

The Church Officers' Gazette

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No. 8

A SONG OF CHEER

OVER the mists of the wintry sea
A message of gladness is sent to me,
And I pass it on to my friends tonight,
This message written in words of light;
Though dense is the darkness in which we stand,
"The night is far spent, the day is at hand."

Like figures uncertain we grope about
In dangerous places of fog and doubt.
In vain we long for a shelter warm
From the chilling sleet and the driving storm,
But "Be ye patient," is God's command,
"The night is far spent, the day is at hand."

Men's hearts, like the autumn leaves, are cast
Hither and thither by sorrow's blast,
The air is heavy with want and woe,
And the fierce war tidings we shrink to know,
And a cry of sadness rings through the land,
Yet, *"The night is far spent, the day is at hand."*

It is always the darkest before break of day
Drives the shades of the night away;
The silence is deepest before the song
Bursts into joyousness, loud and long;
And though in the stillness of night we stand,
"The night is far spent, the day is at hand."

E'en now as we wait in the shadows dim,
The angels are singing the Advent hymn;
Faintly we hear it across the snow,
The good, glad anthem of long ago,
And we say as we think of the shining band,
"The night is far spent, the day is at hand."

For Christ is coming, the world's true light!
And He will banish the mist of night;
Do not our troubles prepare His way?
And the night make ready for His great day?
Oh, let the joy-song peal through the land,
"The night is far spent, the day is at hand."

Let us go to meet it! How? or where?
Nay, little it matters, we need not care;
The skies may be starry with many a gem
As over the fields of Bethlehem,
Or we in the shadows of death may stand
When *"the night is far spent, the day is at hand."*

All shall be well in the happy morn
When we see His face, the once lowly born,
And glad is the message that comes to me,
Out of the mists of the wintry sea;
For a Star of Hope is above the land.
"The night is far spent, the day is at hand."

—MARIANNE FARNINGHAM in *Review and Herald*, Aug. 14, 1879.



YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT of Missionary Volunteers



NOTES TO OFFICERS

Planning the Society Executive Committee Meeting

PERHAPS many Missionary Volunteer Society officers seldom have an executive committee meeting because no one is certain who should plan the meeting or what ought to be done at the meeting.

Who should plan the society executive committee meeting? The leader of the society, of course. He is the chairman of the society executive committee and ought, with the society secretary-treasurer, to plan an agenda, or work sheet. In preparing an agenda of the items, to be considered by his committee, he ought to take an over-all view of the functioning of his society in order to know what the society is actually doing and what the society ought to be doing. First to be considered should be the Missionary Volunteer FEATURES:

Devotional, which includes the Morning Watch, the Character Classics, the regular Bible Year, and the other devotional activities.

Educational, the Missionary Volunteer Reading Courses, the Young People's Forum, various Vocational Honor projects and clubs, Master Comrade activities, and Nature Clubs.

Service, Prayer and Personal Workers' Band, Christian Help and Sunshine Band, Literature and Correspondence Band, Crusaders' Corps or Gospel Meeting Band, Temperance Band, Ingathering Bands—in fact, all service bands of the society.

Fellowship, under which may be classified society social gatherings, recreational occasions, hikes, excursions to the hills, woods, etc., singing festivals, and all activities of the kind in which fellowship is of prime interest.

Are the various bands receiving the emphasis in the society which they should? Are they actually functioning? Should a temperance program be prepared and given in some church or high school auditorium? Are there better methods that could be discovered for promoting the various features mentioned above? Should a baptismal class be organized in your society? Is it time for another social occasion? If so, what plans should be laid for this?

In preparing the agenda, the society leader would find it helpful if he made a careful analysis of the reports of the various promotional secretaries and band leaders in order to see what may need emphasis here or guiding there, or what new plans should be laid.

On the agenda, also, should be given time for reports from the various society groups to be studied by the society

executive committee as a whole. This study of society activities and plans will greatly strengthen your leadership of the society. You will know what you are doing and will be able to suggest plans for the betterment of the society.

The preparation of the agenda for a society executive committee meeting may be a large factor in your success. There is an old saying, you know: "Ho who fails to prepare is preparing to fail."

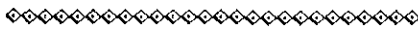
A. W. P.



50,000 Books

THE reconstruction campaign on behalf of our overseas colleges, academies, and other institutional libraries is well under way. With the earnest co-operation of all society leaders and young people's societies in the United States, we can easily reach our goal—the collection of 50,000 books. You will do well to consult the list of topics appearing in the July GAZETTE on the M.V. officers' page (page 3), and gather in all the worthwhile books possible in any of the desired fields. We look to you as leaders in the society in your church to make this undertaking a real success, and thank you heartily for your co-operation.

C. LESTER BOND.



Leaders Direct Youth in Education

In a ringing call to leaders of youth in the church, Missionary Volunteer officers as well as others, come the words of God's messenger:

"Nothing is of greater importance than the education of our children and young people. The church should arouse, and manifest a deep interest in this work; for now as never before, Satan and his host are determined to enlist the youth under the black banner that leads to ruin and death.

"God has appointed the church as a watchman, to have a jealous care over the youth and children, and as a sentinel to see the approach of the enemy and give warning of danger."—*Counsels to Teachers*, p. 165.

Society officers whom God has charged with responsibility of leading young people must always be alert to the perils and needs of the youth under their leadership. They ought to seek every opportunity to arouse the church to the spiritual perils which threaten Adventist young people who attend the schools of

the world, and to emphasize the benefits of Christian education.

Of course, this ought to be done all through the year, but it ought to be done especially during August, when preparations are being made for the coming school year. The society executive committee should therefore—

1. Lay definite plans to arouse the church and center its interest upon the necessity of enrolling our young people in our own schools.

2. Talk to young people about going to our schools.

3. Talk to parents about the importance of getting children into our church schools and the older young people off to the academy or college.

4. Work up a special program featuring Christian education. This program might be given on a Sunday night or with the co-operation of the church board at the eleven o'clock service.

5. Send the names of young people of academic age to the principal of the academy and the names of young people of college age to the president of the college in your territory.

"The Lord would have the children gathered out from those schools where worldly influences prevail, and placed in our own schools, where the Word of God is made the foundation of education."—*Ibid.*, p. 166.

A. W. P.

M.V. Crusaders

WE are told that the work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally and work with the efforts of those of the church officers. This does not mean that members of the church must all be preachers, but it does imply that they must all be soul winners. This reference pertains to the youth as emphatically as to the older members of the church.

"In view of their high calling, the youth among us should not seek for amusement, or live for selfish gratification. The salvation of souls is to be the motive that inspires them to action. In their God-given strength they are to rise above every enslaving, debasing habit. They are to ponder well the paths of their feet, remembering that where they lead the way, others will follow."—*Counsels to Teachers*, p. 535.

"In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light bearers. To them has been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world. On them is shining wonderful light from the Word of God. They have been given a work of the most solemn import,—the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels' messages. There is no other work of so great im-

portance. They are to allow nothing else to absorb their attention."—*Testimonies*, Vol. IX, p. 19.

The Crusaders' Corps is designed to help our young people accomplish their part in the fulfillment of this responsibility. Officers of the Missionary Volunteer Society, you should permit nothing to hinder you from giving the young people the training necessary to do this type of work. You should promote energetically and continuously the Crusaders' Corps. C. LESTER BOND.

Social Gatherings

We are social by nature. Every normal young person will develop along social lines as he makes progress in the other three fields of experience—physical, mental, and spiritual.

The world at large is devoting a great deal of time and energy in fostering the social instincts, but the Christian cannot follow the direction of the world, for to do so will lead to destruction. Our social life must be "social to save." Consequently, every Missionary Volunteer Society executive committee should give careful and prayerful thought and planning to the social life of the society members. You should study carefully the first four chapters of the book *Recreational Plans for Missionary Volunteers* and endeavor to inculcate the principles set forth in the lives and thinking of the society members. Endeavor to make every social gathering meet the standards of the church. It would be found that the games suggested in *Recreational Plans* will be very conducive to this end.

Every Missionary Volunteer Society should plan at least one well-ordered social gathering each month. In *Recreational Plans* there are suggestions given which will provide great variety in social gatherings. It will be found helpful to hold some of these outdoors. August is an ideal month for such assemblages. C. LESTER BOND.

Society Ushers

EVERYTHING connected with the work of God should be done decently and in order. Thorough organization is essential to progress in connection with any group activity. Especially is this so in a young people's society, and in order for the meetings to be carried on effectively, every provision must be made to enable the meetings to contribute to the success of the society. One phase of the work which is often overlooked, but which will contribute greatly to success, is the appointment of ushers and the work that is to be done by them.

Even in small societies there should be at least one competent young person appointed as an usher, either a young man or a young woman, whose business it will be to meet the people as they come to the meeting place, show them comfortable seats, and make them feel right at home. Of course, in larger societies the number of ushers will depend upon the need.

The ushers should be at the meeting place early. Upon them will rest the

(Continued on page 12)



SENIOR MEETINGS

August 4

The Second Coming and My Recreation

BY GEORGE P. STONE

Order of Service

SONG.
SCRIPTURE READING.
PRAYER.
REPORTS.
OFFERTORY.
SPECIAL MUSIC.
LEADER'S INTRODUCTION OF TOPIC.
INTRODUCTORY REMARKS by Chairman of the Forum.
DISCUSSION: "The Second Coming and My Recreation."
In view of the soon return of Jesus, how do we relate ourselves to recreation, or what do we choose?
Summarize the points brought out in the discussion.
SONG.
BENEDICTION.

Notes to Leaders

This problem can be best solved by discussing it from the positive rather than from the negative. Discuss what we can do, what we can experience of the good things which God has given us. "O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in Him." Ps. 34:8. Lead the youth to experience the good things that God has prepared for them.

The material outlined will give a basis for your discussions. Secure a blackboard for the discussion if possible.

Why Recreation?

MAN is a social being. "Social desires are woven into the very fabric of human life by an all-wise Creator." The desire for social intercourse is natural and right. Relaxation is essential to the physical, mental, and spiritual well-being of mankind.

"Recreation" means a "refreshment of strength and spirits after toil." It is very necessary to man's well-being. Many times it is as vital as food for the preservation of the mental, emotional, and physical health.

"There is a distinction between recreation and amusement. Recreation, when true to its name, re-creation, tends to strengthen and build up. Calling us aside from our ordinary cares and occupations, it affords refreshment for mind and body, and thus enables us to return with new vigor to the earnest work of life. Amusement, on the other hand, is sought for the sake of pleasure, and is often carried to excess; it absorbs the energies that are required for useful work, and thus proves a hindrance to life's true success."—*Education*, p. 207.

a. The craving for pleasurable amusements is natural. "The continual craving for pleasurable amusements reveals the deep longings of the soul."—*Messages to Young People*, p. 370.

b. "The young want just what they have not; namely, religion. Nothing can take the place of this."—*Ibid.*, p. 383.

c. The cravings of fellowship are satisfied only in God. "Man, created for

fellowship with God, can only in such fellowship find his real life and development. Created to find in God his highest joy, he can find in nothing else that which can quiet the cravings of the heart, can satisfy the hunger and thirst of the soul."—*Education*, pp. 124, 125.

d. The only satisfying life is God-centered. "In the arrangements for the education of the chosen people it is made manifest that a life centered in God is a life of completeness."—*Ibid.*, p. 41. "When once the gaze is fixed upon Him, the life finds its center."—*Ibid.*, p. 297.

e. Physical inactivity and mental strain cause craving for amusement. "By pursuing one line of thought exclusively, the mind often becomes unbalanced."—*Ibid.*, p. 209. "A constant strain upon the brain while the muscles are inactive, enfeebles the nerves, and gives to students an almost uncontrollable desire for change and exciting amusements."—*Counsels to Teachers*, p. 288.

f. Relaxation and recreation of the body and mind are important. "The body as well as the mind must have exercise."—*Messages to Young People*, p. 379. "Recreation is needful to those who are engaged in physical labor, and is still more essential for those whose labor is principally mental. It is not essential to our salvation, nor for the glory of God, to keep the mind laboring constantly and excessively, even upon religious themes."—*Ibid.*, p. 392.

g. Youth are not sedate as old age and should have innocent pleasures. "Youth cannot be made as sedate and grave as old age, the child as sober as the sire. While sinful amusements are condemned, as they should be, let parents, teachers, and guardians of youth provide in their stead innocent pleasures, which will not taint or corrupt the morals."—*Ibid.*, p. 381.

h. It is our duty to engage in recreation. "It is the privilege and duty of Christians to seek to refresh their spirits and invigorate their bodies by innocent recreation, with the purpose of using their physical and mental powers to the glory of God."—*Ibid.*, p. 364.

What Recreation?

a. Our guide. "We are to be guided by true theology and common sense."—*Counsels to Teachers*, p. 257.

b. Choose recreation productive of good. "In the place of providing diversions that merely amuse, arrangements should be made for exercises that will be productive of good."—*Ibid.*, p. 354.

c. It should fit one to discharge his duties better. "We can, and should, conduct our recreations in such a manner that we shall be better fitted for the more successful discharge of the duties devolving upon us, and our influence will be more beneficial upon those with whom we associate."—*Messages to Young People*, p. 385.

d. The kind God can bless. "Any amusement in which you can engage asking the blessing of God upon it in faith will not be dangerous."—*Ibid.*, p. 386.

e. Cultivate Christian sociability. "Christian sociability is altogether too little cultivated by God's people."—*Ibid.*, p. 405.

f. Be temperate in recreation. "There is great need of temperance in amusements, as in every other pursuit."—*Ibid.*, p. 379.

g. Go out of doors if possible. "Exercise in a gymnasium, however well conducted, cannot supply the place of recreation in the open air."—*Education*, p. 210.

h. The best place to go. "Recreation in the open air, the contemplation of the works of God in nature, will be of the highest benefit."—*Messages to Young People*, p. 381.

The Test of Recreation

CAN you ask God to bless it?
Does it lead you farther away or nearer to Christ?

Does it trouble your conscience?
Does it refresh you physically, mentally, and morally?

Does it encourage integrity and self-control?

Does it tend toward refinement, virtue, and purity?

Does it take you in the wrong crowd?
Does it open the door?

The following social and recreational tests are based on the Bible:

"1. Does the pleasure in question tend to enslave me? If so, then it shall not be permitted to come into my life. (1 Cor. 6:12.)"

"2. Does the pleasure in question help in building up my body, my mind, and my heart? If not, then in justice to my own welfare, my own character, and my influence I cannot give it a place in my life. (1 Cor. 10:23.)"

"3. Does the pleasure in question cause others to stumble over me? If so, then I will turn my back upon it, even though there be no harm in it to me. (1 Cor. 8:12, 13.)"

"4. Can the pleasure in question be fitted into the glory of God? If not, then it is not worthy of me, for I can go to no place and can take part in no thing and can continue in no habit upon which I cannot ask His blessing. I love my Father too much to bring reproach upon Him by anything in my life. (1 Cor. 10:31.)"

"5. If I am not sure as to the answer which must be given to the above four questions, and if I am in doubt, I will take the safe side and give my Father the benefit of the doubt. If I cannot be sure as to the pleasure in question, then I will not allow myself to be untrue to the one I love, and grieve Him by showing that I only need half of an excuse to go into wrong. (Rom. 14:23.)"—W. WISMAN HAMILTON, *Worldly Amusements—How to Decide*, pp. 11-14.

What Can We Do?

If possible, have a blackboard at this period in the program, and in the light of the preceding discussion list upon it the positive recreational activities that youth can do.

1. For the family:

a. In every family where there are children or young people, a workshop with tools should be provided to afford an outlet for the creative energy of youth.

b. Family excursions into the country, near a lake or in a woods, to exercise and play together and to enjoy the things of nature.

2. Church outings with well-planned recreational activities.

3. Recreational activities for Senior youth:

a. Nature clubs with their excursions to the hills, woods, swamps, seashore; to study birds, insects, trees, shrubs, plants, grasses, fish, animals, stars, snakes, rocks, shells, mosses, etc.

b. Hiking and bicycling clubs for excursions to interesting places.

c. Senior youth's camps with their emphasis on nature, vocational projects, crafts, wholesome recreation and association, and spiritual values.

d. Groups to do Christian help work. Singing bands, to visit shut-ins, hospitals, old people's homes, etc.

4. Recreational activities for Juniors:

a. Junior camps and their nature crafts.

b. Nature and hiking clubs.

c. Christian help bands.

d. Hobbies of making airplanes, radios, etc., or collecting leaves, butterflies, coins, stamps, etc.

Summer Activities

1. PLAN for Junior and Senior camp.

2. Outdoor cooking trips.

3. Learn the poisonous plants.

4. Plan a safe and sane Fourth of July picnic.

5. Get acquainted with the summer birds.

6. Plan a berrying expedition. Blueberries make best pies.

7. Build a boat.

8. Start a guide to the nature treasures of the community.

9. Give nature-guide lectures at campfires and morning nature walks.

10. Start classes for nature handcraft. Gather sweet grass, cattails, and pine needles for basketry.

11. Sponsor a boat-sailing contest.

12. Beach parties are now in season.

13. Plan for a fall tree planting.

14. Have a sand-modeling contest on the beach. The elephant or cat is a good subject.

15. Plan a friendship garden. Exchange plants with friends.

16. Plan a nature exhibit for your society.

17. Gather weed seeds for winter bird feeding.

18. Prepare a fall wild-flower show for the library.

19. Organize fall nature club.

20. Be careful of your campfires this season.

Fall Activities

1. THIS is the time to study fungi and mushrooms. How about a Vocational Honor?

2. It is time for a nutting party.

3. Go graping. Make grape jelly and grape juice.

4. List the most attractive places to see

5. Leaves will be in color. Kodachrome fans, load your cameras.

6. This is the season for a corn roast.

7. Make a trip to get autumn leaves.

8. Have a bayberry-picking party.

9. Plant black walnuts, acorns, butter-nuts.

10. Clean up the summer garden.

11. Plan a society outing and campfire. Family groups, too.

12. Get evergreens for window boxes.

13. Gather cocoons of Polyphemus, Prome-thea, Cecropia, and Luna moths for spring hatching.

14. Time to mulch bulbs and shrubs.

15. Expedition to gather cattail leaves, beach grass, willow sprouts, or ash withes for basketmaking during the winter.

16. Start a winter weaving club.

17. Gather material for winter bouquets.

18. Star study is good in late autumn.

Winter Activities

1. MAKE a list of "Who's Who" among winter bird visitors.

2. Enjoy sleigh rides, skiing, skating, and snowshoeing parties.

3. Collect six kinds of maple twigs and note differences.

4. Collect birds' nests after the nesting season is over. The hummingbird's nest is the most difficult to find.

5. Build a window feeding station for the birds.

6. Start planning for Juniors to go to summer camp.

7. Identify animal tracks in the snow.

8. Learn the trees in winter.

9. Start a birdhouse-building class.

10. Prepare a "hiking map" of the city, showing museums, parks, historic sites,

quarries, fine views, and interesting nature spots to visit.

11. Tap maple trees when it "freezes nights and thaws days."

12. Have a maple-sugar party.

13. Make a birdbath for the garden.

14. Get your garden tools in shape.

15. Start a Camera Hike Club.

16. Make a weather vane. Study weather.

17. Watch the first tree to flower.

18. Organize a canoe club.

Spring Activities

1. PUT up birdhouses.

2. Start building open-air fireplaces, benches, and outdoor conveniences for family picnics.

3. Begin your spring flower collection.

4. Get out the birdbath.

5. Keep a bird list. Check new arrivals

6. Morning hikes for mothers, afternoon for school children, Sunday afternoon for business girls and boys.

7. Plant gardens.

8. Plan a trip to the local weather bureau.

9. Talk to the society about fire prevention.

10. Study tree blossoms.

11. Watch nesting habits of birds.

12. Emphasize family picnics.

13. Plant a tree on Arbor Day.

14. Get the lawn mower sharpened up.

15. May is the month for bird and flower trips.

16. Plan a water trip. Gather shells.

17. Plan trips to apple, peach, and cherry orchards. Lilies and rhododendrons are out.

18. Plan a trip to the "Old Swimming Hole."

19. Field trip for appreciation. "I love thy rocks and rills." Take your camera.

Walk It Off

WHEN the cares of earth oppress you,
When the ills of life distress you,
When fatigues impress you,
Walk it off!
When the future's grave and graver,
When the past has lost its savor,
When the present finds no favor,
Walk it off!
What's the sport that legs were made for?
What's the purpose trails were laid for?
Well or ill, in debt or paid for—
Walk it off!

—THOMAS TINKER.

There are twenty-six Vocational Honors in Nature Study. How many do you have?

The Best Recreation

"RECREATION in the open air, the contemplation of the works of God in nature, will be of the highest benefit."—*Messages to Young People*, n. 381.

Next to the Bible, nature is God's second book. Let's get acquainted.

LET NATURE TEACH ME

Let nature give me this—
The courage of tall trees,
The silent strength of rocks
Against the crashing seas,
The beauty of the dawn,
The joyousness of spring,
The power to soar above
As eagle on the wing,
Let nature teach me this—
The peaceful death of sky,
The quiet of the stars,
The gallant way to die.

—GERTRUDE GRAYMES SMITH.

"He who studies most deeply into the mysteries of nature will realize most fully his own ignorance and weakness. He will realize that there are depths and heights which he cannot reach, secrets which he cannot penetrate, vast fields of truth lying before him unentered. He will be ready to say, with Newton, 'I seem to myself to have been like a child on the seashore finding pebbles and shells, while the great ocean of truth lay undiscovered before me.'"—*Education*, v. 133.

Theodore Roosevelt said, in addressing the readers of the *American Museum Journal*,

"My interest in natural history has added very little to my sum of achievement, but it has added immensely to my sum of enjoyment in life."

William Beebe, in a foreword to an article written by Theodore Roosevelt in the *Book of Naturalists*, wrote:

"May I be permitted one anecdote which illustrates one of many less-known phases of his mind? It deals with a game that Colonel Roosevelt and I used to play at Sagamore Hill. After an evening of talk, perhaps about the fringes of knowledge, or some new possibility of climbing inside the minds and senses of animals, we would go out on the lawn, where we took turns at an amusing little astronomical rite. We searched until we found, with or without glasses, the faint, heavenly spot of light-mist beyond the lower left-hand corner of the great square of Pegasus, when one or the other of us would then recite:

"That is the spiral galaxy of Andromeda. It is as large as our Milky Way. It is one of a hundred million galaxies. It is 750,000 light-years away. It consists of one hundred billion suns, each larger than our sun."

"After an interval Colonel Roosevelt would grin at me and say, 'Now I think we are small enough! Let's go to bed.'"

"We must have repeated this salutary ceremony forty or fifty times in the course of years, and it never palled."

"Sympathy with nature is a part of the good man's religion."—F. H. HENDEK.

"I tasted the odor of a hundred blossoms and the green shimmering of innumerable leaves and the sparkle of sifted sunbeams and the breath of highland breezes and the song of many birds and the murmur of flowing streams—all in a wild strawberry."—HENRY VAN DYKE.

My friend, when cares oppress, when you are at your wife's end for something to do, take the society on a hike out of doors. Do it on Sabbath. Plan more active things for the week days, but by all means, try it.



August 11

The Tie That Binds

BY F. G. ASHBAUGH

Order of Service

SONG.
PRAYER.
DEVOTIONAL EXERCISES.
OFFERTORY.
REPORTS.
TALK: "The Tie That Binds."
SYMPOSIUM: "Our Boys Faithfully Serve God and Country."
POEM: "The Song of the Road."
SELF-EXAMINATION QUESTIONS.
CLOSING EXERCISES.

Note to Leaders

Among the reports today, add those of your own members who are serving God and their country faithfully, whether in the homeland or abroad. The message we bear in our young people's society is the tie that binds us together in fellowship around the world. Invite as many youth as possible to participate in the symposium. This is an excellent opportunity to have a large number contribute to the meeting.

The Tie That Binds

It was a happy idea—this M.V. organization. Not only that, but the Lord, through His messenger, sent forth the call to service, the call to definite, organized, soul-winning endeavor, to prayer and consecration. This wholesome blessed fellowship has been a source of inspiration to thousands, and its influence is deepening and widening every day.

At one of the Military Technician Training Schools, the colonel had insisted that everyone, without exception, must take the minimum of two hours' drill on the Sabbath. He had sent sixteen Adventist boys at sixteen different

times back to their barracks, hundreds of miles away, back to their routine duties with their chance to study gone, because they could not conscientiously do this routine training on the Sabbath. It was the Missionary Volunteer Society program that won the colonel over—the importance and inspiration of this youth meeting to the men in the military forces. Both the Missionary Volunteer meeting and the drill came Sabbath afternoon, and the colonel reversed his stubbornly held position to let the young men go to their own youth-group meeting.

At this time thousands of our young men and not a few of our young women are patriotically serving their country. They are in Germany, Luxembourg, Belgium, France, England, Italy, Africa, China, the Philippine Islands, and all the Pacific islands occupied by our forces. They are in camps also in our own land.

In many of these lonely places there will be three or four Adventist boys—sometimes only one. In other places there are larger groups. They look to the homeland to their home Missionary Volunteer societies for inspiration and help. We must not fail them. It is "the tie that binds," and in many places these young people under difficult and primitive conditions, under a giant tree, or down by the seashore, in some buddy's tent or barracks, are holding Bible studies, conducting meetings together, and keeping the fire burning in their souls.

Most Missionary Volunteer societies have a definite plan of writing regularly to their members in military service. Some send out a small bulletin filled with home news and happenings. This is an excellent plan. Some of the conference M.V. secretaries also get out bulletins with news of the societies and experiences of the boys. We cannot give the boys too much home news. A month is a long time—in a foxhole. As a sample of what we should encourage everywhere, here are some excerpts from a recent bulletin (Central California *Communicator*):

"Those of you who have been to the Wawona summer camps probably have heard that we had the largest senior camp ever last summer. We are looking forward to some more fine camps this coming summer.

"By the way, we are rebuilding the old dining hall, and the new one will be much larger and nicer.

"The week end of — we had our annual M.V. Officers' Institute in Fresno. Delegates were present from over forty societies. We all stayed at the Fresno Hotel; and what an inspirational meeting it was! You will be interested to know that we all were thinking of you and had special prayer for your protection and guidance.

"I wish you could have been present on Sabbath afternoon. We had a Youth's Congress. Have you ever seen the large Memorial Auditorium in Fresno? It was well-filled with nearly three thousand people!

"Our our afternoon program we had congregational singing led by Elder L. S. Melendy; special music by several of our academy music organizations; a full hour program by the Voice of Prophecy Radio Group; a message by Elder Eric B. Hare; and a vesper service conducted by President H. J. Klooster of Pacific Union College.

"Oh, yes—and we called all the fellows in uniform up to the front and gave each one a gift.

"Then in the evening Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Wheeler, of Angwin, showed some beautiful

kodachrome nature pictures, and a group from P.U.C. gave an entertaining program of music and readings.

"To close the congress, we cleared the seats out of the auditorium and had a grand march! Literally hundreds took part in this, and we had to divide them into sections in order to make room. During one of the formations, we spelled out a huge 'M.V.'"

"I hope you can attend our next congress! Be sure to write back real soon, and then others can learn how you are getting along.

"Remember always to be a good soldier for God and country."

"Very sincerely yours,

"P.S. Enclosed you will find a new edition of the Servicemen's Morning Watch with the compliments of the M.V. department. If you would like additional copies for friends, feel free to ask for them. Also we will be glad to send you *Lesson Quarters* and other literature just for the asking. So—let us hear from you."

There it is—chatty, informal home news, inspirational—"the tie that binds" our youth the world around.

Our Boys Faithfully Serve God and Country

MANY of our boys are heroes. A number have been decorated for gallantry and heroic service. Some are wounded and are now in hospitals. Some have made the supreme sacrifice. Many are witnessing for Christ wherever they are. To get a clearer picture in our minds, perhaps we should illustrate each of these classes mentioned.

Moises Gonzales, technician fifth grade, wears the Legion of Merit, the Purple Heart, and other decorations. In a battle near Mount Marino, Italy, while serving as battery aid man, his battery was ambushed by a large German force. Just as the battery was ordered to withdraw because of fierce and increasing enemy fire, Gonzales heard a call for aid in the direction of the enemy. He answered this call and was surprised and captured by the enemy, receiving a bayonet thrust in the chest. Some time later, when questioned about the battle situation, Moises convinced his captors that they were surrounded by superior forces. The Nazi leader sent out an officer to investigate Moises' story. The officer did not return. Then he sent a private. He likewise failed to return. Thoroughly convinced, the rest of them brought their guns and laid them down at the unarmed medical corpsman's feet. "All right, you take us into the American lines," they said. Moises marched twenty-five German prisoners back to his own lines, calling out the while, "German prisoners, don't fire, German prisoners, don't fire!"

"That is quite an exploit for an Adventist unarmed, medical corpsman, don't you think? His courage, keen presence of mind, and steadfast devotion to duty will always be recalled with pleasure and pride.

Byron Eller, pharmacist's mate, wears the Silver Star "for gallantry in action at New Georgia, Solomon Islands, in aggressively proceeding to a position covered by intense, hostile fire in order to render first aid to five wounded marines and safely evacuate them."

Corporal Joe Rector, from a hospital: "I'm back in England again; this time I'm a patient. I was wounded in the back as I went out to get one of my wounded men. I'm surely thankful to be alive and well after what I've been through. I've had many close calls from all kinds of shellings, including bombings, but I was hit by a bullet from a machine gun. Some of those Nazis just have no respect for our Red Cross, and there are a lot of them that do. One time I was in plain sight of a machine gun nest, as I worked on two wounded men. I watched them snipe at one man as he crawled backward. I was very uneasy. The man got away O.K. I had quite a few experiences such as these. In some cases, we worked side by side with German medics. I have strong faith in the Lord. His presence is very near out here."

Just one illustration of a boy who gave "the last full measure of devotion." The letter is from the boy's major:

"Dear Mrs. —: Before you receive this letter, you will have had word of the death of your son —. I want you to know how much your son did for the wounded; he repeatedly went to the aid of his comrades in mine fields in front of the front lines. He was wounded once, you know, by a sniper, when going to the aid of a buddy. He was shot while tending him, but he kept going, and was always so cheerful about it that it was contagious. I know how your son felt about war, but he was most happy in being with us and being able to do a little construction amongst all that is destruction.

— fixed violins in his spare time and made some clever things for the other fellows out of plastic. He was as clean cut, high-minded, and deeply religious a young man as it has been my pleasure to have worked with.

"He was struck by a shell on the road to Duren, Germany. He died immediately from a head wound. He and some of his buddies were on their way up to bring back a wounded soldier at the time.

"I know that medals don't mean much. He has been recommended for the Silver Star and others. However, the mothers of those boys who will be coming back home because of your son's gallantry can and will thank God for your son's work. He was fearless to a fault and completely happy up to the last in aiding men in pain."

Corporal Martin B. Bush (Philippines): "There are about twenty S.D.A. boys meeting at a general hospital fifteen miles from here. Have run across a few old friends, and find new ones just as fine. We are glad to meet and worship on God's holy day in a nice chapel. A chaplain usually studies with us after our regular Sabbath school. Native believers meet across the island."

Private Harry D. Friedly: "The very first piece of mail that I received upon landing in the Philippines was my edition of *Snapshots* [Pacific Union Conference bulletin], and I was really encouraged to get it. It gave me that feeling that my fellow believers were right here with me. As I am the only Adventist boy in the crowd, I sometimes get lonesome for our believers. However, you would be surprised at the number of boys that I have found with whom I can have worship."

Corporal Francis K. Harral (Germany): "I am the only S.D.A. youth in my outfit, but won't be for long. I am thankful that four boys are diligently studying and ready for baptism."

Technical Sergeant Fifth Class Robert H. Juler (New Guinea): "Every Sabbath from fifteen to twenty-five boys meet in the base chapel to study the Bible and sing the songs of Zion."

Private First Class R. L. Vaughan (Philippines): "We have met some of our civilian members, and the soldiers are furnishing the money and the civilians the labor, and we are building a mission here. We are a long way from any of the places that our workers have established, so we thought it a good plan to do our best to establish a work here. We have purchased land, built a house for our members, and are working on a church building."

Lieutenant P. J. Moore (U.S.A.): "I have taken the Morning Watch Calendar to my ward, and post the verse for the day on the patients' bulletin board every morning." [Above from *Snapshots*, April, 1945.]

Corporal Wilbur Hainey (Philippines): "I am now where I can meet with some of the S.D.A. Filipinos. It surely is nice to be able to worship with them. In some of the churches they speak English, and in others they use their native language. I have met several S.D.A.'s, and they all treat us fine. Some of the boys wonder why and how we get to know the people so soon, but Adventists are the same wherever you meet them, no matter in what part of the world."

Private First Class Harold W. Kepinger (Belgium): "I have been receiving the *Comrades Exchange* [Indiana Conference bulletin] right along, and I appreciate it very much, for it is very interesting to read letters from fellows who are so far away, and to know that they are getting along O.K. I want to thank you for the new *Sabbath School Quarterly*, for that is the only way I have been able to get one; so keep them coming. We are very thankful to be able to meet with so many of like faith over here. At first we were just a few and were meeting in one of the civilian homes, but as our congregation is growing we have been forced to rent a church. Now we have about thirty-five civilians and about twenty-five soldiers; so you can imagine the wonderful meetings we have. There have been different Belgian ministers from time to time, and the sermon is translated into English for those of us who can't understand it."

Private A. C. Becker (U.S.A.): "Yesterday I discovered one of the men in my platoon working on a correspondence course from the *Voice of Prophecy*. I asked him how he liked it, and he seemed very enthusiastic over it. He displayed some corrected lessons, which showed good work. I told him that if he had any trouble answering the questions, I would be only too glad to help him. I am going to try to get him to buy a *Bible Readings*, and have some Bible studies with him." [Our Boys in Service, East Pennsylvania.]

Lieutenant Viola Eisenbach: "Your continued interest means much to us in these countries. I just finished my turn as Sabbath school secretary and thought you'd probably be interested in a few figures. During the year 1944 our Sabbath school had an average attendance of 50 members a week. Over \$2,000 of the \$2,300 taken was in Sabbath school offerings. The greater share of this went to the Australasian Division, but I was happy to start the practice of sending the offering each week to the home church of one of the members. We have over forty churches represented, though some members have moved on and so will be dropped. Thank you very much for your interest and letters."

Captain John B. Oliver (India): "I have recently moved to a new hospital. There are seven other S.D.A. men here. Every Sabbath we hitchhike twenty-seven miles to church and twenty-seven miles back in the evening. The missionaries here at the union headquarters have been very kind and friendly. It has been my experience that wherever I've been, the fact that I am an S.D.A. made me immediately a part of the family. The other men, too, have commented on the feeling of fellowship and friendliness that has been manifest toward them by all people of the church wherever they have been. I'm sure that many men will go home from this war more convinced than ever of the need and benefits of foreign missions."

Private First Class H. Rollin Brown (France): "Every day I am given a chance to witness for the Lord. Only last evening the fellow with whom I share a room talked with me for about two hours about the Sabbath and our message. He has read the two *Youth's Instructors* that I have and the *Review and Herald*. He just noticed them on my bed, as he said, and finished them even before I could. Truly, the world is hungry for the assurance and the peace that this message will give them." [The Service News, Oregon.]

Staff Sergeant Stanley L. Dombrusky: "My experiences have been many. The Lord has richly blessed me on the island of Maui. Thus far six precious souls have come to know Jesus through Bible studies which I have been giving on this island in my spare time.

"Among these folks one of the wealthiest men on this island has become a member of our church. His son followed, and now his wife and three daughters are planning to be baptized. The eldest daughter is going to attend Walla Walla College. This is only one of the many happy times of a person's life, when the Lord permits a man to win souls for His kingdom. I am holding Bible

studies with about five families at present. The future looks bright for the Lord's work on this island. I don't know how long I shall remain in this place. However, a new boy has arrived on the island who is an S.D.A., and I am tutoring him for the job when I leave. When we arrived here, there was only a handful of believers. Last week I had the preaching service, and for the first time there were more than forty people present. Can't you see why I am so happy? I have seen with my own eyes that these things actually happen. [New Jersey Servicemen's Log.]

A Song of the Road

This beautiful poem may well represent the personal soliloquy of thousands of our Adventist boys in camp all over the world.

I MUST look them in the eyes
When I go home;
So I'm under obligation
As I roam;
To be white and clean and square
All the time and everywhere,
Or I'd have to dodge their eyes
When I go home.

I must look them in the eyes
And feel no shame,
Feel no consciousness of guilt
Or cause for blame;
So I'll do the best I can
To be every whit a man,
Or I couldn't face the folks
And feel no shame.

I must kiss them with clean lips
When I return;
So the kisses of the wanton
I must spurn;
For their sweet belief in me
Unbetrayed must ever be:
I must kiss with decent lips
When I return!

I must give what I expect
When I go home—
Love as wide and high and pure
As heaven's dome.
Right must triumph in the end;
God's own rules we cannot mend;
I must give what I expect
When I go home.

—STRICKLAND GILLMAN.

Self-examination Questions for M.V. Leaders and Society Members

1. WITH us, is it "out of sight, out of mind"?
2. Do you think they will "get along all right" whether you do anything or not?
3. Have you done anything about pre-education problems of the soon-to-be-eighteeners?—proper classification, Form 47, etc.?
4. Does your society have a supply of all the War Service Commission leaflets?
5. a. If you were 3,000 miles from home, would you like to get letters from the M.V. Society at home when mail call sounded?
b. If the answer is "yes," what kind of letters would you like to receive?
6. Has your society provided the M.V. Reading Course books for your heroes overseas? Morning Watch? Sabbath School Lesson Quarterlies? Youth's Instructor?

✻ ✻

"THE man who bows the lowest in the presence of God stands the straightest in the presence of sin."

✻ ✻

"WHEN Luther was asked how he found time to translate this Bible, he said, 'I did a little every day.'"

✻ ✻

EMPLOY thy time well if thou meanest to gain leisure; and since thou art not sure of a minute, throw not away an hour!—BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

JOINT TOPIC FOR SENIORS
AND JUNIORS

August 18

The Advent Century in
South Africa

BY L. L. MOFFITT

Order of Service

SONG.

INVOCATION.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

INDIVIDUAL REPORTS.

OFFERTORY.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

DEVOTIONAL CHORUS.

SCRIPTURE.

SONG.

TALK: "Our Work Begins in South Africa."

TALK AND MAP STUDY: "Growth of Our Organized Work in the African Division."

TALK: "The First S.D.A. Mission Among the Heathen."

TALK: "Institutions Contributing to Mission Advance."

TALK: "Does Mission Work Pay?"

CLOSING SONG.

BENEDICTION.

Our Work Begins in South Africa

THE work of Seventh-day Adventists had a singular and interesting beginning in South Africa. God used a California gold miner by the name of William Hunt as the advance agent in our denominational contact with the Dark Continent.

About 1870 Elder J. N. Loughborough held a series of tent meetings in northern California. William Hunt attended these meetings and became deeply interested in the truths presented. Leaving California shortly thereafter for the gold fields of Australia, Mr. Hunt carried with him a liberal supply of Seventh-day Adventist literature. Later he succumbed to the lure of Africa's diamonds and found his way to the diamond mines of Kimberley, South Africa. By this time it seems that he had espoused the doctrines of Seventh-day Adventists, and was active in distributing our literature.

As he passed out tracts and papers in Kimberley he made the acquaintance of a Mr. Van Druten, who by his own study of the Bible had begun to observe the Bible Sabbath. About this same time the Spirit of God was working within the heart of another South African farmer by the name of Peter Wessels (pronounced Vessels), who was a devoted member of the Dutch Reformed Church. Being chided by one of the deacons for his literal interpretation of the Bible concerning baptism, and by his brother for his strict observance of Sunday, he was told that if he was going to follow the Bible so literally he should keep Saturday, which was the Bible Sabbath. Beginning a more diligent study of his Bible, he soon became convinced of the Sabbath truth and began to keep the seventh day.

Soon after this Mr. Wessels met Mr. Van Druten and found that he, too, had recently begun keeping the Sabbath. He heard from him about William Hunt, and that there were other Sabbathkeepers in the world besides Jews. From Mr. Hunt the two South African Sabbathkeepers learned more about Seventh-day Adventists in America.

These men began working for relatives and friends, and soon there was a little company of Sabbathkeepers in South Africa. Realizing their need of further instruction and leadership, these believers decided to send an appeal to America for a minister. With their letter they sent money to help pay his traveling expenses.

Our leaders were assembled in General Conference session in Battle Creek, Michigan, when the letter arrived. Joyfully they responded to the appeal, and soon Elders D. A. Robinson and C. L. Boyd, with their wives, and two colporteurs, George Burleigh and R. S. Anthony, were on their way to Africa. The workers arrived in Cape Town in July, 1887. Within a month

of their arrival these workers organized a church of twenty-one charter members at Braconsfield near Kimberley—the first Seventh-day Adventist church in Africa.

Growth of Our Organized Work
in the African Division

(With suggested map study)

(If you do not have a large map of Africa to use today, sketch on the blackboard or on a large sheet of paper the sections mentioned, and point to them as the talk is given. The 1945 Yearbook of the S.D.A. denomination will be a help to you.)

THE early workers in Africa began an evangelistic program for the European population of South Africa. Tent efforts were held, other churches were formed, and in 1892 the churches were organized into a conference with headquarters in Cape Town. A. T. Robinson was elected president of this first conference.

Other workers had arrived in Africa, and the work was extending. In January, 1902, another conference was organized to the north for Natal and the Transvaal. H. J. Edmed was elected first president of the Natal-Transvaal Conference. That same year the South African Union Conference was organized, with G. W. Reaser as its first president. Thus the work in South Africa for the English- and Dutch-speaking people was well under way, with a substantial foundation laid for subsequent years of progress. Today there are churches in every city and many of the smaller towns throughout South Africa, with a church membership of over five thousand. From such humble beginnings South Africa has become a strong base for our work throughout the continent of Africa.

The African Division, later called the Southern African Division, was organized in 1920, with W. H. Branson as president. By that time the work in Africa was extending farther to the north, and the division embraces, besides the conferences in the south, the Zambesi Union Mission organized in 1916, and the Southern Union Mission organized in 1919. The Zambesi Union Mission reached up through the Rhodesias to the Congo, and to the east to Mulambo Mission in Nyasaland, which was purchased from another mission society in 1902.

Since 1920 the work in the Southern African Division has grown rapidly, and now includes the Angola Union Mission, headquarters in Nova Lisboa; Congo Union Mission, headquarters at Kitwe, Ruanda; East African Union Mission, headquarters at Kisumu, Kenya; South African Union Conference, headquarters in Bloemfontein, Orange Free State; Southeast African Union Mission, headquarters in Biantyre, Nyasaland; and the Zambesi Union Mission, headquarters in Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia.

This great division, which reaches from the tip of Africa in the south to the equatorial regions of Central Africa, has a population of 53,156,308, nearly fifty million of whom are African natives. In this division, according to the 1945 Yearbook, there are 43,819 baptized members in our churches and 34,930 believers awaiting baptism, bringing the total adherents to the Seventh-day Adventist faith to 78,749.

The First S.D.A. Mission Among
The Heathen

THE very first Seventh-day Adventist mission for heathen people was established in Matabeleland, Southern Rhodesia. The Matabeles were a warlike tribe related to the Zulus. Mission work for the Matabeles had been attempted, but, owing to their hostility, little progress had been made. In 1893 Lobengula, the king of the Matabeles, was overthrown, and the British South African Company took over the administration of the country.

The Honorable Cecil John Rhodes, then prime minister of the Cape Colony, was also managing director of the chartered

company controlling Rhodesia. A. T. Robinson and Peter Wessels were appointed to interview Mr. Rhodes with reference to a grant for a mission location in Matabeleland. During the interview the prime minister wrote a note, which he put into a sealed envelope, and asked that they hand this to Dr. Jameson, in Bulawayo. Our workers did not know the contents of the letter, but they were assured at the close of the interview that a favorable impression had been made, for, as they left, Mr. Rhodes said, "I am glad to give the land for opening an industrial mission in Rhodesia, for I have learned that missionaries are better than soldiers for keeping the peace among the natives, and it is much less expensive."

Peter Wessels, A. Drullard, Fred Sparrow, and others set out from Kimberley in a covered wagon drawn by sixteen mules on a six-week trek to Southern Rhodesia. Arriving in Bulawayo, they handed their letter from the Honorable Cecil Rhodes to Dr. Jameson. When he had read it, he asked,

"How much land do you people want?"

"Well, doctor," Mr. Wessels hesitatingly replied, "the facts are, we ought to have twelve thousand acres, but it will depend on the terms upon which we get it."

"Terms!" exclaimed Dr. Jameson. "Rhodes commands me to give you all the land you can make use of. Do you want better terms than that?"

Of course we could ask for no better terms. Soon the twelve thousand acres were found, and Brother Fred Sparrow was left to begin work on the new mission in the summer of 1894.

The next year Elder and Mrs. W. H. Anderson and Elder and Mrs. G. B. Tripp, with their son George, and Dr. A. S. Carmichael arrived to assist in the new mission enterprise. These recruits were met at Mafeking, the rail terminus in those days, by Elder and Mrs. Fred Sparrow. On the second of June they started on the six-hundred-mile trek by ox wagon and arrived at the mission on July 26. Elder Anderson, in writing of their arrival, said:

"About noon, July 26, 1895, we arrived at our new home—a little mud hut, about fourteen feet in diameter, built by the natives. The walls were about five feet high, and the roof was covered with a thin coat of grass. This made a good shade, but gave no adequate protection in rainy weather."—*On the Trail of Livingstone*, pp. 62, 63.

In this primitive and humble way were the beginnings made at Solusi, our first mission for the heathen in Southern Africa.

But the work of the mission was only well under way when the Matabele rebellion broke out in 1896, and all white people were ordered by the government to go to Bulawayo for protection. When our missionaries arrived, all the rooming houses and hotels were full; so they decided to live in their covered wagon, though it was crowded. As the siege continued, their food supply ran low. Prices were exorbitant. So on different occasions some of the men slipped through the siege lines at night and made their way to the mission, where they were able to procure food supplies.

For nearly three months Elders Tripp and Anderson made alternate expeditions through enemy lines to the mission for supplies. But in September the rebellion had been brought under control to the extent that the government gave our workers permission to return to the mission.

"How good the houses looked," wrote Elder Anderson. "The natives had not burned them, and aside from the damage done by white ants, everything was intact. We had had to leave in our houses some of our belongings, because there was no room in the wagon to take them to Bulawayo, and the white ants would have devoured them if they had been buried. Soon after we left the farm, Umleva [a friendly chief near the mission homes] took all these things from the houses and hid them away in a large cave. When he found that we were setting again on the mission station, he brought them all to us without the loss of a single article. Our stoves and dishes we dug up from where they had been buried; and as the iron and china were too much for the white ants, nothing had been eaten."—*Ibid.*, p. 114.

During the rebellion many of the native villages had been burned, and much of the food of the natives had been destroyed. A terrible famine ensued. Many of the famine refugees found their way to the new mission. With their own meager supplies the missionaries could care for only a few of the starving children, but these formed a nucleus for the mission school. Several of the boys who were rescued from starvation at that time are now preaching the gospel to their own people.

The next two years on the mission were mingled with joy and sorrow—joy at the arrival of new recruits and visits from other workers, and sorrow in the death of several of the mission family from malaria and the rigors of pioneering.

Other recruits came to the mission, and through the years the hand of God has been over our first mission among the heathen people of Africa. From these difficult and humble beginnings a strong training station has grown up at Solusi. And during the past fifty years of Solusi's existence scores of other mission stations have been spreading the gospel light throughout the great continent of Africa.

Institutions Contributing to Mission Advance

EARLY in our work in Africa the need for a training school was apparent. There were in the cities, and towns, and on the farms many promising young people, who, if rightly trained, would greatly strengthen the force of workers which in the beginning all had to come from overseas. In 1892 a training school was founded at Claremont, a suburb of Cape Town, which commanded a beautiful view of Table Mountain.

For over a quarter of a century the Claremont college exerted a molding influence upon hundreds of South African young people and trained many workers. In 1919 the college was closed and the institution moved to a rural section in

Natal, eighteen miles out of Ladysmith, beneath the towering Drakensberg Mountains. The school was known then as Spion Kop College. Here the school continued its good work till 1927, when it was moved back south to another rural location three miles out of Somerset West, about thirty miles from Cape Town. In this new location the school was named Helderberg College, for the beautiful mountain rising majestically behind the institution. A strong work has developed here, and a strong and growing institution is filling one of Africa's greatest needs—a trained group of national workers. Scores of young people have been graduated from Helderberg College and have found their way into the advancing mission work in Africa, filling positions of leadership and service throughout the division.

The Good Hope Training School was opened in humble quarters near Athlone, a suburb of Cape Town, about 1930, for the children and youth of our Cape colored believers. This school has grown during the past fifteen years and has graduated a number of strong workers, besides affording a Christian education to many who have not entered the organized work.

Schools for the African natives have been opened in connection with practically all our mission stations. Some of these are strong native-training schools: Solusi, in Southern Rhodesia; Malamulo, in Nyasaland; Gitwe, in Ruanda-Urundi; Bongo, in Angola; Bethel, in Eastern Cape Province. These schools wield a mighty influence all through the mission territory.

The publishing work in the African Division began in South Africa about 1892. At first the printing was done by outside printing establishments, but in 1916 the Sentinel Publishing Company was established at Kenilworth, a suburb of Cape Town. Periodicals, books, tracts—in English, Afrikaans, and in many native languages—flow from its presses to send the light of truth over the division. Some of the mission stations also operate small presses for local needs.

The medical work also was started early in Africa. A privately owned sanitarium flourished near Cape Town for a time, but shortly after the Boer War it was destroyed by fire. The Plumstead Sanitarium was operated by the denomination for many years, but it was disposed of about 1926. Now our strongest medical work is being conducted chiefly in the native territories, and includes several large leper colonies. Some of the leading medical centers for the native peoples are Malamulo, in Nyasaland; Mwami, in Northern Rhodesia; Songa, in the Belgian Congo; Kanye, and Maun, in Bechuanaland; Nokophila, in a populous native township in the city of Johannesburg; Ngoma on Lake Kivu in Ruanda-Urundi. The first three institutions mentioned in this list—Malamulo, Mwami, and Songa—in addition to a large general hospital patronage have hundreds of leper patients. Each year scores of cured lepers are released from those institutions to go forth, many of them not only cured in body but rejoicing in a Saviour's love.

The Missionary Volunteer work in Africa is organized among the white churches and among the native peoples. All participate in the various Missionary Volunteer activities. Progressive class work is conducted for the Juniors in the white churches, as it is in America, and the work has been adapted to the native young people also. Junior and Senior camps are held from time to time, also youth rallies. The young people of Africa are especially active in Ingathering. They raise hundreds of dollars each year. The students of Helderberg College in a single Ingathering field day raise their college goal, which is comparable with the goals in the United States.

Many Missionary Volunteer societies are engaging in active missionary work throughout the division. The present M.V. membership in the Southern African Division is 44,851. So strong is the Missionary Volunteer work in the native territories that it is the dominant missionary organization of the church.

Does Mission Work Pay?

THIS question so often asked, "Does mission work really pay?" was passing through my mind as I made my way down to our Mwami leper colony to conduct the ordinances of the Lord's house. I heard singing, and soon I distinguished the song, "The Great Physician Now is Here." The next song was "Seeking the Lost." How dare we, who are followers of the Great Physician, question His commission to seek the lost? And who in this world could be more "lost" than the lepers?

My mind went back to a scene of some months ago:

"Mr. Stevenson," said Miss Ingle, the nurse, "can we not take in a few more lepers?"

"Quite impossible! We have no more accommodation, and, what's more, no money to buy food for them. Already we have very much overdrawn our allowance for food."

"Then, Mr. Stevenson, you will have to go and send them away. I cannot! They say they have come a very long way; they are hungry and exhausted. Their people have driven them out. They kneel and prostrate themselves before me; they beg and plead. Oh, I cannot send them away! You must go and tell them."

Who could turn such poor lost ones away? Did the Great Physician tura the lepers away? No! They will have to stay; we will trust that somehow we shall get enough money to care for them.

Now, there they sit in the chapel, all washed and clean. In spite of the terrible disfigurements caused by the disease, there is a new light of joy in their faces, for besides the physical treatment received, they have found the Great Physician.

When they have found the Great Physician, do they commend Him to others? Think of Cleopa. He was a missionary if there ever was one. After he was discharged from the colony his one desire was to tell others of the love of God that had transformed his life. He worked at his trade to support himself while he preached the gospel. A fine brick school that he erected at his own expense, the work that has grown up there, the believers who have been baptized, the boys who are now in the mission school training to be workers—all prove that it pays to work for the lepers.

There is Noah, too, away off in the Down district of Nyasaland. We have no work of any kind there, but Noah has been witnessing since he returned to his home two years ago. The people in that country are calling us to come over and work; they want a school for their children, and they want to learn about the way of truth, of which Noah has been telling them. "We see Noah is a different man," they say. "He went away sick and has come back well."

He is also telling us strange things, but very sweet. Come and teach us more." Does it pay to sacrifice for missions? Can we doubt it? Lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven.—H. W. STEVENSON, abridged.



August 25

Hidden Treasure

BY MARY WOODWARD

Order of Service

SONG SERVICE.

OPENING SONG: "A Glory in the World," No. 656 in *Church Hymnal*.

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 13:44-46; Acts 17:10-12; Matthew 6:19-21; John 5:39.

PRAYER.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

OFFERTORY.

INTRODUCTION. (See Notes to Leaders.)

TALK: "Evidences of the Inspiration of the Bible."

POEM: "The Sufficing Bible."

TALK: "The Book of Books."

SPECIAL SONG: "The Bible."

TALK: "How Do You Use Your Bible?"

TALK: "A Four-Year Reading Schedule."

CLOSING SONG: "Give Me the Bible," No. 655 in *Church Hymnal*.

Notes to Leaders

The purpose of this program is to call the attention of the youth to the treasures that may be found in the Bible—treasures for personal richness of life.

"He [Christ] tells men of treasure beyond estimate, which is within the reach of all. He came to earth to guide their minds in their search for this treasure. The way is marked out: the very poorest who will follow Him will be made richer than the most wealthy upon earth who know not Jesus, and they will be made increasingly rich by sharing their happiness with others."—*Testimonies*, Vol. V, p. 262.

Printed or duplicated copies of the song "The Bible" should be distributed, and the song should be sung by all in a reverent and understanding spirit.

The society leader should present the Four-Year Reading Schedule. Information should be secured from your conference Missionary Volunteer secretary. Order from your Book and Bible House M. V. Leaflets 25-I and 25-II for distribution to all present at this meeting. An Achievement Card will be given for each yearly schedule completed.

In closing the meeting opportunity should be given for an expression of determination for a greater study of the "Hidden Treasure," in God's Word and in the Spirit of prophecy.

Further reference material may be found in *God's Book*, by Carlyle B. Haynes.

Evidences of the Inspiration of the Bible

1. Its mysteries.
 - a. Its study is such a broad subject that we may not hope to complete it in this life.
 - b. David the shepherd, Amos the herdsman, and Peter the fisherman have written truths so wonderful that they have challenged the wisdom of all ages.
2. Its unity.

There is no discord in its utterances—all form a beautiful and harmonious whole.
3. Its simplicity and sublimity.
 - a. The grandest truths are expressed in simplest terms.
 - b. The style employed shows the work of a divine being.

4. Its impartiality.
 - a. Its heroes or heroines are not glossed over.
 - b. Its writers show no national prejudices.
5. Its adaptability.

Although written long ago it is as applicable to the present as when first given.
6. Its predictions.
 - a. Prophecies pertaining to the past have been fulfilled.
 - b. Prophecies pertaining to future events are being turned into history today.
7. Its endurance.
 - a. God has put within it His nature that endures forever.
 - b. It has endured the assaults of infidels for ages, and still it lives.
 - c. It was crushed by France, burned by Rome; yet it arose to wield a mightier influence.

The Sufficing Bible

WHEN I am tired, the Bible is my bed;
Or in the dark, the Bible is my light.
When I am hungry, it is vital bread;
Or fearful, it is armor for the fight.
When I am sick, 'tis healing medicine,
Or lonely, thronging friends I find therein.

If I would work, the Bible is my tool;
Or play, it is a harp of happy sound;
If I am ignorant, it is my school;
If I am sinking, it is solid ground.
If I am cold, the Bible is my fire;
And it is wings, if boldly I aspire.

Does gloom oppress? The Bible is a sun;
Or ugliness? It is a garden fair.
Am I athirst? how cool its currents run!
Or stifled? what a vivifying air!
Since thus thou givest of thyself to me,
How should I give myself; great Book, to thee?

—AMOS R. WELLS.

The Book of Books

THE Bible was not written for the scholar alone; on the contrary, it was designed for the common people. The great truths necessary for salvation are made as clear as noonday; and none will mistake and lose his way except he who follows his own judgment instead of the plainly revealed will of God.

We should not take the testimony of any man as to what the Scriptures teach, but should study the words of God for ourselves. If we allow others to do our thinking, we shall have crippled energies and warped minds.

"There is nothing more calculated to strengthen the intellect than the study of the Scriptures. No other book is so potent to elevate the thoughts, to give vigor to the faculties, as the broad, ennobling truths of the Bible. If God's Word were studied as it should be, men would have a breadth of mind, a nobility of character, and a stability of purpose rarely seen in these times."—*Steps to Christ*, p. 90, pocket ed.

"An immensely interesting study, and one that adds much to the appreciation of the Scriptures, is the study of the Bible as literature. Study its matchless lyrics, its true adventures; be lifted up with Isaiah in the rhapsody of Zion redeemed; reason with Paul as he defends the gospel before the learned Greeks; be still and listen as the Master lays down most perfect principles of life. And then, did you ever study Biblical biography? Read all you can find about Elijah, Moses, Solomon, and others. Read reliable commentaries; study the Word in the light of the Spirit of prophecy."—L. B. JOERGENSEN in *The Youth's Instructor*.

"Yet God, even in His written Word, has not left us in the dark. The Bible does not mention your name or mine. But there isn't a single question relative to your life or mine that isn't answered there. The Bible is a book of principles. And when you have found the principle which applies to your case, then you have found your answer."—VIVIAN LINWOOD in *The Youth's Instructor*.

How Do You Use Your Bible?

How do you use your Bible? The question is not whether you possess a Bible, and believe it to be true, but what use do you make of the Book, and what kind of treatment does it receive at your hands?

Once, after the death of a Chinese Christian, a friend said, "There is no difference between him and the Book." This was a wonderful compliment. He had read his Bible and lived what he read so closely that his friends noticed his beautiful life. Are we living the Bible before our friends?

The Bible is truly a neglected book in many homes. Many times it lies on a high shelf with dust covering its sacred covers. Too often the only time it is taken from its place is on some grand occasion, such as a birth in the family, when it is brought down to record the event.

"You say that you do not enjoy studying the Bible? Perhaps you have lost sight of the fact that it is speaking to you. A woman once went to her pastor with the complaint that she found no pleasure in reading the Bible, that it did her no good. What methods of studying would he advise? The pastor answered, 'Go home, open your Bible, and read until you come to a commandment; then close the book and obey what you have read. After you have obeyed, read on till you find the next commandment.' In a few weeks the woman came back to him with a shining face. 'I want to thank you,' she said. 'The Bible is a new book to me.'"—C. LESTER BOND, *Winning With God*, p. 100.

"The words of inspiration, pondered in the heart, will be as streams flowing from the fountain of life."—*Steps to Christ*, p. 91, pocket ed. Each of us may hide in our heart these treasures from God's Word and live a life that will bring honor and glory to God.

The Bible

(Tune—"Greenland")

We thank Thee, heavenly Father,
For Thy most holy Word;
It brings the sweetest message
That mortals ever heard—
The offer of salvation
Through Jesus Christ our Lord
To men in every station;
Rich promises are stored.

It is a mine of treasures,
A sea of precious pearls,
Revealing heavenly pleasures
In brighter, better worlds.
Inspired by God's own Spirit,
It calls us to obey;
It bids the nation hear it
Nor from its precepts stray.

Help send this Book to others!
Millions have never heard;
For all mankind are brothers,
All need the living Word.
The law of God was given
That all the world might know
And find the way to heaven
Through Christ who loved them so.
—FRANKLIN DYE in *Bible Society Record*.



"CONSCIENCE is like a sundial. When the truth of God shines on it, it points the right way."



JUNIOR MEETINGS

August 4

The Second Coming and My Recreation

BY GEORGE P. STONE

Order of Service

SONG SERVICE.
ANNOUNCEMENTS.
SECRETARY'S REPORT.
SONG.
SCRIPTURE READING.
PRAYER.
OFFERING.
TALK: "The Test of Recreation," see p. 4.
TALK: "The Best Recreation," see p. 41.
TALK: "Come On! Let's Go!"
POEM: "The Lure of the Trail."
DISCUSSION: "Field Days and Nature Activities." (Plans for the future for some real action out of doors.)
SONG.
BENEDICTION.

Notes to Superintendents

Talking about it won't be enough. You must do it. Be sure to have everything well organized for the field day, nature hike, or camping trip you plan. Have at least one adult for every eight Juniors. Get permission for using any private property you may wish to use.

Your public library will have books on camping. The *Master Comrade Manual* and *Junior Handbook* are invaluable aids. The *Junior Book of Camping and Woodcraft*, by Bernard S. Mason, A. S. Barnes & Co., New York, \$2, has valuable material. Inexpensive leaflets on camping and nature subjects may be purchased from the Slingerland Comstock Company, Ithaca, New York.

Vocational Honors in hiking, campcraft, and nature can easily be a development from this program.

Plan it. Do it. Build character. Teach knowledge which will prepare our youth for the times ahead, be it in mission field or in home field in troublous days ahead.

The Lure of the Trail

PALING of stars in the eastern sky,
Stirring of birds in the trees,
Uneasy movement where low mists lie,
Wood-smoke scent on the breeze.

Glimpses of khaki in forest aisles,
Flashes of brown in the vales,
Chirp of a blackbird where water smiles,
Padding of feet on the trails.

Drifting of fleecy clouds overhead,
Dallying breezes that pass,
Droning of bees in the clover beds,
Drowsy sounds in the gnss.

Lengthening shadows out of the west,
Notes of a whistle shrill,
Supper diffusing alluring zest,
Tumult down from the hill!

Horned owl bent on his mission dire,
Winged in muffled flight,
Red-glowing coals of a dying fire,
Burning a hole in the night.

—Adapted from F. J. P. in *Boy's Life*.

Come On! Let's Go!

HIKING AND ITS JOYS

RECREATION in the out-of-doors is the best type of recreation for the Junior or Senior. Closely associated with the out-of-doors is the study of nature. In fact, the two are inseparable. Therefore, for

the ideal recreation, seek God's great out-of-doors.

Have you ever felt the friendship of a country road? Have you sought companionship among the trees amid the rustling of leaves and the melody of the birds? Have you experienced the rush of blood through your veins as you swing out with an easy stride onto the trail?

Perhaps the trail was a country road or a woodsy dale or perhaps a mountain climb, or even the sidewalk of a city street; yet the fun was there and an objective at the end, and with it the real joy and freedom to go—somewhere; anywhere—but on your own initiative and strength. Regardless of where you live you can hike. Don't postpone it for a future vacation time; begin now.

"The little cares that fretted me,
I lost them yesterday,
Among the fields, above the sea,
Among the winds at play;
Among the lowing of the herds,
The rustling of the trees,
Among the singing of the birds,
The humming of the bees."

The hike is the ideal occasion for passing tests. Here is the place to check on:

1. The eight general directions without aid of a compass.
2. Tying knots.
3. Three planets.
4. Five stars.
5. Five constellations.
6. Ten birds.
7. Ten flowers.
8. Ten trees.
9. Five poisonous plants.
10. Track and trail.
11. Cook a stew, camp bread, eggs, and roast potatoes.

The hike is the place to learn fire building and all its safety and precautionary measures.

Frequent hikes are the best. The boy or girl who attends the most hikes will be the most advanced in the progressive class work.

Hikes, to be worth while, must have a definite purpose. They should be so planned that when you come back you will know you have accomplished something.

Hiking safety and courtesy rules are always in order.

Walk facing the oncoming traffic.
Carry a light at night.
Be cautious of drinking water.
Go on the assumption that springs are never pure. Carry a canteen.
Always have at least one first-aid kit in the group.

In town walk not more than two abreast, and keep to the right.

Avoid rudeness, shouting, or whistling at people. You can sing choruses and camp songs; people will appreciate that.

Always leave a clean trail, fires out, paper picked up. Hike so that you would be willing to post a sign. "The Juniors of the Seventh-day Adventist church have hiked this trail."

When you hike, go prepared in clothing and food, and by all means know where you are going.

Some of the kinds of hikes you can go on are:

1. Historical hikes.
2. Know-Your-Government hikes.
3. Nautical hikes (shore or docks).
4. Obstacle hike.
5. Overnight hike.
6. Nature hike.
7. Canoe trip.
8. Cycling tour.
9. Pack-horse trip.
10. Hand-led trekking.

Field Day

GATHER the Juniors from a large church, several small ones, or a district for a real outing. A Sunday probably would be best. Have a carefully planned program worked out with your helpers or leaders in plenty of time in advance. Make all provisions for food, equipment, etc. Have a definite schedule and adhere to it.

A SUGGESTIVE SCHEDULE

- 9:30.—Gather at a central place ready for the day, with all equipment. Hike by means of a prearranged trail to the objective, where the activities of the day are to be held.
- 10:30.—Arrive at objective. Assign everyone duties under leaders, such as (a) gather firewood, (b) get water, (c) prepare tables. Organize small cooking groups of about six or eight with a leader, the menu having been previously arranged.
- 12:00.—Suggestive dinner.
Baked potatoes
Camp bread
Beans, canned and heated
Roast corn
Fruit drink
Doughnuts, cookies, or cake
Fruit, either canned or fresh
Clean up after dinner and have a few minutes free time.
- 1:30.—Treasure hunt.
- 3:00.—Field activities:
Races, various classes
Ball game (choose sides)
Volleyball
Relays—knots, bandaging
Fire-building contest
- 5:00.—Supper (camp stew, fruit, cookies, cocoa) prepared by the Comrades and Master Comrades. Detail this during the preceding period and have ready.
- 6:00.—Clean up. Go home.

Camp Cooking

Roasting Potatoes and Corn

THE fire: Clean away all inflammable material for an area of ten feet. Dig a hole about two feet in diameter and eighteen inches deep. Line with stones if the soil is sandy. Collect fuel and stack it. Use dry wood. Build a fire in the hole, and have plenty of coals.

When a hole full of coals is ready, rake out the coals, and cook. Either wrap the potatoes in a half inch of clay or use leaves or sand. Sprinkle a fine dirt over the coals if leaves are used; if sand, place the potatoes in the sand and cover. Then rake back the coals. Potatoes take about an hour to bake.

Silk the corn and leave on the husks. Place the corn on the coals above the potatoes and cover with coals about one-half hour after the potatoes. If the coals are real live and red from hardwood, large leaves and ferns placed next to the potatoes or corn will prevent burning.

Cover the whole pile, build a little fire on top, and in an hour rake out the food. You will find a meal fit for a king.

Camp Stew

Enough corn, potatoes, cabbage, carrots, peas, tomatoes, or other vegetables cut up in fine pieces for at least two helpings for the crowd. Flavor with Vegex (or similar product) and plenty of butter or margarine. Salt to taste. Gluten pieces may be added if desired. (Camp Winayouth campers go

for this in a big way.) Cook slowly, salting to taste, and stirring occasionally to avoid burning. Serve hot with crackers or bread and butter.

Fire-Building Contest

Two contestants are allotted to each fire team. Allow one camp ax, one knife, and two matches to the team of two. At the whistle signal all gather wood and build fires in designated place. A string strung tautly two feet above the ground may be used. The first fire to burn the string is the winner. Or give each team a tin can with a quart of water. The first group to boil water vigorously is the winner.

Nature Activities

SEE the Nature Activities in the Senior topic, p. 4, for seasonal nature projects

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August 11

The Tie That Binds

BY MARION G. SEITZ

Order of Service

SONGS FOR SERVICE: Nos 71, 82, 78 in *M.V. Songs*.

OPENING SONG: "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations," No. 80.

PRAYER, followed by Lord's prayer in unison. THE KING'S BUSINESS: Secretary's report.

Band reports.

Offering.

Announcements.

LEADER'S REMARKS. (See Notes to Superintendents.)

TALK: "The Advent Message Today."

M.V. AIM repeated in unison.

DUET: "Speak, My Lord," No. 73.

TALK: Experiences at Home.

POEM: "Speak Out for Jesus."

TALK: "Experiences Abroad."

REPEAT IN UNISON: Matthew 24:14.

CLOSING SONG: "Just Where I Am," No. 77.

BENEDICTION.

Note to Superintendents

In this week's meeting the leader should present to the Juniors Christ's words found in Matthew 28:19, 20. We have a definite commission to bind together those of every race—black, yellow, brown, or white—and nation. This can be done only through the gospel story. Juniors at home can work for Christ and in turn those abroad must do their part. We are to let Christ shine out in our lives as the light shone out of the old lamp in the following poem.

THE OLD LAMP

A LAMP once hung in an ancient town
At the corner of a street,
Where the wind was keen, and the way
was dark,
And the rain would often beat;
And all night long, its light would shine
To guide the traveler's feet.

The lamp was rough and plain and old,
And the storm had heaten it sore;
'Twas not a thing one would care to show,
Whatever it had been before,
But no one thought what the lantern was,
'Twas the light that within it bore.

The lamp is a text for young and old,
Who seek in a world of pride
To shine for their Lord and to show Him
forth,
And never their light to hide;
You are the lantern, a thing of nought,
But Christ is the light inside.

—Author Unknown.

The M.V. Aim and Motto should be placed in a conspicuous place on chart or blackboard. If we believe our motto we will be compelled to give to others the precious gospel story.

"Prayer Poem" should be read by a Junior while all hands are bowed, before the Lord's prayer in unison is repeated.

Speak Out for Jesus

YOU talk about your business,
Your bonds and stocks and gold;
And in all worldly matters
You are so brave and bold;
But why are you so silent
About salvation's plan?
Why don't you speak for Jesus,
And speak out like a man?

You talk about the weather
And the crops of corn and wheat;
You speak of friends and neighbors
That pass along the street;
You call yourself a Christian
And like the gospel plan—
Then why not speak for Jesus,
And speak out like a man?

Are you ashamed of Jesus
And the story of the cross,
That you lower His pure banner
And let it suffer loss?
Have you forgot His suffering?
Did He die for you in vain?
If not, then live and speak for Jesus,
And speak out like a man.

I'd like to tell the story sweet
Of Jesus. Wouldn't you?
To help some other folks to meet
Their Saviour. Wouldn't you?
I'd like to travel all the way
To where I'd hear my Jesus say,
"You've helped My work along today";
I'd like that. Wouldn't you?

—Author Unknown.

Prayer Poem

If Thou dost need a hand today
To clasp another hand on life's rough way,
Take mine, dear Lord, take mine.

If Thou art needing feet to tread
In paths where sin to woe is wed,
Use mine, dear Lord, use mine.

If Thou art needing lips today,
For words that help and heal, to say,
Fill mine, dear Lord, fill mine.

If Thou art needing eyes to see
When souls begin to stray from Thee,
Fit mine, dear Lord, fit mine.

But cleanse, dear Lord, and purify,
And then each talent sanctify,
Of mine, dear Lord, of mine.

—MARY E. KENDREW.

The Advent Message Today

YOU and I, Juniors, are living in a favored generation—the generation that will live to see Jesus come! Before He comes we must spread the advent message to all the world. That message is the story of Jesus. We must let our neighbors and friends, our playmates and schoolmates, know that His coming is near, even at the door. When we love Christ we go on His errands.

Juniors and youth in all lands are upholding the banner of truth. The light of Christ shines upon them, and they as Christians let Christianity shine out to all the world. I like that thought—Christ—Christian—Christianity. Christ has left it with us to tell the gospel story, and it is the tie that binds our hearts at home and abroad.

A message is a letter or words sent from one to another, and of course you know that Christ's advent means "Christ's coming." Therefore the advent message is the word that Christ's coming is near, even at the door.

Today Juniors are invited to share their belief in Christ's second advent with those in all the world. Not only in

America must the story be told, but everywhere! Today is the day to share with others this blessed message.

Experiences at Home

ONE Junior girl tied sprays of apple blossoms with pretty ribbon and distributed them in a hospital, also giving each patient some of our truth-filled literature. She alone made more than one hundred of these sprays. What she did others could also do.

Four Junior boys decided to organize a tract club, and each one gave away one thousand tracts. As they went from door to door with the message of salvation they were doing their part to let Christ shine out in their lives. And they did it in 1945!

While Ingathering is past for 1945 still I think of those Juniors in a certain city, who, dressed in their M.V. uniform, solicited for missions that others across the seas might hear the advent message. If eight Juniors in one city could glean from strangers and friends six hundred dollars to tell the story, what might eighty Juniors, eight hundred, eight thousand, or eighty thousand Juniors do? Truly the tie that binds is this advent message and the hope it brings to all who hear it!

Experiences Abroad

AN American soldier was captured by the Germans. He carried with him a copy of one of the papers published by our denomination. A German soldier at the prison camp saw it and wept; for he, too, was a Seventh-day Adventist! Both boys of the same faith met through the common hope they both cherished of Christ's second advent! In all lands it is the same message, the same hope that binds.

A fine Christian soldier stationed in the Philippines met a Filipino family who believed the gospel story. Their earthly possessions were gone. When asked by this Seventh-day Adventist soldier what they wanted, they said, "Bibles—and our Friend, Companion, and Comrade insignia. We have lost these." They did not ask for food and clothing, but for that which represented to them the M.V. Aim, Motto, and Pledge! Hearts are bound together in Christian love by just such experiences and the blessed hope of Christ's soon return!

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August 18

The Advent Century in South Africa

BY L. L. MOFFETT

(Please turn to pages 7 to 9)

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"THE secret of an unsatisfied life lies in an unsundered will."

"It is not the revolution that destroys the machine, but the friction."

August 25

The Bread of Life

BY MARY WOODWARD

Order of Service

OPENING SONG: "Give Me the Bible," No. 59
in *M.V. Songs*.

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 13:44-46;
Matthew 6:19-21.

PRAYER.

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

OFFERING.

SPECIAL MUSIC.

TALK: "Our Daily Food."

POEM: "We Love the Bible."

TALK: "Planting the Good Seed."

POEM: "My Bible and I."

TALK BY THE LEADER: "Lessons to Be Impressed" and future plans for systematic Bible study.

CLOSING PRAYER: Repeat Psalms 19:14.

Note to Superintendents

Please read the Notes to Leaders in the Senior program for August 25.

The conference Missionary Volunteer secretary should supply schedules for systematic Bible study, M.V. Leaflet 17, which is adapted to the Junior age.

Lessons to Be Impressed

It is dangerous to taste the poisonous seeds of Satan. By so doing, many a man has confused his faith and his power to believe simple truth.

The manna that fell from heaven was a type of Jesus, the real bread from heaven found in God's words. We must seek "to gather fresh manna every morning." Like a perfume, it evaporates and goes back to heaven when we try to keep the same gathering the whole week.

When we pray, "Give us this day our daily bread," we should also pray that others may receive the Word.

"We cannot expect to gain spiritual knowledge without earnest toil. Those who desire to find the treasures of truth must dig for them as the miner digs for the treasure hidden in the earth. No half-hearted, indifferent work will avail. It is essential for old and young, not only to read God's Word, but to study it with whole-hearted earnestness, praying and searching for truth as for hidden treasure. Those who do this will be rewarded."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 111.

My Bible and I

We've traveled together, my Bible and I,
Through all kinds of weather, with smile
or with sigh;
In sunshine or sorrow, in tempest or calm,
Thy friendship unchanging, my lamp and
my psalm.

We've traveled together, my Bible and I,
When life has grown weary, and death e'en
was nigh,
But all through the darkness of mist and
of wrong
I found thee a solace, a prayer, and a song.

So now who shall part us, my Bible and I?
Shall critics or scoffers or others who try?
Shall shadow for substance or stone for
good bread
Supplant its sound wisdom, give folly in-
stead?

Ah, no, my dear Bible, revealer of light,
Thou sword of the Spirit, put error to
flight;
And still through life's journey, until my
last sigh,
We'll travel together, my Bible and I.

—Author Unknown.

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"A LITTLE of the oil of Christlike love
will save a lot of friction."

"PEACE rules the day when Christ rules the
mind."

Our Daily Food

BREAD is a necessary food. The rich and poor eat bread. It is a food that suits all—old and young, weak and strong—all like bread. We need it every day and do not tire of it. All our lives we go on eating it. Jesus, through His Word, is intended to be to the soul what bread is to the body.

The story is told of a party of engineers who became lost in the forest in the heart of Africa. Their food was soon gone, and they ate berries that they found growing near by. These berries satisfied their appetites perfectly, but they became weaker and weaker. Finally all the men died but one, who was rescued. When these berries were examined they were found to have absolutely no food value. These men died while their appetites were completely satisfied.

And so it is with many today. They are starving spiritually because they are reading books other than the Word of God. They do not realize their condition.

Jesus says to us; "I am the bread of life: he that cometh to Me shall never hunger." John 6:35.

PHYSICAL LIFE

Sustained by food.
We must partake of food every day.

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Sustained by the Word of God.
We must read God's Word every day.

We Love the Bible

How we love the dear old story
Of the Book so bright with truth!
Book of grace and Book of glory,
Book of wisdom for our youth.

In the days of youth we need it,
Just as older people do;
And we dearly love to read it,
With its message grand and true.

From this Book we learn how Jesus
Loves us while we're young and
small;
How He looks from heaven and sees
us—
So we love it best of all.

So we love it, O we love it,
For it is the golden door
Into glory! How we love it,
Love it daily more and more.
—W. C. MARTIN.

Planting Good Seed

(To be given by an adult)

(Show a packet of seeds, also small plants in different stages of development. Tell how important it is to secure the seeds from a place where they sell only good, fresh seeds. Have a box of soil and show that the seeds must be planted in the soil, not merely scattered on the top. Show how the plant develops, grows stronger, more and more like the parent plant.)

THE Bible is the best packet of the most wonderful seeds that the earth has ever known—seeds that were sent to us by the Lord, to be planted, not in the ground, but in the hearts of men and women, boys and girls.

It is not enough to read God's Word in school or in church. That would be like scattering the seeds on the top of the soil of the heart. No, we must learn God's words. We must study them and believe them.

God's words do not die, as do ordinary

seeds. They are filled with the spirit of God's holy Son. Everyone who receives these words receives everlasting life. They are "born again." As members of God's own family they grow up to become like Him, their Father in heaven.

A boy in a heathen land once asked the priest to tell him how to be good, how to keep from doing wrong. The priest told the boy to kneel with thumbs together for three days before the temple. He did so, but found that it had not helped him to be good. Then one day he heard about the living God and His power, through His Word, to save him from sin. He gave his heart to Jesus, studied his Bible, and what was the result? He learned how to keep from doing wrong, and he was strengthened by the life of Jesus found in the seeds sown in his heart, so that he could really do right instead of wrong.

(Ask about the storybooks they have been reading. Lead them to see that the Bible is better than any and all storybooks, and why. Help them form a Bible-reading band. See that everyone has a Bible. Keep the subject fresh in their minds by asking for a report from the band activities at future Junior meetings.)

NOTES TO OFFICERS

Society Ushers

(Continued from page 3)

responsibility of arranging the chairs on the rostrum, seeing that the room is properly ventilated, seating the people as they come into the auditorium, receiving the offering at the proper time, distributing and collecting the individual report blanks, and performing other essential duties of this nature. It has been demonstrated that where well-qualified, responsible persons have been appointed to serve as ushers, the society offerings greatly increase, and in many ways the work of the society is strengthened. The officers of the society should make sure that this part of the organization is not neglected.

C. LESTER BOND.

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"Some go to church to take a walk;
Some go to church to laugh and talk;
Some go there to meet a friend;
Some go there their time to spend;
Some go there to meet a lover;
Some go there a fault to cover;
Some go there for speculation;
Some go there for observation;
Some go there to doze and nod;
The wise go there to worship God!"

✽ ✽

"A SLENDER wire stretched from shore to shore of East River would barely support its own weight. Ten thousand wires lying side by side in four great cables not only support their own weight but also carry the Brooklyn Bridge and the heavy traffic that daily passes between New York and Brooklyn."

✽ ✽

"If you don't think co-operation is necessary, observe what happens when one wheel comes off the wagon."

★ Home Missionary Department ★

In Partnership With God

Suggestive Program for Sabbath, August 4, 1945

OPENING HYMN: "Hark! the Voice of Jesus Calling," No. 447 in *Church Hymnal*.

SCRIPTURE READING: John 15:1-16.

PRAYER.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OFFERING.

MISSIONARY REPORT by church missionary secretary.

READING: "All-out Co-operation With Heaven," by R. G. Strickland.

SPECIAL MUSIC.

CLOSING HYMN: "I Love Thee," No. 343 in *Church Hymnal*.

BENEDICTION.

All-out Co-operation With Heaven

BY R. G. STRICKLAND

THE idea of a close business relationship with God is difficult for many to understand. We conceive of two persons with like ambitions pooling their resources—time, talent, money, and even personal effects—so as to advance their mutual interests; but it is exceedingly hard for many to accept a working arrangement with God which demands that everything be placed in the business.

Continuous Co-operation With God

It is so human to admire the Lord and desire Him, to offer a certain kind of worship service, to keep Him 'way up in heaven, to give Him portions of our time and of our treasure when we feel able to do so, to choose His presence on occasion, and to part company when we see fit to do so. An intimate day-by-day relationship, which enters into one's very manner of living, controls business transactions, and is felt in every social function, is the sort of partnership that Heaven calls each believer to accept.

This partnership with God, this personal, continuous co-operation that combines man's weakness with Heaven's might—this is high privilege indeed. Carried through consistently, the arrangement can only succeed. No venture in

which God is the senior partner and director can go bankrupt, for His are the boundless resources of omnipotence. He it is who calls men into close accord with Him in His service, the all-important business of winning souls. Said He:

"Ye have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain." John 15:16. His guiding presence can be depended upon. He never leaves us. "Lo, I am with you alway" is His sure promise. Where Jesus is there is certainty and success.

A Hand-Picked Harvest

Let him who enters into partnership with Christ in this business of eternal values understand that soul winning is a personal matter, and success therein is told by individual contacts. C. G. Trumbull put it wisely and well when he said, "You cannot reach a thousand unless you can reach one. The greatest preaching in the world is preaching to an individual. The world is never going to be brought to Christ wholesale; it can only be reached one by one. Men are born one by one, they die one by one, and they accept or reject Christ one by one. General preaching has its place, of course, but the harvest must be hand picked."

Christ demonstrated the practicability of hand-picking men. He personally chose Peter and Andrew, James, John, Philip, and Matthew. His methods are tried and successful. Use them. Partnership with Christ does not mean that every man must become what we are pleased to call a preacher, but it does mean that every member of His business is a soul winner, because soul winning is Christ's business. Said Samuel Chadwick, "We cannot all be evangelists, but we can all be soul winners. Try it. There is no work so effective, so romantic, so enduring, so glorious."

"The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Luke 19:10. Let us be partners with Him in this work, devoting to it our means and skill without reserve or stint, knowing full

well that "he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labor. For we are laborers together with God. . . . Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire." 1 Cor. 3:8-15.

Our Responsibility

Material things are of benefit when they are devoted to this soul-saving partnership with Christ, but when the possession of gold and silver becomes the objective or aim of one's living, that life will be fruitlessly spent. Souls are of far greater worth than any amount of money piled up for itself.

God expects something of us—whether we be priest or people, learned or unlettered. Whatever the Christian's financial or social position in life, he is still to recognize his responsibility in partnership with God. He must have a personal, active, constant part in the Saviour's soul winning. "If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain; if thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not He that pondereth the heart consider it? and He that keepeth thy soul, doth not He know it? and shall not He render to every man according to his works?" Prov. 24:11, 12.

Failure to carry one's part in the partnership to which we are called and into which all Christians enter, is fraught with grave consequence. In Judges 5:23 we read that the angel of the Lord spoke not comfortingly of a people, not because of the bad things they did, but on account of the good they failed to do. "Curse ye Meroz, said the angel of the Lord, curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof; because they came not to the

help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty."

What bad things had Meroz done? He had done nothing bad. Why did the curse fall on him? Because he had done nothing. What should he have done? Meroz should have come "to the help of the Lord. Had he done so he would have been greatly benefited. God could and did get along without him, but Meroz was cursed bitterly because the Lord was required to carry on without his aid when He had a right to expect help from him. God did not suffer from Meroz' failure, but Meroz suffered.

Combining a Successful Business and Soul Winning

It will be well to think of our relationship in the light of Meroz' experience. Some difficulties present themselves to every soul winner. Certain people will try to make it unpleasant; others will ridicule and snub the earnest, humble worker, but these trials are of no consequence. The important matter is that Heaven approves. "They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever." Dan. 12:3. Though our luster may be dimmed here, how glorious will it be hereafter. We are building for eternity as we labor today.

Some question the possibility of conducting a successful business while at the same time carrying on a strong soul-winning effort. Such thoughts are not of the Lord. Many men in all places of the earth daily witness to the fact that soul winning and business or professional services are partners.

Successful Partnerships With God

Prominent Doctor

Among Seventh-day Adventists in North America is a very prominent doctor of foreign blood whose popularity could easily be the envy of his fellow practitioners. This earnest physician recognizes his responsibility as a partner in business with God. He not only annually brings thousands of dollars to the Lord's treasury but also personally talks to men and women about their soul sickness. While he seeks to heal their bodies he also tries to minister to their needy souls. His weekday work done, Sabbath finds him carrying heavy responsibilities in a church some distance from his home. And he arranges his numerous appointments so that some evenings are free for systematic public presentation of present truth. He does this work forcefully and successfully, and without prejudice or

damage to his highly successful practice.

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

Millionaire Manufacturer.

In his foreword to the book *God Runs My Business, The Story of R. G. LeTourneau*, by Albert W. Lorimer, Dr. H. A. Ironside most fittingly points out that "Christianity is not simply a spiritual fire insurance policy, whereby one may hope to escape judgment and find salvation in a future world, but it is a *livable experience suited to all the exigencies of life here on earth.*" (Italics mine.)

As a practical illustration of what he means, Dr. Ironside draws attention to the life story of the subject of this biography, Robert G. LeTourneau, millionaire manufacturer who spends much of his time and vast sums of money in advancing the kingdom of God as he understands it. Here is a man who passed through many experiences, from careless indifference toward spiritual truths up to the high level as millionaire lay preacher and supporter of evangelism. Here in the person of this man is positive proof that laymen can combine evangelistic effort with their business, and God will prosper both.

Mr. LeTourneau began as a farm hand, became a foundry apprentice, master molder, garage mechanic, laborer, inventor, manufacturer, industrialist, and finally a successful businessman who devotes much of his personal time and nine tenths of his annual income to evangelism and religion.

This successful businessman does not talk about the sacrifice he has made and continues to make, but rather speaks of his joy in service. Perhaps his attitude

has been rightly interpreted by F. B. Meyer in his consecration on page 13 of the book mentioned above. Mr. Meyer says:

"There is an old Dutch picture of a little child dropping a cherished toy from his hands; and, at first sight, his action seems unintelligible, until, at the corner of the picture, the eye is attracted to a white dove winging its flight toward the emptied outstretched hands. Similarly, we are prepared to forgo a good deal when once we catch sight of the spiritual acquisitions which beckon to us. And this is the true way to reach consecration and surrender. Do not ever dwell on the *giving up* side, but on the *receiving* side. Keep in mind the meaning of the old Hebrew word for consecration, 'to fill the hands.' There will not be much trouble in getting men to empty their hands of wood, hay, stubble, if they see that there is a chance of filling them with the treasures which gleam from the faces or lives of others, or which eall to them from the pages of Scripture. The world pities us because it sees only what we give up; but it would withhold its sympathy if it could also see how much we receive—good measure, pressed down, and running over, given into our bosoms."

Prosperous S.D.A. Businessmen

A prosperous Seventh-day Adventist businessman who carries on much of his work by mail in several States has consistently circularized his customers and prospective customers with Adventist literature. He has found that God's blessing attends this effort. His business prospers, and by his faithfulness many who might not otherwise be brought into contact with this truth have come to know God's message for the last days.

As a dependable counselor in church affairs, he gives great strength to the local congregation. Financial needs of the cause as a whole are accepted as a personal obligation, and so far as his resources enable him he faithfully discharges that responsibility.

Another brother who conducts a business that employs scores of persons took on an evangelistic program as part of his personal privilege as a partner with God. He encouraged his employees to conduct public services, and financed a neighborhood effort which resulted in a company of believers being brought out. A new church was organized and properly housed in a suitable building paid for from the funds of this partnership with God. Thus thousands of dollars are being employed for the advancement of

Widen Our Vision

WIDEN our vision, Lord!
For harvest fields are white;
Widen our vision, let us see
In Heaven's own living light.
Our eyes are holden still—
Draw curtain mists aside
That we may see as Heaven sees
The things that must abide.

Widen our vision, Lord!
The world's great need is here,
And souls are waiting for the light
That makes our pathway clear.
Teach us with earnest hand
To lift the lamp of truth;
That holy light may ever gild
The path of age and youth.

Widen our vision, Lord!
And fire with zeal anew,
Till every power of life below
Is sweet and right and true;
Till self is all forgot,
And, bright as stars that shine,
Life in its every influence speaks
Of light that is divine.

—ROBERT HARE.

righteousness, which otherwise could be devoted entirely to personal gain.

In Mexico a brother who operated a little store was not satisfied with the limited opportunities for evangelism that came his way in the fixed wholesale business which provided his livelihood; so taking God as his partner he disposed of the business, purchased a vehicle, and began his work as a "traveling merchant-evangelist." His time is equally divided between selling his common wares and presenting priceless truth. Behind him everywhere he goes is a trail of ripening interests. People accept salvation under his ministry. He faithfully carries on his self-supporting work, enjoying a temporal prosperity that exceeds the

profits from his former business, and rejoicing his heart in the souls won from superstition to truth. He truly feels the benefits of his partnership with God.

So it is that richer, fuller happiness comes to all who accept this responsibility and high privilege of partnership with God. It is within the grasp of everyone, whatever his method employed in daily living—whether teacher or contractor, plumber or baker, doctor or laborer. To the faithful Christ's promise is real and very near, and partnership with Him in business a living certainty, a joy and comfort. Let us enter into the fullness of this blessed privilege—NOW.

No other one but Jesus as Saviour, Master, Friend, to lead us through our journey until we reach its end; to guide our every footstep along life's dusty way, and then from out the darkness to bring eternal day.—STANLEY CAMBRIDGE.

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Pipe Lines

"Their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world."
Read Romans 10:16-21.

THE distribution of oil, gas, and gasoline through pipe lines is reaching vast proportions. Enormous lines cross the country in many directions, carrying the products of one section quickly and cheaply to other less-favored regions.

Christianity is the most extensive of all pipe lines. Its system of distribution reaches to the ends of the world. One person is vitalized by the gospel, and he passes the invigoration on to his neighbor, and so the light and life of the world flash and course over land and sea.

Every Christian is a necessary link in the process. There must be no stoppage in any life. The blessed current must flow on, and we must count it our deepest disgrace, having received the love of God through our Saviour, not to pass it on to others.—Selected.

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Good Works

"THE blessing of good works will follow into the eternal world those who deny self for the sake of their Saviour. When the redeemed stand around the throne of God, those who have been saved from sin and degradation will come to those who labored for them, with the words of greeting: 'I was without God and without hope in the world. I was perishing in corruption and sin. I was starving for physical and spiritual food. You came to me in love and pity, and fed and clothed me. You pointed me to the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world.'—*Testimonies*, Vol. VII, p. 238.

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"BETTER to strive and climb
And never reach the goal,
Than to drift along with time—
An aimless, worthless soul.
Aye, better to climb and fall,
Or sow though the yield is small,
Than to throw away day after day
And never strive at all."

★ Gleanings for Soul Winners ★

God's Love

God's love is like a mountain
That lifts us to the sky.
God's love is like a fountain,
Where all the world is dry.

God's love is like the power
Of ocean's rushing tide.
God's love is like a flower,
Sweetened and glorified.

God's love is like an organ tone
With maidens' voices clear.
God's love is like our dearest own
When no one else is near.

Of all most fair, of all most blest,
Between the sky and sod,
The dearest and the holiest—
That is the love of God.

—AMOS R. WELLS.

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Living Epistles

"BEHOLD now, there is in this city a man of God, and he is an honorable man." 1 Sam. 9:6.

What a delightful pronouncement! The man of God is an honorable man. This should be always so, under every circumstance. Where do you live? What do you do? What is your business? Do you profess Christianity? Do you represent Christ aright? Are your business dealings above reproach? Do you always speak the truth? Are you honest in all things? Pertinent questions these, but not too pertinent for the Christian. Can it be said of you, "There is in this city, this town, this suburb, this district, this street, a man of God, and he is an honorable man"? Nothing short of this is acceptable to God. Live out your profession in daily experience; many eyes

are watching your every move. "Ye are our epistle, . . . known and read of all men."

"You are writing a gospel,
A chapter each day,
By the deeds that you do,
By the words that you say;
Men read what you write,
Be it false or true,
Say! What is the gospel
According to you?"

"Heaven and earth are no wider apart today than when shepherds listened to the angels' song. . . . To us in the common walks of life, heaven may be very near. Angels from the courts above will attend the steps of those who come and go at God's command."—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 48. ARTHUR W. KNIGHT.

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Jesus

No other one but Jesus to ease the aching heart. His name is like an ointment which healing doth impart. He lifts the heavy burden and calms the troubled mind, and those who love and serve Him, true peace and hope will find.

No other one but Jesus when life is hard to bear, when 'mid its crushing sorrows we look in vain elsewhere. And through the many problems which meet us day by day, we find in Him a refuge from storms that pass our way.

No other one but Jesus to wipe the falling tear. Though hidden from our vision, we know that He is near when in the silent chamber alone we bear our grief. We know He understands us; in Him we find relief.

★ Missionary Leadership ★

Our Marching Orders

EVERYONE who accepts Christ as his personal Saviour automatically enlists under the banner of Christ and thus becomes a soldier of the cross. And to every soldier has been assigned a special task.

"The Duke of Wellington was once present where a party of Christian men were discussing the possibility of success in missionary effort among the heathen. They appealed to the duke to say whether, in his judgment, such efforts were likely to prove a success commensurate to the cost. The old soldier replied:

"Gentlemen, what are your marching orders? Success is not the question for you to discuss. If I read your orders aright, they run thus, 'Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.' Gentlemen, obey your marching orders."—*Gospel Workers*, p. 115.

The church is God's appointed agency for the salvation of man. It was organized for service, and its mission is to carry the gospel to the world. The General Conference has been organized to give this message to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. Its field, therefore, is the entire world. Upon the division conference lies the responsibility of giving this message to all within its territory. The union conference has the responsibility of proclaiming this message to all within its domain. The local conference has been organized to give the gospel to all within its territory, while the local church has been organized for the express purpose of giving this message to those residing within the district the particular church serves.

The local church board should, therefore, devote its time and efforts to the finishing of the work in its particular neighborhood. May every member of every church board sense the tremendous responsibility that rests upon him as a church board member. Let the board members meet at regular intervals for prayer, study, and planning, devising ways and means of harnessing up every member for aggressive service.

"The end is near, stealing upon us so stealthily, so imperceptibly, so noiselessly, like the muffled tread of the thief in the night, to surprise the sleepers off guard

and unready."—*Christian Service*, p. 41.

Certainly it is high time for the church of God to arise and shine. Satan realizes that his time is short. He is doing all he can to hold God's people in a state of inactivity, so as to keep them from spreading the truth.

"I was shown God's people waiting for some change to take place,—a compelling power to take hold of them. But they will be disappointed, for they are wrong. They must act; they must take hold of the work themselves, and earnestly cry to God for a true knowledge of themselves. The scenes which are passing before us are of sufficient magnitude to cause us to arouse and urge the truth home to the hearts of all who will listen. The harvest of the earth is nearly ripe."—*Testimonies*, Vol. I, p. 261.

Before launching a major offensive military campaign leaders spend much time and study in planning and in mapping out their strategy. Days, weeks, and months are often consumed in the preliminary work. When D-day and H-hour arrive, every man has received specific training for his particular task and is ready to do his duty. Those who fight for Prince Immanuel are to be just as diligent and painstaking in their preparation for the work of the cross as the soldier is in preparing for his task.

"For hours, soldiers are drilled to disencumber themselves of their knapsacks, and place them quickly in position again upon the person. They are taught how to stack their arms, and how to seize them quickly. They are drilled in making a charge against the enemy, and are trained in all kinds of maneuvers.

"Thus the drill goes on, preparing men for any emergency. And should those who are fighting the battle for Prince Immanuel be less earnest and painstaking in their preparation for the spiritual warfare?"—*Gospel Workers*, p. 75.

"Those who have the spiritual oversight of the church should devise ways and means by which an opportunity may be given to every member of the church to act some part in God's work. Too often in the past this has not been done. Plans have not been clearly laid and fully carried out, whereby the talents of all might be employed in active service. There are but few who realize how much has been

lost because of this."—*Testimonies*, Vol. IX, p. 116.

The responsibility for enlisting every member of our churches for aggressive service rests with our leaders, the members of our church boards.

"The best help that ministers can give the members of our churches is not sermonizing, but planning work for them. Give each one something to do for others. Help all to see that as receivers of the grace of Christ they are under obligation to work for Him. And let all be taught how to work. Especially should those who are newly come to the faith be educated to become laborers together with God."—*Ibid.*, p. 82.

The greatest need of the hour is for men—members of our church boards—who are able to discern and to develop the talent which is lying dormant in the majority of our churches today. Every church should have a well-organized plan for the instruction of its members in building up the church. Every church might and should become a training center for Christian workers, soldiers of the cross.

"Many would be willing to work if they were taught how to begin. They need to be instructed and encouraged.

"Every church should be a training school for Christian workers. Its members should be taught how to give Bible readings, how to conduct and teach Sabbath school classes, how best to help the poor and to care for the sick, how to work for the unconverted. There should be schools of health, cooking schools, and classes in various lines of Christian help work. There should not only be teaching, but actual work under experienced instructors. Let the teachers lead the way in working among the people, and others, uniting with them, will learn from their example. One example is worth more than many precepts."—*Ministry of Healing*, p. 149.

Provision should be made within the regular organizations of the church so that everyone will have an active part in the finishing of the work. Let the men of the church band themselves together in a Society of Missionary Men, every man enlisting in a specific unit of missionary endeavor. Let the women of the church become active members of the Dorcas Society and minister to the poor and needy, to the sick and afflicted, doing the many things for which Dorcas was noted. Let the senior young people be organized for aggressive service in behalf of the youth, and let the Junior Missionary Volunteers be organized for service in

lines best suited to their talents and abilities.

Will not every member of the church ask himself this question, "What can I do to proclaim the third angel's message? And let us remember that "as churches are established, it should be set before them that it is even from among them that men must be taken to carry the truth to others, and raise new churches; therefore they must all work, and cultivate to the utmost the talents that God has given them, and be training their minds to engage in the service of their Master."—*Testimonies*, Vol. III, p. 205.

Those who explain the Word of God to others will themselves be greatly blessed, for the more they use their knowledge and exercise their powers, the more knowledge and power they will have. On the other hand, those who fail to engage in unselfish labor for others will have a sickly experience.

"It is these who are not engaged in this unselfish labor who have a sickly experience, and become worn out with struggling, doubting, murmuring, sinning, and repenting, until they lose all sense

as to what constitutes genuine religion. They feel that they cannot go back to the world, and so they hang on the skirts of Zion, having petty jealousies, envyings, disappointments, and remorse. They are full of faultfinding, and feed upon the mistakes and errors of their brethren. They have only a hopeless, faithless, sunless experience in their religious life."—*Christian Service*, p. 107.

Has not the time arrived when we, as leaders, should sound an alarm among God's people—an alarm that will cause our people to awake and to discern the times in which we are living; that will give our people a clearer conception of His purpose for each one of us and will cause men and women to pray most earnestly for increased efficiency in soul winning?

May the Lord richly bless our church officers everywhere as they lay plans to enlist every member of the church for the speedy finishing of the work of God. Let us never forget that the main objective of church organization is the salvation of men.

W. A. SCHARFFENBERG.

★ News From Soul Winners ★

The First Internee Baptized in Switzerland

THE following account of the conversion of a young Italian internee and his baptism has been sent to us by Elder H. Struve, home missionary secretary of the Southern European Division, who received it from one of the evangelists of the division:

"The conversion of this Italian brother may well be considered a miracle. He certainly never thought of coming to Switzerland to become a member of the Adventist Church. Of a gay and friendly character, it was a bit natural for him to act free from restraint. He had a special liking for wine and was able to drink five or six liters without getting drunk.

"Quite by coincidence (?) he came into the Hügli family, and was given manual labor. These dear people recognized in the young man a precious soul to be turned away from ruin. They considered him as a brother, talked earnestly with him, but they preached most of all by their example. He then began attending our lectures. He was very much im-

pressed, and little by little did away with his evil habits. His companions thought him to be an Adventist and made him a laughingstock, saying, 'The Adventists drink no wine, but you do.' From that moment this young man decided never more to touch wine. This was one of his greatest victories. Very soon after this he gave himself fully to the Lord.

"Today this young man is working among his interned fellow citizens by distributing tracts and rendering his personal testimony. Of course, he reaps abundant mockery and scorn. But he is firmly determined to become a good missionary when he goes back to his mountains."

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The Bible Work in Lima

A YEAR ago I began service as a Bible instructor in the city of Lima, Peru, and I am grateful to God that He has blessed the work greatly.

I began my work in connection with a public effort in the Lima church. With the help of the Lord we had a good at-

tendance; many persons were interested in the truth. All the brethren of the church co-operated in the distribution of the announcements inviting the public to the meetings. At that time there occurred an incident that it seems to me will be of interest to our readers.

One afternoon, after distributing some announcements, I went in company with two other sisters to the hospital to visit a member who was ill. After trying, without success, to find the patient, Mrs. Alva, one of my companions, asked a nurse where the patient was. We were told that she had been operated on, and we would find her in another room. She directed us, and after crossing the patio to the ward indicated, we heard a great commotion. Three nuns and several nurses ran toward us, crying furiously, "Away with the foreign Protestant!" The mother superior came right up to me and grabbed me tightly by the arm and yelled at me to go out into the street! She said she knew that I had many Protestant tracts in my handbag, as well as invitations to our church. She said my presence there profaned the hospital.

Of course, all the people who were in the ward, patients and visitors, ceased talking instantly, and there was a profound silence. Their attention was focused on me while the nun was heaping all sorts of insults upon me, threatening to call the police to thrust me into the street. So we left the ward, and went through the patio to the street, followed by the three nuns, the nurses, and many onlookers, which made quite a crowd to bid us good-by! As is usual in such cases, some spoke in our favor, and others against us. Among the many things the mother superior told me, I remember these words, "I certainly hope that soon you will not be able to give out any more tracts about your religion." However, I do not believe her wish will soon be fulfilled, for I certainly have continued to distribute tracts and magazines, and I hope to do so as long as God gives me health and strength.

When we came to the door of the hospital, she shouted at the guard, "Take care that you never admit this foreign woman again, for if you do, it will cost you your post. The presence of this woman here is dangerous, and she should not be allowed to enter." Then, turning to me, she said, "Remember that you are talking to the mother superior of this hospital." Until then I had not said a single word! But I took this opportunity of saying that I was very happy to meet her, and that I did not consider it strange

that she had treated me as she had. I told her that this was the very way in which they had treated Christ when He was here on this earth. I am glad that God helped me to be calm and serene and prudent, because many people witnessed this incident.

This happened on Thursday afternoon, and that night we noticed a much greater attendance at our effort; in fact, there were so many there that our church was completely filled. We felt sure that many were there who had been at the hospital in the afternoon. This incident, far from discouraging me, only served to give me more courage to work for souls.

Among those to whom I was to give Bible studies at the end of the effort were Mr. and Mrs. Pet, who from the first had demonstrated great interest in the Word of God. Every day they diligently studied our doctrines, with increasing interest, until they asked for baptism. Mr. Pet seemed ready, but his wife was working as a chemist in a great soap factory and had to work on the Sabbath. She asked permission from the manager to have Sabbaths off, but her request was denied. Then she said she was ready to leave her work, and before long did so. So they were baptized and today are rejoicing in the truth. He is now a colporteur in the city of Lima and is having wonderful success. His wife is a good canvasser with our missionary magazine *El Atalaya*. Both of them lend what help they can to our church.

Another interesting case was that of a woman who came into a knowledge of the truth through one of our sisters. This sister asked me to go to visit this woman and study with her. What was my surprise to find that she was the woman who always refused to buy *El Atalaya* when I visited her every month in her drugstore. On seeing who I was, she exclaimed, "I do want you to forgive me for the lack of interest I have always shown when you offered me your paper. It was through ignorance. Now I see the light, and I want to know more of Jesus and His will for me." I began to study with her twice a week, and finally this woman, Mrs. Monzante, was baptized, at the same time as Mr. and Mrs. Pet and various others.

I have learned a great lesson in my work. We should always sow the seed, and in His own good time Christ will reap the harvest of souls. Right now I am studying with several interested families, many of whom have been attending the Sabbath school faithfully and paying

their tithe for some time. Let us pray for the believers in this mission, that God may send great blessings upon this large and needy field.—MRS. F. MARTIN in *Revista Adventista*.

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So Near—And Yet So Far

SOME time ago I received the following letter from the publishing house. It had been sent to them by a woman in the Midwest.

"From one who wants to know. I do not know whether this will reach someone who can tell me the things I wish to know very much, but just lately a little book, *The Marked Bible*, came to my hand. It is a somewhat old-looking book, part being torn away. I would like another one of these and also a *Neighborhood Transformer*. I will pay for them when they arrive, as I do not know the price.

"I am a firm believer in the seventh-day Sabbath, although I have never had it so forcefully brought to my mind before. As a little girl I almost always

went to Sunday school and have belonged to a church most of my life, but I never had the seventh-day Sabbath taught to me. Since reading what is left of this little book and comparing it with the Bible, I feel that I can never rest until I know more about it. I want to get in touch with some seventh-day Sabbath Christians. I want to be one of them. Tell me please how I can do this. I am seventy-two years old; my life is going fast; I want to be at peace with my God before I pass on. Please, if you can, tell me what I can do to get in contact with these Christian people."

Soon after receiving the letter I went to investigate the case. I found the woman living five blocks from the church, but up until two or three days before I arrived she had never heard of Seventh-day Adventists. She then heard of them from a friend whom she told about finding the right church and of her great desire to find a seventh-day church. It was my privilege to baptize this dear sister, and now she rejoices in her new-found faith.

A. V. McCLURE.

★ Departmental Activities ★

Humanitarian Responsibilities

PREACHING the gospel and ministering to the needy are not two separate and distinct lines of work; they are closely tied together. When we are converted, our heavenly Father does not remove our responsibility for relieving, to the extent of our ability, the distress, poverty, sickness, and trials of mankind. Neither do we escape some of these experiences ourselves. He leaves us in the midst of a world of woe, but with a new conception of our duty and responsibility toward everyone under trial.

Jesus had compassion on the multitudes. He mingled with the people freely, at times partaking of their scanty board, often spending the night in most humble abodes or even in the open. He was filled with pity for the unfortunate; He never hurt the feelings of the outcast nor of those of the lowest social standing. He often gave from His own purse, even at a sacrifice, to meet the needs of the poor. And He enjoined this magnanimous, gracious spirit upon His disciples and the Christian church.

Our obligations to the poor and needy will remain as long as the gospel message is to be given. Said Jesus, "Ye have the poor always with you." Therefore our responsibility is ever present. Anything that we can do to lighten the burden of our neighbors, if done in a kind, cheerful spirit, preaches the gospel.

Recently, in getting off a train in Washington I noticed an elderly woman carrying a heavy load of parcels. Her daughter had a baby in arms, and there was another little one trotting alongside. They needed a helper, for it was a long walk to the station. Grandmother was pleased and her general care of the group lightened when I offered to take her large bundle and to walk a little more slowly, that they might not lose sight of me in the crowd. It was not a big act on my part, but it meant much for this stooped grandmother and her group, and my own heart was grateful that I had taken advantage of this phase of carrying out Christ's example and doctrine. It is the spirit (kindness and patience) in which we carry on as well as the act that counts for us in heaven.

If we actually felt that we were doing this or that favor for Christ Himself, what would our attitude be?—thoughtful? happy? grateful? considerate? kind? Would we be cheerful in doing an act of drudgery for Christ, or would it seem like drudgery when done for Him? "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me." •

In doing war-relief work Seventh-day Adventists have undertaken the greatest task of its kind in the history of the movement. It is nearly world wide in scope and is far reaching in acquaintance and operation. In order to make these shipments of used clothing to the various countries, contacts must be made with embassies, consulates, and legations of the respective nations which benefit by our shipments. For the final steps it is necessary to negotiate with their respective relief organizations. This same process is more or less repeated on the other side. There our mission or church organizations receive the goods and distribute them systematically, with every garment labeled as coming from the Seventh-day Adventist churches in North America.

We are most grateful to all our churches and the various Dorcas societies, as well as all donors who are helping us to realize and execute the delivery of so many tons of good used clothing to needy people overseas. Every church and donor will receive a blessing for this work of mercy and benevolence which, we believe, is carrying out Christ's instruction literally.

At the present time our attention is considerably absorbed in behalf of overseas needs. And this is proper, for there is no greater need anywhere than among the unfortunate peoples of Europe and other countries that have been affected by this war. But we must not lose sight of the needs and opportunities right around us in our own church curriculum and neighborhood.

Just now our Dorcas societies are very busy, being taxed with getting the clothing ready for overseas. The churches in the immediate vicinity of the two warehouses are unusually burdened in furnishing volunteer help for the warehouses regularly. There will continue to be opportunities and demands upon us here in the homeland, and we are sure each church missionary organization will give due attention to these cases while sharing with overseas requests.

This is a grand day for Seventh-day Adventists to shine brilliantly for God

in giving the full gospel, the gospel of salvation, well mixed with clothing the destitute and feeding the starving. With His continued help and guidance we will continue to step in wherever He leads the way. This we find to be the desire, aim, and plan of our believers everywhere.

WILLIAM A. BUTLER.

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Say It With Visits

"And ye came unto Me."

WHEN Matthew's Gospel was first published, this parable with its injunction, "I was in prison, and ye came unto Me," demanded risk, danger, possible death. Christians were being imprisoned for their faith. To visit one was to risk suspicion and prison.

The Roman prisons were cruel. Ill-lighted, they were gloomy; ill-ventilated, they were oppressive; insanitary, they stank; fitted with shackles and stocks, they tortured. In the face of such a situation ring Jesus' words: "I was in prison, and ye came unto Me."

One can easily imagine it. In secret meeting word gets about. "Amos has been cast into the inner dungeon. He is ill, lonely. He needs help." But who dares visit Amos? Who dares take him food and drink? Who dares ask to enter and pray with him? Again rings the word of Jesus, "And ye came unto Me." It was a summons to visit the concentration camp at the risk of being seized and held.

People in distress need visits because they get lonely, discouraged, and even

hopeless. Time hangs heavily upon them. Problems they have not strength or means to meet haunt their night watches. Loneliness cannot be banished by flowers alone; discouragement cannot be cheered by greeting cards only; difficulties cannot be wholly solved by donations. There must be added visits. We have not spoken in full Christian fashion until in His name we say it with visits.

For our God is a visiting God. Jesus is God come on a visit among men. "The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us." God had spoken with commandments, He had warned by the prophets, He demonstrated His power by many mighty acts, but all together they were not enough. Finally, He came on a visit.

As the early Christians were expected to make visits at peril of liberty and life, so we must allow no pressure of business, no inclemency of weather, no inconvenience of space, no limitation of means, and no difference of station to prevent us from obeying Jesus' command, Say it with visits.—CHESTER WARREN QUIMBY in *Christian Advocate*.

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What Christianity Means

CHRISTIANITY means to the merchant that he should be honest; to the judge it means that he should be just; to the servant, that he should be faithful; to the schoolboy, that he should be diligent; to the street sweeper, that he should sweep clean; to every worker, that his work shall be well done.—Anon.

Weekly Church Missionary Services

August 4

EVERY VOCATION AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE

Key Thought for Leaders: "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.

In every place and occupation there is a way by which earnest followers of the Lord may present the message of salvation to hungry hearts or to needy souls who are, perhaps, satisfied with their spiritual lack. God is not dependent upon the educational standing of the instrument He uses to save souls, nor is His power to use men limited by their social position, their family connections, their trade or profession. God's power to make a soul winner is limited

largely by the measure of consecration in that person.

It is like the story of the young infidel who, on Sunday, brought his buggy wheel to an aged colored wheelwright. The old man didn't want to work on Sunday but finally did so on condition that the owner of the broken wheel take a seat near by and read aloud as long as the artisan worked on the wheel. The old man couldn't read, but he liked to hear others.

The colored man produced a Bible and asked his infidel friend to begin reading Matthew 1. His visitor protested that he didn't ever read the Bible. The wheelwright replied that he hadn't ever worked on this particular wheel before, that he had several others he'd prefer repairing. They argued awhile but finally agreed that each would do what the other wanted—and proceeded on that basis; the infidel reading the New Testament aloud to the wheelwright, while the wheelwright chiseled and chipped and built the wheel. It required a long time to build that particular wheel.

When it was done the builder handed over a fine, sturdy specimen of his handiwork, shiny bright with new paint. But the infidel thought he couldn't drive his buggy with only one bright wheel and the others dull from use; so the wheel builder agreed to become buggy painter on terms as before. Above the cost price agreed upon, the infidel was to read.

By now the reading had progressed to the place where it was frequently interrupted by exclamations, denials, assertions, and statements from the reader, but the worker remarked only, "Keep on readin', don't stop. If you keep on readin', the Good Book will answer yo' questions. If yo' stop readin' an' start axin', the Book ain' got nary chanst to talk to ye. Jes' keep on readin'."

So they finished their job together. The infidel had read the Book aloud; the wheelwright had finished the buggy all bright and shiny. The first trip the spanking conveyance made was to church, taking the one-time infidel and the nonreading old man who had led the scholar to Christ.

Don't let Satan trick you with thinking that there is no way you can work for souls. Pray, and Heaven will show you a way.

August 11

TRACTS AND TRACT RACKS

Key Thought for Leaders: "Tracts upon the important points of truth for the present time should be handed out freely to all who will accept them. You are to sow beside all waters."—Life Sketches, p. 216.

Almost every person can be a worker for souls by means of tract distribution. These little messengers of joy and love can be put in racks in frequented places, such as street-car terminals, railway stations, airport waiting rooms, ferry landings, hotel lobbies, department store lounges, taxi stands, barbershops, beauty salons, offices of professional people, and in other places as convenience and opportunity afford. But wherever they are used racks can misrepresent our message unless they are regularly and frequently cleaned and the contents sorted and reorganized.

Not infrequently persons of other religious societies take advantage of an empty Adventist rack, filling it with their printed matter. They have been known to remove Adventist literature in favor of their own. This, among other reasons, emphasizes the fact that racks containing truth-filled literature ought not to wait a whole week without a visit from the one responsible for their upkeep and efficient service.

Racks are convenient in private homes, hung in convenient places—by exit doors they provide ready literature at hand for the brief caller, sales folk, persons making inquiry, etc. In this day of automobile travel tracts should be handy to give to filling station operators, police officers, hitchhikers or would-be hitchhikers, newsboys, road stand operators, toll collectors, or any of the numerous persons so frequently met when one is "behind the wheel."

Occasionally a desk tract stand fills a real need. This is especially true when Adventists hold forth at information desks and places frequented by the public.

Tracts, neatly folded and inserted in correspondence, bear a telling message that can do wonderful work for the Lord. The same is true in the case of goods shipped. Tracts can be packed in strawberry crates, bean baskets, potato bags, and produce containers of all kinds. Persons shipping bakery products, canned goods, and manufactured articles such as tables, chairs, household necessities, etc., can insert tracts in each piece of the shipment.

Tracts may be carried on the person. Women may find ample space in their handbags, frequently by discarding some of the nonessential things with which they usually burden their bags. Men have so many pockets in their clothes that it is not hard to find one that can be dedicated to the Lord's work to carry tracts everywhere, and by this means one can always be ready

to give an answer to the questions that frequently arise.

Tract racks placed in our own churches fill a very necessary place. Such a rack could contain a coin box, with a slot through which those helping themselves to tracts may drop money with which to help provide other tracts. Similar racks are many times helpful in schools and other institutions.

USO and recreational centers invite literature. Many of them have large quantities of Catholic leaflets. Let's see that they are furnished with Adventist food for the soul.

August 18

CO-OPERATING WITH THE CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOL

Key Thought for Leaders: "In His wisdom the Lord brings those who are seeking for truth into touch with fellow beings who know the truth."—Acts of the Apostles, p. 134.

All over North America thousands of Bible students delve into the Word of God under the direction of some Seventh-day Adventist correspondence school. Here is one of the most wholesome signs of present-day evangelism; it reaches multitudes who probably would otherwise never be induced to investigate this last-day message. Many will take their stand for God as a result of heart surrender while soulfully contemplating the sublime truths they learned in one of these correspondence courses.

Church members may co-operate in many ways: 1. Refresh their personal store by a careful restudy of present truth. 2. Present advantages of the course to their own relatives, to members of their family, persuading each one to study for himself. 3. Have neighbors and friends enroll in the course, and keep them encouraged in the work. (It is not wise merely to send the school names of persons you wish would enroll in the course. These persons are not often responsive but are costly to the correspondence school. You should induce the person to enroll for himself.) 4. Sit with some of your enrollees while they study, so that they may have the benefit of your inspiration and guidance. 5. Encourage financial support of the plan. 6. Help train a group of competent lay Bible instructors in your church so they will be able to assist students and enroll new members. 7. Prepare for an intensive follow-up of the interest created not only in near-by sections but in some places perhaps a few miles away. 8. Pass on words of helpfulness to the conference leaders who foster the school, and cheer them as they seek by this means

to lead some to Christ. Help in every way you can.

A consistent literature program in connection with your correspondence school follow-up work will build for souls and lasting results.

Those who have studied and read their way into this message know much about what lies ahead, and should be the more easily inspired to become soul winners. After all, the object of all our efforts is one—to win souls for Christ and to teach those that are won to so live and labor that the Lord may use them as instruments by and through whom others may be won to eternal blessings until this whole world is ready for Jesus' coming.

August 25

MISSIONARY EXPERIENCES

Key Thought for Leaders: "All who receive the gospel message into the heart will long to proclaim it. The heaven-born love of Christ must find expression."—Christ's Object Lessons, p. 125.

He Missed the Train and Found the Saviour.—It was nearly 9 A.M., and the train, due at eight-fifty, had stopped at the little wayside station, taken the passengers, and steamed away again. The elderly stationmaster returned to his garden after the momentary excitement of the train's arrival.

A moment later hasty steps beat on the board platform, and a red-faced, irate businessman puffed up to the stationmaster, cursed the bus driver roundly who had forgotten to call for him, thus forcing him to miss the train, and exclaimed, "I would rather have given twenty-five dollars than be late this morning."

The next train was not due for an hour, but the angry executive paced up and down the small platform, as the philosophically minded stationmaster turned to his garden with a shrug of his stooped shoulders. In a few minutes he called to the stranger, "There's a comfortable waiting room inside, if you would like to sit down, sir," and the businessman strode into the little room, which was thoroughly scrubbed and shining.

On a round table in the middle of the room was a supply of tracts. Well chosen and attractive, they were thumbed over by the businessman, who chose one and sat down to read it. Soon passengers began to arrive for the next train, the ticket office was opened, but the stranger still sat absorbed in the tract.

"The train's in sight, sir," the stationmaster called.

"The train," he exclaimed, jumping up. "Will you sell me this tract? I want to read it again."

"Take it and welcome, sir. The lady who supplies me with them will be glad that you did."

"Thank you and her," and in another minute he was on the train.

A month later the stationmaster stood on the platform as the train drew to a stop, and the stranger leaped out before him, holding out his hand and saying, "Do you remember me?"

"I do, sir. You are the gentleman that missed the train a few weeks back and was so troubled about it."

"I need not have been. I missed the train that morning, but I found the Saviour. Oh, what a tract that was! I had been so busy about business that I had not allowed myself to think about God, or to read about Him either. But I could not get over the solemn questions that tract asked. I wish I had time to tell you all the particulars, but tell the lady that gave you the tracts that one has led me to Jesus, and I am buying all I can and giving them away, wholesale. I never knew what happiness was before."

The steam whistle ended the interview, and there was joy in the heart of the old stationmaster as he stood watching the train move slowly away, and saw the beaming look of one of its passengers—"a new creature in Christ Jesus."—*Our Hope.*

The Church of Christ

AWAKE! O church of Christ, awake!

Why will ye slumbering lie?

Behold! the signs of Christ's advent

Light up the eastern sky!

Behold the glints of early morn'

Sin's night is almost o'er.

Awake! O church of Christ, awake!

Your King is at the door.

Awake! O church of Christ, awake!

Oh, can ye not discern?

The signs that light the eastern sky

Foretell your Lord's return.

Awake! there is so much to do

Ere ends this night of sin:

For many sheep without the fold

By you must be brought in.

Awake! O church of Christ, awake!

Gird on your armor bright!

Uplift the shining lamp of truth

To steer you through the night.

Before the world of sin and shame

This solemn truth unfold.

"The coming King is almost here!"

His wondrous signs behold!"

—RUBY SMITH.

★ Department of Education ★

Featuring Home and Parent Education in the
Home and School Association and the Christian Home Council

My Work Is Sacred

THERE was no ordination,
No laying on of hands,
No sober rites, no half-dimmed lights,
No pomp, no blaring bands;
I merely found some work to do
And did it—none too well, 'tis true.

And yet my work is sacred,
And God looks down to see
The beads of sweat, nor will forget
My store of energy.
And day by day I hear Him say,
"Fear not, I'm with you all the way."

There was no ordination,
I was not set apart;
In my crude task pray do not ask
Some hidden touch or art;
Yet day by day I somehow know
That in this humble work—I grow!
—R. G. STOTT.

For Tomorrow and Its Needs

BY FLORENCE K. BEBOK

WITH this issue of the GAZETTE we announce the topics for Home and School Association meetings for the school year 1945-46. While these topics are but suggestive and in no sense mandatory, yet following the plan brings in unity of thought, study, and effort. There is real help offered for the smaller or less-favored churches. In large centers where there is an abundance of talent, or where local problems call for specific study to meet definite needs, it seems advisable to deviate at times from the prescribed course. This is permissible, yet in most cases holding to the general plan is advisable.

Some have felt that the principal function of the Home and School Association is to devise ways and means of raising money for local school needs. While this is legitimate, yet it is in fact but one minor feature of the whole program. The larger ever-all view of the purposes and possibilities of study and development for both parents and teachers will bring far better results to each local church.

The ideal Home and School Association has as its purpose "to advance the cause of Christian education in home and school, and to develop Christian character in all its members and their dependent children. To this end the Association shall devote itself—

"First, to an earnest, well-directed study of the principles, purpose, and applications of Christian education, in the home, the school, and the church.

"Second, to establish in the home the atmosphere of love and discipline, of Bible study, prayer, and family worship, and of systematic, progressive instruction to develop our children's whole beings—body, mind, and soul.

"Third, to bring the church school ever more fully into harmony with the principles of Christian education, in spirit, content, and methods.

"Fourth, to work to the end of securing the attendance of every child in our own church school.

"Fifth, to assist as possible in providing the school with the necessary equipment to enable it to meet the highest standards.

TOPICS FOR 1945-46

September: Healthful Environment for the School Child

October: The Nursery School

November: Visit Your School! (American Education Week, November 11-17)

December: Helping the Unfortunate

January: Facing the New Year (Parent, Child, Teacher)

February: Famous Birthdays (What makes true leadership?)

March: Religion for Our Boys and Girls (M.V. Week of Prayer, March 9-16)

April: Lessons From Nature

May: Summer Plans and Guidance

June: "Are All the Children In?"

July: Educational Day Program

August: Looking to the New School Year

"Sixth, to furnish social and educational opportunity and satisfactions to the members of the church and the community, through programs, social intercourse, and personal and group service."
—Home and School Association, Educational Leaflet No. 38, p. 18.

Those who followed through with us last year's study of character qualities have gained a clearer understanding of the opportunities presented for this training and the value to each child of developing these fundamental traits.

This year's outline is different—but

who does not like variety? While at first reading, the topics may seem disconnected, as they are developed through this year we hope to foster a mutual understanding of and appreciation for the work of the home and of the school. This year's topics will present some of these things that call for definite attention and action. It is our hope that the studies will prove both interesting and helpful.

In addition to these general topics for our Home and School meetings, let us not overlook the Parent and Home Education study groups. These should be organized at once as a definite part of the Home and School Association, but with additional meetings appointed to suit the needs and interests of the parents concerned.

For those who have not yet started a systematic study of the lessons, we again present and urge the introductory course in Home Education. Following this there is a choice of three courses: Education of the Little Child, Home Education of the School Child, and Social Education of the Adolescent. Your educational superintendent will gladly assist in organizing this work. Ask him for Educational Leaflets numbers 37, 38, and 40, which will fully explain the work and just how to get the most from it, how to keep your records, and when and to whom to make reports of your organization and work. "Let all things be done decently and in order."

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He Giveth More Grace

He giveth more grace when the burdens grow greater;
He sendeth more strength when the labors increase.
To added affliction He addeth His mercy.
To multiplied trials, His multiplied peace.

When we have exhausted our store of endurance,
When our strength has failed ere the day is half done,
When we reach the end of our hoarded resources,
Our Father's full giving is only begun.

His love has no limit, His grace has no measure,
His power no boundary known unto men,
For out of His infinite riches in Jesus
He giveth and giveth and GIVETH IT AGAIN.

—Author Unknown.

Soiled Salvation

BY J. H. RHOADS

SHE didn't take me seriously, that little church school teacher, when I asked her a few days ago whether she would accept me as a pupil in her school. No, when folks reach forty, school days are about over, and there isn't much use in even talking of it.

Still, I've thought a good deal about what fun it would be to take my dinner bucket, amble away to school, and slide into my desk once more. I'd like to go to school again; really I would.

It's because school is such an interesting place now, and there are so many things to do and to do with.

There are more books, with more pictures, with more colors, than they had when I was a boy. The pencils are prettier. The schoolrooms are brighter places. The very atmosphere is charged with the challenge of learning. There are ten times more incentives to make a youngster want to know, than existed a short generation ago. The whole educational process as it is displayed today intrigues me, and gives me a want-to-go-again feeling.

But strange as it may seem, some of our schools are not utilizing many of these facilities. Insufficient funds mean insufficient materials and insufficient learning. For the want of adequate facilities and books, many of our schools are seriously handicapped. A few dollars wisely invested would help much; many dollars would help more.

In some places teachers are using books printed before they were born. Hoary old tomes are placed before little boys and girls. Bright eyes ponder dull, torn pages. Little dimpled hands hold ragged, gray volumes. Books with burst bindings, loose leaves, torn and faded pages, constitute the environment of some growing, restless youngsters.

There is too much drabness in some of our schoolrooms. Seats are carved and notched; floors are dull, walls are bleak, and an atmosphere of somberness prevails in many schoolrooms that might be bright, clean, and attractive.

Is it any wonder that teachers, minking brick without any straw, living day after day in such an uninspiring atmosphere, may sometimes grow a little despondent and lose the verve and vivacity which is so necessary to good teaching?

Can we wonder if Joe comes home disgusted with the humdrum of school life? Can he be blamed for not liking school? Motivation stops dead still.

We talk of the values of education, but deprive our children of those values simply because we do not provide the facility for their impartation. The situation is not hopeless. It can be corrected, but it will cost money and effort.

Fresh paint can do much to warm a cold schoolroom. There is a dash of new inspiration in a glance into a new book. Bright things, new things, up-to-date things, placed periodically in a schoolroom, are the most eloquent testimony of your constant and unflinching interest in the welfare of your children.

Appreciation of a beautiful view cannot be effectively instilled when eyes must look through ragged curtains or broken or dirty windowpanes. The rapture and rhythm of great music cannot be imparted even by skillful hands on a piano that has not been tuned in a decade. You cannot teach cleanliness where children must drink and wash under insanitary and primitive conditions. Flies and stove gas are not consonant with aesthetic qualities. Cultural values are not derived from musty, moldy books. It is futile to hope that doctrines derived from soiled and sour old volumes will effectively root in the hearts of our children. Ragged books, be their content ever so orthodox, will impart ragged religious impressions.

Whether we would have it so or not, youth will judge the teaching offered by the receptacle in which it is proffered. We owe it to our boys and girls to clothe the principles of Christian education with the most attractive garments. We should cause truth to ride forth upon the finest vehicle available.

Many young people I fear have gone out from us because we gave them religion mixed with dirt. We offered them the "water of life" from a tin can rather than from an immaculate glass. We served the "bread of life" on cracked and crazed china when we might have given it to them on a stainless platter. We have tried to give the new wine from torn bottles. The goodness and sweetness of heaven's precious and holy things have been lost by reason of our crude and coarse handling of them. We have contaminated, marred, and bungled the perfect gifts of God.

Is it not high time that we redeem the past? Shall we not resolve now to brighten and burnish our schoolrooms? The truth which we cherish should shine forth as a precious gem encased in the golden clasp of the best material setting. Then let us illuminate it, adorn it, and glorify it with all we have.—*The Record*.

The Steady Youth

BY HARRY M. LODGE

WE are nearing the end of this world's history. Signs and evidences on all sides call our attention directly to this fact. Conditions in the American home today constitute one of the greatest evidences. Non-co-operation, lack of unity of purpose, lack of responsibility toward sacred home ties, the unsettled condition of both parents and youth—this is the situation in American homes today. All this unorganized sort of program is conducive to everything else but the development of a steady young man or young woman. My dear parents, shall we let such a disorganization come into and be a part of our homes? Shall we pattern after the fashions and customs of the world?

The world is looking for steady young blood to man its places of responsibility. The world is forced to "Hobson's choice," to take the product of its homes. This nation has tried to follow a program of progress and prosperity, but how can such a program continue with the present rapid increase of crime, degradation, and degeneration? Everywhere we find evidence of a careless, free drifting into crime. In the summer of 1929 President Hoover instructed his law enforcement commission at their first session to pay no attention to the enforcement of any one particular law, but to launch a program of thorough study into the American home, the purpose being to discover, if possible, the reason for unpopularity of law enforcement, the source of disrespect for law. Has this investigation reached into our homes?

What have we to protect our youth from the terrible landslide of evil influences in the world? It is OUR SCHOOLS! How can we expect our homes and our youth to go counter to the ways of the world if we place them in the schools of the world, where they will be trained in those ways?

God is not going to perform any great miracle to save our youth from the effects of the training we give them. His program does not work that way. He gives to us the responsibility of training and educating our children and youth for a part in His work in the earth and for a place in His kingdom to come; and He has given repeated and unequivocal instruction to us through the writings of the Spirit of prophecy that this work is to be accomplished by placing our precious youth under right influences in the home and at school. The schools of this denomination are provided and main-

tained to teach the way of salvation. They are producing the steady youth that God can use to finish the proclamation of His gospel message "to every nation and kindred and tongue and people."

Parents, do you want your children in the truth of Jesus Christ? Do you want them to have a part in giving the glorious message which transforms lives? Do you want them to take the course in life which God designs they should take? Then talk it, preach it, live it, before your children! Make it so attractive and appealing that they too will want for themselves what you want for them. And when the children are old enough to attend school, send them to the school where truth is taught and where the Christ life is the central theme.

This is the way to develop the steady young man, the steady young woman, for which the church as well as the world is looking.—Adapted from *North Pacific Union Gleaner*.

For the Joy of Service

Impelled by the statements in *Ministry of Healing*, page 349, "The restoration and uplifting of humanity begins in the home," and, "The work of parents underlies every other," we organized about six years ago to study the principles of Christian child training and education as presented in the Bible and through the Spirit of prophecy. To mothers particularly comes this message: "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."—*Ibid.*, pp. 377, 378.

Searching for help in our study, we found just what we needed in the courses on Parent and Home Education provided by the Home Study Institute. All in our group agree that we are receiving real benefits from the study of these lessons.

Our group meets twice a month. The main topic to be studied is taken from one of the Home Education study courses. Other interesting material is brought in besides, such as round-table discussions, various phases of nature study, hobbies, health and nutrition, a helpful reading program, and school improvements.

As a group of mothers, we are thankful for this privilege of studying to prepare our children "for the joy of service in this world, and for the higher joy of wider service in the world to come."—*Education*, p. 13.

Mrs. H. D. Atwood,
Santa Cruz, California

Self-Reliance in School

BY LUCIA MALLORY

"I'm sorry I can't come to the meeting Thursday evening, Lucia," said my friend, Myrna Parks, to me over the telephone. She was calling to excuse herself from the meeting of the children's committee of the city library board. As children's librarian, I was to attend the meeting.

"I'm sorry, too, Myrna," I replied. "We'll be going over some lists of new books for children, and I wanted your advice on our selections for the library."

"I'd come if it weren't test week at school," Myrna went on to say. "I have to go over geometry theorems with Jerry and Latin conjugations with Eileen."

Of course I answered, "We'll excuse you, Myrna, and hope that you can be with us next time," but I had a strong desire to ask her, "Do you expect to go to college with your children? Do you plan to help them all their lives?"

Jerry and Eileen were intelligent and should have been capable of doing their schoolwork without home assistance. In her zeal for their welfare their mother had always assumed a responsibility that should have been theirs. By studying with them constantly she was taking away their self-reliance.

It happened that Myrna came into the library one evening of the next week to talk about the new books the committee had recommended for purchase. Little David Wyman was just leaving my desk with a big book under his arm.

"I'm sure you'll find that a good book, David," I told the little fellow.

"I know I'll like it, Miss Mallory," David replied, smiling up at me and hugging the book close to his chest. "I'm going to read it all by myself!"

"I wonder what made that little fellow say that," Myrna remarked. "Don't most of the children read the books they borrow from the library?"

"Yes," I answered, "but David hasn't done much of anything for himself until recently. His mother has been doing everything for him. The two of them were alone, for the father was away. They came often to the library to get books, but the mother always read them to David. She had him bring home his schoolwork, too, and they did that together.

"Not long ago David's mother left him in the care of a good woman and went to spend some time with his father. David's schoolwork suffered a setback.

"Fortunately, his teacher was very patient. She finally discovered that David's

mother, with mistaken devotion, had been doing so many things with him and for him that he did not know how to take enough responsibility himself.

"The teacher has encouraged David to come to the library and make his own selections of books and read them for himself. This is only one of the ways by which he is becoming more self-reliant. I'm sure his mother would be greatly astonished if she knew that she really handicapped her child by doing too much for him."

Myrna was looking at me with puzzled eyes. "Do you suppose I've been studying too much with Jerry and Eileen?" she inquired.

"I don't know, Myrna," I answered honestly. "It's a good thing for children to have their mother as much interested in their schoolwork as you are. The question is whether they depend on you or on themselves."

My friend gave me a wry smile. "I'm afraid that I may have led Jerry and Eileen into the habit of depending too much on their mother," she declared. "It won't be many years before both of them will have to take up the responsibilities of adult life. I think I'd better give them a chance to develop more self-reliance."—National Kindergarten Association.

Between Parents and Teachers

THE Home and School Association, when rightly organized and conducted, can be the means of drawing the entire church membership and the church school into fellowship and understanding.

From the very beginning of our monthly meetings we have planned some programs that will be of interest to the children and youth. They in turn show their appreciation by attending such meetings with their parents and friends. We have found that eight o'clock Saturday night is the best time at which to have our meetings. The best plan for conducting the meetings is that found in the programs outlined in the CHURCH OFFICERS' GAZETTE, and having as many different ones as possible take part on the programs from time to time creates a greater interest in the work of the Home and School Association.

The purchase of one of the best standard Remington Rand typewriters, a complete new lighting system for the three schoolrooms, a Webster's International Unabridged Dictionary, and numerous small articles, has been made possible by freewill offerings, occasional special programs, and meals served to delegates at

tending institutes held in our church. All this has been done in a little more than a year.

A great part of the success of the association depends upon the leader's interest. If he is careless about the regularity of the meetings or how they are conducted, or if he does not see that they are properly announced and advertised, naturally few if any will care to attend. The bond of understanding created between parents and teachers as the result of a properly organized and well-conducted Home and School Association is priceless.

MRS. WALTER YOUNG,
Richmond, Virginia.

The Islands of the Caribbean

MANY of these islands have special descriptive terms. Grenada is known as "The Isle of Spices." Trinidad is known as "The Island of the Hummingbird"; and Tobago, in addition to being the reputed home of Robinson Crusoe, is known as "The Isle of the Paradise Bird." Barbuda is called "The Sportsman's Paradise"; Martinique, "The Pearl of the West Indies"; and Saint Kitts is actually known as "The Mother of the West Indies." In all these islands, as a result of the faithful efforts of our brethren of the early years, hundreds of precious souls have been won to the truth, and today they hold aloft the torch of the advent message, shedding light and blessing all around them.

On the island of Montserrat, in the main industrial concern, which engages a large number of workers, no less than ninety per cent of the employees are members of the Adventist Church. Some time ago a special commission from the British Isles, while visiting the Caribbean area, stopped at Montserrat and inquired at this factory concerning their labor problems. The members of the commission were told by the management that they had no labor problems here, and added, "ninety per cent of our working force are members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and they are a loyal, faithful group of workers."

Recent word from S. B. Jean-Elie, of Guadeloupe, indicates that thirty-eight are in the baptismal class; and in a nearby place fourteen more are preparing for baptism. Seven were baptized recently at one of our churches, and some five hundred people from the vicinity witnessed this solemn and beautiful ceremony.

On the occasion of our recent visit it was very apparent that our brethren and sisters needed clothing. It was not a question of money, but the goods could not be purchased, for they were not to be had on the island. A little later on, as a result of a contact made with the Home Missionary Department of the General Conference, our brethren in America very kindly sent thirty barrels, or cases, of clothing for distribution to the needy in those fields. We feel very grateful for the kindly attitude of our brethren in the

States, and our believers in Martinique and Guadeloupe have expressed their gratitude in no uncertain manner. That is help of the sort that builds confidence and self-respect in the recipient.

We are now ordering some literature and a projector and films, so that Elder R. T. Colthurst can get started in French Guiana in 1945. We understand that it will not be possible to conduct meetings there until thirty or more people request this; hence it is our plan to work with literature, and in the homes with the projector, until an interest is created.

We have no less than six groups of believers scattered throughout the Caribbean Union, comprising about fifty church members, who are located in leper colonies. In some instances they are quite aggressive. This is particularly true of the group in British Guiana. They set their goal in the Ingathering work for over \$70, and when the report came in, it showed over \$100. They are active in making known the truth, and even though they are affected with this terrible disease they are continually reporting an increase in their membership. We thank God for the loyalty and devotion of these afflicted ones, for they are verily an example to the believers who live under more favorable circumstances.

In connection with the educational work at the school in Trinidad the two industries that help us most in a financial way are a little printing plant and a broom factory. For some time we had difficulty in obtaining the necessary broom corn, but after our little factory had been closed for five or six months, a shipment arrived. It was not long before we were turning out brooms again, much to the delight of the businessmen of the city, for it so happens that unless the college factory provides brooms, the city stores have no brooms to sell, for they are virtually dependent upon the supply that comes from the Caribbean Training College. We are now manufacturing brooms in large quantities and have an excellent market. In order not to be found again without broom corn, the brethren ordered a large quantity—a double order, in fact. To our surprise, this arrived in record time, and we were then faced with two problems: first, the question where to store the goods. But these problems can be solved.

Our radio work is also getting well under way, and in spite of many setbacks we are now having very good results. We have 17,960 enrolled in the correspondence course, and recently we printed 88,000 circulars, which are to be distributed by our church members to their neighbors and friends. We believe this will add greatly to the list of those studying the Bible by correspondence.

At the beginning of the year we had no less than twenty-six church building projects in this field in an unfinished condition. Some of them had been in this state for eight or ten years, and we felt that it was time to complete these projects, so that our church properties would rightly represent our work. Before the close of the year we hope to sing the victory song over every one of these church building projects.

W. E. READ.

Three Saved Two Hundred

THIS story was related to four returned Adventist missionaries by the officer in charge of the training of a thousand native police. This man was in charge of native police at Rabaul before the outbreak of the Pacific war.

When the Japanese invaders had overwhelmed the defenders of Rabaul, some parties escaped by various routes. One group of two hundred, of which the above-mentioned officer was a member, escaped by a central route through the extremely rough and wild Gazelle Peninsula in northeast New Britain. The weather at this time through all these island groups was rougher and wetter than any that could be remembered by the older inhabitants. This proved a disadvantage to the invader at times, and also to those who were trying to escape his traps. This party of two hundred Australians found a dangerously flooded river, which appeared to them quite impassable, cutting right across their path to safety; while the enemy in the rear was rapidly hunting down escapees. The position looked hopeless as the drenching rain continued day after day.

One early morning they espied on the opposite bank of the river three natives cutting thick lawyer cane from the jungle and tying it in bundles. Then they tried hour after hour to get some of this cane across the flood, which raced treacherously over great limestone boulders. At the peril of their lives, these natives made repeated attempts to cross the river, and finally they succeeded. Within forty-eight hours these three lads had brought every one of those two hundred men across that raging torrent. The officer was outspoken in his praise of their courage. He concluded: "Not one of us would be alive today except for what those boys did for us those two days," and I want you to know, friends, that they were Seventh-day Adventist boys.

—A. J. CAMPBELL.



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