*: Nos. 330, 563, in "Christ in Song." No. 329 may be used as a quartet.

*Poem*: "A Problem—The Solution" p. 15.

### Bible Doctrines: The Law of God

1. WHERE is this law recorded, and who is its author? Ex. 20: 1-17.
2. What is the character of the law? Rom. 7: 12.
3. What does the law reveal? Rom. 7: 7.
4. Upon what principle is this law based? Matt. 22: 36-40; 1 John 5: 2.
5. What is said of the perpetuity of the law? Ps. 111: 7, 8.
6. What was Jesus' attitude toward the law? Matt. 5: 17.
7. What is the result when one transgresses the law? 1 John 3: 4; Rom. 6: 23. D. A. OCHS.

### Talk: I Can Trust You

"I KNOW I can trust you." The speaker looked into the eyes of the one to whom she had come for counsel. Not a shadow of doubt lingered there. And then followed a confidence told only to gain help in the solution of a personal problem too difficult for the young and inexperienced girl to solve. A higher compliment could not be paid than those words, "I know I can trust you." Among all the noble ideals which adorn the Christian character, none is more beautiful than trustworthiness. Friendship is built upon the rock of confidence.

Dependability, what an asset! "I will meet you at Brown's corners this afternoon at 3: 30." At 3: 30 you are there. Not 3: 45 nor 3: 35. "I'd break a tug," said the farmer boy, "to be right there on the spot." Think of the hours and days, yes, weeks and months, that are wasted in one short lifetime because people are not dependable.

The astronomer had his eye glued to the aperture of the telescope that he might witness the transit of the planet Mercury across the face of the sun. His attendant had his eye fixed upon the chronometer. There was a tenseness on the part of both as the moment arrived. Suddenly, the attendant cried out, "Time!" "I see it," shouted the scientist. Calculated to the fraction of a second, days, weeks, months before, the planet entered the limb of the sun at the precise second indicated. As constant and dependable as the glittering stars in the vaulted sky is the true Christian.

Learn paragraph 3, p. 57, in "Education,"—"The greatest want."

C. A. R.

### Reading: Study the Stars

A YOUNG business woman, upon whom rested great responsibility, after passing through a time of sorrow and stress, found her health giving way. In despair she hastened to her family physician, a wise, experienced specialist in nervous troubles.

"You need a complete change of scene and environment," he stated, after examination and reflection.

"But I can't take it, Doctor," the girl told him. "If I leave the office for any length of time, some one else will have to be put in my place. My prospects for advancement are bright, if I can keep my health. Then, too, I am needed at home. I cannot possibly go away."

The doctor looked thoughtful.

"Well," he said, "I will give you a sedative for your nerves which will help some; but what will help you most of all will be living in God's out-of-doors. You can walk to your office every morning, take a walk at noon, can you not?"

"I can manage that," the girl agreed.

"And you can walk home at night unless you are too tired."

"I have tried it," answered the young woman, "but while I am walking I keep thinking and worrying. It seems as if I could not help it. I cannot get my mind off my troubles."

"You must try," advised the physician gravely. "The principal thing I want you to do is to be outdoors in the evening. Sit out in the garden, if the weather permits, or take a walk; but be outdoors for at least one hour every evening before you retire, and just watch the stars; do nothing else. Focus your attention on the heavens, on the stars; see what you can get out of that."

"I will try," the girl sighed. It all seemed so hopeless.

That very evening, however, she followed the doctor's advice. She sat out in the garden and watched the stars. At first she was listless, then she began to notice the difference in the stars, the large and the small ones, their variations in shape and brilliancy. She noticed the big and little dippers; marveled over the whiteness of the Milky Way. A falling star made her fairly catch her breath. She began to glimpse the world of interest there is in the starry heavens.

"I am going to learn more about them," she told herself.

While she watched, her whole attention centered on the heavens, she felt a curious peace steal over her, such as she had not known for many a day. The words came to her as if some one had spoken them in her ear: (Read Ps. 8: 3, 4.)

For the first time she began dimly to realize the greatness of God's world, of His manifold works, and the fact that she was a part of them, that she had her mission just as the stars had theirs, that the same wonderful hand created and guided both. Many thoughts crowded into her mind as she sat there in the silence of the garden, but they were peaceful, happy thoughts now. All the while she was breathing in deeply of the life-giving air. Her attention had been distracted completely from herself and her troubles. She felt stronger, more at peace, than she had in a long time, and for the first time in many weeks she fell asleep easily and slept soundly and well all night.

The next morning she awakened with a new feeling of strength and courage, a new interest in life and in God's world. At the noon hour she went to the public library and took out a book on astronomy.

She learned then to gaze intelligently at the sky, to find the different constellations. Eagerly she read the current news of the skies in the daily newspapers and magazines. Gradually her life broadened. A new and vital interest gripped her. Later she purchased a telescope, and spent many hours in the open. It took her completely out of herself. She forgot that she had been anxious, nervous, on the verge of a breakdown. Her eyes grew bright, her cheeks rosy. She had the appearance and feeling of perfect health.

"You don't look like the same girl I prescribed for only two months ago," said the physician when she came to his office to report her progress.

"I don't feel like the same girl," she assured him. "It has made a new creature out of me, just watching the stars. What a world it has opened up to me! What new life it has given me! Not only have I regained my health and courage, but I have found a new interest in life. I am learning something new every day in one of the most fascinating studies there is. It has brought me nearer to God, and I am learning more about Him and His wonderful world every day. I wish every one could know what it means to be out in God's out-of-doors, studying the stars, the work of His fingers."—*Anne Guilbert Mahon*.

# Junior Missionary Volunteer Meetings

## My Bible

(Program for Week Ending February 6)

BY RUTH CONARD

NOTES TO JUNIOR SUPERINTENDENTS: The purpose of this program is to show the personal value of the Bible to every individual member of the society. Try to impress throughout the exercises the fact that the Bible is not merely a great book, but that it is a friend to every person, and that, more than that, it has a message that will save from sin.

For the Scripture Reading, as the program is on the value of the Bible have six or eight Juniors repeat their favorite text. Story: What One Bible Did in Africa." See "Youthful Witnesses," by W. A. Spicer, pp. 194, 195.

Music: "Living Bibles," No. 52, in "The Junior Song Book." See the Senior Program, p. 8.

### Leader's Talk: The Unity of the Bible

Suppose that thirty or forty men should walk in through that door. One man comes from Maine, another from New Hampshire, another from Massachusetts, and so on from each State, each bearing a block of marble of peculiar shape. Suppose I pile up these blocks in order, until I have the figure of a man, perfectly symmetrical and beautifully chisled, and I say, "How did these men, who have never seen each other, chisel out that beautiful statue?"

You say, "That is easily explained. One man planned that whole statue, made the patterns, gave the directions, and distributed them around; and so, each man working by the pattern, the work fits accurately when completed."

Very well. Here is a book coming from all quarters, written by men of all classes, scattered through a period of fifteen hundred years, and yet this book is fitted together as a wonderful and harmonious whole. How was it done? "Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." One mind inspires the whole book, one voice speaks in it all, and it is the voice of God speaking with resurrection power.—"Will the Old Book Stand?" by H. L. Hastings, pp. 21, 22.

### Talk: The Story of the Bible

In this talk, mention the contents of the Bible in the time of Christ, how it was added to in the early Christian era, how the Bible was preserved during the Dark Ages, the translators of the Bible into English—Wycliffe, Tyndale, the King James Version—and how it has since been distributed throughout the world. Mention the beginning of the British and Foreign Bible Society, in connection with Mary Jones and her Bible. For material, see "How We Got Our Bible," by J. Paterson Smyth, and "Youthful Witnesses," by W. A. Spicer, the chapter, "The Welsh Girl and the Beginning of Modern Bible Distribution." R. C.

### Talks: What the Bible Means to Me

1. *It Educates.*—A library in itself is the Bible. There are so many things in the Bible that we may study it for years and still not learn all there is in it.

Scientists have long been trying to find out how the earth came into existence. They could learn it all by simply reading the first chapter of the book of Genesis. Here the story is told simply, concisely, clearly, in thirty-one short verses.

If I want to study literature, there is no better place I can go than to the Bible. The poetry of the Psalms far surpasses anything that even the great Shakespeare ever wrote. Some of the descriptions of the new earth given by Isaiah and John the revelator are among the gems of literature. And stories? Yes, indeed. Even university professors point their students to the stories of Esther and Ruth as examples of well-written narratives.

When it comes to history, the Bible gives accurate record of many events of ancient history which are of great value. Archaeologists, excavating in Palestine, Assyria, and other ancient lands, have dug up clay and stone tablets verifying the words of the Bible.

If we study the Bible carefully, we shall know just what is going to happen in this world of ours. Newspapers of today are verifying the Bible prophecies of wars, earthquakes, floods, and the general unrest of today. And the Bible tells us that the end of the world will soon come. Surely if everything

else the Bible tells is true, this also is true, and we will do well to heed the message and be ready.

2. *It Inspires.*—When you are happy, then you want to find somebody who feels just the same way; and when you feel sad, isn't it true that you like to talk to some one who has had trouble and knows how to sympathize with you? Well, the Bible is a friend that fits into all our moods (for you know books as well as people can be friends).

If I am happy, I like to read some of the psalms which David wrote when he was feeling joyful, some of those psalms that begin, "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord," and, "Sing unto the Lord." Then, when I am very tired, there are many scriptures that help. One of them is found in Matthew 11: 28-30. (Quote.) If I have had a hard day, and things have all gone wrong, then in the evening I like to pick up my Bible and read one of the many comforting messages Jesus has put there for me. I find special comfort in John 14: 1-3. (Quote.) That makes me feel that Jesus is looking right down on me and telling me that He knows how discouraging this life is sometimes; but He will not let me live here always, for He is preparing a wonderful home for me, where I can live close to Him.

And, of course, after reading texts like these, it is easier to do the work I am supposed to do.

3. *It Saves.*—The Bible is wonderful in many ways. From it we may learn many things about science, history, literature, and current events; and it serves as a friend to us. But I think the most wonderful thing about the Bible is that it saves people. It tells us the story of how sin first came into this world; it tells of God's promise to send a Redeemer; and it gives the story of how Christ came down from the glorious mansions of heaven and lived on this dark earth, where He was mocked and scorned and finally crucified between two thieves, that every one who would accept His sacrifice might be saved. And then it tells just how we can be saved from our sins. In Acts 16: 31 Paul told the jailer what he should do to be saved: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." We learn to believe on Jesus by reading the Bible, for the Bible is a message sent from Jesus to us.

You have heard of the many cannibals whose only joy was found in killing, who have become earnest Christians through hearing the gospel story.

So the real reason that the Bible has lasted for so many centuries and is still the best selling book in any land, is not because it has literary value, or because it is interesting reading, but because it has a message of salvation that can save people from sin and prepare them for a home in the glorious and happy earth made new. R. C.

Question.—What literary merit has the Bible?

Answer.—The Bible, either in its early forms or in its latest revisions, is considered to be of the highest literary type of the age in which each was conserved or published. The conciseness and chronological clearness of the earlier books, the descriptive perfection, the lyric quality of the Psalms and poetical works, and the perfection of the narration of the New Testament would place the Bible, aside from its religious value, at the head of all literary productions of any period.—*The Washington Star*, Sept. 30, 1931, "Answers to Questions," by Frederic J. Haskin.

### The Vaudois Teacher

(Before this poem is read, the leader should explain that this is a story of the time when it was unlawful to distribute Bibles, and the Waldenses had to carry on their missionary work by posing as peddlers, thus gaining entrance to the homes of the people.)

"O LADY fair, these silks of mine are beautiful and rare,—  
The richest web of the Indian loom, which beauty's queen  
might wear;  
And my pearls are pure as thy own fair neck, with whose  
radiant light they vie;  
I have brought them with me a weary way,—will my gentle  
lady buy?"

The lady smiled on the worn old man through the dark and  
clustering curls  
Which veiled her brow, as she bent to view his silks and  
glittering pearls;  
And she placed their price in the old man's hand and lightly  
turned away,  
But she paused at the wanderer's earnest call, "My gentle  
lady, stay!

Junior Superintendents, do you read the Officers' Page?

"O lady fair, I have yet a gem which a purer luster flings  
Than the diamond flash of the jeweled crown on the lofty  
brow of kings;  
A wonderful pearl of exceeding price, whose virtue shall not  
decay,  
Whose light shall be as a spell to thee and a blessing on thy  
way!"

The lady glanced at the mirroring steel where her form of  
grace was seen,  
Where her eye shone clear, and her dark locks waved their  
clasping pearls between;  
"Bring forth thy pearl of exceeding worth, thou traveler gray  
and old,  
And name the price of thy precious gem, and my page shall  
count thy gold."

The cloud went off from the pilgrim's brow, as a small and  
meager book,  
Unchased with gold or gem of cost, from his folding robe he  
took.  
"Here, lady fair, is the pearl of price, may it prove as such to  
thee!  
Nay, keep thy gold—I ask it not, for the word of God is  
free!"

The hoary traveler went his way, but the gift he left behind  
Hath had its pure and perfect work on that highborn  
maiden's mind,  
And she hath turned from the pride of sin to the lowliness  
of truth,  
And given her human heart to God in its beautiful hour of  
youth!

And she hath left the gray old walls, where an evil faith had  
power,  
The courtly knights of her father's train, and the maidens of  
her bower;  
And she hath gone to the Vandois vales by the lordly feet  
untrod,  
Where the poor and needy of earth are rich in the perfect  
love of God.

—John Greenleaf Whittier.

### Right or Wrong?

(Program for Week Ending February 13)

BY MRS. MABEL A. ELLIOTT

NOTES TO JUNIOR SUPERINTENDENTS: Aim to teach the children the value of training the conscience and their responsibility for right decisions.

Music: "Dare to Be a Daniel," No. 48; or "Can He Count on You?" No. 49, in "The Junior Song Book."

See Notes to Leaders, and especially the poem, "Signals on Life's Highway," p. 8.

### Talk or Reading: Stop! Look! Listen!

OF what do these words make you think? Railroad crossings. Boulevard signals. Yes, but why all three?

Stop—"Come on," said James, "let's go over in the lot back of those trees," and he showed just the corner of a box of cigarettes.

Like a flash that "Stop Signal" pops out. Did you see it? Better keep your eyes open. Is it worth while paying any attention to that signal?

Look—Jesus said, "Watch." What for? Again Jesus said, "That ye enter not into temptation." Are boys and girls in that kind of danger?

Can you think of something that might have been prevented during the past week if you had "watched"?

Frances and Ethel had a real war of words last week, and both went home hurt and angry. Why? What about watching words?

Tom was as honest as the day is long. He never thought of cheating, but he was running so fast to make a home run that his foot did not quite touch third base. No one noticed it, and he touched home all right.

What about it?

Listen—A certain man, a fine driver, moved into another State and applied for a driver's license. He knew all about a car and how to drive it. He knew all the signals and drove carefully, but he could not get a license. Why? Because he was hard of hearing. He might be the best of drivers, but something might go wrong with his car and he could not hear it. He might be going fast, and his car stop all of a sudden,

and the car behind him might be overturned. Then, too, he would not know what the other driver's horn was saying.

Sometimes a still small voice speaks like the horn, so loud you cannot miss it unless you are deaf. Usually it is more like that sound that a good driver hears when no one else can, and like that sound, it warns of danger, shows something is wrong, or says you would better stop and make sure everything is all right.—*The Epworth Herald.*

### Conscience

A CONSCIENCE is a funny thing:  
You don't know it's along  
Until the times you start to do  
Something you know is wrong:  
And then it hammers at your breast  
With all its might and main,  
And gives you not a minute's rest  
Until you're right again.

For weeks and weeks you travel on  
And never know it's there.  
It doesn't interfere with you  
So long as you are fair.  
But when you start some shady trick  
That later you'll be rueing,  
Your conscience then is very quick  
To ask you what you're doing.

You cannot fool your conscience much,  
It's always onto you.  
It knows exactly all the time  
The things you want to do.  
It's just as still as it can be  
When you are going right,  
But when you stoop to trickery,  
It's then it starts to fight.

—Edgar A. Guest.

### Four Short Story-Talks

1. *Daniel* (Daniel 1: 8-21).—Bring out his and his three companions' decision to eat right, and his reward for it in physical gain and mental superiority.

2. *The Three Worthies* (Daniel 3).—It takes prayer, will power, and a trained conscience to make right decisions under all circumstances.

3. *Ruth* (Ruth 1: 16).—Tell briefly the story of Ruth, emphasizing her choice to serve God. It was in her family that Jesus was born.

4. *Paul* (Acts 9).—Tell briefly the story of Saul's choosing the right path, and as a result his great usefulness in winning others to Christ.

Mrs. M. A. E.

### Chalk Talk: Choosing to Follow Jesus

CUT the pattern of the sole of a shoe. This should be rather small, say four or five inches long. Make it of pasteboard, so that it will be easy to use. Begin at the lower left-hand corner of the blackboard, and make a row of footprints leading to the center of the blackboard. When they reach that point, turn the footprints in two directions, one line leading to the upper left-hand corner of the blackboard and the other to the upper right. At the end of the left, outline a world; and at the end of the right-hand path, a cross.

The footprints are Christ's as we start to follow. Ask the Juniors to name things that will help us to follow in His steps; as they are named, write them in the footprints. The first footprints might bear such words as cheerfulness, patience, love, prayer, etc. When the place is reached where the paths turn in two different ways, ask what the one leading to the left means; also ask them to name things that lead us to the world and make us worldly and cause us to forget Jesus. Insert such words as pleasure, movies, dancing, smoking. Name other things that lead us to the cross of Christ.

Mrs. M. A. E.

### The Two Paths

Two paths there are through which all mortals go;  
This leads to bliss, and that to endless woe.  
The way that leads to misery is broad,  
A smooth, a pleasing, and a flowery road.  
With company 'tis crowded everywhere—  
The rich, the gay, the witty, and the fair.  
But there's another unfrequented way  
That leads to life, and love, and endless day.  
Its strait and thorny path, as on you go,  
Will every moment more delightful grow.  
To tread this narrow road, no labor spare,  
For heaven, and holy souls, and God Himself are there.

—Author Unknown.

Why not have a Star Study Group which meets weekly?

## Wanted for the Lord's Service

(Program for Week Ending February 20)

BY ARCH A DART

**NOTES TO JUNIOR SUPERINTENDENTS:** Repeat with your group the Junior Law. This week's program is based on the eighth part of the Junior Law, which states, "Go on God's errands."

**Leader's Remarks:** Just as surely as God called some of the men of old, He is saying to you and to me today, "My son, My daughter, go work today in My vineyard." He will not compel us to go. This call is an invitation to have a part with Him in finishing this great work. Some of the boys and girls will hear and answer His call. Will you be one?

In the Bible we read of great men who answered the call of God, and became a great blessing to their fellow men. Although hundreds and thousands of other boys and girls lived at the same time these men lived, yet you cannot tell me their names. They have been forgotten by man, and I fear many of them will not be remembered when Christ comes. Here are some of the answers of these great men when the Lord called them. Who gave these replies?

"Speak, Lord; for Thy servant heareth."

"Here am I; send me."

"Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?"

"I delight to do Thy will."

What is *your* answer to the Lord's call today?

Here you may call for an expression from the boys and girls.

**Suggestive Songs for today:** "Christ in Song," Nos. 641, 316, 566; "The Junior Song Book," Nos. 29, 32, 36, 40, 66, or 75.

**Prayer:** For a willing heart, for courage to speak the right words, for determination to carry out His will.

### Bible Game: What Some Great Men Did

You think of a great man as one who does some great thing. You are right, but what are great things? They are made up of little things. A giant oak does not have larger leaves; it has more of them. The drops of water in the ocean are no larger than the drops in a mud puddle, but there are many more in the ocean.

(Place on the blackboard the following statements of what some great men did. Ask each Junior to write on paper the name of the man, what he did, and the text that matches that statement. They may use their Bibles for this if necessary.) Note that these great men did the everyday home duties faithfully, not waiting for one great outstanding task before they could do their share. In so doing they were prepared for unexpected larger tasks.

1. He poured water on his master's hands.
2. He made tents.
3. He was a carpenter.
4. She did her own cooking.
5. She drew water for a servant's camels.
6. She gleaned in the field.
7. He went on a long errand for his father.
8. While feeding sheep, he was called of God to deliver his people from bondage.
9. While threshing wheat by the wine press, he was called to deliver Israel from the Midianites.
10. While plowing, he was called to be a prophet of God.
11. Two men were fishing when Jesus called them.

Mark 6: 3, 4; Acts 18: 1, 3; Ex. 3: 1, 10; Gen. 18: 6; 2 Kings 3: 11; Matt. 4: 18, 19; Judges 6: 11, 14; Ruth 2: 2, 3; 1 Kings 19: 19; Gen. 37: 13, 14; Gen. 24: 15, 19.

A. D.

### Talk: Children in America

TELL the stories found in the book, "Pioneer Stories," pp. 184-199. These boys and girls were just Juniors, yet they loved the Lord and did His bidding, not to gain worldly honor or praise from others, but only because they loved the Lord. To help the Juniors realize the experiences of these children, questions might be asked, such as:

Would you be faithful if you were taken away from your parents?

If your parents were to give up their faith, would you be loyal to God?

Wouldn't you like to have a little prayer meeting as these children had, to be quiet and reverential in church, and to be true Christian ladies and gentlemen?

Have you been baptized, or are you ready to take the step as these children did?

A. D.

### Symposium: What We Can Do Here

INSPIRE the boys and girls to look about them for the things they can do for the Lord. Five or six Juniors may be selected to explain some of the things they can do in their community. Suggestions: 1. Make booklets for afflicted children. 2. Sing for shut-ins. 3. Earn their own tuition for church school. 4. Save their nickels and dimes for missions. 5. Help in the Harvest Ingathering and Big Week. 6. Take an active part in the Junior organization. Others may be called upon to suggest things that they too might do. A. D.

### Reports: What Others Are Doing Today

THIS may be given in the form of a talk by one who gleans from the *Review and Herald*, the *Youth's Instructor*, and other papers, experiences in the mission fields, and of colporteurs. Learn what other Missionary Volunteer Societies are doing also. Show the boys and girls that men and women are going on God's errands today, and that God's work will be closed in a short time. If we are to work for Jesus, we must begin today right where we are. Lead the society in repeating together the Senior Pledge. A. D.

### What Shall I Do?

"WHAT shall I do for Jesus?"

Asked little Bessie Lee.

"I want to do some splendid thing,  
He's done so much for me."

"You're but a child," said mother;

"Great things you cannot do;

Such work as grown-up people can,

He'll not expect of you.

"But you can serve Him daily

In many little ways;

To be obedient, kind, and true,

Your love to Him displays.

"Every day be courteous,

Learn all your lessons well,

And never fear or be ashamed

Of God's great love to tell.

"And try to be like Jesus,

To act as Jesus would;

This is the way you best can take

To show your gratitude.

"He will accept the praises

That little children sing;

A pure and loving heart, my child,

Is your best offering."

—Author Unknown.

## The Message of the Stars—Faithfulness

(Program for Week Ending February 27)

BY A. M. RAGSDALE

**NOTES TO JUNIOR SUPERINTENDENTS:** *Suggestive Introduction of Topic.*—God is sending us a message. He is so anxious for us to receive this message that throughout each day and night He sends thousands of messengers to us. These have the ability to speak in such a way that every one may understand, regardless of nationality or language. (Let the speakers introduce these messengers.)

For further information, see the book, "In Starland," by Fannie Dickerson Chase. Also, see the Junior Handbook, pp. 53-59. Place on the blackboard the diagram found on p. 55, showing all these constellations this month.

Plan to study the stars from the open sky with the Juniors at some convenient time. Visit an observatory if possible.

### Blackboard Talk: Friendly Messengers

I WANT you to become acquainted with these messengers from God. In the first three verses of the nineteenth psalm David tells us of them. (Read.) The sun, moon, and stars are these messengers. They are all very far away, but I want to bring them closer to you so you will know them as friends. I want to introduce a few of these by name.

We are all acquainted with the Big Dipper. It is really just a family of eight stars. Astronomers call this family Ursa Major, which means Great Bear, because the people who lived long ago thought this star cluster looked like a bear,

See the Officers' Page for special suggestions on Band work.



just as we call it a dipper. In England it is known as the plow. This group of stars is perhaps the best known star family in the sky. At the outside of the bowl of the dipper are the two stars Merak and Dubhe, called the pointers, because they point to the North Star, the real name of which is Polaris. In the middle of the handle are two stars very close together, named Alcor and Mizar. Mizar, the brighter star, is called the horse, and Alcor is the rider, though sometimes Mizar is on top of Alcor. Every day the dipper turns upside down. Of course it does this quite slowly. It takes twenty-four hours to make the complete somersault. Alcor and Mizar travel farther than Dubhe and Merak do, because the dipper swings with Dubhe near the center and Mizar near the outside. The North Star, Polaris, is really the center of this circle somersault, for the Big Dipper, as well as all the other stars, revolve around it. That is, the rotation of the earth which causes day and night, makes it seem that all the other stars go around Polaris.

On the other side of Polaris, opposite the Big Dipper, is a family that always looks like a W. It is also known as the broken chair, but its proper name is Cassiopeia. These stars are very dependable. They mean much to the sailor, the woodsman, the Arab in the desert, where the directions are not marked. Their message is: "You can depend on us, because God made us and keeps us in this same position by the right hand of His power." A. M. R.

### Talk: More About Polaris

(NOTE.—An outline of a bear may be made on cardboard, with large dots representing the stars of the Little Dipper, with Polaris in the tip of the bear's tail. A pin may be run through this star to form the axis of rotation.)

POLARIS is the star at the end of the handle of the Little Dipper, but to the ancient people it was the tip of the tail of the Little Bear, whom they called Ursa Minor. This little bear is very acrobatic because part of the time it stands on its tail, and finishes by standing on all fours again. (Use diagram.)

Polaris is the most important star of this group. It is so far away that if it were to become dark, we would see the light for forty-seven years more. While one is taking two ordinary steps, light will travel a distance equal to eight times around the world. Although Polaris is so far away, for centuries sailors have depended upon it for guidance, as Bryant, in his "Hymn to the North Star," wrote:

"On thy unflinching blaze  
The half-wrecked mariner, his compass lost,  
Fixes his steady gaze,  
And steers, undoubtingly, to the friendly coast;  
And they who stray in perilous wastes by night,  
Are glad when thou dost shine  
To guide their footsteps right."

If a star, so very far away, can be considered a safe guide, how can we doubt that our loving heavenly Father will guide us safely through this life? He may seem far away, but He is sufficiently interested in us to give us Polaris, the North Star, to guide us so we won't get lost, and to send Jesus to save us when we were lost in this sinful world. He promises to guide us all the way to the gates of heaven.

A. M. R.

### Talk: Arcturus, Job's Friend

Job, that patient sufferer of the Bible, had a friend called Arcturus. Although they were very far apart, Job was encouraged and helped by the bright, cheerful light of Arcturus. If Arcturus had failed to appear in the sky some night, Job would have been sad. But Arcturus did not fail. He could be depended upon. He is one of God's servants, and he is very faithful. His message to us is, "Ye are the light of the world. . . . Let your light so shine. . . . Be faithful."

Let us become acquainted with Job's friend. To find Arcturus, follow the curve of the Great Dipper handle on out into the sky, keeping the same curve. It is the bright star, of a golden yellow, in the constellation Boötes. This star group is shaped like a kite. Arcturus is in the tail of the kite.

Astronomers tell us that Arcturus is twenty million miles in diameter. Of all the bright stars in the heavens, Arcturus has the most rapid motion. Yet it is so far away that no change in its appearance or location is noticed in a thousand years. Some call it the runaway star. Perhaps that is why

God asked Job the question, "Canst thou guide Arcturus?"  
A. M. R.

### Talk: The Star of the East

For almost fifteen hundred years after Balaam prophesied, "There shall come a Star out of Jacob," the people who knew of this prophecy watched the sky night after night for the star to appear that would tell them of the birth of the Saviour. Many generations kept watching, and the star did not appear. Fathers would tell their sons to watch; the sons would grow to be men, become old, and still the star did not appear. But they kept looking. God's word surely would not fail. And it did not fail. At last, in "the fullness of the time," Jesus was born, and the angels appeared to the shepherds in the field. The wise men of the East saw the bright star, followed it, and found Jesus.

Song: "A Beautiful Star," No. 242, in "Christ in Song."  
A. M. R.

### Talk: The Star of Christ's Second Coming

THERE is a star in the sky that faithfully declares that Jesus is coming soon. Mrs. E. G. White says of this star: "The atmosphere parted and rolled back; then we could look up through the open space in Orion, whence came the voice of God. The Holy City will come down through that open space." —"Early Writings," p. 41.

The open space is in Orion, one of the finest constellations in the sky. Orion is in the southern half of the sky, but is not difficult to locate. Look for something large. The stars are all bright.

The constellation represented to the ancient people a hunter, with a sword girded to his belt. The belt is composed of three stars, and hanging from it is a sword of three stars.

What appears to be the middle star, is really a funnel-shaped opening lined with millions of beautiful stars. It is such a large opening that our world would seem as small as a speck of dust in it. We believe that it is through this open space that Jesus will come to take us to heaven at the end of the world. The faithful message of Orion is, "Jesus is coming again."  
A. M. R.

### The Path in the Sky

THE woods were dark and the night was black,  
And only an owl could see the track;  
Yet the cheery driver made his way  
Through the great pine woods as if it were day.  
I asked him, "How do you manage to see?  
The road and the forest are one to me."  
"To me as well," he replied, "and I  
Can only drive by the path in the sky."

I looked above, where the treetops tall  
Rose from the road like an ebon wall,  
And lo! a beautiful starry lane  
Wound as the road wound, and made it plain.  
And since, when the path of my life is drear  
And all is blackness and doubt and fear;  
When the horrors of midnight are here below,  
And see not a step of the way to go,  
Then, ah! then I can look on high,  
And walk on earth by the path in the sky.

—Amos R. Wells.

(See Senior Program, p. 11.)

### A Problem

GIVEN: A world that is dying today,  
Dying without God.  
Mad in pursuit of pleasure or gain,  
Aching hearts bleeding from sorrow and pain,  
Homes that are saddened for hearts that are stilled,  
Hungry-eyed victims with misery filled.  
Millions are helplessly looking this way,  
Walking earth's green sod.

### The Solution

NEEDED: Young Christians with hearts true as steel,  
Fearing naught but sin.  
Men who to conscience and duty are true;  
Men who will stand, whether many or few,  
Firm as Gibraltar, though standing alone;  
Men who can pray straight through to God's throne;  
Men who can love and men who can feel,  
Men who are pure within.

C. A. RUSSELL.

Encourage your Bible Year readers.

# OUR FOREIGN MISSIONS

This page contains interesting material for use of church elders and conference workers in promoting our foreign mission work.

## Another Missionary in Sandia Valley

THE experience of Missionary A. H. Field attempting to open a mission in Sandia Valley high in the Andes, Peru, has been published. Missionary C. H. Baker, briefly reviewing that experience, goes on with the story:

"It was in June, 1930, that the first attempt was made at establishing a permanent mission base under the direction of a foreign family in the Sandia Valley. We hoped to see a great light casting its healing rays in this isolated part of a perishing world. This hope was partially fulfilled. However, it seemed that the propitious moment had not arrived. The judgments of God were visited upon that valley and town. The very house in which Brother A. H. Field and his family were living was swept completely away by flood and terrific slides. The beautiful garden and little orange grove are no longer there to attract the eye of the tired traveler. This was the place where we had hoped our mission base could be established. The owners refused to sell. God knows best. It was not where He wanted us to be.

"The first impression that possessed all after the flood was heralded far and wide by the priest of this place: 'The Adventists are responsible for all these woes and judgments.' The worst was yet to follow upon the exit of Brother Field with his family. The impression then was, 'If the Adventists were responsible for the lesser flood, who might be responsible for the greater one that followed in its wake?' The people have judged the case, and want our work with its true spiritual values.

"Again, another family has entered this territory, Brother Bent Larsen and his wife. The journey in was an eventful one in many ways. It seemed that the enemy was working in every possible way to trip us up and prevent our arrival. The truck broke down five times, and left us stranded three days in the middle of a river and at an altitude of 15,000 feet. Mrs. Baker was with us. She and I walked twenty miles to the nearest village, but were forced to wait three days before we could send another truck to rescue the 'lost.'

"They have gone into Sandia to hold aloft the banner which brings eternal salvation. Men and women are perishing there, are crying and pleading for that which will give them a safe conduct to the heavenly home. The agonies of a dying, sin-cursed world are ringing in our ears as on that memorable night Brother Field's house was washed away among others in that rushing, boiling torrent. Agonizing death screams pierced the dense darkness and torrential downpour. Men, women, and children—none who tripped and fell into those rushing, maddened waters were heard of again. Their cries were silenced forever. Already we feel the falling shades of eternal night when every cry will be hushed. But until then let us go and answer the agonizing appeals of lost men with that message of hope and eternal life God has given us. Remember the work in Sandia in your daily devotion."

## Instead of Rain, Tears of Joy

MISSIONARY GARCIA laboring in the interior of Venezuela, found himself, with his wife, their daughters, and their baggage, left on the banks of a river near the place where he had come to work awhile. He says:

"As we were waiting for our brethren, a terrible storm broke. I begged the owner of the launch to lend us a canvas, but the only answer I got was an order to his crew to continue the journey, leaving us with all our things to be soaked by the rain. Through that rain, and over those slippery paths, filled with holes, my wife and daughters started out for the town where we were to stay, while I remained trying to save from the rain the most valuable things.

"Later we were all together again in the little hut which was to be our home while there. We were all soaked to the skin and trembling with cold, for in this hut there was no heat, and the roof was of straw, with numerous holes through which the rain poured in torrents.

"It had been over a year since I had visited that place. We spent three Sabbaths there, and the last Sabbath seventeen adults and seven children expressed their desire to unite with the Sabbath school. The last night we held meetings, there were in that small room seventy adults, not counting those who listened from the outside. The interest was such that some traveled from five to seven miles to attend. One lady came nearly four miles, with one child in her arms and leading another by the hand, to attend Sabbath school.

"When the hour arrived to say good-by, on the same bank where our baggage had been soaked by the rain we could see more than thirty men and women with their faces bathed in tears. The first rain soaked our bodies and made us feel cold, but the last rain, that of tears, filled our hearts with joy."

## Something That Works a Miracle

FROM Superintendent G. Peacock, of our Solomon Islands Mission, comes this good word:

"Our work is developing by leaps and bounds here in the Solomon Islands. We have noticed recently how the minds of the native people in heathen parts are seeking for light. Some who, to our minds, were the last people to ask for spiritual help, are calling for a teacher.

"You have heard of the native worker Simi, whose wife was murdered some time ago on the island of Malaita. Although his wife was murdered and he himself received severe injuries, his strong desire was to remain and work for the people who had done him this great wrong. He has been the instrument in the hands of the Lord in gaining entrance to places we thought inaccessible.

"I heard two traders conversing on mission work. One was acquainted with the work that Simi was doing; the other was describing the conditions prevailing among the natives of the district where he was trading. 'They are awful, beyond description,' he said. 'You ought to invite the Seventh-day Adventist Mission to go there,' said the man who knew of our work. 'They will clean them up, and in a short time they will be a new people.' 'No,' said the other, 'nothing would change those people.' The other became enthusiastic and replied, 'I thought that one time in my district, but now I think differently, for seeing is believing; and I know they have something that works a miracle in the people, and changes them when nothing else will do it.'

"It was seeing the work wrought by God that brought this testimony from the lips of one who himself was steeped in sin, as he saw the changed lives after the 'message' had gripped the hearts of the natives."

## What a Witch Doctor Discovered

MISSIONARY F. A. STAHL writes of how the light of the third angel's message has penetrated into the darkness on one of the head rivers of the Amazon, and the changes that have been wrought in the lives of Indians in that region:

"On the Nanay River one day's journey from Iquitos lives a Jebero Indian who had practiced witchcraft for years, living a life of wickedness, and deceiving the people over whom he had great influence. As the message gained friends on this river, many of this man's people became interested. He did all that was possible to turn them away from the truth, but his efforts proved futile, for the people more and more turned away from him. Soon he began to notice the change in the lives of the people. Instead of the wild spiritualistic orgies so common in the past, with filth everywhere, he beheld cleanliness and a quiet Christian spirit manifested by the people. Instead of the wild feast days with their debauchery, he beheld the people reverently and quietly keeping one feast day each week—God's holy Sabbath day. This so impressed the witch doctor that he has now openly proclaimed the blessings of the gospel, and a great change has taken place in his own life. Not long ago this man came to our home, and pleaded that we send a teacher among his people, so that all might learn the word of God. I visited his home, and found him truly converted. His only aim now is to live right and be ready to meet the Lord."

## Among the Big Nambus on Malekula

ANOTHER word from Missionary C. H. Parker, at work in the New Hebrides Islands, tells of the progress made in entering in among those perhaps most savage of all islanders in the South Pacific, the Big Nambus, entrenched in heathenism as they are upon Malekula Island. He writes:

"You ask about the Big Nambus work, and as to whether we have a mission station among them. I am glad to say that for the past six months we have had a station operating among them, with a native teacher in charge. I visit among this people just as often as I can spare the time from my other duties in the general work. Now we have five of the ten tribes under our influence, and three of the other five tribes have asked me to give them a teacher. The Tonmara tribe, which is one of the largest, is leaning very strongly now to the mission, and the chief hardly ever misses a Sabbath meeting. This is the tribe where we have our station for the Big Nambus people. There are a number of this tribe now living on the mission station, and one is becoming a valuable worker.

"We are starting another station for the Nivimbus people, who are a Big Nambus tribe on the opposite side of Malekula. They requested us lately to give them a teacher, and we have appointed one of our best Malekulan native teachers to this tribe. In two or three weeks I plan to take this teacher around to this station, and see his house up before I leave.

"Lately another coastal tribe has turned over to us here in our East Malekula District, and just two days ago I placed a native teacher to take charge. They are a fine class of people, and their chief is doing all he can in every way to help.

"Everything is optimistic at present in this field, and we have faith to believe that we shall see a quick work accomplished for this people."

MISSION BOARD.