

Is not this an accurate pen picture of present scenes being enacted today? Is it not well that at a time such as this, every believer ask himself the solemn questions, "Am I waiting and really watching for the return of my Lord? Am I prepared to open the door immediately should He suddenly return from the wedding? Shall the close of Jesus' mediatorial work in the most holy place in the heavenly sanctuary find me sleeping?"

T. E. B.

Respecting the Rights of the Husband

SOME reports mention visits of workers to homes of men who have ordered them not to come there to teach their wives or children doctrines which they do not indorse. I have seen later reports mentioning how these same workers have revisited such homes, meeting the anger of these same husbands; and they call this persecution.

Is it not considered a breach of common etiquette to force one's presence into a home where he has been informed that he is not wanted? Would it not be better in a case of this kind to invite the wife, or other member of such a family, who had expressed a desire for further study, to meet the minister or Bible worker at some other place than in the home of an irate husband or father? Then those seeking the truth would take the responsibility of awakening opposition and persecution with its own sufferings and rewards.

Our heavenly Father certainly does not require His servants to intrude themselves and their gracious messages upon unwilling minds. He says, "Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." But it must be "whosoever will." Men are not to be forced into listening even to the most precious of Bible truths. They may be invited, but not forced. Their homes are their own private sanctuaries. Is it not true that they have a perfect right to keep out what to them are unwelcome guests?

It is our opinion, therefore, that the person who thus intrudes himself into such a home simply invites trouble. What he may suffer as a result is not persecution; it is a consequence for having intruded upon the rights of the head of any house, and the worker who persists in such intrusion may expect trouble.

Moreover, the man who is intruded upon, or feels himself so, is not in a good frame of mind to accept a message even as from God from one he regards as an intruder. How much better for the worker to withdraw pleasantly, and state to the man that if at any future time he would like him to call, he would be pleased to do so. "The servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient."

G. B. STARR.

Glendale, Calif.

Afflictions

BLINDNESS helped Paul to see.
Stars are seen only at night.
Everything that strengthens, hurts.
Every man has a wine press to tread.
Storms bring ships into the harbor.
There is gravel in almost every shoe.
Sand in the mussel develops the pearl.
Every good life must have a Gethsemane.
Gold loses nothing but dross in the fire.
Everybody has more trouble than anybody else.
Thorns in the nest make us take to our wings.
The darkest night will not put out the stars.
Rainbows are seen only when there are clouds.
The best-loved child in the home is the cripple.
God sometimes palsies the hand to make it let go.
Some fruits don't turn sweet until the frost comes.
Only the storm can bring music from the æolian harp.
Crowd the roots of a potted plant, and it will blossom.
The photographer develops the picture in the dark room.
If God sends a rod, He will make it blossom and bear fruit.
It lightens the stroke to draw near to Him who wields the rod.

C. G. BELLAH.

Home Missionary Department

CHRISTIAN HOME DAY

Suggestive Program for the Church Service

(February 3)

OPENING SONG: "Awake, My Soul," No. 793 in "Christ in Song."

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OFFERING.

PRAYER.

SONG: "Happy the Home," No. 759 in "Christ in Song."

READING: "Every Day Should Be Christian Home Day."

READING: "The Saving of Your House."

READING: "Parent Education."

CONSECRATION SERVICE.

CLOSING SONG: "Guard Thy Children," No. 735 in "Christ in Song."

BENEDICTION.

Notes to Leaders

Once a year comes "Christian Home Day." Every day in the year should be a Christian home day; for "the success of the church . . . depends upon home influences."—"Ministry of Healing," p. 349. But one Sabbath every year is given to a consideration of the great work of the upbuilding of the Christian home and the training of parents for their sacred responsibilities. Ought it not to be observed in every church? Should not every pastor and church elder do his utmost to inspire and encourage all the parents and young people in the church to study? (Please read "Testimonies," Vol. VI, p. 119.)

The Home Commission has a year-round program of study for parents. It is contained in the five books of the Christian Home Series. It is recommended that in every church there be formed either a Mothers' Society or a Parents' Council, in which this study is conducted. Heretofore, on Christian Home Day we have had circulars to distribute which described this work and the books. This year we have none; in place thereof we ask you to read to the congregation the short description here furnished, under the caption, "Parent Education."

We suggest that following the reading you have a consecration service. If your company is small, there may be brief testimonies; if it is large, make a clear statement in a call for consecration to high Christian ideals in home and social life for parents, teachers, young people, and children, and let them respond by rising. Such a statement is supplied in these columns, but you may form your own.

If there is not already a Mothers' Society or Parents' Council operating in your church, make a call at the close of the consecration service for those who would enter into such association, then make an appointment to meet them and organize. Full information in regard to this will be furnished you if you write to The Home Commission, General Conference, Takoma Park, Washington, D. C.

Every Day Should Be Christian Home Day

AGNES LEWIS CAVINESS

FOR years we have been keeping an annual Christian Home Day in all our churches. For years we have gone home to our Sabbath dinners on the Christian Home Day with new hopes and new aspirations to make our homes that "little heaven to go to heaven in" which we are so fully persuaded they should be.

The Lord has manifested His will that we should be successful in this, in that He has given us so much instruction on the subject. A casual survey of the references to home in the Index to the writings of the Spirit of prophecy discloses 247 references to the home! And many more references may be discovered under other heads.

He has left us in no doubt as to the importance of the home:

"The mission of the home extends beyond its own members. The Christian home is to be an object lesson, illustrating the excellence of the true principles of life. Such an illustration will be a power for good in the world. Far more powerful than any sermon that can be preached is the influence of a true home upon human hearts and lives."—"Ministry of Healing," p. 352.

He has exhorted us to recognize our grave responsibility to our homes:

"The father is the lawgiver of the household; and, like

Abraham, he should make the law of God the rule of his home. . . . The father should enforce in his family the sterner virtues,—energy, integrity, honesty, patience, courage, diligence, and practical usefulness. And what he requires of his children he himself should practice, illustrating these virtues in his own manly hearing.”—*Id.*, pp. 390, 391.

“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 suppliants like the morning dew.”—*“Patriarchs and Prophets,”* p. 144.

And then more:

“One of the first lessons a child needs to learn is the lesson of obedience. Before he is old enough to reason, he may be taught to obey.”—*“Education,”* p. 287.

“Fathers and mothers need to understand their responsibility. The world is full of snares for the feet of the young. . . . Parents should remember that their children must encounter these temptations.”—*“Ministry of Healing,”* p. 371.

But in gracious love He assures us of His presence and His readiness to help:

“There is a God above, and the light and glory from His throne rests upon the faithful mother as she tries to educate her children to resist the influence of evil. No other work can equal hers in importance. . . . It is hers, with the help of God, to develop in a human soul the likeness of the divine.”—*Id.*, pp. 377, 378.

He exhorts us as to the spirit of our homes:

“Above all things else, let parents surround their children with an atmosphere of cheerfulness, courtesy, and love. A home where love dwells, and where it is expressed in looks, in words, and in acts, is a place where angels delight to manifest their presence.”—*Id.*, pp. 386, 387.

“Fathers and mothers, however pressing your business, do not fail to gather your family around God’s altar. . . .

“Home should be a place where cheerfulness, courtesy, and love abide; and where these graces dwell, there will abide happiness and peace. . . . In such homes angels of God abide.”—*Id.*, p. 393.

And to conclude:

“Our time here is short. We can pass through this world but once; as we pass along, let us make the most of life. . . . A lamp, however small, if kept steadily burning, may be the means of lighting many other lamps. . . . If we will open our hearts and homes to the divine principles of life, we shall become channels for currents of life-giving power. From our homes will flow streams of healing, bringing life, and beauty, and fruitfulness where now are barrenness and dearth.”—*Id.*, p. 355.

God grant to His people ears to hear His commands, eyes to see His leadings, and hearts warm and sensitive to the workings of His sweet Spirit! Then shall the hearts of the children truly be turned to the fathers, and the hearts of the fathers to their children. Then shall we grow into the likeness of Him who designed that every day should be a Christian Home Day!

Just think what it would mean to the advancement of the third angel’s message if the children from Seventh-day Adventist homes, as they mingle with their young companions in the school, in the everyday work, should by what they are, support the truth which the father preaches on the Sabbath; which the canvasser is selling in his book; which the medical missionary is dispensing; and which, in her gentle services, the Christian-trained nurse is imparting; which is taught in the principles of health reform, and which the mother is living out in her womanly ministry in the home. Then would people say, “I believe in that man’s preaching, because I know his children. I believe in that woman’s testimony, because I know her home. I will buy this man’s book, I will follow the principles of this reform in living, because I can see what the teaching has done for the children who are taught in these things.”—*Mrs. S. M. I. Henry.*

The Saving of Your House

BY A. W. SPALDING

“By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.” Heb. 11:7.

Jesus tells us that “as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.” Luke 17:26. Noah, a preacher of righteousness, saved his own household; they are all he did save. Faithfully, for one hundred twenty years, he ministered to the world about him, but his greatest ministry was in his own home. By godly example and wise instruction and strong government he and his wife saved their sons, and when their sons grew to maturity and were married, they saved their wives with them. If there is any ministry today which counts for anything, it will be manifest first in the home. “In all that pertains to the success of God’s work, the very first victories are to be won in the home life.”—*“Testimonies,”* Vol. VI, p. 354. What the parents are, that will the home be; and what the home is, that will the church be; for it is written, “The work of parents underlies every other. . . . The well-being of society, the success of the church, the prosperity of the nation, depend upon home influences.”—*“Ministry of Healing,”* p. 349.

We have much to say (though not enough) about Christian education. And usually when we speak of Christian education, and plead for it, we have in mind our splendid system of denominational schools. We admonish parents to give their children a Christian education, and by that we mean that they should plan to send their children to the church school, and then to the academy, and perhaps after that to the college, so that they will be given a Christian education. But there is no Christian education which fails to include the home as the first and most important unit in the system. And parents require training as much as do teachers. We read: “The child’s first teacher is the mother. During the period of greatest susceptibility and most rapid development his education is to a great degree in her hands. To her first is given opportunity to mold the character for good or for evil. She should understand the value of her opportunity, and, above every other teacher, should be qualified to use it to the best account. Yet there is no other to whose training so little thought is given. The one whose influence in education is most potent and far-reaching is the one for whose assistance there is the least systematic effort. . . .

“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,”* pp. 275, 276.

The teacher in the school is dependent upon the parents for the success of his work. Already, when the child comes to the school, his character has received its basic mold. He will be in chief part what the parents have made him. The teacher for the most part can but build upon the foundation that parents have laid. And all through the school years, parents continue to have a great part, and usually the chief part, in the molding of the lives of their children.

What do we expect of teachers? “Oh,” you say, “I expect the teacher to teach my children the common branches, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, a little physiology, a little history, and Bible. And after that, when my child goes higher, I expect him to be taught science, and language, and history, and mathematics, and more Bible.”

Ah, but these things are not all you expect of a Christian teacher. They can all be taught and still no Christian education be given. Of what value is it that a student is taught mathematics, if he is not trained to be honest? He will but use his knowledge for the woe of others. Of what value to teach him language, if he is not trained to be truthful and pure? Of what value to teach him physiology, if he is not self-controlled? Of what value is science, if he is not made industrious? Of what value is history, if he has not judgment to apply it? And yes, of what value is Bible knowledge if

the life is not filled with courage, cheer, and love? All this character training is the work of the Christian teacher, and it is his chief work. Skilled he must be in the science of his subjects and the technique of his profession, but most of all must he be skilled in the development of Christian character.

But this is the very work of the parent. He must from the very cradle instill into his child the qualities of obedience, self-control, patience, industry, thrift, generosity, kindness, courtesy, courage, cheer, reverence, and love. And he must work hand in hand with the teacher after his child starts to school, in strengthening and increasing these qualities, that all the child learns of science and philosophy may be used to the highest advantage.

The teaching of these things, the building of such character, is no slight affair. The ability to teach them is not to be gotten by merely approving of it or wishing for it. We do not govern our children successfully merely because we would like to. We do not train them in right eating and dressing and care of their bodies, by joining the church. We do not teach them patience and self-control and guarding of their sex and social life by paying their school tuition. To be teachers, we parents must get for ourselves knowledge and skill and power in dealing with minds and hearts and lives. We must study.

How shall we make sure that our children shall not be carried away with the gross ideas and living of the world,—“funny pictures” and “movies” and radio jazz, and vicious magazines and books, and dance halls, and automobile petting parties, and pool rooms, and gambling dens, and cigarettes, and liquor, and ruin and damnation? Make no mistake, my friends, there are hundreds and thousands of Seventh-day Adventist children and youth out of our homes who are going down these paths to hell. If you do not know it, you are blind. Thank God, on the other hand, that there are thousands who are being kept from these things, and who are building up characters of righteousness and joy. But these are not the children of parents who are asleep. We have a duty to save all the children of the church, and in this duty parents come first.

How shall they be saved from all this? There must be strong government, a restraining power; but that is not all, nor is that the beginning. If you are a gardener, you do not wait until the weeds are knee-high before you begin to think of cultivating the ground and planting good seed. You plow and harrow and rake and plant, and after that you stir the soil, and cut out the weeds as soon as they push their heads above ground. You keep the evil out, but you first make sure that the good seed has been planted. Even so in the child must you plant the seeds of good.

Parents must be skilled gardeners of the child mind and soul. Pre-empt the ground before evil has a chance to be sown and to strengthen. You must learn to sing songs and to tell stories that plant good seeds of truth; you must know physiology and hygiene, and by instruction and strong government implant health habits and personal self-control. You must make yourself able to tell to your child the pure story of life, of conception and birth; and as he grows, make him ever more conscious that he is a priest of the most high God in the ministry of life. You must take him out among the works of God, and from the book of nature and the written word acquaint him with the thoughts of the Creator and Redeemer. You must introduce him to the beauties and the wonders and the wisdom of the Bible, and build his taste for reading through this and other worthy literature. You must be his companion and his teacher.

And this means that you must now put yourself to the stretch, in study and prayer and effort, to make yourselves the parents whom God would trust to teach and save His children.

We are told to “work as if you were working for your life to save the children from being drowned in the polluting, corrupting influences of the world.”—“*Testimonies*,” Vol. VI, p. 199. Are you putting forth every effort, as if you were working for your life? If you saw your child drowning in the waters of the river or the sea out yonder, what would you be doing? Come now! Think of it! Would you sit back in your seat and go to sleep? Would you yawn and say, “Oh,

the science of life saving is very interesting, no doubt, but I haven't time for it”? Would you say, “Well, when you get an entertaining program, I will come and listen; but really I can't exert myself to do anything”? What would you do if you saw your child drowning?

But your children are drowning, or are in danger of being drowned, in the polluting, corrupting influences of the world. And only you, the parents, can save them. Your pastor will help all he can; your church school teacher will help; your young people's society and junior leaders will help. But not one in a thousand of the children and youth will be saved whose parents are indifferent to their duty.

O parents, no other work can equal yours in importance. You have not, like the artist, to paint a form of beauty upon canvas; nor, like the sculptor, to chisel it from marble. You have not, like the author, to embody a noble thought in words of power; nor, like the musician, to express a beautiful sentiment in melody. It is yours, with the help of God, to develop in a human soul the likeness of the divine. What is your answer now as God calls you?

Consecration Call

This is a time to consecrate ourselves, with all our powers, to God. It is a time for parents, and for young people, and for children to resolve that in the home there shall be peace and joy and love, with obedience to all of God's commands, that every Christian home shall become “a heaven below in which to prepare for heaven above.”—*Id.*, Vol. VII, p. 131.

Will you who are parents consecrate yourselves to God this day, to study, to pray, to work for the manifestation of greater love between yourselves and to your children, and for wisdom and power to teach the ways of God? You who are parents, if you will thus consecrate yourselves anew, rise to your feet.

You who are teachers and leaders, in the church school and the Sabbath school and the young people's society, who have not already answered to the call as parents, and you others who may not have the responsibility of homes, yet who by your lives influence the standards of church and community, you who will join these parents in a plea to God to make your service more consecrated and effective, rise.

And you young men and women, standing upon the threshold of independent life, will you consecrate yourselves, to make your present home more truly representative of Christian life, and to study how to make your social conduct such as shall insure true success and happiness in your future homes? Will you join us?

And now the children: will you, too, consecrate yourselves to Jesus today, promising, by His grace, that you will be obedient, loving, and true to your parents and your teachers? Will you rise and join us?

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen.

Parent Education

THE Home Commission of the General Conference offers courses in parent education, without cost except for a textbook. These books of the Christian Home Series are as follows:

Vol. 1: “Makers of the Home,”—for young people, the newly married, and parents.

Vol. 2: “All About the Baby,”—for prospective and young parents; training the baby up to three years.

Vol. 3: “Through Early Childhood,”—training of the preschool child up to nine years.

Vol. 4: “Growing Boys and Girls,”—home training of the school child up to thirteen.

Vol. 5: “The Days of Youth,”—the period of adolescence, and the training of youth; addressed to parents and teachers.

“Christian Story-Telling,”—a supplementary volume, teaching the science and art of story-telling based on Christian principles.

These books may be studied by parents alone in the home, but preferably by the formation of either a Mothers' Society or a Parents' Council, the latter of which takes in both fathers and mothers.

The Church Missionary Service

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

Suggestive Missionary Service Programs

February 3

MISSIONARY TOPIC: The Place of the *Signs* in Missionary Work.

TEXT: 1 Thessalonians 2:19.

SUGGESTIONS: Beginning February 4 and continuing until February 18, occurs one of the most important events on the home missionary calendar for the year. This period of time is devoted to the *Signs of the Times* campaign, and at this particular service it is well to make all the members of the church acquainted with the paper and its history, and the work which it is designed to accomplish in church missionary endeavor during the present year.

The *Signs of the Times* is the oldest missionary periodical of the denomination. Its ministry began in the year 1874,—the very year that our first foreign missionary was sent out,—and now enters upon its sixtieth year of soul-winning service. Hundreds of people are now rejoicing in the truth because of the message brought to them by this "silent preacher."

We are anxious that the work of the *Signs* shall be greater this year than ever before, and this can be accomplished only through co-operative effort in our churches. Never was there better opportunity to proclaim the message of truth and arrest the attention of the public, than today. The very name of the paper, *Signs of the Times*, attracts the inquiring mind, and in each week's issue the truths of the third angel's message are set forth in clear, convincing style by its able editors. Our part is to see that this periodical has a chance to reach the people. Every church should subscribe for as large a club of the *Signs* as it is possible to provide, and place the papers in the homes of the people in the community.

Because of heavy losses in tithes, our conferences are not employing as many workers as formerly, but this makes it all the more necessary for the church members to increase the volume of missionary work by the use of literature. It is a sad fact that, notwithstanding the fine gains made in winning souls last year, 40 per cent of our churches did not add a single new member, either on profession of faith or by baptism, during the year. This means that neither the Sabbath school nor the young people's society, the church school nor the home missionary society, succeeded in winning a single soul. Surely such a condition in 40 per cent of our churches is cause for alarm, and we earnestly pray that a decided change may be apparent in these churches this year. Remember, there is no more appropriate or successful way to win souls than by the use of literature, and the *Signs of the Times* has through a period of sixty years proved to be one of the most effective missionary periodicals.

February 10

MISSIONARY TOPIC: Welfare Work.

KEY THOUGHT: "He [the Saviour] bids us to interest ourselves in every case of suffering or need that shall come to our knowledge."—*Spirit of prophecy statement* (article in the *Review and Herald*, June 20, 1893).

SUGGESTIONS: Welfare work by Seventh-day Adventists is assuming large proportions and extending widespread influence for good. There is not a church which does not have a share of responsibility in this relief service, and is accountable to God for the way in which it relates itself to the conditions existing in the immediate territory. We are bidden "to interest ourselves in every case of suffering or need that shall come to our knowledge." Are we fully meeting this requirement? It is so easy to "pass by on the other side" without stopping to render the needed aid to human beings suffering the conse-

quences of unfortunate conditions of heredity and environment; but the lesson taught by our Saviour in the parable of the good Samaritan is clearly applicable to Christians for all time.

A general summary of the welfare work which has been done by our churches during a twelve-month period, will give some idea of how the work is growing. Attention is called to the following facts:

Total number of active Welfare Societies in North America, including the Dorcas Society unit	1,500
Penny-a-Dish Restaurants	13
Soup Kitchens	11
Average number of persons fed daily	3,000
Number of articles of clothing—cleaned, repaired, distributed	786,000
Number of people helped—treatments, clothing, food, fuel, etc.	over 1,000,000

It is impossible for statistics to picture adequately the work which is being carried on; but our heavenly Father recognizes this service as a demonstration of love for Him. Not every church can enter into the broad field of welfare work along the lines of restaurant and dispensary service, but through a well-organized Dorcas Society, contact can be made between the need and the source of supply; and this work, successfully carried on, will lead to new and unexpected openings for still larger welfare service. It is possible, and it is the duty of every church and every individual member of the church, to manifest interest in every case of suffering or need that comes to light. Counsel with the conference home missionary secretary as to how to develop and enlarge the welfare work in your church.

February 17

MISSIONARY TOPIC: Soul-Winning Experiences.

TEXT: Isaiah 32:20.

SUGGESTIONS: Reports of local missionary work take precedence in this service, and doubtless the time will be far too short for all the encouraging experiences to be related. A working church will always have something of interest to report for the glory of God and the encouragement of associate missionary workers. At one of the experience meetings in a certain church, a lady was present who was not a member of the church, but had come as a Christian visitor. The experiences related so thrilled her heart, that she desired to have a part in telling of her experience, and as she rose to speak she said, "As I sat here listening to these testimonies by the missionary workers, it seemed as if some one called my name, and I want to speak for Jesus, too." There is nothing more inspiring than a ringing testimony of personal experience in contact with souls.

"From the fields so white with harvest,
We may glean the golden grain,
For the Master seeketh reapers;
Hark! I hear Him call my name.

"Gladly do I haste to aid Him,
He who bore my sin and shame;
Great the harvest, few the laborers;
Hark! I hear Him call my name."

February 24

MISSIONARY TOPIC: Tracts in Home Bible Study League Work.

TEXT: Acts 5:42.

SUGGESTIONS: The topic for this missionary service concerns the systematic distribution of small tracts from house to house. Many of our churches have made extensive use of *Present Truth* and *Good News* in this work, and having covered the territory, are wondering just what to do next, or perhaps feel that there should be a lapse of time before going over the territory again. But the admonition to us is, "Repeat the message." We have no time to lose. The present series of tracts available for missionary work are admirably suited for following up the good work which has been done with periodicals. Both the Bible Truth series, and the Leaves of Autumn series of tracts provide a clear presentation of every phase of the advent message. Tracts are quickly and easily read, and will receive attention when larger publications would be laid aside.

Then, too, tracts are the cheapest form of literature to be obtained at this time, which should certainly make an appeal to all missionary workers in these days of scarcity of funds. But although this literature is cheap, it is none the less effective, for it has been demonstrated many times that where tracts are used systematically, the results are almost the same as where larger literature is used. Our tracts do contain the message, and they secure results. Ofttimes a tract is an entering wedge for the sale of other literature. Scores of experiences might be related, but we refer to just one incident, to illustrate the value of even small portions of printed matter.

The first man to accept the truth on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, in Mexico, was Juan Jimenez, and his experience is narrated as follows: "One day while walking along the street his attention was attracted to a small piece of printed paper lying by the side of the road, and he picked it up. The page was torn, and only a small portion could be read, but the words were a portion of the scripture found in Matthew 24: 27: 'For as the lightning cometh out of the east, and shineth even unto the west; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.' The man had never heard anything like this before, and such a deep impression was made on his mind that he sought to find out more about what the words meant. He showed the piece of paper to his friends, but none of them knew any more about the matter than did he, although their interest was awakened, and together they resolved to make inquiry wherever possible. They kept the piece of the printed sheet, and patiently waited in the hope of finding out something more about the coming of the Saviour. One day, about a year later, Mrs. Jimenez became very ill, and her husband was sent to Mexico City to obtain medicine. When he returned with the medicine, he was surprised to find that the bottle was wrapped in paper just like that of the torn fragment, and this wrapper gave the address of the publishers—the Seventh-day Adventist headquarters, in Mexico City. Soon these eager seekers for truth were in communication with our office, and in due time, after reading, and studying with the missionary, they embraced the truth. These believers were organized into a church, and a building was erected. Thus, through a torn scrap of paper hearing a fragmentary message of truth, it came about that the corner stone of our work was established on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec."



A Soul-Winning Musician

AN intelligent young musician of the Municipal Band in a Brazilian city began to attend evangelistic meetings, and manifested a great interest in Bible study. Then came the day when he recognized his duty to obey the fourth commandment by observing the true Sabbath. This involved difficulties in maintaining his position, but he sent a petition to the director of the band, asking for special exemption from service from sundown Friday to sundown on Saturday, stating his reasons. As the band is controlled by the municipality, the director presented the petition to the city authorities, and they decided that the request could not be granted. This made the young man very sad, as he loved his work. As he talked with the evangelist in regard to the situation, it was suggested that they go together to visit the city authorities, to see what the objection was. The secretary received the minister and the young musician very kindly, and when the matter was fully presented before him, he smiled, and said that only the night before the city authorities had a meeting, and had granted the young man permission to be absent during the time specified, and had also voted to allow him full pay, something he had not asked or expected. In making this statement, the secretary smilingly said to the young man, "But please don't convert the rest of our musicians." As soon as the director of the band received the official report, he read it before the members of the band, the young man himself being present. Through this experience the truth was brought to the attention of a number of the city authorities, and at last reports three members of the band are deeply interested in studying the Scriptures. A faithful witness by life and deed is a powerful argument for truth.

Fruitage "After Many Days"

A NEW family moved into the neighborhood, and a Seventh-day Adventist sister made a neighborly call. The wife and mother in the family was ill. Treatments were administered, literature placed in the home, and the prayerful, Christian interest seemed to be reciprocated. In due time the woman regained her health, and then, much to the disappointment of the home missionary, all interest in religious things ceased. Was the effort worth while? Yes, indeed; for through this contact a relative of the family, living in the country, became interested in our literature and in Bible study. Cottage meetings were held, and practically all points of truth were presented and acknowledged as truth. Then this family moved from Kansas to Oregon, and it looked as if this missionary effort also might ravel out, as the people had not taken their stand, and had refused to unite with the church. But months later word was received that the entire family of four members, and the wife's brother also, had been baptized and joined the Seventh-day Adventist church in the city.

In another community, a Seventh-day Adventist brother and his wife conducted cottage meetings, and among those attending was a man and his wife and three children. Although convinced of the truth, they did not take their stand. Twenty years went by, and still they were disobedient to truth. Then a death occurred in the family and two nieces came to live in the home. Interest in spiritual things revived, and the children were sent to Sabbath school. Through friendly interest manifested by the church members, the woman began to come to the prayer meeting, and then attended church services regularly. It was not long until the woman and her two nieces were baptized, and they are now staunch Seventh-day Adventists. If we scatter the seed, God will surely give the increase.

O Little Home at Bethany

O LITTLE home at Bethany,
The resting place of God,
Who, in the form of mortal man,
Earth's weary footpaths trod!
O sweet and dear communion there,
With hearts aflame with love,
That worshiped at the Saviour's feet,
And owned Him from above!

O little home at Bethany,
O'erspread with angel wings:
So peaceful and so calm—so still—
Save when a birdling sings.
O blessed privilege of thine
To shelter for a night
The Saviour's weary head and heart
Until the morning light!

O little home at Bethany,
Where friendship, pure as gold,
Poured forth its wealth of love and faith—
The half can ne'er be told.
O blessed home where Jesus felt
His welcome from the heart;
Where love would fain have held Him close,
Nor let Him e'er depart!

I bow my head, on bended knee,
In thankfulness, today,
That thou didst open wide thy door
When Jesus came thy way.
Though present heaven and earth shall pass,
And new ones take their place,
Thou, little home at Bethany,
Hast won immortal grace.

—Josephine Rand.

THE MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER SOCIETY

Officers' Page

Our Theme for February: Building Our Homes

Our Monthly Theme

EVERY Missionary Volunteer officer who is connected with fostering the meetings for this month should study thoroughly the chapter, "The Home Life," pages 323-342, in the book, "Messages to Young People." Select important sentences and place them on the blackboard, or memorize them in the meeting. Do not read long portions to the Missionary Volunteers, but study them yourself so that your comments throughout the month will savor of these beautiful thoughts on home. It would be a worthy plan for one week at least to assign to members different quotations which they are to memorize and give at the proper time in the meeting. Make the programs exceedingly practical, remembering that Christianity begins at home. What we are there determines in large measure what we shall be in the larger family of the church. E. E. H.

Importance of Progressive Classes

IN his address before the White House Conference on Child Health and Protection, held at Washington, D. C., November 19, 1930, Herbert Hoover said, "Perhaps the widest range of difficulties with which we are dealing in the betterment of children grows out of crowding into cities. . . . The child's natural play place is taken from him. His mind is stunted by the lack of imaginative surroundings, and lack of contact with the fields, streams, trees, and birds." As a people we have long recognized the need of such contacts with the great book of the out-of-doors. And we are told in the book "Counsels to Teachers," page 186, "The whole natural world is designed to be an interpreter of the things of God." And again on page 185, "While the Bible should hold the first place in the education of children and youth, the book of nature is next in importance." Endeavoring to carry out the principles set forth above, the Missionary Volunteer Department has incorporated nature requirements in all the Progressive Classes. And just now we are entering upon that period of the year when nature study can be carried on to the best advantage, and when it will prove most interesting. During the long summer months many of our Senior and Junior young people will have a great deal of leisure time, and that this leisure may be the blessing it should be, training in its use is imperative. Let us as leaders endeavor to encourage all our young people to qualify for membership in one or more of the Progressive Classes, and especially to work on the Vocational Honor requirements in nature. These will be found on pages 98 to 100 of the "Junior Missionary Volunteer Handbook."

It is hoped that meeting the nature requirements of our Progressive Classes will prove a real incentive to many of our boys and girls and young people either to qualify for membership in one of the Junior classes or to become a Master Comrade. C. LESTER BOND.

Leaders Must Lead

IGNORANCE of the laws of the land is no excuse when the offender is called to account for violating the same. Neither will a lack of knowledge of what should have been done be a satisfactory excuse for duties neglected and opportunities slighted when the records of your Missionary Volunteer Society for 1934 are closed. As leaders, you are responsible for the souls that may be won and the work that should be done through your society this year. "God has provided divine assistance for all the emergencies to which our human resources are unequal."—*Testimonies*, Vol. VI, p. 415. But "remember that a lack of consecration and wisdom in you may turn the balance for a soul, and send it to eternal death. You cannot afford to be careless and indifferent."—*Gospel Workers*, p. 35. Turn often to your manual, "Missionary Volunteers and Their Work," and check up to see if you are faithfully performing the duties required of your office. (See pages 115-131. Read also the chapter on "Society Members," pp. 133-144. The Missionary Volunteer Society is a training band for larger service.)

The M. V. Leader's Notebook

EVERY M. V. leader ought to have a notebook (or a section of a notebook) especially reserved for suggestions and helpful thoughts on his Missionary Volunteer Society work. This book should contain:

1. Suggestions listed on the Officers' Page of the GAZETTE each month.

2. List of needs in your home community that can be met by your members. (How often we hear of this one interested in reading, of that family in need, or of this young person who needs befriending; and later, when some one else has performed the helpful act, or the distressing need has come before

the public eye, we recall that we meant to help in that particular case.) Call attention of band leaders to these.

3. Jottings of appreciations you hear from literature distributed or material aid given. These words of appreciation reported in meetings, will encourage others to engage in like work.

4. Helpful suggestions you can make to young people who have had a part in the society meetings.

5. Items you need to talk over with your church board or your executive committee.

6. Addresses and telephone numbers of those you should consult or visit.

7. Quotations and illustrations that will be helpful in your society meetings. These will come to you through reading, conversation, and your own thinking upon this year's topics listed in the December, 1933, GAZETTE. E. E. H.

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 Juniors. 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 St., Northeast, Washington, D. C. E. E. H.

Helps in Giving Bible Readings

THE following method has been suggested to us by several who have conducted Bible studies, and we believe it is worth passing on:

On the flyleaf of your Bible write the name of the subject to be presented. Beside this place an initial letter which will indicate to you that particular subject. Then jot down the first Scripture text to be used. Now, turn to that text, and at the bottom of the page write the initial letter together with the next text you plan to use. Each succeeding text is so marked, until the last one, which is marked "end."

Using this method, one can give Bible readings without spending much time in memorizing texts which would probably be forgotten if memorized hurriedly, though by no means would we discourage the memorizing of scriptures to be used in the study. The Bible reader cannot be too familiar with his subject. But this method of referring from one text to the next is a constant teacher, and after giving the reading five or six times, doubtless the references will be fixed in mind.

"Brief Bible Readings for Busy People," is a set of leaflets giving twenty-eight Bible studies on our doctrines. The subjects are so arranged that any one can use them in presenting the truth to others. Price, 15 cents a set. Order from your Book and Bible House. E. E. H.

A Song Service

THERE are many ways of conducting a song service. For one variation, try a song service study, arranging the songs so that they will contain a message, logically presented. For example, here is a brief study on "The Saint's Reward." (Have the numbers of the songs on the blackboard, so that they need not be announced. The questions should be asked very distinctly by some one appointed, the chorister leading out in singing the hymns which give the answer.)

Question—God commissions the watchman to sound a warning. What is this warning, and to whom is it to be given?

Answer—"Christ in Song," No. 683, stanzas 1 and 3.

Ques.—As the faithful hear the warning, what question do they ask, and how does the watchman answer?

Ans.—"Christ in Song," No. 845, stanzas 1 to 4.

Ques.—What is this home like?

Ans.—"Christ in Song," No. 919.

Ques.—Who are privileged to enter this wonderful home?

Ans.—"Christ in Song," No. 890, stanzas 2 and 3.

Ques.—What do the saints exclaim when they reach that wonderful home?

Ans.—"Christ in Song," No. 889, stanzas 2 and 5.

N. H. FAULKNER.

(Officers' Page concluded on page 12)

Remember, the South American M. V. Mission Project needs YOUR help.

Senior Missionary Volunteer Meetings

Practical Christianity in the Home

(Program for February 3)

BY BERTHA D. MARTIN

NOTES TO SENIOR LEADERS: We often idealize home to the extent of forgetting the practical ways in which our Christianity should be manifested in the home life first of all. Help the young people today to gain a broader conception of Christianity, and of its relation to home—its duties and privileges. Study carefully pages 359, 360, in "Christ's Object Lessons."

Symposium: "The Practical Home." Ask some one who is very practical and ingenious in the home to tell how her home is organized. For what are the different members responsible? How do they work together? What plan has she for exchange of duties so each will have a broader experience? How are emergencies met? To supplement this talk, call for further suggestions from others.

Poem: "The Beautiful," in Junior program, p. 13.

Talk: Practical Christianity in the Home

SHE sat in the front seat of the car and turned bright brown eyes to the face of the young woman beside her in the driver's seat, intent upon the problem of weaving her way through the small-town noon-hour traffic. "Don't you think my mother is sweet?" she began, by way of attracting attention. "I think she is the sweetest mother in the world!"

A picture of the small, thin, weary-eyed woman she had left a few moments previous at the hospital bedside of another child, flashed before her, and touched with the love and loyalty of the little one, she responded warmly, "Indeed, I do, Patricia. I think she is a very, very sweet mother, and I am glad you love her so."

"What is your little girl's name?" was her next question.

"Her name is June, and she has brown eyes like yours," was the reply.

"You were a nurse, weren't you?" after a brief silence.

The woman took her eyes from the road long enough to flash one amused glance at the puzzled little upturned face. "Yes, I was a nurse," she agreed, guessing at once that Patricia, referred to the time she had called in the interest of welfare work at her home, dressed in uniform. "Do you like nurses?"

It was impossible to miss the note of disappointment in the small voice as, ignoring the question, she replied, "You were a nurse, but now you are just a mother."

"I am a nurse and a mother," laughed the woman, as she stopped the car before her own door and held out her arms to the little stranger she was to mother for the day. "Now don't you think that's nicer still, Patricia?"

And don't you think it's "nicer still," friends? How often have you heard a conversation run something like this:

"Well, Mary, what are you going to do now that you are finishing the academy?"

"I am planning to take the nurses' course," or "I want to begin premedical," or "I am beginning a course in dietetics next year," or "I am going to be a stenographer."

"And if you marry later, and have a home of your own, what good will your training in these lines do you then?"

True, the training in these lines may not bring monetary rewards, but surely every bit of training we are able to get prepares us better to serve our heavenly Father in finishing His work in our hearts, in our homes, in our communities, in the world.

Not all can be trained dietitians; but every young woman should learn to cook, to choose wholesome foods, to prepare them simply and free from those elements that befog the mind and dull the perceptions of right and wrong. Many a home has been wrecked because of ill-prepared food.

Every girl should learn to sew. The only Biblical record of a woman's being raised from the dead is that of one who made garments for the poor. There is real, practical Christianity in keeping one's personal and family clothing clean and mended.

Your Prayer Bands should begin now to pray for blessings during M. V. Week in March.

Not every one can become a graduate nurse; but in a great many churches, home nursing classes are conducted at proper intervals. Young men and young women both should learn how to care for themselves, and for the home folks. Learn how to care for the common ailments, to give fomentations properly. Give your services cheerfully.

Boys and young men, learn how to repair the mechanical appliances used in the home; how to use the hammer, the saw, the screw driver, and use them when needed. Be quick to see and do those things which will add to the convenience of sisters, wife, or mother.

(Study carefully pp. 326, 329, 339, in "Messages," giving a résumé of the points mentioned.)

If you think there is not a cure for boredom, blues, general lethargy, and half the ills of life, in this most glorious of all endeavors,—practicing Christianity in the home,—try it, Senior Missionary Volunteer friends, right where you are in your homes this very week, and see for yourselves.

The Example

ONCE, it is written, in the long ago,
There came to a quaint old Judean town,
At evening, as the sun sank red and low,
Travelers from Egypt, in Egyptian gown.

Father and mother and a lad of three,
With sweet, brown eyes and silken, curling hair,
Facing the strangers from His mother's knee,
Who crowded 'round with curious, wondering stare.

And there they built a humble dwelling place;
Joseph, a carpenter was he by trade.
And Jesus grew in stature and in grace,
Anxious to make the things the father made.

Obedient was He, and true and kind,
Faithful in every task that was His lot;
Sticks for His mother's fire He would find,
And run to take her heavy waterpot.

He stooped to lift the fallen little one,
And hearts grew lighter for His radiant smile;
He gave not ill when ill for good was done,
And went with kindly grace the second mile.

And in the quiet, early morning hours,
To hill and meadow He would steal away,
To learn the language of the birds and flowers,
And kneel beside some murmuring stream to pray.

Growing in favor, thus, with God and man,
Example He has left that all may know
The lowliest service counts in God's great plan,
And leads to higher service here below.

BERTHA D. MARTIN.

Talk: Open My Eyes

HAROLD DEAN, a furrow between his fine, blue eyes, and lips puckered for a whistle that did not come, walked slowly along the road that led from the schoolhouse to his home, so deep in thought that he did not hear the sound of footsteps until Jean McDonald, his lifelong friend and playmate, spoke a cheerful, "Hello," into his ear. "What's the matter? You look so perplexed!"

"I am puzzled," returned Harold gloomily. "You heard the teacher say today in our Junior meeting there is something for every boy and girl in the whole school to do if he will only keep open eyes and ears, and have willing heart and hands. I've been thinking and thinking, and I don't see a thing I can do."

Jean's bright face grew serious. "I've been thinking of that, too. Suppose you come in with me and we'll ask mother. Maybe she can tell us something."

Mother was seated by the window mending when they went in. Replying to their question she said, "Harold, are you taking carpentry in school?"

"Yes, Mrs. McDonald, I am."

"That's fine! How would you like to fix old Grandma Gray's chicken yard? Both the fence and the little chicken house are sadly in need of repairs. She cannot do it herself, nor afford to pay any one to do it."

"She seems so cross, I fear I couldn't please her."

"I know she does seem to be. But try a little loving-kindness, Harold, and you will probably be surprised at her appreciation."

"I'll do it, Mrs. McDonald. And if you think of anything else I can do for any one, just let me know."

"What can I do, mother?" asked Jean.

"Jeanie, you can find lots to do right in Grandma Gray's house. She needs her curtains mended and put up. She was trying to darn some hose when I was there. And this," as she unfolded a gingham, "is one of her dresses I am sewing on now."

"There is a family on the hill where the mother is sick and there are three little ones. Take some of the jelly you made last fall, and some papers and pictures for the children, and visit them. You will see much to do there if you really wish to. Perhaps Harold could find some kindling for them and carry some groceries from the store."

Two happy Juniors—happy because they had been of service—later decided there were many things they might do to brighten their own homes, also.

True to a Trust

(Program for February 10)

BY MRS. FLORA H. WILLIAMS

NOTES TO SENIOR LEADERS: To think about today—Are we trustworthy? Are we dependable? To what trusts must we be true?

Poems: "Choice Poems," pp. 31 (lower), and 50 (upper).
Story: "Take Your Religion With You," p. 13.

Talk: Our Pattern for Home Life

(Read as a foundation for this talk, chapters 7-9 in "The Desire of Ages.")

WE have a beautiful pattern given us,—a perfect life lived,—that we may know better what a perfect life is. His home life was perfect as was also His public life. It is comparatively easy to live the right life publicly; to be sure we must guard our words, we must avoid frivolity and hilarity, dishonesty, etc. But the real test of discipleship lies in the home life. We, therefore, need to study the pattern so far as we can.

First of all, the Master was a worker at home. He was not indolent. The Bible itself calls little attention to His child life. "The child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon Him." "And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man." Luke 2:40, 52.

He increased in stature, grew as other children grow; He increased in wisdom, as all children and young people should do.

"His willing hands were ever ready to serve others." Even in childhood He knew that He did not live to Himself alone; His life was to be for others, so others were first in His mind. His eyes were open for the little tasks that He could do to help father and mother. Those things which children of today pass by with no desire to see and no thought of doing, He sought to find and did them because of His love for others—and all the time He manifested a "peculiar loveliness of disposition." "His life revealed the grace of unselfish courtesy." "From His earliest years He was possessed of one purpose; He lived to bless others."

Think not that the Christ-child was not subject to temptations. Doubtless many times the temptation to leave undone some unpleasant task came to Him, for He had taken on Himself human nature. Many times the temptation came to want to do as other children and young people did. He lived in a wicked village where the wrong was constantly in evidence. Evil boys and girls tried to lead Him from paths of rectitude. Satan was ever on His track, seeking to cause Him to fall through temptation. He well knew the purpose of Christ's life on earth, and to the evil leader it was of greatest importance to cause the Son of Man to sin. "He left no means untried to insnare Jesus."

We are most likely to stumble and fall when in great weariness and bodily discomfort. The Christ-child and youth be-

came weary and endured bodily suffering, but never once did He become impatient nor fail to respond to the needs of His parents or others with whom He came in contact.

Since His parents were poor, He knew want and self-denial, but neither murmured nor repined because of this condition.

As He grew up He worked with Joseph in the carpenter shop and put into practice there the principles He had learned and practiced as a little child. His work was perfect as was His character. In fact, His character could not have been perfect if He had not done His best to make His work perfect. "Be ye therefore perfect."

"It is not the great results we attain, but the motives from which we act, that weigh with God. He prizes goodness and faithfulness more than the greatness of the work accomplished."—"Testimonies," Vol. II, pp. 510, 511.

Perfection in the home gives evidence of fitness for church work. (See "Testimonies," Vol. VI, p. 439.)

Talk: Jobs in the Depression

THIS is a time of scarcity of jobs. You have often heard that old saying, "There is always room at the top." And so there is. Few people are fitted to reach the top.

What is the "top," and how do people get there? From the angle where we are standing, an answer is, The top is the place where the work is done most perfectly, and the way to get there is to seek constantly to improve in whatever one does, and keep on improving. Very simple, isn't it? Yet after all, not so easy; but we shouldn't mind that, for it is doing the hard things that makes us grow and become worth while.

Who has a greater incentive to reach the top than a Seventh-day Adventist? Who should be so dependable, so faithful, so trustworthy? "Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect." How can we be perfect? (All the Lord's biddings are enablings, you know.) It is by faith which is the gift of God, and a constant determination to be like Jesus Christ, striving each moment to perform each simple little act of our lives just as Jesus would do it if He were here in our places. This is perfection; this is religion; this is Christianity because it is Christlikeness.

But you say, "Not every one who does his work well is a Christian. I know people who do thorough, dependable work who are not Christians." Very true. So do I. But do they strive to do perfectly *everything* they do, and is it done "by the faith of the son of God"? People may be very trustworthy in certain things and not be perfect in all things.

A non-Christian business man, once said to a Christian lady who was trying to show him the right way, "I've had more crooked deals put over on me by church members than I ever did by any one else." The lady answered, "Did you ever stop to think of the fact that your own splendid honesty in business came largely from your Christian forebears?" We are born with certain tendencies to right or wrong, and Christian parents help us by their prayers and their training to form right habits and thus right characteristics.

Again, the business man may have had that matter exaggerated in his mind because of the glasses through which he looked. He was so sure there was nothing in religion that his views concerning it looked dark, even as dark glasses produce to the one wearing them, but to no one else, a dark world; but in any case, whether his view was clear or partly obscured, what a commentary on the Christian religion! "Let us remember that a Christlike life is the most powerful argument that can be advanced in favor of Christianity, and that a cheap Christian character works more harm in the world than the character of a worldling."—"Testimonies," Vol. IX, p. 21.

Story: The House That McGovern Built

RECENTLY I attended an auction sale of real estate, and while viewing the piece of property that was under the auctioneer's hammer, was impressed by the effect of a simple statement that the auctioneer made when he was about to let his hammer fall for the third time. He had succeeded in raising the bids until the five-thousand-dollar mark was reached, but that seemed to be the limit.

"Gentlemen," said the auctioneer, raising his hammer for the third time, "I am offered but five thousand dollars for this

house,—a house built by Henry McGovern; who will give me fifty-five hundred?"

A gentleman nodded in the affirmative.

"Fifty-five hundred I have; give me six thousand."

Another gentleman motioned to the auctioneer.

"Six thousand I have; give me sixty-five hundred."

The former bidder nodded again.

"Sixty-five hundred I have; give me seven thousand."

"It was strange what a jump the bidding took when the auctioneer mentioned the builder," I remarked to a bystander, as the crowd broke up.

"You must be a stranger about here," said the gentleman. "McGovern has a great reputation as a builder, and justly so. If he builds a house, you can be sure that honest work has been put into it from the cellar to the ridgepole."

Fifteen hundred dollars for conscientious work! McGovern, were he to learn of it, might well feel proud of his reputation.

A few days later I learned more of McGovern, the contractor. A carpenter had come to him well recommended as an efficient workman. The first day that he worked for McGovern, the latter stepped up behind him and arrested his arm as he was about to drive home a nail.

"What are you using that split piece of joist for?"

"The boarding will cover it up," said the carpenter.

McGovern took out his notebook and wrote a few words. "Take this to the office and get a week's pay," he said. "I can't afford to keep you any longer."—*Wellspring*.

Building at Home

(Program for February 17)

BY M. E. OLSEN

NOTES TO SENIOR LEADERS: The purpose of this meeting is to encourage all Missionary Volunteers to put the very best materials into their lives, no matter what hindrances may be in the way. If they have not been able to attend a Christian school, ordained of God especially for youth of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination, what are they doing about building their lives? Or, perhaps some have been obliged to drop out of school at the close of the first semester; are they just living aimlessly day after day? It isn't the worst thing that can happen to a young person to have to *make* a way for his own education. A course by correspondence or self-education is valuable in that it makes one *think* more for himself. In school the lesson is assigned and must be recited at a specified time; there is always a bell or a reminder to help the student along. When one takes a course of his own accord, he must learn to concentrate because of his own interest, either natural or self-impelled. He learns that invaluable lesson of stick-to-itiveness. He learns to reason and think a thing through. He learns to use books and helps for himself. A librarian told me that an eighteen-year-old girl frequently came into the library to study; and she was so intelligent in the handling of reference books that the librarian asked her how she learned. Then the story was told—how circumstances had compelled her to remain out of school, but she did have time (spare moments, at least) to study. And she had trained herself to study the table of contents or the index of a book and thus save reading extra pages in order to get the exact point needed. After all, a real education is not so much the facts that one can stow in his mind to repeat parrotlike; but knowing how to find out for oneself, that is a good start toward the best education of a lifetime.

Before this meeting, do enough research work so that you will be able to set before your young people every possible advantage that they can make use of right in their own home community.

Ask God to help you in this meeting to put some real foundation stones in your M. V. buildings.

Information on Educational Helps in Your Home Community. This part should come at the very close of your meeting. Be sure to follow up the information given with definite plans for any who are at all interested. First of all should come our own S. D. A. correspondence school, the Home Study Institute. Write early for circulars. Address: Home Study Institute, Takoma Park, D. C. The Vocational Honors and the Master Comrade requirements are in our Junior M. V. Handbook. Look up the Y. W. C. A. and Y. M. C. A. and learn whether their leaders and teachers are people of good principles. If they are, encourage the young people to select courses in these organizations. Is there a night school in your community? Some of them give free classes, or at a nominal price. Or some individual may be conducting a class in manual training

just for the sake of helping young people. Leave no stone unturned to help your Missionary Volunteers to gain an education, be it ever so little at a time. We should always be progressing. Where possible, take classes that will give credit units when one might be able to enter school again; but even more important than getting credits is an education, mental and manual.

Talk: "Christian Building." Glean thoughts from "Education," pp. 13-19; "Messages," pp. 169-180, on the importance of gaining a Christian education, or if it is not possible, Christians can make any worth-while training Christian.

EMMA E. HOWELL.

Talk: Valuable Beyond Computation

(Glean choice thoughts from pages 342-346 in "Christ's Object Lessons.")

"MY desire is to improve myself in order to be worth a little more each day," said a young man of twenty-one. A noble desire, you will grant, for every young man, and one which, with prayer and pains, he may accomplish. Is it not what our Maker expects of us all, both young and old? Does the parable of the talents teach that only the man of exceptional powers will be held accountable for the proper use of them? Nay, the man who had received only a single talent, but hid it in the earth instead of trading with it, was charged with wicked slothfulness, and condemned to outer darkness.

The life intrusted to us is exceedingly precious. The hours and moments of which it is made up are of far more value than so many diamonds and rubies. And yet, sometimes how carelessly we throw away this treasure, this princely fortune. We wouldn't give ten dollars to a worthless companion, but we do give him fifty dollars of our time. We wouldn't throw away a pocketful of silver dimes, but the small change of our time—do we guard it carefully?

Place alongside the cheap, careless living which we see about us every day, the life of a consecrated young person who makes every hour and every day play its peculiar part in a carefully planned week, and each week fill its place in the year. How magnetic is the influence of such a person!

Great is the power of growing things. The tiny stem that comes out of an acorn will push downward between two great slabs of granite, and ultimately thrust them wide apart with its roots; not because it is harder than the rock, but because it is alive and growing, and the rock is not. So it is with the circumstances that seem to hem in and restrict the life of a young person. But there is within young people that which can thrust aside all manner of rocklike limitations, and make a glorious thing of life if they but utilize their time and opportunities.

In reckoning with so valuable a talent,—time, the stuff life is made of,—and of which so strict an account is required, we must plan carefully.

Discussion Notes

Young people temporarily hindered from attending a residential school should not hesitate to lay plans for taking some home study work. The experience may be a valuable one in many ways.

President I. D. Coffman, of the University of Minnesota, writes: "Thorough thinking is necessitated by correspondence study work; and initiative, resourcefulness, persistence, and thoroughness are qualities cultivated by this plan."

The Official Bulletin of the United States Bureau of Education states: "In correspondence study each student receives continuous individual attention and assistance to meet his special needs throughout the course. It therefore serves not only as a practical resort when intensive study is required, but may in many cases be actually preferable to any other method within reach."

A few years ago, a young man, belonging to our church in Boston, began to give his evenings to study under the guidance of the Home Study Institute, then known as the Fireside Correspondence School. When he had finished six courses (about thirty-two college hours), he was taken on as a ministerial worker on the internship plan. A year later he became a regular licensed minister, and today he is filling a place of large usefulness as pastor and evangelist, and continuing his theological studies with the institute. This young man carried on his regular occupation during the time he was taking correspondence courses with us. He made a wise investment of his spare minutes, and now he is an efficient minister of the gospel.

The Home Study Institute will help you to keep up to date in your school work.

Miss — took studies with us to prepare for Bible work in a Western State. In a little less than a year, she was taken on as a Bible worker in that conference, and she has continued to the present time to do successful soul-winning work.

A young woman enrolled for our courses in shorthand and typewriting and did fine work, being especially diligent both in studies and in practice on the machine. As soon as she had finished taking our examinations she obtained work with her Sabbaths off, and she has never been without work since.

A young minister took our course in bookkeeping. When he had finished the course, he reported that now he could keep the mission books and welcome the visits of the auditor, knowing that it would not be necessary for him to explain and interpret his work.

Correspondence study seems to arouse young people to do their best in various ways. One student taking the course in the giving of Bible readings writes: "There are several things I am now doing that I didn't do before beginning this course. I am studying the Bible more, reading the 'Testimonies' for the first time, studying the Sabbath school lessons daily, memorizing verses called for in the Morning Watch, teaching a class in the Sabbath school primary department, and talking more about what Seventh-day Adventists believe than I ever did before."

"The first reason why I am so happy with the home study plan," writes one student, "is the fact that it is possible to study in my spare time. These spare minutes are working college credits for me."

One student says: "I have an aim and a purpose in view now that I did not have at the beginning of the course. For the last two weeks I have been deeply impressed to become a Bible worker." Home study work gives one a vision of something definite toward which to work.

The greatest need of the cause of God all through the ages, is consecrated and well-trained workers.

A Cottage Meeting

(Program for February 24)

BY GRACE D. MACE

NOTES TO SENIOR LEADERS: This service affords opportunity to encourage all whose sphere of influence may seem narrow, ability small, or opportunities and acquirements limited, by visualizing the wonderful possibilities which are found in the atmosphere of the home. (See "Ministry of Healing," p. 355.) The cottage meeting centers in one's own home or in the home of neighbor and friend, and the special benediction of our Saviour was pronounced upon such meetings when He said, "Where two or three are gathered together in My name, there am I in the midst of them." The cottage meeting plan is important. Read "Gospel Workers," p. 193, par. 2.

Demonstration: The suggestions for holding a cottage meeting should be worked out as a practical demonstration. It will help all to understand better how to create interest in such a meeting and how to conduct the service in a friendly, informal way.

Helps: 1. "Senior Standard of Attainment Studies on Bible Doctrines." 2. "How to Give Bible Readings,"—a small book of 138 pages. 3. "Prophetic Symbols,"—a set of twenty card-charts, 7 x 8 in. (Obtain all through Book and Bible Houses.) 4. S. V. E. Projector and 34 illustrated lectures on the doctrines of the message. Very valuable for holding the interest of a group of people, and making perfectly clear the Bible instruction. This machine and film is highly recommended. Full information concerning this projector may be obtained by writing the Mayse Picture Studio, 3050 L St., San Diego, California.

Dialogue: A Cottage Meeting

The Invitation

DOROTHY: Well, I never thought Jim Clark would ever become a preacher, did you. Nell? But here is the proof, as you can see for yourself by reading this note from Caroline [hands note to Nell].

NELL (reading aloud): "Dear Dorothy: Truly there is something new under the sun! Won't you join our Cottage Meeting Club? Our first meeting is on Thursday evening, 8 o'clock, at our cottage—1012 Elm Street, you know. All the girls will be there, and a number of the boys, and Jim Clark is to conduct the meeting. Now don't smile at the idea of Jim's being 'preacher,' for really, since he came back from the Seventh-day Adventist College he is so different. Of course he can't preach the way our minister does, but he makes the Bible itself talk as I never heard before. A few of us were together the other evening, and somehow we got to talking about what we expect to do when we finish college. We all had our ideas for the one purpose of earning money and making a great reputation for ourselves; but Jim said that if we

understood what the Bible said about the greatest event of all history which was to take place in our lifetime, we might all change our entire plan of life, and perhaps turn our attention in another direction. We asked him what he meant, and he spoke of 'Bible prophecies.' We didn't understand, but it was not long until we realized he knew what he was talking about, and we suggested that we form a Cottage Meeting Club and find out what it is all about. We all agreed to join, and to invite our special friends to join also. So please come, Dorothy, and bring Nell with you, for I'm sure you will both find it thrillingly interesting to watch staid old Jim as he turns the pages of the Bible and makes one verse of Scripture explain another. Jim says it's like soaring in an airplane, and going away back hundreds of years in history to see what was going on then and what was told the people of those far-away days as to happenings on the earth; and then to travel on down through the centuries and see the landmarks showing that everything has come about just as predicted, and that some of the very things are being fulfilled right now—this very year. The only requirement for membership in this club is to carry a Bible when coming to the meetings. I'll look for you both. Remember—8 o'clock, at our little cottage on Elm Street. Lovingly, Caroline."

NELL (returning note to Dorothy): That's a new thing, all right. I've attended a good many meetings—church meetings, committee meetings, lodge meetings, board meetings, etc., but I never heard of a "cottage meeting" before. If Caroline had invited us to a party, I would know what to do; but I confess I hardly know how to act or what to wear for such an occasion. But I always enjoy anything different, and I'd like to go along with you, if you will allow me.

DOROTHY: That will be fine. I can't keep from smiling when I think of Jim's becoming Bible preacher or teacher. But let's go once anyway. We don't want to offend Caroline. As for joining the Cottage Meeting Club and carrying a Bible every time, that will depend on what this first cottage meeting is like.

The Assembling

(The double parlors of the little cottage on Elm Street are aglow with the lights from the many pretty lamps stationed conveniently about. Chairs and settees are placed in informal order, while the open piano appeals to the lover of music. At one end of the room stands a table, cleared of all content except a reading lamp and a book—the Book of all books, the Bible. Close by is a chair for the teacher. Singly, and by twos and threes, the members of the club enter and are welcomed by Caroline and made to feel perfectly at home in the warmth of her hospitality. Jim Clark is among the first to arrive, brief case in hand, and bearing an air of familiarity and comradeship, although it is apparent that he senses the responsibility of the duty he has come to perform. He is not alone, for he introduces to the hostess two of his special friends,—Mr. Jones and Miss Adams, who "have come along to help in case I get all tangled up by the stupendous questions which may arise among the members of this new club." Jim takes his seat by the table and joins in the friendly conversation. Caroline's parents join the group, and one or two of the neighbors slip in. As Jim looks around on this audience of fifteen people, his heart begins to flutter, and the undertaking seems greater than he had anticipated. With a prayer to God for help and guidance, he arises and makes a few introductory remarks, which are given in the following paragraph.)

The Introduction to the Bible Study

JIM: Friends, it is a pleasure to meet you here tonight! And it seems to me we are here as a group of miners, to dig for riches in the great mine of exhaustless truth—the word of God. A very rich inheritance has been bequeathed to each of us in this mine, of which we are largely ignorant until we search for it. Perhaps you have heard the story of the man who, at the death of an aunt, was bequeathed her family Bible "and all it contains." Often his eyes rested on the old leather book with its brass clasps, but not once did he open it. In old age he became very poor, and decided to go to the home of his son. When packing his trunk to make the long journey, the old Bible fell upon the floor and the clasps gave way, revealing hidden treasure. Five thousand dollars in bank-notes had been scattered through the pages of the Book. How great was his regret that he had been so negligent of the blessings which had been placed in his hands. Now we are all very much like this old man, for we are far too content to remain ignorant of the great truths of God's word. This is a deep mine, and we cannot go into the depths alone. We must have a guide, and that guide is furnished in the Holy Spirit, whom Jesus has sent to this world to "guide . . . into all truth." Let us place ourselves under the leadership of Him who will help us to see the beauties of truth and be able to comprehend spiritual things. [A brief prayer is offered by Mr. Jones.]

The Bible Study

JIM: According to the promise made to my friends who proposed this Cottage Meeting Club, our first journey into the mine of truth will be by way of the prophecy of Daniel, as recorded in the second chapter of that profound book of the

What plans are you laying for giving Bible readings?

Old Testament. [Explains that this is a "study," and invites all to find each text mentioned, and read aloud in turn.]

(Study: First, read the justification for a study of the prophecies, 2 Peter 1:19. Follow with the Bible study outlined in Lesson 13, p. 31, "Senior Standard of Attainment, Studies on Bible Doctrines." Hang on wall or stand on table a prophetic symbol chart. Some members of the club manifest consternation, at not knowing where to find texts. Leader makes appropriate comments on each text, and Mr. Jones and Miss Adams quote authentic historians, and supplement his remarks. Close with solemn application and appeal.)

Conclusion

(Miss Adams sings "Look for the Way-marks," No. 1344, in "Hymns and Tunes," or 536, in "Christ in Song.")

JIM: Friends, this is but one vein leading through the mine of truth to the glories of the eternal world. There are many more. The Cottage Meeting Club will meet again one week from this evening, at the home of Miss Stella Blanford, and I am authorized to extend an invitation to all of you to come and bring your friends. And please do not forget your Bibles. Thank you, and good night!

Aftermath

DOROTHY (walking home with Nell): All honor to Jim. I didn't think he had it in him. But, honestly, it seemed to me a Voice spoke to my soul as I read and listened to the Scriptures, and I believe the Holy Spirit was our teacher. I saw Mr. Blank wiping a tear from his eye, and his wife wept softly while Miss Adams was singing about the way-marks. I intend to be a regular member of the Cottage Meeting Club, and shall try to get other clubs started. If only people knew how interesting the Bible really is, they would get together in groups in thousands of homes to study. Somewhere I read that "it is a joyous work to open the Scriptures to others," and it certainly did seem that way to Jim and his friends.

Officers' Page

(Concluded from page 7)

A Gratitude Box

WHY not have a Gratitude Box this month, into which young people may drop little notes of appreciation for the love of Jesus, what service in the church means to them, and their determination to serve better? They need not be signed. Read a few of these in the meetings. E. E. H.

M. V. Officers' Meeting

REMEMBER that no matter how much experience as a Missionary Volunteer leader you may have had, you cannot afford to carry on this work without weekly meetings for prayer and counsel with associate officers. This is essential if all lines of the work are to be carried forward in a strong way. Following is a suggestive outline for officers' meetings:

1. Opening prayer.
2. Brief testimony study (not to exceed 10 minutes) on some phase of Christian experience or duty. Suggestive topics: Personal relationship to God, service, tithe, Sabbath keeping, recreation, dress, prayer, etc. More than one meeting may be devoted to any one of these topics. Let the society leader appoint different ones to lead out in these studies. After a subject has been studied and discussed in the officers' meeting, let it be presented to the whole society. This plan brings real blessing wherever followed.
3. Discuss last meeting. How could it have been improved?
4. Present plans for next meeting. (The program should be made out beforehand by one of the leaders, or some one appointed. However, in officers' meeting the program should be discussed so that all the officers will be familiar with the plans and can unite in praying definitely that the aim of the meeting may be accomplished.)
5. Missionary activities. It takes constant prayer and planning to keep all active in soul-winning service. This is an important part of the work of society officers.
6. Study plans for promoting the Reading Course, Standard of Attainment, Morning Watch, and the Bible Year. (Of course, all these features could not well be considered in one officers' meeting.)
7. Consider daily prayer list. The officers of each society should have a prayer list, on which are the names of careless and backslidden young people, and others for whom they are working and praying. A Morning Watch Calendar should be sent to each of these, and officers should pray and plan together ways of winning these souls to Christ. God will bless your efforts and hear your prayers.
8. Prayer season.
9. Read communications received from the conference Missionary Volunteer secretary. Any plans suggested in them should be discussed by the officers and carried out as nearly as conditions in the society permit. MINNIE E. DAUPHINEE.

Junior Missionary Volunteer Meetings

J. M. V.'s at Home

(Program for February 3)

BY T. ROSE CURTIS

NOTES TO JUNIOR SUPERINTENDENTS: The program this week is designed to apply the various parts of the J. M. V. Law to the everyday home life—to make them practical. If you have no J. M. V. organization, this is a good rule for your Juniors to follow anyway.

Discussion: At the close of the program, discuss the suggestions given in the dialogue, and if it has not been done in the homes of your Juniors, suggest a practical division of the home duties, and formulate schedules of work and play for each child. This may be made a game in some homes. Or, the Juniors may desire to organize, and surprise their mothers, by voluntarily sharing the home duties. Work schedules should be exchanged by the children in the home every so often, so each child learns to do the various duties. Juniors take pride in having their own work. They enjoy responsibility, if it is properly placed upon them.

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 6:1-3.

Songs: Nos. 71, 72, 77, 83, in "Junior Song Book;" closing song, No. 580 in "Christ in Song."

Dialogue: My Ideal Home

(Joan is sitting at a table in the living room, pencil in hand and writing tablet before her.)

JOAN (sighing audibly): Oh, dear, I don't know how to write a description of my ideal home! It takes so much to make a home, I don't know where to begin!

CLARABELL (knocks at door, and opens it without waiting for answer): May I come in? Oh, are you working on your ideal home, too? [Draws up another chair to the table and sits.] I think this is about the hardest assignment Miss True has given us. I don't know how to start. Seems like an ideal home would be one where there aren't any dishes to wash, nor beds to make, nor floors to sweep, nor babies to tend, nor weeds to pull; but you can't put that into a composition!

JOAN (laughing): O Clarabell, you're so funny! Did you ever stop to think that if there were no dishes to wash, there would be none from which to eat? And if there were no beds to make, there would be no place to sleep? And if there were no floors to sweep, you'd most likely be living in a mud hut with a mud floor? Is that your ideal of a home?

CLARABELL: Of course not, Joan! I mean it would be fine if I didn't have to do any of those things! Of course, I wouldn't want to get along without dishes and heds and floors; and babies—we couldn't do without Billy Bob, though he does bother me sometimes.

JOAN: But, Clarabell, you eat from the dishes, and sleep in the beds, and walk on the floor! It's *your* home, as well as that of your daddy and mother and Jimmy and Billy Bob. Why shouldn't you help to make it comfortable and happy? Mother says we're all partners in the business of making a home, and each has a part in the care of the home as well as in the fun. I think that's fair, don't you?

CLARABELL: Yes, I suppose so. But I don't like to do those things, and mother is always calling me to do my work when I'm interested in something I want to do.

(Enter, Joan's twin brother, John, and Harry, another classmate.)

JOHN: How's your theme, Joan? Do you have yours written, Clarabell? Harry and I don't seem to make much headway with ours.

JOAN: No, we haven't written anything yet, but we've been talking a bit about what it takes to make a home. I read a little story the other day, that I've thought a lot about. It made me think of two parts of our Junior Law, the second and the next to the last. A certain king decided to have a test of good deeds, and a certain day was set for the trial. The one who won the prize was to choose what he liked best.

HARRY: Oh, I know what I'd choose!

JOAN (continuing the story): One by one the people were let into the king's palace to tell him what good thing they had done. Last of all came a little girl with her mother. "Well, little daughter," said the king, "what good deeds can you claim?" "I had no time to do good deeds," answered the little girl, "for my mother is so hussy that I have to feed the chickens, pick up chips, sweep the porch, set the table, and play with the baby to keep him still; I wanted to try for the prize, but I had no time." The king told the little girl that she had won the prize, and she could have what she wanted. She chose a wagon for the baby to ride in! She was surely doing her honest part, and keeping a song in her heart while she did it. She was going on God's errands, too, though she didn't realize it,—but the king did.

Are your Juniors studying their Progressive Class work?

HARRY: That reminds me of a story I read just last night. While you are talking about applications to the Junior Law, I guess this one applies to the second and fifth parts. It seems that the three children were in the front room singing, after supper—Tom and Ned and Mary were their names. Their Aunt Grace came in, and they stopped singing; but she told them to keep on,—she liked to hear them. So they sang a "Mother" song, and then "Mother Maehree." Aunt Grace asked, "How is your mother, and where is she?" "Oh, she's all right," Mary answered; "she's in the kitchen washing the dishes. When she finishes the work, she'll be in." I got to thinking of the times Ruth and I have slipped away and left mother with all the work to do, even the things that we are supposed to do; and I decided we weren't doing our honest part, nor being courteous and obedient. And if we aren't, then we can't keep a level eye. Really, you know it seems as if every part of the Junior Law depends on every other part.

JOHN: That's right, Harry. Let's start making a list of things that go to make an ideal home, and then maybe we can each use them in a theme afterward. I'll begin with helpfulness, and obedience, and cheerfulness, and unselfishness, and—

JOAN: Wait a bit, John; don't you tell them all! I'm adding thoughtfulness, and patience, and what mother calls "team work."

HARRY: And promptness in doing whatever we're supposed to do. We'll have a much better time doing what we want to do if we know that what we *have to do* is done. That's what mother says.

CLARABELL: I guess that's what's the matter with me—I never do my work until I have to, and mother keeps reminding me till we're both cross; and I don't have any fun then even doing what I want to do. I believe I'll try your way, Harry.

HARRY: Don't call it *my way*! I've been as had as you. But I mean to do differently. Do you remember that poem we learned two years ago about loving mother—"Which Loved Mother Best?" Clarabell, you knew it best then, can you repeat it?

CLARABELL (*repeats poem,—find it on page 108, "True Education Reader Series," Book Two.*)

JOHN: It isn't hard to see how that mother guessed. I suppose we are each showing just as plainly whether we really love our mothers. And, by the way, that's a necessary part in making an ideal home.

JOAN: Yes, I think it is, for if we don't have love, love to God and love for one another, we can't have a *real* home. I remember when John and I visited Uncle Martin last summer. They have a lovely *house* and beautiful grounds, and servants, and cars, and everything heart could wish, it would seem. Maybe I ought not to say it, but, really, it didn't seem as if there was much love there; and there wasn't any family worship, and they didn't go to church or Sabbath school. I've felt like spelling "home" with capital letters ever since, even if our house is *small*, and our furniture is worn, and we have to do all our own work. We have lots of fun, and we all love one another!

JOHN: Well, I think we have a lot of material now to work into our themes on our ideal home. Listen to this poem I found:

"THE BEAUTIFUL

"Beautiful faces are those that wear,
It matters little if dark or fair,
Whole-souled honesty printed there.

"Beautiful eyes are those that show,
Like crystal panes where earth fires glow,
Beautiful thoughts that burn below.

"Beautiful lips are those whose words
Leap from the heart like songs of birds,
Yet whose utterance prudence girds.

"Beautiful hands are those that do
Work that is earnest, and brave, and true,
Moment by moment the long day through.

"Beautiful feet are those that go
On kindly ministry to and fro,
Down lowliest ways, if God wills it so.

"Beautiful shoulders are those that bear
Ceaseless burdens of homely care
With patience, grace, and daily prayer.

"Beautiful lives are those that bless—
Silent rivers of happiness;
Whose hidden fountains but few may guess."

CLARABELL: I'm surely glad we have to write this theme. It has made me think of home and of my part in making it a happy home in a way I've never thought of before. I'm really ashamed for what I said about my ideal home when I first came in, Joan. Please forget it, for I don't feel that way now at all; and I mean from now on to "do my honest part" in making home happy for mother and daddy and Jimmy and Billy Boh.

JOHN: All in favor of making it unanimous, signify by rising! [*All stand enthusiastically.*] Now let's scatter and write our themes. I don't think we'll have any difficulty in earning our Home Efficiency Certificates if we really live up to our purpose. [*Exit all, girls first, Harry and John last.*]

True to a Trust

(Program for February 10)

BY MRS. MABEL A. ELLIOTT

NOTES TO JUNIOR SUPERINTENDENTS: The program for today deals with the child in the home—his responsibilities and duties. Prepare a brief study from "Messages to Young People," pages 326-329. Especially emphasize that the training received in performing home duties, the actions in the home, and the home religion will largely determine the future course of the child, and prepare him to meet life's responsibilities and dangers.

Symposium: Ask five children to tell briefly the story of the following boys and girls in the Bible, who learned to obey at home and were true to a trust:

1. *Samuel.* 1 Samuel 2:18, 26; 3:1-10.

2. *Joseph.* Tell how he learned to serve the Lord at home, and was used by God to save his father and family during the famine in Egypt.

3. *Naaman's maid.* 2 Kings 5:2, 3, 9-14.

4. *John the Baptist.* Tell briefly the circumstances surrounding his birth, and the work he was called to do. Luke 1:66, 80.

5. *The Boy Jesus.* Rehearse briefly His early life helping in the home, His training at His mother's knee, and His preparation for His work.

Songs: Nos. 84, 82, 77, 72, 58, 71, 49, in "Junior Song Book."

The Daily Task

The common daily tasks of life
Seem poor and mean and small,
And oft we scorn them to respond
To some alluring call.

The tasks that lie so close at hand
Grow irksome to the soul,
And are forsaken for some dream,
Some visionary goal.

And yet the surest road to fame,
To deeds that stir and thrill,
Is doing the tasks that lie at hand
With all our strength and will.

—Katherine Edelman.

Story: Take Your Religion With You

"GOOD-BY," said Uncle John to Will, as he entered the cars for a few weeks' vacation in the country. "Got everything along?"

"Yes, uncle, I think I have. There's my trunk, and suitcase, and umbrella, and—"

"There, boy, I didn't mean those things. They're not everything."

"What, then?"

"Oh, something more important."

"I guess I've got money enough to take me there."

"Not that, my child."

"Well, I believe you think I have forgotten my Bible, but I haven't."

"I hope you have not forgotten that; though, to be sure, it is an easy matter to take it along, just for the respectability of the thing. Mind you use it. But how about your religion? Is that going into the country with you? Many professed Christians take a vacation from their religion just as they do from business. Don't do that, my boy. Take your religion with you. You need it. Others need it too."

"Thank you, uncle."

"Take your religion along!" sounded in the young lad's ears as he took a seat in the car. It made him feel more courteous to fellow travelers. It helped him speak a word to them.

"Take your religion along!" echoed a still, small voice as he met old friends in the country village, and helped him say a word for Christ. It sounded from the church bell, and prompted him to speak for his Master in the little village prayer meeting, where a new voice was a great encouragement. It urged him to take the place of an absent teacher, and tell a class of lads how pleasant he found it serving Jesus.—*Selected.*

Story: Gather Up the Stones

"It is such a stony little path between here and Mrs. Harvey's that I can't bear to go over it," said Jim.

"And Dick Harvey doesn't like it any better when he comes over here," said Frank. "I heard him say he got over so many stone bruises in that path. He was grumbling about it yesterday."

"Why don't you clear the way between here and your neighbor's?" asked Mr. Morris. "You would much better do that than to take time to grumble about it."

"Why, we should never get all the stones out of that path!" cried Jim.

"Not all in one day, nor by taking all the stones at once," said the father. "But if each of the boys who cross there would take a stone out of the way every time he goes, the work would soon be done. Try it."

The boys did try it. There were half a dozen boys who used the path, and each one helped to clear it by doing a little every time he went that way. By this means the stones were cast out and the path was cleared.

This is just the way to make it easier and pleasanter for others in this world. Let each one of us make it his business, as he goes through life, to take some little hindrance out of the way whenever he can.

Let the light of a clean, pure life shine so brightly that unguarded feet will choose the straight path that leads to noble, grand living. It is well worth while to clear the way.—*Youth's Temperance Banner*.

Loyalty to the Home

(Program for February 17)

BY FLORENCE M. KERN

NOTES TO JUNIOR SUPERINTENDENTS: You may give this introduction to the program, or ask some older Junior to do so:

Loyalty means faithful, unselfish devotion. It is that quality that binds the family together into a united circle. There is an old story of a father who had several sons. He felt that the time was approaching when he would no longer be with them to protect and advise. Selecting a long, stout twig for each son, he bound them all together firmly, then handed the bundle to one of his sons and bade him break the sticks. The boy tried and failed. So did each of his brothers, as it was passed from one to another. The father then took the bundle of twigs, separated them, and broke them easily, one at a time. "You see, my sons, that as long as you are united you can resist danger, but when separated you are likely to suffer loss and injury."

Each member of the family must love, protect, and aid every other member if the family is to be a real success. That is God's plan for us, and this arrangement makes it possible for every boy and girl to have a part in doing God's work on earth.

The loyal boy or girl will—

1. Recognize that he is a member of the family partnership when there is work to be done as well as when there are benefits to be received.
2. Speak kind words to add to the happiness of the family.
3. Do kind acts, showing love and thoughtfulness.
4. Protect the good name of each member of the family.
5. Be careful to do nothing that will give the family a dishonorable name.
6. Be faithful to help when misfortune befalls any members of the circle.

Text: Matthew 7:12.

Songs: Nos. 484, 539, 230, 233, in "Christ in Song."

Story: "Ruth and Naomi." See pages 151-161 in "Men of Might," by Mrs. Evans.

Story: A Brother's Loyalty

A GIRL lay ill in a hospital with blood transfusion necessary for her recovery. Her need was explained to her small brother, and he willingly agreed to give his blood for his sister.

The work was done and he was resting. He inquired anxiously regarding his sister's condition. Yes, she was doing well, the nurse told him. Then he asked, "How long will it be before I go?" "How long will it be?" repeated the nurse. "Why, you'll be all right and out of here in a little while." "Don't I have to die?" Then the sympathetic nurse understood. The boy had loyally given his blood to save his sister's life, supposing all the time it meant his own death.

Story: Mother Was Good to Him

"BUT, after all, she used to be good to us." It was a son who said this of a mother whom some nervous malady had overtaken, and who was certainly a very serious trial to her family. The young man's life, too, was a weary one. He was hard worked through the day, and it was depressing to go home at night to faultfinding and fretfulness. Harder still was it to sleep, as this son did, week after week and month after month, with all his senses half awake, that he might hear his mother's footsteps if they passed his door, and hurry after her to keep her from wandering out into the night alone, as her melancholy half madness often led her to try to do. Strangely enough, she had turned against her own husband and her daughters. Only this one son had any power to persuade her for good. His work by day and his vigil by night wore on him sorely, but he never complained.

One day his sister asked him how he could bear it and be always patient, when she—mother though she was—was in the house only as a presence of gloom and foreboding and unrest. And the answer came, "But, after all, she used to be good to us."

And then the thoughts of all the group went back to the years before this nervous prostration came upon her, when she had nursed them in illness and petted them in childhood; when she had been "good to them," one and all.

"I know," the boy said, thoughtfully, "that I was a nervous, uncomfortable child myself the first three years of my life. Father said he thought they'd never raise me; but mother said, 'Yes, I will,' and she tended me day and night for three years, till I began to grow strong like the rest of you. I owe her these three years, anyhow, and she shall have them."

And so he girded himself afresh for the struggle. It did not last forever. There were signs by which the doctors could recognize that the cloud was lifting, and, no doubt, before long she was her old self again. And then came her son's reward. He felt that he had paid a little of the debt he owed to the love that watched over his weak babyhood.—*San Francisco Call*.

Story: Rising to the Occasion

I WONDER if you know that you are going to be judged almost above everything else by the way you treat your mother. It is so easy to be thoughtless when one is young and eager and in a hurry.

Because it is such a wonderful story, and true, I am going to tell you about a young man who came up from Tennessee to attend a great Northern university. In the four years he spent there he became the most popular man in his class.

He worked his way through, but he took so many honors and was such a great athlete, and consequently was president of his class so often that no one thought very much of how he worked in the summer to pay his tuition. The word spread around that his mother was coming to visit him, and of course, the whole college community was interested because, for so prominent a man, every one knew very little of his home and people.

So a great number of people went to call on his mother as soon as she arrived, some out of curiosity, and some because they were so genuinely fond of him. They found a little old woman from the mountains, with a shawl around her shoulders.

And was he ashamed of her? Not a bit. He took her all over the university, and his eyes shone as he introduced her as his mother. When she left, more people admired him than ever before, and you can sense how they would, can't you?—*Selected*.

Story: His Mother

JUDGE LINDSEY tells a striking incident of a little fellow who was before his court, and was many, many times admonished about truancy from school. The teacher kept writing, however, that nothing had been accomplished, and that Tim seemed bound to work and to let school go. One day, in reproving him, the judge said: "Now, Tim, there will be time enough to work when you are a man."

The boy replied like a flash: "My father was a man, and he didn't work. He went off and left mother and me, and I guess that's what killed her, too."

Finally, after breaking every instruction, Tim appeared in

court one day with a changed expression, his face ablaze with satisfaction. Walking up to the judge, he pulled from his pocket a dirty piece of paper, all crumpled up, and he handed it up for inspection, saying: "I am going to remember all the things you have told me now, judge, and I am going to school regular now; for I've got that job all done."

Judge Lindsey unrolled the paper, and found it to be a receipted bill, and discovered that little by little poor Tim had actually paid with pennies and small coins fifty dollars for a headstone for his mother's grave. "My boy, is this what you have been doing while you have been missing school so much?" said the judge; and Tim answered, as he wiped the tears from his dirty little face: "I wanted her to have a monument, too, judge, like the others had. She's done a lot for me; that's all I could do for her now."—*Expositor.*

Every Member of the Home in Sabbath School

(Program for February 24)

BY L. FLORA PLUMMER

NOTES TO JUNIOR SUPERINTENDENTS: There are 15,000 Juniors enrolled in the Sabbath schools of North America, and 20,000 in other lands. In many Sabbath schools, there is but one class of Juniors, or at most two. In some larger schools, however, there are enough boys and girls of this age to form a whole division.

Juniors lead the school in receiving Honor Cards and Bookmarks. They excel in daily study of the lesson and in memorizing verses of Scripture. They raise more money for missions, proportionately, than any of the younger divisions. They appreciate the possibilities of the Investment Fund plan, and they are ingenious in devising investments that bring returns.

The Sabbath school is important in the life of the Junior. Lasting impressions for good may be made here. Are there any members of your Junior M. V. Society who do not attend Sabbath school? Why not? What can you do about it? Discuss with the Juniors ways in which they can help to make Sabbath school more interesting and valuable. Today we hope the Juniors may realize to a greater extent than before what they can do for the Sabbath school, and what the Sabbath school can do for them.

Talk: "The First Sabbath Schools." The story of the beginning of Sabbath schools—for children—is given in "The Soul-Winning Sabbath School," pages 12-14, under the topic, "Seventh-day Adventist Sabbath Schools." The story of *Our Little Friend* is given on page 20.

Discussion: "Missionary Activity of Juniors." When a Junior is ill and missing from the Sabbath school class, appoint a member of the class to carry flowers, or write a little note of sympathy in behalf of the class. When a Junior is absent, but not ill, a little card from one member, or each member of the class, telling him that he is missed, may bring him back. There are, perhaps, boys and girls, members of families in the church, who should be in Sabbath school, but who have never attended. Obtain their names, and visit them personally, giving them an invitation to Sabbath school, and to a certain class, if possible. Juniors may be the means of saving others if only they will work for them. Let each one try to bring some one to Sabbath school each week. Invite and bring a neighbor who is not an Adventist.

Story: All the Family at Sabbath School

"PETER! Peter! Get up if you want any breakfast before going to Sabbath school. Come along, lad, hurry—just enough time to make it!"

"Aw, mother, I'm sleepy; what's the rush?" drawled Peter. "It's now eight-fifteen. You'll have to hustle or you'll make us all late, and we must not spoil our good records. Remember, it's all the family in the Sabbath school here, Peter, and don't forget that you are one."

"All right, mother, I'll be down in five minutes—just watch me."

And Peter, usually wide-awake and very much alive, was skipping down the stairs five minutes later. Ruth and June, his sisters of eight and ten years, had preceded him; and now the family sat down to a plain but wholesome breakfast, daintily served.

Through with breakfast, and the dishes set aside, there was a word of prayer. Then all five members of the household sped for their wraps and books, and were soon on the way to the church for Sabbath school, starting in time to get settled for the song service that came fifteen minutes before the regular hour.

On the way to the church, little Ruth exclaimed: "We learned a new song in our division last week! It has the prettiest tune and words. I do hope that we sing it again today!"

And Peter chimed in with: "I like the real lively songs we Juniors sing. And we surely can sing!"

"Do you know, mother," continued Peter, "last week we had a story in our division? Mr. Smith from Africa told it. It was about the way the people up in the Central African forests are afraid of the spirits, and fear the witch doctors. It was exciting. I'd like to learn more about those folk. That's one thing I'd hate to miss in Sabbath school,—the stories from other lands about people of queer customs, and of the boys and girls over there. They make one sit up and listen. And then when a fellow studies the lesson, and remembers that those heathen don't know a thing about God, or Jesus, or heaven, or being clean,—well, you just can't help wishing you were over there to help them out."

"Who knows, maybe you can go out there some day to tell them the story. Run along now, to your division, and do your part. Have you your offering and your Bible? Good. Get just as much as you can out of the hour today," said Mrs. Blake as they reached the church. Then, to her husband, "But if he should, I wonder, would I be willing to let him go?"

"I hope so," replied Mr. Blake. "That's just the reason why all of our family go to Sabbath school: to study, to learn, to prepare, and when and where God calls, to go. There is no better training school for God's service. I wish every family could and would be one hundred per cent, both heart and body, in Sabbath school. What a tremendous influence for good it would be! By the way, we must hunt up Eddie White. I see he is absent again today. He's a bright lad, but needs some encouragement. You know his father isn't with us in this 'whole family' business. Maybe he, too, needs a little encouragement in this better way. Let's look them up this afternoon. What do you say, lady mine?"

S. A. WELLMAN.

The Sabbath School

(Tune: "Auld Lang Syne")

THERE isn't any better place
For boys and girls to go
On Sabbath morning, rain or shine,
Than Sabbath school, I know.

CHORUS:

Oh, yes, the Sabbath school's the place
For girls and boys to be
Each Sabbath morning. Yes, it's where
Each Junior ought to be.

For Jesus comes here, every week,
The angels, too, are near.
And how unhappy they would be
Were you and I not here!

We're taught of Jesus' wondrous love,
His promises so true,
And from the pages of His book,
The things we ought to do.

We learn to save and give our gold
To send the saving Word
To every nation, far and near,—
To those who've never heard.

LORNA DE GINDER.

Two Letters From Juniors

I HAVE learned to love the Sabbath school. Having Christian parents, I was taken to the cradle roll when I was just a little tot. I was somewhat bashful even after entering the kindergarten, and my mother had to stay with me for a while.

About six years ago, I started studying my lesson every day, and also being present and on time at Sabbath school every Sabbath. In a few weeks, if nothing prevents, I shall receive my sixth bookmark.

The lessons which I have learned in the Sabbath school and in the church school have given me a desire to live a Christian life, and to be a helper in the Lord's work. Recently I have had an opportunity to teach a class in the cradle roll, and I have tried to teach them the same Bible lessons that I have been taught in Sabbath school.

MINA R. HARLAN.

I LIKE to go to Sabbath school because we have interesting lessons; I enjoy studying about the men and women of the Old Testament. I like Sabbath school because there I learn about how to be saved. I also like my teacher, for he makes the lessons interesting.

I enjoy hearing the talks that are given about missions; we have good speakers. I like the stories that are told about our people in other lands, and I enjoy giving an offering each week to help our missionaries in their work, so that others may be saved.

I like Sabbath school because we have a class of boys who try always to have a perfect record in attendance and in studying the lesson every day.

JOHN E. MOORHEAD.

Every Missionary Volunteer should bring another to Sabbath school.

OUR FOREIGN MISSIONS

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

Obedi Learning to Add the "Ence" Part

OBEDIENCE to God's commandments is something new and strange taught the natives by our missionaries out in the African jungles, as Obedi found up at the Kirundu Mission, in the Belgian Congo. Missionary Lucie Noreott tells how Obedi struggled with the "ences" part he sought attached to his name:

"The two most powerful weapons that the great adversary uses here are theft and adultery. This latter sin, especially, is so implanted in the natives' hearts that it has been elevated to the rank of a simple habit.

"Our youngest houseboy, Ohedi, who cuts our firewood and carries our water, is about fourteen years old. Nevertheless he has already broken the eighth commandment. One day my husband spoke during morning worship of the sins that should be confessed to God, and then abandoned. That day Obedi came to find him and said: 'Bwana, I understand that what you said this morning is true.' Then he spoke of his mistake, and my husband was able to counsel him and pray with him.

"Obedi has not been with us very long. We had him come to work about the house in order to help him more easily to become a Christian lad.

"You should see him going out Sabbath afternoons with his old Picture Roll under his arm, without much learning, but knowing enough to tell some Bible stories to those who are willing to hear him in the other villages.

"How many other young boys are on the same road to perdition as was Obedi? Who will speak to them the word that saves?"

When the Snake Bite Proved Harmless

As when Paul was bitten by a serpent after their shipwreck, the heathen were greatly surprised and impressed for good when they did not see him suddenly fall down dead; so the heathen about Viliropu Mission, Papua, were impressed that God must be working with the people that this mission so recently established among them. Missionary Evelyn M. Mitchell relates the incident:

"Last week the little woman from Wanegale who was the first to come to live on the mission, was bitten by a snake. She put her hand in her box to take out a clean dress, and the snake was in her clothes. It bit her at once, taking a piece of skin right off her finger. They rushed her to us, and we treated her for some time and had prayer. She went to have a rest and complained of her eyes; her vision was blurred. We prayed earnestly that she might live; for she had come contrary to heathen custom, and all were watching for her to die. Had she died, the people would have been satisfied that Korela is a 'place of death,' as they call it. (It seems that there was an old fighting ground on what is now the mission site, and it was taboo [forbidden] to women.) After some hours she seemed better, and is now quite well again. We are very thankful for her recovery."

Medical Work in Bible Lands

W. K. ISING, superintendent of the Arabic Union Mission, in writing about how the medical missionary work aids in our work in the Near East, places made familiar to us in Bible story, says:

"Since coming to the field a little over four years ago, we have again opened treatment rooms at Jerusalem, the Institute for Massage and Hydro-Electro Therapy. Last spring we opened another at Cairo, Egypt, and this fall we shall start one at Haifa, Palestine, a growing city at the foot of Mt. Carmel, the terminus of the oil pipe line from Mosul. A big harbor has been built, in fact the biggest on this side of the Mediterranean, so that it is important that we get a foothold there soon, as no work has been done there for many years. Doubtless we shall move our union offices there this fall.

"The English people are among our best clients. When I was at Jerusalem last week, we were treating the high commissioner of the mandated territory, a general who was formerly in India (where, he told us, he was acquainted with our medical work at Simla), the attorney general, the high commissioner's deputy, the chief of police of the Jerusalem district, also the lord mayor of the city, member of a high-class Moslem family. These institutions are a great help to us. This work is something that people realize is for public benefit. We have had some cases at Jerusalem that were very serious, where a few treatments, with massage and electric rays, have produced wonderful results, so that the chief medical officer of the government hospital at Jerusalem, who sends us many pa-

tients, said on one occasion that it was no less than a miracle. The two nurses there are from the Skodsborg Sanitarium. At Cairo we have a couple from Germany. We have been trying to get a doctor or two from the home field, but so far have not succeeded. How we need one or two of our own trained physicians in this needy field!"

New Jets of Light in Madagascar

ONLY a short time ago the great island of Madagascar was counted as one of the unentered territories upon our mission map of the world. President A. V. Olson, of the Southern European Division, in summing up his findings on completing a recent trip to this island territory in the Indian Ocean, has this to say concerning the work in Madagascar:

"We found Brother and Sister Bureauud much worn and greatly in need of rest after twelve years of service in the mission fields—six years in North Africa and six in Madagascar. They have both toiled hard and faithfully, and God has blessed their labors. In addition to other duties, Sister Bureauud has been the treasurer of the Madagascar Mission and Brother Bureauud has had charge of the field. During these years the work has grown from one small church to a well-organized mission, with nearly 300 baptized members, five European workers, eight or ten native workers, and several colporteurs."

Air Service Made Available

AWAY up on the headwaters of the Zambesi River, in Barotseland, Central Africa, where Missionary S. M. Konigsmacher and his wife have pioneered with the message, in territory so very difficult to reach, we now have from him this word:

"What do you think? Yesterday, a plane dropped a letter asking me to send over to Kalabo to the lady that was in the plane some gluten biscuits. Well, not long after the plane was out of sight those biscuits were on the way. Not bad service for the jungles of Central Africa.

"I received an order from our mission superintendent to clear a landing field, so on Sunday we marked out the drome, and when the magistrate came over in the plane to see where we were putting it, the work was well under way. We hope to finish it next week. The men and schoolboys working there said the pilot flew low to see the work. That was quite a thrill for us to have a letter dropped from a plane buzzing over the mission. It did look beautiful as it hung in space over the vlei on the other side of the river. And another interesting part of the incident was that that letter was dropped by Mrs. Konigsmacher, taking her first ride in the skies. She wrote me she was afraid to go up, but that the magistrate had urged her, and so she ventured. She also dropped a section of the latest newspaper. As their plane flew over, we could hear the natives in the valley shouting their greetings, for this is the second time a plane has come over here. The brethren expect to come by plane to assist in our camp meeting.

"I held an effort, and six people were baptized. The water near the church was infected, so we found a pool. We heard the natives were afraid to go to the baptism for fear I would hold them under the water till they were drowned. Well, we held a short service on the bank, and when the people saw a baptism for the first time, they were pleased, and some took heart and joined the Bible class."

Literature Ministry in Ecuador

MISSIONARY J. D. REPLOGLE tells us of the success attending the heroic efforts of our book evangelists working in Ecuador:

"During the past two years it has been possible from our new Riobamba headquarters to cover the whole republic with our good Spanish religious books and papers. Towns which had been considered very dangerous to enter by the cauvassers, have been worked with remarkable success. In one instance a bishop not only permitted our boys to continue in his territory, but when examining the list of books delivered, I saw his name among those who had secured the book. The names of several other church leaders there and in adjoining territories, were also enrolled among those having obtained books.

"In one province the communists had become so active that the chief of police had given orders that no cauvasser should work without his written permit. When visited by the secretary of our colporteurs, he pushed him out of his office in a fit of anger. We were busy almost a week trying to get the needed permit, without success. Finally we felt impressed to send a telegram to the governor of the province. In less than an hour we had the needed authorization. Later we learned that this gentleman when a young man had worked in the Pacific Press as a translator, and we found him very friendly to our work.

"Recently, at one place I baptized a rancher 104 years old. A group of thirty believers has sprung up here, the result of a visit by a colporteur. Several of these people at first were very bitter. Although they have had practically no income for five years, they are in their poverty planning to build a church and schoolhouse, with the hope that in some way we will be able to furnish them a teacher."

MISSION BOARD.