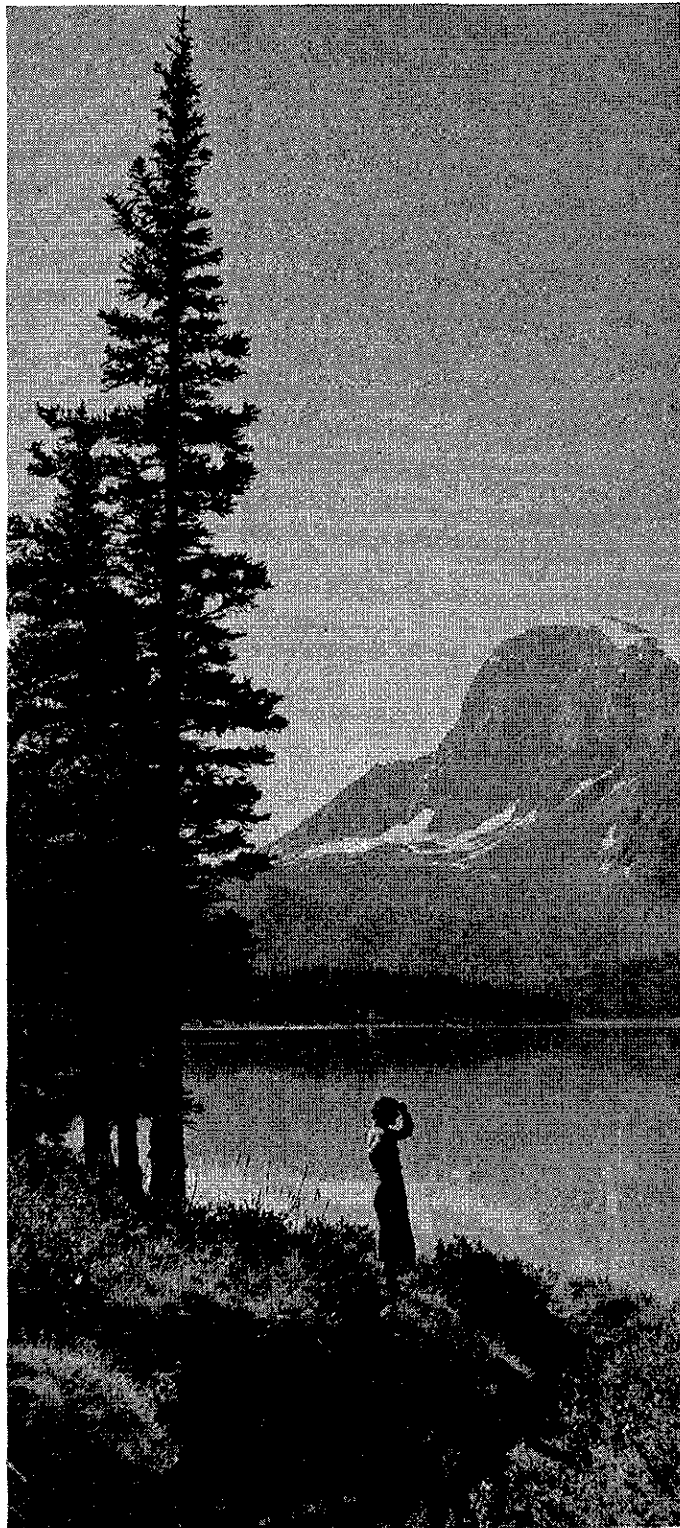


THE CHURCH OFFICERS' GAZETTE

Vol. 37

September, 1950

No. 9



THINGS THAT COUNT

Not what we have, but what we use;
Not what we see, but what we choose—
These are the things that mar or bless
The sum of human happiness.

The thing near by, not things afar;
Not what we seem, but what we are—
These are the things that make or break,
That give the heart its joy or ache.

Not what seems fair, but what is true;
Not what we dream, but good we do—
These are the things that shine like gems,
Like stars in fortune's diadems.

Not as we take, but as we give;
Not as we pray, but as we live—
These are the things that make for peace,
Both now and after time shall cease.

—*The Outlook.*

Editorial

Enlarge Thy Tent

The Lord is not pleased when His children place a restricted estimate upon the scope and possible extent of His work. God thinks in world-wide terms. His plans and His love are for *all* the world. His program includes "every nation, and kindred, and tongue." Never can He be satisfied until the gospel call is heard in every village and hamlet upon the earth.

We must therefore lift our sights and see a world in need. "Enlarge the place of thy tent." In order to do this we must lengthen the cords and strengthen the stakes. (Isaiah 54:2.) Too long have we been encompassing this mountain. Our vision has been too narrow. We have laid out plans according to human reckoning and have forgotten that we have an omnipotent God whose power is absolute. We have seen obstructions in the way that have seemed too great to remove. But why should we fear to go forward? Nothing can stand in the way of a church purified, dedicated wholly to the task, and indued with the divine power that has been promised for the completion of the work.

But this power will never come upon a sleeping, lukewarm church. Neither will God force His people to accept it. We must seek Him while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near; and then when His church by a living faith and true obedience honors the Lord, there will be no power on earth that can stand against her.

It is for this that the Lord is waiting. He wants men and women of faith and prayer: men who will be willing to bear heavy burdens, face disappointment and discouragement, but never falter. God wants men who will submit to His discipline and carry out His directions. With such workers, high principled and steadfast, He can finish His work in power and cut it short in righteousness.

But we must not think that such a preparation or such a task is for the ministry alone. It was not so in the days of the apostles. Then, all who believed went everywhere preaching the Word. Today the evangelistic task of the remnant church is much too large and varied to be accomplished by our small corps of conference workers. In fact, no great religious movement has ever succeeded when carried on by the ministry alone. The testimony of church history is that evangelism for Christ becomes truly effective only when ordinary lay members are set on fire with the conviction

that on them rests the task of making Christ known.

"The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers."—*Gospel Workers*, p. 352.

Therefore, we are all in this world-wide program together. Ministers and laymen, old and young, must now join in proclaiming the truth with power, consecrating all to Him. Only then can we expect to see the wonderful working of divine providence in removing the mountains of difficulty and the message carried to all that dwell upon the earth.

—THE EDITOR.

QUESTION CORNER

In this column each month will be answered questions on the work and duties of church officers or questions concerning any problem that may arise in connection with the local church or any of its departments. We welcome your questions and ask that they be sent to the Editor, CHURCH OFFICERS' GAZETTE, c/o General Conference, Takoma Park, Washington 12, D. C.

Church Expense Bills—Who Authorizes Payment?

Question: Should bills for recurring expenses such as lights, telephone, water, and fuel be approved by the church board before payment is made by the treasurer? What about other miscellaneous bills? What is the responsibility of the deacons in church financial matters?

Answer: This question quite largely finds its answer in the *Church Manual*, pages 39 and 40, where we find this statement: "The church treasurer shall pay from church expense funds all bills for local church expense authorized by the church board, such as water, light, fuel, insurance, paving assessments, rentals, janitor, etc." In actual practice most church boards would no doubt give blanket action authorizing the treasurer to pay on presentation the accounts for regular expenses rather than wait for their individual authorization. However, accounts for miscellaneous expenses would usually be presented to the church board before being paid.

As we understand it, the deacons' respon-

sibility regarding such accounts would not go beyond the certifying for accuracy of the bills for such expenses as may have been incurred under his supervision as custodian of church property or in connection with his responsibilities in the care of the sick and poor. He would not authorize or instruct the treasurer to pay such accounts: the church board does that. But he would only certify the correctness of the bills presented for payment.

A University Library

The new University College at Ibadan, Nigeria, is building a library and training Africans as assistant librarians. It was reported that when the college opened in October, 10,000 books were ready for use. Gifts have been received from friends in Africa, Great Britain, and America.

* * *

One of our colporteurs of Bolivia was privileged to see fifteen souls baptized upon the visit of a minister to the little town where he had been working for the last two years. This colporteur had developed the interest and cared for it along with his work. It was a happy occasion to the colporteur to see the fruits of his labors enter the water for baptism.



SUBSCRIPTION RATES

United States	
Yearly subscription	\$1.75
Clubs of four or five copies to one address, one year, each	1.60
Clubs of six or more copies to one address, one year, each	1.50
FOREIGN SUBSCRIPTIONS	
Canada	
Yearly subscription	1.90
Clubs of four or more copies to one address, one year, each	1.75
Others	
Yearly subscription	2.10
Clubs of four or more copies to one address, one year, each	1.95

EDITOR JAMES I. ROBISON
MANAGING EDITOR . . . STANLEY C. HARRIS

Associate Editors

Theodore L. Oswald . . . Eldine W. Dunbar
E. E. Roenfeldt . . . G. M. Mathews

Assistant Editors

Grace Fields . . . Marjorie W. Marsh
Arabella Moore Williams . . . Mary L. Scott

PUBLISHED monthly by the SOUTHERN PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION, 2119 Twenty-Fourth Avenue, North, Nashville 8, Tennessee. Entered as second-class matter March 26, 1948, at the post office in Nashville, Tennessee, U.S.A., under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

ARE YOU MOVING?

You should notify us in advance of any change of address, as the post office will not forward your papers to you even if you leave a forwarding address. Your compliance in this matter will save delay and expense.

Church Officers' Round Table

The Church of the Living God

To belong to the church of God is a unique and soul-satisfying privilege. It is the divine purpose to gather out a people from the far corners of the earth and bind them into one body, the body of Christ, the church of which He is the living Head. All who are children of God in Christ Jesus are members of this body, and in this relationship they may enjoy fellowship with one another. They may also have fellowship with their Lord and Master.

The church is referred to in the Scriptures by such expressions as the church of God, Acts 20:28; the church of Christ, Romans 16:16; and the church of the living God, 1 Timothy 3:15, the last name being the term chosen for the title of this article.

The word "church" is used in the Biblical record in at least two senses: a general sense applying to the church in all the world, Matthew 16:18; 1 Corinthians 12:28, and also in a particular sense applying to the church in a city, as the church at Ephesus, Ephesians 1:1; the church of Corinth, 1 Corinthians 1:2; the church at Thessalonica, 1 Thessalonians 1:1.

Christ, being the Head of the church and its living Lord, has a deep love for the members of His body. Day by day He "nourisheth the church" (Ephesians 5:29); and His longing desire is to make of it "a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish." Verse 27.

Those in His service who are called to leadership in the church are "to take care of the church" (1 Timothy 3:5); they are to "feed the church of God" (Acts 20:28). Upon the shoulders of some rests "the care of all the churches," as was the case in the experience of the beloved apostle to the Gentiles. (2 Corinthians 11:28.) The following extracts from the Spirit of prophecy illustrate the great love of Christ for His people gathered together into a church fellowship.

"I testify to my brethren and sisters that the church of Christ, infirm and defective as it may be, is the only object on earth on which He bestows His supreme regard. While He extends to all the world His invitation to come to Him and be saved, He commissions His angels to render divine help to every soul that cometh to Him in repentance and contrition, and He comes

personally by His Holy Spirit into the midst of His church. . . .

"Ministers and all the church, let this be our language, from hearts that respond to the great goodness and love of God to us as a people and to us individually, 'Let Israel hope in the Lord from henceforth and forever.' . . . Consider, my brethren and sisters, that the Lord has a people, a chosen people, His church, to be His own, His own fortress, which He holds in a sin-stricken, revolted world; and He intended that no authority should be known in it, no laws be acknowledged by it, but His own. . . .



"At this time the church is to put on her beautiful garments—'Christ our righteousness.' There are clear, decided distinctions to be restored and exemplified to the world in holding aloft the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. The beauty of holiness is to appear in its native luster in contrast with the deformity and darkness of the disloyal, those who have revolted from the law of God. Thus we acknowledge God, and recognize His law, the foundation of His government in heaven and throughout His earthly dominions. His authority should be kept distinct and plain before the world; and no laws are to be acknowledged that come in collision with the laws of Jehovah. If in defiance of God's arrangements the world be allowed to influence our decisions or our actions, the purpose of God is defeated. However specious the pretext, if the

church waver here, there is written against her in the books of heaven a betrayal of the most sacred trusts, and treachery to the kingdom of Christ. The church is firmly and decidedly to hold her principles before the whole heavenly universe and the kingdoms of the world; steadfast fidelity in maintaining the honor and sacredness of the law of God will attract the notice and admiration of even the world, and many will, by the good works which they shall behold, be led to glorify our Father in heaven. The loyal and true bear the credentials of heaven, not of earthly potentates. All men shall know who are the disciples of Christ, chosen and faithful, and shall know them when crowned and glorified as those who honored God and whom He has honored, bringing them into possession of an eternal weight of glory. . . .

"The Lord has provided His church with capabilities and blessings, that they may present to the world an image of His own sufficiency, and that His church may be complete in Him, a continual representation of another, even the eternal world, of laws that are higher than earthly laws. His church is to be a temple built after the divine similitude, and the angelic architect has brought his golden measuring rod from heaven, that every stone may be hewed and squared by the divine measurement, and polished to shine as an emblem of heaven, radiating in all directions the bright, clear beams of the Sun of Righteousness. The church is to be fed with manna from heaven, and to be kept under the sole guardianship of His grace. Clad in complete armor of light and righteousness, she enters upon her final conflict. The dross, the worthless material, will be consumed, and the influence of the truth testifies to the world of its sanctifying, ennobling character. . . .

"The Lord Jesus is making experiments on human hearts through the exhibition of His mercy and abundant grace. He is effecting transformations so amazing that Satan, with all his triumphant boasting, with all his confederacy of evil united against God and the laws of His government, stands viewing them as a fortress impregnable to his sophistries and delusions. They are to him an incomprehensible mystery. The angels of God, seraphim and cherubim, the powers commissioned to co-operate with human agencies, look on with

astonishment and joy, that fallen men, once children of wrath, are through the training of Christ developing characters after the divine similitude, to be sons and daughters of God, to act an important part in the occupations and pleasures of heaven.

"To His church, Christ has given ample facilities, that He may receive a large revenue of glory from His redeemed, purchased possession. The church, being endowed with the righteousness of Christ, is His depository, in which the wealth of His mercy, His love, His grace, is to appear in full and final display. The declaration in His intercessory prayer, that the Father's love is as great toward us as toward Himself, the only-begotten Son, and that we shall be with Him where He is, forever one with Christ and the Father, is a marvel to the heavenly host, and it is their great joy. The gift of His Holy Spirit, rich, full, and abundant, is to be to His church as an encompassing wall of fire, which the powers of hell shall not prevail against. In their untainted purity and spotless perfection, Christ looks upon His people as the reward of all His suffering, His humiliation, and His love, and the supplement of His glory—Christ, the great center from which radiates all glory. 'Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.'"—*Testimonies to Ministers*, pp. 15-19.

* * *

How the Bible Came to Puerto Rico

One Manuel Badillo picked up a Spanish Bible from the wreck of a ship near the Aguadilla coast off Puerto Rico. It was while Puerto Rico was still under Spanish control, and when the local Catholic priest learned of the Bible he tried to take it away from Badillo, a simple fisherman. Badillo succeeded in hiding the precious Book that had completely changed his life, and he communicated his new experiences to his neighbors. Not long afterward, in 1808, the United States took possession of the island. Then Badillo, availing himself of the new religious freedom, brought his Bible out into the open and proclaimed its wonderful message in public. That was the beginning of the evangelical work in the island.

Today as a result of this providence, the people have churches in every town and village, and enjoy remarkable prosperity in their missionary efforts.

Only recently in a public park in San Juan, more than 50,000 Protestants gathered to pay tribute to God and to His Holy Word for the work that has been done in the island in the past fifty years.

—REV. CARLOS SEPULVEDA, in *The Bible in New York*, Feb., 1950.

Prayer Meeting Helps

[In this column from month to month we will present studies that will form suggestions for prayer-meeting talks.]

The Home of the Saved

BY MRS. ETHEL N. COON

I. Introduction.

1. There will be a new earth. Revelation 21:1, 5.
2. Location: present earth. Matthew 5:5; Proverbs 11:31.
3. To endure forever. Daniel 7:18, 27.

II. How Is the Capital of the New Earth Described?

1. Capital: New Jerusalem. Revelation 21:2.
 - a. City of gold. Verse 18.
 - b. Walls of jasper. Verse 18.
 - c. Foundation of precious stones. Verses 19, 20.
 - d. Gates of pearl. Verse 21.
 - e. Street of gold. Verse 21.
 - f. River of life. Revelation 22:1.
 - g. Tree of life. Verse 2.
 - h. No night there—Lamb is the light. Revelation 21:23.
2. What is said of its beauties?
 - a. Like Eden. Isaiah 51:3.
 - b. Desert like rose. Isaiah 35:1.
 - c. Eye not seen, nor ear heard. 1 Corinthians 2:9.
3. What is said of its inhabitants?
 - a. Meek people. Matthew 5:5.
 - b. Pure people. Revelation 21:27.
 - c. Forgiven people. Isaiah 33:24.
 - d. Healthy people. Verse 24.
 - e. Happy people. Revelation 21:4; Isaiah 35:10.
 - f. Some will be children. Isaiah 11:6, 8.
 - g. Real people—like Him. 1 John 3:2.
 - (1) Will know one another. 1 Corinthians 13:12.
 - (2) Recognized by form and figure. John 20:27, 28.
 - (3) Recognized by voice. Verse 16.
 - (4) Recognized by peculiarities of manner. Luke 24:30, 31.
4. How will the saved occupy their time? Isaiah 65:21, 22.

5. Will animals be changed as well as man? Isaiah 11:6-8; 65:25.

6. What does the Bible teach about worship on the new earth?

- a. Regular seasons. Isaiah 66:22, 23.
- b. "They shall see His face." Revelation 22:4.

7. How enduring is its life? Daniel 7:18, 27.

8. Will sin ever re-enter the realms of the redeemed? Nahum 1:9.

III. Conclusion.

How may we be assured of a home there? Acts 4:12; Isaiah 1:19, 20; Revelation 22:14; 2 Peter 3:14.

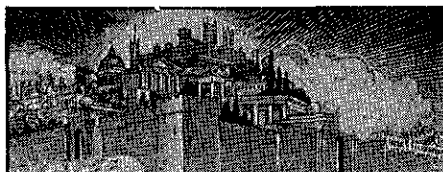
Note: "I then saw Jesus leading His people to the tree of life, and again we heard His lovely voice, richer than any music that ever fell on mortal ear, saying, 'The leaves of this tree are for the healing of the nations. Eat ye all of it.' Upon the tree of life was most beautiful fruit, of which the saints could partake freely. In the city was a most glorious throne, from which proceeded a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal. On each side of this river was the tree of life, and on the banks of the river were other beautiful trees bearing fruit which was good for food.

"Language is altogether too feeble to attempt a description of heaven. As the scene rises before me, I am lost in amazement. Carried away with the surpassing splendor and excellent glory, I lay down the pen, and exclaim, 'Oh, what love! what wondrous love!' The most exalted language fails to describe the glory of heaven or the matchless depths of a Saviour's love."—*Early Writings*, p. 289.

* * *

"Oh, that is what I am looking for," said a doctor of chemistry in Uruguay as a colporteur turned the pages of his prospectus for three large books. It was the title of the chapter "Light of Life" in *Desire of Ages* that had caught his eye. Without further discussion the doctor ordered the three books, *Desire of Ages*, *The Future World*, and *Medical Counselor*, and gladly received them on the day of delivery.

Later we called on him, and with a smile he said, "The reading of these books has changed my life. I now accept Jesus Christ as my Saviour." He ordered three other books, *Great Controversy*, *The Key to Happiness*, and a Bible. He is now taking the course offered by the radio Bible correspondence school.





Young People's Department

OF MISSIONARY VOLUNTEERS



NOTES TO OFFICERS

M.V. Membership

ORGANIZATION is an important factor in Missionary Volunteer work. Everything must go along in order. This is the time when membership should be one of the important items under consideration.

Many societies follow the practice of having Enrollment Day on the first Sabbath of the calendar year or thereabouts, but many other societies have discovered that the movement of young people at the beginning of the school year makes it necessary to reorganize their society and work and hold Enrollment Day in September. Whether in January or September, the society executive committee ought to plan far enough in advance so that banners, mottoes, etc., can be prepared and the room made especially attractive.

Perhaps during each of several society meetings following the first drive, some time should be given to the enrollment of new members. One of the leaders of the society or someone else appointed should at the first of these meetings set forth the ideals of the society as embodied in the Missionary Volunteer Pledge, Motto, and Aim. Then an earnest appeal should be made to those not already members to accept these ideals as the ideals of their lives and to associate themselves with the society and its work.

It has been found helpful to have a fellowship committee, the responsibility of which is to foster membership during the entire year. This committee may also act as a welcoming committee, since they are intimately acquainted with members and can readily recognize strangers.

Every member of the society should find a place of service to make membership really mean something to the individual. There are two categories of senior membership—regular and associate. All young people (16-30 years) who are members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church may be admitted to regular membership. Other young people who are not baptized members but who subscribe to the pledge may become associate members in the Senior Missionary Volunteer Society.

Children old enough to understand the purposes of the J.M.V. Society, and who meet the approval of the local Junior superintendents, may become Preparatory Junior members. Preparatory members and others who have reached the age of ten or are in the fifth grade, and who, in the judgment of the Junior M.V. superintendent, have a comprehensive knowledge of the J.M.V. ideals and have declared their allegiance to the Junior Pledge and the Junior Law, may become Junior members.

The executive committee would do well to put on a membership campaign to bring into society membership of one kind or



Seven youth (San Bernardino youth effort) present sermon by Elder John L. Shuler, "Bridging the River of Death," as Elder John Hancock, M.V. secretary, Southeastern California Conference, draws bridge pillar by pillar. (See pp. 11-14.)

another every young person connected with the families of the church.

The enrollment ceremony ought to be made as impressive as possible. During the ceremony all members of the society should stand and take the pledge and perhaps sing a Missionary Volunteer chorus. Persons being admitted to membership for the first time ought to take the pledge and step forward to sign the registry in their own hand.

It would be well to have the leader or some other person chosen by the committee give a welcome to the new members and an invitation to join one or more of the service bands. Band work makes society membership meaningful.

Make Enrollment Day one of the great days of the Missionary Volunteer year!

—MV—MV—

"True success in any line of work is not the result of chance or accident or destiny. It is the outworking of God's providences, the reward of faith and discretion, of virtue and perseverance. Fine mental qualities and a high moral tone are not the result of accident. God gives opportunities; success depends upon the use made of them."—*Prophets and Kings*, p. 486.



Tips to Society Officers

FOR A THRIVING SOCIETY:

- * Have a well-defined purpose, which both old and new members understand.
- * Endeavor to have a real need.
- * Continually seek new members and keep an up-to-date list of them.
- * Recognize and receive new members at stated times.
- * Have well-defined duties for officers.
- * Co-operate closely with the church board, endeavoring to fit into the work of the church and the conference.
- * Give proper emphasis to recreational activities.
- * Endeavor to have as much direction and wide participation as possible in your meetings.
- * Do something definite.
- * Choose worth-while service projects and see them through.
- * Make people welcome. Use the fellowship secretary or committee for this.
- * Develop a spirit of reverence in all meetings.
- * Open and close on time.
- * Remember that *talking* together can never be a substitute for *working* together.
- * Beware of the rut. Don't allow even the devotional section to become a mere routine of the same hymns, prayers, and benedictions.
- * Distribute responsibility.

—MV—MV—

"If you are truly consecrated, God will, through your instrumentality, bring into the truth others whom He can use as channels to convey light to many that are groping in darkness."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 7, p. 63.

Senior Meetings

September 2

TREES—GOD'S SENTINELS

BY L. M. ASHLEY

Biology Department, Walla Walla College

ORDER OF SERVICE

SONG: "Under the Trees," No. 145 in M.V. Songs.

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 92:12, 13; 1 Kings 4:29, 30, 33 (first part).

PRAYER.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

REPORTS.

OFFERTORY.

TESTIMONY STUDY: "Trees."

SOLO: "O Forest Fair!" No. 136; or "Trees," by Joyce Kilmer.

TALK: "Trees—God's Sentinels."

TALK: "Becoming Better Acquainted With God's Sentinels."

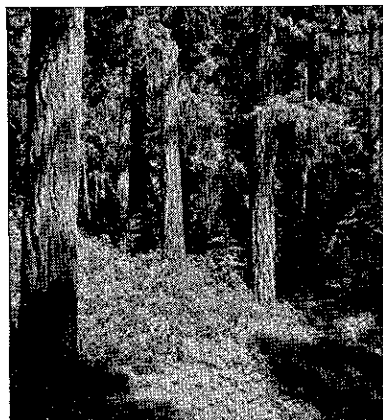
TALK: "Thoughts About Trees."

READING: "A Notice."

CLOSING TEXT: Revelation 2:7 (last part).

SONG: "Come, Walk With Me the Woodland Trail," No. 157.

BENEDICTION.



were of great durability. They would know nothing of decay for hundreds of years. At the time of the flood these forests were torn up or broken down and buried in the earth."—*Spiritual Gifts*, Vol. 3, p. 79.

VACATION IN NATURE: "It was at Christ's direction that for fifteen centuries the Hebrew people had left their homes for one week every year, and had dwelt in booths formed from the green branches of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, and the boughs of thick trees, and willows of the brook."—*Desire of Ages*, pp. 290, 291.

TREES AND HEALTH: "There are life-giving properties in the balsam [resin, or pitch] of the pine, in the fragrance of the cedar and the fir. And there are other trees that are health promoting. Let no such trees be ruthlessly cut down. Cherish them where they are abundant, and plant more where there are but few."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 7, p. 77.

LESSONS FROM TREES: "You may bend a young tree into almost any shape that you choose, and if it remains and grows as you have bent it, it will be a deformed tree, and will ever tell of the injury and abuse received at your hand. . . . It will ever be a crooked tree. This is the case with the minds of youth. They should be carefully and tenderly trained in childhood. . . . The habits formed in youth will grow with the growth and strengthen with the strength, and will generally be the same in afterlife, only continually growing stronger."—*Id.*, Vol. 3, p. 143.

A DIVINE TEACHER: "We need a divine Teacher. . . . 'The light of the knowledge of the glory of God' is revealed 'in the face of Jesus Christ.' The light of Christ, illuminating our understanding, and shining upon the face of nature, enables us still to read the lesson of God's love in His created works."—*Id.*, Vol. 8, p. 256.

Just one more quotation to show how important is this study of nature in the education of Missionary Volunteers: "While the Bible should hold the first place in the education of children and youth, the book of nature is next in importance."—*Counsels to Teachers*, p. 185.

Trees—God's Sentinels

Is a tree much more than a column of wood, lifting its head toward the sky? Oh, yes, a tree is more than that. It is a living and friendly creature of a marvelously wonderful creation.

The tree, together with its kinfolk, comprises the inviting forest where myriads of other plant and animal beings make their homes. Thus we see that trees, like human beings, make up communities of their kind.

They are our friends because they give us our homes, provide us with paper, furnish part of our food, keep us warm in winter, and give us many other valuable services that only tree friends can give.

One reason that we should learn to know the trees is that of the different uses which are made of the different kinds. Each kind fulfills its special purpose in life, just as God expects each one of us to fulfill his special duties in life.

Trees are living things, sentinels from above, and we should learn to look for the beautiful lessons shown forth in their lives. We may be content to examine the parts of a tree while searching to find its name, but unless we hearken to the beautiful story of its life and seek to discover its personality, we may leave that tree without having fully made its acquaintance. You see, there is a human as well as a material side to trees. They resemble mankind in many respects. They breathe, eat, drink, grow, reproduce, and perform many other functions of life. Let us try more often to notice their habits and peculiarities—the things that help to class them among the most interesting objects on earth.

Truly we may look up to the trees in admiration for their quiet and unassuming ways, for their clean and natural lives. Would it not be to our credit if we, too, might grow, live, and give in the same quietness and naturalness?

Becoming Better Acquainted With God's Sentinels

How can you or I become better acquainted with trees? Of course there are several ways of doing this. We may simply spend our leisure hours among these interesting objects of creation, listening to the songs they sing and to the stories they tell as the breezes blow through their leaves and boughs. We may add the sense of sight to that of hearing and observe the habits and peculiarities of different kinds of trees. Again, we may add the sense of touch and perceive the differences in thickness, smoothness, and texture of leaves, buds, and bark. We may add to these the sense of taste, and likewise that of smell, to test the juices of leaves, bark, or even of the roots, discerning whether they are bitter, sweet,

Notes to Leaders

This program should inspire an interest in the M.V. Honor in Trees, requirements for which are given on page 277 of the *Master Comrade Manual*. Direct that interest by organizing a club for tree study if you do not already have one. All the books listed in the bibliography preceding the requirements as given in the *Master Comrade Manual* will be found helpful. Besides these books, the following is very good: Miscellaneous Publication 295, *Famous Trees*, by Randall and Edgerton. Write to Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C. Price, 15 cents. This has information on more than seven hundred famous trees.

SPECIAL NOTE: *The Naturalist* for second quarter, 1950, features the M.V. Honor in Trees. Be sure to order a copy for your society. Better still, send \$1 for the year's subscription. Each copy features one M.V. Honor. Address: College Place, Washington.

Trees

THE FIRST TREES: "The Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden. . . . In this garden were trees of every variety, many of them laden with fragrant and delicious fruit. . . . It was the work of Adam and Eve to train the branches of the vine to form bowers, thus making for themselves a dwelling from living trees covered with foliage and fruit."—*Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 46, 47.

"Before the flood there were immense forests. The trees were many times larger than any trees which we now see. They

salty, or sour. Indeed a great deal may be learned concerning a tree if all five of our senses are brought into play in making our discoveries.

Another method of tree study consists in using a guidebook. You will probably be surprised to know that there are more kinds of trees near your home than you had imagined.

Since some trees, like certain animals, are of mixed breed, it is well that beginners do not attempt the identity of every tree, but only such as are typical and readily recognized after reasonably careful study. Foreign or exotic trees planted in this country are not often described in beginners' tree guides.

There will always be more to learn about trees. This is true of all created things. To the lover of God's great book of nature there is little danger of mental decline through cessation of learning.

Another method of tree study will perhaps be more interesting to you. We might call it the "herbarium method." It will give you a chance to study tree leaves and twigs in your home or school almost as well as on the living tree. All that is needed for the beginner is a large, discarded magazine of medium thickness. This is carried on the nature walk, and leaves or twigs with leaves of suitable size are placed carefully between the pages of the magazine. It is very important that you write in pencil a few notes on the margin of the pages, so that you will have a record of such interesting characteristics as color, texture of bark, mode of branching, general form of tree, height of tree, and kind of fruit or nuts, if any. The leaves may be pressed in the magazine and later transferred to a permanent scrapbook or herbarium. Any botany teacher or museum can give complete instruction for preparing and storing a herbarium.

Many may determine, as did Jesus, to learn for themselves the valuable lessons of life that may be learned from God's book of nature. "His [Christ's] education was gained directly from the heaven-appointed sources; from useful work, from the study of the Scriptures and of nature, and from the experiences of life—God's lesson books, full of instruction to all who bring to them the willing hand, the seeing eye, and the understanding heart."—*Education*, p. 77.

Yes, some will want to make nature enjoyment their chief recreation, and yet others may become teachers of biology; indeed, this is one of the most delightful forms of work given to man.

Arouse your natural curiosity. Let nature tell you the answers to your questions.

So let us glorify God in the delightful study of His wonderful creations as well as His written Word.

Thoughts About Trees

Trees are models of erectness, of courage, of dignity, and of steadfastness. They serve us in thousands of material ways; we should know them that they may serve us better. We should copy their charitable lives that we may serve others better.

Trees live to give. In this they represent the true spirit of Christianity—a spirit of love and charity. For all their services and products given to man and beast, they ask little in return—only our respect for their lives while they stand and our wise use of all that we cut down. We should preserve, not harm, the trees.

The oldest living object on earth is believed by many to be the big cypress tree of Tule, growing in an Indian village a few miles east of the city of Oaxaca, Mexico. It is believed to be more than four thousand years old. Its circumference is 108 feet at a height of about 140 feet. The noble characteristics of fine trees permit them, if undisturbed, to live to great ages. Should we not profit also if we emulate such trees in their fine qualities?

A country with wooded hillsides and thrifty forests is rich. The same country, bereft of its forest cloak, quickly becomes poor. Let us preserve our trees. They mean so much to our health and prosperity. They purify the air we breathe; they check floods and erosion. The forest litter filters the rain and makes possible the cooling springs that never go dry. We must not lose our trees.

Who is not filled with awe, with reverence, and with respect for quietness amidst the dusky stillness of a dense pine grove? That is a wonderful place to go for prayer and meditation with our Maker. Indeed, the pines are among the best of trees. They are perhaps the most useful to man. The cedars of Lebanon are known and respected around the world. Still more magnificent are the big trees (another kind of cedar) found on the western slope of the Sierra Nevadas of California. These trees grow at an altitude of from 5,000 to 8,000 feet above the sea. The General Sherman tree is nearly 115 feet in circumference and is 272.4 feet in height. Over a million giant trees, having the General Sherman as their chief, are contained in Sequoia National Park. They are indeed "sentinels of creation," whose lofty branches tower almost among the clouds. Their bark and wood is so resistant to fire and blast that nothing seems able to kill them, lest it be the power of civilized man or repeated bolts of lightning from the heavens. One such tree was cut down only after six weeks of steady, hard labor. Its steely wood is almost black, and it has a dry, metallic sound. A tree of average size, twenty-three feet in diameter, was felled; and by count of its annual rings, it was

found to be about 2,125 years old. Surely everyone who has not seen these giants of creation will long for an opportunity to do so. In the words of John Muir, "The big tree is nature's masterpiece."

Let us learn to know more kinds of trees and more about the ones we already know by name. The Lord will be pleased when we show our respect and admiration for the "sentinels" He has created.

A Notice

(A notice found nailed to a tree in one of the parks of Seville, Spain. Copied from the book *Spanish Sunshine*, by Elinor Elsner.)

To the Wayfarer—

Ye who pass by and would raise your hand against me,
Hearken ere you harm me!

I am the heat of your hearth on the cold winter nights,
The friendly shade screening you from the summer sun.

My fruits are refreshing draughts,
Quenching your thirst as you journey on.
I am the beam that holds your house,
The board of your table,
The bed on which you lie,
And the timber that builds your boat.
I am the handle of your hoe,
The door of your homestead,
The wood of your cradle,
And the shell of your coffin.
I am the breath of kindness, and the flower of beauty.

Ye who pass by, listen to my prayer:
Harm me not.

* * *

September 9

THE NEW JERUSALEM LIMITED

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING DEVOTIONALS.

SYF FEATURES.

OFFERTORY.

DIALOGUE: "The New Jerusalem Limited."

CLOSING EXERCISES.

Notes to Leaders

The thought of whether or not we are prepared for entry into the new earth is indeed a very solemnizing one. In your opening remarks and introduction to the dialogue today stress the fact that we are merely bringing out realistically some of the petty, mundane reasons people give for putting off getting ready for Christ's return. Are any of us guilty of making these same excuses or others equally trivial? Stress the need for personal, individual preparation for the great day of Christ's coming. Be sure there is no flippancy on the part of any of the characters in the dialogue, and that each one speaks seriously.

The New Jerusalem Limited

CHARACTERS: Announcer, Agent, Singers.
Passengers: Old Lady, Traveler, Rich Society Girl, Teaser, Family, Blind Person, Aun, Virginia, Married Couple, Car Owner.

ANNOUNCER: The New Jerusalem Limited is due very soon. The messages have reached us from all along the line. It is coming and is due to arrive very shortly. Anyone who wishes to board it must be ready. You are invited by the Great Conductor to take passage. He says, "Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Anyone who will may come, but there are rules and regulations. We have a guidebook and timetable, the Holy Scriptures, "Straight is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Our destination is a beautiful land where no sorrow nor sickness is. The time is short to procure passage. The last invitation has been sounded, Whosoever will may come.

FIRST PASSENGER—OLD LADY.

OLD LADY: I have come for my ticket to the Holy City. This is one of the happiest days of my life. You know, since I have heard of the third angel's message, I have looked forward to the time when I can leave this old earth with its troubles and cares. How long will it be before we can go?

AGENT: The hour has not been announced, as there are yet some things not quite finished which must be before we can leave. We can only be waiting and watching with prayers on our lips. Have you been faithful all along life's journey?

OLD LADY: The very day I heard this stirring message I made up my mind I wanted to go on this trip. I have asked for forgiveness of my sins long ago. I have been discouraged many times, but thinking about the reward at the end of the journey has helped me through. Here are my few earthly belongings, which I am sure I will not need.

AGENT: And here is your ticket, which is just a part of your reward.

OLD LADY: Thank you!

SONG: "At the End of the Road."—*Gospel Melodies*, No. 210.

SECOND PASSENGER—TRAVELER.

TRAVELER: Say, there, Ticket Agent, I just wanted to inquire about this trip on the New Jerusalem Limited. How often do you make the trip? When does this one you say is leaving now make the return trip? I already have plans laid to visit all the major cities in Europe proper, and then I want to run down to Ceylon and points south next year. I love to travel, and I'm going to see the whole world. Just wondered where I should work this trip in.

AGENT: Young man, you seem to have the wrong conception of this trip. The train will leave very shortly, but it will not come back. You will not want to return from your destination. You will be glad to stay there for eternity.

TRAVELER: Oh, no, I don't want to go to just one place and stay there. I have so many fine trips planned. I wouldn't miss my trip by air to the South Pole for anything.

AGENT: I am sorry that you feel that way. The invitation is extended to you. "The Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely." It grieves the Great Conductor to have you refuse. But you must make your own choice. "Choose you this day whom ye will serve." (*Traveler leaves.*)

THIRD PASSENGER—RICH SOCIETY GIRL.

RICH SOCIETY GIRL: I would like to buy a ticket to the Holy City. How much are they?

AGENT: There is no price. The reservations have already been made by Jesus Christ on the Cross of Calvary.

RICH SOCIETY GIRL: Yes, but I don't need to accept charity.

AGENT: Your money has no value now. There is no distinction made between the rich and poor; therefore, you will have to take off your jewelry in order to become a passenger on the New Jerusalem Limited.

RICH SOCIETY GIRL: The invitation is too great to overlook. I have never accepted anything like this before, but if God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, I ought to be able to give up these trifles. (*Takes off jewelry.*)

SONG: "Softly and Tenderly"—*Gospel Melodies*, No. 34.

FOURTH PASSENGER—TEASER.

TEASER: I have come to purchase a ticket on the New Jerusalem Limited.

AGENT: And you have made your preparations? You understand the conditions? You are not doing anything that Jesus would not do if He were in just your place?

TEASER: Well, I thought I was ready to go. I keep all the commandments and take an active part in all the activities of the church. But somehow when you put it that way, one thing comes to mind.

AGENT: And what is that?

TEASER: Well, I love to tease. I don't think it is really so bad. I don't hurt anyone, just have a little fun. I tease almost anyone, the kids at school, even Mother and Daddy. But I especially like to tease my little sister.

AGENT: Do they enjoy it as much as you?

TEASER: My little sister gets very angry, usually ends by crying.

AGENT: Well, that doesn't quite sound like what Jesus would do, does it?

TEASER: No, and it isn't doing unto others what you would have them do to you. And the Bible says also that what doesn't edify, destroys. I don't know why I didn't think of that before. I am sorry.

AGENT: That's enough! You are ready to go aboard. Here is your ticket.

FIFTH PASSENGER—FAMILY (OF FOUR).

FRANCIS: We wish to procure tickets on the New Jerusalem Limited. What is the price?

AGENT: The blood of Jesus. All you need to do is accept His generous sacrifice. He has paid it all.

MILDRED: Isn't that wonderful!

AGENT: And He will be happy to see you bring your family with you. Jesus loves every little child and is pleased when they are brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. An undivided home, where all join in worship to the heavenly Father, is most blessed. Here are your four tickets. Go right ahead.

SIXTH PASSENGER—BLIND PERSON.

BLIND PERSON: Am I too late? I had a hard time finding the place.

AGENT: No, the train hasn't gone yet,

but the time is drawing near. The Superintendent will notify us as soon as the tracks are clear and the message has been given to all the world.

BLIND PERSON: Oh, I am so glad. It seemed as though I never would be ready. I hate to waste your time, but is there any truth in the saying that there will be no blindness over there? I would be very happy if I could only see Christ's loving face.

AGENT: Yes, it is true; the blind will see and the lame will walk. Have you not heard these promises from the Bible? And are you sure you are ready to give up all and follow Him?

BLIND PERSON: My Braille Bible burned before I finished reading the Old Testament. But I have heard many people say that all is possible with God.

AGENT: Then you are absolutely sure you are getting on the right train and that you have confessed all your sins to the heavenly Father?

BLIND PERSON: Yes, I have thought it out carefully and decided that this is the smallest way I can repay the debt I owe Him.

AGENT: Here is your ticket. You may be seated with the other passengers.

BLIND PERSON: Oh, thank you!

SEVENTH PASSENGER—ANN.

ANN: Oh, I am so glad to find the station open today. I want to purchase my ticket today, as I have a lot of business to do the rest of the week.

AGENT: Only those who will wait and watch, giving up all, can obtain a ticket.

ANN: Yes, but it will only be a few days, and I want to go. I know I am ready. I can't think of a sin that would keep me out. Why can't I pay you now and then pick up my ticket as soon as I get my business done?

AGENT: You cannot buy these tickets, as they are too high priced for a human. The Great Conductor had foresight when He planned this trip many years ago and decided that the tickets would be free to all—on certain conditions.

ANN: You don't understand. My future depends on the outcome of this business. I will certainly have time to do it. (*Goes off.*)

AGENT: I'm sorry.

SONG: "Have You Counted the Cost?"—*Gospel Melodies*, No. 53.

EIGHTH PASSENGER—VIRGINIA.

VIRGINIA: Say, is this the place to buy the tickets for the New Jerusalem Limited?

AGENT: It certainly is, Madam, only these tickets aren't for sale.

VIRGINIA: Well, I certainly want one. Why is this trip so widely publicized then? What can I do to get on this train?

AGENT: Your ticket has been paid for long ago. It is up to you to make the choice whether you will accept it. You must leave all your sins behind. There is no room for such hindrances.

VIRGINIA: Well, the only thing that I can think of off hand that anyone has told me about is the reading of novels and light stories. But I don't see anything wrong in reading them, because while I'm reading, I'm not getting into some other mischief. Really, I do think they help me face decisions in my own life.

AGENT: Do you think they are doing

you any good? Think it over. Think how many chapters of the Bible you could be reading and meditating on. Think how much cheer you could bring to some sick persons by a friendly visit. Is this really worth your time?

SONG: "Is Your All on the Altar?"—*Gospel Melodies*, No. 55.

VIRGINIA: No, it really isn't worth giving up the wonderful message for such trash. I love God so much that I'll give up anything to be ready for Him when He comes. And may I have my ticket now?

(The stage is cleared. Porter calls, "All aboard." Silence for a few seconds.)

SONG: "The Holy City."

(Ann returns.)

ANN: Where is the ticket master? The train certainly hasn't gone yet. I will knock on this door. They will surely open when they hear me. (Knocks louder and louder.) Oh, I have missed it. I am too late!

SONG: "Almost Persuaded"—*Church Hymnal*, No. 228.

* * *

September 16

TOBACCO—Friend or Foe?

By L. H. LONERGAN, M. D.

*Associate Professor of Therapeutics
College of Medical Evangelists*

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING SONG.

DEVOTIONAL READING AND PRAYER.

SYF REPORTS.

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

OFFERTORY.

SYMPOSIUM: "The Popular Poison, Nicotine."

CLOSING EXERCISES.

The Popular Poison, Nicotine

During 1949 the inhabitants of the United States smoked 352 billion cigarettes, an increase of three and one-half billion over 1948, the previous record year. The significance of such a figure is difficult for us to understand until we break it down to the average number of cigarettes smoked per person per day. From this angle we see it means nearly a half pack per day for every man, woman, and child fifteen years old and over. But of course not everyone smokes. If we divide the total by the number of smokers alone, it would probably reach twice that amount—somewhere near one pack per day per smoker. Yet people do not ordinarily smoke "averages." Some will consume only half that amount; many others will double it. Whether the end result of all this is a "lift," a headache, or a tar-generated cancer, this is, some contend, the smoker's own business. We who believe that the body is the temple of the Holy Spirit and that health and buoyant Christian living are very closely related should be able to speak intelligently concerning this phase of temperance. Should we not be acquainted with the evidence which science has made available to us in recent years—evidence which is indeed a bulwark of strength to the cause of temperance, which we have sponsored for past decades?

To begin, let us consider a few "reasons" why we should use tobacco:

First, the tobacco manufacturers are urging us to smoke. They are spending millions upon millions of dollars attempting to make that invitation attractive. A recent news

release tells of the tremendous salaries paid certain top-flight business executives during 1949. It is not surprising to find near the top of this list a president of one tobacco company with salary over \$1,200 a day. Four vice-presidents in this same company were each paid approximately \$700 daily for every day in the year! These are the rewards to the men who originate the questionable claims for their product, plan the nationwide advertising campaigns, and otherwise push sales. Yes, cigarettes have really become one of the "colossals" of America's big businesses, supported largely by the daily individual offerings of twenty cents a pack.

Another "reason" why we should use tobacco is to maintain the handsome revenue it brings to our government—the greatest single source of revenue (with the exception of the income tax), amounting to nearly one and one-third billion dollars for 1949. In other words, of every dollar spent for tobacco, approximately forty cents goes for taxes. Yet is this sufficient reason for us to acquire a health-destroying habit?

There is still another "reason" which should be mentioned. There are many people whose names have made news headlines because of their prominence in society, in sports, or in the world of music whose statements imply they would recommend to us the use of cigarettes. But honestly now, do they mean it? Or is it that they are simply willing to sell their good names to be used in tobacco advertising? An incident in the experience of a renowned opera singer aptly illustrates the value of such testimonials. When this great singer insisted that reporters stop smoking in his presence, they reminded him that the cigarettes they were using were the very ones he had endorsed. His reply was something like this: "What I said is true. Gaspies never hurt my throat, because I never smoke them."¹

Apparently the Federal Trade Commission is not so easily convinced by such advertising as is the general public. The F.T.C. charged that many such statements used are false and that the testimonials are often written by the manufacturer and not even read by the one whose signature is used.²

What is in tobacco that injures the body tissues? Of the many poisonous substances present in tobacco, there are apparently only two of outstanding importance: These are *benzpyrine*, which is irritating to all surface cells (lips, tongue, gums, larynx, and bronchi) lining the mouth and air passages, and *nicotine*, which produces its worst effects after it is absorbed into the blood stream.

NINTH PASSENGER—MARRIED COUPLE.

JIM: We have heard of the trip to heaven on the New Jerusalem Limited. What do we do to get a ticket?

AGENT: Examine your life for any known sin. Repent and turn from it. Then look in faith to Jesus. He does the rest.

JIM: I feel unworthy of His goodness, but I know of no cherished sin in my life. My daily prayer is that He will purify my life of its dross. I want nothing between me and my Lord.

AGENT: Here is your ticket, and you? (To Margaret.)

MARGARET: That is all very well, and I know my husband thinks I do a lot of faultfinding and backbiting, but I certainly think it's terrible the way some people in our church act. But I will go along with husband even if I don't see . . .

AGENT: I'm sorry, but you cannot go as long as you cherish these sins of backbiting and faultfinding.

JIM: Then I had better not go either.

AGENT: It is very, very hard. But Jesus left all heaven for you. He tells us that we may have to leave friends and even family. We must forsake all and follow Him. You must decide quickly. The train is about to leave.

MARGARET: I do not care to go. There is too much wrong in the church. I am going to wait until the people in the church do not have so many faults. Good-by.

SONG: "Nothing Between," No. 160—*Rhodeheaver's Solos and Duets* No. 3.

TENTH PASSENGER—CAR OWNER.

CAR OWNER: I want to buy a ticket on this train.

AGENT: Very well, are you ready to go on board?

OWNER: Oh yes! How do I go about checking my new 1950 convertible through to the New Jerusalem? I will want to drive that around in heaven when I get there.

AGENT: You take nothing along, Friend. Unless you are willing to give up all that this world has to offer and forsake all, you will not be able to make this trip.

OWNER: Oh, I am willing to give up everything; that is, everything but the car. Well, it took me years to acquire such a fine one. I had to trade and swap and work to get a better one, and now I'm just beginning to enjoy it.

AGENT: Think of what Christ gave up for you. He gave all in willing sacrifice.

OWNER: That's right, and He had more to give up than I with just my car. Yes, when I think it over, I want to go to the New Jerusalem much more than I want anything else.

AGENT: Here is your ticket.

Why need we concern ourselves with the very small amount of nicotine which is carried over with the "main-stream smoke" and eventually absorbed? Because even though it is retained in *small* amounts, it requires only *small* amounts to produce very definite harm to many different systems of the body. In fact, nicotine is one of the most deadly and rapidly acting poisons known to man. One grain of this drug (forty to sixty milligrams, or about one drop) taken at one time is sufficient to kill an average-sized man. And what proportion of this killing dose is taken into the system with the smoke of a single cigarette? We can easily figure it out: Most cigarettes of the "popular" brands weigh one gram (one thousand milligrams) each and contain nicotine in a concentration of a little over 2 per cent, or a total of about twenty-four milligrams in the unburned tobacco of each cigarette. Now what happens to this total amount during the smoking process? In the first place, part of it is destroyed at the burning end of the cigarette, about one sixth of the total, possibly four milligrams. Secondly, part of it escapes into the atmosphere as "side-stream smoke," making another sixth, or four milligrams. Thirdly, the end of the cigarette that is in the mouth is much cooler than the burning end, and the nicotine vaporized by the heat tends to condense in the cooler end and be retained there. If we analyze the tobacco of the stump after the cigarette has been smoked, we shall find its content of nicotine is much higher than it was before it was smoked. The amount of nicotine thrown away with the small stump is usually half the total amount in the unburned cigarette, or about twelve milligrams.

Thus far we have accounted for approximately five sixths of the total nicotine, or twenty milligrams. The last sixth is the portion about which we are mainly concerned—that finding its way with the main-stream smoke into the air passages of the throat and lungs. This is another four milligrams, not all of which is absorbed. Part of this is still present in the smoke which is exhaled.

So often when this study is presented to youthful audiences of the world, the response is, "But it doesn't hurt me, for I do not inhale." The cigarette smoker who thinks he does not "inhale" is only deceiving himself. Practically all cigarette smokers, whether they think they do or not, *actually* do inhale and retain by far the larger proportion of the nicotine that was present in the main-stream smoke. This matter was put to scientific test by Dr. I. H. Pierce of the School of Medicine at the University of Iowa. In a series of experiments the main-stream smoke was tested

for its nicotine content, and again the exhaled smoke was likewise analyzed. The difference in these two figures represents the amount of nicotine that was retained in the respiratory system. Such tests were made while the person was smoking the cigarette in the usual way (with inhaling) and again while he was attempting to "puff" the smoke into the mouth without inhaling. The results of this experiment were most enlightening. Among those who "inhaled" the smoke, over 90 per cent of the nicotine in the smoke was retained in the respiratory tract to be absorbed into the blood stream. Of those who "puffed" only (smoke drawn into the mouth and expelled after two seconds), almost as much nicotine was retained—68 per cent. It is evident that only a small proportion of the nicotine drawn into the mouth escapes in the exhaled smoke. It is a conservative estimate then that from two to three milligrams of this poison are actually absorbed into the blood stream with every cigarette smoked, whether it is inhaled or not. This means that with twenty cigarettes (one pack) an amount of nicotine is absorbed into the system which if taken all at once would probably produce immediate death.

Then why do we not see more cases of acute tobacco poisoning? Fortunately, nicotine is quite rapidly destroyed by the liver. Whenever larger amounts begin to accumulate in the tissues (as from rapid and continuous smoking), serious symptoms are produced which warn the smoker that he is approaching his limit of tolerance; so even unwittingly he slows up his smoking until the liver has a chance to catch up in its job of destroying the nicotine being absorbed. Proof that this amount of nicotine is actually absorbed from cigarette smoke is furnished by the investigations of Doctors Maddock and Collier at the University of Michigan. These scientists injected directly into the veins of a man an amount of nicotine comparable to the amount which would be absorbed from smoking two cigarettes. Following this injection, the effects produced on blood pressure, pulse rate, and skin temperature resembled very closely the effects produced by smoking.

Now let us candidly examine the evidence concerning the harmful effects of tobacco on various organs of the body. The effect which seems to worry tobacco users the most is the local irritation to the lips, mouth, larynx, and lower air passages. It is this direct irritation which is the cause of the hacking cough most inveterate smokers experience. Dr. J. J. Short and his associates studied this matter of tobacco irritation among 2,031 insurance policyholders. This report showed that compared with the nonsmokers nearly twice as many

of the smokers had frequent colds, over twice as many smokers showed evidence of irritation of the nose and throat, and four times as many were troubled with cough. Occasionally, this continued irritation of the mouth produces silvery-white hardened patches on the mucous membrane, known as "leukoplakia." Over three hundred such cases were reported by Dr. Francis P. McCarthy, who found tobacco to be the most important factor in its cause. We need to be reminded of another related fact: Prolonged irritation (though not the only cause) is one of the most important factors in the production of cancer. These silvery-white patches of leukoplakia seen in the mouth of the smoker occasionally break down and undergo cancerous changes.

At the University of Michigan, Doctors Wile and Hand studied 425 cases of lip cancer. In many of these cases the tumor appeared on the site of the smoker's patch where the pipe has rested for years. The noted medical scientist Dr. Ewing commented thus: "Among preventable cancers the most obvious is the (mouth) group. . . . The use, and especially the abuse, of tobacco must be charged with a large share in the production of (mouth) cancer as well as of cancer of the larynx. . . . One may hardly aim to eliminate the tobacco habit, but cancer propaganda should emphasize the danger signs that go with it."

Dr. I. H. Pierce also demonstrated that of the total tars inhaled in the smoke of a single cigarette, approximately 68 per cent, or 18 milligrams, were retained in the body. At the rate of a pack a day this means an added burden of over a quarter pound a year of these irritant tars and resins loaded onto the delicate mucous lining of the throat and lungs. It now appears that the main irritant in tobacco tar responsible for the development of cancer is the chemical benzpyrene. So we should not be surprised at the marked increase in the number of cases of primary cancer of the lung reported by physicians in widely scattered areas of the United States. This increase in lung cancer corresponds to the marked increase in the use of cigarettes within the past three decades.

Do not be misled by the advertising propaganda and claims of "soothing" properties of certain cigarettes. Only last April (1950), the Federal Trade Commission denounced such advertising and stated frankly that cigarette smoke is always an irritant. Of this we were already aware. As a result of its findings this agency has ordered the makers of certain cigarettes to cease advertising that cigarettes are "easy on the throat," "soothing," or less harmful than other brands.³

Tobacco has an effect on the stomach and intestines, too. It has been repeatedly demonstrated that cigarette smoking produces excessive amounts of acid in the stomach, and the use of tobacco is especially harmful to those with stomach ulcer. One authority, Dr. A. Ochsner, states: "We are convinced that smoking, especially cigarette smoking, is so detrimental to the patient with peptic ulcer that he cannot recover as long as he smokes, and we refuse to treat such an individual unless he will totally abstain from smoking."

Tobacco has an effect on physical efficiency also. Scores of tests have been made the world around to determine the effect of tobacco on the nervous system, physical efficiency, accuracy, and endurance. By far the majority of these tests show the harmful action of the drug. One report, typical of many others, is from Major T. F. Kennedy of the Royal Army Medical Corps. This study was based on observations made over a period of nearly seven years, during which time nearly two thousand men were tested in the three-mile cross-country runs held at Aldershot. The men were listed according to their smoking habits as heavy smokers (twenty cigarettes or more a day), moderate smokers (less than twenty), and nonsmokers. In a summary of all these races it was shown that the percentage of non-smokers placing among the first ten was over twice that of the moderate smokers and over three times that of the heavy smokers. It was also significant that in the last ten places there were nearly three times as many smokers (either moderate or heavy) as there were abstainers.

Notice the record of the 1948 Olympic Games. Listen to Vicky Draves, the first woman to win both crowns in springboard and tower diving: "I do not smoke. Smoking doesn't go with athletics. It takes away endurance, timing, and accuracy." Listen also to Mel Patton, winner of the two-hundred-meter dash, who is acclaimed "the world's fastest human": "I have never smoked. I feel that temperance in such things leads to more healthful living, and I would not change my habits even if I were to close my athletic career. Most of the Olympic trackmen were nonsmokers."

Among the worst of the harmful effects of tobacco are those which damage the heart and blood vessels. Most smokers will show a temporary increase in heart rate and blood pressure immediately after their usual smoke. On continued indulgence of larger quantities of the drug there is occasionally produced palpitation, distress in the region of the heart, and extra beats, which indicate increased irritability of the heart muscle. Accompanying these heart effects,

other symptoms involving respiratory distress are frequently experienced, especially breathlessness following even moderate exercise.

One common type of heart disease is a narrowing of the small arteries to the heart walls, thus markedly decreasing the blood supply and nutrition to the heart muscle. Dr. P. J. English and his associates at the Mayo Foundation reported that among smokers in the age group forty to fifty-nine this serious heart disease occurred three times as frequently as among nonsmokers.

One of the most common of the effects of nicotine is the clamping down or narrowing of the small blood vessels, especially in the arms and legs, which decreases the blood supply and produces a corresponding drop in skin temperature. This drop in temperature at the finger tips averages over 5° F. after the usual smoke, and sometimes there is as much as a 15° F. drop. So with this definite evidence of the effect of nicotine on blood vessels, we should not be surprised to find occasionally among tobacco users (and limited almost exclusively to that group) a disease in which the arteries to the extremities gradually narrow until finally the blood supply becomes totally insufficient for the nutrition of the tissues; gangrene results with loss of the toes, fingers, and even the entire limbs. The progression of this condition (Buerger's disease) is stopped by simply discontinuing the use of tobacco. This is the most important part of the treatment.

Any drug which affects so many different tissues of the body will when used regularly affect the length of life, and tobacco is no exception. Professor Raymond Pearl of the School of Hygiene and Public Health at Johns Hopkins University in a careful analysis of this question studied the life histories of nearly seven thousand individuals. These he divided into three groups—the non-users of tobacco, the moderate smokers, and the heavy smokers. His summary states: "The net result is obvious. In this group of nearly seven thousand men the smoking of tobacco was associated definitely with an impairment of life duration." From Dr. Pearl's figures, Andrew Salter computed that the cost in length of life for the average pack-a-day smoker is nearly twelve hours for every pack he smokes.⁴

So clear is the evidence regarding the harmfulness of indulgence in tobacco that we who are anxiously awaiting our Lord's return should gladly accept every opportunity the Master sends to us to present to others tactfully and with conviction our belief in this phase of healthful living. Thus might the pall of smoke be lifted from the eyes of those who are honest in heart, that they might then be able to see clearly the truths for these last days. May each of us

also determine to live in harmony with the counsel of Paul: "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Steinhilber, A. H., "Shall I Become a Smoker?" Personal Growth Leaflet No. 103, p. 5, National Education Association, Washington, D. C.
2. Clark, Blake, "Lifting the Cigarette Ad Smoke Screen," *Reader's Digest*, July, 1943, p. 18.
3. "What Cigarette Smokers Should Know," *U. S. News and World Report*, April 14, 1950.
4. Salter, Andrew, quoted by R. W. Riis, "How Harmful Are Cigarettes?" *Reader's Digest*, January, 1950, p. 8.

* * *

September 23

LET'S HOLD A YOUTH EFFORT

BY JOHN H. HANCOCK

M.V. Secretary, Southeastern California

ORDER OF SERVICE

SONG: "We Are Living, We Are Dwelling," No. 188 in *Gospel Melodies*.

PRAYER.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

SYF REPORT BY YOUTH (interview type).

INDIVIDUAL REPORT TAKEN.

OFFERING. (Be sure to state project.)

SPECIAL MUSIC.

TALK: "Youth of Prophetic Destiny."

POEM: "Arise, O Advent Youth."

SPECIAL MUSIC: Vocal duet, "Speak, My Lord," No. 73 in *M.V. Songs*.

SYMPOSIUM: "Why Can't You Share Your Faith?"

TALK: "A Plan of Organization," followed by Discussion.

CLOSING SONG: Chorus, "I'll Share My Faith."

BENEDICTION.

Notes to Leaders

The purpose of this program is to arouse your youth to respond to a plan for a local youth effort. Before the program is given, it would be well if you would discuss such a project with your pastor and executive committee. Lay some definite plans and present these ideas during the discussion period, "Let's Hold a Youth Effort."

It would also be wise if you could have on hand for the meetings some handbills and pictures of successful youth efforts which have been held elsewhere. Your local conference Missionary Volunteer secretary can supply you with information as to where these may be obtained. If you could also have some youth who has helped in a youth effort give a personal testimony, it would add interest to your program.

In presenting the symposium, have one person introduce the subject and answer the objections, but select seven different persons in the audience to stand up quickly and raise the objections.

The first part of "A Plan for Organization" may be given as a talk, but the eleven points of suggestion should be used to stimulate discussion of your local plans for the effort.

See picture of San Bernardino Youth Effort, page 5.

Youth of Prophetic Destiny

Every Missionary Volunteer youth is a youth of prophetic destiny, numbered in the last great legion of Christ.

With the accumulated light of past centuries shining on our pathway, with the glorious hope of the soon coming of Jesus burning in our hearts, and with the realization that we are standing on the borders of Canaan's land, our responsibilities to man and to Christ, the Captain of the Host, become great.

It is a grand, glorious hour in which we live! As Ezekiel so dramatically portrays it: "Evil on evil! says the Lord the Eternal—it is coming, the hour has come, the hour is striking, and striking at you, the hour and the end!" Ezekiel 7:5, 6, Moffatt.

What a soul-stirring thought for us to consider: God's great prophetic clock is not only striking off the great prophecies of the Bible that warn the world of Christ's soon return, but the great prophetic clock is also striking at advent youth today to arise and finish the work committed to their trust. Our aim, "The advent message to all the world in this generation," must be realized, not in some far-off, distant future, but NOW! Time is short. Time is running out. The hands of God's clock point with renewed emphasis and deep significance to every one of us youth of prophetic destiny.

No wonder the servant of the Lord exclaimed, "Never before was there so much at stake; never were there results so mighty depending upon a generation."—*Counsels to Teachers*, p. 536.

One of the outstanding reasons that so much depends upon this generation is not the startling fact that so little time remains, but the fact that NOW we have such a remarkable opportunity everywhere to share our faith. The world is ready for our message; the world is crying for the truth.

Just a short time ago, Henry R. Luce, editor of *Time*, *Life*, and *Fortune*, made this observation as recorded in *Christian Century*:

"There was probably never a time when so many people were inquiring, sincerely, whether any knowledge of God exists or can exist. This is the incredibly great opportunity which now confronts the church of God on earth. . . . The world, I say, is in a great quest for truth. Have you got the truth? If not, keep quiet. If you have the truth, then . . . tell us what it is, as exactly, as clearly as you can. We, in the church or out of it, will not be bored. Bored? We are first here for truth! But we will be bored by state moralisms or inept attempts to comment on current events. Do you know about God? That is what we, in the church, or out of it, want to know."

With a challenge like that, how can we ignore this last great opportunity to give the world God's last message? We have the truth. The world is thirsty for it. God has called us to the world like Queen Esther for "such a time as this." We must not fail to hear the clock of God striking.

Satan hears that prophetic clock striking. In this mid-century year he is marshalling all his forces for the last great conflict. We see the beginnings of the great counterfeit religious revival mentioned in *Great Controversy* now sweeping across the Christian nations of the world.

Arise, O Advent Youth

Arise, O Advent Youth,
Unshackle earthly things,
Give mind and heart and soul and strength
To serve the King of kings.

Arise, O Advent Youth,
Christ's kingdom come ere long;
Lift high the torch of truth and right,
And end this night of wrong.

Arise, O Advent Youth,
The task ahead is great;
The hands of God's prophetic clock
Proclaim the hour is late!

Go forth to share your faith;
The Master calls for thee.
Arise, O Advent Youth of God,
March on to Victory!

—JOHN H. HANCOCK.

The greatest surge of lay evangelism since the days of the Reformation is taking hold of the men and women of both Protestant and Catholic churches with marked results. The membership of the Jehovah's Witnesses, for example, skyrocketed from 44,000 in 1940 to 500,000 in 1946—an increase of more than 1,000 per cent.

Everyone knows that 1950 has been proclaimed by the Catholics as a "holy year," but did you know they have taken as their motto, "Why not share the Faith?"

All of the 26,000,000 Catholic men and women have been asked to kneel before the crucifix on the rosary and promise, not under pain of sin, but on their word of honor, the following:

"Dear Jesus, my crucified Lord and Saviour, I promise that I shall heed your invitation to seek and to win for you the precious souls for whom you died on Calvary's cross. I shall try earnestly and zealously to win souls for you through a life of virtue and holiness, by setting an example of charity toward all men, and by bringing non-Catholics to holy Mass, by loaning them Catholic literature, by explaining to them points of doctrine, and by bringing them to a priest for further instruction. I shall do my utmost to win at least one convert for you, dear Jesus, every year of my life."

(Taken from special Catholic pamphlet, "Why Not Share the Faith?" by John A. O'Brien, Ph. D., University of Notre Dame, Missionary Society of St. Paul the Apostle in the State of New York, printed by Paulist Press, New York 19, N. Y., copyright 1949.)

Yes, young people, God's prophetic clock is striking the hour for the fulfillment of Revelation 13 and 16 and Daniel 11 and 12. Likewise it is striking out the hour for the fulfillment of Matthew 24:14. But more than that, the minute hand is pointing at YOU!

"The battle cry is sounding along the line. Let every soldier of the cross push to the front, not in self-sufficiency, but in meekness and lowliness, and with firm faith in God."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 7, p. 17.

"God expects personal service from everyone to whom He has entrusted a knowledge of the truth for this time."—*Id.*, Vol. 9, p. 30.

As the hands of God's prophetic clock point to YOU to share your faith, how will you respond?

"Why Can't You Share Your Faith?"

Christ needs everyone in this share-your-faith crusade, yet there are some who are still holding back from enjoying the blessing of working for souls. Let's examine a few of their excuses:

1. "I CAN'T TALK."

Moses tried that excuse also, but God turned his rod into a serpent to show him the folly of his excuse. Who made your tongue? Who made your voice? Who gave you the talent of speech? Consecrate that talent to God, and He will open your mouth and give you words in season.

A Junior boy took a projector and film strip to a cottage meeting where a group were waiting for their first Bible study. As he turned on the projector, he was so frightened he could not think of a single comment to make. All he could do was to turn the knob and have the audience read the film strip through. But God blessed his humble efforts. The people came back to the next study; the boy overcame his timidity and gave the second study without hesitation. He continued giving Bible studies and prepared several souls for baptism.

2. "I'M ONLY A JUNIOR."

So what! "Let no man despise thy youth." God is using boys and girls all over the world to tell the story of salvation.

In one church school, fifth-grade Juniors are our giving Bible studies five nights a week after school. And the Bible readers say they are the best Bible studies they have ever received.

In another little town, a Junior has been gathering in his neighbors and friends for the past two years giving them Bible studies with the Missionary Volunteer Society's projector and film strips. Results? Certainly! Eight have been baptized.

3. "I HAVE TO GO TO SCHOOL."

So do thousands of other Adventist youth. But that doesn't stop them from sharing their faith or holding public meetings.

Last fall three young men, sophomores at La Sierra College, though they were busy youth, organized a share-your-faith adventure on their own. They rented an American Legion Hall in Bloomington, California, held Sunday night meetings, and organized a branch Sabbath school. Other missionary-minded Adventist youth caught their spirit and joined them in their gospel crusade. This May, the conference organized a new church as a result of the effort by these young people. In addition to those already baptized, these boys and their helpers are

studying with forty interested families. The effort cost them a little over \$600, but they raised the entire amount in their public offerings.

4. "I DON'T KNOW ANYBODY TO WHOM I CAN GIVE BIBLE STUDIES."

Neither did Don R., an Adventist youth, but that didn't stop him. He remembered the Master's call, "Go ye!" With a projector under his arm, he started down the street within the radius of the block on which he lived. He was amazed as he went from door to door to find that his neighbors wanted Bible studies with his projector and film strips. In fact, he found so many interested people that he didn't have enough nights in the week to fill appointments. In desperation he appealed to the church for help.

Start ringing doorbells in your own neighborhood. You will find someone who will respond. Remember, "Many are on the verge of the kingdom, waiting only to be gathered in."—*Acts of the Apostles*, p. 109.

5. "THERE'S NO PLACE TO HOLD AN EFFORT IN OUR TOWN."

That is possible. But don't let that stop you.

It didn't stop a group of youth in San Bernardino. They wanted to hold a youth effort in a little suburb called Muscoy, but could not find a building to rent. This did not make them give up their share-your-faith plan. They found a brother in the church who had a long chicken house with a cement floor in it. They asked him to let them fix it up for an effort, since it was situated right along the main highway.

He agreed, and they went to work on "Operation Hen House." Some members donated windows and doors; others gave paint, three-ply sheets, electrical wiring, etc. In a few weeks a marvelous transformation had taken place, and the youth began their effort with a capacity crowd of 150 persons in attendance. When this article was submitted, the first baptism had already taken place, and others were scheduled. And think: It all began with just a hen house.

6. "PEOPLE WON'T TURN OUT TO HEAR AN INEXPERIENCED YOUNG PERSON PREACH."

That is where you are mistaken. They will. More than that, once they come, they will keep on coming.

Remember that effort you read about in the *Youth's Instructor*: the one in which the youth of the big San Diego Broadway Church held their "Voice of Youth" evangelistic effort? Do you know that the youth attracted a larger crowd over the six weeks' effort period than any previous evangelistic campaign ever did? And out of the crowd that came night after night, thirty-five persons were baptized. It is the same story wherever youth dare to hold an effort. Why don't you try one in your community?

7. "I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY."

We have anticipated that objection and have made available a large supply of printed helps for you. The Pacific Union Conference has a special series of printed sermons with kodachrome slides; the Mayse Studios in San Diego have a wealth of beautiful kodachrome film strips or slides, with printed sermons and notes (one set is prepared especially for youth to use—the

M.V. Crusaders' films and Bible Course). If you will contact your local Missionary Volunteer secretary, he can supply you with special sermons for young people, which have been prepared by experienced youth evangelists.

A Plan of Organization

On a bridge across the Mississippi River appeared this sign, "Processions Crossing This Bridge Must Break Step."

A thousand men could cross in safety as a mob, but a hundred men, keeping step, could shake the bridge to its very foundations. What a lesson for us! Banded together in a strong unit, organized to march in step, a group of Adventist young people may do a mighty work for God in the community in which they live.

There are many lines of organized soul-winning work in which youth may engage, such as branch Sunday schools, Operation Doorbell, literature distribution, radio programs, singing and sunshine bands, etc. Every one of these will win souls, but why not climax all of these excellent share-your-faith activities with a youth effort?

In the Southeastern California Conference nearly one hundred persons have been baptized during the past four years through youth efforts alone. What the young people have done there can be repeated and is being repeated throughout North America. Why don't you lay plans now for your society to conduct a youth effort this fall? Here are a few suggestions:

1. Call a meeting of your executive council, your pastor, and local conference Missionary Volunteer secretary to discuss the possibilities of a youth effort. It has been found best to have either a conference ministerial intern or the local pastor direct in the effort organization and procedure.

2. Decide upon a location and place to meet. Some very successful efforts have been held in the church, others in rented halls.

3. Determine the length of your series and the nights you will hold meetings. Most youth efforts run from six weeks to two months, from three to four nights a week. Decide what topics you will present. Some subjects are best given in the home.

4. Appoint committees to study advertising, ushering, preparation of building and seating, distribution of literature, visiting of interested persons, music, and finance.

5. Prepare a financial budget upon which to operate. Estimate your expenses and offering income. In some instances the conference in which you live may help you with your effort.

6. Select one or two youth speakers to give the sermons, or select a number of young people to do the speaking. It has been found very successful to divide a sermon into three or four parts, with three or four youth speakers each taking a portion. Almost any printed sermon can thus be divided. Be sure to have practice rehearsals.

7. Add variety to your youth meetings with chalk-drawing illustrations, slides, interviews, questions and answers, and an abundance of good special music.

8. Lay careful plans to follow up the interest created. One very successful plan, used in Redlands and San Diego youth efforts, is to get the interested people into a special Bible prophecy class taught by the pastor on Sabbath morning during the Sabbath-school hour. Also be sure to have some young people or older church members help you in personal visitation in the homes during the effort. Don't forget "Operation Automobile" in which individuals are responsible for bringing their neighbors to

the meetings. This is also an important part of your planning.

9. Assign *every* young person in your society some part in the effort. Don't wait for them to volunteer.

10. Select a name for your effort such as "Voice of Youth," "Youth Crusaders," etc. Decorate your auditorium with suitable motto. Use the Missionary Volunteer emblem on usher ribbons, advertising, etc.

11. Don't forget the battle is the Lord's. Spend much time in prayer as individuals, and assemble before each meeting as a group for special prayer, bringing the names of interested persons before the Lord and asking for divine guidance in the service.

will "split" it once, and a telescope multiplies it again. On a very dark night it may be distinguished as double by very good eyes, without the aid of field glasses. Albireo, at the foot of the Northern Cross, is a most beautiful orange and blue double, easily seen with a small telescope. Hundreds of interesting doubles, triples, and clusters will be seen in the Milky Way with the aid of field glasses. The glasses will also be useful in finding the great nebula of Andromeda and in seeing sunspots. At sunrise and sunset, you can sometimes look at the sun with glasses without any filter or smoked glass.

This is the month of the harvest moon. Note that the full moon rises at nearly the same time for several successive evenings, instead of rising an hour later each evening, as it usually does.

September Birds.

Now is the time to fill in the blanks in your bird list. If you failed to see a black-throated blue warbler during spring migration, you may see one on the return trip. Each pair of warblers that went to Canada in May will bring back a family in September. Listen on a cloudy night to the faint calls of thousands of warblers and other small migrators as they fly just above the treetops. September brings the first of the "winter visitors"—those birds that reach only our central or northern states in their southward migration. The junco is the first of these to arrive. The tree sparrows soon follow, and later other hardier species arrive. It is well to keep an eye on the swamps in September. During August, but particularly during September, the young, little blue herons and the young American egrets leave their nesting places, mostly in the South, and wander over the northern states. Both are large and pure white, and a bit difficult to differentiate. Maybe you will be surprised at the number of red-winged blackbirds that have no tails. Most birds shed only part of their tail feathers at a time, but for some strange reason red-winged blackbirds are often bobtailed at this time of year.

Watch the berries ripening on the mountain ash trees in yards and parks. You will see robins, waxwings, and starlings make short work on them when they reach just the right stage of ripeness. Watch the red haws, too, for the same reason.

Plants and Trees.

Last call for those who intend to make a flower collection this year. There will still be flowers in October, but not enough variety for a large collection. You might specialize on asters or goldenrod this month and next. Almost any community has twenty-five species of wild asters and almost as many kinds of goldenrod. The blazing

Junior Meetings

September 2

SEPTEMBER CALLS

By MAYBELLE VANDERMARK
Dean of Women,
Washington Missionary College
ORDER OF SERVICE

MUSIC: "The Sun Is on the Land," No. 45 in *Church Hymnal*. (See Notes.)

PRAYER.

SCRIPTURE READING: Jeremiah 8:20; Acts 14:17.

OFFERTORY.

SYF REPORTS.

MUSIC.

SUPERINTENDENT'S INTRODUCTION.

SYMPOSIUM: "September"—Skies, Birds, Plants, and Trees.

CHALK TALK (by an adult): "Weeds or Wheat."

CLOSING EXERCISES.

Where busy spiders spin their filmy
laces."

—"September," GEORGE ARNOLD.

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended." This is the month of equal days and nights, of (in some localities) the first frost, of the first colored leaves—ivy or sumac—of the ripening of papaws and persimmons, and of the heavy wave of southward bird migration.

"The September call of the out-of-doors is to everyone, old and young, rich and poor, busy or idle, to teachers, students, everybody. Nature's invitation this month is decorated with lotus flowers, spiced with the odor of spearmint, and echoes in the cry of the killdeer. Temperatures are more pleasant than those of last month, and there is more to see. Sunrises come at a more convenient hour, and the stars appear before bedtime, as they failed to during the summer in communities plagued with so-called daylight-saving time.

"This is a farewell party. Farewell to many of the birds, to most of the butterflies and moths, most of the wild flowers, and to the summer constellations. Let's give them a hearty farewell."—*Nature Appreciation*, the Home Study Institute, p. 36.

Symposium

September Skies.

Look in *Nature* magazines at the library for "September Skies" and in a star book for interesting stories about the stars seen this month. Borrow a pair of field glasses, and look at some double stars. Begin with Mizar and Alcor (horse and rider) at the bend of the handle of the Big Dipper. This is an example of naked eye double, where one is bright and the other dim. The glasses will make Alcor plainer, and a six-inch telescope will split Mizar into the two stars and thus give us a telescopic double. The right hand star, Alpha, of Capricornus, is an easy naked eye double. In a telescope each is a double. Thus we have a double double. The same is true of the little star just northeast of Vega. Your field glass

Notes to Leaders

MUSIC: "The Sun Is on the Land," No. 45 in the *Church Hymnal*. This hymn is well liked by Juniors once they are exposed to it. If the *Church Hymnal* is not used in the church, have the words typed or mimeographed. They can be learned while the organist or pianist plays.

PROGRAM: The emphasis in this program is twofold:

ON THE HARVEST: We reap what we sow.

PREFARATION FOR THE WINTER: We prepare for the future—God's kingdom or eternal death.

For the first part have Juniors give talks on the September skies, etc., based on the notes given from the Home Study Course in *Nature Appreciation*.

Introduction

"Among the stubbled corn
The blithe quail pipes at morn,
The merry partridge drums in hidden
places,
And glittering insects gleam
Above the reedy stream,

stars are at their best about the first of the month, and the gentians begin to open in most localities during the latter part of the month. Purple ironweed, vervain, and bone-set are common in low land; chicory is still pretty on roadsides, and sunflowers are in their glory. There is no better time of year for the outdoor artist, unless it be next month when the leaves are at their best.

This is a good time to learn the weeds and poisonous plants for items three and four in the requirements for the nature Honor in Flowers. A neglected garden or an old field will furnish many kinds of weeds, but one will need to look longer for such poisonous plants as poison ivy, poison sumac, Jimson weed, nightshade, and poke weed. (Write to your state department of agriculture for a free bulletin on weeds.)

(Long ago the leaves might have been collected for requirements four and nine for nature Honor in Trees. If this has not been done, finish up the work now.)

Weeds or Wheat

(To be given by an adult.)

WORKING MATERIAL: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43. Chalk—green, yellow, brown, white, and red.

OBJECTS: Some weeds, grain, and flowers.

TEACHING PLANS: Previously arrange for one of your pupils to tell the Scripture lesson in story form. After this is finished, outline a large square on the blackboard. Mark this off into as many small squares as you have pupils, including yourself. The squares represent fields or gardens, and there is one for each one of us. Begin the chalk talk by asking a few questions:

Did you ever make a garden?

What did you plant in it?

Did anything ever grow in your garden that you did not plant? What?

What did you do with the weeds that came up?

Why did you not let them grow?

What represents weeds and tares in our lives?

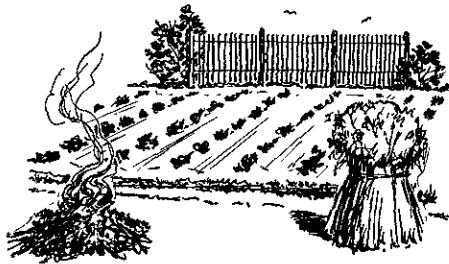
Have any of you some tares growing in your lives that you ought to get rid of?

How should we watch for the enemy?

Give a little time here for the pupils to talk this over and tell of some of the little sins that bother them day by day. As this is being done, let the names of the "weeds" in our lives be written in the squares representing our gardens. Talk over with the children our "weeds" that grow into habits.

As the lesson is being summed up, outline a sheaf of wheat and a pile of brush or weeds. Impress the thought that the wheat represents the good things in our lives which God loves and helps to grow and the weeds represent the bad deeds which destroy the good, and that we must

ask Him to help us get rid of them and help us ever to be watchful for the enemy that sneaks in and plants the weeds.



THE PICTURE: Outline the gardens on the left hand side of the blackboard with white and green. After they are completed and the lesson drawn, draw some wheat with the yellow chalk and a pile of weeds with the brown chalk. A striking effect may be attained by going over the pile of weeds with the red chalk, giving it the appearance of burning.—*Bible Nature Stories in Chalk*, by Ella N. Wood, Fleming H. Revell Co., New York.

* * *

September 9

LET'S GET ORGANIZED

By J. C. MIKLOS

Y.P.M.V. Secretary, Michigan

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING SONG: "Can the World See Jesus in You?" No. 34 in *M.V. Songs*.

SENTENCE PRAYERS.

OFFERTORY.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

SYF REPORTS (the best of the summer's experiences).

SPECIAL MUSIC.

TALK: "The First Idea."

OBJECT LESSON TALK: "Five Kinds of J.M.V.'s."

DISCUSSION: "J.M.V. Objectives." (By Juniors.)

PLEDGE AND LAW: Join hands and give in unison the J.M.V. Pledge and Law.

(Hang banners or charts of the Pledge and Law where all can see and learn if they have not done so before.)

CLOSING SONG: "In the Service of the King," No. 82.

BENEDICTION.

Notes to Leaders

The program should present the attractive possibilities of the J.M.V. Society. Help the J.M.V.'s to become enthusiastic about the objectives of the society. As you develop this program, read over the following: *M.V. Leaflet 10*, "40,000 Boys and Girls Deserve Leadership," *M.V. Leaflet 11*, "The Society of Junior Missionary Volunteers," and the chapters on organization found in the *Junior M.V. Handbook*, pages 15-40.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Summary of summer's meetings or report of last meeting of previous school year.

The First Idea

The beginning of the Junior Missionary Volunteer Society can be traced back to the summer of 1879. The historical spot was a country S.D.A. church at Hazelton, Michigan. The community is known today as Juddville and is located just southwest of Flint, Michigan. A few days before this first J.M.V. Society was organized, Elder Luther Warren, then a lad in his teens, and his friend Harry Fenner were talking earnestly as they walked along a country road. They conceived the idea of having a boys' society; and before parting they climbed over a rail fence, went to a corner in the field where the bushes were thick, and told the Lord about their plans. Of this society Elder Warren says:

"There were only about six or eight of us at the first meeting, and we were somewhat diffident and backward in trying to carry on religious exercises together; but we tried to do things according to our ideas of order. We elected officers—a president and a secretary-treasurer. The meeting was opened with prayer and song, and we endeavored to conform to parliamentary rules in the transaction of business.

"At our weekly meetings the work done was reported—papers and tracts given away, missionary letters written and received, and other work of like character. A temperance pledge against the use of alcohol, tobacco, tea, coffee, and pork was drawn up and signed. Our collections were used to buy literature, except the small amount needed for record books and running expenses.

"A short time later someone suggested that a number of the girls desired to join us in our work, and after some discussion it was decided to invite them to unite with us in our meetings and work. After this our plans were somewhat enlarged. We held prayer and social meetings, missionary meetings, and temperance meetings, with special programs.

"The boys' meetings were held with none of the older folks present; but after the girls joined us, the meetings were held in the open family room and were usually attended by the adults of the family where the meeting was held."—*Missionary Volunteers and Their Work*, p. 10.

Five Kinds of J.M.V.'s

OBJECTS: Attach five electric light sockets to the end of an extension cord, or you may use five small table lamps.

In the first socket place a bulb which has been burned out; in the second socket place a photographer's bulb; in the third, place a small blue bulb; in the fourth, a red bulb; and in the fifth, a standard 100-watt frosted bulb.

THE LESSON: These five electric light bulbs represent the members of the average J.M.V. Society.

THIS FIRST BULB is supposed to give light, but it has no light to give. (*Turn it on.*) The electricity is there, but there is no light. The tiny wires on the inside of the bulb are broken. There is no contact. The bulb is dead. A good many J.M.V. members are like that. On the outside they look all right, but there is something wrong on the inside. The power is there, but the contact is broken, and so there is no light. When a Junior is inactive for a long period of time, he becomes spiritually dead.

THE SECOND BULB represents young people who become very enthusiastic occasionally. They make a bright light for a while, but it soon goes out. (*Turn on light.*) There is a flash, and then there is no light at all. Many church members are flash Christians: Their light does not last.

THE THIRD LIGHT is blue. (*Turn it on.*) In every society there are blue Christians. They are pessimistic and easily discouraged. They look at the world through blue glasses. (*Tell the story of Thomas, who did not believe that Christ had risen.*)

THE FOURTH BULB is red. In many J.M.V. Societies there are several members whose lights are red. (*Turn on fourth light.*) When someone proposes something new, they turn on the "stop" light. They enjoy controlling the "stop" lights. When new song books are needed for the society, these Juniors are the first to say, "Yes, but we can never pay for them." When someone proposes some SYF plan, they pick it to pieces and prove that it cannot possibly work. Every church has members who are "stop" lights.

THIS LAST LIGHT represents the members who carry the burdens and furnish the light of the J.M.V. program. They willingly accept parts for programs; they love to sing and pray; they enjoy sharing their faith with others; and they put forth a real effort to become progressive class members. They are in contact with God. (*Turn on light.*) Their light is continuous; it burns on and on. God wants you to be a light—not a dead light, not a blue light, not a flash light, not a red light, but a steady, bright light—a light that will shine on and on no matter what happens. Then people will see our light and will hear of the advent message through us, for as boys and girls we must Share Our Faith.

J.M.V. Objectives

(*This part should be directed by the teacher or by a capable J.M.V. leader. The suggestions made by the Juniors should be discussed and voted upon by the Juniors as goals to be worked toward during the school year.*)

LEADER: What would this J.M.V. Society like to have us work toward as some worthwhile goal or objective this year?

(*The following ideas can be emphasized by the group.*)

1. Some SYF project.
 - a. Literature.
 - b. Correspondence band.
 - c. Bible enrollment cards.
 - d. Christian help work.

(Thanksgiving baskets, Christmas baskets, or food for the needy.)
2. Temperance.
3. Bible Year.
4. Morning Watch.
5. Prayer band for non-Adventists.
6. M.V. Honors.
7. Progressive class achievements.
8. M.V. membership pins.
9. New J.M.V. song books.
10. Every member enroll in the Junior Bible Correspondence School of the Voice of Prophecy.

* * *

September 16

POISON



BY CREE SANDEFUR

Y.P.M.V. Secretary, Washington

ORDER OF SERVICE

SONG: "Dare to Be a Daniel," No. 48 in M.V. Songs.

SCRIPTURE: Daniel 1:8-17.

PRAYER.

SYF REPORTS.

OFFERTORY.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

TALK: "It Poisons the Mind."

MUSIC.

TALK: "Beware! It's a Killer!"

POEM: "Our Heroes."

CLOSING SONG: "I Would Be True," No. 58.

BENEDICTION.

It Poisons the Mind

It was a horrible story of crime. One of our leading weekly magazines entitled it, "The Case That Rocked New Jersey." A gang of boys had banded together. None of them was more than twelve years of age. Their fathers were prominent men, who provided well for their families. The children knew what it was to enjoy the best of everything that boys would ordinarily call good. The leader of the gang went with his mother to a Catholic church, and other boys in the group attended Sunday school. And yet, even with this kind of background, these boys gave themselves to crime. They indulged in a series of robberies and climaxed their acts by shooting down a middle-aged man. People could hardly believe the story. There seemed to be no explanation as to why the boys had done it.

However, as the boys were questioned, it was learned that all of them were using cigarettes. Also, by listening to radio serials,

reading cheap crime magazines, and attending movies, they were schooled in the ways of crime. The amazing part of the gang story is the attitude of the boys toward their crimes. In the police court, "they giggled, bickered over minor details of their exploits, . . . and romped all over the police chief's office." A doctor who was connected with the case said, "There is no real personal concept of sin on the part of these youngsters."¹

The steppingstones these boys used to a life of crime were cigarettes, cheap crime magazines, gang stories on the radio, and movies. The doctor said that these boys did not see their acts of crime as acts of sin. Cigarettes and cheap magazine reading do affect the mind. No Junior can think straight when warped by such influences.

Cigarettes are a steppingstone to another kind of poison—the marijuana cigarette. Not satisfied with the "kick" from the ordinary cigarette, some begin using the type of smoke that makes them crazy. It makes them have the feeling of no fear. This "feeling" leads many to their death. Unfortunately, these drug cigarettes are being sold to teen-agers. They usually cost about fifty cents each. In turn, the marijuana cigarette is another step toward becoming a slave to even worse drugs. "Marijuana is the steppingstone to heroin."²

The life and death of a drug addict is one of the most horrible stories ever written. There is the story of Herbert Caro, a young man twenty-two years of age. He weighed about two hundred pounds. Then he started using dope. He began sneering and laughing at those things that ordinary people think are good. He began feeling miserable, and his body ached all over. He lost weight. Finally, one day after an injection of heroin he died. What a horrible way to die! That which he was fooled into thinking would make him happy had killed him.

The Devil will poison with cigarette, marijuana, or heroin if given opportunity. He will do anything to get an individual to ruin the body, which is supposed to be the temple of God. The only sure way of staying out of his net is to leave the things that belong to him completely alone. A cigarette may appear ever so small, but in the hand of Satan it becomes a mighty sword for ruining boys and girls.

"I am a far too common sight.

I am small and innocent in appearance, but I contain immense possibilities for working mischief.

I ruin many a football team. No coach will permit players to use me during the season, for I am sure death to wind, speed, and 'pep.'

I am responsible for innumerable failures in school, and for still more in afterlife.

I can destroy a boy's ambition and will power, and put his brain to sleep.

At my best, I am a worthless thing to
spend good money for. At my worst,
I injure body, mind, and morals.
The evil I do is incalculable. Still I
flourish.
I am the student's worst enemy.
I am the cigarette."

—JOHN ELSON.

Yes, the cigarette is the enemy of every
Junior Missionary Volunteer. Wage your
battle against it. Every victory gained over
the demon cigarette is another defeat for
the devil.

1. *Signs*, Oct. 26, 1948, editorial.
2. "Speakers' Bureau Release" quotes from San
Francisco *Examiner*, Oct. 22, 1949.

Beware! It's a Killer!

The smoldering butt of a smoked-out
cigarette had been carelessly thrown from
a car window by a motorist driving through
the state of Maine. Unfortunately, it fell
among a pile of dry brown leaves. The
breeze fanned that spark into a flame that
destroyed forty million dollars' worth of
forests and homes. It was one of the major
disasters that has happened in the United
States. The newspaper told the story of
Roy Maserve, who returned to his home to
find only ashes.

"I was born in the house that stood here,"
he said, "just sixty-four years ago. It has
always been my home. My brother and I
farmed together. I guess between us we have
450 acres here. Now there's nothing left
but the bare land.

"About four o'clock yesterday afternoon
red began to show over the hill a half mile
away. We had been warned that the fire was
coming, and we had a truck loaded with
some things. I ran to the shop for a tool
kit I wanted to save. From there I ran to
the barn, where there were two horses and
thirty-two head of cattle. I had turned out
the horses and twenty of the cattle when
someone shouted to me.

"I ran back to the door, and I had to
drop on my hands and knees and crawl
through. It was just like a thundershower,
only it was raining sparks. They came down
like hail. Exactly twenty minutes after I
saw the flames a half mile away, the barn
roof fell in."

"Twenty minutes; and the work of a
lifetime was gone! Hundreds of people
were made homeless; others were dead; the
countryside was a shambles—all the work
of a tiny spark in the burned-out butt of
a cigarette."

Horrible though this fire was, its destruc-
tion is small compared with the harm done
to millions of others by burning cigarettes.

Tobacco is a killer. It does not always
destroy with speed. Usually it goes slowly
about its work. Nicotine is the agent which
is most guilty. Acute nicotine poisoning
causes dizziness, nausea, vomiting, clammy

perspiration, and prostration. That explains
why the first cigarette usually makes one
so sick. Medical students, in their experi-
ments, sometimes dissolve the scrapings
which collect in the stem of an old pipe
and then inject this fluid into the blood
stream of dogs. Slowly the nerves of the
dog are affected. By continued injections,
the dog's brain cells become paralyzed.
Death follows. Doctor J. J. Kellogg took
only one cigarette and soaked it in two
teaspoonfuls of water overnight. He then
took one teaspoonful of this solution and
injected it into the skin of a cat. Of course,
the blood picked up that nicotine poison and
carried it to the nervous system. The poor
cat was dead in fifteen minutes.

It is true that the first cigarette smoked
by a boy or girl is not likely to cause death.
In the case of the dog and cat, the poison
was injected more or less directly into the
blood stream. When a cigarette is smoked,
the nicotine and other poisons are not
placed directly in the blood system. Usually,
only enough of the poisons are gathered to
cause dizziness and vomiting. Nevertheless,
when a boy or girl continues to use tobacco,
nicotine and its co-workers slowly hammer
away at their work of destruction.

Athletes know this. Alonzo Staggs when
asked about smoking said, "I am opposed
to the injection of poison of any kind into
my body. I believe that a boy or girl, a
man or a woman, is foolish to impair the
machinery of his or her body." It is no
wonder, then, with that kind of standard,
that he built winning football teams. One
of the greatest baseball players of all
time, Ty Cobb, said, "Cigarette smoking
stupefies the brain, saps vitality. . . . No
one who hopes to be successful in any line
can afford to contract so detrimental a
habit." Gene Tunney would not even permit
his name to be used in connection with
cigarette advertising. He refused thousands
of dollars which were offered him if he
would only endorse cigarettes. To him,
tobacco is a killer. He was willing to fight
tobacco, but never willing to endorse it.

But you ask, What is the effect that
smoking has on athletes which causes the
best of them to refuse the cigarette? To
be an outstanding athlete, the reflexes must
work almost perfectly. Without a second's
hesitation the muscles of the body must
respond to lightning-like commands from
the brain. Tobacco breaks down and deadens
the telephone system of the body. No won-
der, then, great athletes do not smoke. But
athletes are not the only ones needing un-
usual reflexes. The same principle holds for
the typist or the Junior playing the piano.
In fact, everything worth doing needs our
best. Do not be satisfied with anything less
than the best. You cannot do your best while
indulging in the killer tobacco.

Our Heroes

Here's a hand to the boy who has courage
To do what he knows to be right;
When he falls in the way of temptation,
He has a hard battle to fight.

Who strives against self and his comrades
Will find a most powerful foe;
All honor to him if he conquers,
A cheer for the boy who says "No!"

There's many a battle fought daily
The world knows nothing about;
There's many a brave little soldier
Whose strength puts a legion to rout.

And he who fights sin single-handed
Is more of a hero, I say,
Than he who leads soldiers to battle,
And conquers by arms in the fray.

Be steadfast, my boy, when you're
tempted;
Do what you know to be right!
Stand firm by the colors of manhood,
And you will o'ercome in the fight.

"The right!" be your battle cry ever
In waging the warfare of life;
And God, who knows who are the heroes,
Will give you the strength for the
strife.

—PHOEBE CARY.

* * *

September 23

CLIMBING UP

BY VIONE HENDRIX
Teacher, Southern California

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING SONG: "Higher Ground," No.
90 in *Gospel Melodies*.

PRAYER.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

SPECIAL MUSIC.

OFFERING.

REMARKS BY THE LEADER. (See Notes.)

DIALOGUE: "Upward Trails."

POEM: "I Will Follow the Upward Road
Today."

CLOSING SONG: "Living for Jesus," No. 8,
BENEDICTION.

Leader's Remarks

When we realize that our aim in life is
to strive to reach higher ground, we must
consider some of the ways by which this
is made possible. We must not just drift
along on the road of life. We must purpose
in our hearts that we will not detour from
the upward trail. Sometimes the travel on
this upward road is difficult and dangerous,
but the reward is great. Our friends can be
a help or a hindrance to us in this journey.
Our time must be wisely spent. Shall we
not look for the beautiful, worth-while
things in life? Jesus, our Guide, had an
eye for beauty. He observed birds, flowers,
and all kinds of growing things. Hobbies
are means of developing skills and abilities.
They help us to build character. We must
keep in constant touch with our heavenly

Guide. Either we build beautiful, noble lives, or we build lives on a lower scale.

"To every man there openeth
A high way and a low,
And every man decideth
The way his soul shall go."

—JOHN OXENHAM.

Tonight our members are portraying some of their paths on the upward trail.

Upward Trails

SCENE I

SETTING: A boy is seated at a table looking at a book. A knock is heard at the door. The boy looks up.

JOHN: Come in.

(Henry enters.)

JOHN: Hello, Henry. Come in and sit down.

HENRY: I just came by to see if you would go to the football game with me tonight. It's going to be an exciting game. The Valley High boys are very good players.

JOHN: I'm sorry, but I can't go, Henry. This is Friday night, you know, and I go to young people's meeting at the church tonight.

HENRY: Must you go to church on Friday night as well as on Saturday? It seems you never can do anything the rest of the gang do. I'd think you would get tired of going to church always and never having any fun.

JOHN: Oh, but we do have good times. You should—(a knock at the door) Come in! (A boy enters.) Oh, hello, Bob.

BOB: Hello, John. Hello, Henry.

JOHN: Henry has just been saying that he thinks I don't have any fun because I go to church on Friday night and Saturday.

BOB: Well, have you told him what good times we do have? Did you tell him about last Sunday?

HENRY: What about last Sunday? I was over here, and you weren't home.

JOHN: Oh, we left home early. The boys in our class are working on their Hiking Honor. One of the requirements is to describe three interesting trails in the neighborhood and to make a map of these trails. Eight of us went on this trip.

BOB: What fun we had! We started early and took the path to the timber. The sun wasn't very high when we reached the trees. I never before heard so many birds. We identified twenty-five in no time. That helped in our Bird Honor.

HENRY: Bird Honor? What do you mean?

BOB: Oh, we learn about birds, flowers, trees, insects, spiders, and many other things. When we can pass a test on these subjects, we receive an honor token.

JOHN: On this trip we also collected leaves and identified trees, but the best part of it to my mind was when we found the butterflies. We saw one big moth that had

just emerged from its cocoon. It was very interesting to watch it exercise its wings and grow more lovely before our eyes. I'm going to learn more about them.

HENRY: It does sound as if you had a good time. What started you at doing these things, and what does this have to do with going to church?

BOB: Come with us tonight and find out.

HENRY: But I was going to the game. I don't want to go alone, though, so guess I'll go with you.

JOHN and BOB: O.K. Come on then. It's time to go.

(Exit.)

SCENE II

SETTING: A church filled with people. A large number of boys and girls are present. The three boys enter from the rear and find seats.

HENRY (in a loud whisper): Say, look at all the people here. I didn't know so many people went to church, especially on Friday evening when there's a big football game on. Quite a lot of the fellows and girls from our school are here, too. I can't understand it.

BOB: Tonight we are having an investiture service.

HENRY: What's that?

BOB: I can't explain now; but if you listen, you'll find out what it is.

(Henry settles back in his seat with an inquiring expression on his face. The leader of the M.V. Society steps forward to speak.)

LEADER: We are glad so many people are here tonight, and we wish to welcome especially the visitors. This is a grand occasion for those who are to be invested. They have worked hard for this honor that is about to come to them. A little explanation will help our visitors to understand better what we are doing. In our society we have different classes to help the boys and girls prepare to be better men and women and yet give them a good time. These classes are known as Friends, Companions, and Comrades. Certain requirements must be met before a candidate can advance to the next class.

HENRY (in low voice): Something like Boy Scouts, huh?

JOHN: Yes. Sh-h—h.

LEADER: Tonight these boys and girls you see sitting here in front have completed these requirements, and they are now ready to be invested. Each class will give some demonstrations of its work. The first J.M.V. class is the Friends. In order to be in this class you must meet the following requirements. (Leader reads requirements.) Now for a few demonstrations. Larry will tie some knots for us.

(Larry ties and explains knots.)

HENRY: Say, he's pretty good. Wish I could tie knots like that. I didn't know

Larry could do things. I always thought he was an old bookworm. Reckon he'd teach me?

BOB: Yes, I'm sure he would; but don't talk now.

LEADER: Our next class is the Companions. This work is a little harder than that of the Friends. (Leader reads the requirements.) Nature is always interesting. We will hear how much some of our Companions know about it.

(Class identifies trees, birds, etc.)

HENRY: I don't know one tree from another.

JOHN: You could soon learn.

LEADER: Now we come to the Comrades. They, too, must have certain items completed. (Leader reads requirements.) This class will show you some of the essentials in first aid.

(Class demonstrates.)

HENRY: I would never be able to do anything like that.

BOB: Surely you could.

HENRY: I don't know.

LEADER: We hope you have enjoyed our program. The Juniors have had a great deal of fun in learning to do these things, and each one is looking forward to meeting the requirements of the next class. Good night, and thank you for coming.

(Exit.)

SCENE III

SETTING: The boys are walking home after meeting.

HENRY: No wonder you boys are willing to give up football. I wouldn't mind giving it up either if I had something as interesting as that to take its place.

JOHN: Well, why don't you join the Friend class that is being organized now? Then you will be ready for the investiture service in the spring.

HENRY: Do you think they'd let me?

BOB: Of course they will. John and I expect to be invested in the spring, too. It would be great fun to do our work together.

HENRY: Well, I will then.

JOHN and BOB (slapping Henry on the back): Good! We certainly will have a lot of fun.

(Exit.)

I Will Follow the Upward Road Today

I will follow the upward road today,
I will keep my face to the light,
I will keep high thoughts as I go my way,
I will do what I know is right.
I will look for flowers by the side of the road,
I will laugh and love and be strong,
I will try to lighten another's load
This day as I fare along.

—MARY S. EDGAR.

Home Missionary Department

Speeding the Truth to Every Home

Suggestive Program for Colporteur Rally Day Sabbath, September 2

OPENING SONG: "Lift Up the Trumpet,"
No. 541 in *Church Hymnal*.

SCRIPTURE READING: John 4:35-42.

PRAYER.

TESTIMONY STUDY on the publishing work.

READING: "Streams of Truth to Lands
Afar," by G. A. Campbell.

READING: "The Power of the Press," by
E. E. Franklin.

CLOSING HYMN: "The Golden Morning Is
Fast Approaching," No. 547 in *Church
Hymnal*.

BENEDICTION.

Testimony Study on the Pub- lishing Work

1. What is said of the present day?

"We are standing on the threshold of the crisis of great and solemn events. Prophecies are fulfilling. Strange, eventful history is being recorded in the books of heaven. Everything in our world is in agitation. . . . Events are changing to bring about the day of God, which hasteth greatly."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, p. 14.

2. In view of these facts, what responsibility rests upon Seventh-day Adventists?

"In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light bearers. To them has been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world. . . . There is no other work of so great importance. . . . It is a wonderful privilege to understand the will of God as revealed in the sure word of prophecy. This places on us a heavy responsibility. God expects us to impart to others the knowledge that He has given to us."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, p. 19.

3. What instrumentalities has God provided for the accomplishment of this work in these last days?

"Institutions of learning, publishing houses, and health institutions. . . . All these are instrumentalities of God to co-operate in the grand work represented by the first, second, and third angels, the work of warning the inhabitants of the world that Christ is coming the second time with power



"There is no higher work than evangelistic canvassing."

and great glory."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, p. 18.

4. How important is the circulation of the products of the press?

"If there is one work more important than another, it is that of getting our publications before the public, thus leading them to search the Scriptures."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 4, p. 390.

5. What message does our literature contain?

"The gospel of the kingdom is the message for which the world is perishing, and this message, as contained in our publications already in print, and those yet to be issued, should be circulated among the people who are nigh and afar off."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, p. 67.

6. What is the purpose of the publications?

"The publications sent forth from our printing houses are to prepare a people to meet God. Throughout the world they are to do the same work that was accomplished by John the Baptist for the Jewish nation."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 7, p. 139.

7. Upon whom rests the responsibility of circulating this literature?

"It is essential that our publications be widely circulated. . . . God has ordained the canvassing work as a means of presenting before the people the light contained in our books. . . . This is the very work the Lord would have His people do at this time. . . . We cannot too highly estimate this work."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, p. 313.

8. Is there any higher work we can engage in?

"There is no higher work than that of evangelistic canvassing; for it involves the performance of the highest moral duties. Those who engage in this work need always to be under control of the Spirit of God."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, p. 331.

9. For what is there great need at this time?

"There is great need of men who can use the press to the best advantage, that the truth may be given wings to speed it on to every nation, and tongue, and people."—*Gospel Workers*, p. 25.

10. What will be the final result of this work?

"Through most wonderful workings of divine providence, mountains of difficulty

Notes to Leaders

The following material has been prepared for the Colporteur Rally Day Program, Sabbath, September 2, which by appointment of the General Conference Committee is a day that has been set apart for the purpose of acquainting our believers with our literature ministry and its great objectives in our world-wide evangelistic endeavors. The purpose of this program is to lead our members to look toward the colporteur work as a great opportunity for service for the Master.

The program as outlined is only suggestive. If a different arrangement appeals to you, feel free to make any modifications that will best fill the local needs. We urge, however, that the service on Sabbath, September 2, be devoted to a presentation of the literature ministry and its great spiritual objectives. The literature ministry is a form of Christian service in which many more of our church members can participate.

—GENERAL CONFERENCE PUBLISHING
DEPARTMENT.

will be removed, and cast into the sea. The message that means so much to the dwellers upon the earth, will be heard and understood. Men will know what is truth. Onward and still onward the work will advance, until the whole earth shall have been warned; and then shall the end come."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, p. 96.

Streams of Truth to Lands Afar

It has been said that the four greatest factors of human progress are Christianity, the written Word, movable type, and the printing press. If we were able by some magic formula to turn the clock of the centuries back to the years preceding the invention of movable type and the printing press, we would find ourselves in the darkness of medieval times, when an apostate Christian church dominated the minds and bodies of men and when Ignorance and her twin sister, Superstition, ruled supreme.

Many pious reformers, such as Huss, Jerome, and Savonarola, arose in those dark years and attempted by voice of mouth to reform the church; but their efforts ended in the fearful flames of the stake. The time had come, however, when the Reformation message was to be declared—but how? The Roman church knew only too well how to silence any voice raised against her moral corruptions—by the rack, the burning stake, and other satanic devices of torture and death.

"God works in mysterious ways His wonders to perform," we are told; and in the words of Holy Writ we are informed: "But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; and base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are." 1 Corinthians 1:27, 28.

Well did Luther appreciate and recognize the importance of printing. "Printing," said he, "is the latest and greatest gift by which God enables us to advance the things of the gospel." Here indeed was an agency with which the Papacy could not cope; for she could silence the spoken word, but the printed word was being multiplied and carried everywhere, so that Luther's name became a household word over all Germany within a fortnight and most of Europe in a month's time, through the circulation of his printed theses.

Philip Melancthon, Luther's co-worker, said: "Another ray of light which helped disperse the darkness at this time was the invention of the printing press. This made easy the multiplication and dissemination of books, thus forming the channel through

which the streams of truth, once set flowing, should find its way to all parts of the civilized world."—*Philip Melancthon*, p. 14.

A great historian wrote: "The printing press, that powerful machine discovered in the fifteenth century, came to the support of all these exertions, and its terrible missiles were continually battering the walls of the enemy."—J. H. Merle d'Aubigné, *History of the Reformation*, Vol. 3, p. 129.

Now, let us note what a historian of the Catholic Church says on the subject: "The discovery of printing about the time of Luther rendered possible the rapid spread of heresy, to which must be added the long contest between the church and the secular powers, which had greatly weakened."—*Bible History*, to which is added a compendium of church history by Right Reverend Richard Gilman, D.D., p. 291.

Just as the printing and circulation of literature was the prime agency in giving to the world the reformation message, so it is to be the principal agency by which the third angel's message is to be proclaimed to all the world. This is attested to by the following words from the Spirit of prophecy: "In a large degree through our publishing houses is to be accomplished the work of that other angel who comes down from heaven with great power, and who lightens the earth with his glory."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 7, p. 140. "I have been shown that the press is powerful for good or evil. This agency can reach and influence the public mind as no other means can."—*Life Sketches*, p. 214.

The pioneers of the message recognized the effectiveness of the printed page; for they produced printed literature before they had a church organization, and they built a publishing house before they had a conference. Literature was the pioneer agency in nearly all countries in which the advent message has entered. This is true of the work in foreign lands.

JAPAN.—In 1879, in the very beginning of our work in Japan, a monthly magazine was published, entitled *Owari No Fukuin*. For twenty years this magazine was sold (single copies) for twenty sen, giving the colporteur a 90 per cent commission. Then it was reduced in price to ten sen, giving the colporteur the regular 50 per cent commission.

CHINA.—Brother La Rue came to Hong Kong in 1887, doing ship missionary work through literature distribution. Some Chinese became interested in the truth through these tracts and translated several of them into the Chinese language. This was the humble beginning of our work in that country of teeming millions.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—In 1889, two British and Foreign Bible Society colpor-

teurs arrived in Manila with a supply of the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke in the Tagalog language. This was the very first effort of Protestants in these islands. Unfortunately, these men were poisoned in their hotel. One died, but the other upon recovering was banished from the islands.

Nine years later Dewey opened up the country for agents of the American and British Bible Societies to translate, publish, and distribute Bibles in the languages of the islands. These Bible colporteurs must have been very successful in distributing the Word of God in this stronghold of Catholicism; for in January, 1914, in the city of Vigan, Northern Luzon, 2,500 Bibles were publicly burned. However, the strong opposition against Protestant Bibles did not stop these bold colporteurs of the Word; for they continued on, and their efforts prepared the soil for the message.

In 1905, R. A. Caldwell came up from Australia to the Philippine Islands and sold thousands of dollars' worth of *Patriarchs and Prophets* and *Coming King* in Spanish. In 1913, Elder Finster secured a small hand press and set it up in an outbuilding in the rear of his house. The rest of the year that little press and an insignificant amount of type and equipment printed literature worth over \$5,000.

MALAYA.—In 1900, a colporteur from India toured the Straits Settlements and Malaya selling English books. This was the very first effort to proclaim the truth in Malaya.

—G. A. CAMPBELL.

The Power of the Press

"The pen is mightier than the sword." This is an axiom that has proved true during all the centuries of time. The problem of the lack of international co-operation among mankind is not solved by the clash of arms, with its death and destruction by armies and navies. But good will, peace, and prosperity are fostered and promoted by an exchange of ideas and the use of language. These are the tools to keep the peace of the world. In the last few years, we have seen great intellectual and scientific achievements. Ours has been an age in which great use has been made of certain scientific research. This concerns us all because, as never before, our common needs must be brought before a shrinking world. This not only implies human speech as a means of communication, but also implies a more effective use of writing. Actually, the beginning of writing and printing meant the beginning of civilization for the world.

To the Chinese people must be given the credit for the invention of printing and movable type. Seals and dies had been known in China long before the founding

of Rome. In the valleys of the Euphrates and the Tigris, Babylonians printed copies of their laws upon lumps of clay. Later the Greeks and Romans used the art. Then about the fifteenth century, when there was an outstanding need for a great reformation—and for all kinds of information to go to the people at a price whereby millions could be reached—the art of printing was perfected. The accumulated information of the ages could be passed on for the benefit of future generations. Man for many years had been able to write; but now he was able, through the great invention of the printing press, to maintain a higher intellectual standard. Knowledge and information as dependable weapons helped the great middle class, which was rapidly increasing, to rise above the brute force of the feudal lords.

Printed documents outlined democratic forms of government. Paper was manufactured and used for the printing of the Bible and other documents of the Reformation. Were it not for certain printed documents, no doubt the common man of today would still be living in a state of semiserfdom.

Why did God hand down to man this great invention? We firmly believe that just as it was used to win souls in the days of the Renaissance and Reformation, it will now be used to play a large role in extending God's kingdom and speeding the third angel's message to all the world.

Early Days

In the days of William Miller, when God had a great message of His soon coming to give to the world, the press was used in a large way; and thousands and tens of thousands of people became fully acquainted with and were stirred by those thrilling announcements.

In *Early Writings*, page 96, we read: "I saw that the truth must go and that we must not be too fearful, that tracts and papers might better go to three where they were not needed than to have one deprived of them who prizes them and can be benefited by them. I saw that the last-day signs should be brought out clearly, for the manifestations of Satan are on the increase. The publications of Satan are increasing, their power is growing, and what we do to get the truth before others must be done quickly."

In recent years we have seen many providential and miraculous developments, indicating that God has set His hand of approval upon this plan of gospel endeavor. The success of this work at the present time is one of the most thrilling epochs in Advent history. It seems there are no forces of evil or combination of forces that can stop the ministry of the printed page. In missionary endeavor it is one of the most important factors in the dissemination of Bible

truth. It goes where the minister or evangelist cannot go. Colporteurs carry it to the most remote regions. It goes into the homes of the rich and the homes of the poor. It finds its way into palaces, as well as into grass huts far in the interior; and as a result whole churches have sprung into existence.

To show how this literature is accomplishing a great work in evangelism, we pass on a few experiences.

One young man from South India accepted the truth about a year ago, and as a result he lost his work. After some time he took up colporteur evangelism, and at the same time worked earnestly for the salvation of his friends and relatives. His brother and brother-in-law were baptized in June, 1949, but his wife refused to stay with him because he chose the colporteur work in preference to government employment. This man said: "This is God's work, and I shall carry on regardless of opposition." As he works day by day, he watches for souls; and already some of his customers are studying the Bible in preparation for baptism. He has enrolled many in the Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School. The other day the Voice of Prophecy received a note from a student referring to this same man. The Voice of Prophecy student wrote, "He is canvassing for your books, but he works more for Christ as a gospel worker."

In 1880, the servant of the Lord wrote: "Our publications are now sowing the gospel seed and are instrumental in bringing as many souls to Christ as the preached word. *Whole churches have been raised up as a result of their circulation.*"

To see churches being raised up at present establishes faith that the Lord is leading; and as we look forward with confidence to even greater results, we should be encouraged to labor, as we are told, "with faith and hope and courage."

One of our evangelists writes: "A lady was praying earnestly that God would give

her light concerning the teachings of the Bible. While in prayer a faithful colporteur rang the doorbell. Soon he was showing her the books containing the present truth message. She immediately recognized that God had answered her prayer. She purchased *Bible Readings for the Home* and *Desire of Ages*.

"At last this woman found the spiritual food for which her heart was longing. From day to day she feasted upon the messages of the good books. She searched her Bible for each Scripture reference given in the books. Later an evangelistic meeting was advertised. She and her husband came to the meetings. After each meeting they attended, this woman checked the teachings of the evangelist with those found in *Bible Readings*. She is now keeping the Sabbath, and she and her husband are attending Sabbath services."

From India, one of our colporteurs writes: "When I came here in 1947 as a colporteur, there was no work established in this place; so I started one small Sabbath school with two people—a man and his wife. After some time more people joined our Sabbath school. Six people have been baptized, and ten people are getting ready for baptism. Now, in 1949, there are twelve baptized members in my town."

Colporteur E. J. Whiting, who has for many years been carrying the message in the printed page to the people of Cornwall, England, and has already been blessed by seeing six souls baptized, writes: "A signal example of the working of God's Spirit was given to me some time ago when I delivered to a farmer a copy of the new book *The Bible Speaks*. I referred him to the chapter which shows that the British Isles was one of the last strongholds of Sabbatarianism, resisting until after A.D. 1029, when Queen Margaret married Malcolm of Scotland. After the week end, I saw this farmer again and asked him if he had thought any more about what I had said on Friday. He said, 'Yes, and I have prayed about it, too.' He said he was sure it was right. So I dealt with Satan's hatred of God's law and explained that he is going to make war with the remnant, who keep that law and believe in prophecy. Then I said, 'You, Mr. _____, have to make that decision, and it will not be easy. But how do you feel about it?' Without hesitation and to my surprise, he said, 'I will keep it.' And there, against that field gate, we prayed together as he pledged himself to take this step.

The favorable location of Baguio, Philippine Islands, and its beautiful environment early attracted people from the lowlands. Into this city, colporteur R. A. Caldwell must have been attracted, perhaps by the cool climate, coupled with the impelling



In South India, a young man lost his job but found God.

force that led him to spread the advent message through the books that he sold. He walked into the office of the city secretary one day and sold him *Great Controversy* and *Patriarchs and Prophets*. The message found in these books must have taken such a grip on the heart of this young man that he did not count it a loss to give up his lucrative job and property holdings in Baguio. Instead, he began to devote his time to giving the gladdening message to his friends and relatives. As a result, he was able to influence his parents, brothers and sisters, other relatives, and many friends. A chain reaction of conversions resulted from these so that today it is safe to say the seeds sown by colporteur Caldwell at Baguio have brought forth "some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold."

The Call to Service

In *Colporteur Evangelist*, pages 30, 32, and 80, we read this stirring appeal to our believers:

"Our church members are to arise and shine, because their light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon them. Let those who know the truth arouse out of sleep, and make every effort to reach the people where they are. The work of the Lord must no longer be neglected by us and made secondary to worldly interests. We have no time to be idle or discouraged. The gospel is to be proclaimed to all the world. The publications containing the light of present truth are to go forth to all places. Canvassing campaigns are to be organized for the sale of our literature, that the world may be enlightened as to just what is before us."

"Oh, that thousands more of our people had a realization of the time in which we are living, and of the work to be done in field service, in house-to-house labor."

"If there is one work more important than another, it is that of getting our publications before the public, thus leading them to search the Scriptures."

To Labor While Probation Lingers

"The judgments of God are in the earth, and, under the influence of the Holy Spirit, we must give the message of warning that He has entrusted to us. We must give this message quickly, line upon line, precept upon precept. Men will soon be forced to great decisions, and it is our duty to see that they are given an opportunity to understand the truth, that they may make their stand intelligently on the right side. The Lord calls upon His people to labor—labor earnestly and wisely—while probation lingers."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, pp. 126, 127.

"Unless we understand the importance of the moments that are swiftly passing into eternity, and make ready to stand in

the great day of God, we shall be unfaithful stewards. The watchman is to know the time of night. Everything is now clothed with a solemnity that all who believe the truth for this time should realize. They should act in reference to the day of God. The judgments of God are about to fall upon the world, and we need to be preparing for the great day."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, p. 407.

As we look to the Master's life, we explore the thought of responsibility. Listen as He says: "Wist ye not that I must be

about My Father's business?" "I must work the works of Him that sent Me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work." "My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me, and to finish His work." And if we press on to the quiet period of eventide in the consciousness of a fulfilled purpose in life, the words, "I have glorified Thee on the earth: I have finished the work which Thou gavest Me to do," will be the pattern of our consecration.

—E. E. FRANKLIN.

Missionary Leadership

Let's Make the Missionary Service Popular

An inspiring missionary service is indispensable to a live evangelistic church. An evangelistic church is one the members of which are evangelistic workers, one in which an energetic program is strongly promoted and kept before the church week after week. If we had no denominational plan for a weekly service especially designed for this purpose, our most spiritual and energetic church leaders would surely be asking for one.

As a city pastor anxious to see my church become such a center of evangelistic activity, I have a strong conviction that we can and should make our weekly missionary service more effective. Unless we make it the effective agency it should be, our churches cannot measure up to the vision God has given us of a church "fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners." And further, if we will give it the attention that it deserves, this weekly missionary service can become one of the most vital and delightful services of the church.

The manner in which this service is conducted on the Sabbath will largely determine how popular it is and how much the church works. One of the first aims of the missionary leader should be to make the missionary service a popular feature of the church. If it is popular, the chances are good that the church will work energetically; but if it is dull and uninspiring, it will not be well liked, and very likely the church will not catch the vision of service, and well-laid plans will meet with a poor response.

But the missionary service is certain to be well received if it is well planned by the missionary committee, if it is presented as a short, lively, spirited rally, and if a few rules are faithfully followed.

First of all, when should such a service be held? It would be a fatal mistake to de-

vote every Sabbath sermon hour to the task of putting the church to work. An evangelistic church will be one the members of which bring their friends to the Sabbath services with them. And visitors to our Sabbath services should catch the inspiration of the worship service and be spiritually fed by an exposition of the Word of God. Visitors will always be favorably impressed by the enthusiasm of a working church that has a challenging missionary program, but they will certainly expect that phase to be promoted at a more appropriate time than the sermon hour.

The Sabbath school, with its informality and audience participation, forms an ideal setting for a brief, appealing ten-minute missionary service. The most suitable time is immediately at the close of the lesson study, and it is important that not a single minute go to waste between the close of the lesson study and the beginning of the missionary service. Conduct it as though it were a part of the Sabbath school, with no intermission between. The Sabbath school and missionary service can be closed together as a joint service, with an intermission before the preaching service.

In churches where the missionary service is treated with little or no respect, it usually seems to be conducted *during an intermission*. In one church I once heard it called "the intermissionary meeting." Nothing could be worse than an intermission and a meeting at the same time, but I have seen it tried in the missionary meeting. Have either a meeting or an intermission—one or the other—not both at the same time.

In most of our Sabbath schools, a bell is rung three to five minutes before the close of the lesson period, and a second signal is given when the time of the lesson period is ended. The ideal plan would be for the Sabbath-school superintendent and those who participate in the missionary service to leave their classes at the sound

of the first signal and take their places at the front while the classes are closing. The signal to close the lesson study is also the signal to start the missionary service, and the meeting should begin at once, before people have opportunity to start leaving their classes.

A good theme song is a helpful and appropriate device to use in quickly shifting from the Sabbath-school lesson study to the missionary service. When the time arrives for the class study to end, let the pianist begin at once to play the rousing strains of the theme song. This will help considerably to end all class discussions simultaneously, and by the time the song is played through, the entire Sabbath school will be facing the speaker's stand. Then let an enthusiastic song leader lead the congregation in singing the theme song, and the missionary service is started.

It is preferable, I believe, for the classes to remain seated together for the missionary service, for several reasons. If they stay where they are, no time is lost in starting the service. The Sabbath-school class is the most efficient unit to utilize in taking up the missionary report. It makes a very satisfactory basis for missionary band organization. It would be well to appoint a missionary leader for each class. If people are allowed time to shift from their classes to other seats, you will have an intermission problem, whether Sabbath school is still in session or not. Ask the people to remain in the classes. Do not have them stand for the theme song or prayer. Start the service before they have a chance to move. Feature "class" missionary activities in some meetings. Occasionally turn most of the time of the service over to the classes to discuss missionary plans in their own units under the chairmanship of the class missionary leader. Occasionally present comparative reports of the missionary work reported by the different classes. Friendly competition between the classes in such things as distributing literature, inviting visitors to the services, securing Bible course enrollments, participating in Field Adventuring days, starting community Bible classes, conducting branch Sabbath schools or Sunday schools, etc., will generate a spirit of activity and make the missionary service an inspiring feature of the Sabbath services. The results will prove surprising.

In presenting the topic for the day, the missionary leader should *avoid preaching a sermonette* or reading a "topic," but he should utilize those precious minutes to present *plans and ideas* for evangelizing the community. It is absolutely unnecessary to give a talk on "The Importance of Doing This or That." *Present plans.* Really, our people do not need any more lectures on the need of working for God. If they should,

an occasional sermon will fill that need. The thing that will set a church on fire these days is imaginative leadership with simple, crystal-clear, practical, workable plans, backed up by a workable organization. Let the missionary meeting have to do entirely with what, who, when, where, and how.

The missionary report is indispensable to thorough organization, and this part of the service requires definite and careful planning. A definite time should be allowed for the report blanks to be filled in, and nothing else should be done at that time. A complete pause for the report will impress all with its importance. Never, NEVER, ask the congregation to fill out their reports while you—or someone else—is talking. People need to concentrate on the reporting to make an accurate report, and they need to concentrate on what is being said if it is to do them any good. If you attempt both at once, they will logically feel that what you are saying at that time is really unimportant, that the report is unimportant, or that neither is important. If that is the case, it would be better to cancel altogether the unimportant features of the meeting. The report blanks may be distributed to the Sabbath-school classes before Sabbath school begins—just as the Sabbath-school envelopes are. There should be no one walking among the congregation distributing blanks during the service.

It is not necessary for the missionary leader to be a fluent speaker, but he should be a leader and an organizer. His behind-the-scenes planning will make the service a success. Each month the missionary committee should meet together to make the plans for all the weekly missionary services for the month. In doing this they should study to (1) have interesting variety in the programs; (2) fit into the pastor's evangelistic plans; (3) give proper recognition to the seasonal conference programs, such as Ingathering, Signs campaign, etc.; (4) work out the details of the reporting system, theme song, etc.; (5) represent various classes and individuals in the short audience-participation programs so that a good cross section of the church is represented; (6) discover new talent to be trained for special lines of service such as Bible readings, etc.; (7) represent all lines of missionary activity in the year's program as suggested in the CHURCH OFFICERS' GAZETTE; (8) know how and when to distribute the supplies that are received by the missionary secretary from time to time; and (9) secure full participation in special projects.

There is not anything in all the church program more fascinating to all than to see the church working and going forward, whether it is a small church or a large city church. If we make this our keynote for

the missionary service, and if it is adequately planned and conducted with inspiration, why should not it be the most delightful service of our whole church program?

If we who are leaders have the vision, we can make it that way.

—FRANCIS F. BUSH.



Adventure Echoes From North America

Missouri. "The mid-century Home-Visitation program has proved a great blessing to all those who have taken part thus far. Many who have not gone out on the appointed day are being 'fired' by those who did go out. The experiences of those who went calling the last two Sabbaths have been very heart warming. We expect to have this become a perpetual program in all our churches."

Michigan. "Adventists move out in third Field Adventure! Every indication points to largest mass missionary movement in history of denomination. Gospel teams to invade cities, towns, villages, and countryside. Two million homes to be visited in one day. Literature, Bible-school enrollments, radio logs, evangelistic announcements, mail literature, and every other possible agency to be used in following up interest to be discovered October 7. As was flashed to the British Army in time of battle, 'His Majesty expects every man to do his duty.'"

Southeastern California. "More than half the churches in our conference are making a house-to-house distribution of either tracts or the 20th Century lessons. One church is visiting 2,000 homes weekly and another, 1,200. A number of churches have started out to visit every home in the city."

Southern California. "This Field Adventuring is our only hope of finishing the work. Our churches are well organized, and some churches are visiting as many as two thousand homes every Sabbath."

"Last week I covered our entire conference by calling in the pastors, missionary leaders, and missionary secretaries into three institutes. Both the pastors and leaders enthusiastically expressed themselves in favor of this plan. This morning there are several letters which re-emphasize their enthusiasm."

New York. "We firmly believe that the Home-Visitation program will accomplish the best results at smallest cost. We must keep stressing systematic house-to-house

work, and we are trying to hold before our people a goal of at least one new Bible correspondence school student a month per member."

Southern New England. "We are greatly enjoying our week-end visits with the churches throughout the conference, and we have two more meetings until we have covered the entire conference with this Adventuring-for-Christ program."

Hawaii. "This week we concluded the first Laymen's Evangelistic Institute to be held in the Islands. Delegates from all the churches and all the workers met in a great combined island-wide institute. It was wonderful. Everyone took part. We went up and down the streets of Honolulu ringing doorbells, and we had wonderful experiences. It works the same here as it does in California. Elder O. L. Bauer, our union president, had a wonderful experience on our field day praying in the home of a Buddhist lady. We believe a great new day is here."

Southwest Mission. "This Field Adventure plan appeals to me, for this Every-Home-Visitation crusade is based on the Bible and the Spirit of prophecy. Here in the Southwest we are setting our stakes for the greatest program of soul winning ever attempted. We believe by the help of God we are going to have our best year. I have always been convinced that we ought to be able, in these tremendous times, to find a better way to get the message over to the public and to receive greater results. I believe this is going to be the answer to an unprecedented literature advance, not only in North America, but throughout the world-wide field."

Baton Rouge. "March 4 was an unpleasant day, but half the church members participated, with the following results: 22 teams, 200 homes contacted, 300 tracts distributed, 114 enrollees for the Bible school, 195 homes in which prayer was offered."

Georgia-Cumberland. "I am happy to tell you that the Every-Home-Visitation idea is catching fire in our conference. I visited a small church over the past week end where one man eighty-four years old has already gotten five hundred enrollments for the 20th Century Bible School. There are only four or five in that church, but they are working the town of 35,000 trying to get it ready for an evangelistic effort during this coming fall. We are endeavoring to emphasize the importance of this preparatory ground work before even thinking of holding an evangelistic effort. The members appreciate their opportunity of doing this work."

North Pacific. "These Field Adventure days are a real inspiration to our people.

I do not believe, however, that we succeeded in getting out as many people as we would have liked to see go out, especially in our large churches. There were from fifty to eighty teams where there should have been double that number."

Northern New England. "Twenty-three churches in our conference took part in the Field Adventure program. We must remember that in much of our territory it was twenty to forty degrees below zero on that Sabbath day. . . . I do feel that the suggestion is growing, and more and more of our members are beginning to realize the importance of this work. One thing you will notice is that the number of homes where prayer was offered is very high compared with the number of homes entered."

West Virginia. In West Virginia there were 716 homes contacted and 234 homes in which prayer was offered, making a

ratio of one home in every three visited where prayer was offered.

Arizona. "Our Field Adventuring day here in Arizona was a success, and we have been well pleased with the reports."

Manitoba-Saskatchewan. "You will be glad to know that March 4 was a wonderful success throughout our conference. Practically without exception our church members and many of our isolated conference members took part in the program that day, and as a result a large number of Bible correspondence school enrollments have come to our office. In fact, our correspondence school work has grown to such an extent that we have had to take on additional help to care for the enrollees and those who are becoming definitely interested in the truth. We expect to see a large harvest of souls as a result of our missionary endeavors throughout the conference."

Weekly Church Missionary Services

September 2

Importance of Adventuring for Souls

1. What value does God place upon a human soul?

"One soul is precious, very precious, in the sight of God. Christ would have died for one soul, in order that one might live through the eternal ages."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 8, p. 73.

"The Saviour would have passed through the agony of Calvary, that one might be saved in His kingdom. He will never abandon one for whom He has died."—*Desire of Ages*, p. 480.

"At the foot of the cross, remembering that for one sinner Christ would have laid down His life, you may estimate the value of a soul."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 196.

2. What value should we place upon a soul?

"In comparison with the worth of one soul, the whole world sinks into insignificance."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 5, p. 614.

"One's soul is of more value to heaven than a whole world of property, houses, lands, money. For the conversion of one soul we should tax our resources to the utmost."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, pp. 21, 22.

"The loss of even one soul is a calamity infinitely outweighing the gains and treasures of a world."—*Great Controversy*, p. 21.

"One soul saved is of more value than worlds."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 1, p. 513.

Soul winning is the only business that pays eternal dividends. We should buy up

every opportunity, every day, to win souls.

3. How continually did our Example work at soul winning?

"Jesus saw in every soul one to whom must be given the call to His kingdom."—*Desire of Ages*, p. 151.

4. What does He command us to do?

"He saith unto them, Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men." Matthew 4:19.

"Every true disciple is born into the kingdom of God as a missionary."—*Desire of Ages*, p. 195.

5. How important is this work of inviting those we meet into the kingdom?

"Nothing is to be permitted to hinder this work. It is all-important work for time; it is far reaching as eternity."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 5, p. 456.

6. What will be the thrilling result of following Christ's example of trying to win souls?

"If but one soul would have accepted the gospel of His grace, Christ would, to save that one, have chosen His life of toil and humiliation and His death of shame. If through our efforts one human being shall be uplifted and ennobled, fitted to shine in the courts of the Lord, have we not cause for rejoicing?"—*Ministry of Healing*, p. 135.

Could any of us hope for any greater thrill than to have someone come up to us in the new earth and say, "I'm here because you invited me to come?"

—ERNEST A. LEMON.

September 9

And the Time Has Come

We have today a very highly organized colporteur work in which many are engaged in full-time service and by which they support themselves and their families. As a result, a large volume of literature is placed in the field. However, we must never hold to the idea that all our literature distribution is to be accomplished by a special group of well-trained persons selling our literature. The work of the regular colporteurs should be supplemented by a large group of our church members who may be able to devote a few hours each week or month to selling our literature. All Protestant organizations are effective in distributing a large amount of literature each year. One church group of over 100,000 people spend a definite time each month selling the literature from their presses. We admire their zeal in doing this work, though we do not recommend this method.

There are two statements from the Spirit of prophecy that have exerted an influence in behalf of the greater circulation of our literature: "Our power and efficiency as Seventh-day Adventists are largely dependent on the literature which comes from our presses," and "the circulation of our books and papers is doing even a greater work than the living preacher can do."

Consider the great and deserving work done by the living preacher and the amount expended for his support. Then in comparison with this, consider how little is expended by our church members in the circulation of our literature, which we are told is doing a work comparable in results to that of the living teachers. Today whole churches and scores and hundreds of people have received their first impressions of the truth and have become members through some form of the written word.

One of the greatest needs in the cause of God throughout the entire world today is a strong, systematic, and powerful plan that will inspire every man, woman, and child in the denomination to scatter various types of literature. We appreciate the fine missionary spirit of our people but this is the time to increase greatly our endeavors. It is time for a great missionary reformation. There are large possibilities for the sale of our literature—books, tracts, and magazines. The time has come that is spoken of on page 62 of *Testimonies*, Volume 9, "Our publications should go everywhere. . . . Let us now, by the wise use of periodicals and books, preach the Word with determined energy, that the world may understand the message that Christ gave to John on the Isle of Patmos." The time has come when another prophecy should apply. "In vision of night representations passed be-

fore me of a great reformation movement among God's people. Hundreds and thousands were seen visiting families, and opening before them the Word of God."

In these closing hours of time as referred to by these exhortations and this prophecy of the future, may we not expect to see our church members become more actively engaged in distributing our literature? There is a large field for part-time colporteurs and missionary workers.

—E. E. FRANKLIN.

September 16

Colporteur Experiences

"Let the books containing the light on present truth be placed before as many as possible. This is the very work the Lord would have His people do at this time."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, pp. 313, 329.

One of our lady colporteurs earnestly asked God to direct her to some soul searching for light. Leaving her car one afternoon, she stepped out into the rain and walked to a house. The door was opened by a lady with a Bible in her hand. An elderly lady sitting on the davenport was also reading the Bible. She relates her experience as follows:

"I introduced myself, and the lady said, 'Come right in.' I learned her name and was introduced to the elderly lady, her mother.

"I hope I am not interrupting. I judge you were both studying the Bible."

"Yes, we were."

"It is a wonderful book, but it is a rare sight these days to find one studying God's Word. Don't you find so many things are happening today that point clearly to the second coming of Christ and indicate that we will never see peace among nations until Christ does come again?"

"Yes, that is the way we feel, too."

"Have you ever made a study of prophecy? It is the acid test of the Bible. Peter said, 'We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts.'"

"No, we don't understand the Bible as we wish we might."

"It is a deep book, but we really can't know too much about it, is the way I feel, don't you?"

"Yes, yes, I wish we understood it better."

"It is our privilege. God is concerned about our health also: 'Know ye not your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost?'"

"Yes, that's right, too; Christ healed the sick while on earth. He healed the suffering ones every day."

"With the amount of sickness we have in the world today and increasing daily,

you, as mother of two small children, can't know too much about health, so you can make use of methods of proved value."

"We surely need it here in this house."

"The mother and grandmother both agreed, and just at this point the small boy came bounding into the room and talked so loudly over the bassinet that he awoke the baby, and it began to cry. Grandma tried to listen as she walked the floor in a futile attempt to quiet it. She was very anxious to see and hear, but I could see that I was getting nowhere trying to talk above a crying baby. I just handed the medical book to the mother, saying, 'Here is a book that will give you a world of help and advice.'"

"I watched her interest grow as she read here and there while I tried to suggest various things to help the grandmother with the baby. While the mother was reading and asking me various questions, telling her mother now and then it surely was a wonderful book and that she needed a book like that, I silently asked God to handle the situation and quiet the baby so the grandmother could see and hear also. I suggested that perhaps the baby was hungry and that it might be well to give him his bottle. Soon the baby was quieted, and we proceeded.

"I immediately turned in my Pictorial Prospectus to the religious books. Paul told us, 'I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.' I told them that for our souls to prosper after we have health means for us to study the Word. Then we spoke about prophecy. (I turned to *Daniel and Revelation* in the Prospectus.)

"Have you ever heard it said that Daniel couldn't be understood and that Revelation was a sealed book?" I asked.

"Yes, many times."

"Well, let us see what God's Word has to say on that point." I turned and read how God gave prophecy to Jesus Christ, and I pointed out the promised blessing for those who study the Book of Revelation.

"Interest was immediately apparent. The daughter said, 'I'd love to read a book like that; wouldn't you, Mother?'"

"Yes, I certainly would. When you study prophecy, where is it in God's Word?"

"Oh, mostly in the New Testament. God gave us the Old Testament also. He calls them His two witnesses.' With that, I turned to *Patriarchs and Prophets* and said, 'This starts with the beginning of time. When we read a story, we want to start at the beginning. Isn't that true? So in this plan we are told how sin came into the world and how the Father and Son made this world. You would enjoy reading that, too.'"

"Yes, yes," came the reply from both.

"Jesus is the Desire of Ages, and in this beautiful volume you will find the most practical and comprehensive story on the life of our blessed Lord ever written. No doubt many times you have read the twenty-fourth chapter of Matthew, which contains Christ's prophecy of what was to take place in this world after He ascended to heaven. In this wonderful source book, *Great Controversy*, we have the prophecy backed up with historical events showing us just where we are in this great conflict and how Satan rules in the hearts of men and thus rules nations. The facts brought out in here start forty years after Christ. Truly, as James A. Garfield said, "history is but the unrolled scroll of prophecy." So we can see that prophecy is the acid test of the Bible. Many times we need perplexing questions cleared up in our minds. Here we have the solution to our problems. In this plan, 4,000 questions are asked and answered."

"Wonderful, we need that, also! What is the price of the entire set?"

"The entire set includes a diet book and a monthly service for a year, the National Health Magazine, *Life and Health*, all for the sum of \$79.00."

"Mother, I would like very much to have it, but I can't and pay out on my doctor bill."

"May I suggest that you and your daughter purchase this set together and study it together. That would help both of you."

"Yes, let's do that. I'll help with the payments. We can divide them," said the mother.

"All right, I'll make the down payment."

"So the Lord directed while rain was pouring down outside. Inside, the Holy Spirit was impressing the hearts of that dear mother and her daughter. After writing and signing the contract, I brought the books from my car and explained how the indexes were used in all books. They were both delighted."

Surely the Lord is opening up honest hearts everywhere. Our colporteurs are finding them every day in their work. Are there not others who could participate in this good work?

—E. E. FRANKLIN.

September 23 Adventuring

It was on a Sabbath afternoon that one of the church deacons asked me to aid in a census drive for the church. The purpose of the drive was to get acquainted with the folk in and around College View, to learn what their religious affiliations were, and to find out how many were in the family. I was eager to assist; so territory was assigned to me.

I rapped on several doors before finding anyone home. As I rang the doorbell of this particular home, I was met by a distinguished-looking gentleman. I promptly introduced myself, shook hands, and told him the purpose of my call. He immediately invited me into his very comfortable living room. We chatted about various things for a few minutes, and then I proceeded to get the information desired. Upon being asked what his religious affiliations were, he hesitated a moment and then said, "We don't belong to any church. My wife and I don't believe in any churches."

Immediately I began talking about the Bible as the guidebook of life and the necessity of knowing what its sacred pages contain. He agreed that the Bible was the word of truth. Then I asked him if I might have the privilege of studying the Bible with him, perhaps once or twice a week for an hour at a time. I told him that I believed he would enjoy the studies.

"Well," he said, "I'm not a Bible student. In fact, I know very little about the Bible."

I promptly replied, "We could learn more about it together, couldn't we?"

Just then his wife came downstairs. After introducing me to her, he began telling her about my visit and the offer I had made to study the Bible with them.

"It's very strange," she said, "that someone would want to study the Bible in this day and age. But that's a very good idea; I want to know more about the Bible."

How thrilled I was as I left that home! I have been studying with them ever since, and what a joy I am experiencing in my heart by sharing my faith with others. It is a taste of the joy that will be ours when greeted in the New Jerusalem by those who will exclaim, "It was you who invited me here!"

Oh, what a privilege it is to work for the Master while the precious hours of probation still linger! And I give Him all the praise, glory, and honor. May you, dear brothers and sisters, accept the challenge to lift high the banner of truth and carry it forward to victory.

—NORMAN SHARP, student at Union College, reprinted from *Nebraska Reaper*.

September 30 The Charge Against Liquor

One of the most frequently heard arguments in favor of the liquor traffic is that of the large amount of revenue gained from liquor taxes. The liquor industry is endeavoring to sell the idea to the American people that the state could not exist without the income derived from the liquor industry. They ask, "What would we do without liquor revenue?"

In some states the liquor revenue is used for old-age pensions. In other states it is used to pay teachers' salaries and general educational expenses. In still other states, it is used for public projects; and the idea is promoted that if this revenue were cut off, old folks would not receive their pensions, schools would have to be closed, and public projects would be halted.

This is utter falsehood. The real facts of the case are that for every dollar the local municipality, the state or the federal government collects from the liquor interests, they must pay out from four to five dollars for crimes that can be directly charged to the liquor interests. A few years ago the state of Massachusetts appointed a commission to study the problem of crime in Massachusetts. Judge Joseph T. Zottoli served as chairman of this commission. Their 381-page report showed that although the state received \$13,138,262.79 in taxes from beer, wine, and whisky, the state paid out \$61,000,000 for crime that could be directly charged to alcoholic beverages. It was found that \$46,474,953.74 could be indirectly charged to the liquor traffic. In other words, Massachusetts received \$13,000,000 but paid out over \$107,000,000. How long could a bank carry on business at this rate?

Recently a group of citizens in Pontiac, Michigan, wanted to discover if possible the price that Pontiac paid for alcoholism. It was not difficult to secure the figures so far as income was concerned. It was found that during 1949, Pontiac took in \$17,573.75 in liquor taxes. Careful survey was made of all the municipal court records, and it was found that Pontiac had paid \$246,875 to take care of the problems that arose directly from drink. In other words, although the city took in \$17,000, they paid out \$246,000, a loss of \$229,000 to the city of Pontiac in one year.

These surveys are typical. The American people are paying a terrific price for the privilege of drink. Certainly the time has come when Seventh-day Adventists should arise and present the temperance issue in a positive manner. Let us reason with our local officials, county and state leaders of righteousness, temperance, and judgments to come. Let us do all we can to circulate our truth-filled literature. *Listen* should be sent to every official in the state, also to the teachers, doctors, and ministers in every community. Let every church set a specific goal and see that *Listen* is given a wide circulation during 1950. Arrangements have been made whereby the church can send *Listen* to ten different individuals for \$5.00 a year. Take advantage of this special *Listen* sponsorship club plan to circulate *Listen* among these leaders.

—W. A. SCHARFFENBERG.

Department of Education

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

If I Had a Boy

If I had a boy, I would say to him, "Son,
Be fair and square in the race you must run;
Be game if you lose, and be meek if you
win;
Be better and nobler than I've ever been.
Be honest and fearless in all that you do,
And honor the name I have given to you."

If I had a boy, I should want him to know
We reap in this life just about as we sow;
And we get what we earn, be it little or
great,
Regardless of luck and regardless of fate.
I would teach him and show him the best
that I could,
That it pays to be honest and upright and
good.

We would grow up together, and I'd be a
boy,
And share in his troubles and share in his
joy.
We would work out our problems together,
and then
We would lay out our plans when we both
would be men.
And Oh, what a wonderful joy it would be!
No pleasure in life could be greater to me.

—AUTHOR UNKNOWN.

Notes to Leaders

As the new school year begins, we trust that every church with a church school will foster a Home and School Association. Why? Because at these meetings the parents and teachers come together to study the problems of child training; here the responsibilities of the school and home are clarified, co-ordinated, and integrated. Here, too, the mature, thinking parent can talk to the school leaders, can be of definite help, and can make a contribution to the educational program of the school.

These meetings give the principals and the teachers an opportunity to inform the parents of the work of the church schools, and of their goals, methods, and problems. The Home and School organization is also the most effectual channel for carrying forward the community of Christian parents. It gives the parents and teachers an opportunity to get together to discuss the individual children; it brings the home and school together in a special way.

There is so much that parents and teachers working together can and must do for the training of our children. How can any church or school fail to recognize the need of working together to make a Home and School Association a success, 100 per cent active and effectual?

The first meeting of the school year should be held shortly after school begins, not a month or more later. Many leaders like to make their first get-together more than just a meeting. They like to make it



Service

It isn't the cut of the clothes that you wear,
Nor the stuff out of which they are made,
Though chosen with taste and fastidious
care,
And it isn't the price that you paid;
It isn't the size of your pile in the bank,
Nor the number of acres you own;
It isn't a question of prestige or rank,
Nor of sinew, and muscle, and bone;
It isn't the servants that come at your call,
It isn't the things you possess,
Whether many or little, or nothing at all;
It's service that measures success.

It isn't a question of name, or of length
Of ancestral pedigree,
Nor a question of mental vigor and strength,
Nor a question of social degree;
It isn't a question of city or town,
Nor wholly of doctrine or creed;
It isn't a question of fame or renown,
Nor a question of valorous deed;
But he who makes somebody happy each
day,
And he who gives heed to distress,
Will find satisfaction the richest of pay,
For it's service that measures success.

—AUTHOR UNKNOWN.

a gathering of the whole family where the children, the mothers, the fathers, and the teachers can all first enjoy a potluck supper, then a get-acquainted game or two followed by a short program.

This month we present a talk given by Elder E. R. Walde at a Home and School meeting. He was willing to share it with you, hence a wire recording was made. Most of the material appearing here was taken from that recording. The message it brings is needed by many of us. After its presentation give parents an opportunity to ask questions or to discuss specific problems bearing on this topic. At every

meeting the leader should strive to make the program as practical as possible.

—ARABELLA MOORE WILLIAMS.

Less Leadership, Please

Another school year has begun, and another opportunity is given to each and every student to improve on his previous report cards. These reports come to him at certain intervals during the school year, showing just what evaluation has been put upon his achievements. Truly, the day-by-day accomplishments help determine the final record at the end of the year.

To me, the last day of school before the summer vacation was always a day of liberation and a day of judgment. It meant that report cards would be issued and sentence passed on work that had been done. I realize now that the teachers were included in that judgment, but at the time I thought we children were the only victims.

There were always some surprises in those judgment days, but also disappointments that had to be explained satisfactorily to parents. And so it was with mingled fear and fun that we awaited that last day of the school year.

Today, being a parent myself, I realize that in a very special way report cards constitute a judgment of parents also; for in the last analysis, they are responsible for the education of their children. Teachers are only the representatives of fathers and mothers in this aspect of child training. Moreover, I have come to understand that report cards do not tell the whole story of what has been going on in school. True, all the subjects are carefully listed and marked according to the pupil's achievement. But you can't tell by reading report cards what has been the total impact of the school year upon the souls of your children. You can't measure this invisible impression the way you evaluate their work in arithmetic, spelling, or geography. The most important question is this: What has the school year done to the whole personality of your child?

With that question in mind, let us pick up the thought of our subject, "Less Leadership, Please." I don't recall ever hearing a sermon or lecture on this subject, nor am I fired to the required heat of a crusader on this matter. I am not drawing my observations from any particular school, but rather from life in general as I have observed it during nearly twenty years.

I suppose every human being has at one time or another stopped, looked in the mirror, and asked himself, "What career shall I choose in life?" And the fate of the world seems to rest upon his decision. Proud parents ask, "What career shall we choose for our child? What shall we make of the precious darling?" And many an older person who has not yet found his place asks, "What shall I do next?"

We talk about choosing a career as though we were choosing a pair of shoes or a television set. Let me ask, Do we choose a career or does the career choose us? There is no question about this in nature. Are the individual shoots of the gladioli coming up in the yard asking, "What shall I be—a gladiolus or a blackberry bush?" A little bird might as well ask, "Mama, shall I fly or blossom?" These do not go to a diagnostician to know what to do in life. Something inside tells them. As you have thought of life, your future, your career, have you had the sensation that you were getting warmer, getting closer to the realization of your ambition? Then, as something came into your life and you were caused to detour for a little while, did you hear that little voice saying, "You're getting colder, you're getting colder"? You come back to the path, and again the voice comes, "Now you're getting warmer; now you're on the right road." Have you had that experience?

I think of one of the most perfect calls—we find it in the Bible. It is the call of Samuel. What a perfect call for any person to receive! Picture him lying there on his cot. He hears a voice calling, "Samuel, Samuel!" He quickly arises and goes to Eli and says, "Mr. Eli, what do you want?" And Eli says: "What's the matter? I didn't call you. You must be dreaming. Go back to sleep." And so Samuel goes back to sleep.

That happens three times. The third time Eli says: "Now, Samuel, God must be trying to call you. And if He calls again, just say, 'Speak, Lord; for Thy servant heareth.'" 1 Samuel 3:9. Samuel goes back to bed, and soon he hears that call again. This time he responds as Eli instructed him. What wonderful years of service followed!

Have those children of yours been reaching out for something? Perhaps it was a call. Perhaps they heard the call, "Samuel, Samuel." Perhaps they reached for a book, an instrument, or a tool—some inner call, someone calling. What should be our attitude as parents to such a call? Are we inclined to think in selfish terms about that inner call and say to ourselves: "Now, let's be careful. We as wise parents have already taken care of that for you, Child. We have worked out your future for you?"

Remember how Eli replied. He didn't say: "Samuel, if God calls again, say:

'Speak, Lord, for Thy servant will hear you if you can make me famous or pay me a higher salary than Eli pays me here in the temple. Submit your proposition, and I'll consider it.'" No, he didn't say that.

As a pastor in past years, I have observed parents who rebelled at the thought of their children's taking up any other vocation than the one they had decided for them. And this brings me to the main burden of my message—less leadership, please! Is it leadership that you wish for your boy or girl? Is it fame? Is it glory? Is it the limelight?

Pick up any newspaper and you will find ads telling you to attend such and such a school or to enroll in some correspondence course and train for leadership. "Join the Army and Become a Leader!" (How many soldiers actually became leaders?) But when such thinking enters the Adventist denomination, enters the home or the school, we are on dangerous ground. Frankly, no class can produce leaders, and no course can make a leader. Even if it could, this is not the Christian way. I think it is the wrong idea to give our young people. I have known of schools where certain courses, certain professions are glamorized; and I have known students who felt out of the running entirely if they were not taking that particular course, going toward that particular goal. And as a result of that type of spirit, that sort of thing coming into our schools, we have students coming out of them with an inferiority complex, feeling that they did not quite attain. I know that for a fact, and I think you do, too.

Leadership, particularly Christian leadership, is not something that you can confer on someone. If a person assumes it, he makes himself offensive or presumptuous. Leadership is a matter of special merit and honor. In the Christian sense, it is never to be requested, expected, or assumed. To do so is to prove unworthy of being a leader.

The desire to be chief among the brethren has afflicted Christianity for longer than we have lived. One day on His way to Capernaum, while Jesus was talking about His coming suffering, death, and resurrection, He heard quite a heated discussion going on behind Him. When He came into the house at Capernaum, He turned to His disciples and asked: "What was all that commotion about? What were you discussing?" I can see John look at James; Peter, at Andrew. I can see them all looking ashamed as they answer, "Who shall be the greatest?" Oh, what damage that has done in the home, in school, in church, in institutions! "Who shall be the greatest?"

Notice the words of Jesus: "Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. But

it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister [servant]; . . . even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many." Matt. 20:25-28.

There we have it! Not leadership, but service. Not master, but minister. We need to stress service—sacrificial ministry. We need not worry about leadership. That has a way of taking care of itself. No man is greater than his capacity in service. A true Christian does not scheme and contrive to make himself secure in some office.

Just recently I read the words of a prominent Protestant leader telling of a very ugly thing that was coming into his denomination. He said that they were turning out young men as ministers, but many of them did not realize what the word "minister" means. He said he knew for a fact that many of these young ministers of his denomination were not going into the church as pastors saying, "Now let me see how long I can serve these dear people here," but rather, "How quickly can my fame get out as a great leader so that I can have a larger church?"

Now there is nothing wrong with a climb, is there? If it is a normal, natural climb, it is wonderful. This Protestant leader pointed to a very vital thing when he said: "Wouldn't it be wonderful if a man would go into a church, into a community, and say: 'Now I hope that I can serve here for ten or fifteen or twenty years. I see opportunities here. I see a wonderful place for Christian growth for the people here. Oh, what a possibility! What a challenge! I just hope that the Lord will want me right here until He comes.'" But the writer concluded by saying, "I've never run across that yet—at least not in my denomination."

Yes, promotion, promotion, promotion! This is the spirit of the day. And let me ask, quietly, Could that spirit come into our domination? I find a very interesting comment on this subject in *Testimonies for the Church*: "We are nearing the close of this earth's history. We have before us a great work—the closing work of giving the last warning message to a sinful world. There are men who will be taken from the plow, from various other branches of work, and sent forth by the Lord to give this message to the world."

"The world is out of joint. As we look at the picture, the outlook seems discouraging. But Christ greets with hopeful assurance the very men and women who cause us discouragement. In them He sees qualifications that will enable them to take a place in His vineyard. . . . Having little self-confidence, they give God all the glory." —Vol. 7, pp. 270-272.

You know, God may have to by-pass a great deal of the religious endeavor of our day. He will get His martyrs and witnesses by His own providence if established channels cannot produce them.

A Look at Several Generals

General Robert E. Lee, whose gallant leadership of the Confederacy during the War Between the States endeared him to the Southland, and whose noble, magnanimous spirit eventually endeared him to our whole nation, became in his last years a kind of oracle; and his home became a sort of shrine to which parents brought their children to be blessed. One day a mother brought her baby to General Lee to receive his blessing. As the aged leader handed the infant back to her arms, he said, "Teach him to deny himself."

During long years of service, Robert E. Lee had learned the truth taught by his Master. What a contrast to Alexander! This man, called by many "the Great," at the age of twenty found himself king of all Greece. Filled with ambition, he determined to become master of the world. At the age of twenty-five, he was indeed master of the civilized world. But at the age of thirty-three, he, who had always served himself instead of denying himself, followed the whiplash of his appetite to a drunkard's grave.

And then I think of Napoleon. Having successfully repelled all outward attacks upon France, he gave attention to the beautifying of her cities, advancing law and order, and encouraging the arts and sciences. But the glories of peace did not satisfy his vaunting ambition. Driven by the thirst for conquest, he made war. The Battle of Austerlitz was followed by the Peace of Tilsit. Still he was not satisfied. The czar of Russia sent his ambassador requesting peace. Copying the words of another monarch, Napoleon said to the czar's representative: "Go tell your master that there is not room in yonder sky for two suns, nor on this earth for two sovereigns."

"But," said the Russian ambassador, "remember that man proposes, but God disposes."

"Go tell your sovereign," thundered Napoleon, "that I propose and I dispose!" And from that hour his fortunes began to wane. The freezing blast of the Russian winter and the gentle rain of Waterloo drove him to exile. At last he realized something of the meaning of life and service, for at St. Helena he said: "Alexander, Cæsar, and I based our empires on force of arms. They both came to untimely deaths, and I am in exile. But Jesus Christ founded His kingdom on the power of love. And His kingdom still lives, and millions would die for Him."

I think of Moses. Here we have an experienced general. He might have been the leader of that great nation Egypt. But instead he cast his lot with the afflicted people of God. He became a shepherd. Did he make a mistake?

My attention was recently called to the fact that in all the Psalms you cannot find that David refers to his victory over the giant Goliath. How different in our day! Why, now people would write a book about such an accomplishment. Then they would make a movie of it, wouldn't they? Of course, they would! And the victor would be asked to go out on lecture tours, and they would give him the title, "Great Giant Killer—GGK." That's the way it is today—great this, great that, great something else.

Picture John the Baptist. "Who are you?" the multitude asks. "I am nobody. I am to be heard, not seen. I am only a voice." In Mark 1:7 we read: "There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose." And then we read further on that same thought in John 3:27-30: "A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven. Ye yourselves bare me witness, that I said, I am not the Christ, but that I am sent before Him. He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled. He must increase, but I must decrease."

It is easy to read that, but it is hard for us to live in the power of it. It is very hard for us to be ready to decrease, to grow smaller and smaller, that Christ may increase. The morning star fades away when the sun arises.

The Parents' Part

Now let us turn the light upon ourselves. Have we been decreasing of late? Do we think less of ourselves and of our positions than we did a year ago? Are we seeking to obtain some position of dignity? Are we wanting to hold on to some title? John didn't want any title; and when we are right with God, we shall not care about titles either.

In one of his early epistles, Paul calls himself the "least of the apostles." (1 Corinthians 15:9.) Later on he claims to be "less than the least of all saints." (Ephesians 3:8.) And again, just before his death, he humbly declares that he is the chief of sinners. (1 Timothy 1:15.) Notice how he seems to have grown smaller and smaller in his own estimation. So it was with John. And I hope and pray that as the days go by we may feel like hiding ourselves and letting God have all the honor and glory.

Training the young in right ideals of Christian sacrifice and service and humility is an obligation which rests upon parents and teachers. But we must be living examples as well as teachers. What we all need is a rebaptism into that spirit of Christ whereby we shall be willing to sacrifice our all for Him and for the salvation of a lost world.

Someone once said, "He is a Christian who aims to reach the highest attainment for the purpose of doing others the greatest good." Where will that lead your child and mine? Obviously we cannot know until that child has found the way and is walking in it. "Commit thy way unto the Lord," and He will take care of it all. (Psalm 37:5.)

We find these words in the book *Education*, page 267: "Many are diverted from the line in which they might reach the truest success. Seeking greater honor or a more pleasing task, they attempt something for which they are not fitted. Many a man whose talents are adapted for some other calling, is ambitious to enter a profession; and he who might have been successful as a farmer, an artisan, or a nurse, fills inadequately the position of a minister, a lawyer, or a physician. . . . We need to follow more closely God's plan of life. To do our best in the work that lies nearest, to commit our ways to God, and to watch for the indications of His providence—these are rules that insure safe guidance in the choice of an occupation."

Our children should become acquainted with the wide variety of occupations. We should help them to find out all they can about the different kinds of employment. Have them talk with people in various kinds of work. The information will be cheerfully given. Then analyze the gifts and aptitudes of your children, or have some experienced person help them to analyze their own gifts. God has a plan for each life and has given talents and strength to follow it.

What then is success? Success is finding out what God wants you to do and then doing it. As a father once wrote to his son: "The true measure of success in life lies in production for use and the welfare of the community. And of all failings, the ugliest is the lust for personal success."

My dear friends, ours is a sacred and solemn task. And I believe our only hope of being the parent or the teacher that this task requires is to be filled with the spirit of Christ, who said: "Learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart." Matthew 11:29. May God fill us so that we shall be filled with meekness and humility. And may we instill into the hearts of our children the same spirit as that of Him who said, "The Son can do nothing of Himself." John 5:19.

Can It Be Done?

You may wonder if it is possible to achieve the objective of bringing the truth to every family so that they will have the opportunity to make an intelligent decision for or against the message. Jesus Christ told us in Mark 16:15: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Did He really mean that? Does He expect us to do that? Sometime ago I contacted the circulation manager of an advertising newspaper that is distributed weekly to every home in Greater Washington. Each Tuesday afternoon in three and one-half hours, 205,500 copies of this shoppers' newspaper is distributed to every family living in Washington and the surrounding towns within a radius of ten miles. Naturally one would think that it would require a large army of distributors to accomplish this task of contacting over a million people in one afternoon. However only 740 boys are used in this great enterprise.

Our faith in God's purposes is strengthened and our vision of a quickly finished work enlarged by this accomplishment. With the spirit of earnestness on the part of each member and youth and their willingness to devote a few hours each week to field adventuring, soon it would be said of each church as it was of the early Jerusalem church, "Ye have filled the city [Jerusalem] with your doctrine." Acts 5:28.

How encouraging to know that "every one is to have sufficient light to make his decision intelligently."—*Great Controversy*, p. 605. Success will crown our efforts, for we are told in this same book, on page 611, that the work of God will not close with less manifestation of the power of God than marked its beginning. In the *Review and Herald* of June 29, 1905, we are assured by the servant of the Lord that "the time is coming when there will be as many converted in a day as there were on the day of Pentecost."

Yes, we can confidently expect the fulfillment of John 14:12 if, in every place where we have believers, the field-adventuring plan is sponsored and carried forward to the homes. The call of this hour is for us to advance in this "Every Home Visitation" crusade.

* * *

Dorcas Lives

The Dorcas Spirit still is living,
And loving hearts are freely giving,
As they do their noble deeds in every state.

The religion in their True Souls
Really gets down in their shoe soles,
For they do the work which God regards
as great!

—ADLAI ESTEB.

Our Foreign Missions

Across the Frontier

In the summer of 1948, Elders H. J. Westphal and H. F. Brown were traveling in Mexico and stopped for a meal at a hotel in Ciudad Valle, about five hundred miles south of the border. Their table waiter was an unusually nice looking young man, and in their friendly way our men soon fell into conversation with him. The boy told them that he had left his home in Guatemala for the purpose of going to the United States but that his money and most of his clothing had been stolen somewhere along the way. Our brethren learned also that this ambitious youth had his papers in order and was working his way north, still hoping to realize his goal of entering the United States to continue his education, for he had a desire to make something of himself.

"I'll take you across the border," said Elder Westphal. "I'm just driving up to the United States now, and you can go with me as well as not."

"Really?" exclaimed the boy. It seemed too good to be true.

"Go and tell the proprietor that you are leaving with us, and get your pay," Elder Westphal instructed him. In a few minutes the young man returned and appeared to be much discouraged. The proprietor had refused to give him any pay and said that he had not worked there long enough to be paid. But our men encouraged him to try again, and before long the owner of the hotel gave him five pesos, or seventy-five cents, which was all the money the boy had. He easily put his clothing into a little paper bag.

The happy group soon departed; and as they drove along, our two ministers began singing hymns, just as our people everywhere do when the drive is a long one. Soon the young man began to listen, and presently he remarked, "I've heard those songs before." Further conversation revealed that this young man had a friend in Guatemala who was an Adventist, and that he had often attended services with him. In fact, on one occasion he had been impressed to give his heart to God; but the occasion slipped by, and the incident was forgotten.

Being real missionaries, our men now began to talk with this young man about our truths and about dedicating his life to God for service. After a while the young man took a pack of cigarettes from his pocket and threw them out of the car window, saying that he was not going to smoke any

more. Then the lad, whose name is Enrique, told the ministers that the night before he had been so troubled about his life that he had slept very little. He said that he didn't know how to pray, but in his own way he begged God to guide him and show him how he could get an education.

So on they went, and the friendship deepened. By the time they reached our training school at Montemorelos, our brethren had persuaded the young man from Guatemala that he should stay there and study instead of going to the United States; for in our school he might be able to work at least a part of his way.

The school principal was not at all anxious to take more students on this basis, for he already had enough boys working for their expenses during the summer; but Elders Brown and Westphal told the principal of their providential meeting with this young man and begged him to give Enrique a chance to make good. And so he remained.

At the end of the summer, Professor Habenicht told Elder Westphal that the boy had worked on the tractor from twelve to fifteen hours a day. They reported that the young man was well liked because of his courteous manners and his pleasant ways; and best of all, he wanted to be baptized. He had spent a busy and profitable summer, but he needed clothing very badly if he were to start school with the other students when school opened. Friends at the college helped him to get some necessary clothing, and he started school with courage, although he had not been able to earn enough for the whole year's expenses.

In the autumn our young man was baptized. His credit was gone, but he worked on faithfully. He hopes to earn a scholarship in the colporteur work so that he may continue his education. We believe that he will make good, for he is ambitious and industrious; furthermore, he has been willing to follow the leadings of God in his plans and work. A young person who has been guided by his heavenly Father in such an unusual manner should make an excellent worker in God's cause. He once said:

"When Elder Westphal invited me to ride with him, I thought that God had given me an opportunity to cross the border to the United States; but now I understand that God gave me an opportunity to cross over the border and connect my life and efforts with the people of God."

—BARBARA O. WESTPHAL.



ROBERTS

YOU might have to read a whole library to get all the information contained in a new book about the Bible written by a veteran Bible worker, Miss Rose E. Boose. For years she has been studying the Bible and teaching it to others. She has compiled and arranged much of this valuable material, and it has been printed in book form.

LET'S STUDY THE BIBLE is the title of this new volume. It considers each book of the Bible, the historical background, the theme and doctrines, the Bible characters, and the relation of the book to other parts of the Bible. It will be valuable in your own library, and will be of much help in teaching the Bible to others. A very timely volume. We have no other book comparable to it.

Just off the press.

Clothbound, price, **\$1.75**

Prices higher in Canada.

Your BOOK AND BIBLE HOUSE will care for your orders promptly

Pacific Press Publishing Association, Mountain View, California

The Harvest Is Ripe, But the Laborers Too Few

Since arriving at Bisiatabu (Papua) last July, it has thrilled my heart to see three native teachers take up their posts in three new villages. At one place we visited on Boxing Day to dedicate the combined church and school building, the people were preparing to kill all their pigs as an indication of their willingness to accept our teaching.

Just recently I returned from a twelve-day jungle trek to the foothills of the Owen Stanley Range, only a few hours' walk from Kokoda. The journey was full of interest, but my chief purpose in referring to it here is to relate how encouragingly the Khaghi people are taking hold of the gospel. We spent a delightful week end with them at the journey's end, right in the shadow of the Owen Stanleys.

We were tired when we arrived that Friday noon, after continuous walking for four days over nearly eighty miles of extremely steep mountain trails. But as we came in sight of the neat mission compound, built under the direction of our veteran pioneer native worker, Faole, the lusty shout of "Sailo!" and the firm handshakes of well over a hundred happy fuzzy-wuzzies breathed new life into aching bodies. We realized that we were in the presence of sincere seekers after truth in the first flush of a new-found faith.

The site of the mission is accessible to four surrounding villages totaling 394 inhabitants. The reason for building a unit apart from any one village is that it is impossible to supply a teacher for each one. Interested folk from all villages were invited to settle on the mission. As a result, 128 people, comprising an entire village population, have decided to leave their present situation about six miles away and rebuild close to the mission, so that all their people will be able to attend daily worships and schools. Policemen and counselors from the other three villages have expressed their intention to move their villages to the mission a little later. This plan is encouraged and supported by the government officer who recently visited that district, so it is expected that in the not-distant future we shall have a very large center established at Khaghi. We are looking for big results from this mountain stronghold.

On the second night going up we slept at a place called Naora. About three or four hours' walk away to the east we could see a fairly large village situated picturesquely on another mountain slope. We held evening and morning worship with some of these folk, who had come in and slept in a native building adjoining the government resthouse. They expressed their desire for a mission teacher. Since returning home,

Special Days and Offerings

September 2

Home Missionary Day

September 9

Missions Extensions Day
and Offering

September 30

Thirteenth Sabbath Offering
Australasia

the counselor from this village has come to tell me that they have commenced to clear a site for a church and teacher's house and to ask when we can fulfill the call. The people of a smaller village nearby have stated their desire to unite with the other village when the teacher arrives. It was hard to inform them that we had no one to send and pathetic to notice the downcast eyes and expression of disappointment. But we assured them of our sincere prayers and most earnest endeavors to satisfy their appeal just as soon as possible.

At the other end of our district boundary, two days' walk south from here, when I was visiting an isolated teacher, a special delegation came half a day's walk to beg that a teacher be sent to their village. They stayed with us over the week end. On the morning of their return, a young girl in the party came to where I was dispensing medicine, and with a very sincere appeal in her expression asked when I would be sending their teacher. There is no prospect of a teacher going there this year; and as I write, I can hear now those repeated words, "Taubada, do send us a teacher quickly."

Let us all unite in praying that God will raise up more reapers to send forth into His ripened harvest so that the faithful seeking ones will be garnered in and Jesus may quickly come.

—I. R. STRATFORD.

* * *

Sometime during 1950, our oldest church in southern Mexico will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary. Elder G. W. Caviness, pioneer worker in Mexico, spent a month in the town of Ixtaltepec, on the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, and organized the church there. Brother Jimenez, a convert of that time, is still the church elder. From the mother church in Ixtaltepec, missionary-minded members have gone out to raise up other churches, until in southern Mexico in the states of Chiapas and Oaxaca, one person in every 121 is an Adventist.

A Book You Need

Church elders and other church officers, Sabbath-school teachers and lay preachers will be especially benefited by Volume I of *The Prophetic Faith of Our Fathers*, a new book just off the press. It is written by LeRoy Edwin Froom, secretary of our Seventh-day Adventist Ministerial Association, editor of *The Ministry* magazine, and a member of the faculty of our Theological Seminary.

This book provides a priceless background of information on the development of the sound prophetic interpretation we are commissioned to herald to the world today. It shows our teachings to be the restoration and consummation of true principles and understandings held by the expanding Christian church of the early centuries until overwhelmed by the on-sweeping flood of Catholic apostasy. It reveals also that our prophetic faith is the revival of the great Protestant Reformation teachings on prophecy. Elder Froom points out, however, that these principles became confused and lost during the eighteenth century under Protestant departures from the faith.

The book is fully indexed, well illustrated, and beautifully bound. It contains more than nine hundred pages and is subsidized to keep the price down to \$5.00. It is available through all Book and Bible Houses.

* * *

"Oh, I am so glad you have this," said a young lady who recently called at our Buenos Aires office as she took the book *Great Controversy* in her hands. "I have been looking for this book for sometime. I have been going from store to store and even to the second-hand bookstores. At a number of places they smiled when I asked for the book and would ask, 'Are there not conflicts enough in this world today?' (The name in Spanish is *Conflict of the Ages*.) Others told me it was an old book and difficult to obtain. Finally in one second-hand bookstore they told me of your place, and I am very happy to get it at last—just in time for my friend's birthday."

"How did you know of this book?" asked the one in charge of our Book and Bible House.

Immediately the young lady answered, "A friend of mine had a dream which impressed him greatly. In this dream he saw a man who said, 'You must read again the book entitled *The Great Controversy*, which you read years ago.' My friend has looked everywhere for the book, but has not been able to find a copy. He is soon to have a birthday, and I desire to make him a present of it." She paid for the book and went away very happy.