



VOLUME 11.

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NUMBER 23.

Workers' Bulletin.

ISSUED WEEKLY BY THE
MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT
OF THE IOWA CONFERENCE,
DES MOINES, IOWA.

JESSIE V. BOSWORTH, Editor.
MRS. ADELLA HABENICHT, Assistant Editor.
MRS. L. FLORA PLUMMER, Contributor.

TERMS: 25 CENTS A YEAR, IN ADVANCE.

RETRIBUTION.

"O CHRISTIAN, view the day
Of retribution! Think how you will bear
From your Redeemer's lips the fearful words:
Thy brother perishing in his own blood
Thou sawest. He was sick,
Thou didst withhold the healing; was in prison
To vice and ignorance, nor didst thou send
To set him free. O, ere that hour of doom,
Whence there is no reprieve, brethren,
Awake from this dark dream!"

OUR EDITORS.

It will be noticed that the name of Mrs. L. Flora Plummer has been changed on the BULLETIN from that of editor, to editorial contributor. The question will be asked, Why? About two years ago Sister Plummer consented to take a work that in many respects was new and untried. The office of corresponding secretary has broadened to mean much more than formerly. This work has proved in every way a success. The General Conference Committee have felt the need of a person to take the same position in the general work, and have requested that Sister Plummer accept this position. We fully believe that the Lord has been preparing her for this step, and so have consented to it; but now the burdens of the new office are so many that some of her home duties must be lightened. So, while she is willing to assist as editorial contributor, she feels that she must be relieved of the position of editor. Her duties are so arranged that she

can retain her office as Secretary of the Iowa Conference, and at the same time carry on the work assigned her by the General Conference. We believe that Sister Plummer will have the prayers of the brethren and sisters, that success may attend the work to which the Lord has called her.

CLARENCE SANTEE.

OUR GREAT NEED AGAIN.

I THINK that every brother and sister who reads this will agree with me that one of our greatest needs is a "constant spirit." David prayed for this. Ps. 51:10, margin. We have often given ourselves to God and received a blessing, but how few have a "constant spirit." Changeable, vacillating, weak has been written upon the character of every one. God must take it off and give us a constant, fixed purpose at all times. It will take every aid God can give to do this, and we must gladly make use of every means he gives us.

The week of prayer is given us in mercy for this purpose. As you get the readings for the week read carefully what God says of the need of a week of prayer. (First page.) We earnestly urge all our churches and companies to plan the time of day for the meetings that will suit the largest number, and then all be faithful in attendance. This will be a lesson in constancy. Especially the isolated ones, who are in so great danger of losing a sense of their need by constant contact with the world, should arrange to attend these meetings at the nearest place. There will be a trial with some, whether to attend all these meetings, or divide them with others for worldly pleasure. The dividing line is now being drawn, and we want to be sure that we are on

God's side. O that this closing year of the century might go out with the assurance that "the reproach of Egypt" has been rolled off from "the camp of Israel." CLARENCE SANTEE.

THE CONFERENCE TITHES.

No doubt the brethren and sisters who pay tithes for the support of the gospel work in our State, want to know the condition of the treasury; and it is right that they be informed.

Owing to the fact that we have had more laborers, and consequently a larger pay roll, for the past year or two than formerly, our funds have not been quite sufficient to meet current expenses, so that at the present writing, Dec. 5, we lack about five hundred dollars of having enough to pay the eighty per cent on laborers' accounts already audited. This is not a very large sum, but we are all anxious that the deficit shall not be increased. We are glad to note the faithfulness which many have shown in paying their tithes promptly, and we have evidence that it tends to their spiritual growth and prosperity; but there must be some among us who have not done all our duty in this regard. We are told in the Testimonies that if all would pay the tithe there would be no lack of means to carry forward the Lord's work. The Lord has promised great blessings to those who bring all the tithes into the storehouse; and would it not be a grand thing to begin the new year, Nineteen Hundred, with our Conference debt all paid, and with our individual record clean in this regard? Will we not all present ourselves as candidates for the blessing that God has promised in Mal. 3:10-12; and while thus proving the Lord, also prove that we love the truth and have faith in his word?

C. F. STEVENS,

Treasurer Iowa Conference.

EZEKIEL 20:25.

I wish to present, for careful consideration, a few suggestive thoughts on this text and its connection.

1. God called upon Israel to leave their idols. Verse 7. This was while they were still in Egypt (Verses 6, 8), "in the midst of the land of Egypt." They were honoring idols.

2. They finally left them and came out of Egypt. Verses 9, 10.

3. Then the Lord gave them his statutes and judgments, "which if a man do, he shall even *live* in them." Verse 11; Lev. 18:5.

4. God's statutes and judgments were "right, . . . and true, and righteous altogether." Ps. 19:8-11; Deut. 4:5-8.

5. When they despised the Lord's statutes and judgments, he "gave them up to statutes that were *not* good and judgments whereby they should *not* live." Jewish Version. The way the Lord sends evil is to *permit* it. Rom. 1:24; 2 Thess. 2:11. He does not originate evil and tempt man with it. James 1:13. Therefore the Jewish translation is correct, as we shall see from parallel texts.

6. These statutes that were *not* good were the statutes of the heathen, of their own wicked kings, and the "statutes of their fathers" in Egypt. They were "the commandments of men." See verse 18; verse 39 ("go"); Ps. 81:10-13; 2 Kings 17:7, 8.

7. Among these "abominations" that God "gave them up to" was the worship of Moloch, causing the first-born child to pass through the fire, and worshiping the sun, moon, and stars. Verses 26-32; Amos 5:25, 26; Acts 7:41-43. These things were required by the wicked statutes of the heathen.

8. The Lord had warned Israel against them; and even after they had turned to these "statutes that were not good," he in tender mercy called them back to *his* commandments and *his* statutes. Lev. 18:3-5; 2 Kings 17:8, 13-23. Thus God always treats his people before he gives them up to their own desires and calls another people. Israel had no authority to make statutes or to do anything but to obey God. They had no legislative body. Their government was composed only of judicial and executive branches, with the prophets as the mouthpiece of the Lord, who was their true King. (Solomon sat on the *throne of the Lord*. 1 Chron. 29:23). The Lord himself made their laws.

They had no authority to add to or take from. Deut. 4:1, 2. Let us learn obedience from the sad result of their disobedience. It is as true to-day as then that "the *Lord* is our *Lawgiver*." Isa. 33:22; Jas. 4:12. No human ordinance is of any binding authority to save or condemn us in the judgment. God's word alone is to be the standard in all things. It will furnish to "every good work." To it alone must be our appeal for evidence before the people. It contains every saving truth. This is what made us Seventh-day Adventists, and it alone can keep us such. 2 Tim. 3:16, 17; Acts 17:11; Prov. 30:5, 6; Col. 2:20-23; Matt. 15:9, 13; John 12:48; 15:3; Eph. 5:26, 27; Isa. 8:20; Jer. 17:5-8; Ps. 1:1-3.

Read carefully each scripture in this article and the chapter in *Great Controversy*, Volume 4, entitled "The Scriptures a Safeguard."

Yours in the love of truth,

H. M. J. RICHARDS.

THE GREAT DECEIVER.

It is over six thousand years since Satan became dissatisfied with his home life in heaven. He had no reason for complaint. He enjoyed all the bounties of heaven, and was a beautiful covering cherub. Eze. 28:17, 14. He was a perfect being when created, and a great musician, having for his clothing beautiful and precious stones. Eze. 28:13, 15. But all this was not enough. He desired to be like the Most High (Isa. 14, 14), and was proud, rebellious, and disobedient. His warfare was first especially directed against the Father; then against the Son, from the time he was born in Bethlehem until his resurrection; and now for 1,800 years especially it has been against God's people. As we learn of his deceptions and cruelty, we are led to exclaim with the prophet Isaiah, "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning."

God's law is the foundation of his government, and Satan's principal attack has been against the second and fourth commandments; and instigated by him and his evil angels this spirit of disobedience is working through those whom he deceives to lead them to destruction. Eze. 2:2, 3; Rev. 20:8, 9. He will work with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in those who love not the truth, also deceiving if possible the very elect. Matt. 24:24. Shall I be deceived by him? is the important question.

Satan with all his followers will at last be destroyed, because they would not come to God that they might have life.—"*Great Controversy*," pp. 495, 6; John 5:40. H. G. MILLER.

DIFFERENT WAYS OF GIVING.

1. The careless way.—To give something to every cause that is presented, without inquiring into its merits.

2. The impulsive way.—To give from impulse,—as much and as often as love and pity and sensibility prompt.

3. The lazy way.—To make a special effort to earn money for benevolent objects by fairs, festivals, etc.

4. The self-denying way.—To save the cost of luxuries, and apply it to purposes of religion and charities.

5. The systematic way.—To lay aside as an offering to God a definite portion of our gains,—one tenth, one fifth, one third, or one-half. This is adapted to all, whether rich or poor, and gifts would be largely increased if it were generally practiced.

6. The heroic way.—To limit our own expenditures to a certain sum, and give away all the rest of our income. This was John Wesley's way.—*Selected*.

OBITUARY.

COULTER.—Died at Clarinda, Iowa, September 15, 1899. Sister Phoebe Coulter, aged 73 years.

She has been an earnest and faithful member of the S. D. A. church in Clarinda ever since its organization. She was always cheerful, even in her last illness, which was short but severe. Her son, with whom she lived, was the only relative present. Eld. C. F. Stevens conducted the funeral services. This is the fourth death in our little company within a year, and we feel the loss most keenly. May it prove a warning to the rest of us to be more faithful. EMMA L. BEACH.

SCOTT.—Died at Centerville, Iowa, Nov. 16, 1899, of diphtheria. Little Edith Scott, aged nearly 8 years.

She was a bright little girl, always in her place at Sabbath-school with a well learned lesson. The last verse she repeated was Ps. 34:11. She was taken sick evening after the Sabbath, and grew worse till 5 o'clock Thursday, when she fell asleep in Jesus. She left a poor widowed mother and little brother Willis, to mourn her loss. Soon dear little Edith "shall come again from the land of the enemy." A. J. SCOTT.

THE BOOK WORK.

GOD IS LOVE.

"He that loveth not, knoweth not God; for God is love."—1 John 4:8.

I am walking in the sunlight
Of the Holy One above;
All the day I am rejoicing,
Since I know that "God is love."

Though the cares of life are many,
Wheresoever I may be,
Yet each burden seemeth lighter
Thinking of his love to me.

In the morning I will ask him
Just to lead me all the way;
In the evening I will praise him
That he kept me all the day.

Brighter is the narrow pathway;
For the Spirit like a dove
Comes in every care and trial,
Gently whispering, "God is love."

EDWIN H. WILBUR.

BE FAITHFUL WATCHMEN.—NO. 1.

OUR Lord in all his work of creation did not slight a single jot in it. Had he done so, the result would have been disastrous to the universe. What excuse can we give if we are unfaithful in performing the work that is given us, and is to be done with the same object for which God bestowed his labor in the beginning,—the glory of God and the benefit of humanity?

"Go ye into all the world," the Saviour said, "and preach the gospel to every creature." "And, as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand." "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Mark 16:15; Matt. 10:7; 24:14.

From the same source come these words: "The canvassing work is God's means of reaching many who would not otherwise be impressed with the truth."—*Testimony No. 32, p. 161.* Then, through the efforts of the canvassers, the "gospel of the kingdom" will reach "many" that would not be reached were it not for them. Again: "Had those who claimed to believe the truth acted their part as wise virgins, the message would ere this have been given to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people."—*Review and Herald, Oct. 31, 1899.*

Brethren, who are the unfaithful? Have we passed some family by without giving them a chance to obtain a knowledge of the truth we possess? If we have, how soon will they have another opportunity? What if death overtakes them before some one else calls on them?—The Lord tells us that their blood will be required "at the

watchman's hand." Ezek. 33:6. When I enter a township or city, I by that act accept the watchmanship of that portion of the Lord's vineyard. A record of my labor is kept in heaven, and I will have to give an account of the work done. The work is a solemn one, and it will not pay to be unfaithful in such a sacred trust as that of proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ, no matter in what capacity we are laboring.

H. B. TILDEN.

CANVASSING REPORT FOR WEEK
ENDING DEC. 1, 1899.

	Hrs.	Ord.	Val.	Helps.
THE COMING KING.				
Susan Haskell.....	17	7	\$7.00	\$1.25
Nettie E. Brown.....	14	4	4.50	.60
Pearl D. Bascom.....	23	4	4.00	.75
H. B. Tilden.....	18	7	7.00	1.50
Mrs. H. B. Tilden.....	16	4	3.00	1.25
Carl Rasmussen.....	17	6	6.00	3.75
Burton Church.....	27	1	1.00	1.75
A. J. Scott.....	12	9	9.00	
P. W. Atkinson.....	34	5	5.00	1.25
Mary L. Haskell.....	12	2	2.00	2.50
Cora B. Countryman.....	11	4	4.50	3.00
J. S. Fry.....	24	5	5.00	2.25

HERALDS OF THE MORNING.				
Lloyd Manfull.....		3	\$4.00	\$ 3.25
Olive Lefave.....	19	4	5.00	9.50

DANIEL AND REVELATION AND COMING KING.				
Edward Everett.....	14	3	\$4.25	\$.60

MISCELLANEOUS.				
A. J. Iden.....	18	14	\$18.50	\$5.25
Oscar N. Conklin.....	18	3	4.00	.95

DELIVERIES.				
	Books.	Value.	Helps.	Lost.
A. J. Iden.....	28	\$33.50		3
Edward Everett.....	1	1.00		0
Lloyd Manfull.....	10	13.00		0
A. J. Scott.....	6	6.00		0
Carl Rasmussen.....	2	2.50		0
Christine Henriksen.....	73	73.50	\$.50	0
Cora B. Countryman.....	2	2.00		0

SUMMARY.				
No. of agents.....				18
" " orders.....				84
Value of ".....				\$93.75
" " helps sold.....				\$39.00
Total value.....				\$133.65
Value of deliveries.....				\$131.50

LAST week six orders were reported as lost by Sister Cora Quinn, while she lost none.

THE SABBATH-SCHOOL.

CONDUCTED BY MRS. JESSIE L. ADAMS.

THE QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE IOWA
SABBATH-SCHOOLS.

The following is the report for quarter ending Sept. 30, 1899:—

No. of schools.....	195
" " reporting.....	191
Present membership.....	3,886
Average attendance.....	2,772
No. of classes.....	355
Total contributions.....	\$747.55
Donations to missions.....	\$316.83
To Oakwood School.....	\$29.85
Camp-meeting donations.....	\$30.56

Eight schools have been added to the list and five have been dropped. Sister Fitch has been doing good missionary work in Burlington, visiting families, holding a little Sabbath-school with the children, and engaging the interest of even the mothers. A mission school is also conducted by the workers in Keokuk. The Des Moines mission school is still being carried on successfully by some of the young people of the church, Sister Ruthie Kane having charge of it.

Many have expressed in their letters a deeper interest in the work, and a desire to gain knowledge which will enable them to do their work more perfectly. Many have also spoken with rejoicing of the increasing interest manifested by members of their schools, and we rejoice with them. Many who have been struggling for years against discouragements are now beginning to realize the fruit of their faithfulness. As we have watched the letters and reports that have come from time to time, we have noticed a gradual growth, that has made us glad.

We have been pleased to hear from so many of the superintendents in regard to teacher's meetings and the "Study" plan. We wish we might hear from all.

MRS. FLORA V. DORCAS, Sec.

WESTON SABBATH-SCHOOL CONVENTION.

OUR Sabbath-school convention was held Sunday, November 12. Eld. E. E. Gardner acted as chairman of the meeting. Sister Gardner was also present, and made some good remarks upon the papers read. She also conducted a short children's meeting, which was not only appreciated by the children but by all present. The papers read were well prepared, and brought out many interesting and helpful points, which if made the right use of can not fail to benefit our school. The children did well in the parts assigned them. We regretted that more could not enjoy the blessings of the day, as we considered the time profitably spent. I am sure that as a school we want to improve in Sabbath-school work, and to be able to do more efficient work for the Master, that we may have the "well done" said to each one of us. We desire the prayers of all for the little Sabbath-school at Weston.

EMMA NELSON, Sec.

THE reward of one duty is the power to fulfill another.—George Elliot.

Workers' Bulletin.

DES MOINES, IOWA, DEC. 12, 1899.

—REMEMBER the week of prayer, December 23-30.

—ELD. E. E. GARDNER is holding a series of meetings with the Castana church.

—BRO. GEORGE EBEL, one of the Burlington workers, is in attendance at the German workers' meeting at Otis, Kansas.

—BRO. LLOYD MANFULL, having spent the summer in the canvassing work in Iowa, returned this week to Union College.

—BRO. D. N. JOHNSON, on his way from Nevada, Iowa, to the western part of the State, visited at the Sanitarium last week.

—ELD. J. H. MORRISON has been visiting friends in this city for a few days, and conducted our last Sabbath morning service.

—“THOSE who give Jesus an abiding place in their hearts bring a great blessing within the reach of their homes and their neighborhood.”

—BRO. T. S. JACKSON, with his family, enjoyed a visit from his son and his wife and child, of St. Joseph, Mo., last week. Miss Pearl accompanied her brother home.

—MISSES CORA QUINN and Belle Rame, having finished canvassing at Boone, have come to Des Moines, and at present are engaged in the sale of the Harvest Number of the *Signs*.

—OUR Iowa brethren and sisters, especially the pioneers in the cause, will be much pleased to see the appointment of Eld. H. Nicola which appears this week, and also to know that arrangements have been made for him to labor in our State for a time.

—ONE of the missionary secretaries writes: “I think our Reading Circle will prove to be the *very thing we need*. All seem interested.” We might quote many expressions similar to this, and it is very evident that this voices the sentiment of our brethren and sisters all over the State.

—BRO. H. G. MILLER and his sister, Mrs. Machesney, of Bagley, Iowa, visited at the Sanitarium a couple of days last week. Bro. Miller has been making a visit at home, but will return soon to his field of labor in Dakota. He has had good success in the canvassing work the past summer.

—HAVE you noticed the announcement in last week's *Review* of the new holiday book, “Naomi, a Friend of Jesus”? It is spoken of as “a beautiful, devotional, practical setting of the ‘old, old story,’ free from idle sentimentalism and heathen philosophy.” It is a helpful treatise of suggestions relative to the ancient Jewish customs and manners, naturally woven into the life-story of the Saviour's lowly mission among men and women of all shades of belief and culture, from the lowly shepherd girl Naomi, to her maturity as the wife of a wealthy Jewish Rabbi. Prices: Heavy paper binding, with beautiful cover design, 25 cents; full cloth, 50 cents. We are prepared to fill orders from this Office.

—THE Readings for the week of prayer have been mailed to each of the elders of our churches, leaders of companies, and Sabbath-school superintendents direct from Battle Creek. We have also mailed from this Office to each of our isolated Sabbath-keepers, as far as we are able to obtain their addresses. If there are any who have not yet received these Readings we can supply them on application. We will also have a supply of these here in the German, Danish, and Swedish languages. It is desired that every S. D. Adventist in Iowa may have the benefit of the special instruction that comes to the people of God at this time.

—THE *Medical Missionary and Gospel of Health* have been united in one journal, the subscription price to be 50 cents per year. Subscribers to either of these will receive the new magazine for the full period of their subscriptions, and those who are taking both will have their subscriptions extended for the required time. For full description see notice in *Review* of Dec. 5.

—BRO. W. L. MANFULL, in returning from a tour among the churches, spent a few hours at the Office Sunday. Brighton, Eddyville, Montezuma, and Grinnell were among the places he visited last week. The donations paid and pledged by our brethren and sisters show their interest in the canvassing work, and especially in the coming canvassers' school.

—“THOUGHTS ON DANIEL” in the paper binding will be sent postpaid for 25 cents. There may be those who have not been able to subscribe for the *Berean Library* who would like to take advantage of the above offer. Address MISSIONARY DEPT. IOWA CONFERENCE.

—THE new edition of “Daniel and the Revelation” in cloth binding, which retails for \$1.00, is for sale at this Office.

—WE are now ready to fill orders for the new edition of “Desire of Ages.” Prices: Cloth, \$1.50; Russia, \$2.00; Library, \$2.00.

OUR ISOLATED SABBATH-KEEPERS.

THE Lord lays the burden or privilege of looking after those who are living away from the churches upon the elders or leaders. Then why not visit or write to, all such isolated ones, and get them to attend the week of prayer meetings? It will be the best of missionary work.

CLARENCE SANTEE.

OUR CANVASSERS' SCHOOL.

Dear Brethren and Sisters: The time has come for us to prepare for another canvassers' school. We indeed feel thankful for the help received in the past. As a result of your efforts to supply our wants, we know that much good has been done. We expect quite a good attendance at the school, and shall be very thankful for donations in money and eatables to help pay expenses.

The instruction received at the schools in the past has proved to be very beneficial to our canvassers, the results of which have been plainly manifest in their work. We believe that every effort made to assist in conducting our coming school will help to establish a better grade of work in this department of the cause.

We can use anything in the line of grains, vegetables, and fruits, either canned or dried. It will be well to send canned fruit or anything that will freeze, soon. Address all donations to C. W. Larson, 603 E. 12th St., Des Moines, Iowa, also notifying him by letter stating that it is for the canvassers' school. W. L. MANFULL.

APPOINTMENTS.

I HOPE to meet with the following churches during the week of prayer:—

Muscatine,	Dec. 23-26,	1899.
Burlington,	“ 27-30,	1899.
	B. E. FULLMER.	

ELD. H. NICOLA will meet with churches during the week of prayer as follows:—

Davenport,	Dec. 22-25,	1899.
Atalissa,	“ 26-30,	1899.
	CLARENCE SANTEE.	