

The Church Officers' Gazette

VOL. 34

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No. 1

Metropolitan Evangelism

At the recent Autumn Council held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, the following recommendation was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Special instruction has been given concerning the needs of the great cities of earth, and we have been told that "the inhabitants of the ungodly cities, so soon to be visited by calamity, have been cruelly neglected"; and that "the time is coming when laws will be framed that will close doors now open to the message" (*Evangelism*, p. 40); therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we urge the leadership in all of our conferences and mission fields throughout the world to make a "special study of the needs and problems of the great cities within their territories, and in the spirit of prayer and counsel lay "broader plans" for an aggressive evangelistic program for these neglected millions.

2. That in order to meet the needs of these great metropolitan areas we "choose men of capabilities and urge them to go into these avenues of opportunity and proclaim the message in the power of the Holy Spirit." (*Evangelism*, p. 40.)

3. That we call upon all of our churches and members residing in these great metropolitan centers, to arise to the responsibilities of this hour and, by wholehearted co-operation with the leadership, seek through every means possible to carry God's message to the masses in these great cities while there is still opportunity.



YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT

of Missionary Volunteers



NOTES TO OFFICERS

Objectives of Our Society

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER officers, we must ever keep in mind the divine objectives which have been set before us as a youth organization. The Missionary Volunteer meeting must ever be made to contribute to these objectives. As you study them you will see that they can be achieved only when all the natural interests of the young people are fostered in a well-balanced program throughout the year.

Our heaven-born purpose is "to save from sin and guide in service." To conform to this high ideal, the Missionary Volunteer meeting ought always to be planned with the following in mind:

1. To keep the Aim, the Motto, and the Pledge ever bright in the minds of the society.
2. To cultivate and deepen the devotional life of each Missionary Volunteer. This can be accomplished only as we strive to uphold regularly the Morning Watch, the Bible Year, the Character Classics, the Prayer and Personal Workers' Band, and family devotions.
3. To charge the spirit and the life of youth with the vital Missionary Volunteer features and missionary activities. Too often the society meeting forsakes its high objective and becomes a feeble medium for entertainment instead of the dynamic, vital inspiration which God designed it should be to rally and instruct young people in doing the work of God.
4. To study, organize, and do the most effective kinds of Christian service.
5. To afford a time for the members of the society to tell "what they have tried to do for the Saviour and what success has been theirs."
6. To foster a spirit of world-wide Missionary Volunteer fellowship.
7. To magnify and teach the youth Christian ideals and principles of Christian living. It is our task to beautify and glorify the Christian way for youth.
8. To provide an opportunity for each member to gain an experience in public speaking and teamwork.
9. To assist the youth in praying together, studying together, planning together, and working together.
10. To provide a happy Christian fellowship and Christian social life for the young people in the circle of the church.

Basic Society Organization

It is the policy of the church to elect the following Missionary Volunteer officers at the regularly constituted church election each year:

Society sponsor
Leader
Associate leader
Pianist

Secretary
Treasurer
Chorister

It is the responsibility of these officers to assume full charge of the conduct of the society at the first meeting of the year. One of the first duties of the newly instituted officers should be that of directing the Missionary Volunteer Society in the election of the auxiliary officers:

Devotional secretary
Educational secretary
Social secretary
Service band leaders
Publicity secretary
Ushers

In smaller societies it may be found necessary for some of the regular officers to carry auxiliary offices also. In larger societies it will be found to great advantage to elect other persons to serve in these capacities so that the heavy responsibilities of conducting a well-balanced program throughout the year may be more equally distributed.

To provide for a good beginning and to maintain a well-balanced program of activities throughout the year, each of the society officers should have access to the newly revised M.V. Leaflet No. 4, "Duties of Officers and Basic Organization."

All officers elected by the church and by the society, with the addition of the church elder, missionary leader, and the church school teacher, constitute the executive committee of the society. The leader of the society is chairman of this committee, and he should call the members of the committee to meet at regularly appointed intervals for prayer and counsel. These meetings should be held as often as the society meetings are held, and at least once each month sufficient time should be spent in committee meetings to study the urgent needs of the youth and to lay well-organized plans for the society meetings, missionary activities, and recreational and social activities for the ensuing month.

The officers should study month by month the subjects in the CHURCH OFFICERS' GAZETTE on the "Notes to Officers" page. They should study the planned meeting topics and program helps with source materials for each meeting. This gives a properly balanced and unified program of activity around the world. It has long been observed that the most successfully organized societies are those that follow quite closely the subjects given in the GAZETTE.

May God bless you in this momentous year of 1947 as you plan and work together as divinely appointed leaders of youth.

Equipment for M.V. Craftsmen

A CRAFTSMAN must have the best equipment obtainable. M.V. officers must be expert craftsmen to build into their planning a program of depth and stability. The finest tools are needed to draw the blueprints, lay strong foundations, shape the ideals, and construct lasting characters. Following is a list of articles indispensable to M.V. craftsmen. Use them to build strongly in 1947.

1. CHURCH OFFICERS' GAZETTE. (At least two copies, and more if necessary. Contains society program outlines prepared in cycle, and suggestions to officers.)

2. M.V. LEAFLETS. (One complete set for use as samples from which to order. Sufficient number on organization and work to supply officers. Quantities of special numbers for the members: e.g., M.V. Leaflets Nos. 19 "Morning Watch," and 18, "Bible Year.")

3. M.V. RECORD BOOKS FOR SENIOR AND JUNIOR SOCIETIES. (This book, obtained through the conference M.V. secretary, contains the report and record blanks needed by the society secretary for the year.)

4. M.V. RECOAD BLANKS AND PLEDGES. (For society and personal use. Individual report blanks, special blanks, and pledges upon occasion.)

5. MORNING WATCH CALENDARS. (One for each member. Quantities sufficient to supply projects determined upon.)

6. BIBLE YEAR CHART.

7. SET OF M.V. BANNERS OR CHARTS. (Aim, Motto, and Pledge.)

8. THE YOUTH'S INSTRUCTOR. (Club for society, or single subscriptions to each home.)

9. PROGRESSIVE CLASS MATERIAL. (Junior Handbook, M.V. Achievement Chart, and individual record cards.)

10. MASTER COMRADE MATERIAL. (Master Comrade Manual, M.V. Achievement Chart, and individual record cards.)

11. M.V. READING COURSE BOOKS.

12. NOTEBOOK. (For recording names and addresses of society members, pages for ideas and plans, for dates of coming events, for book lists, and, in short, anything of interest to the society which would be lost but for the notebook.)

13. FILE of past year's GAZETTES, Youth's Instructors, and Review and Herald. (Drawing upon articles for extra program material.) Or—

14. CLIPPING FILE. (Articles from our various publications and others, filed topically, which may be used as extra material in arranging programs.) Or—

15. SCRAPBOOK. (Which may be arranged and used as above.)

16. CONSTANT CONTACT BY LETTER AND BY PERSON with the conference M.V. secretary.

Annual M.V. Membership Enrollment

Why?

The Missionary Volunteer organization depends on its active, alert membership to accomplish its worthy objectives. The annual enlistment brings a fresh challenge to old members and opportunity for new members to catch the vision of service in a thriving youth organization. A vivid sense of belonging to a worth-while organization is a necessity to each member. Officers are also in a much more advantageous position to serve the members when there is a definite list.

Who?

Every youth of S.D.A. parents should be a member of the young People's Society of Missionary Volunteers, either Junior or Senior. Interested friends who are not yet church members may become associate members.

When?

Many newly elected officers find this enlistment ceremony to be a good way to launch this administration January 1. Of course, a membership committee will be looking for new prospects for membership all during the year.

Where?

Although members may be admitted at any regular M.V. meeting, there ought to be one special service when the M.V. Aim, Motto, and Pledge are featured, banners, or posters of the same are displayed, and the bulk of new members are welcomed.

How?

The major enlistment service should be well advertised and preceded by vigorous work on the part of a lookout or membership committee. Either application cards or enrollment sheets may be used, on which prospective members are asked to sign. The only condition of membership is willingness to sign the Pledge and comply with age and church membership requirements. See M.V. Leaflet No. 4 for different classes of membership. If the size of society permits, it would add color to the ceremony to have each new member inscribe his name on the roll. A mass repetition of the M.V. Pledge, followed by a prayer of consecration, makes the ritual impressive.

An attempt to place each new member in a definite service project according to his choice and ability will link the idea of membership to service in the mind of each Missionary Volunteer.

There is a large field for new recruits, and 1947 should see a substantial increase in signed-up, active members.

Resources of Christian Living

THE new year is here—why not begin again with the beginner and as busy, active Christian leaders be happy and desirous to use constantly the resources which strengthen the spiritual life—and thereby encourage your young people to do likewise. In other words, Missionary Volunteer officers want to be an example worthy of emulation. (Turn to page 16)



SENIOR MEETINGS

January 4

Mobilizing for a Victorious Year

BY E. W. DUNBAR

Order of Service

OPENING SONG: "Sound the Battle Cry," No. 499 in *Church Hymnal*.

SCRIPTURE READING: Ephesians 6:10-18.

PRAYER.

SONG: "O Christian, Awake!" No. 576.

SECRETARY'S REPORT. (With emphasis upon the society's missionary work and missionary plans.)

M.V. OFFERING.

LEADER'S INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

TALK: "The Youth—An Army With Banners."

SPECIAL MUSIC: Quartet or Solo, "Help Me Find My Place," No. 194 in *Gospel in Song*.

SYMPOSIUM: "What Is Our Aim in '47?"

MOBILIZE FOR CHRIST. (See Notes to Leaders.)

CLOSING SONG: "Onward, Christian Soldiers!" No. 360 in *Church Hymnal*.

BENEDICTION.

Notes to Leaders

This is mobilization day for Adventist young people. It is a day when Missionary Volunteer leaders in the army of the Lord send forth a world-wide call to Seventh-day Adventist youth everywhere to rally and make all personal pursuits secondary to the work of the King, every young person standing in his appointed place ready to discharge the particular duties assigned. The world has recently witnessed speedy and powerful mobilization of its man power. At the response of an earnest call mighty armies were built and equipped which accomplished a momentous victory. To fail to give heed or to appear indifferent branded a person as a shirker and traitor to his country. With such a recent object lesson before us, we have a fresh example of what is expected of the young men and young women—the muscle power of the church of God at this hour in the final crisis of earth's history.

We are now a part of the "church militant," and every member of the church is a soldier. "So vast is the field, so comprehensive the design, that every sanctified heart will be pressed into service as an instrument of divine power."—*Testimonies*, vol. 9, p. 47. The "church militant" is soon to become the "church triumphant," and the last struggle is right upon us. The great clock of time is striking the zero hour, and the call which must sound from every Missionary Volunteer leader and officer is for 100 per cent mobilization for Christian conquest.

As wise generals in the Lord's army you will study the situation which confronts your sector of the army and will

plan for this service in such a way as to challenge and arouse every member of the society. Leaders for service bands and all devotional activities should be chosen in advance and instructed as to the special service they are to render so they will be ready to take charge as soon as the young people are mobilized.

This is truly a great day in the history of God's work and more than you realize depends upon the vision and the efficiency of the leaders of our youth.

It will be fitting to have a special season of prayer by the Missionary Volunteer executive committee before every meeting.

MOBILIZE FOR CHRIST. Leader, plan to enroll every member in devotional activities—Morning Watch (presenting 1947 gift copies) and Bible Year or Character Classics. M.V. Leaflets 16, 19, and 25 will prove helpful. This is the time quickly and efficiently to organize all into service bands such as Christian Help, Sunshine, Jail, Literature, and Bible Study.

The Youth—An Army With Banners

THE figure used by Solomon to describe the church is peculiarly fitting for the last generation of young people. It is a time of warfare between carnal and spiritual, and organization and discipline are vital to success. As the king of Israel depicted the church in its various characteristics, he placed stress upon the qualities brought to view in this text: "Who is she that looketh forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners?" Song of Solomon 6:10.

Why is the church of the last days likened to an army? Because an army strikingly illustrates the power of organization and discipline. The fundamental difference between a mob and an army is organization. Throughout the history of the Christian church there is evidence of a carefully planned organization. Abraham had 318 well-trained and disciplined servants connected with his household. When the church was established in the days of the exodus, God gave Jethro detailed counsel concerning organization.

"Able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness," were to be placed over the various units of tens, fifties, hundreds, and thousands into which the church was to be divided. (See Ex. 18:21-26.)

January 11

A Soldier in Action

BY E. W. DUNBAR

Order of Service

SONG: "Stand Up! Stand Up for Jesus!" No. 354 in *Church Hymnal*.
 SILENT PRAYER during which the music of "Make Me a Blessing Today," No. 500 in *Christ in Song*, is played softly.
 SONG: "In the Heart of Jesus," No. 348 in *Church Hymnal*.
 SCRIPTURE READING: Revelation 14:6-12; Matthew 28:19, 20.
 PRAYER.
 SECRETARY'S REPORT.
 SPECIAL MUSIC. Theme—soul winning.
 INTRODUCTORY REMARKS by leader.
 BIBLE STUDY: "God's Program Is Soul Winning."
 TALK: "Crusading for Christ in 1947."
 SPECIAL MUSIC: Choose a spirited song of missionary zeal.
 TALK: "Life's Highest Motive."
 POINTS FOR DISCUSSION.
 LEADER'S SUMMARY. (See Notes to Leaders.)
 CLOSING HYMN: "I Love Thee," No. 343.
 BENEDICTION.

Notes to Leaders

It seems very fitting at this second meeting of the year that we should emphasize the important work of soul winning. This is the work to which we are first committed. It must be presented to our young people as the all-essential thing in 1947.

This program of soul winning calls for united action and careful organization. More effective results in *soul winning* and more lasting results in *soul holding* should be the aim of every society in 1947. This twofold responsibility lies at the door of every Missionary Volunteer Society and a superhuman effort should be made by society leaders this present year to marshal all our youthful forces in accomplishing more in this responsibility.

Leaders, familiarize yourselves with the Crusader films, Crusader Bible Course, and the new synchronized Illustravox Bible study plan. This information may be secured through your conference Missionary Volunteer secretary. It should be the objective of this program to build up an interest in the organization of a Crusader Corps in your society. Following this program will be programs each month with the object of emphasizing soul winning by youth. Emphasis will be laid upon how we may crusade for Christ in literature, in assisting with Bible studies, cottage meetings, outdoor meetings, and lay efforts. Endeavor to enlist every member and be sure to plan for proper leadership. *Above all, start soul-winning work!*

LEADER'S SUMMARY: Here the leader should be prepared to demonstrate a Crusader film, a Crusader Bible class lesson, or a synchronized record-and-slide Bible study. Or it may better meet the needs of time and purpose to call a special meeting for the purpose of demonstrating these aids to soul winning.

In every instance the Scriptures show that organization increases efficiency by 500 per cent. In Leviticus 26:8 it is stated, "Five of you shall chase an hundred, and an hundred of you shall put ten thousand to flight." If five could rout a hundred, it would be supposed that one hundred would be able to conquer two thousand; but the power of organization increased the efficiency so that God could do five times as much as the very fine work of the unit of five.

There is another illustration: "How should one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, except their Rock had sold them, and the Lord had shut them up?" Deut. 32:30. Here again it would appear that two would chase two thousand if one could chase a thousand. But the unity of effort multiplies the ability to accomplish at least five times as much as could be accomplished by one individual working alone.

Even Jesus gave recognition to the ancient form of organization when He fed the multitude. Luke records how the people were seated in groups of fifties, while Mark includes the fact that they sat down by hundreds as well. Thus it is that the Scriptures teach the vital importance of organization for service.

When Moses was about to lead the people out of Egypt, he told Pharaoh that not a hoof should be left behind. (Ex. 10:26.) Every individual was included in the basic organization of "tens." It is the Lord's purpose that all young people of the church be thoroughly and efficiently organized into bands for service. Let us determine this year to place emphasis upon the word *Missionary* in our Missionary Volunteer organization.

We must fight the battles of the Lord with the same form of organization and the same degree of discipline that marked the conquest of the Promised Land. The church of God today has a strikingly similar organization to the ancient church of God. We have a leader even as Moses was a leader. We have a General Conference comparable to the seventy counselors. Israel marched by divisions, and the world field is composed of division conferences. The leadership of the thousands in the days of Moses is paralleled by our union conferences. The leadership of hundreds, by our local conferences; and the leadership of fifties, by our local churches. The basic units of tens in the army of Israel are comparable to the service bands which we have in operation for missionary work. The Spirit of prophecy makes plain the need for a definite organization:

"God is a God of order. Everything connected with heaven is in perfect order; subjection and thorough discipline mark the movements of the angelic host. Success can only attend order and harmonious action. God requires order and system in His work now no less than in the days of Israel. All who are working for Him are to labor intelligently, not in a careless, haphazard manner. He would have His work done with faith and exactness, that He may place the seal of His approval upon it."—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 376.

In harmony with this counsel should we not as young people's societies, press forward until all our young people are actively organized in missionary work?

"Every one who is added to the ranks by conversion is to be assigned his post of duty. Everyone should be willing to be or to do anything in this warfare."—*Testimonies*, vol. 7, p. 30.

Where this plan is followed and the definite soul-winning organization developed, missionary work in the society has increased from 300 per cent to more than 700 per cent. Let us unite as officers and members in this mighty youth movement and make it the mighty army of soul winners which God designs it to be. —J. A. STEVENS, Adapted.

What Is Our Aim in '47?

(SYMPOSIUM: Let each speaker take one of the following objectives and give a one- or two-minute talk concerning it.)

1. The salvation of Seventh-day Adventist youth.
2. The enlistment and training of our youth for full responsibility in the life and the work of the church.
3. Training and missionary work in both personal and organized society efforts.
4. Creation of a sense of unity and world-wide fellowship among the youth of the advent movement.
5. Thorough education of the youth to prepare them for efficient service.
6. Gathering all our youth into our own schools for a Christian education.
7. Inculcation of ideals of Christian manhood and womanhood.
8. Fostering the devotional and spiritual life of the youth.
9. Fostering self-training and habits of reading, recreation, and association.
10. Guide the social life of the youth.



"HOARDED religion pays no interest—
and the principal is in danger."

God's Program Is Soul Winning

1. JESUS' example of effective soul winning. John 3:1-21; 4:4-42.

2. The Lord's plan is to be our plan. Matt. 4:18, 19.

3. The disciples put the Lord's plan into immediate effect. John 1:35-42.

4. The Lord's soul-winning commission. Matt. 28:18-20.

a. It calls for:

(1) Systematic and thorough work. Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8.

(2) United preparation. Acts 1:4, 8, 13, 14.

(3) Personal heart preparation. Isa. 61:1.

(4) Effective organization. Acts 1:21-26.

b. It includes us. "The Saviour's commission to the disciples included all the believers. It includes all believers in Christ to the end of time. . . .

"Whatever one's calling in life, his first interest should be to win souls for Christ."—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 822.

5. To be real soul winners we must learn the value of a soul. Luke 15:7.

"The relations between God and each soul are as distinct and full as though there were not another soul for whom He gave His beloved Son."—*Steps to Christ*, page 100, pocket edition. Read *Christ's Object Lessons*, page 196, the value of a soul.

6. A challenge to Christian young people. See *Messages to Young People*, pages 204-207. D. A. OCHS.

Crusading for Christ in 1947

WE hear a great deal, and I suppose we shall hear much more, about the word *crusade*. What does it mean? It comes from the Latin word *crucata*, which means to mark with a cross. Of course, we know that in its original connotation it referred to the military expeditions under the banner of the cross to recover the Holy Land from the hands of the Mohammedans. Today we use this term in connection with a vigorous campaign in behalf of the cross of Jesus in our own local community.

Let us look back a moment at history. About A.D. 1000 it was very popular for pilgrims to visit the holy places in Jerusalem during the tolerant reign of the Saracen caliphs. In A.D. 1071 Jerusalem was captured by the Turks, a tribe fanatical in its loyalty to Mohammed, and the pilgrims were persecuted, thousands enduring indescribable hardships. Many

lost their lives at the hands of fanatical mobs.

One old pilgrim whose name was Peter, having suffered much during the pilgrimage, returned to Europe and with great enthusiasm and zeal began to stir up the people to take the Holy Land from the hands of the Mohammedans. "God wills it," became the great cry. "God wills it," they responded, and the great "crusade" movement began.

From A.D. 1096 until A.D. 1272 there were seven major crusades during which thousands of peasants and soldiers in the organized armies perished and during which Jerusalem changed hands more than once. It is interesting to note that in addition to the major crusades there were two children's crusades.

From *The World Book Encyclopedia*, volume 3, page 1764, I quote:

"Of several lesser crusades, the most remarkable is the one undertaken in 1212 by a great army of boys and girls. About 30,000 children, most of them less than twelve years of age, placed themselves under the leadership of Stephen, a French shepherd lad who declared that God had called him to the rescue of the Holy Land. When the children reached Marseilles, they expected the waters of the sea to divide and give them passage to Palestine. Bitterly disappointed, many of them made their way homeward, but several thousand were lured on board seven ships by merchants who promised to take them to Palestine free of charge. Two of the vessels were wrecked off the coast of Sardinia, and the others carried the children to Alexandria, where they were sold into slavery.

"About the same time another crusading band, consisting of 20,000 children, started southward from Germany, under the leadership of a boy named Nicholas. Thousands died of hunger and exposure on the way, and the remainder, got no farther than Geneva. Few of these ever reached home again."

Now, if Peter the Hermit and Stephen and Nicholas could stir up multitudes to disregard so utterly their personal safety and their lives in order to gain possession of a temporal city with broken-down walls and filthy stone streets, then we who are Missionary Volunteers, with the glorious New Jerusalem just before us, with its jasper walls and golden streets, can surely stir up the hearts of men and women to a renewed interest in the Word of God and to faithful, aggressive, personal living for Jesus Christ.

Let us unitedly work as a society this year to achieve this end.

Life's Highest Motive

For every act there is a motive. Motive is very closely akin to reason; but to the Christian as related to God, religion, and his fellow man, it is more than reason: it is a compelling power or influence in the life, as is beautifully and aptly stated in the words which form the motto of the Young People's Missionary Volunteer Society: "The love of Christ constraineth us." More than a reason is required to cause a person to separate himself from father, mother, brothers, sisters, friends, home, and the physical comforts of life to engage in the strenuous, arduous, self-sacrificing life of a missionary. We therefore inquire what motive prompts him?

The missionary motive is not a single one, though the constraining influence is love. Love is the basis of all service or action. While the prompting influence is one and one only, the motives for missionary service may be divided into primary and secondary. Under primary motives may be listed "love to God," with all that is comprehended by the statement. Under the secondary may be listed "love to man," in all its various forms. To the members of the Missionary Volunteer Society it is "the love of Christ" that constrains. Love is active. Paul, in writing to the Romans, said, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God." The mercy of God, as expressed in the great sacrifice of the cross, is the highest of all the motives prompting mission service. Faith in God that works by love is the ideal set by the great apostle to the Gentiles.

Next to "love to God" comes "love to man." Love to man expresses itself in many ways; but the highest form of love to man is love for his soul, in contrast to the baser form of love for the bodies of men, which expresses itself in a multitude of soul-debasing and detestable ways, such as slavery, etc. It is a high privilege that God has permitted man to assist in the great work of saving his fellows; yea, He has even commanded, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." When a man loves God supremely, it gives unusual pleasure to say in response to His commands, "Here am I; send me." Loyalty to duty is Christianity in a beautiful, active form. As in the "Charge of the Light Brigade," duty stops not to reason why; it is "but to do and die." Duty does not stop to ask whether it will pay; it only questions, as did the Duke of Wellington

when asked by some prospective missionaries whether he thought it would pay: "Gentlemen, what are your marching orders?" The command says, "Go," and our loyal young people "go."

Possession brings responsibility. Distribution is requisite to possession. The man who will not give may not possess. The missionary in full possession of the blessings of the gospel and the blessings (material) which have accompanied Bible distribution to the world is a debtor to those less fortunate. To bring repentance and remission of sins to the sorrowful, distressed soul of earth is his highest privilege. To bring a knowledge of a higher and better standard of living the material life is not only the duty but the privilege of the missionary, and this service is second only to the spiritual blessings which he is able to bestow.

Among these latter are medical aids, better methods of cooking, improved sanitary systems, machinery, better roads, railroads, electric lights and appliances, education, etc.

Surely in lands blessed by Bible light and intellectual attainments there will be many loyal, devoted young people who will answer the missionary call, and, inspired with the missionary motive and filled with a missionary zeal, a love for God and man, will go forth, blessed of heaven, to win a reward eternal in the heavens, and a crown of righteousness which fadeth not away.

W. R. FRENCH.

Points for Discussion

(It would be helpful if at a previous meeting the leader presented these points for discussion requesting that every member be ready to give at least one point in answer to each question.)

1. What is the best method of procedure for our Missionary Volunteer Society to win souls in 1947?
2. What is the relationship existing between my spiritual experience and my soul-winning potentialities?
3. In what respect do the devotional features as promoted in our Missionary Volunteer Department assist me in maintaining a deep Christian experience?



NOTHING is apparently more helpless, yet really more invincible, than the soul that feels its nothingness, and relies wholly on the merits of the Saviour. God would send every angel in heaven to the aid of such an one, rather than allow him to be overcome.—*Testimonies*, vol. 7, p. 17.

January 18

The Advance of the Gospel in Inter-America

BY ARTHUR H. ROTH

Order of Service

OPENING EXERCISES.

SONG: "In the Service of the King," No. 82 in *M.V. Songs*.

PRAYER.

DEVOTIONAL STUDY: "Mission Service Is Personal Soul-winning Service."

OFFERTORY.

REPORTS.

SONG: "From Greenland's Icy Mountains," No. 81.

TALK: "The Inter-American Division."

SYMPOSIUM: "The Advance of the Gospel in Inter-America."

"The Truth Came Through a Hole."

"Marcellinus Prays to the God of Heaven."

"The Advent Herald."

LEADER'S CONCLUSION: "A Brief Summary and Appeal."

PRAYER for Missionary Volunteers in Inter-America.

SONG: "Inter-America's Call." (Tune: "Help Me Find My Place," No. 194 in *Gospel in Song*.)

BENEDICTION.

Mission Service Is Personal Soul-winning Service

MISSION advance, in its last analysis, is none other than personal interest and concern for sharing the gospel with others. This sharing can be done wherever we are. The best missionaries, either in foreign or home lands, are those who use any and every opportunity to witness for the truth.

MISSIONARY WORK IS SOUL-SAVING WORK

Read *Messages to Young People*, p. 227, par. 2, "The Highest Work."

ALL WHO BELIEVE TO BE MISSIONARIES

Read *Christian Service*, p. 9, last par.

ALL BORN INTO KINGDOM OF GOD TO BECOME MISSIONARIES

Read *The Desire of Ages*, p. 195, last par.

EVERY PERSON SHOULD RESPOND

"There is something for every one to do. Every soul that believes the truth is to stand in his lot and place, saying, 'Here am I; send me.' Isa. 6:8."—*Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 49.

OPPORTUNITIES TO BE MISSIONARIES SHOULD BE SOUGHT

"We are not to wait till opportunities come to us; we are to seek for them, keeping the heart uplifted in prayer that God may help us to speak the right word at the right time."—*Messages*, p. 227.

Such service is that of a true Missionary Volunteer.

The Inter-American Division

IN Seventh-day Adventist geography the Inter-American Division is that portion of the world which reaches south from the borders of California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas on the North American continent to the Amazonian jungles of Brazil in South America. Sometimes writers refer to this part of the world as Middle America; other times it is named the Caribbean World.

Just look at the many flags that fly over Inter-America—the United States Stars and Stripes, the British Union Jack, the French and Dutch tricolors; the emblems of the Dominican Republic, Cuba, and Haiti; the banners of Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Panama; the flags of Colombia and Venezuela. It is a world in itself, populated by people who speak Spanish, English, French, Dutch, and Indian tongues far too many to mention.

The entire world of the West had its beginning in the Caribbean. Today the gospel, the advent message, must advance to the fifty-four million people who live in the lands left as a heritage by those who made such turbulent and romantic history in the cradle of the West. All these people must hear the advent message. Many of them are hearing it. Many, many times more still must hear it.

How soul-stirring it is to see the gospel advance through the lands and islands of Inter-America. The means God uses often make Inter-America's workers stand in wonderment. Sometimes these means are so simple and ordinary that people accustomed to many devices and much equipment believe them almost impossible. And other times the gospel advance is made through such complicated and devious roads that one wonders how and why the truth did not lose itself while on the way.

The Advance of the Gospel in Inter-America

The Truth Came Through a Hole

GADELOUPE in the FRENCH WEST INDIES is almost too small to be mentioned by name on most maps, but on that island live some of the most faithful Seventh-day Adventists in the Caribbean world. During the days of the war all the people of the island suffered greatly. They were virtually cut off from the entire world. In many respects the Seventh-day Adventist brethren suffered most. Not only were they suffering be-

cause of the conditions of war, but because they were the only religious body on the island aside from the members of the state church, and as a consequence they were hated and persecuted.

But in spite of hatred and persecution the Seventh-day Adventist body on Guadeloupe grew and grew. At night the national ministers and laity would go from village to village to preach. All oil, butter, and fats of any kind, wherever secured, were donated to the church and collected in bottles that there might be light by which to read the promises of hope in the Scriptures.

Sabbath School Lesson Quarterlies had ceased to arrive, but this was no hindrance to daily Bible study. People continued to restudy and restudy past lessons. New believers, and older ones too, memorized the text of the lesson on Sabbath afternoon so that they might study daily during the week. Friends would walk miles each day in order to join a group or company that had a Bible, so eager and hungry did brethren and visitors become for the satisfying Word of God.

Every Adventist home became a truth-disseminating-headquarters. Sabbath afternoon was branch Sabbath school time for practically every Seventh-day Adventist home. How the people flocked to these Adventist gatherings! How angry the priests became! Threats to exterminate the Adventists seemed only to make these "waiters for Jesus" more zealous. They were anxious to do what they could before "extermination day" arrived.

To the village of Trinity moved a family of French West Indian Adventists. Barely had they arrived in their new home when they began inviting their new neighbors to come and join them for singing and Bible study on Sabbath. Jenny, a girl who lived next door to the new Adventist family, came and enjoyed the studies very much; but Jenny's father and mother did not enjoy the studies, nor did they enjoy the new neighbors or Jenny's association with them. They would be faithful to the state church and have nothing to do with heretics. Jenny was prohibited from attending further meetings, nor was she to visit the heretics any more.

Before she said good-by, with sorrow, she also asked her neighbors whether they would be willing to have a hole bored into the wall of their living room where the Sabbath afternoon studies were held. A kind Providence had so arranged that only a board wall separated Jenny's room from the sitting room of the Adventists.

The Adventists raised no objections, and a small hole was made.

Sabbath after Sabbath Jenny's ear was at the hole promptly at 3:30 P.M. One Sabbath afternoon the person giving the study appealed to those present to give their hearts to the Lord and make ready for His coming. Several signified their heart's conviction, and through the hole in the wall her voice called, "I also want to join the church and be baptized."

Jenny announced her intentions to her parents. They were alarmed, but finally agreed that since she was twenty-three years of age they would object no longer.

Now Jenny is a Seventh-day Adventist. A worker from the French West Indies said, "She was baptized during the first quarter of 1946. The parents, too, are now studying the advent truth."

Thus advances the gospel on GUADELOUPE island.

Marcellinus Prays to the God of Heaven

ON what was once called "the wild coast of America" in the settlement of Campbellville, near the mouth of the Demerara River in the colony of BRITISH GUIANA, lives an eighteen-year-old lad named Marcellinus Walldijk. Recently he became a Seventh-day Adventist.

Before the advent truth won his heart he was a pious member of a very devout Catholic family. Never a day passed but what Marcellinus bowed before the candlelit image of Mother Mary to ask her to plead for him. During the days he was preparing to write his junior Cambridge examinations, he was more devout than ever. He wanted Mother Mary to help him pass his examinations. His own parents encouraged him to be especially faithful in his prayers and devotions during examination month. The examinations came, and he failed. Marcellinus was an able student, but somehow examinations made him so nervous that he knew he would need some special grace and strength from outside. The next year he tried again. His devotion and prayers to Mary were more intense than ever. The second time he failed.

On the day he received word of his second failure he was walking down the street when he met a near-by Seventh-day Adventist neighbor, Thomas Dash. "What's the matter? You look so sad and downhearted."

"I've flunked my junior Cambridge the second time. I've studied till my head whirled. I've asked the Virgin Mary three times daily to help me, and even

she has let me down. I cannot understand it," answered Marcellinus.

"Have you ever tried praying directly to Jesus?" suggested Mr. Dash, the Adventist. "I think He could help you."

"I don't know how to pray as you Seventh-day Adventists and Protestants pray. Furthermore, that would be blasphemy and heresy; but I am now to the point where I would even try such drastic methods if I knew I could, but I can't. I don't know how."

"You don't know how to pray to the Saviour?" asked Mr. Dash.

"I don't know how," was the reply of Marcellinus.

"Would you like to have me teach you?" came the immediate offer.

"I'm afraid. If my parents and my father-confessor ever discovered that I did such a thing they would drive me from my home and excommunicate me from the church," said Marcellinus.

"Supposing I invited you to my home, and there we studied God's Word and learned how to pray; would you come?"

"Yes, I would, if you think it will do any good."

"You are invited. Shall we go now?"

The two went to Mr. Dash's home and began a prayer and Bible study friendship that lasted many months. Time for examinations came around again. This time Marcellinus was going to attempt the senior Cambridge examinations. Before writing he offered a simple Adventist-style prayer, asking the Lord for help. Weeks later Marcellinus was notified that he had passed with good grades. At once he ran to the home of Mr. Dash to tell him the good news.

"What's more, I have decided that I am always going to pray straight to my Father and Saviour in heaven, and as a Seventh-day Adventist, for I am going to be one. Today I shall tell my people at home that this is my plan."

Marcellinus told his parents. They were angry and went to his room to search it for "evidences of heresy." A Bible was found under the mattress. It was thrown out the window.

"That book may not be in this home," ordered the father. "No Bible shall fall across this Catholic home, and you must have nothing to do with it."

"But I must have my Bible, and I must read it. I can no longer live without it," pleaded Marcellinus.

"Then you must go with the book. Decide now; act quickly," spoke the angry father.

"I must read the Bible."

"We thought you had been weakening

in your devotions during late months, but we attributed the cause to the carelessness of youth; but now we know," said the mother. "We will not tolerate such nonsense in this home. Either your book goes, and its notions with it, and you remain; or if you insist, you go with it and sit with your Bible out under the trees."

"If that is the only choice I have, I go with my Bible."

"Then go," commanded the father.

"Good-by, Mother and Father. God bless you, and may He bring you to His truth. Good-by."

So the advent truth came to Marcellinus. God-fearing men and women speak it wherever they are and wherever they go. Sincere hearts receive it and suffer to accept it.

Thus advances the gospel in BRITISH GUIANA.

The Advent Herald

MOST of the tropical and subtropical islands known as the WEST INDIES, or more accurately as the GREATER and LESSER ANTILLES, were discovered by Christopher Columbus. Since his day they have been a paradise for men who love ships, the sea, bays, and harbors. These islands saw not only the voyages of the Columbus caravels and the Spaniards' gold-laden brigantines but the ships of Raleigh and the piracies of Drake. Each one of these men came to the West Indies in ships. In this day the United States Navy has virtually made the waters surrounding these islands its private lake. So ships, the sea, and men live very intimately in the Caribbean world.

Inheriting this love for ships and the sea, a certain man by the name of Flemming one day in 1932 decided to build a small ship to be used in carrying passengers between two of the islands. He hired his men and began construction work. All proceeded nicely with plans and building until the first Friday of the week construction began, when one of his builders came to him and said, "Sir, I beg to be absent tomorrow. Tomorrow is the seventh-day Sabbath of the Lord. I am a Seventh-day Adventist. I keep the Sabbath." This straightforward approach caused Mr. Flemming no little degree of astonishment.

"You say it is the Lord's Sabbath? You don't work on His Sabbath? It's the seventh day? You must be absent?" A serious-minded man such as was Mr. Flemming had to ask these questions and many more.

The Seventh-day Adventist shipbuilder told Mr. Flemming all that he knew concerning the Sabbath question and arranged for him to take some Bible studies concerning this and other phases of Seventh-day Adventist belief. Before Mr. Flemming's ship was completed, he had accepted the message and become a Seventh-day Adventist. He was so enthused with his new-found faith that he dedicated his ship to the heralding of this message on his inter-island trips. He named his ship *The Advent Herald*. When everything was in readiness, he dedicated it to the Lord and promised to be faithful to Him if He would protect him on all his trips across the rough channel over which he was to carry passengers in daily service.

Mr. Flemming remembered his promise and dedication. Before each trip across the channel, he would pause a few moments and offer a public prayer in the presence of the passengers, asking God's protection as he piloted his *Advent Herald* across the rough waters. He also stocked his ship with papers and tracts so that he might have an ample supply of message-filled literature to distribute freely to the passengers he carried across the channel. On the island where he resides he soon led thirty-five of his neighbors and friends to the message through personal labor.

It is said that the people in traveling between the islands always prefer to ride on Mr. Flemming's ship because they feel that it is safer to travel with a captain who asks God's protection before starting a journey across the rough channel. His ship always sails with a full complement of passengers, and all during the years he has piloted his *Advent Herald* he has never had an accident. The Lord has protected him, and he is still "sailing the sea," still heralding the advent message.

Records show that in his little home church there are today 172 people keeping the Sabbath largely because of the faithful and honest testimony of Brother Flemming, who a few years ago accepted the truth because another Seventh-day Adventist was faithful and straightforward.

Thus advances the gospel in the WEST INDIES.

A Brief Summary and Appeal

(By the M.V. Leader)

THE advance of the gospel in Inter-America is largely the sum of personal experiences in the "nice work" of saving souls. Missionary Volunteer Crusaders

and older lay workers have joined hands with denominational workers and missionaries to do their part in bringing the message to those who live in the lands discovered by the Admiral of the Seas—Christopher Columbus.

Since the organization of the Inter-American Division in 1922 the work of Seventh-day Adventists has continued to grow each year until today there are more than 51,000 church members, and more than 75,000 Sabbathkeepers in the division.

Remarkable as has been the advance of the gospel, much needs still to be done until 54,000,000 people receive the advent message. This means that every Seventh-day Adventist boy, girl, youth, and adult must share in giving the truth to others, both at home and in foreign lands.

Many will yet have to join those now laboring in Mexico, Central America, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, the Guianas, and the West Indies. Missionary Volunteers, these lands need and want many of you. Will you give your hearts and lives in service to help advance the gospel in Inter-America?

Inter-America's Call

(Tune, "Help Me Find My Place,"
No. 194, Gospel in Song)

I

O'er the waves a call is wafted
In the stillness of the night;
'Tis the cry of unsaved millions
Who are longing for the light.
From the shores of Puerto Rico
To Aruba and Bonaire,
From Barbados to Honduras—
Let us answer them, out there!

II

Costa Rica and Chiapas,
Venezuela, Bogotá,
Nicaragua, Guaymas,
Yucatán and Panama;
Salvador and French West Indies—
Oh, the workers are so few;
Let us rise and answer quickly,
"We are sending help to you!"

III

British, Dutch, and French Guiana
Need the gospel, like the rest.
Those who love the Master truly
Will be glad to give their best
Long the island fields have waited,
So has fruitful Mexico;
There's a task for every worker,
For the truth must quickly go.

IV

Cayman Islands, Cuba, Haiti—
Every one must hear the call;
There's Jamaica, Turks, and Caicos,
The Bahamas—great, and small;
Trinidad, and Leeward Islands,
Guadeloupe, and Martinique,
There's a golden harvest waiting,
There are words of life to speak.

CHORUS:

Sound the joyful proclamation,
Won't you join the glad refrain?
Tell each kindred, tongue, and nation
That our Lord will come again.
Every promise grows the sweeter
As the fleeting years go by;
Yes, the coming of the Saviour
Day by day is drawing nigh.

—EFFIE A. JAMES.

January 25

Liberty and Religion

BY FRANK H. YOST

Order of Service

HYMN: "Faith of Our Fathers," No. 50
in *M.V. Songs*.

PRAYER.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

MISSIONARY REPORTS.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

OFFERING.

SONG OR SPECIAL MUSIC.

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 22:15-22;
Acts 5:12-29.

TALKS: "The Citizen, Freedom, and Religion":

Part I: Government and the Citizen.

Part II: The Duty of Freedom.

Part III: Religious Liberty.

HYMN: "Onward, Christian Soldiers,"
No. 67.

SYMPOSIUM: "Lovers of Freedom."

DISCUSSION: Some Present Problems in
Liberty, or Some Present Defenders of
Liberty.

CLOSING HYMN: "Ashamed of Jesus,"
No. 2.

BENEDICTION.

Notes to Leaders

The subject of the relationship of the Christian to his government, in view of his duty to his God, is one that needs thoughtful handling, particularly at the present time. Among the various countries where Missionary Volunteers are worshipping and serving there are different forms of government and different religions prevailing. In some countries there is separation of church and state. In others these are more or less united. The endeavor in the material presented is to show how men of God have in the past stood for their faith, and to present the Bible principles involved.

Since the situations vary so widely in different countries, place has been left for either a discussion of problems pertaining to religious liberty, from local points of view, or the presentation of how local individuals have stood heroically for God in the face of severe opposition or persecution. Discussion of what this means to local Seventh-day Adventist youth, and a call for earnest consecration on the part of all, might well follow such a presentation.

Questions for Discussion

[For North America only]

1. Can there be full religious liberty where there is a union of church and state?

2. What is the difference between toleration of diverse religions by a government, and liberty of religion?

3. Repeated efforts have been made to persuade Congress to adopt for the District of Columbia laws which would prohibit operation of barbershops on Sunday, for health reasons. Would you support Sunday laws adopted for health reasons?

4. The courts have ruled that teachers in public schools who are members of the clergy of churches which wear special clerical garb may not wear such garb while teaching, because it advertises a particular sect. Is this a limitation of personal religious liberty?

5. During the autumn term of 1946, the Supreme Court of the United States was asked by advocates of religious liberty to declare unconstitutional a New Jersey law which allowed the hauling of parochial children free of charge in public school busses. Why was such a decision asked for?

6. Federal laws have been proposed before Congress, making it an offense to send through the United States mails printed matter which contains anything offensive to racial or religious groups. Advocates of religious liberty opposed these bills, as limiting the right of free religious expression. Proponents defended them as preventing intolerance. Why is it not necessarily intolerant to have free religious expression?

The Citizen, Freedom, and Religion

Part I: Government and the Citizen

Love of country is a wonderful thing. It helps to bind together in one the people of a nation. We are thrilled at the sound of our national songs, at the sight of our national flag. We enjoy seeing the great men of our nation, and we pray for them as they bear the heavy responsibilities of government in perplexing times. Each of us appreciates all the good that our nation is doing for us.

What confusion there would be without government. It is unthinkable. Government is to protect the citizen from outside foes. It is to keep order among the citizens of the nation. It is to encourage and enlist co-operation and loyalty. Government has the task of ruling, while it recognizes the rights of its individual citizens.

Each citizen, because he is a creature of God's own making, has ability to think, to speak, to act, and to worship. These are God-given gifts, and each individual has a God-given right to use these gifts. The right of each one to use them in his own personal development and improvement, and for the glory of God and the good of himself and his fellow citizens, is sacred.

That government governs best which governs justly and firmly, while it recognizes these inborn rights of each citizen which are his as a gift from this God who has created him. The government which

rules in this way meets best the ideal set forth by Paul in Romans 13:1-7, as a government which is a servant of God in keeping the peace and guarding the welfare of its people. Such a government is deserving of the best loyalty of its citizens.

Part II: The Duty of Freedom

Good government can govern well and justly, while it respects the right of its citizens to be free. To be free is a duty. It is a religious duty. We read in the Old Testament of servants or, as some translations have it, slaves. Actually these were workmen, serving under certain forms of labor contract. But every fifty years all these arrangements were canceled, and every man made a new start in life. This was the year of jubilee, and we read about it in the Bible as a time of freedom: "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof." Lev. 25:10.

The Ten Commandments are, in a sense, a charter of freedom. Just exactly insofar as these commands forbid bad conduct, so far they make men free; by preventing wrong conduct from interfering with personal liberty. Just law and liberty go hand in hand. The fifth commandment says in principle: "Respect authority." Justly exerted, authority protects personal rights. The sixth commandment says in principle, "Permit to live." God has made men able to think, to speak, to act, to worship. To do these things are God-given rights, and to permit to live must include opportunity to exercise these rights that God has given.

The seventh commandment tells us to be pure in our lives, our relationships, and our loyalties. To be pure and loyal is the privilege of free men. The eighth and ninth commandments, if obeyed, guarantee freedom in personal property and freedom to live honestly in an honest world. The tenth commandment says, "Be content." It appeals to free men to live content while they make the best of what they are and have.

When Jesus came, His purpose was that "ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." John 8:32, 36. This marvelous freedom which Jesus promised means, of course, freedom from sin. Every child of God knows what a glorious freedom this is. But it means, too, freedom of the mind from wrong thoughts and ideas, freedom to think and to learn about God. This freedom to know the truth and to live truly is a great freedom.

Part III: Religious Liberty

RELIGIOUS freedom opens the way for men to know and serve God. Our first duty is to live for God. Religious liberty is the freedom to do this.

The Hebrew worthies, Daniel's companions in Babylon, understood this. They were ordered to worship the image. When they refused they were sentenced to death in the fiery furnace. God intervened and saved them miraculously from the flames. By so doing He was demanding from the Babylonians freedom of worship for His people.

Daniel faced the lions because he insisted on worshipping God as his divinely led conscience dictated. God intervened and saved him. By so doing He was demanding from the Persians freedom of worship for His servant Daniel.

Peter and his fellow apostles were forbidden by the leaders in Jerusalem, the very men who had killed Christ, to preach the gospel. The disciples insisted that they must preach the gospel. This means more than mere freedom of worship. It means the right to persuade others to receive the Bible truth of salvation in Christ. The chief men in Jerusalem tried to prevent the apostles from this persuading men. But Peter and John answered, "Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." Acts 4:19, 20.

Finally, these followers of the Lord were put in prison, that they might not propagate their faith. "But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said, Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this [Jesus'] life." Acts 5:19, 20. God was demanding from the men of Jerusalem not only freedom of worship for His people but freedom to preach the gospel message to those who know it not. The meaning is very clear. Hence Peter was constrained to say, "We ought to obey God rather than men." Acts 5:29.

This is to exercise religious liberty. It is a religious duty so to exercise it. Liberty in religion is a right intended by God for all men. How can you "love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind" if you allow yourself to be kept from the worship of God or from the proclamation of the gospel of Christ's salvation?

We must answer this question in our own time. There has been entrusted in these last days to men and women and youth who believe and love the Bible, a

message, warning everyone that the end of all things is at hand. This message of the everlasting gospel must go "to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people." Rev. 14:6. It is a message to worship the Creator, to prepare to meet the judgment of God, and to greet the loving Saviour as He returns for His people. There is an opposing power representing Satan, which demands from all men worship of, and obedience to, him instead of God. Persecution and death have been meted out before upon those who defied this power, and persecution and death will presently again be threatened against those who prefer to obey Christ and His message rather than the beast and his decrees. (Rev. 13:4-8, 11-17.) The answer of the Christian must be the answer Peter gave: "We ought to obey God rather than men." Liberty is a religious duty. Religious liberty is a gospel necessity.

Lovers of Freedom

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIVE years before Christ, the Syrian Greeks under their king Antiochus Epiphanes waged a campaign of oppression against the people of Palestine. They were forbidden to perform their religious rites. They were commanded not to keep the Sabbath. They were ordered to wear Greek dress, to follow Greek customs, to attend Greek games. They were compelled to eat pork. But many of them refused to obey these commands, and they finally rebelled under their noble leader Judas Maccabaeus, under whom they bravely maintained their religious freedom. Only by their courage was the light of Bible truth maintained until Jesus came.

John the beloved disciple insisted on preaching the gospel in Ephesus, in spite of Roman emperors, to whom Christianity was a despised and outlawed sect. Under the emperor Domitian, John was sent into exile on the Isle of Patmos. There he suffered for his faith, perhaps as an old man laboring in the mines. While he was there under persecution, the Holy Spirit on a Sabbath day gave the apostle John wonderful visions of the future. John preferred exile to sacrificing his faith in Christ, and Christ richly rewarded him. If he could not serve Christ in religious liberty, he was resolved to serve Him in persecution.

There were faithful, earnest, consecrated Christians in the cities of Lyon and Vienne in ancient France in the year A.D. 177. Marcus Aurelius was the Roman emperor at that time, and he proved in most instances a good and just ruler.

But he believed that the Christians were enemies of the state, stubborn and rebellious, and he allowed the mobs to attack them. One of these mobs turned upon the Christians in the city of Lyon. They marched them to the magistrates, who sentenced them one after another to death by torture and at the mercy of wild beasts in the arena. The Christians went bravely and resolutely to death.

The emperor Constantine shortly after A.D. 300 made the church a department of the imperial Roman state, which seemed to strengthen the church, but this really worked to its detriment. Almost two hundred years later Pope Gelasius specified that there were two institutions, the church and the state, and that each was separate from the other. But as the Roman church increased in power, it came in many respects to dominate the state. When it condemned heretics, as Roman law gave it the power to do, it turned them over to the civil authorities for punishment. Thus an alliance was formed between the church and the state, and the history of the spiritual decay and persecutions of the Middle Ages shows the danger in such an alliance. Even when the state and church, when united, are benevolent and tolerant in their attitude, as is occasionally the case today, interference with full religious liberty can too easily occur.

Thousands of Christians, whom the Roman church called heretics, were tortured and put to death, even before the Reformation. At the behest of the popes and bishops of the church, invading armies put the Albigenses to the sword till they were exterminated. The Waldenses were attacked again and again in their quiet retreats in the Piedmont Valleys, and barely escaped a similar extermination.

It is a sad fact that many of the churches of history, and almost all nations, have denied in some way the rights of religious liberty, and have even persecuted. Calvin concurred when the city fathers of Geneva burned Servetus at the stake. Luther in Germany and Zwingli in Switzerland, heroes though they were in defense of gospel truth, were bitter in their attitude toward liberty-loving Anabaptists, and persecution resulted.

Thomas More, a Catholic, was a well-beloved philosopher and idealist. But he was put to death in London for his faith. Crammer, one of the makers of the English reformation, was burned at the stake under Catholic Queen Mary, and asked that his right hand first be burned, because with it he had once signed a re-

cantation of his faith. Under Archbishop Whitgift, Puritan clergymen were driven from their pastorates and made to suffer severe privations. Their writings were forbidden to be circulated. It was while the Baptist John Bunyan was in Bedford jail for his faith that he wrote under the blessing of the Spirit of God his great allegory *Pilgrim's Progress*. Baptists and Quakers were persecuted in England, and also in America, where they were dealt with harshly by the very Puritans

who had fled from persecution in England.

Because so many different faiths had taken refuge in America, the United States, in forming a nation, kept the church separate from the civil government, in order to maintain religious liberty. Such freedom lays upon all who enjoy it anywhere a great responsibility to preach the gospel and to work to maintain liberty and to seek to secure its blessings for others throughout the world.

5. How do we receive benefit from reading the Bible?

6. Are all parts of the Bible true and inspired?

7. How was the Bible written? 2 Peter 1:20, 21.

8. How should we read the Bible?

Are You Made of Salt?

Objects: Salt in a salt box or salt shaker; a jar of water; an egg.

Salt is not an expensive article of food, but it is a very important one. When the Lord Jesus was here upon earth, He said, "Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men." Matt. 5:13.

All that salt is in the natural sense, the Lord Jesus wants the Christian to be in a spiritual sense. Salt was a common product in the days when the Lord Jesus walked the earth, as it is now; so His disciples understood what He meant when He said, "Ye are the salt of the earth."

Let us listen to the message of these fine grains of salt.

Salt is used to season food and make it palatable. Think of a meal being served without salt. Think of a community without Christians. The reason such terrible conditions exist in heathen lands is that the Lord Jesus is not known and the Bible not read. People who do not know Him are *saltless*. There is no savor about their lives.

Salt permeates or penetrates food very quickly. Put a bit in a glass of water, and soon the entire contents are affected by it. It is not careful to hide its identity. It seems to be saying constantly, "I am salt; I am salt."

What a challenge to the Christian boy or girl always to let his or her influence be felt for the Lord Jesus, to let others know that he or she is a Christian.

(Suggest ways boys and girls may let their influence be felt for the Lord.)

Salt has healing properties, and is often used as an antiseptic, or a purifier. If Christian boys and girls are like salt, then they, too, will lend a purifying influence among their playmates and friends. They will be able to *heal* many quarrels and misunderstandings. Parents are always glad to have their children make friends with the Christian boy or girl for this very reason.

Salt is very powerful, too, as you shall see. I have here a jar of water and an



JUNIOR MEETINGS

January 4

Building Good Plans for the New Year

BY E. W. DUNBAR

Order of Service

OPENING EXERCISES.

SCRIPTURE TEXTS: Psalms 119:11, 105, 130, 172; Luke 4:4; Jeremiah 15:16.

INTRODUCTION. (See Notes to Superintendents.)

TALK: "Where Did Our Bible Come From?"

QUESTIONS: "To Ask and Talk About." DEMONSTRATION: "Are You Made of Salt?"

STORY: "Castles."

POEM: "What Are You?"

NOTE: Here the Superintendent should emphasize the Morning Watch and Bible Year, and organize prayer bands if not previously formed.

CLOSING EXERCISES.

Notes to Superintendents

Advertising: In the middle of a poster place a picture or drawing of a large open Bible. Above it print, "Are You Acquainted With It?" Give date and time of meeting. Send to your conference Missionary Volunteer secretary for Junior Bible Year leaflets, M.V. Leaflet No. 17, for distribution at the close of the meeting.

Although your society has been organized for several months, there is something about the beginning of the year which invites us to put new vim into those habits which we know will be a help in our Christian life. The Morning Watch and Junior Bible Year should be especially emphasized. Plan for at least two Morning Watch drills this month.

Be sure your Juniors are encouraged to begin the reading of the Junior Bible Year. A few questions from you at each meeting as to the chapters they have read or the interesting things in the chapters to be read will help them to be faithful and earnest. Point out that it is only as we keep our connection with heaven that we shall have the power to keep

those resolutions for a better life which we like to make at the beginning of each year.

Where Did Our Bible Come From?

THERE are only four possible ways that the Bible could have come to us.

1. *By chance.* But we can't believe that the Bible or anything else ever came by chance. So we are not even going to consider that way.

2. *Maybe bad men wrote it to deceive.* But the Bible condemns sin, and bad men simply couldn't write their own condemnation. So we are sure bad men didn't write it.

3. *Well, maybe good men wrote it.* But if they did, the writers told lies, for all through it they say, "Thus saith the Lord." And if they told lies, they wouldn't be good men. So we know good men didn't write it.

4. *The only other way is to believe what the Bible says about itself.* Second Peter 1:20, 21, tells us that the Holy Spirit moved upon holy men of God and caused them to write what the Spirit wanted to say. This explains why the writers of the sixty-six books during the 1,500 years from Moses to John all wrote about the same truth of God, without contradiction and without getting mixed up.—ERIC B. HARE.

To Ask and Talk About

1. Is the Bible the inspired Word of God? What is meant by "inspired"?

2. What is the real difference between the Bible and other books?

3. Just what has the Bible done for you?

4. What has the Bible done for the world?

egg. When I put the egg into the jar of water, notice what happens!

(*Demonstrate.*) Why, the egg falls to the bottom of the jar! It can be lifted up only by means of a spoon. But suppose I add some salt. Then what will happen?

(*Demonstrate.*) See the egg come to the top! Salt has a lifting power. It is able not only to lift the egg but to keep it afloat on the water.

The world drags men down in sin and would keep them down. A Christian should, like the salt, lift men up—not by his own strength, but by pointing them to the One who alone can reach down to the depths and lift men up to the heights. "There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12. There is power in the name of Jesus. "Thou shalt call His name JESUS: for He shall save His people from their sins." Matt. 1:21.

When one accepts the Lord Jesus as his Saviour, he becomes a new creature in Christ Jesus. (See 2 Cor. 5:17.) His life becomes powerful like the salt. He has a savor about him that tells of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Are you like these little white grains of salt, boys and girls? If not, the Lord Jesus wants you to be. Hear His words, "Ye are the salt of the earth."

Dear boys and girls, it is only as we know and study our Bibles and realize what God wants us to do in the world that we can become really His children.

Castles

How much fun we have with a clay pipe and a bowl of soapy water as we blow bubbles—little ones, big ones—and watch them float through the air first this way and then that, until they finally burst. How short their existence and how fragile their structure! And yet they are as lasting as the material of which they are made.

Air castles, like soap bubbles, usually have a rather short life. And yet they, too, may have beauty and usefulness. Usefulness, did someone say? Yes, usefulness. But it depends on the kind of castle we are building.

It has been said, "We are what we think." So how careful we should be that our thoughts, our plans, our dreams, always should be worth while.

Once a visitor came to a school and was invited by the teacher to talk to the pupils. After she discussed with them the importance of planning what they intended to do for their lifework, she asked

each of them in turn what he wanted to be when he grew up. One boy wanted to be a doctor; another wanted to be a nurse. Finally one little ragged fellow, in answer to the question, burst into tears and said, "I ain't goin' to be nothin', 'cause my daddy said so." How sad it was that no one at home had encouraged him to build castles of a busy, useful life.

Many times, however, the story is different. Wilfred was only five years old and not very large for his age. He was going to school for the first time. How excited he was when he came home! "Mamma," he said, "when I grow up I'm going to be a teacher." His mother didn't laugh at him, but matched his own spirit of earnestness as she replied, "Son, if you want to be a teacher when you grow up, you *can* be." And Wilfred kept that dream all through the years until the dream became a reality and he stood in his own schoolroom.

Now, it isn't at all necessary to decide what you are going to be as young as Wilfred did. But it is necessary to build into your castles right now good habits that will help you later on to make your dreams come true.

For your guiding star take the Star of Bethlehem. For the honored guest in your castle invite the Son of man.

"Live pure, speak true, right wrong, follow the King—
Else, wherefore horn?"

—TENNYSON.

—WILLIAM BRADFORD.



January 11

Soul-winning Soldiers

BY E. W. DUNBAR

Order of Service

OPENING EXERCISES.

PRAYER.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

OFFERING.

MISSIONARY REPORTS.

INTRODUCTION BY LEADER.

TALK: "What Hast Thou Done for Me?"

SYMPOSIUM: "What Can We Do for Others?"

REPORTS: "What Juniors Are Doing."

POEM: "What Shall I Do?"

JUNIOR SOCIETY CRUSADER ROLL CALL.

CLOSING EXERCISES.

Notes to Superintendents

In this second meeting of the new year it is our goal to inspire our Junior Missionary Volunteers to engage in soul-winning activities for those about them. Such efforts must be carefully guarded and well planned to fit the age level of our boys and girls. It is well to encourage those who are able and responsible among our older Juniors to consider the

giving of Bible studies, possibly with the still film projector. Others can do Christian help work, taking food and clothing to the needy, joining in singing bands for the sick and infirm, distributing literature, and assisting during evangelistic efforts in any work that is to be done. Boys and girls are anxious to be led in missionary service. By God's help let us give them proper guidance and well-balanced leadership in this vital Christian training.

Introduction by Leader

JUST as surely as God called boys and girls and men and women in older times, today He is saying to you and to me, "My son, My daughter, go work today in My vineyard." What a wonderful privilege it is to be able to work for Jesus in a time when so many people need to know about Him. Jesus compels no one to tell the story of His life and sacrifice and His saving power, but He invites us to have a part with Him in telling the glad story of redemption and spreading the news of His soon coming. Many boys and girls around the world are hearing and answering this call to be soul-winning soldiers. Will you be one?

Many of the great men of the Bible, when they heard Jesus call, answered in words that encouraged the heart of Jesus. Here are some of the answers these great men gave when the Lord called them. Can you tell me who gave these replies?

"Speak, Lord; for Thy servant heareth."

"Here am I; send me."

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

"I delight to do Thy will."

I hope that as we present this topic in Junior Missionary Volunteer meeting today, we will decide in our hearts to answer God's call to be earnest missionaries for Him every day in any way that opens to us.

What Hast Thou Done for Me?

YEARS ago Stenborg, the famous artist of Düsseldorf, received from Father Hugo, the vicar of the rich Church of St. Jerome, an order for the painting of an altarpiece representing the crucifixion. The already famous artist set himself to put his best into the painting of the altarpiece, not because of his love for the Christ, whose sacrifice for sinners he was to depict in a new and taking way; but was not this altarpiece to be hung in the large, wealthy church of the city? Much indeed might it do to make his name forever great if he succeeded in making it the masterpiece he hoped it to be.

As the weeks passed, work on the altarpiece progressed, to the approval of Father Hugo and to the inward satisfaction of the artist himself. One bewitching spring day Stenburg, weary of his studio and hungry for the open air and the freedom of the country, left the town, taking his sketchbook along. At the edge of the forest he came upon a gypsy girl who, seeing the stranger, sprang to her feet and danced lightly and gracefully before him. At once he saw in her a capital model for a painting representing a Spanish dancing girl.

Thus it was that Stenburg bargained with Pepita to come to his studio three times a week to pose as a model. On her first visit, awed by the strangeness of the place, the pottery, pieces of armor, and carvings, she let her eyes rove around the studio till they fell on the unfinished altarpiece.

"Who is that?" she questioned, pointing to the central figure, that of the Redeemer on the cross.

"The Christ," answered Stenburg carelessly.

"What is being done to Him?"

"He is being crucified."

"Who are those people about Him—those with the bad faces?"

"Now, look here," said the artist, a man of few words; "I cannot talk to you. You have nothing to do but stand as I tell you."

But every time Pepita came to the studio she became so fascinated by the representation of the Christ on the cross that she ventured now and then a question.

"Why did they crucify Him? Was He bad, very bad?"

"No; very good."

At a later interview she timidly questioned, "If He was good, why did they do that to Him?"

"It was because——"

The artist adjusted her sash and went on painting.

"Because?" repeated Pepita breathlessly.

"Listen. I will tell you once for all, and then don't bother me with any more questions." And as the artist related the story of the Master's agony on the cross—a story which had ceased to move him—the lips of the gypsy girl quivered and her black eyes swam.

At the close of her last visit to the studio, after the artist had placed in her hand the price agreed upon and a gold coin extra, Pepita paused before the now completed altarpiece. Turning slowly, she lifted her dark, serious eyes to the

artist and said, "You must love Him very much, signor, *when He has done all that for you, do you not?*"

The girl disappeared from the studio, but her words stuck in the artist's heart—"all that for you." As he went about his work day after day, he tried to forget the serious, earnest eyes of the gypsy girl, but her question kept tugging at his heart: "You must love Him very much, do you not?" And in his heart he knew he did not.

Thinking to ease his mind, he went to confession. Still more, he made a liberal discount on the altarpiece. For a week or two he felt better, and then the old gnawing at his heart began. One day, passing a house where a stranger, one of the "Reformed," lived, he went in—"just to observe and inquire," he told himself; but he found the personal Christ there, and came from that place "loving Him very much."

He was possessed by a longing to tell others about the Christ, his Christ. What could he do? He could not preach. How could he tell others about what filled his heart? One day while thus musing, he picked up a piece of charcoal and sketched a thorn-crowned head. Why, yes! He could paint! He fell to his knees and prayed that he might be able to paint worthily of the love he felt. The picture he now painted of the crucifixion—of the Christ with all the patience and love and agony—was a masterpiece. The artist had the picture framed and hung in the public gallery of his native city, where many saw it every day.

Stenburg used to go to the gallery and watch from a distance the people who stopped to gaze at the picture and who left repeating to themselves the words placed beneath it:

"All this I did for thee;
What hast thou done for Me?"

One day the artist lingered late, until all had left except a poor girl who stood weeping bitterly before the painting. He approached, to find that the girl was none other than Pepita.

"O signor, if He had but loved me so! But I am only a poor gypsy. His love is for you, but not for such as I." Tears of despair flooded her eyes.

"Pepita, it was also for thee." Then the artist told the whole story of Jesus, this time not with impatience but with a heart that knows and loves. Pepita listened, believed, received, and left the gallery, telling herself over and over, "All this He did for me."

Stenburg's picture no longer hangs in the gallery of Düsseldorf, for the gallery

with this precious picture was destroyed some years ago by fire. But the Christ still lives who did all this for thee. What are you doing for Him?

—LINNIE KEITH.

What Can We Do for Others?

In our efforts to serve Jesus, one of the first tasks that confronts the Junior Missionary Volunteer is to serve others. Boys and girls must look about them continually in their efforts to find opportunities for missionary work. What a wonderful thing it would be if some of us could have the privilege of going into homes in our community and presenting the Bible truths to interested mothers and fathers and boys and girls. There are many other things also which Juniors may do.

Suggestions: (Several Juniors may be selected to explain some of the things that they can do in their community.)

1. Make booklets of *Our Little Friend* for crippled children.
2. Sing for shut-ins.
3. Earn money for missions, summer camp, school tuition, by selling our magazines to our neighbors.
4. Save our pennies, nickels, or dimes for missions.
5. Help in the Ingathering.
6. Take an active part in the Junior M.V. Society.

Let us decide that 1947 will be a year filled with opportunities which with God's help we will make the best of.

What Juniors Are Doing

ONE Junior boy was encouraged to go around the block in which he lived, soliciting every home to discover whether they would be interested in Bible studies. He said, "I will give the study myself and will come to your home in the evening, throwing pictures of the Bible on the wall with my projector." This boy found over a dozen homes where the people were eager for him to show his Bible pictures.

This boy belonged to a society which owned a filmstrip projector. He secured the Crusader films from the conference Missionary Volunteer secretary.

Soon he was very busy with more Bible studies than he had time for. He called for help from the conference office. The Missionary Volunteer secretary went with him one evening. This minister found that the boy was doing a very good work in teaching men and women about the Bible. There were often eight or ten parents who would come in with their

children to one of these cottage meetings.

As a result of this boy's earnest work many people learned about the Sabbath, the second coming of Jesus, and, giving their hearts to God, were baptized into the church.

Let us determine to use every opportunity to bring a knowledge of Jesus to those who know Him not.

Junior Society Crusader Roll Call

SOME of our young people's societies are following the plan of taking the missionary reports during what is called the Crusader Roll Call. The society secretary calls the name of each member and the society member responds by doing two things:

1. Repeating a text of Scripture.
2. Telling an item of missionary work or good experience he has had during the past week.

Let us do this today as we close our meeting about "Soul-winning Soldiers."

January 18

The Advance of the Gospel in Inter-America

BY ARTHUR H. ROTH

Order of Service

OPENING EXERCISES.

SONG: "Missionary Volunteers," No. 83 in *M.V. Songs*.

SENTENCE PRAYERS.

DEVOTIONAL FEATURES.

OFFERTORY.

MISSIONARY REPORTS.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

SONG: "Send It Over There From Over Here," No. 78.

TALK: "This Is the Inter-American Division."

SYMPOSIUM: "The Advance of the Gospel in Inter-America."

"Eddie, the Boy Who Prays."

"The Boy Preacher of Baracoa."

"The Truth Came Through a Hole," see p. 6.

SONG: "The Captain Calls for You," No. 75.

PRAYER for the Missionary Volunteers in Inter-America.

BENEDICTION.

This Is the Inter-American Division

ROLL down your map or pull out your geographies and find these places in the Western Hemisphere:

TIJUANA, MEXICO. It is just a little south of San Disgo in southern California.

NASSAU. You will find it in the Ba-

hama Islands, east from the tip of Florida.

LETICIA. There it is, right at the point where the republics of Peru, Brazil, and Colombia come together at the headwaters of the great Amazon river in South America.

CAYENNE. That's over in French Guiana, near the northern border of Brazil.

All the countries and islands between these four points make up what in Seventh-day Adventist geography we call the Inter-American Division. What interesting lands they are, too! There are Mexico and Guatemala, where the ancient Aztecs and Mayas had lovely cities and temples long before North and South America were discovered by the Europeans. Immediately follow the countries of Central America, with their bananas by the millions, enough to fill every hungry Junior if he could only get near them. And don't overlook "the canal" in the Panama Canal Zone, for it is one of man's greatest pieces of engineering, and an attraction to everybody. Immediately south of the canal is Colombia, with all its coffee, and to the east Venezuela, which almost floats in oil.

And so far we haven't even looked at the West Indies islands yet. There you have Trinidad right off the coast of Venezuela. She is quite proud of her well-known lake of pitch. From that island you can almost, not quite, hop from island to island through Tobago, Barbados, St. Lucia, Martinique, Dominica, Guadeloupe, and the Virgins until you come to Uncle Sam's Puerto Rico, where military and naval bases are sufficient to inspire everybody with respect. And we must not forget Cuba, Jamaica, and old Hispaniola—Columbus' island which is now shared by the nations of Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

It really is an interesting world. People speak so many languages here, too—Spanish, English, French, Dutch, and dialects by the score. Before the war your missionaries had to travel back and forth from island to island and from country to country in boats, but now much of the travel must be done with airplanes. Once the missionaries arrive in the islands or in the countries to which they are going, they must travel by mule and train, by dugout-canoe and auto, by foot and bicycle, and dozens of other ways.

Most Juniors would enjoy being missionaries in the Inter-American Division. Someday, we hope, you can go to Inter-America and help give the advent message to the fifty-four million people who

live in these interesting lands. But don't wait too long. Grow up and get ready in a hurry. These people are eager to hear the gospel. In the meantime, listen to what some of the young people in Inter-America are doing to help advance the cause of God.

The Advance of the Gospel in Inter-America

Eddie, the Boy Who Prays

EDDIE DE JONGH lives in Curaçao, a city off the coast of Venezuela in the Netherlands West Indies. Eddie speaks Papiamentu just as you handle your mother tongue. Papiamentu is a mixture of Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch, English, Carib, and native African. You would have fun trying to pick out the words you recognize in Papiamentu.

But here is Eddie's story. He is a lad only thirteen years old and was raised as a Catholic by his parents. Close to Eddie lived a little Seventh-day Adventist who one day, while playing with Eddie, invited him to Sabbath school and the church service. Eddie accompanied the little Adventist boy, and about six months ago he and his mother were baptized in the Seventh-day Adventist church. Naturally the priests and former friends tried to dissuade him, and they told him that he was going crazy because all Adventists were crazy; but all he said was, "I haven't seen them act peculiarly. They always say 'Hello' to me and treat me so nice, and I want to join them, because I love the same Jesus that is coming soon."

Since the time of his baptism Eddie has been an active little missionary. In the same house where he lives are another family who have a little four-year-old child. Not long ago this child became ill, and the doctor ordered him rushed to the hospital immediately. But before the ambulance took the child away, Eddie said, "Just a minute. I want to pray for this baby, so that he may be restored to health." Everyone stepped aside while Eddie drew near the cot and prayed for the four-year-old child; then they took him to the hospital. At the hospital the doctors said that there was no hope for the child's life.

When the mother came home that evening she was very distressed, because she knew her child might not even live through the night. Again she called Eddie to pray, and even though she was a Catholic she felt that Eddie's prayers would do her child much good. Again and again through the evening and the

night she called to Eddie, "Pray for my child," and Eddie prayed.

The next morning when the doctor came to the hospital he fully expected to find the child dead. But no, there he was sitting on his bed playing. The mother believes that Eddie's praying to God saved her boy.

Eddie is a happy little Christian missionary. His influence moves hearts to respond to the truth. Others have become interested in the advent message because of Eddie and his character.

The Boy Preacher of Baracoa

ON the island of Cuba in the isolated port of Baracoa lives a nine-year-old lad who is called "the boy preacher" of Baracoa. He is Luis Mariano. Luis and others of his family learned about the beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventists when Evangelist Pupo, M.V. secretary of the East Cuba Conference, came to his town and started a series of meetings. Almost from the start Luis began taking notes on what he heard night after night. He restudied the notes and became familiar with the topics presented. He secured a Bible and marked it.

When the series of meetings was over, he started out among his neighbors and acquaintances "to continue the work so beautifully begun by the evangelist." Many were amused at such earnestness. Some would argue with Luis, but others would heed his teachings.

One day Luis fell into a discussion with a man who could not face the subjects presented. But the man was not satisfied and decided to do something about the problem. He made an appointment with the priest for Luis. Without knowing what was involved, the boy went with his friend to visit the priest, with no Bible in hand. When the two arrived at the priest's home, Luis found himself in the presence of three priests. They all took up the task of persuading him that he was being misled by the strange doctrines of the Adventists.

Luis listened for a while, and then began to wish for a Bible. This was his opportunity, and he had no Bible! Then he asked the priests if they had a Bible. At his request the priests brought out a Bible, and Luis turned to the texts that had already come to mean so much to him in his talks with others about the new religion. For about two hours he spoke on the state of the dead, Christ's second coming, image worship, infant baptism, and the Virgin Mary, plus

"most all of our doctrines," he said. Not very much was said by those present, when finally it was suggested that the man who brought Luis take the boy home. The priests said they had no more time to spend talking with Luis. They would call for him a second time at a later date. Luis has never been called back.

During the months he has continued his preaching and studies with friends and neighbors. Do people accept the truth as a consequence of his preaching and teaching? "Oh, yes," Evangelist Pupo says, "we have just baptized a convert of his. Others are continuing to study, and we hope will soon join those on the island of Cuba who are waiting for the return of the Lord Jesus." Meanwhile Luis is helping to advance the cause of God on his dear island home.

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January 25

Liberty and the Service of Christ

BY FRANK H. YOST

Order of Service

HYMN: "Faith of Our Fathers," No. 50 in *M.V. Songs*.

PRAYER.

CHORUS: "Into My Heart," No. 30.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

REPORT OF MISSIONARY WORK.

OFFERING.

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 22:15-22, 34-40.

TALK: "Love of Country and Love of God."

TALK: "Christianity and Liberty."

HYMN: "Onward, Christian Soldiers," No. 67.

STORY: "The Bear and the Thankful Hens."

RESPONSE OF THE JUNIORS.

CLOSING HYMN: "O, What a Saviour!"

BENEDICTION.

Notes to Superintendents

There are many different kinds of government throughout the world. There are many different kinds of religion. The relationships involved are sometimes complicated. It is the intent of this program to emphasize love for country, and at the same time to have the Juniors see that their love of God must always come first. Therefore reference is made to men of old who have lived bravely for Christ. Any local incidents showing how courageous Christians have lived for Christ will be helpful and will make the program so much the more interesting. An effort should be made to show the Juniors that they will have a part in the closing scenes of earth's history, when men will be on trial for their faith. There is also brought out the thought that we must respect the religion of others who differ from us. It is suggested that at the end the Juniors be

given opportunity to consecrate themselves to Christ anew, to be brave, faithful, courteous Christians, strong for Christ, and considerate of others.

Love of Country and Love of God

WE love our country. We cheer our nation's flag. We love to sing the songs that tell of our good land, with its hills and farms and cities. We pray for our rulers, who have resting on them such heavy burdens.

Those who have charge of running the country have heavy tasks to do. These are troublous days, and to govern in such uneasy times is no light task. Our rulers need the help of God.

God is the supreme ruler. He is the Almighty God over everything and everyone. He is above all earthly governments. The Bible tells us that God has provided for governments among men, and that these governments are to keep peace and good order. It says that men are to obey them. Only evildoers should have cause to fear their rulers. (See Rom. 13:1-7.)

The rule for the Christian is, "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's." Matt. 22:21. The laws of the land are made by wise men experienced in law. If the just laws of men were obeyed, there would not be murders, stealing, or even so many bad traffic or other accidents. It is a Christian's duty to obey the laws. That is what it means to "render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's."

But Jesus said also, "Render 'unto God the things that are God's.'" This is our chief duty. To keep the Sabbath is to render to God what is God's, because Jesus Christ is Lord of the Sabbath. (See Mark 2:28.) The day is His, the Lord's day. Even if we are forbidden by men to observe the Sabbath, we would be conscience bound to keep it, for we must render to God what is His. If forbidden, we would then have to choose and, like Joshua of old, say, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Joshua 24:15.

In Bible times the people of God had to make this choice many times. When the Hebrews were in Egypt, Pharaoh would not give them liberty to worship God. Moses asked Pharaoh to let His people go to worship the Lord. When Pharaoh refused, God sent fearful plagues upon the Egyptians. God wanted the Hebrews to have religious liberty, and finally they were granted their freedom. The Hebrews became from then on a liberty-loving people.

When, centuries later, the people of Jerusalem were carried away captive to Babylonia, King Nebuchadnezzar set up a huge image, representing the glory of his kingdom, and commanded everyone to worship it. Three Hebrew young men, friends of Daniel's, refused to worship the image, for they loved God too well to do so. They were therefore thrown into a furnace of fire so terribly hot that it destroyed the soldiers who were guarding the three young men. But immediately God intervened and kept those brave servants of His alive until they were released.

Whenever rulers have forgotten that God is supreme, they have made serious mistakes. One mistake was for earthly rulers to allow themselves to be worshipped as gods. This was always displeasing to God, for His first commandment reads, "Thou shalt have no other gods before Me."

Darius, the ruler of the Persians in old Babylonia, forgot this back in Daniel's day. He issued a decree that no one should make any request of anyone except himself. That meant that no one could pray to his god. It put Darius in place of God. But Daniel kept right on praying to his heavenly Father. He believed in religious liberty.

Because Daniel insisted upon worshiping his God, even when the edicts of men forbade it, he was cast into the lions' den. God protected him, and shewed by His protection that He wants His children to be free to worship Him.

Christianity and Liberty

LIKE Joshua and Daniel, Peter and John had to choose whether they would serve Christ or not. Before Jesus ascended to heaven, He gave the disciples the command, which has come down even to us; "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel." This command Peter and John and the other disciples began immediately to carry out. But the very same leaders in Jerusalem who had killed Christ, tried to stop them from doing as Jesus had said. They commanded them not to preach.

Peter and John were just plain, ordinary men, without any special human power or influence to help them. But they had the presence of the Holy Spirit, and great personal courage. They insisted that they had to preach the gospel. Thereupon they were put in prison. But the angel of the Lord delivered them out of the prison. Men did not grant the disciples religious liberty, but the angel

did and told them to go and preach. When Peter and John were again placed under arrest, Peter bravely said, "We ought to obey God rather than men." (See Acts 4:13-21; 5:17-29.)

The early Christians did not at first have religious liberty in the Roman Empire. In fact, they were severely persecuted by the Romans, and had again and again to decide, like Joshua, that they must serve the Lord. There was a man by the name of Polycarp who, while a young man, was converted to Christianity by the apostle John. When Polycarp was an old man, fifty years or more after the death of the apostle John, He was arrested in the city of Smyrna. The only reason for this was that it was against Roman law even to be a Christian. When he was brought before the Roman judge and asked whether he was a Christian, Polycarp answered that he was. He was asked to call Caesar his lord. That he would not do, for only Christ was his Lord. He was asked to give up Christ and worship instead the Roman gods. That he would not do. So he was taken out and put to death. He died gladly and bravely for Christ.

Later on, after Christianity was recognized by law, Christians began to persecute one another. In the Dark Ages that followed in the time of the Inquisition, when the false religion of Revelation 13 carried on severe persecution, Christians suffered and died for their faith.

Still later, following the Reformation, sects like the Baptists began to argue that the state and the church ought not to be joined, and that when Christ said, "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's," He meant that the state should not interfere with the church, nor the church with the state. In some countries this is the rule today, and in other countries there is a great deal of kindness shown to small religious groups which are not joined to the state. But many people everywhere are teaching that it is best for Christianity if each church can work freely, without the government favoring any one church.

Christians must be free to worship God. Otherwise, how can we obey Jesus when He said, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind"? Matt. 22:37. God must come first.

"THE quality of your greatness depends upon what you do with that which is least."

NOTES TO OFFICERS

Resources of Christian Living

(Continued from page 3)

There are two features of activity that come to the mind of every Adventist youth when he thinks of making the devotional life more effective. One is the Morning Watch and the other is the Bible Year. Prayer and the study of God's Word must be practiced if one is to maintain his faith in God and His message.

The ability of a leader is measured by the success he has in making effective the devotional life of the youth of the society which he represents. What can you do to achieve this objective?

Enroll—find out right at the start how many are going to follow the Morning Watch and Bible Year. Have them write their names on the Missionary Volunteer Record Blank 12, "Interest Finder." Tactfully encourage those who have not joined to do so immediately. So much depends upon the right kind of start.

Provide each member with a Morning Watch Calendar and M.V. Leaflet No. 19, "The Morning Watch." Secure from your State Missionary Volunteer secretary the Senior and Junior Bible Year Leaflets, Nos. 16 and 17; and "Bible Study," No. 18; also "The Character Classics," M.V. Leaflet No. 25-IV.

Check regularly—each meeting in fact—on the progress each person is making in reading the Bible. You may do this on M.V. Chart 4, which may also be secured from your local conference Missionary Volunteer department.

Enlist your youth to give Morning Watch Calendars to friends and neighbors. Have as a society project the distribution of Morning Watch Calendars to hospitals, sanitariums, hotels, Y.M.C.A.'s, and Y.W.C.A.'s. Encourage other youth to organize to use them.

GENERAL CONFERENCE
YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT.

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EVERY man's work passes in review before God, and is registered for faithfulness or unfaithfulness. Opposite each name in the books of heaven is entered, with terrible exactness, every wrong word, every selfish act, every unfulfilled duty, and every secret sin, with every artful dissembling. Heaven-sent warnings or reproofs neglected, wasted moments, unimproved opportunities, the influence exerted for good or for evil, with its far-reaching results, all are chronicled by the recording angel.—*The Great Controversy*, p. 482.

❖ ❖

"THERE is no failure more disastrous than the success that leaves God out of the bargain."

❖ ❖

"IF we cannot do the good we would, we ought to do the good we can."

★ Home Missionary Department ★

ENLISTMENT FOR CHRIST SABBATH

Suggestive Program for Sabbath, January 4

OPENING SONG: "Watchmen, on the Walls of Zion," No. 184 in *Church Hymnal*.

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 13:16-30.
PRAYER.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OFFERING FOR
MISSIONARY WORK.

SONG: "Far and Near the Fields Are
Teeming," No. 448.

READING: "So Little Time."

by T. L. Oswald.

CLOSING SONG: "Go, Labor On," No. 441.
BENEDICTION.

Notes to Leaders

As we step across the threshold of a new year in service, let us, as leaders, pause to consider the solemnity of this hour. Although it is an hour fraught with responsibility for the eternal destiny of souls, yet it is a glorious day in which to be alive and to witness the fulfillment of the plan of the ages. It is true that the outlook throughout the world is dark and bewildering, but the uplook was never brighter; and as leaders, chosen to rally the forces and assign each member of the church to his place and work, let us first dedicate ourselves anew for valiant service, and go forth into the untried days of 1947 with undaunted courage.

It is planned for Consecration and Covenant Cards to be distributed before the close of the service, in the hope that every member of the church will sign the

So Little Time

BY T. L. OSWALD

WE ARE standing upon the threshold of great and solemn events." The hour is late. "In quick succession the judgments of God will follow one another." The very atmosphere is filled with forebodings. The hearts of men are failing them for fear. It is the last hour of the world's history; the clock of time is about to strike twelve. We have now come to a time of decision for the world. The issues of life are being drawn in clear outlines. What does this mean to us who have an understanding of the times and the seasons? We know the answer to human folly. We truly know that time is short.

Among thoughtful people everywhere there is a growing conviction that the end of civilization is at hand. Once men could dally with serious problems and wait for time to solve them, but it is not

card and thus place himself on record as standing at the post of duty to which he may feel that God is calling him. With such a roster of consecrated soldiers of the cross, the missionary leaders can plan advance moves all along the line for victorious conquests in the little time remaining before the coming of the night, "in which no man can work."

GENERAL CONFERENCE
HOME MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT.

so now. The atom bomb, now fallen on our doorsteps, will not wait long for an answer. The ultimatum has been presented to mankind. Men who stand in high places are convinced that only a little while remains before our age and our world must end.

In language that a few years ago would have seemed extravagant and unreasonable, they are now proclaiming that the consummation of human history is near, even at the door. Said Winston Churchill, "Beware, I say, time may be short." This statesman, knowing what is in the making, feels that there is very little hope for the future of mankind.

The archbishop of York, Dr. Garbett, made this arresting statement, "The Biblical declaration that the end of the world will come suddenly is driven home to us with fresh meaning. . . . The writing on the wall of threatened doom and destruction can now be read clearly by all thoughtful men." Here is a churchman, not of our faith, who is writing about the end of the world. That is very unusual, to say the least.

The late H. G. Wells, an ardent evolutionist all his life, wrote in glowing terms of the wonderful future before the human race. But in his latest book, entitled *Mind at the End of Its Tether*, published shortly before he died, he declared, "The world is at the end of its tether. The end of everything we call life is close at hand and cannot be evaded. There is no way out, or around,

FALL COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION

On October 18, 1946, the following recommendation was adopted by the Fall Council in session at Grand Rapids, Michigan:

"WHEREAS, At the present time thinking men are persuaded of the truths of the Bible prediction of the nearness of the end, and this serious attitude affords us unparalleled opportunities for personal evangelism, and,

"WHEREAS, We believe the time for a great forward movement among God's people to be here,—a time when hundreds and thousands will be seen visiting their neighbors and friends and opening their Bibles before them:

"WE RECOMMEND, 1. That the first Sabbath of the new year, January 4, 1947, be designated as 'Enlistment for Christ Sabbath.'

"2. That we urge our workers and church leaders to bring this recommendation to the attention of our people in a most urgent and personal appeal, endeavoring to enlist every church member in an earnest seeking of the Spirit of God to empower each one to be a soul winner during the year 1947.

"3. That in making the appeal various avenues of service be set before our people, giving each member an opportunity to serve as the Lord may direct, and that the General Conference Home Missionary Department prepare and provide a special 'Enlistment for Christ' pledge card."

or through the impasse—it is the end.” Again, “Our world . . . is like a convoy lost in darkness on an unknown rocky coast. With quarreling pirates in the chartroom, and savages clambering up the side of the ship to plunder and do evil as the whim may take them . . . the door closes upon us forevermore.” Once more he adds, “A series of events has forced upon the intelligent observer the realization that the human story has come to an end.”

The remarkable part of all this discussion of the end of the world is the fact that so many people are setting the time for the end to take place.

Said Raymond Gram Swing in a radio broadcast, “We have but four or five years left. Either we will find a way to establish a world government in that time or perish in a war of the atom.”

These men of the world are crying in solemn warning that our civilization is in desperate peril, and unless man can devise some means of evading disaster, this world will stand but a few years.

We, who have an understanding of these times, through the study of God's Word, know that what we are seeing and reading indicates that the coming of the Lord is near at hand. “But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night.” 1 Thess. 5:1, 2.

We read concerning the children of Is-sachar that they “were men that had understanding of the times to know what Israel ought to do;” and we know what we, as members of the church, ought to do. We know, beyond any misgivings, that there is very little time in which to finish God's work, and that which remains to be done, must be done quickly.

“There is danger in delay. That soul whom you might have found, that soul to whom you might have opened the Scriptures, passes beyond your reach. Satan has prepared some net for his feet, and tomorrow he may be working out the plans of the archenemy of God. Why delay one day? Why not go to work at once?”—*Christian Service*, p. 79.

A Year of Opportunity

THE year 1947 should be a year when greater things than ever before will be undertaken by every member of the church to help in finishing the task that has been committed to us. We read: “Vigilance and fidelity have been required of Christ's followers in every age; but now that we are standing upon the

very verge of the eternal world, holding the truths we do, having so great light, so important a work, we must double our diligence. Everyone is to do to the very utmost of his ability. My brother, you endanger your own salvation if you hold back now. God will call you to account if you fail in the work He has assigned you.”—*Ibid.*

The world is to be warned, and the sands of time are fast running out. What shall we do with the little time that remains? Said the Saviour, “I must work the works of Him that sent Me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.” John 9:4. Just so, we His followers must be about our Father's business and give this message quickly to our neighbors, to the community, to the towns and cities that are farther away from us, and to the fields beyond; for earth's great day is near, and there is but a little time left.

The rich and the poor, the educated and the uneducated, are worried about the end of the world. People are restless; everywhere they are confused and afraid. What is needed now is a message from God giving new assurance that the longed-for deliverance is at hand. People used to laugh at any suggestion that the return of Christ was the world's one hope, but they do not laugh now. The time has become too solemn.

Harvest Ended

In the cool of the glad spring morning
The Master came to me;
“My seed of truth must be planted.
Will you help in the work?” asked He.
And I answered, “Wait a little,
The day is so fair, so fair;
When the mornings are less enchanting,
In Thy fields I will do my share.”

At the dawn of a summer morning
I heard the Master say,
“My truth must be watched and tended;
Will you work in My field today?”
But I said, “The days are so dreamy,
And summer has just begun;
I will do my part in Thy labor
When the glory of June is done.”

In the dew of an autumn morning
The Master came once more;
“My harvest is white,” He whispered,
“And reapers are needed sore.”
“But this autumn joy,” I pleaded,
“I must quaff off, ere it wane;
Just a few more draughts of sunshine,
And I'll help Thee garner the grain.”

In the chill of a winter morning
The Master came to me:
The ice-bound river was silent,
And snow lay white on the lea.
“O Master, I now am ready
To work in Thy fields,” I said;
But the Master smiled in pity
And sadly shook His head.

“The harvest is over,” He answered,
“And winter comes apace;
But some wheat lies all ungarnered,
Because of your vacant place;
You have spent the year in pleasure,
I have pleaded all in vain,
But what of your own remotes,
And what of the wasted grain?”

—Author Unknown.

What a golden opportunity we have to give this message to those about us. “Let the gospel message ring through our churches, summoning them to universal action.”—*Testimonies*, vol. 7, p. 14. “If Christians were to act in concert, moving forward as one, under the direction of one Power, for the accomplishment of one purpose, they would move the world.”—*Ibid.*, vol. 9, p. 221.

This is a year of decision for the remnant church. The question that concerns every member of the church is, “What is to be my choice—service for self in a world soon to meet its doom, or service for God and the eternal world to come?” Earth's multitudes are trembling in fear, wanting to know the answer to the tragic issues now confronting them. Upon the church of the advent hope God has placed the responsibility of enlightening the world. What will your response be?

“Let us arouse! The battle is waging. Truth and error are nearing their final conflict. Let us march under the blood-stained banner of Prince Emmanuel, and fight the good fight of faith. . . . Let us make sure work for eternal life, that we may glorify our heavenly Father, and be the means of saving souls for whom Christ died.”—*Christian Service*, p. 77.

This is the hour that challenges us to go forth to win souls for Christ. No words in the Bible better reveal that call and the responsibilities that should be met by all who love the Lord and long for His appearing than those found in Isaiah 6:8, “I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.”

God grant that in this last hour of earth's history, on the first Sabbath of the new year, our people, in great numbers, will have the vision, the consecration, and the courage to make such a response; for “there is so little time.”



Special Assignment

DURING the war years we have heard much about “special agents” and “special assignments.” These *special agents* were trained to do important tasks for their governments, and the *special assignments* were the tasks which were to be performed.

God has given His special agents a special assignment for 1947. Each member of the remnant church is a special agent for God in this enemy land. His special assignment is to counteract the enemy's lying propaganda that is leading

souls to eternal ruin. Some are ranking officers, and some are buck privates. But no matter what the work or what the rank, each must be diligent in performing his task, that all men in this enemy land may know that Jesus is soon coming to bring freedom. He has commis-

sioned His special agents to teach all who will heed this good news of deliverance, that they may be prepared for the victory.

Our Captain has given the orders. Let us, in devotion, give of our energy to carry them out.—*The Ohio Layman*.

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."—*Ibid.*, p. 11.

"It is an eternal law of Jehovah that he who accepts the truth that the world needs is to make it his first work to proclaim this truth."—*Testimonies*, vol. 7, p. 13.

6. *For what purpose was the church organized?* "The church of Christ on earth was organized for missionary purposes."—*Christian Service*, p. 72.

7. *What portion of the church membership should work as missionaries?* "The Lord desires to see the entire church devising ways and means whereby high and low, rich and poor, may hear the message of truth."—*Ibid.*

8. *What responsibility rests upon the individual member?* "God expects personal service from everyone to whom He has entrusted a knowledge of the truth for this time."—*Ibid.*, p. 9.

"Christ commits to His followers an individual work,—a work that cannot be done by proxy. Ministry to the sick and poor, the giving of the gospel to the lost, is not to be left to committees or organized charities. Individual responsibility, individual effort, personal sacrifice, is the requirement of the gospel."—*Ministry of Healing*, p. 147.

9. *Co-operation between ministers and laymen.* "Christ intends that His ministers shall be educators of the church in gospel work. They are to teach the people how to seek and save the lost."—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 825. "Instead of keeping the ministers at work for the churches that already know the truth, let the members of the churches say to these laborers: 'Go work for souls that are perishing in darkness.'"—*Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 30.

10. *When should instruction in missionary work be given?* "Just as soon as a church is organized, let the minister set the members to work."—*Ibid.*, vol. 7, p. 20.

11. *How are the members to get started in missionary work?* "Everyone who is added to the ranks by conversion is to be assigned his post of duty."—*Ibid.*, p. 30. "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."—*Ibid.*, vol. 9, p. 82. "Put the work into their hands."—H. M. Series No. 9, "An Appeal to Our Churches," p. 11.

12. *Who then are God's agents in car-*

★ Missionary Leadership ★

Missionary Organization of the Church*

SOME years ago there appeared in a German Catholic publication the following statement regarding the Seventh-day Adventist Church organization: "If we consider the gigantic energy of this sect, their willingness to sacrifice, and the apostolic spirit of all their lay members, then one begins to comprehend why they have such tremendous success. Their laymen apostles are trained in the most efficient manner. . . . They are tireless in their activities. They go from house to house; they pass nobody by. All their members utilize every opportunity to make propaganda for their cause."—Dr. KONRAD ALGERMISSEN in *Die Adventisten*.

From another source comes equally favorable mention as follows: "So far as I know, not another set of people of any sect according to their number is doing anywhere near what the Adventists are doing in the circulation of denominational literature. Millions upon millions of copies of their works, large and small, are annually scattered over the earth. They have a thoroughly organized system of working, which aims to put into active service every member of their society, from the little child to the oldest grandma. . . . It is arranged so that everyone can do something, no matter how poor or ignorant he may be."—D. M. CANRIGHT in *Christian Standard*, Sept. 15, 1906.

In the Catholic missionary paper appeared this statement:

"Practically every member of the Adventist organization is a missionary, and makes tremendous sacrifices for the extension of their cult. . . . If the zeal of Catholics were one tenth that of the average Adventist, the whole world would know the truth of the Catholic religion."—*Our Sunday Visitor*, June 18, 1933.

* Article No. 1 of a series of articles prepared by Henry B. Brown, Associate Secretary, General Conference Home Missionary Department.

We wish that these flattering statements were true of every Seventh-day Adventist church, but we fear that in some instances it would be an exaggeration to say that such complete organization exists. Our conference organization is perfect. We have a much more efficient type of conference organization than the Baptists, the Presbyterians, or, we believe, the Methodists. But, examining the local church itself, we fear the chain breaks in efficiency, and many of our churches are inadequately organized in a missionary sense. In other words, when it comes to meeting the standard of the Spirit of prophecy for putting every member to work in his own particular sphere, we are woefully lacking. Let us examine the plan God has for the church.

The Divine Pattern

1. *What is God's building today?* "In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord." Eph. 2:21.

2. *Of what is this temple built?* "Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house." 1 Peter 2:5. "We are built up as living stones, and every stone is to emit light. Every Christian is compared to a precious stone that catches the glory of God and reflects it."—*Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 435.

3. *According to what pattern must this spiritual temple be built?* "See that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount." Heb. 8:5.

4. *Through whom does God work for adding "stones" to the "holy temple"?* "As His representatives among men, God does not choose angels who have never fallen, but human beings, men of like passions with those they seek to save."—*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 134.

5. *What is God's purpose regarding every soul that is brought into the kingdom?* "Every true disciple is born into the kingdom of God as a missionary."—*Christian Service*, p. 9.

"He who becomes a child of God should

rying on His work? "Every addition to the church should be one more agency for the carrying out of the plan of redemption."—*Testimonies*, vol. 7, p. 222.

13. *Is missionary organization proper?* "Well-organized work must be done in the church, that its members may understand how to impart the light to others."—*Ibid.*, vol. 6, p. 435.

14. *What subdivision of church missionary organization is essential?* "The formation of small companies as a basis of Christian effort has been presented to me by One who cannot err." "Let there be in every church, well-organized companies of workers to labor in the vicinity of that church." "In our churches let companies be formed for service." "If there is a large number in the church, let the members be formed into small companies. . . . Let them form themselves into a band of workers."—*Christian Service*, p. 72.

15. *Are young people included in missionary organization?* "Young men and young women, cannot you form companies, and, as soldiers of Christ, enlist in the work?"—*Ibid.*, p. 34.

16. *What should the missionary committee or church board do?* "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."—*Ibid.*, p. 61. "Why do not the overseers of the church have councils to devise ways whereby young men and women may be trained to put to use their entrusted talents?"—H. M. Series No. 9, "An Appeal to Our Churches," p. 16.

17. *Where are the leaders for this type of work to be found?* "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."—*Testimonies*, vol. 3, p. 205.

18. *Where does the field of missionary endeavor begin?* "Wherever a church is established, all the members should engage actively in missionary work. They should visit every family in the neighborhood, and know their spiritual condition." "He calls upon the church to take up their appointed duty, holding up the standard of true reform in their own territory, leaving the trained and experienced workers to press on into new fields."—*Ibid.*, vol. 6, pp. 296, 292. "The believers in these cities are to work for God in the neighborhood of their homes."—*Ibid.*, vol. 9, p. 128.

19. *What results are assured?* "If our

people will act upon the light that is given in these few words of instruction, we shall surely see of the salvation of God. Wonderful revivals will follow. Sinners will be converted, and many souls will be added to the church."—*Ibid.*, vol. 8, p. 246.

20. *How important is the organization and development of missionary workers?* "This subject [development of self-denying workers] is to be considered as involving the most serious results. Our future for eternity is at stake."—*Ibid.*, vol. 6, p. 431.

HENRY F. BROWN.



The Missionary Secretary the Business Agent of the Church

OUR churches do thousands of dollars' worth of business each year. The secretary is the one who orders all supplies for the church.

"The church missionary secretary sustains much the same business relationship to the church as does the Book and Bible House secretary to the conference. In a very essential way this office supplies the direct medium through which the Book and Bible House communicates with the church. Frequently the church missionary secretary becomes the channel through which the conference itself, the publishing houses, and other organizations communicate important matters to the church members. Plans are constantly being developed by general workers for the benefit of our churches and for the advancement of the truth. As particulars concerning these plans are sent out from time to time, it is very important that they lose none of their force in passing through the hands of the church missionary secretary, but rather that they receive a new impetus.

"The circulation of all classes of literature in the church falls under the direct supervision of the church missionary secretary."—*Home Missionary Series*, No. 5, "The Church Missionary Secretary," pp. 9, 10.

In general, this business of the secretary consists of ordering literature. This falls into two classes—that ordered for the individual, and that ordered for the church. Constantly various members of the church desire material from the conference office. They look to the secretary to order such as they need. It may be books, tracts, periodicals, and magazines. As a rule the money accompanies the order. It is necessary for the secretary to keep a careful record of each transaction.

Often it happens that the secretary de-

sires to write a letter to the conference office. The conference secretary is very glad to get letters from the church secretary, but often gets one that reads like this:

"We have just had a meeting of our missionary committee, and now our church is thoroughly organized into bands for service. Mrs. Brown is a lady who has just accepted the truth. By the way, she desires to subscribe for the *Review and Herald*, and I am enclosing the money. You know, she is a woman of outstanding ability and has been assigned to the literature band. She also would like to have the *Instructor* for her little girl. The money is included in the check I am sending. We believe that many will accept the truth in our city, as it seems there are interested people in every part of the city. I am giving Bible readings to my next-door neighbor."

The conference secretary likes to receive letters, but never one in which orders for supplies are interwoven. All orders should be on order blanks. A supply of these should always be on hand.

In order not to do unnecessary business on the Sabbath, the order envelopes should be provided for all members who desire to order literature. The one ordering can write on the outside of the envelope during the week just what is wanted, and money for the same can be placed inside the envelope. Then the envelope can be dropped into the collection basket on Sabbath, and the church secretary can take it home with her and after the Sabbath make out her order to the conference. This method does away with a lot of confusion.

Keeping the Church Informed

The missionary secretary of the church is the one in touch with the conference office, and the one to whom, as a rule, the office sends information. A new tract, or a series of tracts, may come out. It is the duty of the secretary to see to it that the church knows about these tracts, and has an opportunity to order supplies. A wise secretary will read the material sent out so as to be able to describe it to others. In addition to informing the church as a body about new material coming out, the secretary will go to individuals and encourage them to get supplies for distribution. What has been said of tracts applies as well to books and other supplies. As we always have a wealth of good literature on hand, the secretary should be constantly on the alert to see to it that every member of the church is informed as to what supplies can be obtained.

Another duty of the secretary is to keep the church enlightened as to the periodicals that can be obtained. There is a long list of them such as the *Review and Herald*, *Signs of the Times*, *Present Truth*, *Our Times*, *Health*, *Life and Health*, and others. These are of such value that every family should have them. The secretary can and should keep a record of those who are subscribing, and urge the nonsubscribers to secure these valuable periodicals. It is well to consult with the missionary leader, and get him to present the matter to the entire church. Often a church does not see the importance of its members having these helps in their homes. The secretary should study why these are necessary. Regarding the value of the *Review and Herald* and *Signs of the Times*, we read:

"The *Review and Herald* and the *Signs of the Times* are cheap papers at the full price. The *Review* is a valuable paper; it contains matters of great interest to the church, and should be placed in every family of believers. If any are too poor to take it, the church should, by subscription, raise the amount of the full price of the paper, and supply the destitute families. How much better would this plan be than throwing the poor upon the mercies of the publishing house or the tract and missionary society.

"The same course should be pursued toward the *Signs*. With slight variations, this paper has been increasing in interest and in moral worth as a pioneer sheet since its establishment. These periodicals are one in interest. They are two instrumentalities in the great field to do their specific work in disseminating light in this day of God's preparation. All should engage just as earnestly to build up the one as the other. . . .

"Our people should make greater efforts to extend the circulation of the *Review*. If our brethren and sisters would only manifest greater earnestness and put forth more persevering efforts to accomplish this, it would be done. Every family should have this paper. And if they would deny themselves their darling luxuries, tea and coffee, many who do not now have its weekly visits might pay for the messenger of light to come into their household. Almost every family takes one of more secular papers, and these frequently contain love stories and exciting tales of villainy and murder which injure the minds of all who read them. Those who consent to do without the *Review and Herald* lose much. Through its pages, Christ may speak to

(Continued on page 23)

Church Missionary Officers' Round Table

An Exchange of Experiences, Problems, Suggestions

All Church Missionary Leaders and Secretaries Are Invited to Contribute to This Exchange

Welcome to Incoming Missionary Officers

You have been chosen by the church board to head the missionary organization for the year 1947. We congratulate you.

In these very urgent times we need extraordinary leaders. They should be like the children of Issachar, who had a knowledge of the times and knew what Israel ought to be. Who is sufficient for these things? "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." James 1:5.

We hope that you will make the GAZETTE your map, and your conference home missionary secretary's bulletin your chart, as you guide your church into Christian activity for the new year.

Keep in mind that there are several motives which must prevail if we would be efficient soul winners. The first is love for souls and love for God. "For the love of Christ constraineth us." 2 Cor. 5:14. The second motive is the fear of God. "Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men." 2 Cor. 5:11. The very terror of the future should make us earnest in helping mankind.

But the motive we wish to stress is the salvation of our own souls. That which we do not give to others becomes a curse to the possessor. If we wish to be sanctified by the truth we must pass this truth on to others. It becomes stale unless shared with those in need. None but those who partake of the spirit of Christ in His desire to help humanity can become Christlike. Your members must reach out to save others. Strength comes by exercise and the individual faith develops by exercise.

Therefore, in welcoming you to your duties may we indicate that they are triple: First, through reading the book *Christian Service*, the GAZETTE, and the conference secretary's bulletin, gain an enlarged vision. Second, pass the inspiration of this volume on to your church members. Third, train these members to win souls, each in his own way.

We have reason to believe, and God has a right to expect, that during 1947 His church will rise to higher levels of

Christian living and greater intensity of Christian activity than at any time in the past.
H. F. BROWN.



Getting Individual Reports

At a number of home missionary officers' councils held recently the following suggestions were made as to how to secure reports from the church members.

1. *Greater emphasis on why one should report.* Explain the four reasons for reporting: (a) to emulate Christ (John 17); (b) to glorify God (Acts 21); (c) to inspire others (*Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 336); (d) to present accurate report to public during Ingathering campaign (in many conferences a yearly report of volunteer service rendered is printed and presented to the businessmen).

2. *Recall church missionary projects.* Enumerate the special missionary activities fostered by the church and suggest that each member indicate on his blank his part in this specific project.

3. *Sufficient time and good example.* Allow sufficient time for members to recall the week's missionary events and to fill out the report card. The church missionary leader should set the right example by making out his report at the same time the church members are filling out the report blank or card.

4. *Blackboard total of reports handed in previous week.* Writing on the blackboard the number that have reported each week will visualize the number working and reporting. Emphasize—Every Member Working and Reporting.

5. *Reporting graph or bulletin board.* A simple graph on blackboard or bulletin board, given a prominent place in the front hall or vestry of the church, serves to good advantage in visualizing the reporting progress. Make horizontal ruled lines across the board or sheet of paper with perpendicular lines marking off the twelve months of the year.

On the left-hand side of the graph, beginning at the bottom with figure 5, run up by 5's to 50. There will then be ten spaces through which the percentage line will run each month, going up or down as the reporting pulse may indicate.

J. ERNEST EDWARDS.

★ Departmental Activities ★

Liberating Lay Forces

ONE of the most intensive methods of liberating the hidden powers of laymen is that of fostering among them the formation of small groups of kindred spirits with an unselfish or service objective. . . . Almost all the most significant denominational and interdenominational Christian movements among laymen and among the youth of our own day and in all parts of the world had their origin in small companies, seldom composed of as many as a score. God is not through working in this way. The plan is adaptable to the smallest and most difficult fields. It is not dependent upon numbers or expensive equipment or large human resources. It has limitless possibilities. It affords one of the sure keys for the solution of our problem—the liberation of the latent lay forces of Christianity.—JOHN R. MOTT, *Liberating the Lay Forces*, p. 130.

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Prejudice Vanished Under the Light of Truth

AS I was passing out *Good News* one day I asked a lady whether she cared to see pictures, and showed her the film "From the Manger to the Throne." She said she might be interested later, but her sister out in the country would like to see the pictures. I then called on her sister, who had close friends living across the road. The husbands of both these

young women were in the service. After I had explained my mission, they told me they had been greatly annoyed by Jehovah's Witnesses and Seventh-day Adventists. One woman said that her mother-in-law was a Seventh-day Adventist, and when she went over there this woman put her arms around her and told her all about the doctrines. She asked me whether I knew about the Seventh-day Adventists, and volunteered the information that they teach that people have the "mark of the beast" because they keep Sunday. After I had given two or three studies, this woman wanted to know what denomination I represented, but I avoided the answer by saying that we would study the Bible together and let her decide that for herself. After finishing the fifth lesson she said, "We have decided that you are a Seventh-day Adventist, but we don't care what you are. If you left us now, we would look you up and bring you back, because these lessons will have to be finished. But if we had known at first that you were a Seventh-day Adventist we would not have let you in."

Soon they began to ask questions about the Sabbath, and I requested that they wait until I get to that subject. One of them turned to her friend and said, "We better wait, because we have been so prejudiced against Seventh-day Adventists; but if the Lord wants us to go that way, we want to do so, because the Sabbath is in the heart of God's law."

Both husbands are out of the Army now, and the studies are being continued, with good prospect that both families will accept the truth.—HUGH FOSTER.

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Literature Centers

IN THE periodical called *America*, put out by the Catholic Church, under date of September 7, in an article entitled "Under Scorings," appears this paragraph:

"A fast-growing form of Catholic action that does effective work is the Catholic book and information center. You will find these centers in most of the large cities, and in cities not so large—an excellent intellectual rendezvous, for example, in Hartford, Connecticut; one near the Harvard campus, which no doubt will have honorable mention in a book by a convert soon to be published; and a correspondent sends us some interesting facts about the Aquinas Library and Book Shop (nonprofit) in South Bend, Indiana, which sells and loans books and pamphlets, has a reading room, holds lectures, keeps pamphlet racks filled in railroad and bus stations and in hospitals, helps to build up Catholic holdings in the public library, etc."

The announcement is of special significance. In almost every hotel waiting room, bus and railroad station, and in hospitals, these Catholic reading racks are found filled with their literature. The reading-rack idea has long been a plan followed by Seventh-day Adventists, but there is great lack in keeping abreast of opportunities for this contact with the public. Once in a while we find one of our reading racks in a railroad or bus station with literature in it, but more often the rack is empty or entirely missing. We should revive the reading rack and place it in reading rooms everywhere. We shall never have a more favorable time in which to place before the public our truth-filled literature.

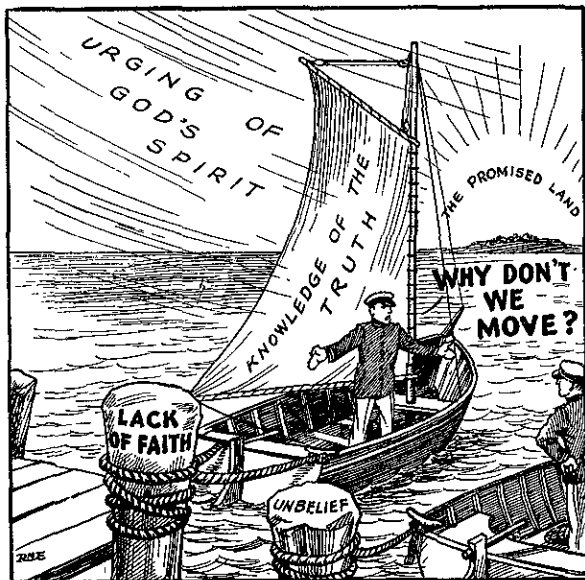
"Church members, awake to the importance of the circulation of our literature, and devote more time to this work. Place in the homes of the people papers, tracts, and books that will preach the gospel in its several lines. There is no time to be lost."—*Christian Service*, p. 147.

T. L. OSWALD.

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The Church a Landmark

SOME years ago a little church on the Dover coast of England was ruined in a hurricane. The congregation was small, and they felt that they could not rebuild their church. They were surprised by



receiving a visit from a representative of the British Admiralty, which corresponds to the Navy Department of our own nation. This gentleman asked the clergyman if they intended to reconstruct the church, and received a negative reply and an explanation as to why it could not be done. "Well," said the representative of the British Admiralty, "if you do not rebuild the church, we will. The church spire is on all of our charts and maps. It is the landmark by which ships of the seven seas steer their course. It has to be rebuilt. The world's commerce, guiding itself through these straits, counts on the presence of that church."

The world is counting on the Seventh-day Adventist Church to guide them through the uncertain reefs and shoals. If your church is not lighted up, if it is not active, if it is not positive in its battle against sin, vice, and wrong, the world will miss it, and many will crash against the rocks. Put your church on the map and keep it there.

H. F. BROWN.

"Heaven Can Wait"

LAST Sunday morning I turned the radio on at ten o'clock. To my surprise and great interest the speaker, a Sunday school teacher, was just starting his Bible class, and began with these words, "Heaven Can Wait."

He went on to tell about a great crowd that recently stood before the entrance to a theater with the words "Heaven Can Wait" announcing the name of the attraction for that week. Something was very familiar about the words this Sunday school teacher was speaking.

After a few moments it came to me. I searched out a recent *Signs of the Times*, and sure enough, on the back cover were the words "Heaven Can Wait." I followed down the page as the speaker read portions of the article and paraphrased here and there. I was really thrilled to follow the story on the back page of the *Signs* as this Sunday school teacher on Sunday morning gave this helpful message to his Bible class and his great audience in radioland.

The thought came to me that some good Seventh-day Adventist had sent this Bible teacher a subscription to one of our denominational papers. Little do we know the effect our literature has upon the hearts of those that read these papers. As I said before, it gave me a thrill to hear a leading Bible teacher of another denomination basing his remarks upon something he had found in one of our papers.

We read in the Good Book: "So shall My word be that goeth forth out of My mouth: it shall not return unto Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Isa. 55:11.

Should not this experience be an encouragement to us as a people to send and give every piece of literature we can to those about us while the opportunity is still ours?

Multiply this incident a thousand times and you can imagine the good that our truth-filled literature is doing, not only in our own country, but all around the world field. Eternity alone will reveal the results of the reading of our literature.—FENTON E. FROOM.

"Be Strong and of a Good Courage"

IN these words we have directions in regard to a side of the Christian character, indispensable today as ever, and the lack of which cannot be made up for by any amount of sweet and contemplative graces. . . . Strength is a duty; weakness is a sin. The amount of strength that we possess and wield is regulated by ourselves. We have our hands on the sluice. We may open it to let the whole full tide run in, or we may close it till a mere dribble reaches us.

The apostle gives the complete version of the exhortation when he says, . . . "Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might." Let Christ's strength in. Open the heart wide that it may come. Keep yourself in continual touch with God, the Fountain of all power. Trust in strength, because trust touches the Rock of Ages.—ALEXANDER MACLAREN.

Missionary Secretary

(Continued from page 21)

them in warnings, in reproofs and counsel, which would change the current of their thoughts, and be to them as the bread of life."—*Testimonies*, vol. 4, pp. 598, 599.

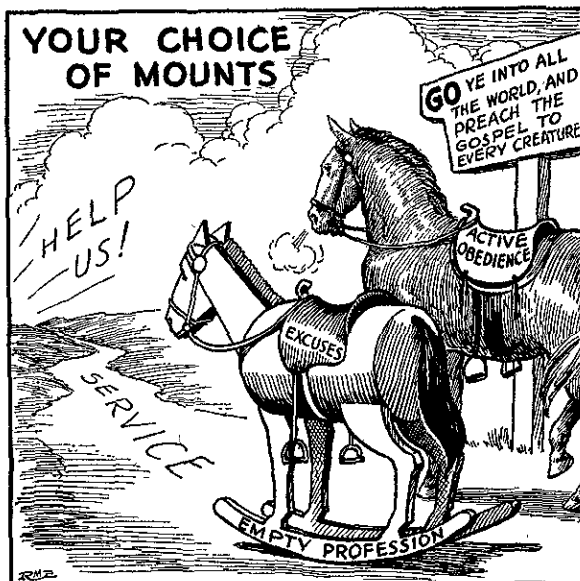
The missionary secretary should have a catalogue from the publishing house, and urge the members of the church to build up their libraries. These books will help the families to become intelligent on all lines of the message.

During a year the church has many campaigns. The *Liberty* magazine should have a wide circulation. The secretary can do much to help along this line. Often a church will put on a campaign to distribute literature for missionary purposes. The secretary is the agent to order these supplies for the church. Millions of Crisis books have been sold. We have scores of them, and the secretary should keep before the church the value of these little books, and urge their sale.

The bookkeeping that a secretary has to do is considerable. Very careful attention should be given to this part of the work, to be sure that there is a record of every transaction.

Another privilege that a secretary has is to order all the Sabbath school supplies. It is desirable that these orders get to the conference office in plenty of time, so that at the beginning of the quarter all are supplied with what they need.

"All orders sent to the Book and Bible House should be made out in duplicate, thus providing a copy from which to check the Book and Bible House bills.



when they come. Orders should be written on the church missionary secretary's order blank, never made a part of a personal letter."—Home Missionary Series, No. 5, "The Church Missionary Secretary," p. 13: E. A. MANRY.

Religious Liberty Principles Restudied and Maintained

THE idea of the separation of church and state and the principle of complete religious liberty are dear to the hearts of all Seventh-day Adventists. When we work for these things we are not thinking primarily of our own welfare; at least we should not be. When we oppose the enactment of religious laws by civil authorities we must be moved by a higher motive than selfishness. It is true that adverse civil legislation might greatly hinder the progress of the message that we are giving. But when we oppose such legislation we must recognize that even though it were enacted and conscientious people were persecuted, the condition of the persecutor would be more deplorable than that of the persecuted. The principles of God's government are love and persuasion. God never uses force to compel obedience to His commandments. The one who endeavors to do what God will not do by attempting to invade the conscience of his fellow man brings upon him the condemnation of God. The one who is persecuted for conscience' sake may have the assurance of God's praise and His care in the most bitter trials that may come upon him. But we repeat, the persecutor is choosing a path that God can never approve.

For some time the month of January of each year has been set apart as a time for special labors along religious liberty lines. The year 1947 is to follow the same pattern. The entire month is to be given particularly to a consideration of religious liberty principles. It is hoped that everyone will review the things that all Americans are supposed to know, so that a fresh appreciation of our liberties and our opportunities may be realized. The climax of this study will come on Sabbath, January 25, when it is hoped that a special religious liberty service will be held in every church and that isolated members will read the material that is sent out to those who do not live near a church. The annual offering for the circulation of *Liberty* will be taken at that time, and it should be a liberal one.

The *Liberty* magazine now has the largest circulation it has ever had, and the mailing list is still growing. Since the war closed and governmental restrictions

on paper have been lifted, the *Liberty* circulation has increased over 35,000. The letters of commendation from those who believe in the sacred principles of religious liberty and the separation of church and state are more numerous and cordial than ever before. The letters received from those who believe that the power of the civil state should be used to enforce their political beliefs are bitter and abusive.

The doctrine of soul freedom is an integral part of the third angel's message, and those who contribute toward the circulation of *Liberty*, those who give this magazine to their neighbors and friends, are having a definite, specific part in giving God's truth. HEBER H. VOTAW.

Every Member a Soul Winner

If we are to meet the mind of God, each church and church member must make soul winning the chief aim of life. To this end the Spirit of God has counseled us in the following words: "We are not to feel that the work of the gospel depends principally upon the minister. . . . Whatever our calling, as Christians we have a work to do in making Christ known to the world. We are to be missionaries, having for our chief aim the winning of souls to Christ."—*Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 427.

Each member has the right to choose his field of service. Some are qualified to distribute literature from house to house; others can conduct neighborhood nursing or cooking classes; still others can minister to the sick and needy. Other lines of service could be suggested, but all should eventually lead the people to a study of the saving truth in Christ.

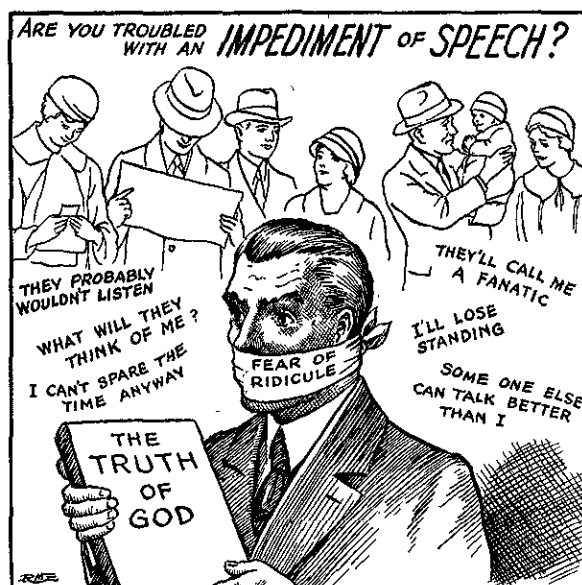
In the past much service has been rendered without crystalizing the interest into a Bible study or a Bible study group. The service that we render to people should lead to the salvation of their souls.

After a group of individuals has received the benefit of some Christian service, then the benefactor should endeavor to gather such together in a friendly home. Here they can meet week by week in a study of Bible truth. The one who gives the study should be well versed in Bible knowledge and should be a member in good and regular standing in the church. Usually the church board appoints the individual to take charge of the cottage meeting.

To assist laymen in conducting such cottage meetings, some conferences are willing to subsidize the amount necessary to procure a projector, a set of doctrinal films, and a screen. This equipment must be purchased through the conference, and it then becomes the property of the local church.

There are scores of cities, towns, and villages where our laymen could conduct cottage meetings. We lose nothing by attempting this service for God, and it greatly assists in gaining new souls for the kingdom. The hour is late. Time is short. Let the laymen arise and work for the eternal salvation of their neighbors and friends. "Let those who desire to work for God begin at home, in their own household, in their own neighborhood, among their own friends. Here they will find a favorable missionary field."—*Ibid.*, vol. 6, p. 428.

THEODORE CARCICH,
President, Illinois Conference.



Weekly Church Missionary Services

Note to Leaders: Plan for the regular ten-minute weekly service to follow the Sabbath school. This should never be a preaching service. Three minutes should be used for getting reports, four minutes for presenting material in the GAZETTE, and the remaining three minutes for personal testimonies or experiences. You observe that this gives no extra time for singing or sermonettes. This service should not be allowed to run longer than TEN MINUTES.

January 4

SERVICE COMPANIES AND CLASS BANDS

IN the time of ancient Israel the new year was heralded by the blowing of trumpets. It was the rally call to new year activities. On this first Sabbath of the new year a trumpet call is being sounded in every church for the enlistment of every member in service companies. Probation is fast slipping away—only a moment of time remains. Every church member should be enlisted as a personal soul winner in one of the following service companies: (1) Bible Evangelism, (2) Literature Ministry, (3) Missionary Men, (4) Dorcas Service, (5) Temperance Promotion, (6) Lay Preaching.

Recall these statements: "If there is a large number in the church, let the members be formed into small companies, to work not only for the church members, but for unbelievers. If in one place there are only two or three who know the truth, let them form themselves into a band of workers."—*Testimonies*, vol. 7, p. 22. "The formation of small companies as a basis of Christian effort has been presented to me by One who cannot err."—*Ibid.*, pp. 21, 22. In one of the six avenues of service suggested, every member can find a place.

Interestingly present missionary plans for 1947. Write the list of service companies on a blackboard so that all may study the fields of service and decide what they should do. Every member should signify his intentions in soul-winning activity and should enlist for work in a service company.

The basis of the class band organization is the Sabbath school class—hence the name "class band." These bands constitute the reporting and campaign missionary groups. During the time of the church missionary service the members of each class band are seated as during the Sabbath school class period. At this time the "band members' report cards are distributed by the band leader and the members make out their reports.

One day during the Boer War, just as the train was starting from London, a man, hot and tired, entered the car, and wearily seating himself, exclaimed, "I am called." He soon fell asleep, and the passengers noticed that he was a stoker, black from the soot and oil of his engine. Upon awakening, he told the group that he was a reservist and had received orders to join his regiment immediately. He had not waited to wash or to put on

his best clothes but at once obeyed the call of his king.

The critical situation in the world demands immediate action. The earth faces D day—Doomsday. But for the victorious Christian lies the dawn of a perfect day. As reservists in the Adventist army will you respond to the trumpet call and courageously meet the challenge by perfect soul-winning effort? Answer the urgent SOS for missionary soldiers, and make every day count in reaching your soul-winning objective. Will you earnestly say, I will answer the trumpet call by joining service companies of my church now? J. ERNEST EDWARDS.

January 11

LOCAL COMMUNITY PROJECTS

IN England, a century ago, lighted lanterns were hung in many of the church steeples at night, and others in front of dwelling houses. The watchman going on his rounds called, "Hang out your lights!" This is the call of Christ to your members. By letting their lights shine they will guide their fellow citizens to the cross and to the third angel's message. "In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been sent into the world as watchmen and light bearers."—*Testimonies*, vol. 9, p. 19.

The presentation of projects by each service company leader will arouse interest and will assure co-operation in a larger soul-winning program as a church. Propose to your church such large projects as will challenge their support and yet not discourage their interest: The every-home-visitation crusade, using the twelve Prediction Tract numbers and the Bible Correspondence Course enrollment cards, the shopping-night project with its distribution of cellophane-wrapped tracts to passers-by, the Bible community schools conducted by trained lay instructors, the dark-county correspondence activities, the placement of racks for attractive magazines near telephone booths in transportation and airport terminals, Dorcas community projects with health cookery classes, branch Sabbath schools, the reclamation of backsliders, and lay preaching with film aids.

Do your members know that only missionary workers will be saved? A striking statement from H. M. Series No. 9, "An Appeal to Our Churches," p. 30, written by Mrs. E. G. White, is as follows: "If we are not active in the service of Christ, we are ranking with those who are in positive hostility against Him." Other references emphasizing this thought are found in *The Desire of Ages*, pages

523, 641. Stress the thought that our first business is to win souls, and only as we use our talents for God will we win heaven.

Each member should be encouraged to start the year right for God by joining a service company and by engaging in definite service. With a "Win One" objective, every member should maintain a specific prayer list. May this second Sabbath of the new year mean much in the experience of the members as you guide them in local community soul-winning service and as you arrange for the assignment of each member in the missionary program. "Everyone who is added to the ranks by conversion is to be assigned his post of duty."—*Testimonies*, vol. 7, p. 30. God has promised a great fruitage of souls. (See *The Great Controversy*, p. 611.) Heavenly inspiration, guidance, and wisdom have been assured for its accomplishment as we hang out our lights. J. ERNEST EDWARDS.

January 18

THE "LIBERTY" MAGAZINE IN MISSIONARY ENDEAVOR

EVERY true American values the liberties ensured to him by the Constitution of the United States. As American citizens we share in a wonderful inheritance, not because America is a large nation or because of its political or financial strength, but because of the great principles of liberty for which it stands.

Of all people, Seventh-day Adventists have reason to be most grateful. Providence has used the United States, at least so far as our work is concerned, to lead out in world evangelism. Thousands of missionaries going from our shores take with them this spirit of liberty which has been embedded in their hearts.

The *Liberty* magazine has been very effective in its molding influence on the lawmakers and law supporters of the United States, and it has extended into other nations, both in the Western continent and throughout Europe. Leading men have regarded this magazine and its message as representing the true American spirit of civil and religious liberty.

Every church member should be a reader of the *Liberty* magazine and a hearty supporter of the principles for which it stands. At this time wide plans should be laid by the church missionary committee to see that a liberal offering is received to aid in the circulation of the magazine. Up-to-date lists of names of leading influential men and women of the city and community should be passed in to the editor of the *Liberty* magazine. Let us stand foursquare behind the good work which the *Liberty* magazine represents. W. A. BUTLER.

January 25

SHARING OUR FAITH IN THE PRINCIPLES OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

"THERE are many, even of those engaged in this movement for Sunday enforcement, who are blinded to the results which will follow this action. They do not see that they are striking directly against religious liberty."—*Testimonies*, vol. 5, p. 711.

The third angel's message, which we are to proclaim, not only embraces a series of doctrines, but includes the great fundamental principles of freedom and liberty. Let us never forget that "the banner of truth and religious liberty held aloft by the founders of the gospel church and by God's witnesses during the centuries that have passed since then, has, in this last conflict, been committed to our hands. The responsibility for this great gift rests with those whom God has blessed with a knowledge of His Word."—*Acts of the Apostles*, pp. 68, 69.

In view of this it becomes a vitally im-

portant matter that we share our faith in the principles of religious liberty; for there are many honesthearted people who would follow a different course if they understood all that is involved. While we prize the spirit of liberty for ourselves, we must also know how to manifest the practical demonstration of liberty with others.

This is Religious Liberty Day. Let us bring a large offering and assist in every way in placing the *Liberty* magazine in the hands of lawmakers, law interpreters, public educators, and Christian leaders.

W. A. BUTLER.

★ News From Soul Winners ★

Glimpses of Marvelous Providences

FROM every section of the great harvest field encouraging reports are communicated to us, telling of the wonderful way in which God is using the laity as living witnesses.

Here is an experience from our own field of Inter-America. "Recently I met a man who told me an interesting story. He said that when he became a Seventh-day Adventist he had one small farm. The Lord blessed him so that he was able to buy two more. The inspiration of the layman's movement has gripped his heart, and now that his children are all married and have left home and he and his wife are alone, as he stated it to me, his plan for the future is as follows: 'I have three farms. I have men working on these farms. Supervision of this work takes too much time, and I want you to pray that the Lord will help me sell two of the farms so that I can give more of my time to winning souls.' Then he showed me a picture of six people, one of them a state policeman, all of whom are interested in the message and desire to join the church. I was very much impressed by this man's request and his desire to dispose of his land so that more of his time might be given to the service of God."

From the great Continent of Opportunity, South America, the home missionary secretary of that vast section of the world field writes: "The home missionary work is going very well here. I have just made a trip through the field visiting some places that had not had a visit of a minister for four years. In one place where there are only six baptized believers, they have been working with their neighbors, and when I visited this little company I found a baptismal class of twenty-five candidates. It is but a small

village. These six believers extend their work even beyond their local community to another village about seven miles away, where I found another group of twelve interested persons, making a total of thirty-seven. They have built a church at their own expense. I celebrated the Lord's supper with them while I was there and held five meetings in one day, preaching three sermons in one evening, one after another, because the people kept coming late. I stopped preaching at ten o'clock, but still the people wanted to hear more. We compromised by singing until eleven o'clock and then dismissed the people."

During recent years our work has been making rapid progress in the Southern Asia Division. Special efforts have been put forth to train our laity for soul-winning service, and most heartening results are seen from the endeavors of our believers throughout that field. Our home missionary secretary for that great division sends this good word: "I spent ten days a Myaungmya where we had an institute with the workers in that section. There were also about a dozen lay members present. Three of these are definitely planning to do lay preaching work. One member had come out from Buddhism about four years ago. I was told that last year he paid one thousand rupees as his tithe. He is a Burmese gentleman and very earnest. There was also a Burmese lady present at the institute. She is a very capable woman, formerly the head of the Baptist Mission Women's Association. She became interested in the truth by reading a copy of *Our Day*, which she bought several years ago. This woman has now taken her stand for the truth. She believes she will win her husband and some of her influential relatives."—*Inter-American Division Messengers*.

The Winning of an Italian Internee

IN Switzerland there lives a family by the name of Huegli. The head of the family, an earnest Christian, recognized in the establishment of an internment camp an opportunity for real practical missionary work. Since they had more work than they could do in the house and on the farm, they asked the camp administration for part-time help of some of the interned Italians. Their request was granted, and a man named Candido Calliari came to work for them.

This young man was very willing and efficient. He knew how to care for poultry, how to paint, and how to do farm and house work, and even to win the hearts of the children as a competent mother's helper. Sister Huegli especially had made up her mind to win this young man for the Lord. In their conversations she soon brought up different questions concerning Bible truths, and thus it came about that before long Candido spent almost all his free time studying the Bible with these people, and gradually the seeds of truth began to take root in his heart.

Two events, though of an insignificant nature, were finally to melt the ice. At the approach of Christmas he, like the rest of the family, was handed a small Christmas package. The fact that he, a foreigner, had been remembered, made a lasting impression upon him. Again he saw an example of hospitality in the Huegli family, when they took an unknown man into their home and gave him a bed with fresh linen. This, too, was beyond his conception. According to his judgment, only the creed, or faith, of this family could bring about such things.

Thereupon, in March, 1944, regular Bible studies were begun, and on July 1 of the same year Candido Calliari was baptized and united with the church.

The time came when he returned to his homeland, and he went with the earnest expectation that soon his parents, brothers, sisters, and friends in the lonely Italian village would be rejoicing with him in the message of truth; but such was not the case. His family and friends regarded him as a heretic and would not listen to his pleading. Notwithstanding the disappointment and persecution, he has remained true and faithful, and is thankful that God led him to the home of a true Seventh-day Adventist missionary family, where kindness and Bible study changed the entire course of his life.

★ Department of Education ★

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

Providing School Equipment

My New Year Aim

Not yet attained, but still my feet are
pressing
Toward those heights which lie out-
stretched before;
That which the past has held of heavenly
blessing
Will not suffice; I hunger still for more.
And now as dawns for me one more New
Year,
So grant, O Lord, 'twill bring me yet more
near.

More near to Thee! Yea, Lord, and ever
nearer,
Forgetting all the things now left be-
hind;
My aim is higher ground, with vision clearer
To see Thee close, though steep the path
may wind.
Forgive, O Lord, the blindness of the past:
Be still my Guide, I pray, and hold me fast.

"One thing I do," my time cannot be squan-
dered
In grieving o'er mistakes of years now
gone,
Though in side paths my feet have often
wandered,
Yet reach I forward still—Lord, help me
on!
And grant this year, in mercy given me,
May lead to untrod heights, close, close to
Thee.

—Author Unknown.

Notes to Leaders

A HAPPY NEW YEAR to each one of our Home and School leaders! As we begin another year we have much for which to be thankful, but perhaps most of all we should be grateful for the opportunity to work for our Lord and Master. Angels would gladly perform the task that has been committed to mankind, but God's plan entrusts His work on earth to human beings. As Home and School leaders our part is to work for the education and salvation of our children, and to strengthen the foundations of our homes.

This month's program affords an opportunity for action on the part of the Home and School Association. And who doesn't like to do things? Unfortunately, in some places too much emphasis has been placed upon the financial role this organization may have in the church school program. You will be interested in reading again the purposes of the association as outlined on page 18 of Educational Leaflet No. 38. Let us constantly be aware of the balance necessary in the program to care for the intellectual, social, and financial needs connected with this phase of the work.

This is the time to study the physical part of your church school plant, and then to do something about it. A progressive program can thus be carried out which will improve the school. The articles here presented stress the importance of co-operation for the success of such a program.

Special attention is called to what can be done to supply audio-visual aids and to the important part they have in education. Then there is the matter of building up the school library. Not much has been said about some of the smaller items such as maps, charts, globes, and so on, but these suggestions will serve to start your thinking about the things your church school needs for increased efficiency.

And while we pause for our New Year's look into the future, let us take

God gives us joy that we may give,
He gives us love that we may share;
Sometimes He gives us loads to lift
That we may learn to bear.

For life is gladder when we give,
And love is sweeter when we share,
And heavy loads rest lightly, too,
When we have learned to bear.

—Author Unknown.

stock of our progress on the Home Education program. Is it successfully operating in your association? If not, why not?

Today parents are longing for help in bringing up their children in the way of the Lord. No people are more fortunate than we in the definite help which the Lord has given us through His messenger. These lessons are but an introduction to such a study. If you have not faithfully presented this Home Education program to the mothers and fathers in your church, you have neglected one of the responsibilities of your office.

Then some may have started the study and grown weary by the way. In other words, they are having the "stony ground" experience and need encouragement. Or it may be a matter of plain indifference, as represented by the seed which fell among thorns.

One parent in writing recently for a supply of Educational Leaflet No. 37, "Garden of the Child's Heart," made this significant comment: "I have had this leaflet in the house for some time, but as I read it through again today, thought it would be fine to place it in the homes of parents. If anything would open the eyes of parents, it would be this little booklet of 16 pages."

In some churches new leaders will be taking over at this time. We welcome you to this work for parents and children. And of course we appreciate the faithful service of those who have worked with us before and will continue their service. We pray for guidance in the year ahead that more and better Christian homes may result from our efforts.

FLORENCE K. REBOK.

Everyone Had a Part

BY DUANE V. COWIN

LITTLE nine-year-old Sylvia Jenkins—totally unabashed by either the crowded room, the staring faces of "oldsters," the conference workers, or other dignitaries, yet herself full of dignity and aplomb—marched up, what seemed to her, a very long aisle in the assembly room, carrying in her hand a bulging envelope. She was the elected representative of the Children's Committee at school and she carried herself with a bearing befitting the office. She was taking part in a real-life situation; sharing in the work; for did not the envelope she carried contain the pennies, dimes, and quarters raised by her fellow students for the new swings? Today was the big day—the day when the various groups would bring in their money for the project.

Sylvia had put a lot of herself into this new job—that of helping to select the swings, together with the work of raising their share of the money to pay for them. Along with the other children and their teacher, she had talked it all over. She had sat through meetings "to advise" the Home and School leaders, even at times to criticize some old-fogy ideas. While the swings were being installed, she had gone to the playground after school hours, that she might keep tab on the construction, for had not she, with others, given the money necessary to purchase them? Sylvia and her schoolmates had an investment here; they were part owners of this new equipment; and they all wanted to protect it.

The friendly, able Home and School leader stood at the front of the room. When Sylvia curtsied and handed the envelope to her, she gravely accepted it with appropriate words of praise and appreciation. Then the leader announced that she was ready to show the way to the playground, that all might see the new swings. Sylvia and her little friends fell in line. Behind them came the parents and other patrons. After due inspection the leader spoke solemn words of dedication. When the closing hymn was sung that day, Sylvia's voice could be heard above all the rest.

The foregoing picture gives but a fleet-

ing glimpse into what appears to be a successful as well as active trend today in the leadership and activities of the Home and School Association. It is a healthful one, too, the co-operative selection of group projects being the real joy of working together, and the actual seeing of such plans through to completion. The work and fellowship engendered by such teamwork is revitalizing the Home and School organization, not only on behalf of the children, but for the entire church as well. For youth, for teachers, and for church members such co-operation is ushering in a happier day for all child life.

In scores of places these shared projects are helping teachers and children to realize the benefit and fun that come from working together for "our school," and in doing it in an atmosphere full of purposeful, directed, co-ordinated meaning.

Successful workers with children in both church and public schools say that the effect of this working together for a common, preselected interest frequently does much to develop school and community spirit. It reduces misconduct on the part of children. It interests pupils in the regular school lessons and activities. That being the case, thinking leaders of society plan to concentrate the year's program of activities around common school needs.

To be valuable and meaningful a project need not be large or extravagantly expensive. However, it does need to be selected and designed strictly from the viewpoint of the child, in consideration of the child's feelings, his interest, and his size. The furnishings or devices provided should be for his comfort and convenience since this equipment is to be used by children, and not merely admired by them. If a stronger feeling of ownership in the projects is to be developed on the part of young members of the Home and School Association, they must help in the planning, selecting, making, or purchasing of the items. This makes the work of the group more meaningful and vital. For best results the project, in part at least, should be conducted on the child's level. This builds "school spirit," for all will have had a "hand in the job."

Just as a pile of lumber, nails, stone, blocks, cement, paint, and fixtures are not a house, so a collection of children, adults, and leaders is not an active Home and School society. There must be a "job" to be done, a recognized need to be satisfied. There must be association,

fellowship, common spirit and outlook, mutual interests, shared joys, hard work, personal confidence, with respect for the individuality of others and for their ideas. All must pray and work together for the mutual benefit of "our children."

What You See

BY LEE CARTER

IN the morning paper you read of a terrible highway accident, but you soon finish reading the paper, lay it aside, and forget about the accident. Suppose, however, that while on your way to work you see two cars that are rapidly going in opposite directions collide with a terrible impact, and the mangled bodies are thrown upon the pavement. Do you drive on and in a few moments forget about this accident? Not likely. The chances are that this gruesome picture will haunt you for days and weeks to come.

What makes the difference? The first was brought to you through words; the second came through actually seeing and hearing. For many years teachers depended almost entirely upon the first method in teaching. Gone—and we hope forever—are the days when teachers and parents are content with mere abstractions in the schools. Today the use of a greater and better variety of audio-visual aids is helping students actually to live out in their own lives the various lessons that are thus taught.

Recently in one of our large city schools the students were divided into two groups. These two groups were as nearly identical as it was possible to make them. The average age for one group was the same as for the other. Intelligence tests indicated that the groups were on a par. The average of past grades made by one group was almost identical with that of the other. One group was taught a lesson by the old-fashioned method of mere "study and recitation." The same lesson was taught to the second group but with the use of such audio-visual aids as sound moving pictures, kodachrome slides, and phonograph records. The length of time used for the two classes was the same, but the results were far different. Following the teaching, identical examinations were given to the two groups.

The group that used the old-fashioned method of "study and recitation" made an average of 78 per cent on this examination. The other group that was instructed by the use of audio-visual aids in addition to the usual "study and recitation" method, made a final average of

93 per cent. This indicates that as far as this particular group was concerned, the use of audio-visual aids increased the efficiency of the work done by 15 per cent.

One year later these two groups were again given the very same examination. The group that had learned solely by the "study and recitation" method made 40 per cent on this examination given a second time, while the group that had used audio-visual aids made 70 per cent. This would indicate that the use of audio-visual aids made the lesson so realistic that the students remembered it much longer than if they merely had learned it by the "study and recitation" method.

We are confident that Seventh-day Adventist parents want church school teachers to use the very best possible methods in the training of our youth. In addition to the usual globes, maps, and charts, there are still other kinds of audio-visual equipment which may be used to a great advantage in the schoolroom. Perhaps first of these is the motion-picture projector. Larger church schools, that have a hundred or more students enrolled, by all means should buy sound moving picture equipment. A good sound motion-picture projector will cost between \$400 and \$500. Good silent 16 mm. projectors for smaller church schools may be bought for \$100 or less.

A substantial saving may be made by securing such equipment through the General Conference Purchasing Bureau. Probably the two best sources of free, or less expensive film for school use will be the Department of Visual Education at your State university, or the nearest general headquarters of the Y.M.C.A. In addition to this, nearly every large town has a film rental library. Other sources of film are: Bureau of Visual Education, Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Box 146, Glendale 6, California; De Vry Classroom Teaching Films, De Vry Corporation, 1111 Armitage Avenue, Chicago 14, Illinois, or 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York 20, New York, or Russ Building, San Francisco 4, California; Sanborn Film Service, Rock Creek, Ohio; Brandon Films, Inc., 1600 Broadway, New York City. Most large industrial organizations, such as General Motors or the Ford Motor Company, will be glad to supply you with educational films. The only cost to you for such films is the transportation. Mr. Toral Seat, director of the Bureau of Visual Education, Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Glendale, California, issues a most helpful mimeographed bulletin of

the moving-picture films which are available from their bureau. All films listed in this bulletin are classified according to subject matter and grade level.

Another very helpful visual aid is the filmstrip or slide projector. The best all-purpose projector probably is the 300 watt SVE Model AAA. Information concerning this projector may be secured from the Society of Visual Education, Inc., Chicago, Illinois. This machine may also be secured through the General Conference Purchasing Bureau. The approximate cost of this machine is \$75. It is most important to secure a machine that will take either the 35 mm. filmstrip, or the 2x2 slides. Filmstrips and slides are available through many companies for either purchase or rental. The Society of Visual Education will gladly send you catalogs listing hundreds of films and slides. Plenty of filmstrips and slides may be secured which will correlate with nearly any subject taught in school. The Encyclopaedia Britannica Films, Inc., 20 N. Wacker Drive, Chicago 6, Illinois, has quite a selection of filmstrips.

The Philip Photo Service, 1954 Pasadena Avenue, Long Beach 6, California, has a catalog listing hundreds of beautifully colored 2x2 slides and 35 mm. filmstrips. Their natural-color 2x2 slides of North American birds are unusually beautiful.

In order to use either the motion-picture projector or the still projector in the classroom during the daytime, it is necessary to have a good daylight screen. This may be secured either from the Society of Visual Education or the General Conference Purchasing Bureau.

Another interesting visual aid for the classroom is the televiewer. The Keystone View Company, Meadville, Pennsylvania, will be glad to send you a catalog listing the televiewer and stereographs to be used with it. The approximate cost of a televiewer with light and stand is \$17.50. Stereographs for use with the televiewer cost approximately 30 cents each. They come in sets on various subjects such as health and hygiene, American history, geography, and nature. The disadvantage of the stereograph is that it may be used by only one student at a time. Its main advantage is that it brings in a third dimension, thus causing the picture to look very natural.

Another piece of equipment that should be in every school, whether the school be large or small, is a combination radio-phonograph. Many times during

the school year important speeches or news broadcasts come over the air. The teacher should take advantage of these. The phonograph may be used in teaching music appreciation. A library of carefully selected records should be available to every teacher. Among these records should be favorite Christmas carols, best-loved hymns, cathedral organ music, hymns sung or played by such nationally-known organizations as the all-girl orchestra. Among records that should be included in such a library are the *Nutcracker Suite*, by Tchaikovsky, and *Peter and the Wolf*, an all-American orchestra number.

The one chosen to discuss the topic of audio-visual equipment at the time of the January Home and School meeting should secure catalogs in advance of the meeting from the various companies handling such equipment. In counsel with your teacher and conference educational superintendent, previous to the time of meeting, some definite project may be recommended to those attending this Home and School meeting.

A teacher without audio-visual equipment is greatly handicapped in her work. The price that your boy or girl may have to pay because your school lacks this greatly needed equipment is entirely too high. One of the purposes of the Home and School Association is "to assist as possible in providing the school with the necessary equipment to enable it to meet the highest standards." Let us give our teachers proper equipment that their work may be more efficient.

Building for Strength

BY ETHEL JOHNSON

A WORTH-WHILE objective of education is helping the pupils to see that learning continues after formal education has stopped. Progress has been made when pupils are inspired with the desire to continue learning. The most effective way of learning is to have wide, first-hand experiences with people and things in many different situations, but a good substitute is reading about them and obtaining our experiences vicariously.

Books, magazines, and newspapers furnish the source material for this out-of-school education. The more effectively and frequently the pupils use these in school, the more use they will make of them in later life. Too frequently when children finish their schoolwork for any one year, they feel that once-for-all they have finished the textbooks they have been using. However, textbooks are but

one source of learning, and boys and girls should become well acquainted with yet another source. The school library should contain books so inviting and helpful that the pupils look forward with eagerness to an opportunity to read them.

Fortunate, indeed, is the class that through the year has had such satisfying experiences with books that they are eager to come back the following year that they may read some more. This is an indication that the school has an adequate library, and that teachers and pupils have made such wise use of it that the pupils have learned the real value of books as a continuous source of information and enjoyment.

Such teaching calls for books of travel, biography, nature, and supplementary geographies and histories. It demands magazines and current newspapers adapted to the age of the children. The question is, How can we secure such a library for each school?

The first step in building a school library is the selection of usable books from among those which may already be on hand. Then, regardless of how small the library may be, it must be organized into a working unit. The General Conference Department of Education has outlined a simple plan for doing this. Capable members of the Home and School Association to aid the teacher may well form a committee in this initial work. In this way all will feel the responsibility and see the need for enlarging the supply. It is of prime importance that each book be accessioned as soon as it becomes a part of the school library, and that all books be inventoried at frequent enough intervals to guarantee that books are not being lost. A school that buys books but does not provide for this inventory is throwing money away. An easy way to check how well a school is keeping its books is to try this simple plan: For several years many of our church schools have bought the Primary and Junior Reading Course books. Secure a list of these books from the Missionary Volunteer Department, and then see how many of them are now in the library. If the books are not there, where are they? An initial step in progress is to check the loss of books, reclaiming as many as possible from those who have just forgotten to return the books.

A simple plan for building or enlarging the school library is to have a book drive in which everyone is encouraged to donate suitable books which are no longer used in the homes. Before launching

such a drive discuss the kind of books needed and then accept only those books which will be a real addition to the library.

As their society missionary project the Senior Missionary Volunteers may be encouraged to buy the Primary and Junior Missionary Volunteer Reading Course books each year for the church school. Present your needs to the home missionary society or Dorcas Society, for invariably they consider providing good reading for our boys and girls a worthy project on which to spend part of their hard-earned funds.

When rightly conducted a "Buy a Book" campaign will result in many new additions. The teacher, and others if possible, should first consider the needs of the library. A list of the books most needed should be made and the prices secured on each. If the list is presented at an evening gathering of the regular Home and School meeting, different ones can volunteer to buy certain books according to their preference. Those interested in nature usually wish to secure nature books for the library, and so on. Someone may subscribe for the *National Geographic* because he feels that magazine is especially helpful. In making gifts to the school, people like to give something definite. When the needs are presented, and they know the cost to supply that need, they gladly give the price of the book, and allow the teacher or other delegated person to order it. Small gift labels should be placed on the flyleaves of such specially purchased books.

Since children benefit so directly from a good library, it is quite easy to enlist their efforts in the sale of some of our small books such as *Bedtime Stories*. The proceeds from these sales is given to purchase library books.

Some schools follow the custom of charging an extra fee each year in addition to the entrance fee, which is designated as a library fee. While this sum may not be large, the regularity with which it is given makes it count up over a period of years. In planning its budget for the school year one small church had a real library spirit. The items read as follows: "Teacher's salary, \$910; teacher's desk, \$50; library books, \$20," etc. Funds for building the school library should be considered a vital part of every school budget.

In addition to the methods mentioned above for securing funds for a library, do not forget the various kinds of sales that may be held. The school or the Home and School Association can give

programs or other types of entertainments where a small admission fee goes to building the library.

Some schools follow the plan of making books available through a lending library. Thus parents have no difficulty in showing the value of good books in the home. Each time new books are added to the library, it should be an occasion when the children have an opportunity to see them. Where possible a special period should be provided when new books are shared and enjoyed by all in the room. Parents likewise enjoy seeing the books which their money and efforts have helped to buy, so while the books are still new, have a display of them at a Home and School meeting or other church gathering.

"Nothing succeeds like success." This is as true of the school library as of any other undertaking. As new books are read and enjoyed, they will create an enthusiasm for the school library, both at school and in the home.

"Shared Reading"

BY LUCIA MALLOY

"PLEASE come in and join us, Lucia," Blanche Varian said cordially as I stood at her door one Sunday afternoon last January. "We're reading our Christmas books."

I followed my friend into the living room, expecting to find each member of her family occupied with his own book. Instead of that, only small Joyce held a book. The others were grouped around her, as if they had been listening.

"Won't you please read to us, Miss Mallory?" Joyce entreated me after our greetings were over. "This is Tommie's new book."

"Haven't you been taking turns at reading?" I inquired.

"Yes, Miss Mallory," Joyce replied, "but we like to hear you tell stories at the library—"

"I'll read when it comes my turn, Joyce," I promised. "Won't you go on with what you were reading when I came in?"

Joyce finished her page of a story of courage and adventure that has been loved by young and old readers for over fifty years.

The book passed from hand to hand, with each one reading a few pages, and sometimes pausing to add an appreciative comment. Though I had read the book many times, I found the characters taking on new life and the phrases glow-

ing with more warmth and beauty than I had ever sensed in silent reading.

"I don't know when I have enjoyed an afternoon so much," I told Blanche when I was leaving. "You were wonderfully kind to let me share your reading hour!"

"I am glad you like our family book club," she replied with a smile. "I'll tell you more about it someday."

Blanche fulfilled her promise the next time she came to the library. She is a member of the city library board, and I am children's librarian.

"You know how much my husband and I love books, Lucia," she began, "and how hard I have tried as a library board member to make books attractive to all the children in the city. You'll be surprised when I tell you that one of our own children didn't care much about books a year ago. Of course, Tom and I realized that Tommie shouldn't be expected to be exactly like his parents, and we didn't want to force him to read—we wanted him to become interested in books naturally.

"At Christmas time a year ago, Tom gave Tommie a book that had been a favorite of his own childhood. Tom was keenly disappointed at his son's lack of interest in the book.

"Why couldn't we all read Tommie's book together?" I suggested.

"Do you think the children would enjoy that?" Tom asked doubtfully.

"Tommie likes to go fishing with you—he likes to work in the garden with you," I answered. "I believe he would like reading with you, too."

"Tom finally agreed that it might be worth while to try the experiment.

"The children were interested from the first day we read together. After Tommie's book was finished—and our son did enjoy it—Helen and Joyce brought out their Christmas books to be read. Then Tommie, one day, brought home from school a book on modern scientific developments. This the girls and I enjoyed as much as he and his father did.

"Reading together did more than introduce the children to our own best-loved book friends; we soon found out that the plan had some fine by-products. There was a quickened interest in science, Joyce became a better reader so as to take her place with her older brother and sister, and less attention, on the part of all the children, was now given to books and periodicals of doubtful value.

"Often the children bring in their friends," Blanche concluded, "and they are welcome to share our reading hour." —National Kindergarten Association.

Operating a Hospital in Wartime

DURING the war years in China the Shanghai Sanitarium and Clinic did excellent work in caring for the many sick and wounded in that large city. In harmony with its long-established policy, its doors were open to all, regardless of race, creed, or financial standing. It proved a haven to many who suffered from bombings and other misfortunes incident to the war.

As the conflict threatened to extend beyond the confines of the Orient, many of our American doctors and nurses had to evacuate, and those that remained were later interned by the Japanese authorities.

An efficient staff of Chinese doctors and nurses had, however, been set up before the American medical workers had to retire from the scene. These Chinese workers carried on most efficiently in spite of many handicaps throughout the period of the war.

When the Japanese military authorities took over all hospitals in Shanghai, China, that were operated under foreign auspices, the Shanghai Sanitarium and Clinic also came under their jurisdiction and they began to interfere with its operation. The third floor was eventually taken over for the exclusive housing of Japanese patients.

At the time when the Japanese military authorities were occupying the hospital a certain Japanese lady was admitted in a dying condition. Japanese physicians were unable to do anything for this patient, and her family requested that the Chinese doctors of the institution take her under their care. The medical superintendent, Dr. Andrew Chen, who attended this lady, after careful diagnosis advised an operation as the only means of saving her life. There seemed little hope for this patient, but through the skill of Dr. Chen and God's special blessing she quickly regained her health and in a short time had recovered to the place where she was able to leave the hospital for her home.

Later Dr. Chen was informed that there was a delegation of Japanese women who wished to see him. To his surprise he found that this lady patient was heading a large delegation who had come to present him with a silver plaque in appreciation for the competent medical services he had rendered. It developed that this lady was an influential social worker in Shanghai and had a great deal of influence in high Japanese military circles. When she was told that her fellow nationals who were occupying

the third floor of the institution were interfering with its operation, she immediately set about to remedy the situation. She said, "It is not fair for us to interfere with an institution that is rendering such efficient service." It was only a short time till the Japanese military authorities ordered the hospital to be restored to its former status. This arrangement continued for the remainder of the Pacific war.

It was truly wonderful how this Chinese staff through times of great shortage of food, fuel, and medicines, plus

Why Go to Church?

"Some go to church to take a walk,
Some go to church to laugh and talk,
Some go to church 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 speculations,
Some go there for observations,
Some go there to doze and nod,
The wise go there to worship God."

close rationing, were able to secure supplies with which to carry on their work. Even when the bombings of Shanghai were the heaviest, the doors of this institution were kept open and large numbers of maimed and wounded received much-needed medical care.

This hospital, which has done such excellent work, needs new furnishings and equipment, as little of these things were obtainable during the war years. Your gifts this year will make this possible, not only for this institution but for many similar units in all parts of the world.

JOHN OSS.

Orthodox Priest Accepts Message

ONE interesting feature of the South Brazil biennial sessions was the presence of a Ukrainian Orthodox priest who, with his wife and daughter, recently began the observance of the Sabbath. He was an officer in the Russian army during the first World War, but when he refused to join the Red revolution he had to flee to the United States to save his life. There he took a theological course and came to Brazil, where he had raised up eight churches among his countrymen. Three members of the church where he resided joined him in the observance of the Sabbath.

He first learned the truth through our Ukrainian paper from Canada which he found in a publishing house. But he be-

lieved for some time that the "Sabatistas" was a different church than the Adventists, until a colporteur came to his home, sold him our books, and studied with him, and told him it was the same church. I had the privilege of examining him on our doctrines and found him well versed in the Bible and a firm believer in our doctrines. On Sabbath he united with the conference church. He will take Bible classes at Butia and teach language classes. He is anxious to prepare to give the truth to his nationals in South America. H. O. OLSON.

Distribution of Tracts and Papers

A SISTER who greatly desired to do missionary work, but was so timid that she could scarcely muster up courage to speak to her nearest neighbor, thought of a plan. She would board the tram and place a tract on every empty seat as the car reached its farthest point from the downtown section. I suppose she prayed fervently that God would impress the passengers who boarded the car going into the city to read the tracts waiting for them on the seats. The conductor had other ideas, and after the sister left the car each day, he would go through and gather up all the tracts and lay them away. Finally this conductor thought to himself that for anyone to be so persistent from day to day, there must be something worth reading in the tracts. He read them, began to keep the Sabbath, and later occupied important positions in our work. It is not likely that this sister ever knew the results of her tract distribution, but she will have stars in her crown.

"I saw them holding papers and tracts in one hand, and the Bible in the other, while their cheeks were wet with tears; and bowing before God in earnest, humble prayer, to be guided into all truth,—the very thing He was doing for them before they called upon Him. And when the truth was received in their hearts, and they saw the harmonious chain of truth, the Bible was to them a new book; they hugged it to their hearts with grateful joy, while their countenances were all aglow with happiness and holy joy.

"These were not satisfied with merely enjoying the light themselves, and they began to work for others. Some made great sacrifice for the truth's sake, and to help those of the brethren who were in darkness. The way is thus preparing to do a great work in the distribution of tracts and papers in other languages."—*Life Sketches*, p. 215. E. A. MANRY.

Thavaram, India

THAVARAM is a village surrounded by beautiful mountains. Most of the villagers are farmers, cultivating paddy, different kinds of food grains, and also cardamon.

The majority of the people are Hindus, although there are some Christians and a few are Mohammedans. We also have about twenty baptized members. Our work in this place was started by free literature work. One man who read our *Present Truth* was so interested that he wrote to the office for a complete set. When he received the papers, he studied them with a great desire to find out the truth from the Bible. Then he was convinced that ours is the only message to the world that was sent from heaven.

One evening one of our lay preachers was speaking before a large audience. A certain man was listening to our lay preacher. At the close of his talk the lay preacher announced that there would be a special meeting at the S.D.A. mission chapel in the same town on Saturday at 10 A.M., and that all the audience were invited to hear more about the truth he was preaching. This brother, named Daniel Jabomoney, with his family and mother hurried to this place to attend the meeting. At the close the pastor of the church came and spoke with him, and this brother told him how he had come in contact with our message. The pastor was very glad to hear his interesting experience, and Brother Jabomoney stayed there for Bible study, together with his wife and mother. For three days our minister explained to him our message of prophecy. After these studies he decided to join us, and when leaving for his native place, Thavaram, he invited our pastor to come to his village to give him further studies. Our pastor visited his village and gave a series of Bible studies. Finally he and his wife were baptized and added to our church.

Immediately after this I was called to conduct an effort in this village. At the close of the effort several young people took their stand for their Master. Two of them were the brothers of Jabomoney, who were brought to this message through his influence.

At the close of 1942, soon after the first baptism, a Sabbath school was organized with twenty members. Now we have forty-two Sabbath school members.

Next to this village is Meenashipuram, where we have a branch Sabbath school with seven members. Last year we baptized three members here, and this year a small group of men are being prepared

SPECIAL DAYS AND OFFERINGS

January 4
Home Missionary Day
There Is So Little Time

January 11
Second Sabbath Mission
Offering

January 25
Religious Liberty Day

for baptism which may lead us to organize a separate church in this place.

A staunch Hindu chettiar, proud of his religion, was telling the people that it was the oldest and truest one, and if people would be saved at all, it would be through Hinduism only.

By chance he attended our Sabbath school, and there the Bible topic was Acts 4:12: "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." He expressed to me his determination to study the Bible in order to find out the truthfulness of this verse; so he studied the Bible with me for a short period and found that this statement was true, and, therefore, he decided to follow Jesus Christ in order to be saved. Since then he has given up all his former beliefs and ideas. He has completely stopped practicing his caste ceremonies. He was baptized on December 22, 1945, by Pastor S. Thomas, the superintendent of the North Tamil Mission. Soon after the baptism his people excommunicated him, and his wife also left him. His difficulties and trials are many, but let us pray that God will keep him in the love of the truth till the end.

N. RATHNASAMY.

Scattering the Bible

A PATIENT in the American hospital in Turkey was given a Bible and carried it home to his Armenian village proud of owning it. But a Moslem mullah snatched it from him, tore it in pieces, and flung it into the street, where it lay until a grocer picked up the pieces to use as wrapping paper. Soon these were scattered all over the village as wrapping for cheese, olives, and other purchases. It was not long before customers began to ask the grocer if he had any more such wrapping paper. One day a Bible colporteur was making his rounds through Turkish provinces and was amazed to

find one hundred persons eager to buy Bibles, although no Christian teacher had ever been at work in that village.—American Bible Society.

Gospel Leaven at Work in Hili, India

PASTOR G. C. ARINDA, who works in the Dinajpur district, lives at Hili, which is about two hundred and fifty miles from Calcutta. The baptized members in this district now number seventeen. Six are being prepared for baptism. There are forty believers, including children and adherents, in the four villages where Brother Arinda works. Arrangements are being made to organize these believers into a church. The meetings are at present conducted in the rented living quarters of Brother Arinda.

While I was there, a young man in the baptismal class, driven out of his home for becoming a Christian, came with a bruised head to tell the story to the evangelist. He works in a rice mill and studies at night with the help of the evangelist, hoping comeday soon to go to our school at Jalirpar. He speaks the Maithili dialect. There are two baptized members in his village, and the leaven of the gospel is working while Satan is busy stirring up trouble.

R. S. FERNANDO.

CHRIST is the truth. His words are truth, and they have a deeper significance than appears on the surface. All the sayings of Christ have a value beyond their unpretending appearance.—*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 110.



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