

The Church Officers' Gazette

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No. 2

When the Church Shall Arise and Be Enlightened

THE earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof." Ps. 24:1. "The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine, saith the Lord of hosts." Hag. 2:8. "Every beast of the forest is Mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills. . . . If I were hungry, I would not tell thee: for the world is Mine, and the fullness thereof." Ps. 50:10, 12.

And who is saying all this? It is He who fashioned the earth and brought into existence all these precious things of worth. The wealth of the world, then, belongs to God. Men may lay claim to vast sums of gold, of silver, of the cattle upon a thousand hills, but this wealth primarily belongs to Him who styles Himself the "Lord of hosts."

Stores of Wealth Dedicated to God

It is interesting to note how God, the owner of all this wealth, has at different times laid claim to large portions of these treasures—though it be found in the possession of kings and the great men of earth—to use in the advancement of His work in the earth. David, on turning the kingdom of Israel over to Solomon, with the great purpose on his heart of building for God a magnificent temple for His dwelling place, out of the wealth gathered from among heathen nations conquered, gave as his own personal offering, "three thousand talents of gold, of the gold of Ophir, and seven thousand talents of refined silver." 1 Chron. 29:4. According to the valuation of these talents in gold and silver reckoned in the currency of today, this treasure amounted to no less than the sum of \$113,152,000. And besides this, the princes of Israel brought other large offerings, to which Solomon later added great stores of

treasure for the building of the temple.

Cyrus and Darius, kings of Media and Persia, gave large sums into the custody of Ezra and Nehemiah, for the rebuilding of the temple at Jerusalem after the seventy years of Israel's captivity. The Lord put it into the hearts of these rulers, at the solicitation of these servants of God, thus to help with this great wealth, needed at this time to rebuild Jerusalem with its walls, and the temple destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar.

God put it into the hearts of the three wise men of the East to bring no small treasure with them as they came to worship the newborn Babe in Bethlehem, which treasure, we are told, provided for the expenses of Joseph and Mary in Egypt.

A Great Task Given the Remnant Church

Great is the task given the remnant church of Christ in proclaiming the gospel message of His second coming to all the world. Is it any wonder, then, that God may call, in such a time as this, for some of His treasure found in the custody of unbelievers, for the accomplishment of this mighty task?

Back in the early part of 1895, some one wrote the messenger of the Lord respecting the advisability of seeking financial assistance for the cause of God from unbelievers. Here is a portion of the reply:

"Who is it that owns our world? Who are the real owners of houses and lands? Is it not God? . . . The Lord would move upon worldly men, even idolaters, to give of their abundance for the support of the work, if we would approach them wisely, and give them an opportunity of doing those things which it is their privilege to

do. What they would give we should be privileged to receive. . . . If proper persons would set before those who have means and influence, the needs of the work of God in a proper light, these men might do much to advance the cause of God in our world."—*"Testimonies to Ministers,"* p. 197.

When Nehemiah Revealed His Burden to the King

When Nehemiah's burden to rebuild the broken-down walls of Jerusalem was so great that he could scarcely eat or sleep, and appeared to King Artaxerxes to be really ill, in answer to the king's question, "For what dost thou make request?" he whispered a prayer to God for wisdom, and among other things said:

"If it please the king, let letters be given me to the governors beyond the river, that they may convey me over till I come into Judah; and a letter unto Asaph the keeper of the king's forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the palace which appertained to the house, and for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall enter into."

Here was a definite request for materials needed to accomplish a definite purpose, for which this humble yet beloved cupbearer of the king, with the queen listening in, asked, and which he obtained, to help in God's cause in a time of crisis.

"Nehemiah did not depend upon uncertainty. The means that he lacked he solicited from those who were able to bestow. And the Lord is still willing to move upon the hearts of those in possession of His goods, in behalf of the cause of truth. Those who labor for Him are to avail themselves of the help that He prompts men to give. These gifts may open ways by which the light of truth shall go to many benighted lands. The donors may have no faith in Christ, no acquaintance with His word; but their gifts are not on this account to

be refused."—"Prophets and Kings," p. 634.

The Lord's Reserved Resources

Isaiah 60 sets forth the remnant church arising, and letting the light of God's truth shine forth at the time of the end amid the gross darkness everywhere prevailing upon the earth. The word says of this time, "The Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising." And this is not all. In their coming they bring of their "wealth" (margin), they bring "gold and incense;" and some of them, at least, this word says, "shall show forth the praises of the Lord." Verses 5, 6.

This may be partially fulfilled in the yearly Harvest Ingathering offerings gathered in. Much of this, however, comes from people of limited means, giving as they are able in varying amounts, some larger, some very small. This is all very good. Yet from the scriptures quoted, and from the messages sent us, it would appear that there are larger stores—greater resources in the hands of "worldly men" with "their abundance"—which God has in reserve, awaiting the approach of the "proper persons" qualified and carefully chosen for setting before these men of vast wealth "the needs of the work of God in a proper light." By such solicitation many would be led "to do much to advance the cause of God in our world."

Nehemiah so presented to King Artaxerxes and the queen, the situation at Jerusalem, the place of his father's sepulchers long in ruins, that the keen interest of the king and queen was aroused, and as a result they dedicated large stores of wealth, in gold and silver and materials, for rebuilding the walls and completing the house of God at Jerusalem.

"Just as long as we are in this world, and the Spirit of God is striving with the world, we are to receive as well as to impart favors. . . . The Lord still moves upon the hearts of kings and rulers in behalf of His people. . . . I have repeatedly been shown that we might receive far more favors than we do in many ways if we would approach men in wisdom, acquaint them with our work, and give them an opportunity of doing those things which it is our privilege to induce them to do for the advancement of the work of God."—"Testimonies to Ministers," pp. 202, 203.

T. E. R.

Ornate Weddings

RECENTLY I have been receiving letters protesting against a growing tendency, in some of our city churches, to make weddings the occasion of elaborate, expensive display. It is stated that in some places each wedding seeks to outshine the previous one, and that families have actually impoverished themselves by this emulation.

We recognize that weddings should be joyous occasions, and there is no thought on my part to suggest that they should be otherwise; but joyousness and happiness are not dependent on elaborate expenditure and display. Among the people who are conscious of impending world doom, and are waiting for the coming of the Lord, such ostentation is out of order,

Special Appointments for February

Christian Home Day,
February 5

Signs of the Times Campaign, February 5-19

Second Sabbath Missions
Offering, February 12

and constitutes a denial of our faith. Such things are at variance with the spirit of this message, and church officers would be well within their sphere of responsibility as leaders in giving counsel to members who plan ornate weddings.

Our churches should not be used for such purposes. It is a misuse of the house of God, and should be frowned upon by those who have the honor of God at heart. It is right and proper that marriages should be solemnized in the church, but they should be of such character as to harmonize with the sacredness of the house of prayer and the spirit of worship. Those who love the praise of men and are determined to have display and lavish expenditure, should engage a hall for the performance, and not bring discredit on the house of God by such irreverent proceedings. In these serious times, every cent we can possibly spare should be used for soul-saving at home and in the mission field. Money spent in exhibitions of

pride on any occasion will surely bring down on the guilty ones the displeasure of God. Let there be a decided reformation in this matter.

M. N. CAMPBELL.

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A New Missionary Method

NOT far south of us there is a mission field in which most of our members are too poor to own the books containing the writings of Mrs. E. G. White. They love to read, but they have very little to read.

Please put yourself in their place and realize how happy you would be to receive even a few pages copied from one of the precious books perhaps now resting on your shelf. If you are a typist, please think how many pages you might copy in the occasional idle hours that come to you. Also think of the benefit you will receive by learning something new, or by being reminded of some neglected precept too long forgotten.

Within the past year several thousand pages of such copied matter has been sent to different mission fields, with excellent results both to the recipients and to the copyists.

If you would know more about the work, please address me at 1452 E. California Ave., Glendale, Calif.

Mrs. D. A. Fitch.

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The Home Missionary Department

CHRISTIAN HOME DAY—FEBRUARY 5



OF SUPREME IMPORTANCE

BY ARTHUR W. SPALDING

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. She has not, like the artist, to paint a form of beauty upon canvas, nor, like the sculptor, to chisel it from marble. She has 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 hers, with the help of God, to develop in a human soul the likeness of the divine,"—*"Ministry of Healing,"* pp. 377, 378.

"No other work can equal hers in importance." What? Has not the writer or the colporteur a more important work? No! Have not the physician and the nurse more important work? No! But the teacher, surely the teacher has a more im-

portant work. Not so! But the minister, the evangelist, the pastor, the foreign missionary—theirs must be a more important work. No! Important as the work of every one of these is,—and let us by no means count them unimportant,—the most important work of all is that of the mother and the father in the home.

Why is this? Because the home is the foundation school. In the home is given the determining mold to character. The school can but take the product the home has made, and do what it can with it. The church is dependent upon the home first of all for the kind of members it will have. The very teachers and ministers of life to the church, from Sabbath school to sanitarium, from classroom to pulpit, had the character of their work largely determined when they were children, by the education their parents gave them. "What the parents

are, that, to a great extent, the children will be."—*"Ministry of Healing,"* p. 371.

This is not setting parents on a pedestal; it is loading them with tremendous responsibility. Parents are all too prone to trust to other agencies for the salvation and training of their children. They say, "The Sabbath school and the Young People's Society and the church school will do it." They say, "Our good pastor and our fine-spirited Junior leader and our very competent school teacher will lead the way to heaven."

Well, isn't it good that we have these fine Christian men and women and these excellent organizations for the education and inspiration of our children and youth? It is good. We could not do without them. God bless them every one, and let us be grateful to them and hold up their hands in their labors of love. But they can

do little without parents. The most important work in the world is the work of parents. If it is well done, the world is blessed and heaven is glad. But to the degree that it is neglected or poorly done, the most terrible waste of life ensues, the greatest evil and the most terrible unhappiness.

Now, a work cannot be well done without a preparation for the doing of it. The most terrible mistake in life is that of parents who think that the ability to train children just naturally comes by intuition when people become parents. That is no more true than that a boy and a girl intuitively become engineers when they face the necessity of crossing a great river! If the pastor needs training, if the teacher needs training, if the physician needs training, if the business manager needs training, much more does the parent need training. Failure to have that training and the accompanying power, is responsible for most of the failure, and the crime, and the sorrow in the world.

"Well, now," some one says, "you want to sell us a book." I wish it were as simple as that. I believe I could sell all the books in the world if that were a complete answer to this problem of building Christian homes. No, my friends; we are writing books, you and I, the books of our lives. What we put into them is in part dependent upon what we gather as we go through life, what we mold out of our knowledge, what we diligently apply to the education of our children, and along with our children, ourselves.

There are books that help us; and we have some of the best books in the world to help parents. But more than books, more than reading them, more than all this study, valuable as it may be, is the setting of an unconquerable will to get the vision of God and to follow it. Without that vision, without that will, without that discipline and that application of our powers to the mighty work God has given us in the saving and training of our children, nothing that the church may offer for the help of parents—be it books, or lectures, or societies, or conventions—can accomplish what must be accomplished through the parents of this church before the Lord can come.

"Never will education accomplish all that it might and should accomplish until the importance of the parents' work is fully recognized, and they receive a training for its sacred responsibilities."—*"Education,"* p. 276. May the parents of this church get the vision and set themselves to the work!



They Will Do as They Are Taught

SPEAKING of the prophet Elisha, the Spirit of prophecy has told us: "The early years of the prophet Elisha were passed in the quietude of country life, under the teaching of God and nature and the discipline of useful work. In a time of almost universal apostasy, his father's household were among the number who had not bowed the knee to Baal. Theirs was a home where God was honored, and where faithfulness to duty was the rule of daily life. The son of a wealthy farmer, Elisha had taken up the work that lay nearest. While possessing the capabilities of a leader among men, he received a training in life's common duties. In order to direct wisely, he must learn to obey. By faithfulness in little things, he was prepared for weightier trusts."—*"Education,"* p. 58.

To every parent who prays that his child may be among the number of children who are to have the great joy and privilege of helping to finish publishing the "good news" before Jesus comes, the foregoing passage comes as a challenge and also as a blessed promise. Preparation for car-

rying hurdens in God's cause is based upon learning to bear responsibilities at home in simple, homely tasks. "While cooperating with his father in the home duties, he was learning to cooperate with God."

We often long to see the pioneer devotion to God's work in our children's lives, but we cannot expect this without their having a pioneer experience in useful labor, performed diligently with a conscientious desire to be faithful in that which has been assigned. Such a definite purpose running through our effort for our children from their earliest years is in itself a character-building agency. Unless we carry on such a program with them, I do not see how we can expect God to work a miracle in their salvation in a moment at the last hour. I would not limit the saving grace of our heavenly Father, but with all that has been taught us, I verily believe He means us to bring up our children in the way of right doing in order that they may be ready to heed His voice when He calls them to give their life purposes to Him.

We need above all things a mature, sober-minded, joyoushearted parenthood—sober, because conscious of the tremendous responsibility of having given into its care a human soul to train for God, and joyous, because it possesses the living witness that His grace is sufficient for success, under the guidance of His Spirit.

We are living in evil times. The forces of evil are combining against the powers of good to snatch away our children. But we still have the prom-

Note to Church Officers

THE first Sabbath in February is designated in our church calendar as Christian Home Day. Its purpose is to call the attention of the church to the importance of building Christian homes, through the education of parents and the right training of children for God and His cause.

To help accomplish this purpose a number of articles have been written, and are presented in these columns. We think it unnecessary to bind about the program by giving a formal schedule. That may be arranged as the leaders will. What is important is to impress upon the minds of church members, and especially of parents, that, as Sister White says, "the success of the church depends upon home

influences," and that parents must "receive a training for their sacred responsibilities."

The leader is free to use any or all of the material here supplied. We hope and pray that the Spirit of God may make deep impressions upon the minds of parents and officers alike, as to the vital importance of parent education and Christian homemaking. Do not fail to give the information and impress it, that the Home Commission has ready a course for parents, and in the Christian Home Series of books ready material for study. And may God bless our homes, to the saving of the children and of others.

A. W. SPALDING, *Secretary,*
Home Commission of the Gen. Conf.

ises that were fulfilled in the life and work of the worthies who grew up in times of degeneracy, and yet were mighty for God. Behold Joseph, who "bore alike the test of adversity and of prosperity." "In the crisis of his life . . . he remembered the lessons of his childhood, and his soul thrilled with the resolve to prove himself true. . . . He had learned the lesson of obedience to duty."—*Id.*, pp. 52, 53.

"Daniel and his companions had been faithfully instructed in the principles of the word of God. They had learned to sacrifice the earthly to the spiritual. . . . Unwavering in allegiance to God, unyielding in the mastery of himself, Daniel's noble dignity and courteous deference won for him in his youth the 'favor and tender love' of the heathen officer in whose charge he was. . . . Even his enemies were forced to the confession that 'they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful.'"—*Id.*, pp. 55, 56.

Of Moses it is written, "In the care of the sheep and the tender lambs he must obtain the experience that would make him a faithful, long-suffering shepherd to Israel."—*Id.*, p. 62.

Of Paul it was said, "The greatest of human teachers, Paul accepted the lowliest as well as the highest duties."—*Id.*, p. 66.

The greatness of each of these leaders is best shown in his having developed the habit of accepting the simple duties of every day and having been trained by them for greater responsibilities.

I tremble when I see the children, upon whom will come the rigors of privation and hardship in the last days, indulged and humored in every wish of a childish, whimsical heart. When shall they develop the steadfastness and courage necessary to endure hardness, if not in their early years in a home characterized by simplicity, frugality, and industry?

Strict discipline of children is a positive duty. Every time I watch a mother in the animal world teaching her young the laws that govern the maintenance of life,—acquisition of food and self-preservation, I realize anew the duty of human parents. Unless we pass on to the young, at an early stage, the royal laws that govern our physical and moral life, so that the impression can become fixed

in their lives, this knowledge will never come to them, or at best, will reach them only as it is driven home by a realization of their own failures. "The lessons of childhood, good or bad, are not learned in vain. Character is developed in youth for good or evil. At the home there may be praise and false flattery; in the world each stands on his own merits. . . . The majority of these ill-disciplined ones go through life at cross-purposes with the world, making a failure where they should have succeeded."—"Testimonies," Vol. IV, pp. 201, 202.

Neglect of the heart education of children is a terrible thing. Not only will the children be lost to all eternity, but God will hold us parents accountable for the neglect of our sacred responsibility. We are to teach them less by words at first, and more by maintaining for them in the tiny world where they live, an atmosphere of orderly sequence and devotion to duty. Even tiny children breathe in such an atmosphere and are nourished thereby to grow up to live out its principles. We often indulge in false love,—in a desire to please children by granting every whim and wish; but children allowed habitually to have their own way are not happy. The undisciplined heart has not within itself the elements of rest and quietness. The mind and heart must be disciplined to bring them under proper restraint in order that the character may grow in harmony with the righteous laws that govern our being.

The true love of parents for children is the love that desires their eternal good, seeks to prepare them for the changing experiences of life and for the tribunal of God before which every human soul must answer for his own deeds. In that day, how shall we answer our children's reproaches and recriminations if we have allowed them to grow up slaves of self-indulgence and weak vacilla-

tion? Who shall bear that responsibility? How shall we defend ourselves then?

We tremble now over the fearful conditions our youth must meet as they grow up into life, but we are given a defense for them: "If children and youth were trained and educated to habits of self-denial and self-control, . . . there would be less disease and less moral corruption. . . . They would then have moral worth and moral integrity to resist, in the strength of Jesus, the pollutions of these days."—*Id.*, Vol. III, p. 567.

The seriousness with which God looks upon insubordination is taught us in the startling language of the instruction given to the children of Israel:

"If a man have a stubborn and rebellious son, which will not obey the voice of his father, or the voice of his mother, and that, when they have chastened him, will not hearken unto them: then shall his father and his mother lay hold on him, and bring him out unto the elders of his city, . . . and they shall say unto the elders of his city, This our son is stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton, and a drunkard. And all the men of his city shall stone him with stones, that he die: so shalt thou put evil away from among you; and all Israel shall hear, and fear." Deut. 21:18-21.

This is a picture of terrible severity, but it reveals the abhorrence of God for rebellion. And, indeed, rebellion against legitimate authority has been the root of evil from the beginning.

But we need not dwell upon this side of the picture. There is another side. There is a blessed thought in these words for us: "The great stimulus to the toiling, burdened mother should be that every child who is trained aright, and who has the inward adorning, . . . will have a fitness for heaven, and will shine in the courts of the Lord."—*Id.*, p. 566. What a precious assurance! So, all through the Lord's instruction to His people, there is a blessing and a curse upon every page. The curse is ours only as we fail in our obedience to God's law; the blessing is ours in rich abundance as we follow on to do His will as fast as He reveals it to us.

Another comforting assurance is as follows: "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."—*Ministry of Healing*, p. 377.

The Christian home is one of God's agencies for the proclamation of truth: "The greatest evidence of the power of Christianity that can be presented to the world is a well-ordered, well-disciplined family. This will recommend the truth as nothing else can; for it is a living witness of its practical power upon the heart."—*Testimonies*, Vol. IV, p. 304.

The richness of the eternal reward is set forth in these words: "Happy are the parents whose lives are a true reflection of the divine, so that the promises and commands of God awaken in the child gratitude and reverence; the parents whose tenderness and justice and long-suffering interpret to the child the love and justice and long-suffering of God; and who, by teaching the child to love and trust and obey them, are teaching him to love and trust and obey his Father in heaven. Parents who impart to a child such a gift have endowed him with a treasure more precious than the wealth of all the ages, a treasure as enduring as eternity."—*Ministry of Healing*, pp. 375, 376.

God give us this vision and the steadfast purpose to experience it in our own homes, and finally the unspeakable joy of an abundant entrance into His eternal home, there to be members of the family of God "of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named."

AGNES LEWIS CAVINESS.

Some Commandments for Mothers

(A LITTLE while ago a sister and her husband were leaving for the mission field. Her friends in the Mothers' Society said, "Give us a message that we will remember after you are gone." The following "commandments" are the message she left with them. They are good for our consideration, also.)

Thou shalt not scold thy child, but rather shalt thou seek to help him find a way to solve his problems of right and wrong as thou wouldst desire to be helped if thou wert very young and inexperienced.

Thou shalt not punish thy child

until thou art sure that it is not thy weak way of taking revenge for the humiliation which he hath caused thee by his wrong act.

Thou shalt not neglect the spiritual education of thy child, but faithfully see to it that he be continually supplied with a normal amount of well-chosen spiritual food and exercise, as well as physical and mental.

Thou shalt not dress thy child in a way that is more pleasing to thine own pride than to thy child's comfort.

Thou shalt value, prefer, and enjoy the company of thine own family above that of others, but thou shalt show graciousness to those who come to thy home, manifesting hospitality to thy child's friends as well as to thine own.

Thou shalt not speak or infer ill of thy husband in the presence of thy child. Thou shalt not speak or infer ill of thy minister or of thy neighbor, or of any one whom thou dost desire thy child to respect.

Thou shalt not allow thyself to become careless or untidy in thine apparel so that thy child could reasonably be ashamed of thee.

Thou shalt remember that thy home should be made the most attractive place on earth to thy child.

If thy God doth see fit to entrust more than one of His little ones to thee to rear, thou shalt not manifest partiality or show favor to one above another.

Thou shalt guard thy lips that thy child may never hear thee speak one word which is in any way insincere or untrue.

Thou shalt not allow thyself to become cold or austere to thy loved ones, but in spite of the faults and imperfections which must necessarily be more apparent to thee than to others, thou shalt show loving affection and patience at all times, even as thy God hath been loving and patient with thee and thy faults.

Thou shalt not neglect to provide some proper recreation or pleasant work for thy child when thou dost of necessity remove something improper or harmful.

Thou shalt strive at all times to make thy child to know that to be a true Christian and a worth-while citizen of his community with a clean reputation is more valuable than to be rich as some men count riches.

Thou shalt not allow thyself to fret or to be discontented with the things which the Lord thy God doth supply thee.

Thou shalt at all times strive to rejoice and show courage and a spirit of hope, and sincerely endeavor to teach thy child to do the same.

—*Australasian Record*.

Talents, Termites, and Tragedies

"FOR the kingdom of heaven is as a man traveling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey." Matt. 25:14, 15.

God entrusts His talents that men might do His work. "The Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch." Mark 13:34.

The talents and work both pertain to "the kingdom of heaven." It is Heaven's work, and Heaven-entrusted talents for the doing of this work. Talents were entrusted "to every man" "and to every man his work," says Mark.

Of all the kinds and types of work that God has entrusted to His servants, which is most important? A discussion of this question here might lead to a difference of opinion; so we will let God be the judge of His own work.

"Character building," God has told us, "is the most important work ever entrusted to human beings."—*Education*, p. 225. "In the formation of character, no other influences count so much as the influence of the home."—*Id.*, p. 283. "The lessons that the child learns during the first seven years of its life have more to do with the formation of character than all that it learns in future years."—*E. G. White*, "Signs," April 8, 1903.

"There is no more important field of effort than that committed to the founders and guardians of the home. No work entrusted to human beings involves greater or more far-reaching results than does the work of fathers and mothers."—*Ministry of Healing*, p. 351.

The home still remains the basic unit of society, the bulwark of Christianity, the hope of a decadent civilization. Parents are still the primary educators of the race. Parent education is still the keystone of God's plan. "The well-being of society, the success of the church, the prosperity of the nation, depend upon home influences."—*Id.*, p. 349.

What tremendous responsibilities are entrusted to the makers of the home. What eternal possibilities are committed to the guardians and builders of men! What a mighty challenge to faithful stewardship!

A Workman Not Ashamed

Thus far we have considered work, important work, yes, "the most important work ever entrusted to human beings." But the faithful and efficient performance of any work requires preparation. "The most important work" demands the most thorough preparation. God's workman will receive God's pay if he studies to show himself approved of God.

"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."—"Education," p. 276.

"This work of education the Infinite One has counted so important that messengers from His throne have been sent to a mother that was to be, to answer the question, 'How shall we order the child, and how shall we do unto him?' and to instruct a father concerning the education of a promised son."—*Ibid.*

Manoah and his wife recognized their need of instruction and training for parenthood. The need for such instruction and training is infinitely greater now than in Manoah's day. None would think of employing untrained persons for the professional or vocational arts and crafts; yet their importance does not compare with the business of being a father or a mother. The divine injunction to "train up a child in the way he should go" is a charge to parents. But to do this successfully requires training. Whether we will recognize it or not, this is one of the most fundamental and important problems that confronts this denomination.

The pages of time are marred with the tragedies of parental neglect and

indifference. Goodness alone is no guaranty of success. Aaron, Eli, and Samuel were good men. They served God and His people in a large way, but the records of their lives are marred by their failures as fathers.

The business of being a father is the greatest responsibility that can be entrusted to any man. The privileges and responsibilities of motherhood are the greatest entrusted to human beings.

The educational responsibilities of parents are many and varied. They enter into the four realms of human nature and must be translated into the character through knowing, doing, and being. Of the four primary agencies that touch and influence child life, the home is the most important.

In the developing of the character elements of personality, attitudes, life ideals, the principle of work, religious convictions, social instincts, moral standards, and service responsibility, the home is the basic, and by far the most potent, agent. Of all the teachers or contributors to the sum of the child's knowledge, accomplishments, and state of being, the parents are first. Upon parents rests this unparalleled responsibility, more important than that of any other person or agency in the life and education of the child.

Study and Success

We need to understand the child, his nature and needs. This requires the highest type of study. We must know and understand the laws, pro-

The Lads and Lassies Grow Up

(A Lament That Came Too Late)
HAvE you seen, anywhere, a tall little lad
And a winsome wee lass of four?
It was only today, barefooted and brown,
That they played by my kitchen door.
It was only today, (or maybe a year;
It could not be twenty, I know!)
They were shouting for me to help in
their game,
But I was too busy to go,
Too busy with sweeping and dusting to
play.
And now they have silently wandered
away.

If by chance you hear of a little slim lad
And a small winsome lass of four,
I pray you to tell me! To find them
again
I would journey the wide world o'er.
Somewhere, I am sure, they'll be playing
a game,
And should they be calling for me
To come out and help, nh, tell them, I
beg,
I'm coming as fast as can be!
For there's never a house might hold me
today
Could I hear them call me to share in
their play.

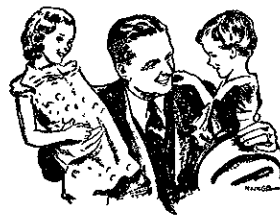
—Minnie Case Hopkins.

esses, methods, and environments of successful child development and character training. This requires training. We need to understand the agencies that influence the child, and accept the God-given responsibility of their coordination and direction. This, too, demands study. We need to know the operations of the laws of life, of heredity, of love, of kindness. We must keep abreast with the progress of our children's development and education if they are to be successful. This, too, challenges to study.

Thus we observe that we, as parents, must study because the "well-being of society" demands it. The "success of the church" is dependent upon it, and the "prosperity of the nation" requires it.

"He who discerns the opportunities and privileges of his work will allow nothing to stand in the way of earnest endeavor for self-improvement. He will spare no pains to reach the highest standard of excellence."—"Education," p. 281.

A. C. NELSON.



Patterning After Father and Mother

"BRETHREN, be followers together of me." Phil. 3:17.

Paul must have stopped and thought long and earnestly before he wrote that verse. It means something, deliberately to say, You follow me.

In 1 Corinthians 11:1 Paul again speaks of this matter, but modifies it somewhat, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ." We can safely desire that of our children or of any one else. However, we are such erring mortals that we cannot do any boasting, or anything that any one can interpret as boasting. The important point is to live so that any one, and especially our own children, may safely follow us. We must be "what we wish them to become." Are we? Let us ask ourselves that question. Let us think very seriously of it. Are we what we want them to be? And if not, why not? And when are we going to be?

"Climbing the mountain, wild and high,
Bold was the glance of his eagle eye,
Proud was the spirit that knew no fear,
Reckless the tread of the mountaineer;
Up and through the fields of snow,
Down and down, o'er the pathway steep,
On o'er the chasms, wild and deep.

"Hark, o'er the mountain, hleak and wild,
Echoes the voice of a little child:
'Papa, look out! I'm coming, too,
Stepping in your steps, just like you.
Papa, oh papa! Just see me!
Walking like papa—don't you see?'"

"Be ye followers of me." Can you say it? Father, mother, those children are the dearest possessions on earth to you. For their sakes and for the sake of the Jesus who died and lives, cannot it be true of you?

"There is no higher trust than that committed to fathers and mothers in the care and training of their children. Parents have to do with the very foundations of habit and character. By their example and teaching, the future of their children is largely decided.

"Happy are the parents whose lives are a true reflection of the divine, so that the promises and commands of God awaken in the child gratitude and reverence, the parents whose tenderness and justice and long-suffering interpret to the child the love and justice and long-suffering of God; and who by teaching the child to love and trust and obey them, are teaching him to love and trust and obey his Father in heaven. Parents who impart to the child such a gift have endowed him with a treasure more precious than the wealth of all the ages,—a treasure as enduring as eternity."—*Prophets and Kings*, p. 245.

Parents love to bestow upon their children a treasure. This is the greatest of all gifts. It relates not to earthly life only, but to the life to come. To love, trust, and obey the Father in heaven! What stronger indication of peace and joy on earth and joy in heaven!

We parents are quite likely to lay the blame for the faults of our children at the door of some one outside the home. But of one it was said by inspiration: "You have stood directly in the way of the salvation of your children. You lay their indifference to religious things to other causes than the true. Your example is a stumbling block to them. They know by your fruits, by your words and works, that you do not believe in the near coming of Christ."—*Testimonies*, Vol. III, p. 249.

To another, it was said:

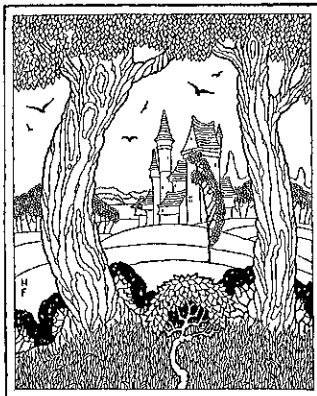
"Your children have had transmitted to them your traits of character; and besides this, they are daily copying your example of blind, unreasonable passion, impatience, and fretfulness."—*Testimonies*, Vol. IV, pp. 495, 496.

To a husband and wife who considered themselves Christians:

"When Jesus shall open before you the book of records, where day by day, your words and actions have been faithfully registered, you will see that with both of you life has been a terrible failure. . . . Without a thorough conversion you can never receive the crown of everlasting life; and your children will never have part with the blood-washed throng unless they first unlearn the lessons you have taught them, which have become a part of their life and character. Your example has led them to think that religion is like a garment, that may be worn or laid off as occasion requires or convenience dictates."—*Testimonies*, Vol. V, pp. 432, 433.

The minister's character, motives, and actions, and the conduct of fellow members of the church, are freely discussed. Severe judgment is pronounced, gossip or slander repeated, and this in the hearing of the unconverted. Often these things are spoken by parents in the hearing of their own children. Thus are destroyed respect for God's messengers and reverence for their message. And many are taught to regard lightly God's word itself. Thus in the homes of professed Christians, many youth are educated to be infidels, and the parents question why their children are so little interested in the gospel."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, pp. 45, 46.

Our children pattern after us



whether the pattern be good or evil. We all want that which is cut after us to be good. Then the pattern must be right, and the cutting must be carefully done. The work must be begun as soon as the children are born, and it becomes a steady, unfinished job from that time on.

We must keep close to them, being confidential with them, never repelling them, not seeking our own ease, commending them for well-doing as well as reproving them for wrongdoing, rejoicing with them, suffering with them, working with them, playing with them, loving them, but not with a sentimental love.

They know more about our duties than we sometimes guess. They know it is our duty to get obedience from them, and if we do not do so, their respect for us is lessened, and they are less likely to be obedient in the future. Surround them with an atmosphere of love, cheerfulness, and courtesy. Make them happy.

The children know that we should guide them. This was evidenced by one very small boy. He went out to walk with his sister who was almost a mother to him, being a woman herself. As small boys do, he was staring about, not looking at his pathway and suddenly stubbed his toe and fell. He looked up reproachfully and said through his tears, "Bernice, why don't you watch where I'm going?" Ah, friends, let us watch where they are going. Let us guide them away from the pitfalls. They will pattern after us, and the better they love us, the more they will copy us. Again let us ask, Are our lives patterns such as may be followed with safety?

FLORA H. WILLIAMS.

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A Home Where Love Rules

UP near the foothills of the White Mountains, on a small farm far enough away from the thoroughfare to escape the dust of the main highway and towns, lives a Seventh-day Adventist family. It has been my privilege to visit this family, consisting of father, mother, and four children, from time to time during the last ten years, and from what I have observed, I can say that theirs is a home where love rules.

Sometimes I have stayed in their home overnight. All rose early in the morning, and when breakfast was

ready, we gathered around the table to study the Sabbath school lesson and have worship before we partook of a well-prepared meal. I remember one morning when the children were washing dishes in the kitchen. The younger girl put hot water in a milk bottle, and it cracked and fell to the floor. The mother came in and in a pleasant way asked what had happened. The father answered in the same pleasant way, "Nothing worth mentioning." One evening the boy started to light the gasoline lamp, and the gasoline flamed over the top, threatening an explosion. But the father, without manifesting any excitement said, "Son, you better take the lamp outside for a little while," which the boy immediately did.

These incidents may not seem so wonderful, but being imperfect myself in guarding my words under such circumstances, and having been reared in a home where excitement was often exhibited and hasty words were often spoken, I was impressed by the atmosphere of a home where love, kindness, and obedience is found. It is the words and acts of kindness or unkindness between the members of the

family that make a home a desirable or an undesirable place to live in. These parents have given their children a Christian education. In order to do so, they moved down into the valley about a hundred miles from their home, and remained there during the school months each year. It has meant hard work for all in this family to make ends meet in both homes, and sometimes, through crop failure, they did not know where the next meal was to come from. But they have put their trust in our heavenly Father, and He has always opened the way for them. Now all the children have left home, working their way through the academy. And their father and mother are left all alone on the farm, working hard to support themselves and give their beloved children a lift.

I am glad that earnest families like this one are to be found here and there all over the earth. May God bless them in their struggle to give their children a Christian education. And someday it will be the happy privilege of such families, as a united group, to spend eternity together.

K. A. HERMANSON.

Church Missionary Services

February 5—Going Forward With the Signs of the Times

WHILE every year in these times of rapidly fulfilling prophecy opens the way wonderfully for the message of the *Signs of the Times*, 1937 seems to have been more favorable than others. We should all take great courage as we enter into another effort to renew our clubs of *Signs* and continue the paper to our relatives, friends, and others we have hope of interesting.

The *Signs* has faithfully pursued its weekly program of teaching the truth in a clear, strong way. Our churches last year used it more extensively than during the year before. During weeks when the circulation has stood above 70,000 copies, something over 31,000 copies have been going into homes direct from the publishers by single subscription, with the rest going in clubs for personal distribution by church members. Two large presses at the Pacific Press have been kept going almost full time in providing the *Signs* that our churches call for.

It is interesting to know that others besides Seventh-day Adventists are using the *Signs of the Times*. Listen

to this letter from a woman in Michigan:

"I am so thankful to have such a paper at hand these days. It is astounding to find so many Christian people who seem to be uninterested in the hope of Christ's return. Some even have told me we are not intended to understand prophecy. Your editorial and illustrations in the August 17 issue of the *Signs* were most timely here; I have never seen the junk dealers so numerous and so busy (gathering scrap iron for war materials). With best wishes and prayers for success in your efforts to warn our land, I am

"Sincerely yours,
"Miss M. McC—."

"(A Methodist who believes your message and is distributing it even to Presbyterians.)"

The Lord's Spirit is impressing those who receive these messengers of truth far more than we may realize. Recently a woman in New York State asked for two copies of the *Signs* published in 1927. Certain articles appealed to her soul, and she wrote that she had been brought up a Catholic, but her lost condition had been revealed to her, and she had accepted

Christ as her Saviour, and is searching for more light. Another reader, now in the church, ordered the *Signs* for a prominent minister, and sent money to help send papers to one of our evangelists. She closes her letter with this sentence:

"I am new in the Adventist faith and find it perfectly true, and only regret the long years of my life without it that have made it hard for me to grasp perfectly."

Truly the harvest is ripe. As another annual opportunity comes to us to teach the truth through the *Signs of the Times*, let us individually plan to have the largest part possible in the local church club, and in providing the *Signs* to our loved ones, neighbors, and friends.

J. R. FERREN.

February 12—The Signs a Pioneer in Soul-Winning Literature

"You are doing a great work for God and humanity," writes a leading educator to the editor of the *Signs of the Times*. This man is not a Seventh-day Adventist, but is contributing, and circulating copies of the *Signs of the Times*. If, in this annual time for renewing the *Signs* club in the church, you should be tempted to drop your copies, or do less than you did last year, or for any reason not take a part in the work with the *Signs* this year, strongly say as did Nehemiah, "I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down; why should the work cease?" Last year a sister in one of our churches in the North Pacific Union actually saw seven persons of families to whom she had been sending the *Signs* for two years baptized at the close of a series of meetings. The preacher had done his part, but those *Signs* week by week had prepared the way. Our sister had questioned renewing her ten copies once or twice, but she was impelled to keep them going. After this she increased her number of subscriptions.

The *Signs of the Times* works wherever you send it. Three Adventist young people had no other chance for schooling except to go to the high school in their town in northern California. The teachers noticed that they were different from other young people. When questioned by their principal and three teachers about their belief, they brought some *Signs of the Times* and gave them to the inquirers. Those teachers became so interested that they looked forward to the paper every week. One of them passed it on to his minister, who is using material from the *Signs* in some of his Sunday-morning services. You cannot more effectively teach or preach than to bring the *Signs* to your assistance, and keep it going systematically.

The field for *Signs* ministry is limitless, and oh, how fruitful. You may not be able to give a Bible study. Your *Signs* will provide it. You per-

haps cannot preach. The best preachers and writers of our whole denomination are every week giving of their best sermons through the *Signs of the Times*. They are yours to use, and for only a few cents a week you can reach many people with them.

You are doing a great work in putting out the *Signs of the Times*. Will you not make it larger during 1938 than ever before?

J. R. FERREN.

February 19—Soul-Winning⁶ Experiences

THIS brief period of the weekly missionary services is devoted to the recital of personal experiences by the ambassadors of the heavenly King. What a thrilling time it will be if all who have been true to their ambassadorship will respond. We are in the midst of the enemy's country, and are constantly on duty. The avenues of contact with judgment-bound souls are numerous, and every Christian is under the solemn responsibility to beseech all to be reconciled to Christ. What opportunities have come your way since our last experience meeting? How have you related yourself to these opportunities? What has been the reaction in your own life and in the lives of others? As you look back over the days and weeks, are you conscious of failure in doing all that might have been done as a witness for Christ? If so, acknowledge it and resolve to be more diligent and faithful. Even such an experience may be used by the Spirit of God to influence some other church member to prayerful watching and faithful endeavor.

D. L. Moody at one time made a somewhat startling comparison between the adherents of false religions and of the Christian religion, and this is what he said: "I do not believe there is any false religion in the world of which men are not proud. The only religion of which I have ever heard, that men were ashamed of, is the religion of Jesus Christ. Some time ago I preached for two weeks in Salt Lake City, and I did not find a Mormon who was not proud of his religion. When I came within forty miles of Salt Lake City, the engineer came into the car and wanted to know if I would not like to ride on the engine. I went with him, and in that forty-mile ride he talked Mormonism to me the whole time, and tried to convert me so that I would not preach against the Mormons. I never met an unconverted Chinaman who was not proud of being a disciple of Confucius; and I never met a Mohammedan who was not proud of the fact that he was a follower of Mohammed. But how many, many times I have found men ashamed of the religion of Jesus Christ, the only religion that gives men the power over their affections and lusts and sins. If there were some back door by which men could

slip into heaven, there would be a great many who would want to enter it, but they do not like to make public confession." Surely such accusation cannot justly be made of Seventh-day Adventist Christians who, above all others, have cause to rejoice and be proud of the cause they represent. Let us never slacken efforts to speak to others of the "present truth" as we mingle with our fellow men in the marts of life.

February 26—Importance of Prayer in the Life of the Soul Winner

"ASK, and it shall be given you," is the assurance of the Saviour. Our part is the asking, His is the doing. Our part is the knocking at the throne of grace; His is the bestowing of mercy and grace for every time of need. Especially is it essential, in soul-winning work, to be instant and constant in prayer. One reason why Christians accomplish so little is that they ask so little. A Chinese Christian died some years ago, and among his personal possessions was his "prayer book," in which were recorded

two thousand names, and beside the names of many persons there appeared the date of conversion. What a wonderful testimony to the effectiveness of prayer.

"May I place your name on my prayer list?" asked a Christian of his seatmate as he was leaving the train. "A lot of good it will do you," came the reply. Two years later, however, this soul winner's prayers were rewarded, and S. M. Sayford was born into the kingdom. Later, he became widely known as a Christian author and lecturer. It was Sayford who led Charles H. Ober to Christ, and the latter contacted John R. Mott, when a student in college, and persuaded him to dedicate his life to Christ's service. It would be impossible to compass the long chain of influences for good which has been welded through the persistent prayers of a humble Christian salesman who, that day while traveling on the train, was watching for souls and did not overlook the one nearest to him—his seatmate. Truly, "prayer changes things." Herein lies the secret of soul-winning power.

W. H. BERGHIERM.

Departmental Activities

"Why Don't You Preach It?"

A FEW days ago there was passed on to us a letter that had been addressed to the editors of one of our missionary periodicals. This letter had been written by an earnest seeker for truth, living in Texas. It appears that he has had some contact in a business way with one of our brethren in the South, and through him has discovered Seventh-day Adventists. He said, in part: "You say that you are bringing the last message to the world. Why don't you preach it to all of our people in this section of the country? There are many who have never heard of Seventh-day Adventists. I wouldn't have heard of them either if I had not bought some cottonseed of Mr. Brown and he had not sent me literature."

Somehow the appeal of this letter lingers with us: "If I had not bought some cottonseed." Many have not heard. "Why don't you preach it?" We thank God for that faithful "Mr. Brown" who recognized the opportunity to send on a tract, and to speak a quiet word backed up by prayer.

But surely it is evident that there must be a speeding up, a lifting up of our voices like a trumpet, if we are to

carry the message to all the world. We know that there are many people in Texas who have not yet heard this gospel. We are also painfully conscious of the fact that there are thousands more in every State, and millions more in India, China, and other parts of the world who have not heard and who never will hear if they must wait for the voice of the ordained preacher. We believe our friend from Texas represents a large and growing class who are waiting to hear the message preached, and that he has suggested the only solution that will meet our needs today when he asks, "Why don't you preach it?"

The church has not yet discovered any successful substitute for the preaching of the Word. Spirit-filled preaching has been the keystone and cornerstones of all great revivals from apostolic times to the present hour. That it will be a major feature of the closing work of the gospel is shown by the Lord's prophecy concerning the last days when He said, "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached." Moreover that humble laymen will be pressed into this service by our Captain is indicated by the manner in which laymen were used in the be-

ginning of the gospel dispensation. We hope to study these different periods of revival work later, and show how each was accompanied by mighty lay preaching.

Concerning God's plan for today, we read: "God will move upon men in humble positions to declare the message of present truth. . . . Many, even among the uneducated, will proclaim the word of the Lord."—"Testimonies," Vol. VII, pp. 26, 27. The present is to be the most glorious age of the church, surpassing in both extent and in fruitfulness the preaching of the message at any other time of earth's history. The last work of grace, described as "flying" for speed, "preaching loudly" as to the manner of its propagation, was to enlighten the earth "with His glory." And all things are now ready. My brother, why don't you preach it, now?

W. H. BERGHERM.

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A Daily Text in Newspapers

AN effective way to plant seeds of gospel truth in the minds of many who may never be reached in any other way, is to ask newspaper editors to print a striking verse of Scripture in their papers each day. Through the insistence of a single man, who felt deeply impressed to secure the publication of a Bible verse each day, an organization has been formed that now supplies Bible verses to more than 2,000 daily newspapers in different parts of the world, and millions of readers are now being blessed and encouraged and strengthened by the reading of such scriptures.

Such an effort on the part of Seventh-day Adventist pastors, evangelists, and local church elders in requesting editors in their particular communities to print daily Bible texts should stir workers everywhere to join in the goal of reaching not only every daily newspaper published, but the semiweeklies and weeklies as well with a scripture that may be the means of leading many men and women eventually to accept Christ as their personal Saviour, and join our ever-growing army of followers of the lowly Nazarene.

Will not workers and local church officers everywhere visit newspaper editors, and offer to them copies of the Morning Watch Calendar with the

suggestion that it contains precious promises which would give encouragement to their readers, if reproduced in their papers. A text in newspapers is a profitable way of sowing seeds of truth.

W. L. BURGAN,

Sec., Gen. Conf. Press Bureau.

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The Busy Mother's Opportunities for Soul Winning

MOTHERHOOD is a blessing in broadening the heart and mind, and developing traits of character. But it often discourages all efforts to engage in the work of soulsaving outside the family life. So many women have wanted to know how a mother of small children can work for the Master in general missionary lines, that we venture to make a few suggestions, in the hope of being of some help to busy mothers, who within the portals of the home stand in the front ranks and can render the highest type of soul-winning service.

1. Determine that you will accomplish more than the average Christian mother does for God. When this is settled, the Lord will open doors that you had not thought of.

2. Pray through about it. Just a mere passing prayer will not suffice. Set a definite time to pray over this matter each day. If nothing opens, set a weekly day for fasting and prayer. Arise early, and like Columbus who planned his voyage to America in the early hours of the morning, pray and plan for God's kingdom while the children are asleep and the refreshing dew is on the grass.

If your children are unsaved, it is more likely that the results of this second suggestion will be their salvation, for as you pray and plan for others, God will plan for your own family. Expect this. Believe it, for "all things are possible to him that believeth."

3. For the sake of your health, you must get out of doors a little every day. Many women grow old prematurely because they stay in the house too much. Plan to take a little walk each afternoon, even if you have to hire some one to keep the children for you.

On these daily rounds, the following plan can be worked out easily. Call on some of your friends whom you

think you can interest in your project, and propose that you band together for Christ's kingdom, giving at least one afternoon a week to it.

Set a certain day for visiting the jail or some such institution; another for the hospital, unless the two can be taken in the same day. Another afternoon plan to go to the asylum or old people's home, and do all you can for the inmates of these places of confinement.

4. Keep a supply of tracts and other literature on hand to distribute at these various places.

5. Sometimes effective meetings can be held in the alleys and narrow streets of a crowded city where the children swarm like bees, and the older folk sit on the doorsteps which almost touch one another.

6. Another method is to get these children together under shade trees and have a service, or tell Bible stories to them. One summer, our daughter, Evangeline, who is fifteen years old, got children of Harrisburg to congregate on a vacant lot in the evening just before dark, and placing camp chairs in a circle, amused and interested the noisy little ones for an hour each day. This was much appreciated by the parents.

In the winter you can call the children into your home and have a service. Of course, they will bring dirt and wear the carpet, but where is your consecration? A revival among the children will more than pay for your trouble.

7. Now, if your work will allow you to take an occasional trip out of town, get the addresses of the nearest old people's homes, and make arrangements to have services there, or at least to visit the inmates. If you take hold of these small opportunities, you will get greater ones. Never refuse to enter an open door, for each one leads to some greater field. Remember Solomon's statement, "The spider taketh hold with her hands, and is in kings' palaces."

8. If you cannot get out of doors much, still there are ways of spreading the gospel. You can lend good books to friends and neighbors, and to the poor, degraded people of your city whom you may contact by inquiring of the associated charities, the policemen, or the Salvation Army. John Wesley said that all his preachers

should be colporteurs, and though you cannot travel, you can come in touch with many people and do them good, if you start a circulating library.

9. Letter writing is a talent, and should be cultivated for God. A good, encouraging letter or one filled with warning or advice may accomplish much good.

John Wesley started out to labor for God on a plan similar to the one presented in this article, for the Established Church of England would give him no pulpit. He preached anywhere and everywhere he could get an opening. Finally these preaching points became regular and established, and pastors were placed over them.

Thus was formed the great Methodist Church.

Perhaps the fact that you have been hemmed in and have had to fast and pray so constantly for a way out, may result in your accomplishing more for a lost world than you would have been able to accomplish had you had more freedom. In the latter case, you might not have spent so much time in prayer, you might have become self-sufficient, and as a result would have been merely an ordinary worker.

If a woman is conscientious and systematic regarding the use of her time, something like the foregoing plan may be carried out without neglecting either her home or her family,

and in the same length of time that most women spend for mere pleasure seeking, doing fancywork, reading novels, adorning clothes for the family, ironing fluffy-ruffle dresses, or in idle gossip over the back fence.

If you undertake to work for God, there are many little ways of saving labor which the Lord will reveal to you. More than this, He will put into your hand sufficient means to hire some of your work done that He may have your time for souls. "Blessed is she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things that were told her from the Lord." Luke 1:45. —*Julia A. Shelhamer, in Australasian Record.*

WIN ONE LEAGUE



Each Bring One

IS it too much for any member of our churches to win one person to Christ each year? In the closing chapter of the Bible we are admonished, "Let him that heareth say, Come." Rev. 22:17. Every one who has heard and embraced the gospel message is under bonds to pass on the good word to others. Think of what it would mean if every Seventh-day Adventist brought in one soul a year. The membership of every church would be doubled yearly. And that experience is evidently in store for us, for the Spirit of prophecy assures us that the time is coming when thousands will be converted in a day. At present we are bringing souls to the truth at the rate of 110 a day, which is encouraging, but still far short of what it is our privilege to experience. Even the children may have a part in this laudable aim. Our church schools might profitably set this plan before the children. The Scripture says, "A little child shall lead them." But our older members should happily respond to a call of this nature, especially when it is evident that it is in full harmony with God's plan. To assume

such a responsibility is to yoke up with Christ in the most satisfactory work ever committed to mankind. It is a work that succeeds in proportion as we pray for help from God to carry it forward a right.

We have a wide range of facilities for bringing this result to fruition, in the fine tracts, periodicals, and books, which may be lent to our friends and neighbors. However, when you lend literature, lend it for only a limited time, so that you can, with good grace, call for it at the end of a week, a fortnight, or a month, as the case may be. Otherwise no attention may be paid to what you have lent. When they know you are coming for it at such and such a date, they are far more likely to read it.

Visiting and praying for the sick, and holding Bible studies and cottage meetings, are other means of reaching the lost. Then there is the plan of praying for individuals now in darkness. Many have been prayed into the truth. This was the writer's experience. But by one means or another let us bring a soul to Christ each year and thus experience the joy that thrills the hearts of the angels.

M. N. CAMPBELL.

"Come, Let Us Go and Find Them"

"How sweet 'twould be at evening
If you and I could say,
'Good Shepherd, we've been seeking
The sheep that went astray!
Heartsore, and faint with hunger,
We heard them making moan;
And lo! we come at nightfall
And bear them safely home!'"

"Ye shall be gathered one by one," was God's promise to Israel. "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men," is the command and promise to each of us.

Harlan Page, a joiner by trade, a man in humble life, often in poverty, found out this secret, and lived to seek and bring people to Christ one by one, until he had the joy of knowing that more than one hundred of them were walking in the fear of God.

"Not angels, but men, are entrusted with the blessed work of saving wrecked humanity—not a few select people, but every child of God."

"Man is hiding from God, and right down through the ages he has had to be sought out. Christ came down to seek and to save, and when one is found by Him, He not only makes such to be an exhibit of His saving grace for others, but also sends that one to seek and bring to Him

some other souls. The world will never be turned to the Lord in the mass. Men are convicted and converted one by one, as the disciples of Jesus Christ turn to Him to ask, 'Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?'

Dr. A. J. Gordon, says: "Though our task is not to bring all the world to Christ, our task is unquestionably to bring Christ to all the world." Our commission is clear, "Go and make disciples," and the power to do this has not been withdrawn. Will not those who neglect this duty "be ashamed before Him at His coming"? "Come, let us go and find them."

May God make us mighty men and mighty women to cope with the mighty task that remains to be done. Sensing our obligation toward a perishing world, we need to have in our lives a new vision of our personal needs and responsibilities, and we should cry out to God for great earnestness and a fuller measure of the Spirit power so indispensable in our everyday life to make our service more effective and more fruitful. The trust is urgent. The responsibility is immediate.

"They are passing, passing, fast away,
A hundred thousand souls a day,
In Christless guilt and gloom.
O Church of God, what wilt thou say
When in that awful judgment day
They charge thee with their doom?"
—*Australasian Union Record.*



The True Stimulus to Missionary Work

THAT modern "apostle of faith," George Mueller of Bristol, stated some time before his death in 1898, that he had been stimulated to help in missionary operations through receiving the truth of the Lord's imminent return. "The moment," he says, "I saw this truth clearly revealed in the Holy Scriptures, the thought occurred to me: What can I do to make Him known before His return, seeing He may come soon? Ever since July, 1829, the certainty of the return of the Lord Jesus has been a stimulus for good to my soul, and especially in quickening me to exertion with regard to missionary work." Again, in an interview with a visiting minister, giving an explanation of the object which he had in view in traveling so much and preaching so much during his best manhood years, he observed:

"As the Lord enables me, I give instruction also about the Bible views of the present dispensation and the end thereof; and strive to lead individual believers in every church to look for the second coming of Christ as the supreme object and hope of Christian faith."—"The King's Business."



The Supreme Sacrifice

"GREATER love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13. This statement made by Jesus, is followed by the designation of His friends in the following words: "Ye are My friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." He has commanded us, of this day and generation, to stand as witnesses for Him in public and in the ordinary affairs of life. To be counted as among "My friends" by the Saviour of the world is indeed a great privilege and honor. He has made the supreme sacrifice of love for our sake. He is our friend always—a friend unfailing, and true, that "sticketh closer than a brother." But we are His friends if—if we are willing to yield our lives as living sacrifices in His service. With the conviction that soul winners, and those who should be soul winners, will be enabled to understand more clearly the depth of the sacrifice made by Jesus in our behalf, the following actual experience is presented:

"The morning had broken bright and clear after a wild night of fierce-howling wind and driving rain. The wind had seemed to us like a hurricane sweeping by, relentlessly uprooting trees, hurling down chimney pots, broaking or bending everything that opposed its mad career; and our hearts had ached, as above the noise of the raging storm had come to us sounds of distress over the foaming waters, and we had known too surely that some vessel or vessels were battling with the waves, and that men, and perhaps women and little children, were facing dread realities of eternity; and that, alone in the darkness, terror-stricken and despairing, many a one might be finding a watery grave.

"When morning came, I stood on the seashore; the storm had ceased, and now the sun shone brightly, the sea sparkled and gleamed as though studded with gems, and birds sang sweetly in the cornfields near at hand.

and the storm and its accompaniments might have seemed only a hideous nightmare, but for the scene on the shore. There, there were traces enough of wreck and ruin.

"Sadly I gazed, and wondered how many had been saved from present death, and how many had been saved from eternal death, of those on board the wrecked vessel. As I thought of this, I was conscious that a sailor had come up close to me. I turned and asked him concerning the events of the night. He then told me of the brave attempts of rescue, and of their partial success.

"As sorrowfully I spoke of the lost, this sailor said to me very earnestly: 'Beg pardon, ma'am; you'll forgive a plain, blunt, personal question. Are you saved or lost yourself? I mean,' he added, 'do you know Jesus?'

"Very sweet the question was, for I could assure the questioner that his Saviour was my Saviour, too. And as we spoke a little of the One dear to both our hearts, and shook hands heartily, I asked him how long he had known this blessed Saviour, and how it had come about.

"It is nigh on to five years since He saved my body from a watery grave, and my soul from the lake of fire," he said. 'Never will I forget it, for two died for me.'

"Two? I questioned in astonishment.

"Aye, ma'am, two," he answered. 'My Saviour died for me nineteen hundred years ago on Calvary's cross, and my mate died for me just five years ago, and that brought me to know my Saviour.'

"Seeing that I was interested, he continued:

"It was just such a night as last night that our vessel was driven on a rock. We heisted signals of distress and fired guns, and by and by brave men on shore manned the lifeboat and put out. We hardly thought it could live in such a sea, but they tried it, and God helped them to succeed. With difficulty we got our women and children in, and she put back to shore. Once more, manned with another crew, she put out, and this time the passengers were helped on board.

"Then we knew that some of us must die, for if the lifeboat could put out again, she would not hold all that

were left, and the vessel must sink ere a fourth journey could be accomplished. So we drew lots who should stay. My lot was to stay on the sinking ship. What a horror of darkness came over me! "Doomed to die and be lost," I muttered to myself, and all the sins of my life came before me. Still I was no coward. I made no outward sign, but, oh, ma'am, between my soul and God it was awful!

"I had a mate who loved the Lord. Often he had spoken to me of my soul's welfare, and I had laughed, and told him I meant to enjoy life. Now he stood by my side. I could not even ask him to pray for me, though even then there was a moment's wonder that he did not speak to me of the Saviour. I understood it afterward. His face, when I once caught a glimpse of it, was calm and peaceful, and lighted up with a strange light. I thought, bitterly, It is well for him to smile; his lot is to go into the lifeboat and be saved. Dear old Jim, how could I ever be so mistaken about you!

"Well, ma'am, the lifeboat neared us again; one by one the men whose lot it was to go, stepped in. It was Jim's turn; but instead of going, he pushed me forward. "Go in the lifeboat in my place, Tom," he said, "and meet me in heaven, man. You must not die and be lost; it is all right for me." I would not have let him do it, but I was carried forward. The next one, eager to come pressed me on. Jim knew it would be like that, so he never told me what he was going to do. A few seconds, and I was in the lifeboat. We had barely cleared the ship when she went down, and Jim, dear old Jim, with it. I knew he was ready to die, but, ma'am, he died for me! he died for me! Did I not tell you true two have died for me?"

"For a moment he paused, his eyes filled with tears. He did not attempt to disguise them. They were a tribute to the love that had gone into death for him. Presently, when I could speak, I just said, 'Well?'

"Well, ma'am," he said, 'as I saw that ship go down, I said in my heart to God, "If I get safe to land, Jim shall not have died in vain. Please, please God, I will meet him in heaven. Jim's God must be worth knowing, when Jim died for me that I might

get another chance of knowing Him.'"

"Was it long,' I asked, 'before you found the Saviour?'

"It was not long, though it seemed so to me then. I did not know where to begin. The thing always before me was Jim going down in that sinking ship, with the quiet smile of peace I had seen on his face. Waking or sleeping it was before me. At first, I thought more of Jim than of the Lord, and when the men wanted me to go back to my old ways and to drink, I said outright to them, "I could not do it, mates. Jim died that I might get another chance of going to heaven. I know I cannot get there that way, and I vowed poor old Jim should not die for me for nothing." So when the men saw I meant it, they left off asking me, and so I got left by myself. Then I thought I would secure a Bible, because I had seen Jim reading it, and he loved it so, and before I began to read it I just said a bit of a prayer. I was very ignorant, so I told the Lord I did not know the way to get to heaven and meet Jim, and I asked Him to show me the way.'

"And He did?'

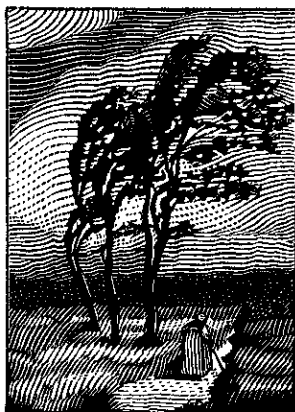
"Aye, aye, ma'am, that He did. I did not know where to begin in the Bible, so I thought I would just begin the New Testament and read straight through till I found out how I was to be saved. But oh! I had an awful time of it at first. When I came to the fifth and sixth and seventh chapters, every line seemed to condemn me, and I said to myself; "It is no use, Tom; there is no chance for you. You have been too bad," and I shut up the Book again. Then Jim's last words came over me again,

"Meet me in heaven, man." So I thought, Jim must know there is a chance for me, and he knew about God and His Bible, and about my life, too! So I opened it again, and read on and on and on. I was always at it whenever I could get a few moments.

"At last I came to the part about the two thieves, and the Lord saving the one, and I thought, "Here is a man as bad as I am." So I dropped my Bible, and fell on my knees, and said, "Lord, I am as bad as that thief; will you save me just as you did him?" My Bible had dropped down open, and as I opened my eyes after praying this, they fell on these words, "Verily I say unto thee today, Thou shalt be with Me in Paradise." I took them as my answer. I did not think I was going to die. I almost wished I was, but I thought Jesus had sent them to me to tell me He had forgiven me. So I went down on my knees again and thanked Him. Of course, I was very ignorant, but bit by bit I saw just the way to salvation. At first I had only come to the Saviour, and I never doubted He had saved me before I saw the way.

"You will wonder, perhaps, how I could be so ignorant; but I had had no pious parents. I was an orphan, and went to sea very young and never read my Bible, so I thought people got to heaven by turning over a new leaf and being good, and saying long prayers, and some day I meant to begin to be good. Then Jim died, for me, and that set me thinking in earnest.

"Well, ma'am, it was not long after this day that I have been telling you about, that I discovered all about the way—how Jesus had died instead of me, and taken away all my sins by His precious blood, and how His blood instead of my sins was on me, and that was how I could be brought to God now, and taken to heaven by and by, for "the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin," and it is only sin that keeps us away from the presence of God. At first, ma'am, it was Jim's death that stood between me and my old sins, and so I felt as if I did not belong to myself at all. My earthly life has been bought by blood, and my eternal life has been bought for me by blood, and next to seeing the Lord Himself, I am longing to see Jim up there.'



Missionary Volunteer Department

Officers' Notes

Christian Home Day

NOTHING is more vital to the youth than the influence of the home. Our work for Christ begins with the family, in the home. The first lessons of life are learned in the home, and much depends upon the nature of the instruction given.

There are numerous problems confronting the church at the present time, but many of them may be solved by a revival of true godliness in the homes of our people. If the home life and training are what they should be, the members will be in their places for the various services of the church. They will take an active part in the missionary endeavor of the church, and through their faithfulness there will be a constant stream of funds turned into the treasury for the support of God's work. Such a revival would result in a greatly increased attendance in our denominational schools, from the primary grades to the college, and would thus place about many of our youth a hedge of protection and helpfulness of which they now know nothing. In fact, if the home life is meeting God's ideal, the problems confronting the youth of the church will be practically solved.

Many of the youth do not recognize the fact that they have responsibilities to bear in helping to make the family life within the home what it should be. They need to have brought to their attention the fact that "the highest duty that devolves upon youth is in their own homes, blessing father and mother, brothers and sisters, by affection and true interest. Here they can show self-denial and self-forgetfulness in caring and doing for others."—"Testimonies," Vol. III, p. 80.

February 5 has been set apart by the General Conference as Christian Home Day. Special programs for that day have been arranged for the church service and the Missionary Volunteer society meetings. It is hoped that these programs will be given in the respective services and that both old and young will be greatly benefited by them. It would be well to advertise these services at least two weeks in advance by public announcement and by posters, so that all may be encouraged to attend.

C. LESTER BOND.

"ONLY after hardest striving
Cometh sweet and perfect rest.
Life is found to be worth living
To the one who does his best."

Our Young People's Paper

Of all our work in the church, there is none of greater importance than setting before our youth in an attractive way the beauties of this message. It was with this object in mind that the pioneers started our youth's paper. It has served this purpose to the extent that hundreds of our members say it was the *Youth's Instructor* which kept them interested in things pertaining to the church.

Every church leader realizes that upon him lies the responsibility of helping to save our young people; yet many overlook the minister which can aid them most. Each person on whom rests the burden for the souls of our youth has an opportunity to place within their reach a periodical which will assist them materially. During the month of September, 1937, over 5,000 young persons showed a definite interest by sending in subscriptions for the *Youth's Instructor*. It will doubtless take much personal work on the part of all union and local conference Missionary Volunteer leaders, but on the shoulders of the local church workers will be placed the task of visiting with these individuals and securing their renewals.

What greater work can we do to help hold the interest of this precious heritage of the church and to see them develop during the coming months Christian characters which will stand the strain of those last days? The

price is within the reach of all—\$1.75 a year, about one third the price of a daily newspaper. May the Lord stir up the hearts of His people to work for the children and youth!

M. E. MUNGER.

Reporting

DANIEL observed not only the *Morning Watch*, but also had his devotions at noon and in the evening.

The Bereans studied the *Bible* daily to see whether or not the things which they heard were true.

And Timothy (addressed as a young man) was admonished to study to show himself approved. Today Paul would encourage him to take the *M.V. Reading Course*.

Peter made a trip to Caesarea and held *gospel meetings* in the home of a Gentile, who, with all his house believed and was baptized. And Peter reported his visit with Cornelius, for which we are glad, for through that report the church at Jerusalem learned what Peter had so lately understood, and what is vitally important for us today to understand and teach,—that Christ died for all men and not for the Jews alone.

Philip gave a *Bible reading* to one lone man on the desert and he was converted. Such things have happened since, but if no one had reported them, we would receive no encouragement from these experiences.

(Continued on page 30)

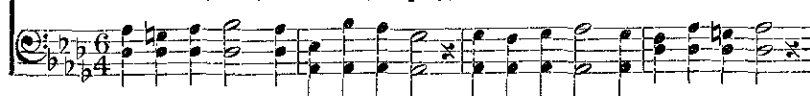
Benediction

L. E. F.

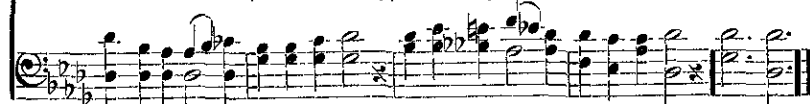
L. E. FROOM



Dis-miss us, Lord, with blessing, we pray; As from Thy worship we go our ways;



Guide in life's conflicts, all thro' the day; Save in Thy kingdom, Thine be the praise. A - men.



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Missionary Volunteer Week is scheduled for March 12-19.

Senior M. V. Meetings

Christian Home

(Program for February 5)

BY A. H. JOHNS

HYMN: "Down Life's Valley With Jesus," No. 36 in "Gospel in Song."

PRAYER.

MISSIONARY REPORTS.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

OFFERING.

TESTIMONY READING: "Home."

SPECIAL MUSIC: "The Way of the Cross Leads Home," No. 30.

TALK: "Without a Home."

POEM: "The Spiritual Touch at Home."

STUDY: "Building a Christian Home."

TESTIMONY READING: "Home Influence."

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Over Yonder," No. 213.

TALK: "How to Keep a Home Christian."

CLOSING SONG: "In a Little While We're Going Home," No. 199.

Home

"THE gospel is a wonderful simplifier of life's problems. Its instruction, heeded, would make plain many a perplexity, and save us from many an error. It teaches us to estimate things at their true value, and to give the most effort to the things of greatest worth—the things that will endure. This lesson is needed by those upon whom rests the responsibility of selecting a home. They should not allow themselves to be diverted from the highest aim. Let them remember that the home on earth is to be a symbol of and a preparation for the home in heaven. Life is a training school, from which parents and children are to be graduated to the higher school in the mansions of God."—*"Ministry of Healing,"* p. 363.

Without a Home

ALL night the car was speeding on in the darkness. It was easy to keep awake this night, because there was only one thought uppermost in my mind—home. I was going home.

However there was a certain anxiety in this trip home. I had received a telegram saying, "Come home quickly. Father is very sick." As I entered the city in the early morning, all the scenes of my childhood, all the fond memories of youth, came to mind. Mother greeted me at the back door, as she always had done, but this time she seemed to have a frightened look. Yes, father was very sick, and he lived

only a few hours after my arrival.

It is impossible to describe my feelings when we were breaking up the old home after the funeral. Every spot there was dear to me—all the old tools, those many things stored away in the basement—it was hard to give them all up. I had to look for the last time in the room where we always had family worship. For the first time in my life an indescribable feeling came over me as I realized that I was *without a home*. Recently I was talking to a young man who never had a home with his own family, and he said that sometimes an almost overwhelming feeling of loneliness comes over him when he thinks of the home that might have been his.

God wants all to have a home in this life, and to make plans for a home of His own building in the life to come.

Even yet I can hear mother singing—

"A tent or a cottage, O why should I care?

They're building a palace for me over there!

Though exiled from home, yet still I may sing:

'All glory to God, I'm a child of the King.'"

Deep feelings are stirred in every heart at the mere mention of the word "home." Modern homes have every convenience that science is able to give. But no matter how lowly the home, or where it is, it is still *home*.

Abraham had an ideal home. We know very little about how it looked, or what it was made of, but we can read about the *kind* of home it was in Genesis 18:19: "I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment."

Both the home and the church are divine institutions. Heaven is deeply grieved when sin pollutes the home. Both the church and the home must have purity and sacredness. Our homes can exert a mighty power, either for building and exemplifying good, or for destroying the very principles of righteousness.

Christian youth contribute to home truthfulness as the basis of conversa-

tion, cheerfulness to illuminate misunderstanding, virtue as the standard of purity, and kindness, forbearance, and self-sacrifice to calm the troubled waters.

"When there are joy, peace, happiness, and contentment in the home, there is found a devoted, self-sacrificing, sweet-tempered family group bound together by Christ."

A house becomes a home when faith, trust, and confidence are rooted there. A real Christian home is an earthly Eden in which all the beauties of the Christian religion with its rich harvest of spiritual blessings are fostered,—a place where angels are pleased to hover both day and night. The motto of the home should be, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

Building a Christian Home

THE Christian home among other homes is like a Christian youth among other youths—different. Science has flooded our homes with conveniences that have it within their power either to destroy all righteousness or to become a blessing in the cause of Christ.

1. Hospitality.

The Christian home thinks first of hospitality. It is truly a privilege to entertain ministers and other men and women of God in our homes. Their prayers leave a lasting influence on all in the family. (Read Heb. 13:2.) "By showing hospitality to God's children we, too, may receive His angels into our dwellings."—*"Testimonies,"* Vol. VI, p. 342.

2. Automobile.

The automobile must be made subject to Christian guidance, and used for the work of God. Christian youth think of the auto, not as a means of greater freedom, and liberty from spiritual influences, but as a convenience to draw men to Christ. A misuse of the automobile leaves in its wake separation from God, blasted lives, and ruined reputations. A right use of it is limitless in the amount of good it can bring to the spread of the gospel.

3. Music.

In the Christian home there must be Christian music, songs of the gospel filling the heart, leaving no room for the songs of the street. Wrong influences never enter into our musical instruments unless we put them there. Jazz music can morally degrade, and is not a part of the Christian home. Some one has said, "Show me the music which people play and sing, and I will tell you what the people themselves are." Contrast for a moment the throbbing of swing jazz in the worldly home, thinking only of this

"Adventures in Christian Living," by C. L. Bond. Price, cloth, \$1.25.

life, with the softly soothing music of a Christian family thinking of eternal life, and singing—

"I will sing you a song of that beautiful land,
The faraway home of the soul,
Where no storms ever beat on the glittering strand,
While the years of eternity roll.

"That unchangeable home is for you and for me,
Where Jesus of Nazareth stands;
The King of all kingdoms forever, is He,
And He holdeth our crowns in His hands.

"O, how sweet it will be in that beautiful land,
So free from all sorrow and pain,
With song on our lips and with harps in our hands,
To meet one another again!"

4. Radio.

The radio today has made inroads into the Christian home, and unless tempered with a Christlike spirit, will do untold damage in our hearts. In the radio there are tremendous possibilities for either good or evil, and Satan was surely quick to seize it for his purpose. Christian youth care little for jazz, sob songs, cheap plays, and degrading advertising, and they find it is possible just to turn the dial and drive out the undesirable.

5. Reading.

How careful the Christian home must be about the kind of reading that enters its portals. Russel H. Conwell has said, "Books are silent, but they speak. They go where teachers and guardians cannot go. They influence character far more than is estimated in these days of haste and indifference. The books on the center tables of our homes have decided the success or failure of countless boys and girls who have left the parental roof, and have gone out to face the labors and problems of life." Unconsciously we sometimes think that because a thing is printed it must be true. The daily newspapers are filled with a parade of trash and filth, and Christian youth are reminded that they do not represent the ideals for which the Christian home stands. A visit to a newsstand reveals a display of a flood of deadly, vicious magazines that are suggestive of everything vile. Such reading destroys the true values of everything noble and uplifting.

6. Sabbath.

The Christian home teaches true Sabbath observance, and makes this day of God a time of heavenly devotion, of learning Bible truths, and of communing with our Maker. Sabbath hospitality has in its conversation only the things of God and His created works. Sabbath use of the automobile is not devoted to pleasure riding. Sabbath music is sacred only. The radio is never heard on the Sabbath, unless our own ministers are preaching the word of God. Sabbath reading centers in God's word, and our own church magazines and books.

Parents and youth must cooperate to Christianize every convenience that science has given to the home. If this is not done, the very knowledge God has given us will be a witness against us in the judgment.

Home Influence

"OUR sphere of influence may seem narrow, our ability small, our opportunities few, our acquirements limited; yet wonderful possibilities are ours through a faithful use of the opportunities of our own homes. 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."—"Ministry of Healing," p. 355.

The Spiritual Touch at Home

Ezekiel 8:1

"AND it came to pass as I sat in mine house,
The prophet Ezekiel relates:
"That the hand of the Lord fell there upon me,"
And he writes down even the dates.

"Twas in his own house that he felt the touch
Of the strengthening hand of his God;

Preparing him for the many tasks,
He performed when he went abroad.

It's the touch of the hand divine on yours,
That you need in the trying hour;
It's right in your home for the daily tasks,
That you need the touch of His power.

If the heavenly touch be upon you each day;

The refining grace He will give,
'Twill be known to the neighbors and friends you meet,
By the way you daily live,

God is waiting to visit your home each day;

To meet you in private prayer,
Keep open a door of welcome to Him;
He is longing to meet you there.

—Mrs. D. C. Eby.

How to Keep a Home Christian

1. The book to teach.

WHERE can we find a foundation for a model home? Surely not in the world. But it can be found in a Book that is rooted in eternity, and does not change with the times, but lives through all time. We have within our easy possession a Guidebook with directions given by the Spirit of God. It is the one indispensable source of wisdom and authority. God speaks to us through the Bible, not in a vague or general way, but in a definite and detailed way. "These words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."

2. How to read it.

All the members of the home should have the word in their hearts. It will day by day unfold beauty and wonder to the understanding. There is a picture representing a dark, wild, stormy night, with a traveler standing up in the stirrups of his saddle at a parting of the way, trying to read the directions on the post. How eagerly he is looking. He is holding a lighted match carefully in his hand lest the wind should blow it out before he had read the directions. He would be lost without those directions. It is the same in our daily life—we must look for the directions God has given us, and we need never go wrong.

3. Daily reading of it.

A minister asked one of his church members how she was getting along in her Christian life, and she replied, "Very poorly, my life is a disgrace to me, to the church, and to Christ. I don't understand why it is." "Do you study your Bible every day?" the minister asked. "Oh, no, but I study it occasionally, when I have time." A little baby was lying in a baby carriage near by, and the minister said: "Suppose you should feed that baby once in two hours today and once in six hours tomorrow, and then let it go without eating at all for three or four days because you were busy, and then go back and feed it every two hours the next day, and keep up that process; do you think the child would grow?" "No," she said, "I think the child would die under that treatment." And yet that is the way we are treating our souls. We must have a definite time each day for Bible study.

4. Thorough Bible Study.

Just a superficial, simple reading of the Bible is not enough. Its hidden truths are buried deep. We must compare its teachings, search out its truths. Only in the home can this plan be carried out, and all in the family can have a part in it. This is the fundamental principle of keeping the love of Christ in the home.

5. We must follow its teachings.

Our home actions reach beyond the home. It has been said, "What you are speaks so loudly I can't hear what you say." If in the home we say that God expects us to have a meek and quiet spirit, and our own irritability belies our words to those who associate with us, our example for good is lost. If God is so real to us in the time of storm, and really helps us out of difficulties, it is easy for us to tell others how to have their prayers answered. There is nothing like prayer and Bible study to reflect a true Christian home. One successful family reads the texts in the morning, and in the evening discusses how they were applied during the day.

A true Christian home is a challenge to our youth today.

"The Fine Art of Living Together," by A. W. Beaven.

Price, cloth, \$1.50.

God's Service Plans

(Program for February 12)

BY LOUISE C. KLEUSER

SONG SERVICE. (See "Call to Activity," and "Consecration," p. VII in "Christ in Song.")

OPENING EXERCISES:

LEADER'S REMARKS: "A Balanced Program of Service."

TALK: "Service According to the Heavenly Pattern."

STUDY: "God's Missionary Plans."

BLACKBOARD LESSON: "Ten Reasons for Organizing Bands."

POEM: "Speed, Reapers!"

SONG: No. 479 in "Christ in Song."

READING AND DISCUSSION: "The Just-U's Clan."

SUGGESTIONS: "Better Working Bands."

CLOSING SONG: No. 576 in "Christ in Song."

Note to Leaders

The band plan is God's plan for action in your society. If you have not yet organized bands, study the matter and have a few definite plans in mind to promote the bands. It is not necessary to organize all the bands at once. It is better to have one or two bands in action than to have six in mind. If you have not done so before, make a start with the bands today. This means that your executive committee has previously met and laid out plans.

A Balanced Program of Service

THE life of the Missionary Volunteer consists of four definite phases of development: devotional, educational, missionary, and social. Christianity is not merely a state, or a feeling, or an emotion; it is definitely a development. The Master of the Christian church gave the call: "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

This means that the young life is first of all surrendered to Jesus; that this relationship develops into a close friendship. This friendship must then become a partnership in the great business of the church—soul winning.

Before the Missionary Volunteer can render the best service, he must be a learner in the school of Christ. He must learn to give in the most efficient way that message that has stirred his own soul. The society has plans for him. He may join the Study and Service League. Here is an opportunity to study the doctrines as well as the denominational history of the church.

God designed that the happiest work for the Christian would be service for God and humanity. It draws out the best in an individual. It provides an association of the most wholesome type of teamwork and friendship. It develops the intellect, braces the slackening ideals, develops health, and provides the right type of social life. It develops the all-round man, and helps him grow into the divine pattern.

When we regard our service to God and to our fellow men from this angle, we understand service in the Missionary Volunteer Society to be a duty as well as a high privilege. We begin as a society to study plans and the best methods of fulfilling this Heaven-given program. This guards us against a narrow pharisaism of performing good deeds to be observed. It lends the right motive to service,—"The love of Christ constraineth us." Today's program will emphasize these four phases.

Service According to the Heavenly Pattern

IN every period of the church's history God has used men and women to carry out His plans for the salvation of souls. He uses the inventions of each age to speed along the progress of the one aim: "He shall see the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied." Through the ages He has developed men, and given the inspiration for their inventions and discoveries. Yet He has used the means in hand known to man. God has ever worked on this principle: Affecting the most good through the simplest means.

Now we have reached the closing days of earth's history. These days are evil days, gloomy days, busy days; sin has made terrible inroads on the health and happiness of earth's inhabitants. Were it not for the fact that God has preserved a remnant to disperse comfort and blessing just before the end, the world would be ruined in its own discouragement and despair. God in His mercy still has His messengers of grace. They will help Him to harvest out of this age the sincere and honest in heart.

Ours is no ordinary work; God's work never is. But the cunning of the enemy in these last days demands that our work be matched with the skill and experience of heaven. No human plans suffice for this program. No mind, seeking new and sensational methods, is ready to cope with the situation. The loyal, the faithful, the consecrated of earth are selected. Sad to say, God finds but a remnant. To

this remnant, by divine inspiration, He has committed His plans.

Let us study these carefully, young people. These plans give conviction for the work of the society. They outline our plans of service. They add power to our work. Carried out according to the divine pattern, they will be used to finish the gospel work in our communities and in the world. I am calling on different members of the society to read carefully just what God had in mind when He sent word through the Spirit of prophecy, that our youth be organized into societies with prayer and service bands.

God's Missionary Plans

(Have slips with these quotations to be read, handed out before the meeting. Enlist some who do not take part too frequently.)

"Who of our youth will give themselves to God for the purpose of laboring for the salvation of their fellow youth? Who will put their talent out to the exchangers?"—"Signs of the Times," May 29, 1893.

"The Lord has appointed the youth to be His helping hand."—"Testimonies," Vol. VII, p. 64.

"The leaders in God's cause, as wise generals, are to lay plans for advance moves all along the line."—"Testimonies," Vol. IX, p. 116.

"The formation of small companies as a basis of Christian effort has been presented to me by One who cannot err."—"Testimonies," Vol. VII, p. 21.

"Cannot you form a band of workers, and have set times to pray together and ask the Lord to give you His grace, and put forth united action?"—"Youth's Instructor," August 9, 1894.

"There are ways in which all may do personal service for God. Some can write a letter to a far-off friend, or send a paper to one who is inquiring for truth. Others can give counsel to those who are in difficulty. Those who know how to treat the sick can help in this line. Others who have the necessary qualifications can give Bible readings or conduct Bible classes. The very simplest modes of work should be devised and set in operation among the churches."—"Testimonies," Vol. VI, p. 433.

Ten Reasons for Organizing Bands

1. It is God's outlined plan for us.
2. Group association is inspiring.
3. Bands help to concentrate our efforts.
4. Band work develops a balanced program.
5. We specialize on definite needs.
6. We are encouraged to succeed.
7. We develop responsibility.
8. We improve our talents.
9. We learn to do teamwork.
10. We share in the reward.



"Let's Build a Home," by Mrs. Martha E. Warner. Price, paper, 50 cents.

The Just-Us Clan

It is an interesting clan with a very unusual name. It really should never have been a clan, for it was intended to be a working group in the society. But, while we have not the time to tell you the whole history of the clan, you should know about it. If you ever meet these people, do please try to help them. Do not just dodge them. Tactfully enlarge their vision, will you not?

Well,—and it is hardly believable,—this clan grew out of a singing band for the Harvest Ingathering. Its members were well-meaning, whole-souled people. They were truly interested in God's work. For a while the band (not yet developed into a clan) had to gather together its workers; that took time. Adjustments had to be made. Some people are not dependable, you know. Others soon lose out when the first enthusiasm wears off. And (we do not like to say it too loud) some do not like hard work. Some block progress by being too sensitive. Just because they have a voice, they do not want any one else to make a suggestion about using it.

So the band struggled along, and only its kindred spirits survived. There was John Leader and his girl chum, Faithful. Along came Faithful's cousin, Constance, and her boy friend, Ernest. His brother Jack had recently been married to Alys Sweet, and they were still so deeply interested in each other that they came whether they could help or not. One of the group suggested taking her Aunt Joy along. She liked young people, and had Uncle Arthur take them in the big car. They thought it best not to exclude their daughter, Priscilla, although she did not have much of a voice. She "filled in."

As the band's success became known, Hope Brown wished she might join them, for she did like to sing and did not even mind soliciting if she had to. Faye, her girl friend, could not be separated from her, and urged that she "help out," too. But the band thought it best not to bring in others; and to safeguard future intrusions, they organized themselves into a clan.

The Just-Us Clan really did wonderful work, and had good times outside of the band to help perpetuate their traditions. Some other young people of the church looked on longingly, but lacked the leadership to get a group of their own into action. Somehow, even church leaders in their enthusiasm to keep the results coming from the Just-Us Clan, praised them constantly for their good work and cooperation, and did not see that they might have done far more for the church had they been guided into forming a more democratic group.

The Just-Us Clan continued long after the goal of the church was reached. They kept alive their plans and traditions by their exclusive social

functions. No; indeed, they were not snobs! They were the "finest young people of the church." Neither were they worldly; they were the Just-Us Clan, and nothing worse could possibly be said about them.

It is not fair to talk unkindly about well-meaning workers; but how could you help the Just-Us Clan to produce even more results for the Lord's work? We would like to have only kind, constructive suggestions from the society. (Follow with a discussion. Crystalize the suggestions.)

Better Working Bands

1. Prayer and Personal Workers' Band.

Regard prayer as a privilege and not as just a duty. Let prayer be spontaneous. Bands will develop out of special needs in which a few will share. Encourage these in the home and in friendships. Form prayer bands before special revival meetings, public meetings, as officers of the society. Study M. V. Leaflet 20, "Personal Work," and "Fishers of Men."

2. Literature and Correspondence Band.

Follow up the work of the other bands with literature and with missionary letters. Be regular, not spasmodic, in your literature work. Be neat in your penmanship, and accurate in your addressing. Study M. V. Leaflet 7, "The Literature and Correspondence Band."

3. Christian Help Band.

Bring cheer to church members unable to attend services, but do not confine your efforts to the church. Be out for a Christian experience and not just for adventure. Do not "hite off too much." Concentrate on a few interests until you have given definite help, before you search for new contacts.

4. Study and Service League.

Enlist those who really want to study. Cover the lessons within a definite period; don't let them drag out. Impart what has been learned; plan field experiences. Study M. V. Leaflet 9, "M. V. Study and Service League."

5. Bible Readings, Cottage Meetings.

Be a personal worker, and try to find your own readers. Give much attention to prayer and preparation. Believe and know what you teach. Study "How to Give Bible Readings."

6. Social Activities' Band.

Have a purpose, and plan well each social gathering. Do not consider socials the all-absorbing program of your band. Combine your interest with other bands, especially the prayer bands of the society. Pray together for guidance. Urge that all the social contacts of the members be of the right sort. Develop leadership in conducting uplifting social gatherings. Study "Social Plans for Missionary Volunteers," and the Spirit of prophecy.

Speed, Reapers!

The setting sun in western sky,
On ripened harvest ear,
Sheaves waiting for the gleaner's hands,

Tell dark'ning night is near!
So much to do! So little time
Ere fall the shades of night!
Come, reapers, speed the task in hand,
There's harvest joy in sight!

The fields are wide, there's many a row
To mow, to bind, and store;
But willing hands make labor light,
Brace nerve and muscle sore!
There's place for all, and work enough
For many a harvest hand;
Speed, reapers, speed! Crowd well the hours—

Then join the happy band.

LOUISE C. KLEUSER.

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Society Literature Work

(Program for February 19)

BY M. E. DAWSON

SONGS. (See Notes to Leaders.)

OPENING EXERCISES.

SYMPOSIUM: "Our Responsibility With the Printed Page." (Leader may ask questions, and various members answer by reading quotations.)

READING: "Lost—and Found."

READING: "Systematic Literature Distribution."

DEMONSTRATION of first call at a home in Personal Distribution plan of Home Bible Study League.

SYMPOSIUM: "Literature Experiences."

POEM: "The One He Blesses."

CLOSING EXERCISES.

Notes to Leaders

Choose songs from the following for song service and opening song: "Christ in Song," Nos. 552, 594, 96, 542, and 500. "Gospel in Song," No. 58, sung as a duet, would be appropriate for special music.

A program on the use of literature is not a new thing for the M. V. Society, but it is important that this subject be presented frequently. We are told that "if there is one work more important than another, it is that of getting our publications before the public, thus leading them to search the Scriptures."—"The Colporteur Evangelist," p. 80.

As a society leader you should constantly encourage the use of tracts, periodicals, and small publications by individual members of your society. Many opportunities for the distribution of literature present themselves from day to day if we watch for them.

In addition to the personal use of literature by individuals, however, every M. V. Society should plan for an organized effort by a Literature Band. This is a good time of year to begin such an effort.

Before starting out with a group for house-to-house distribution of literature, it would be well to have instruction given by your pastor or some other person who knows from experience how best to meet people in this

Promote in a strong way the service-band work in your society.

It can accomplish wonders.

kind of work. Here is a suggested introduction for the first call at a home: "Good afternoon. I have called in the interests of Bible study. The purpose of our Literature Band is to promote a greater interest in the study of the Bible and a better understanding of its truths. We believe you will greatly enjoy studying the prophecies of the Bible and other great lines of truth which are not clearly understood by a casual reading. Through the generosity of our members we are able to offer a course of study without cost to you. We would like to leave the first of the series this afternoon. We hope that you will enjoy it and that you will look forward to receiving another next week."

It may be your society can also carry on distribution of literature by mail. Whatever you may desire to do, have your plans well laid, have the material on hand, and begin your work today.

Study carefully M. V. Leaflet 7, "The Literature and Correspondence Band." Here you will find a valuable outline of organization, methods of working, follow-up, reporting, etc. In Home Missionary Leaflet Series No. 11, page 13, are definite suggestions regarding the selection of *Present Truth* to be distributed in a twelve or twenty-four week series.

Our Responsibility With the Printed Page

What work is given to every follower of Jesus?

"Every follower of Jesus has a work to do as a missionary for Christ, in the family, in the neighborhood, in the town or city where he lives. All who are consecrated to God are channels of light."—*Testimonies*, Vol. II, p. 632.

What kind of service is expected of those who have a knowledge of present truth?

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

Should the ministers be expected to do the largest part of the soul-winning work of the church?

"It is not the Lord's purpose that ministers should be left to do the greatest part of the work of sowing the seeds of truth. Men who are not called to the ministry are to be encouraged to labor for the Master according to their several ability. Hundreds of men and women now idle could do acceptable service. By carrying the truth into the homes of their friends and neighbors, they could do a great work for the Master."—*Testimonies*, Vol. VII, p. 21.

Are we to wait patiently at home

for our neighbors to come to us in search of truth?

"We are not to wait for souls to come to us; we must seek them out where they are. When the word has been preached in the pulpit, the work has but just begun. There are multitudes who will never be reached by the gospel unless it is carried to them."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 229.

What is one method of reaching places where the spoken word cannot be heard?

"There are many places in which the voice of the minister cannot be heard, places which can be reached only by publications,—the books, papers, and tracts that are filled with the Bible truth that the people need. Our literature is to be distributed everywhere. The truth is to be sown beside all waters; for we know not which shall prosper, this or that. In our erring judgment we may think it unwise to give literature to the very ones who would accept the truth most readily. We know not what may be the good results of giving away a leaflet containing present truth."—*Christian Service*, p. 153.

Do we have any assurance that our message will be accepted as we carry it to those about us?

"There are many who are reading the Scriptures who cannot understand their true import. All over the world men and women are looking wistfully to heaven. Prayers and tears and inquiries go up from souls longing for light, for grace, for the Holy Spirit. Many are on the verge of the kingdom, waiting only to be gathered in."—*The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 109.

Is there opportunity for youth to enlist in this work for others?

"Young men and young women, cannot you form companies, and, as soldiers of Christ, enlist in the work, putting all your tact and skill and talent into the Master's service, that you may save souls from ruin? Let there be companies organized in every church to do this work. . . .

"Will the young men and young women who really love Jesus organize themselves as workers, not only for those who profess to be Sabbathkeepers, but for those who are not of our faith?"—*Signs of the Times*, May 29, 1893.



Lost—and Found

EVERETT thought it a bit queer and unnecessary, but as he was in the habit of pleasing his mother, he stopped the horse and stepped down from the buggy to pick up a paper from the muddy road. For the past two weeks the countryside had been soaked steadily, and it was still dripping with winter rains; consequently the piece of literature was in rather a dilapidated condition.

"Were you afraid the horse would shy at that bit of paper?" the boy asked.

"I'm never sure of what old Poll will do," Mrs. Williams answered. "But I wanted to see that paper, anyway. Its black-type title caught my eye."

"*Signs of the Times*," read Everett, driving on while his mother wiped the wet mud away. Then, as his glance fell on a Scripture reference, he added, "Evidently some sort of religious paper."

But Mrs. Williams did not answer. She was already lost in an article describing Christ's return to this earth amid events of astounding significance. It seemed to portray a personal, vivid appearance of our Lord, and told of a resurrection. Mrs. Williams was touched and impressed, for only a few months previous she had lost her husband in a tragic accident. While he was hauling stone, the load had overturned on him. She could not even think of him now without tears.

"Everett," she said softly, as the boy drew up in front of the general store, "I'd like to have this paper. I've never heard of it before. I wonder if I can get it anywhere."

Everett took the wet sheet and turned it over. With the keenness of youth he soon found the postal address and showed it to her.

In a few days the *Signs* office received a letter of inquiry, which, upon being answered, was soon followed by an order for a year's subscription.

Some months later the little town of Drouin, in Victoria, Australia, was astir with excitement over meetings begun by two strange evangelists. New doctrines were being taught. Clergymen began to warn their flocks against the heresy and heretics. But to Mrs. Williams and Everett these doctrines were not new. The boy was his mother's mainstay and comfort, and he attended every meeting with her.

"Son," she said to him one evening, on the way home after meeting, "these must be the people who publish the *Signs of the Times*. Tomorrow I am going to call on the evangelist and find out."

Needless to say, her impressions proved correct. The new-found message was to her saddened heart a comfort, and to her thirsty soul as "springs of water." For Everett, too, it had an appeal.

They continued attending the meet-

A Live Literature Band can find work to do in any Missionary Volunteer Society.

ings, and in course of time mother and son were baptized. Everett, joining the ranks of colporteurs, earned for himself a scholarship in the Australasian Missionary College. Today he is a full-fledged minister, winning souls to the message which first came to him on a stray bit of paper in a muddy road.

"For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: so shall My word be that goeth forth out of My mouth: it shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Isaiah 55:10, 11.

When God can use an apparent accident to the glory of His service, what may He not do with systematized, consecrated effort in the distribution of His truth-filled literature? —Mrs. H. Christensen.

Systematic Literature Distribution

THIS year, 1938, is the seventieth anniversary of a plan for organizing lay members into bands for personal missionary effort.

In 1868 a group of ten members of the church at South Lancaster, Massachusetts, formed what was known as "The Vigilant Missionary Society," and the records that are left of this earnest group of workers indicate that the name was well chosen.

In contrast to the wonderful array of attractive missionary literature which is available today, only a few small tracts and pamphlets were to be had then; but, filled with a desire to spread the message, the members visited their neighbors, leaving tracts on various subjects, and once each week held a meeting to exchange experiences. Not only in their neighborhood and near-by territory, but to various parts of the world did they send the truth-laden papers, together with carefully prepared missionary letters.

The following excerpts from a report of the society written by Marie L. Huntley in *The True Missionary*, of August, 1874, will give further insight into the purpose and work of this organization: "It was the fact that in this conference there were many lonely Sabbathkeepers who seldom, if ever, had meeting privileges, which first prompted the organization of the society, and it was formed with the view of meeting the wants of such cases in calling their attention to the importance of such points of present truth as they might be losing their interest in, and affording encouragement and consolation to those who might need them. It was also designed to distribute reading matter, and to call attention to such enterprises as might arise from time to

time, as far as their influence might extend. . . .

"Its correspondents soon became very numerous, not only through this, but in other countries where the English language is spoken, until they are counted by hundreds, if not thousands. At the present time, the number of letters written averages some over one hundred a quarter. About four fifths as many are received. . . .

"There have been some marked instances in which God has healed the sick, brought hope to the desponding, and more firmly established others upon the present truth. . . . Individuals who were on the point of giving up the truth because of discouragement, have been reached and benefited just at a time when they most needed help. . . . When the true missionary spirit exists in the hearts of the members, and there is a reaching out after souls, as there should ever be among our people, this kind of labor becomes a delight."

Within a few years this society had merged with the Tract Society of the New England Conference, and its activities were greatly enlarged. From that time to the present, a systematic distribution of literature has been carried on by church bands. Millions of pieces of literature have been placed in the homes of the people, and not a few who now rejoice in a knowledge of the truth and who are busily engaged in telling others, first heard the third angel's message from a tract or some other small piece of literature left at their home.

The present Home Bible Study League idea originated in Florida a few years ago with a local church as the "Berean Bible Institute." Within a short time the results from this well-planned effort were so apparent that the General Conference adopted the idea, and it has been carried on with increasing success in recent years.

There are probably scores of people in your own neighborhood who know very little, if anything, about Seventh-day Adventists. This work of distributing a course of Bible studies is one in which the young people of a church can find much pleasure and be of great assistance to those who are older.

The advantages of the plan are many. Those receiving the literature have the privilege of hearing the full message. The various doctrines are presented in the same logical manner that would be followed by an evangelist or Bible worker. The expense of reaching a given number of families with the whole truth is very small. It is a work in which every one can take part.

As the call comes to each one of us to do our part in the work, we should remember that "He who becomes a child of God should henceforth look upon himself as a link in the chain let down to save the world, one with Christ in His plan of mercy, going forth with Him to seek and save

the lost."—"Ministry of Healing," p. 105.

May every link in the M. V. Society hold!

Literature Experiences

IN our work for others there is sometimes a temptation to become discouraged when we do not see the results for which we have hoped. We are stirred to action at times, but our efforts are spasmodic. We should try to remember the promises of success to those who will diligently continue soul-winning efforts.

"The good seed may for a time lie unnoticed in a cold, selfish, worldly heart, giving no evidence that it has taken root; but afterward, as the Spirit of God breathes on the soul, the hidden seed springs up, and at last bears fruit to the glory of God. In our lifework we know not which shall prosper, this or that. This is not a question for us to settle. We are to do our work, and leave the results with God."—"Christ's Object Lessons," p. 65.

Several years ago a woman sent copies of the *Signs of the Times* to her sister; not occasionally, but regularly; not for a few weeks only, but for a period of years. Just as regularly as the papers were received, they were placed in the cellar with the waste paper without being removed from the wrappers. Even though the truth had not been learned from the reading of the periodicals, the honest effort put forth was to have its results. It was not until after the death of the sender of these papers that the recipient began to investigate the truth. Bible studies were later agreed to, and the family of father, mother, and three children accepted the truth.

"In 1917 a copy of *Present Truth* was sent to a family in Aroostook, Maine. That paper was read and reread until it almost fell apart. Two years ago this family decided to keep the Sabbath even though they did not know of any organization of Sabbathkeepers in the world. It has been the joy of one of our workers to come in contact with this family and study with them. How they are rejoicing to have found a church keeping the commandments of God and having the faith of Jesus. We see here fulfilled, 'My word . . . shall not return unto Me void,' and 'Your labor is not in vain in the Lord.'"—A. Houghton, in *Atlantic Union Gleaner*.

A few months ago two colporteurs who were canvassing in a Southern State were asked by one of two men they met, who published the book and magazine they were selling. After being told, the man said he thought our publishing house was in Battle Creek. The colporteur explained that our work had grown since then and that we now have a large number of publishing houses. Imagine the feelings of the colporteur when after giv-

For your own personal edification and inspiration—The "Youth's Instructor"!

ing an order for the magazine, the man said, "I have been looking for you people for the last eight or ten years. Where have you been?" In the words of the colporteur, "This experience helped me to see that many are looking for Seventh-day Adventist literature, but do not know where to find it. Today many are praying for a better knowledge of God's word. May the Lord help us to seek out these individuals! Let each of us work faithfully and place as much of God's truth in the homes as possible."

Some one sent *Present Truth* to a woman in New York City. Perhaps it was a Missionary Volunteer. She wrote her appreciation to the publishers on two or three occasions, sent money to have her subscription extended, and ordered one or two small books. Later she inquired about the book "Patriarchs and Prophets." The publishers suggested that a representative be allowed to call to show her the book, and the inquiry was referred to the field secretary of the conference. He called at the home and was welcomed. After he had presented the book in which the woman was especially interested, she spoke of what a wonderful book it was and how reasonable in price. Not only did she buy the book "Patriarchs and Prophets," but also gave an order for "The Desire of Ages," "The Great Controversy," "Bible Readings," and "Beacon Lights of Prophecy." In addition she gave to the colporteur the names of several of her very prominent friends. Among them was a Hebrew prophetess who has a large following in New York City, who ordered "Patriarchs and Prophets" and "Patriarchs and Kings."

When leaving the woman who had become interested by reading *Present Truth*, the field secretary was invited to return and tell her more about our wonderful message. In concluding his report of this interesting experience, he said, "I fully believe we shall see definite results and souls won from that little paper sent by one of our lay members more than a year ago."

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TAKE an active interest in the young people's work of your church. It's the biggest thing you can do for your family.—Roger W. Babson.

The Ones He Blesses

THERE was a small society,—
'Twas not a club;
Some thought, with due propriety,
We'll send a "sub."

Some came and wrapped the papers,
And stopped to pray;
The others—they were busy—
Remained away.

The Lord of hosts was present
With blessings rare;
But only those who labored
Met Jesus there.

And only those who met Him
Where prayers ascend,
Found strength to meet the duties
To that week's end.

And some, alas! were never
Impressed again
To meet with those who labor
For fellow men.

The Master waits with welcome
For those who work,
But never a word of blessing
For those who shirk.

If duty calls to labor
In humble way,
If but to wrap a paper,
And wait to pray,

O soul, slight not the duty!
This time may be
The last the Spirit pleadeth
And calls for thee.
—Mae Hill.

✻ ✻

Tract Talk—Try It

A TRACT put in a letter, folded with thoughtful care,
And sealed with earnest longing and a short heart-spoken prayer;
Commended to the Saviour, and sent forth on its way,
His changeless loving-kindness, His faithfulness to say,
Not much to give to Jesus; easy this work for Him;
But the world is growing older, and faith oft groweth dim,
And the time is passing over, and it needs that some should stand
And sow small things for Jesus, with free, unsparing hand.
—Selected.

✻ ✻

"If you have a kind word, say it—
Throbbing hearts soon slink to rest;
If you owe a kindness, pay it—
Life's soon hurried to the west.

"Days for deeds are few, my brother,
Then today fulfill thy vow;
If you mean to help another,
Do not dream it—do it NOW."

✻ ✻

THE heart given to our Father;
The hand given to our brother;
The life given to both—
Truly this makes life admirable.
—J. G. Holland.

Joint Senior and Junior Program

The Youth's Instructor

(Program for February 26)

BY M. E. MUNGER

OPENING EXERCISES.

MISSIONARY EXPERIENCES.

SPECIAL MUSIC.

TALK: "Value of Inspirational Reading."

READING: "History of the Youth's Instructor."

TALK: "What the Instructor Means to Our Young People."

TALK: "The Youth's Instructor as a Soul Winner."

DISCUSSION: "Society Plans." (See Notes to Leaders.)

CLOSING EXERCISES.

Notes to Leaders

Please read the note on the Officers' page, entitled, "Our Young People's Paper."

We hope that today plans will be laid whereby every youth in your church may have the privilege of reading this best of all young people's papers, the *Youth's Instructor*. Urge the youth to place subscriptions for their friends also, and to plan definitely to use this paper in their work for other youth.
M. W. M.


Value of Inspirational Reading

"God keep a clean wind blowing in my heart." Just to read that one line from a favorite poem refreshes my soul. I can feel the clean, cool breeze "from far green pastures," I can see snowy-white beds and sparkling windows. "Clean" is a beautiful word. We drink in the cool, clean breeze, and we are refreshed. That is what inspirational reading is—animating and refreshing. Our hearts are kindled to greater endeavors; ideas of better living come to us.

The world is full of reading matter today. There are inspirational books by men and women of genius. They are fragrant with spirituality and personality. They lift us out of our little mental and workaday rut, and give us a glimpse of far horizons, not merely of travel, but of accomplishment. Thank God for books like these. There are books that are neither clean nor inspirational nor elevating. But just as surely as in the smoke-laden air of a great city we can catch the fragrance of the hyacinth or a rose or a clean breeze from the west, so surely may we, in a world of smoke-laden reading, find books that emit an uplifting influence.

The great men of our time and of all ages have been inspired and fitted

**Every blade of grass is a study;
and to produce two
where there was but one
is both a profit and a pleasure.**



The "Youth's Instructor" can regularly visit your home for less than half a cent a day!

for their positions of trust by the influence of good books. With time so fleeting and life so filled with busy duties, how important it is that we read inspirational books and *only* inspirational books. At the head of the list is the Bible, the word of God, full of life and beauty, and fresh each day as we turn and ponder its pages. What our fathers and mothers learned from its messages, and what the students and leaders of our great advent movement learned, will not take the place of our reading it for ourselves. We must "know" that our "Redeemer liveth."

There is biography, the story of other men and women, other youth, who have overcome difficulties. We benefit by their experiences.

There is history, the story of the past that helps us to understand the present.

There is travel, taking us stay-at-homes on far voyages, opening our eyes to understand other peoples of our world.

There is poetry, lessons of life beautifully expressed. Surely there should be several good books of poetry in every library.

There are books of scientific achievement that open up the wonders of nature to us.

There are books about our feathered and furry friends with whom we should become acquainted.

There are missionary experiences that thrill us and implant in our hearts a desire to have a part also in the winning of souls.

Choose good books, choose them well, and read them again and again. They are an education and an inspiration. Just as truly as we need the stimulation of fresh air, we need the ennobling influence of inspirational books.

These features are all embodied in the *Youth's Instructor*. Save the fifty-two issues that come to you in a year, and check through to see the many-paged volume you have of clean, inspirational reading. It has a special appeal to Seventh-day Adventist youth, for it voices their hopes and ambitions, and it is written by Adventists. Fortunate indeed are our young people to have this weekly inspirational reading.

CAROLINE EELLS-KEELER.

History of the *Youth's Instructor*

IN the summer of 1852, Elder and Mrs. James White were making a long journey by horse and carriage, over rough roads, from Rochester, New York, across Vermont and New Hampshire, to Bangor, Maine. En route they visited many little companies of believers, among whom were children and young people. It was while visiting these believers that there rolled upon the heart of Elder White a great burden for the youth, for they were without Bible lessons which were adapted to their use. Solicitude for these young people resulted in the publication of a paper known as the *Youth's Instructor*, which would contain Bible lessons especially for the youth. The paper came into existence at Rochester in August of 1852, and is now over eighty-five years old. For several years Elder James White was its editor, manager, and financial supporter.

When the *Instructor* was only three years old, it was moved from Rochester to Battle Creek, Michigan. In 1903 it came to Washington, D.C., where it has since had its home. It has had a varied experience as to size, subscription price, editorial service, and frequency of publication. Its size has oscillated from small to large, and from large to small. It was first issued as a monthly, then as a semi-monthly, and then as a monthly again. In 1879 a weekly paper appeared, as well as the monthly, but the next year, 1880, the monthly edition was dropped, and during all the years since then it has been issued as a weekly.

The subscription price of the paper has changed as often as has its size and frequency of publication. At first it could be secured for only 25 cents a year, and then it was increased from time to time until it reached \$1, \$1.25, and at present the subscription price is \$1.75 a year.

Illustrative of its missionary spirit, and its freedom from any taint of commercialism, is the fact that at its inception, when the first announcement of the paper appeared in the *Review*, this statement was made: "If any have not the means to pay now, they should not wait one day on that account, but send for as many copies as they need, and pay when convenient. And if any are unable to pay, we will cheerfully send it to them free of charge."

Again, in 1858 the price was only 36 cents, but when ordered for a friend, it could be secured for 25 cents. Then in the last issue of 1864, attention was called to the increased cost of the paper due to the war, but the publishers stated that: "The price of the *Instructor* for the next year will not be raised, only to those who choose to raise it to 50 cents. Let all who would esteem it a pleasure to do so, send 50 cents each. New subscrib-

ers, the poor, and all who choose to pay no more, can have the *Instructor* for 25 cents a year."

Having conceived the idea of preparing Bible lessons suited to the needs of children and youth, Elder James White used the *Instructor* as a medium to supply these lessons, and also to furnish reading matter that would be clean and uplifting. On its appearance, therefore, the paper contained the first printed Sabbath school lessons. "Thus was the Sabbath school work begun in the denomination, and little did any one then realize what dimensions it would take on in later years."

Although Elder White had been serving as editor of the *Instructor*, it was not until two years after its birth that the paper bore the name of an editor of its own. In April of 1854 the sister of Elder White, Miss Anna White, was appointed as its editor. After only a few months of service, however, Miss White was compelled by illness to relinquish her work.

Seventeen names comprise the list of those who gave faithful service through many years, but prominent among these, and the one who rendered longest service, is Mrs. Fannie Dickerson Chase. She was appointed to her work in 1904. The paper prospered under her direction for eighteen years, or until the middle of 1922. She labored untiringly to give to the youth of this denomination a paper which contained not only that which would be interesting and educational, but also that which would be inspirational and of value in Christian living. As one looks through the volumes published during the period of Mrs. Chase's service, one is impressed with the well-rounded nature of the articles that appeared,—articles to help in daily Christian living, mission stories and incidents, articles on history, nature, and science, biographies, the most prominent happenings of the day, choice poetry, and many other things of worth.

Special mention should be made of the Temperance Annuals, for these did much to bring the *Instructor* to the notice and service of the temperance people of our country. Eleven of these Temperance Annuals were issued, the first in 1907, the last in 1919. Only eternity will reveal the good that was accomplished by their circulation. The average circulation of these issues was more than 230,000, while the total circulation was in the millions.

In addition to the Temperance Annuals, six special Antitobacco numbers were issued, the first in 1916, the last in 1922. Though they did not have as extensive a circulation as the Temperance Annuals, they nevertheless brought a message to many thousands of homes. Many a lad no doubt was saved from becoming an addict to the cigarette habit by the reading of these special issues.

"Missionary Volunteer Songs"—the songbook for every M. V. Society. Price, 25 cents.

Early in 1923 Miss Lora E. Clement was appointed editor of the *Instructor*. In this capacity she is rendering faithful and efficient service. The paper takes on a fresh, new appearance from year to year, and it is crisp with articles which interest the youth. Many there are who read every article throughout the paper from week to week. The page devoted to the Juniors contains stories which should be of special help to them. The Counsel Corner, a feature conducted by the General Conference Missionary Volunteer Department, is of particular value to many young people who are in doubt about certain matters. Any young person has the privilege of bringing his perplexities to this column, and an earnest effort is made to help in solving them. The news items contain not only the most important happenings of the day, but many times there are unusual items that arrest the attention. The editorial page, entitled, "Let's Talk It Over," gives timely counsel to which every young person will do well to take heed.

At the present time the *Instructor* is going into 30,391 homes. A third of this number go to isolated children and youth of this denomination who lack the privilege of association with others of like faith. If Elder James White could have foreseen the growth and progress that have accompanied this paper which he started nearly eighty-six years ago, surely he would have felt more than repaid for his efforts in behalf of the youth. As the paper ministers to the needs of its subscribers, it is hoped that many lives will be more fully molded after that of the Saviour, and that greater devotion to His cause will result.

MARGARET WEIR.

What the *Instructor* Means to Our Young People

How much the well-being of the young people of the advent movement lay upon the hearts of the pioneers is indicated on the first page of the first issue of the *Instructor* back in August of 1852. This article, entitled "An Address to Those Who Are Interested in the Youth's *Instructor*," said in part: "We are happy to send you the first number of this little paper. For some time we have been impressed that we had a more special work to do for the youth, but have not been able to commence it until the present time. We now cheerfully engage in this work, praying the Lord to help, and we feel sure of success."

"The young at this day are exposed to many evils and dangers, and they must have right instruction to enable them to know how to shun them, and although the world never was so full of books and papers as at the present time, yet there is but very little written that is calculated to lead the youth to feel the need of the Saviour and to impress them with the

importance of shunning vice and living a virtuous, sober, and holy life. . . . We now feel like taking hold of this work in good earnest, and we expect that God will add His blessing, and a good and glorious work will be seen among the youth."

Some idea of the value which these pioneers placed upon the youth may be seen in the hardships and in the sacrifices which they made in order that the youth of the church might have a paper. We are familiar with the story told about Elder James White, who, while traveling with Mrs. White, wrote the first lessons which eventually appeared in this first number of the *Instructor*. In those days they traveled by horse and buggy, and during the noonday rest while the horses ate their feed he sat down by the roadside under the trees and wrote for the youth of the church. From that early day to the present, the *Youth's Instructor* has been a mighty influence in the lives of advent youth, in directing the thinking, molding ideals, and setting up worthy purposes. All through the years it has stood for the culture of a finer and fuller manhood and womanhood.

What a privilege it is for the *Instructor* readers of today to travel to India with Brother R. B. Thurber; to explore London with Editor A. S. Maxwell; to have Liv Jorgenson introduce us to the mighty Moody, the ambassador of the Most High; to listen to the clear statement by Elder L. K. Dickson of principles which may guide modern youth in a modern world; to have Elder J. L. McElhany, the president of the General Conference, talk to us in a heart-to-heart way about God's purpose for today's youth; to catch the vision and feel the lift that comes with reading Elder W. A. Spicer's writing on the Spirit of prophecy; and to tingle with the challenge of the editor's own page, "Let's Talk It Over." For advent youth the *Instructor* brings the culture of travel, the zest of exploration, sweet and satisfying association with cultured minds, and inspiring contact with great personalities. And when we remember that we rise to the level of our thinking, then we understand what the *Instructor* means to advent youth.

A. W. P.

The *Youth's Instructor* as a Soul Winner

THROUGH all the eighty-five years of its existence the *Instructor* has been a mighty influence in holding Seventh-day Adventist young people true to the high ideals of personal conduct and Christian service which are outstanding characteristics of the third angel's message. Through the years, too, it has become more and more a missionary agent, working quietly week by week, bringing to

those who are outside the ark of safety a knowledge of the special truths for these last days of earth's history.

Several years ago a letter of special interest came to our editorial office. It was from a businessman in Chicago, who passed through one of the great railroad stations of that city as he commuted between his home and his office each day. A small rack near the door through which he hurried in and out had attracted his attention. It was always filled with papers, and he had accepted the invitation to help himself. Copies of the *Youth's Instructor* especially interested him. They told of the second coming of Christ, and of the glad resurrection day which will mark that event. He had not attended church for years, but a recent bereavement had set him to thinking seriously, and he wrote to us to find out just what Seventh-day Adventists believe. We were glad to send information and more literature, and also to put him in touch with our workers in Chicago. Arrangements were made for Bible studies in his home, and thus seeds of truth were sown and watered which later bore fruit in the baptism of four persons.

Some years ago a story was printed in the *Instructor*, entitled, "Experiences of David Dare in Bible Research." This dealt with questions which doubters, infidels, and agnostics raise in denying the existence of God and the inspiration of the Bible, and answered them fully and conclusively. We know definitely of twelve persons who accepted the third angel's message, and identified themselves with God's remnant people as a result of reading this story. Doubtless there are many more of whom we have never heard.

Three years ago a young man who was on the point of starting for Loma Linda and the long grind of the medical course, sent in a five-year subscription to the *Instructor*. In explanation he said that he anticipated that he would soon be hard pressed for cash, but just now he had the money and wished to make sure that the *Instructor* kept coming in spite of hard times. Recently he wrote us: "My present budget wouldn't allow for any subscriptions, and I'm chuckling over my good fortune in having

The YOUTH'S INSTRUCTOR—an ideal paper for your missionary work!

the paper, even so. It comes in just like a beam of sunshine to more than one medical student. To me it is a real lifter in those hours that come once in a while when prospects seem a little low. The other boys don't tell you, but they feel just the same. We all welcome it and look for it each week. It does a lot to help us hold on, and hold steady."

Some years ago one of our larger Missionary Volunteer Societies in the United States decided to do something special at the holiday season for the young people of Seventh-day Adventist background who had drifted out of their particular church circle. I believe there were close to a hundred of these. The society members raised the money among themselves to pay for having the *Instructor* sent to all these individuals—they did not even ask for a special rate. Then they arranged to send personal greeting cards from the society to each one of these friends, just before the arrival of the first paper. They paid the compliments of the season, assured their former associates in a few well-chosen words that they had been missed from the church activities, hoped that they would read and enjoy this little gift of an old friend, the *Youth's Instructor*, which was being sent them for six months with the best wishes of the society. The greeting closed with an urgent invitation to attend Missionary Volunteer meeting—and the time, the place, and the hour. This effort resulted in bringing more than thirty of these backslidden young people back into the church.

The *Instructor* placed in public libraries is usually well received, and bears constant witness for the third angel's message. Here at the office of publication it is not at all unusual for us to receive inquiries about this or that point of doctrine, or requests for more literature or to be put in touch with some of our church workers in the vicinity where the interested parties are located.

Sunday schools and branch Sabbath schools carried on by our loyal Missionary Volunteers open another avenue of service for our denominational youth's paper, for discerning young people of the world appreciate the high quality and the inspirational and educational value of the material found in its pages.

A subscriber to the *Instructor* passed her copy regularly to a neighbor. This neighbor's boy, a lad of seventeen, declared: "Since reading that paper I want to be a preacher and a missionary. Without encouragement or help from his own family he went to a Seventh-day Adventist school about which he had read in the *Instructor*, worked for every dollar of his expenses while getting a Christian education, and today is preaching the third angel's message in a far-distant corner of the earth. But his interest in winning his home folks is still keen. Up to the present his parents and two sisters have accepted present truth, and are doing their part to pass along the good news that Jesus is soon coming.

In a town not far from Oslo, Norway, one of our evangelists was holding a series of meetings. An earnest young woman in our little church there invited several of her friends to attend. One of these did not accept the invitation, saying frankly that she was not interested in religion. So our Missionary Volunteer prayed about her problem, and then began to pass along to her friend (they both read English) copies of the *Instructor* week by week. The last word that came to us was that the indifferent young woman is very much interested in the paper, and as a result of what she has read has started to attend the meetings.

This same copy of the *Instructor* goes out on another mission when it is returned to the owner. Some time ago while on a visit to England she came to know the daughter of the mayor of a large city not far from London. They have corresponded since, and so as a gesture of friendship our Missionary Volunteer sends the paper to her. She is happy to read it—this American paper which comes from Norway so regularly—and is already asking questions about the

seventh-day Sabbath and why Seventh-day Adventist young people do not go to "the cinema and dances."

But we believe that the Lord will also say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant," to the timid, retiring young woman in the United States who sent in the subscription and paid for the paper which goes to Norway, because she longed to do something to spread abroad the third angel's message, and stepped into what seemed the only avenue of service open to her.

The preacher in the pulpit is a mighty agent for God; the colporteur who goes from door to door is no less a preacher; and the printed pages which the postman leaves in mailboxes here and there the wide world over do their part also in telling the good news that our crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour is even at the door. The *Instructor* has its own unique place among the other soul-winning agencies of this great second advent movement. And it is an especially appropriate and effective tool at your hand as you go out to work for other youth.

Why not "Say it with the *Youth's Instructor*" when holiday, anniversary, and graduation presents are to be given? Why not send the paper to a friend or two this year by way of missionary effort? Why not see that the public library in your town has this best youth's paper? These are only a few concrete suggestions of the hundreds of ways in which you can use the *Instructor* in your church and in your community, for it preaches the third angel's message in every issue. It is indeed a real soul winner.

LORA E. CLEMENT.

If Lot himself had manifested no hesitancy to obey the angels' warning, but had earnestly fled toward the mountains, without one word of pleading or remonstrance, his wife also would have made her escape. The influence of his example would have saved her from the sin that sealed her doom. But his hesitancy and delay caused her to lightly regard the divine warning.—"*Patriarchs and Prophets*," p. 161. (See chapter in "*Patriarchs and Prophets*," "Destruction of Sodom.") (See also "*Testimonies*," Vol. IV, pp. 110-112.)



A handbook for every M. V. Society—"Social Plans for Missionary Volunteers." Only 75 cents.

Junior M. V. Meetings

Christian Home

(Program for February 5)

BY A. H. JOHNS

SONG: "Brighten the Corner Where You Are," No. 71 in "Missionary Volunteer Songs."

PRAYER.

MISSIONARY REPORTS.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

OFFERING.

SYMPOSIUM: "Homes of Our Neighbors." (See Notes to Superintendents.)

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Can the World See Jesus in You?" No. 43.

STORY: "Rulers."

HOME GROUP: "Questions for the Home."

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Home, Sweet Home," No. 191.

TALK: "The Inner Home."

STORY: "The Man Who Forgot His Home."

HYMN: "We Are Nearing Home," No. 97.

Notes to Superintendents

Symposium: "Homes of Our Neighbors."—Have a group of Juniors take part, each holding in his hand either a drawing, or a cutout from a magazine, of the home he represents. Each Junior can hold it in front of him while he recites his poem. Further material to be used by the leader as introduction and conclusion can be found in the chapter, "Choice and Preparation of the Home," "Ministry of Healing," p. 363.

Home Group: "Questions for the Home."—For this part of the program a family group can be arranged, performing various tasks. A father and mother and four Juniors acting as children can be in various parts of the space arranged as a room of a home. The father and mother can be reading, and can look up when the first child asks his question. After the last question, the united group can sing, "Home, Sweet Home."

Rulers

THERE are many different kinds of rulers. I asked my little girl to bring me a ruler, and she took one out of her school box and brought it to me. It was just a cheap ruler, and it was very crooked and warped. I tried to draw a straight line with it, but the edge was all nicked and rough; so I couldn't use it. It merely looked like a ruler, but it could not be used.

So I hunted all over the house for a straight ruler. Finally I found a

yardstick, but it too was far from straight; so I could not use it. I did, however, find a ruler which seemed to be good. It had a metal edge made of brass, and I tried many tests on it to see if it were really straight, and as near as I found out, it was perfect. But that night when I was visiting with an architect and told him about my rulers, he said to me, "Do you know that I have some very fine rulers, much better than that brass-edge ruler of yours? I couldn't even use yours. Do you wish to see my rulers?" He showed me several very expensive rulers, made of the very finest wood, very thin. They were perfectly dividid. Surely they were the finest rulers I had ever seen.

Some time after that I happened to visit a plant where they were making automobiles, and I saw a man measuring with a very thin steel ruler. I looked at it closely. It was divided into sixty-fourths of an inch, and was so delicate it seemed as if it might easily break. They told me that it was the best ruler they could possibly make.

Boys and girls are really like these rulers. Perhaps your home is a Christian home, but in some way you cannot make a very straight line in life. I believe I know just what the reason is: those who cannot get along in their homes without telling falsehoods, or who are cross, or who say things they should not say, do these things because they do not like the rules God and their parents make for them. Now the better the home, and the more Jesus is invited in, the more we will be measured by a rule even finer and better than that steel ruler in the automobile plant.

How beautiful a life becomes when it measures up to the standards of Jesus. Every one knows when we are like that old ruler in the school box,

all nicked and rough, and every one can see by our actions if we love Jesus and are keeping the rules He has made for us.

Questions for the Home

1. "Why can't I play with those Juniors across the street? I like them. Why are those things they say bad?"

How hard it is to understand just why we cannot associate with those who use bad language and have undesirable ways. They may be very likable playmates, full of life and fun, and we can have the best time with them. The story is told of a baby bear that played around a steel trap and got his foot caught in it. The mother bear was frantic, and tried every way to get the bear loose. There was no way but to chew off the foot, and this she did. My how painful it was to the baby bear, and it meant that all the rest of its life, it would have to go around with only three feet. It would keep that scar for life. Jesus wants us to keep away from bad company. No matter how much we are pained in giving up evil companions, or how much we hate to turn our backs on those who are not followers of Him, we should be glad to do it for His sake.

2. "Why can't I use slang and talk like most of the other children?"

It is too bad, but some use slang words in the home. I have heard it said that the most common of our slang words are abbreviations of, or have come directly from, swear words. But the fact that the word is changed so that it is "near profanity," does not mean that God will not hold us guiltless if we use it, when we know it is really against God's commandments to do so. The language of those who belong to Jesus is different from the language of others. Those people who were standing at the fire, knew Peter belonged to Jesus, because of the way he talked; then when he denied Jesus, he had to swear and talk like the others. (Read Matt. 5:34-37.) When we do not use slang, it shows a straightforward character that believes its own truthfulness. I believe that many boys and girls use slang because they want their words noticed and believed. But slang only cheapens our words. The home is the place to learn how to use the language of Jesus.

3. "Bob wanted me to go with him, and I promised to go; now just why can't I go?"

A promise should always be based on what our parents desire us to do.



A suggestion for your closing exercises this month—song: "Benediction," p. 15.

In the Bible we are told, "For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that." James 4:15. The apostles believed that no promise should be made unless God was willing. The Lord may interfere in many things, and we should be willing to follow Him in it. The promises we make to our companions should not interfere with what our parents wish us to do at home, and what the Lord has pointed out as the way.

4. "I wish we were rich, and had lots of money, and cars, and everything rich people have."

We do not love our homes because they are so well furnished, or because there are so many things in them. We like our homes because love dwells there. If we think too much of wealth here, we might miss the home Jesus is making for us over there. Jesus said, "The Son of man shall come in the glory of His Father with His angels; and then He shall reward every man according to his works." Matt. 16:27. Therefore I am determined to live the kind of life here that will entitle me to be really rich by getting to heaven and living with God. True riches can be given only by Jesus. If we try to make the right kind of home here, Jesus will give us a heavenly home which will last throughout all eternity.

The Inner Home

DURING the Middle Ages when men were killed for Christ, there lived a martyr who wrote about an "inner home." This home evidently is not built of wood, or brick, or canvas, but he says it has pillars and foundations.

There are seven pillars in this home, and the first is GOOD WILL. The gospel is the good news of founding a real inner home. Let us always be pleasant in everything, so that we can have this first pillar in our heart's home.

The second pillar is MEMORY. God tells us to "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." We cannot have a real inner home unless we keep God's Sabbath just the way He wants us to. Then, too, we must remember all of God's gifts to us.

The third pillar is a CLEAN HEART. When we cut ourselves, and then get dirt in the wound, it will never heal unless all the dirt is washed out. Our hearts are also like watches, which must be clean if they are to work right. It takes just one drop of heavy, dirty oil to stop a watch. People can see in our faces, just how clean our hearts are.

The fourth pillar is a FREE MIND. Our minds are free only if we have given them to Jesus. "Take my will, and make it Thine: It shall be no longer mine; Take my heart,—it is Thine own,—It shall be Thy royal throne."

The fifth pillar is a RIGHT

SPIRIT. We can have the right kind of spirit in us, if we just want it. We can be always willing to help others; we never need to say the wrong things. God wants us really to like to study His word and learn our memory texts. Selfishness can have no place with a "right spirit."

The sixth pillar is a DEVOUT MIND. Looking down makes our shoulders stoop. If the only thoughts we have are looking down and are low, then our characters bend. Family worship in our home will help to make this inner home the dwelling place of God's Spirit.

The seventh pillar is an ENLIGHTENED REASON. Some people do cruel and wicked things because their minds have not listened to the word of God. We must study the Bible every day if we really want to have the wisdom of God in our minds. God wants us to know just why we keep the Sabbath holy, and just why we pay our tithe, and the reason we believe this message. So when we continue to study the Bible, we continue to grow with Christ in our hearts.

The only foundation of the inner house is the Lord Jesus, prayer, and Bible study.

The Man Who Forgot His Home

A MAGAZINE article told of a young man who completely lost his memory. He could not remember his name, his friends, his town, or his home. He lost his memory while he was walking down the street. He did not know where to go; so he left his town and started wandering. He went from city to city, begging food and trying to get work. His clothes became all ragged and torn, and he had no money to get more.

He did finally get a job digging ditches. This was very hard on him, because he had not been used to strenuous work.

His family worried about him, and finally gave him up for lost, and thought he never would return. His father, however, did not believe that he was dead, and determined to start out and find him if possible. He searched and searched for him. One day he went into a cheap eating place. He could hardly believe his eyes, when there before him he saw his boy. His heart leaped within him and he rushed forward and loudly called him by his right name. The young man almost jumped from his chair. As soon as his right name was called, his memory came back. My, how happy he was to get "home." He never realized before what his home meant to him.

There is the story of another boy

who left home and didn't say just where he was going. He wandered until all his money was gone, and he was ragged, and poor, and had nothing to eat. The Bible doesn't say that he lost his memory, but his condition was just as bad. However, one day God called his name. I suppose he looked around, and when he failed to see any one, the Bible says, "He came to himself." He certainly hurried home as fast as he could, and how glad he was to get there.

Jesus doesn't want us to forget or be unappreciative of our homes; He wants them to be the kind of home where He can dwell with us.

Homes of Our Neighbors

1. African Bushman Home.

I am a bushman from far-off Africa dark,
You can see my home is of grass and of bark.
My home is not made just to keep out the sun.
But a real home to me, means all evil to shun.

2. Eskimo Home.

My house is of ice, I'm an Eskimo, see,
But you'd be surprised just how warm it can be.
I have found it's not only a shelter from storm,
But even up here true love can be born.

3. Home Built Over Water on Stilts.

My home is built high on stilts very tall,
And I climb up a ladder and try not to fall.
There is nothing on earth I have found so sweet,
As my loved ones and Jesus—to me it's complete.

4. Trailer Home.

My parents now live in a large trailer home.
It is hitched to the auto and continues to roam.
When we wish we can leave the busy throng,
But we try not to do anything that's wrong.

5. Sod Home.

Here I live on the prairie so wide and so long,
My sod house, made of mud, is baked in the sun.
Every night my family has prayer round the hearth,
To me there's no spot so dear on the earth.

6. Palace Home.

My home is a palace, and I'm a prince, you see,
It is built of stone and surrounded by trees.
The reason why it is not merely just walls,
Is that we all respond when Jesus calls.

7. The True Home.

No matter in what country, how lowly or how grand,
A home with Christ's love will surely stand.
Invite Jesus in, and on Him depend.
Then your home will be kept until the end.

A. H. JOHNS.

"The DECISION of another life may depend on the PRECISION of yours."—"Victorian Volunteer."

Teamwork for the Junior Society

(Program for February 12)

BY LOUISE C. KLEUSER

SONG SERVICE.

OPENING EXERCISES.

LEADER'S TALK: "The Battle of Prince Immanuel."

RECITATION: "Get Into Line."

STUDY: "David's Teamworkers."

BLACKBOARD LESSON: "Ten Reasons."

(See Senior program, p. 18.)

TALK: "Teamwork in Industry."

CLOSING SONG.

Note to Superintendents

The band plan is God's plan for action in your society. If you have not yet organized bands, study the matter and have a few definite plans in mind to promote the bands. It is not necessary to organize all the bands at once. It is better to have one or two bands in action than to have six in mind. If you have not done so before, make a start with the bands today. This means that your executive committee has previously met and laid out plans.

The Battle of Prince Immanuel

MANY a battle in history has been lost because its leaders did not act at the right moment. Many a defeat has come because companies became confused, and then discouraged, and consequently lost their fighting powers. Sometimes disorganization brought defeat. At other times whole armies were untrained for war and its hardships. Some battles lacked the strength of young men. Often food supplies gave out. Too often, when the real crisis was on, the proper instruments of warfare were not at hand. Saddest of all, was when soldiers lacked confidence in their leader or in his cause; when they were doublehearted. Often this produced treason and spies.

Today, Juniors, we are in the crisis of the ages. The greatest battle between the forces of right and wrong is being fought in our day. The enemy, Satan, is wily and skillful. He must be wisely met. This takes great determination. It takes united action and organization. We need to band together to do the best work.

Our Captain, Jesus, is calling volunteers to His side. His noble cause is enough appeal. Right must ever triumph. The banner of truth dare not drag in the dust of sin. Never! Think of it, Juniors! You now have a special task to perform to save the cause of truth!

Jesus needs skillful youth, expert in war. Courageous boys and girls are called into line. Workers are needed, not talkers; but He does need wise counselors, too. Our Captain needs those who can skillfully handle the sword and the shield, who have been trained. He needs loyal youth

who will stand for the cause at any cost, who have the courage to go to the battle's front. He needs soldiers and leaders who will make their fighting cause their whole concern, who are singlehearted! Others are needed who will supply the army with food, clothing, ammunition. But remember, Juniors, the battle is a *spiritual* one, and God needs youth who can handle the *spiritual warfare* He has provided for them. (Read 1 Chronicles 12 for the setting, but do not refer to the tribes; leave this for the Bible study.)

In your Junior Society, teamwork is also needed, for there is work to be done for Jesus. An earnest group should be praying together. Each Junior must know the message he represents. Juniors should study for the Standard of Attainment. As they study they will also learn to give the message to those who do not know it. By representing Jesus in loving deeds, by visiting with our literature those who are searching for truth, Juniors can be soldiers under the banner of Prince Immanuel.



Get Into Line

A BATTLE is raging,
For right or for wrong!
Your Captain needs soldiers;
Needs men fine and strong;
Needs young men of valor,
Needs youth with real skill.
Who'll make Him wise generals,
To lead where He will!

This battle's been waging,
For ages, my lad,
But now is the crisis,
When failure's too bad!
It must be a victory,
The cause is too great;
Come, line up for Jesus,
Soon you'll be too late!

Get into the ranks, boys,
Keep step with your band,
Then listen for orders—
Your Captain's command;
Forget you are weary,
My lads, just be brave;
Yes, this battle means souls
For Jesus we save!

LOUISE C. KLEUSER.



MAKE your day's work stand for helpfulness bestowed, for kind words dropped here and there, for courage imparted. Unless hearts have been cheered, and some one helped to keep the path of duty, your day's work has not been complete.—*The Leader*, January, 1937.

David's Teamworkers

(Ask the Juniors to read the verses.)

WHEN David, pursued by King Saul, needed protection, who came to help him at Ziklag? 1 Chron. 12:1. (Mighty men.)

How did the tribe of Gad respond? Verses 8, 14. (Sent captains.)

What kind of men were these captains? Verses 8, 15. (Courageous; quick.)

How did David use these captains? Verse 18. (To lead bands.)

What proves the loyalty of other tribes? Verses 20-30, 38.

What tribes were expert in battle? Verses 33-36.

What tribe showed special skill? Verse 2.

Who became distinguished for keeping rank? Verse 33.

What is mentioned about Issachar's band? Verse 32.

What service was rendered by the near-by tribes? Verse 40. (Supplies.)

Teamwork in Industry

ONE visits large orchards covering acres and acres of land and wonders how all the work of planting and cultivating, and of harvesting the fruit can be accomplished. But watch the process. The owner of the grove could not possibly do the work himself. He has men trained to help him. They do not roam the full length of the grove picking out a task here and there. There is organization; there is distribution; there is concentration. This provides groups of workers working together at the same task; yet many times the individuals of the groups still have their special duties to perform. Each receives his pay.

When the harvests are in, there is still more work. The fruit must be sorted, packed, and shipped. But you know the process; it is an interesting story before the consumer eats the fruit. Yet all along the line, the workman with the proper vision for the task does his part with the others and gets his compensation for the service he is giving. Teamwork!

Now leave the sunny, fruit-growing plains, and go to the mountains. How did that large pile of coal ever get there? See, hills and hills of it! Watch the busy little cars at work. See the derricks pulling great loads. Watch the sorting. What next? Oh, the railroad is called into service, too. Cars and cars are loaded, and long trainloads are sent into all sections of the country. But how many groups of workers, how many miners, trained and better trained, had a part? Think

Our Foreign Missions

These pages provide interesting and helpful material for church elders and conference workers in promoting foreign mission work, and may be used on the second Sabbath of each month when the church offering for missions is taken.

Waited Eight Years

AG. STEWART, of Australia, in visiting the island fields of the South Pacific, writes of a pioneering experience in the New Guinea area and tells what came of it:

"The call for us to begin work at Malai Bay shows another remarkable providence. Eight years ago when Pastors Jones and Peacock and I, with Oti and Salau, first came to Rabaul on the 'Melanesia,' a young man from this district was a laborer on a Japanese-owned vessel trading in Rabaul. Our ship, our crew, and our mission created an impression in this man's mind. He learned a little about us, and being impressed with the cleanness of our mission on this external contact, he decided that when his indenture period was over he would return to his village in Malai Bay and wait for the Adventist mission to come. Being a chief of his tribe, he had some influence with his village people in the matter of rejecting the overtures of other societies working in that district. Several months ago he learned that we were established on Baluan and Lou Islands, and so visited our mission, requesting that we go and begin work among his people. Consequently, Salau and another teacher were taken across in January of this year.

"I wish you could have made the visit with us, to find those people so enthusiastic about Salau and his mission work. They were fast giving up their vices, aspiring to conform to Christian ethics by faithfully attending worship, repeating texts of Scripture, dressing in becoming clothes, and making preparations to build themselves a place of worship.

"When we arrived at the village, we learned that Salau was spending that week end in a village a few miles away where half the people have just come over to the Adventist mission. He reported that the chief and a number of the people had definitely decided to unite with us, and that they were most anxious that a teacher be sent there to instruct them.

"While we were there, another chief from a village a few miles beyond came up and told us that he also wants a teacher for his village as he has decided to join the seventh-day mission. A number of villages inland on that part of Manus are still not connected with any missionary body,

and we believe that now that a good beginning has been made, the mission will spread among these inland people.

"When we made it known to the people that Salau was coming away with us for about three weeks to attend the annual meeting at Matupi, Rabaul, we received strong requests that he return to them. And as we were pulling out of their pleasant little harbor in the launch 'Fidelis,' a chorus of voices shouted, 'O Salau, O Salau, you come back along me fella!' What a reward for his years of service in this foreign land. And how true are the words of the Saviour addressed to Peter, 'Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for My sake, and the gospel's, but he shall receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life.'"

Whereas I Was Blind, Now I See

MISSIONARY S. L. FROST, of China, sends us this interesting experience:

"Mr. Feng, a fortuneteller by profession, entered the Yencheng Sanitarium-Hospital, Honan, China, early in 1933 for treatment of his eyes. When eight months of age he had contracted smallpox, and had become blind in the right eye from a juvenile cataract. At twelve years of age he had developed a cataract in his left eye. For forty-five years this man had sat in total darkness.

"One day a former patient told him we were able to make some of the blind see. He had friends lead him the eighty miles to our hospital. Here the surgeon found two ripe cataracts that could be removed, as his eyes otherwise were in good condition.

"The operation proved very successful, and now by wearing glasses, he has almost normal sight in both eyes. He has been most grateful, coming back many times to bring other patients. He is now also awakening from spiritual blindness, and his soul is finding true light in Him who is the Source of all light."

A Peep Into a Leper Colony

WITH Nurse Gladys Piatt, of the Malamulo Hospital, Nyasaland, Africa, who has been inspecting other sections of the hospital, let us slip into the leper compound:

"Almost any afternoon there are sure to be patients waiting at the leper colony to be admitted. Let us see who is there today. Three new patients, one coming from Dedza District, about 200 miles away, are waiting. And as usual there are no houses, for they are all full. But these three men are all fairly healthy; so they will room with friends in the colony, and in the meantime, build their own houses, in a new line just laid out, which will increase the size of the colony to accommodate 250 patients.

"There are so many things to see at the leper colony. Here is Rabson, one of the boys from the hospital course. They must all spend a certain amount of time in the colony, so that they may have a firsthand acquaintance with one of the prevalent diseases of this section. He is carefully, faithfully observing the contagion technique he has learned. He is making examinations for hookworm, Bilharzia, etc., in order that the patient may have a better chance of overcoming his leprosy.

"Then the houses and sick patients must be visited. I start around with Nashon, who is in charge of the medical work and gardens. As we pass the church, we hear singing, all in part. Pearson is leading. He is the teacher and spiritual leader. He had leprosy some years back, but has been symptom free for a long time, and is especially fitted for his work.

"I must have one look at the gardens that Nashon and the able-bodied lepers have planted. Dozens of papaw trees are growing. There are groundnuts, maize, pumpkins, and cucumbers. Later, there will be tomatoes and cabbages. This is our first year of gardens, and the lepers do all the work. It means much to them, for an adequate diet is most essential to their recovery."

And now let us look at a sample patient who could have been healed, but who neglected, yes, willfully neglected, to come for healing:

"As I was admitting a new lot of lepers the other day, one old woman came (perhaps she was not so old, though), with nodules all over her face, her ears partly gone, her voice husky with the effects of the disease. A most repulsive sight she was! The disease must have been progressing for the last ten years. Where had she been all those years? She had lived all that time less than a half day's journey from the leper colony, and had been taking native medicine! Even now, she came only because the people of her village were afraid of her (they should have been afraid many years ago), and had forced her to come. And with her came her little son, aged ten years, as spotted as a leopard with the skin of leprosy, and he would not have had the disease at all if she had come when her leprosy first began. Now, he must have many months of treatment, and his

mother, in all probability, will never recover, or if so, only after years and years of treatment."

A Heavenly Light

It was over in Tasmania, Australia, that a colporteur had this experience:

"After going about three miles, I began a tortuous descent on a road which had been recently surfaced but left unrolled. This forced me to reduce my speed, with the result that the electric lamp on my bicycle became perceptibly dimmed. The road was now scarcely visible more than a few yards ahead. Suddenly the whole road was illuminated around me, just in time to reveal a sharp turn in the path, with a steep decline on one side, perhaps a hundred feet deep, and on the other a wall of rock. To have failed to negotiate this corner successfully would have meant disaster. Thinking the light was caused by the headlamps of a motorcar, I looked about to see where the car was, but none was to be seen. I watched for one as I passed on, but did not meet any within some miles of the place.

"My conclusion then was that the Lord had sent His angel to illumine the road for His servant and to preserve both life and limb. That place seemed sacred, and my heart was lifted in thanksgiving to God for His protecting care over His child."

Fled From the Spirit's Sword

SUPERINTENDENT C. E. WOOD relates some experiences of Daniel Landeros in entering in among the Tarahumare Indians, in the state of Chihuahua, Mexico, in response to the call of the mission committee:

"Our brother was located at the official town of the tribe. So bitter was the opposition of the priest that the presidente of the municipality warned him that his life would not be safe, and that he had better move to another place. Not fearing opposition or danger, Brother Landeros began at once to hold public Bible studies in his home, and to treat the people's diseases. On the fifth night after his arrival, a mob gathered about his house and made so much disturbance that he was unable to continue the meeting. He went to the door with his Bible in his hand and invited the people to enter. Evidently the Lord caused a sudden fear to take possession of the mob, as they fled precipitately.

"A few days later, the wife and child of the presidente were taken sick, and as there is no doctor in that place, Brother Landeros was called. As the result of the treatments given, the patients made a rapid recovery. This resulted in protection being offered by the official, with no more public opposition manifested.

"At the time of our visit we found about twenty people regularly attending the Bible studies, and manifesting much interest. Before we left the

next morning by horseback to visit the Indians in the interior, sixteen patients were treated, and thirteen teeth extracted. As no charge was made for this service, a good impression was made upon those who had been prejudiced. On our return to this place many of the prominent people of the town came to us for consultation and treatment.

"Brother Landeros had been located here but one month, and notwithstanding the opposition, such interest had been developed that Indians from the interior were beginning to call upon him for medical attention. We believe there is a great work to be accomplished for the Tarahumare Indians. Brother Landeros needs the prayers of God's people as he labors in this difficult and dangerous region."

"My Name Shall Be Great Among the Heathen"

AND so it is today. Out in Nigeria, West Africa, God's hand is mightily at work. G. E. Nord, from the Northern European Division, in telling of experiences on a recent visit there is at a loss for words to describe how "the Spirit of God" is "mightily working" in Iboland, a thickly inhabited section in southeastern Nigeria. He says:

"Here as in no other place in our work in West Africa there has been a real mass movement toward the third angel's message. With our two mission stations there are now more than a thousand baptized believers—ninety-six Sabbath schools with a membership of nearly 10,000, which is an increase of more than 1,500 over last year.

"One of the workers reported from one district ten churches, seven smaller companies, twenty-one Sabbath schools and 2,082 Christian Sabbathkeepers, fifty baptized last year, 429 in baptismal classes at the present time, and 104 ready for baptism. In one of the churches, there were thirty-one heathen who had accepted the truth during the year. He said he felt such a great burden on his heart for all these groups and places that some days he could not eat, and spent whole nights in prayer, unable to sleep on account of those many needy souls.



"He learned that a certain man who had long been strongly opposed to our work was very ill, and to regain his health he had scoured from a witch doctor at great price a part of a stone. This stone was supposed to be the heart of a juju called 'Njoku,' and was to make him strong and well if it were put under his pillow, or in a certain corner where the juju priest told him. He obeyed instruction, but received no help. Finally a deep desire came over him to become a Christian, but all his heathen friends came to hinder him. He remembered the peace and hope manifested by the Seventh-day Adventists, and how he longed for that same peace in his own soul, and decided to call them to come and pray for him. They gladly came. He confessed to them how he had persecuted the Seventh-day Adventists and spent his money on the medicine man who had rubbed his whole body with a certain kind of medicine. Before prayer was offered for the man, water was heated and all the medicine was washed off, and after all the idols had been cast out and burned, the three began to pray. While they were interceding for him, he was instantly healed by the power of God, after having been unable to walk for more than a month. The next Sabbath he came to our meeting and is now ready to join the church. I have in my possession what is supposed to have been the heart of his former god. What a glorious victory!

"Another worker told of a man who in a dream heard his name called out by a strange voice which said that Jesus was soon coming, and he was admonished quickly to make Christ his choice, to send for our evangelist and three other Seventh-day Adventists who were named, and to give up his idols. He awoke from his dream shaking all over. His wife was frightened. He went to our mission station. After he had given up all his idols, the brethren prayed for him, and he gave himself to Jesus and is now a Seventh-day Adventist; his family also regularly attend our Sabbath school and meetings.

"Another man, possessed with seven devils who at times would make themselves visible to him and overpower him, heard a voice telling him to call on the Seventh-day Adventist brethren. He obeyed the voice, they prayed for him, and the vile spirits left him. He at once cut down the sacred bush and threw away his idols. Before, he was never able to remain in his house when the drums were calling the people to their secret bush rites, but now he could stay in the house and sleep soundly."

Thus, through His mighty works God is getting to Himself a great name among the heathen, as in the days of the apostles.

MISSION BOARD.

RUSSELL: I still don't see what that has to do with a missionary report.

WILLIAM: Well, here is the rest of her story. Now, not only one playmate, but several, are interested, and every week with the help of her father and mother Helen gives them a Bible study. So she has a Bible study to report for our Junior Society.

RUSSELL: I always thought that Bible studies, and giving away papers, and things like that were for old people.

WILLIAM: Speaking of papers reminds me of something else you missed at the last meeting.

RUSSELL: I suppose some one gave his *Instructor* to a neighbor and reported that. I always do that, too, but what does only one paper a week amount to? That's not much to report.

WILLIAM: Well, if every Junior Missionary Volunteer in the whole world gave away just one every week, that would be a lot, wouldn't it?

RUSSELL: I suppose so.

WILLIAM: Anyway, the teacher says that soon every Junior in our society can report giving away twenty papers a week.

RUSSELL: I don't have that many to give away, and besides there aren't that many children in my whole neighborhood.

WILLIAM: Wouldn't you like to give away twenty papers a week?

RUSSELL: I'd like to all right, but I don't see how you can do it.

WILLIAM: Here's how we are going to do it. Every Sabbath afternoon my father is going to take four Juniors over to Silver Spring, that town where there is no Adventist church, and each of the four will give out twenty copies of *Present Truth* to the people in their homes.

RUSSELL: Do you mean we have to rap on the door and give the paper to some one who comes?

WILLIAM: Yes.

RUSSELL: I wouldn't want to do that. I wouldn't know what to say.

WILLIAM: The first time we go, some older person will go with us to tell the people that we will bring them a paper every week, and all we have to do is smile and hand them the paper.

RUSSELL: Who is going with your father?

WILLIAM: Oh, George and Dale, and if you will go that will make four.

RUSSELL: I believe I'll go, and do you mean that I can write down on my missionary report every week twenty papers given away?

WILLIAM: Surely, and with the others in our band that will make eighty papers a week. Mrs. Mead is going to take four of the girls every week. I guess there will be four or five bands altogether.

RUSSELL: Say, we'll have a bigger report than the Seniors before long.

WILLIAM: No, because they are going to go to all the homes in Silver Spring that we do not take, so that every one in the town will learn about the truth.

RUSSELL: Do you suppose any one will believe the things that are written in the papers about Jesus' coming being near and about the Sabbath?

WILLIAM: Yes, the teacher said that surely some in the town will later want Bible studies and will no doubt accept the truth.

RUSSELL: I hope it will be some one on the street we take.

WILLIAM: Perhaps it will be.

RUSSELL: When do we begin?

WILLIAM: Next Sabbath.

RUSSELL: Let's see! That's one, two, three, four more days. I hope Sabbath will come quickly!

What If the Light Goes Out?

WHAT if the man who watches the light
Way up in the lighthouse tower,
Should say: "I'm tired of the dull routine
Of tending the lamps each hour:

"A little dust on the glass won't hurt;
The wicks don't need trimming today;
Though I know the oil won't burn all night,
I'll just hope no ship goes astray!"

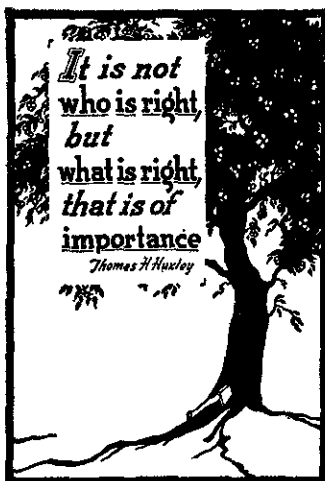
And the ship which was nearing its harbor safe
Was dashed on the rocky coast;
Just because no light shone out in the night,
The lives of the crew were lost.

What if a child who has promised to shine
As a light in this world of sin,
Should tire of the light bearer's task,
and say,
"To live for myself I'll begin"?

Her mite box lies empty upon the shelf,
To borrow from it was no theft.
A vacant chair in the mission band
Is all of that light bearer left.

And out in Fiji a little girl
From the mission school is sent
To the awful dark of a heathen home,
For the light bearer's light is spent.

—Author Unknown.



Officers' Notes

(Continued from page 15)

Once Peter was in a certain town (Joppa by name), and some friends in another town were in trouble. One of their number had died. When Peter heard of it, he went to see them and to offer his assistance. How many of us would walk ten miles to make a missionary visit?

Then one day Paul, the Christian (not Saul, the persecutor), went up to Jerusalem wishing to associate with the disciples, but they were afraid of him. So Barnabas took him and made him acquainted with them. We do not always have the opportunity of taking so distinguished a guest to Sabbath school or church.

We all remember the story of the good Samaritan. I think the man on the lonely road needed help very badly; anyhow, the Spirit reported his experience.

We are told that Jesus spent more time in healing the sick than in preaching. If we spent more time giving treatments and living and teaching the great principles of health reform, many more would be won to the truth.

Then there was a certain woman—I think most of us have heard of her—who gave away coats and other garments, and all down through the ages people have given away clothing because it was reported that Dorcas did.

When, from our frugal store, we, like the little lad, place in the Saviour's hands our "five barley loaves and two small fishes," multitudes will be blessed, and there will be "baskets" left over to help still others.

The Great Missionary, the one who has done more and given more for the saving of the race than we could even think of doing, has given us flowers everywhere, to enjoy and to gather into bouquets. Yes, as the sick and aged, our loved ones and friends, consider the lilies of the field, their hearts will be drawn heavenward.

The apostle Paul was one of the greatest distributors of gospel and missionary literature, giving out all the epistles from Romans to Hebrews, and he reported his work.

John wrote several missionary letters. We would write more missionary letters if we had as much of the love of God in our hearts as he did.

And they gave for home missionary work, for we have a record of the offerings Paul gathered for the poor saints in Jerusalem.

Again we are told of a certain man who had been praying, and his prayers and alms had been taken notice of in heaven. I wonder how many he had on his prayer list.

So we see that the Bible is made up largely of the missionary activities of men and women. And we are told that these things are given us for examples, that we should go and do likewise.—*Pacific Union Recorder*.

for a moment of the busy work carried on in the office of the coal company, recording and directing the shipments. Before we enjoy the warmth of the coal dug for us out of the earth, before we have the comforts of our modern heating luxuries, much teamwork takes place,—yes, teamwork.

(Suggest other industries—automobile construction, manufacture of cotton, travel and transportation. Bring out the value of group activity. Ask the society for more suggestions of such lessons. Let the Juniors tell how they may do better teamwork in their society.)

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Juniors and Literature

(Program for February 19)

BY M. E. DAWSON

SONGS FOR TODAY: Nos. 53, 54, 57, 82, and 83, in "Missionary Volunteer Songs."

OPENING EXERCISES.

INTRODUCTION. (See Notes to Superintendents.)

READING: "Child Preachers."

POEM: "What If the Light Goes Out?"

DIALOGUE: "What Can a Junior Do?"

STORY: "Lost—and Found." (See Senior program, p. 20.)

CLOSING SONG: No. 73 in "Missionary Volunteer Songs."

BENEDICTION.

Notes to Superintendents

Juniors under the supervision of older young people can do a very interesting work with literature. During the year different plans could be carried out, such as visiting hospitals or other institutions and carrying our various publications to those who are confined in these places. I have seen a group of Juniors under the direction of a Senior young person distribute weekly handbills for an evangelistic effort with enthusiasm throughout the entire duration of the effort. They would be just as eager to distribute papers in the Home Bible Study League plan if encouraged to do so.

This program will accomplish the most good if such an effort can be launched immediately following the presentation of this program. This would be a proper Sabbath afternoon activity for Juniors. Do not try to cover too much territory, but go carefully over a small section regularly for at least twelve weeks. An adult should go with each child on the first trip to explain the nature of the work and thereafter the young people could themselves deliver the papers to the homes with a Senior to supervise each group of not more than four Juniors.

Child Preachers

MANY, many years ago, men and women in different parts of the world began to study and learn more about the second coming of Jesus. According to Bible prophecy, the time had come for this truth to be proclaimed to all the world. In those days books and papers could not be printed as easily and as cheaply as they can now, and it was not possible to send them with speed through the mail. Preaching was the method used for the spread of the message.

Whenever and wherever the truth of the Bible is being taught, Satan is always near by with his helpers to hinder or stop the work. In one of the countries of Europe a group of men were preaching about the nearness of the coming of Jesus, and great crowds were interested in their message. But the men who governed that country were not at all pleased and had the police arrest these men and put them into prison. When God who made the earth and all the people in it wants to give them a message, He will not let it be stopped although men are put in jail or even killed. At this time God used a very interesting way of continuing His work. I don't believe you could guess what it was. Did He deliver the men from prison, as He did Peter and Paul and Silas? No. Did He find some more men to preach in their places? No. If He had, they would have been arrested, too. Here is what He did. He sent His Holy Spirit into the hearts of children—boys and girls like you; and being under age, they were able to preach without interference by the police.

Some one who lived at that time told about it in these words: "The weather was providentially very favorable that winter. There was little snow, but the marshes, lakes, and rivers were frozen over so that they could be used as a highroad, and the people went in masses to the places where these child preachers were, who were mostly poor cottagers. A little girl began preaching but a few miles from the place where I lived, and as the news of the wonderful movement was noised about, I went with my wife to see and hear for myself. When we arrived at the cottage, it was filled with people. The child, who was six or eight years old, moved around among them, and they asked her questions, which she answered as a child usually does. The people flocked together, till the house was surrounded by a great number. When the last had arrived, her manner changed entirely, both in boldness and movements, clearly indicating that she was moved by an invisible power, and not by her own natural gifts. When she commenced speaking, her voice also changed. She said, 'Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come.' She reproved sins, such as drinking, theft,

adultery, swearing, and backbiting, and also reproved churchgoers for attending church with worldly business in view, instead of listening to God's word and conforming their lives to it. Her voice and words were impressive. Many were weeping and sighing. They were told that time was given them to repent, but they must do it immediately, and not put it off.

"We went home with stricken and trembling hearts. I felt that I must take my Bible, which I thought I had carefully studied, and search it yet deeper. I could hardly work the following week. My thoughts were constantly running on God's word, and the sharp reproofs and expositions I had heard from that little child, who probably had not even learned to read.

"A great awakening commenced among the people. Many drunkards became sober men; thieves returned stolen property, and confessed their sins; forgiveness was asked for wrongs done. A work was accomplished such as no preacher with learning and great talent could have effected."—"Historical Sketches," pp. 205, 206.

Perhaps at this time while our ministers are able to preach freely, it is not necessary for Juniors to preach as did the children in Sweden almost a hundred years ago, but today young people may be preachers in a sense, by passing on to their friends and playmates the good books and papers which we have. If you give your *Youth's Instructor* or a tract or book to a friend, and he reads the message which it contains, your part in giving the paper or book is just as important as if you had preached the same message yourself.

What Can a Junior Do?

RUSSELL: Every time we have Missionary Volunteer meeting our teacher wants us to have a better missionary report. I don't see what she can expect us to do besides getting our lessons for school and having a little time to play.

WILLIAM: Have you heard what Helen is doing? She told us about it in meeting the day you were absent.

RUSSELL: I don't know what it could be.

WILLIAM: Well, one of the girls in her neighborhood who is not an Adventist began to ask her questions about why she could not play with her on Saturday, and why she believed so many things different from other people.

RUSSELL: I don't see what that has to do with a missionary report. Some of my friends have asked me the same questions.

WILLIAM: Don't be in a hurry. I'm not through with the story. Instead of answering the questions herself, Helen went into the house and asked her mother to find a text in the Bible which would answer each question, and she read them to her playmate.

Juniors can work successfully with literature! Organize thoroughly.