

Union Conference Record

"Be strong all ye people, saith the Lord, and work; for I am with you."

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Courage and Perseverance in the Ministry.

WHEN Jesus sent His disciples forth to labor, He sent them two and two, that they might be a help and strength to each other, and stand more courageously in defense of truth. They did not feel as some do now, that they would rather work alone than have any one with them who did not labor just as they labored. Our Saviour understood what ones to associate together. He did not connect with the mild, beloved John one of the same temperament; but He connected with him the ardent, impulsive Peter. These two men were not alike either in their disposition or in their manner of labor. Peter was prompt and zealous in action, bold and uncompromising, and would often wound; John was ever calm and considerate of others' feelings, and would come after to bind up and encourage. Thus the defects in one were partially covered by the virtues in the other.

God never designed that, as a rule, His servants should go out singly to labor. To illustrate: Here are two brothers. They are not of the same temperament; their minds do not run in the same channel. One is in danger of doing too much; the other fails to carry the burdens that he should. If associated together, these might have a moulding influence upon each other, so that the extremes in their characters would not stand out so prominent in their labors. It might not be necessary for them to be together in every meeting; but they could labor in places ten, fifteen, or even thirty miles apart,—near enough together, however, so that if one came to a crisis in his labors, he could call on the other for assistance. They should also come together as often as possible for prayer and consultation. Although different in temperament, they are, one in faith, one in purpose, and can claim the promise of Christ to His disciples, "If two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of My Father which is in heaven."

When one labors alone continually, he is apt to think that his way is above criticism, and he feels no particular desire to have any one labor with him. But it is Christ's plan that some one should stand right by his side, so that the work will not be moulded entirely by one man's mind, and so that his defects of character shall not be regarded as virtues by himself or by those who hear him.

Unless a speaker has one by his side with whom he can share his labor, he will many times be placed in circumstances where he will be obliged to do violence to the laws of life and health. Then, again, important things sometimes transpire to call him away right in the crisis

of an interest. If two are connected in labor, the work at such times need not be left alone.

It is Satan's regular employment to hinder the work of God, and to work for the destruction of the race. Frequently when the interest in a certain locality is at its height, he makes it appear to the mind of the worker that some trifling matter at home is of great importance, and demands his immediate presence. The eye of the worker not being single to the glory of God, he leaves the work unfinished and rushes home. He may be kept away for days, and even weeks, and his former work becomes unravelled and tangled. Stitch after stitch is dropped, never to be taken up again. This pleases the enemy, and when he sees that he is successful in making temporal matters supreme in the mind of this person, he gives him his hands full of trouble. He at once begins to manufacture home difficulties, so as to entangle his mind, and, if possible, to keep him away from the work altogether.

God designs that the interest of the workers shall be absorbed in His will. He says, "I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir." A soul is of more value than all the world; and to let things of a temporal nature come in between us and the work of saving souls is displeasing to the God of heaven. As a people, we have as yet scarcely begun to realise the importance of the work intrusted to us. Oh that the servants of God might have a new touch from His divine power! Oh that they had more faith to prevail with God in prayer, and more, far more, earnestness and perseverance in their labors!

When souls are deciding for or against truth, do not, I beseech you, allow yourselves to be drawn away from your field of labor. Do not abandon it to the enemy, I might say, even if one lay dead in your house. Christ said, "Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead." If you could only see the importance of the work as it has been presented to me, the paralysis that is upon many would be shaken off, and there would be a rising from the dead and a coming to life through Jesus Christ.

Christ meant something when He said, "And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands for My name's sake, shall receive an hundred-fold, and shall inherit everlasting life." He intended to impress upon us the fact that we must make eternal things of first importance, and so relate ourselves to the cause and work of God that we shall not be hindered by things of a temporal nature. Everything of this character must come in secondary. The armor of God, once put on, is not to be laid off for slight excuses.

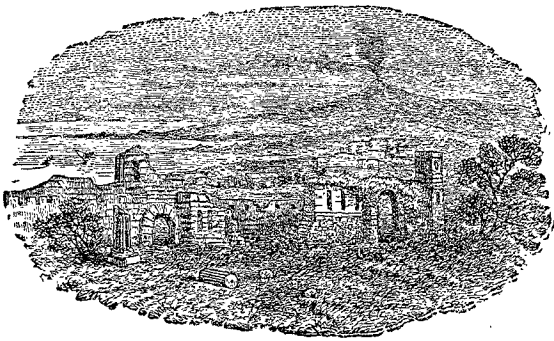
MRS. E. G. WHITE.

(To be Continued.)

Signs of Speedy Destruction.

TERRIBLE wonders are being spread over all the world, because all must see the signs, know what they mean, and have a chance to repent of their sins, and get ready to meet the Lord at His coming. And, further, what we have had so far is only the beginning. These earthquakes, droughts, storms, and other marvellous phenomena in nature are to increase in frequency and furiously disastrous effects as we near the end. "Blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke" are to be seen; and "fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven." Isaiah tells us that the earth is to be "moved exceedingly. The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, and shall be removed like a cottage." Isa. 24: 19, 20.

Says the Spirit of Prophecy, "These wonderful exhibitions will be more numerous and terrible just before the second coming of Christ and the end of the world, as signs of its speedy destruction." Men some, times laugh at the idea of this world ever being destroyed. They would gladly make themselves believe that their career of sin will not be interrupted. But in the storm and earthquake, so terrible in power, God would show how easily He can overthrow the things that seem to men to be the most secure.



These great upheavals in nature do not break upon the world in their greatest fury at the start. The Lord gives men a chance to see what is coming, and thus graciously offers them a way of escape. But there are those who, like Pharaoh of old, refuse these admonitions so divinely sent; therefore, stronger and still more frequent judgments come, until, in the language of the prophet, "The earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, and shall be removed like a cottage."

How forcible is this language of inspiration! "The earth is *utterly broken down*." And again, "The earth is *clean dissolved*;" and further, "The earth is *moved exceedingly*." Any one of the expressions from this scripture is most impressive in its statement of the breaking up of this sin-cursed earth; but the prophet adds one forcible statement to another as he brings before our minds what this earth is to pass through as it nears the end. And not only is it to be "broken down," "clean dissolved," and "moved exceedingly," but the "earth shall reel to and fro like a drunkard, and shall be removed like a cottage."

As we read the foregoing picture that our Lord gives of what the earth itself is to pass through, how truly can we say that the Master will leave no one without the clearest evidence that the end of all things is at hand. And do you and I, as Seventh-day Adventists who profess to believe these things, realise that we

are even now in the very midst of these fulfilling prophecies? Our literal eyes are now looking at the veritable signs of Jesus' coming, that the prophets saw only by vision. O that we, as we see these things, may be filled with the thought of their great and solemn reality! May we, morning, noon, and night,—yes, continually, every moment,—pray that our heavenly Father will baptise us anew, and with power, for His service.

Certainly we can say that "prophecies are being fulfilled, and stormy times are" *around us*. Let us not make the mistake of allowing our hearts to become hardened against this overwhelming evidence, and so be lost despite all the Lord's efforts to save us. The Lord's coming is imminent. Get ready; and as you get ready, devote yourself also to telling others, that they may be ready.

God will have every one know what He is about to do for this sin-cursed earth, because His great love leads Him to seek to save every person who can be won by His grace. Hence, He places signs in the earth all about us, so that we must see them. And as we see these signs, the impression comes irresistibly upon us that they betoken the end, and admonish us to get ready.

Perhaps there is no sign of His coming that more forcibly impresses itself upon the mind than the rapidly increasing storms, cyclones, pestilences, droughts, earthquakes, volcanoes, etc., that are devastating so many parts of our earth. The Lord gives these things as a sign of the approaching end of time, and the Spirit of God invariably impresses the mind with just what they mean.

A. O. TAIT.

Are We Doing All We Can

TOWARD circulating our periodicals?

In Great Britain there are about 1,000 Sabbath-keepers, and 120 of these are giving all, or nearly all, their time to the sale of *Present Truth* and *Good Health*. This is a lasting and not a spasmodic effort. The circulation of the *Present Truth* has been steadily increasing for several years, until now it has an average circulation of 20,000 copies a week. This demonstrates, in a measure, what may be done where there is a mind on the part of all to work. Their *Good Health* journal has a circulation of 50,000 copies a month. They have very few annual subscribers. Nearly all these papers are taken to the doors of the people and sold week after week.

From these figures it is easy to compute the average work of our brethren and sisters in Great Britain. There are 1,000 Sabbath-keepers, and they distribute about 80,000 copies of *The Present Truth* and 50,000 of *Good Health* each month, or a total of 130,000 copies a month. This makes an average of 130 periodicals distributed by each member.

In Australia we have 2,000 Sabbath-keepers. The *Bible Echo* has a sale of 35,000 copies per month. This is an average of about seventeen copies per member, while Great Britain sells eighty copies per member of *Present Truth*, or five to our one. Is there any reason why we should do less than they? The *Australasian Good Health* has a monthly sale of 5,000 copies. This is an average of not quite two copies per member, while Great Britain has a sale of 50,000 copies, or fifty copies per member. In other words, they sell twenty-five

while we are selling *one*. These are all sold from house to house. Should our brethren in Australia sell as many copies of the *Good Health* as our brethren in England are selling, we would have to print 100,000 copies every month, instead of 5,000 copies. But even Great Britain is not doing one-twentieth of what it ought to do. What about Australasia? Let us unite in reviving the spirit of circulating our periodicals. These will pave the way for the living preacher. I believe the time has come when our brethren, old and young, of Australasia, will take hold of this work in earnest. Anciently it was said, "The Lord gave the word; great was the army of them that published it." *May it be so to-day.*

There are many chronic invalids who could be benefited at our sanitariums. But they have never heard of our sanitariums or the principles of our work. How can they have faith in that of which they have never heard? "How can they hear without a preacher?" Every periodical is a silent messenger, sent forth to enlighten these souls and create within them faith in the principles advocated by our sanitariums. Our sanitariums ought to be, and might be, full of patients, should our brethren everywhere wake up and live up to their God-given privileges. Instead of it being necessary for our sanitariums to call upon our brethren for means, the wealth of the gentiles would come unto us, and would not only sustain our sanitariums, but enable them to build similar institutions in other needy fields.

D. H. KRESS.

JESUS is life itself. "In Him was life, and the life was the light of men." Every person connected with Jesus will be alive. Christ's life was and is still devoted to rescuing men and women from the power of sin and Satan unto God, and so will the lives of His followers be devoted.

He went about doing good. So will we go about doing good if we are partakers of His Spirit. We will want to go about from house to house doing good. The Spirit begets this desire in us. This desire to help and bless others is one of the best evidences of conversion, and the growth and intelligent putting forth of well-planned, well-directed effort to rescue sinners is one of the best evidences of Christian growth. To go about more among our neighbors, to do more 'good, to carry more light and blessing,—this will be the growing, self-consuming desire. More, *more*, MORE, more money to give, more power to serve, more opportunities to be channels of light. "The zeal of thy house hath eaten me up."

G. B. STARR.

AN artist was asked to paint a picture of a decaying church. To the astonishment of many, instead of putting on the canvas an old, tottering ruin, he painted a stately edifice of modern grandeur. Back of the open portals could be seen the richly-covered pulpit, the magnificent organ, and the beautiful, stained glass windows. Just inside of the grand entrance, guarded on either side by a pillar of the church in spotless apparel and glittering jewelry, was an "offering plate" of goodly workmanship, for the offerings of the fashionable worshippers. Directly above the "offering plate" there hung a very simply painted square box, bearing the legend, "Collection for Foreign Missions." But right over the slot through which contributions ought to have gone, he had painted a huge cobweb.—*Review and Herald.*

REPORTS FROM THE FIELD.

TASMANIAN CONFERENCE POSTPONED.

THE date of this annual gathering has been changed to November 28 to December 8. All who are interested in the progress of the Third Angel's Message will realise the importance of being at this meeting. Let all come with an earnest desire to seek the Lord and receive His blessing. If we confess and forsake our sins, and by faith claim the promise of His presence, "Lo, I am with you always," we shall not be disappointed. The Lord is anxiously waiting for His people to get into a position where He can pour out His Spirit upon them. He is waiting for us to turn away from our iniquities so that He can richly bless us. Listen to the voice from heaven, "Turn you at My reproof: behold, I will pour out My Spirit unto you, I will make known My words unto you." Prov. 1: 23.

Let us come up to this annual feast with our hearts all aglow with the love of God, seeking for the outpouring of His Spirit, and we shall not be disappointed. He who met so often with His disciples on the slope of Mt. Olivet will meet with and speak peace to His people in Hobart.

E. HILLIARD.

QUEENSLAND CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS.

THE third annual session of the Queensland Conference convened in the South Brisbane Church from October 30 to November 3, 1902. Owing to some misunderstanding with regard to church representation, very few delegates were appointed by the churches, so the business was proceeded with as though the conference were properly constituted. A good number of workers attended from abroad; viz., G. A. Irwin and Miss E. M. Graham, on behalf of the Union Conference; Dr. D. H. Kress, on behalf of the medical work; W. D. Salisbury and J. Johanson, on behalf of the Echo Publishing Company; and C. W. Irwin, on behalf of the Avondale School. Sister G. A. Irwin and Brother Joseph Mills were also present.

The conference at this time being without a president, Pastor G. A. Irwin acted as chairman of the meeting.

The following committees were appointed:—

ON NOMINATIONS: J. Sheppard, H. E. Streeter, E. M. Graham.

ON CREDENTIALS AND LICENSES: W. D. Salisbury, J. H. Hewitt, J. H. Mills.

ON PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: J. H. Mills, J. Johanson, D. H. Kress, E. M. Graham, C. W. Irwin.

Reports from the field were listened to with interest. Brother Robinson spoke of the progress of the work in Rockhampton. Since his going there, at the beginning of July, a church building, 20 x 32 feet, has been almost completed, and up to the present is free from debt. Three persons so far have accepted the truths presented during the tent effort in that place, and there are several more whom it is believed will be brought in later. A church building has also been erected in Toowoomba during the year, but this enterprise has not been quite so successful in keeping clear of debt, there being £110 still owing on it.

Sister Tuxen, Sister Laurisen, Brother Hewitt, Sister Snape, and Sister Prebble each reported of the progress of the work in their respective fields of labor.

The financial reports of the conference, tract society,

and health foods agency, and Sabbath-school department were presented and adopted.

The titles for the nine months amounted to £397, for a membership of 225. The balance-sheet of the conference showed a deficit during this term of £63, thus leaving the conference with a debit balance of £186 to commence this year with. The tract society has only just been able to meet its expenses during the year, having a net gain of a little over £2. Orders for books to the value of £2,092 have been taken. The society had a deficit of £227 odd at the commencement of the year. The health food business has had a fairly successful year, having a net gain of £40. Its total sales have been £232 10s 1d. The Sabbath-school department has been augmented during the year by one Sabbath-school, its total now being seven, with a membership of 238.

The Committee on Nominations submitted the following report, which was adopted:—

FOR PRESIDENT: A. T. Robinson.

FOR SECRETARY AND TREASURER: J. H. Mills.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: A. T. Robinson, J. H. Mills, A. Smart, A. Merritt, J. Sheppard, J. H. Hewitt, H. W. Goldspink.

TRACT SOCIETY SECRETARY AND TREASURER: Miss Emma Hill.

SABBATH-SCHOOL SECRETARY AND TREASURER: To be appointed by the Executive Committee.

EDUCATIONAL SECRETARY: To be appointed by the Executive Committee.

The Committee on Plans and Recommendations presented their report as follows, which was adopted:—

Whereas, The subject of education has come to occupy so important a place in our denominational work, and recognising the fact stated in the Spirit of Prophecy that the "school is the most important institution in our world," also that "all our children should have the privileges and blessings of a training in our schools," therefore,—

1. *We would recommend*, That all our people put forth earnest effort to forward the cause of Christian education by encouraging and assisting all suitable young persons above fifteen years of age to enter the Avondale School, for the purpose of fitting themselves for work in the Lord's vineyard.

2. Recognising the value of early Christian training, we would urge upon all parents the importance of beginning this work through the agency of home training and the church school.

3. A proper education of our children being a duty highly incumbent upon us, we recommend that this conference appoint a church and family school secretary, whose duty it will be to labor for the establishment and upbuilding of this important branch of the Lord's work, and we recommend that the work of this secretary be carried on under the advice of the conference committee and the Avondale School.

4. That the management of the health foods agency be separated from the tract society, that a secretary be appointed to take charge of the tract society department, and a manager for the health foods agency who can give attention to the development of the food business.

5. That the members of churches and companies be urged to take upon themselves the burden of the circulation of the *Bible Echo* and *Australasian Good Health* in their vicinity.

6. That the conference committee be urged to subsidise agents to the amount of fifteen dozen of *Echoes* per week, and two dozen *Good Healths* per week, to act as pioneers in cities and towns which have not yet been visited by the living preacher; that these agents be appointed by the Executive Committee and be under the direction of the State agent.

7. That the missionary work of our churches be so organised that some definite work is assigned to each member.

8. That every church member be recommended to become a reader of the UNION CONFERENCE RECORD.

9. That the donations of one or more Sabbaths in each quarter be taken for the payment of the running expenses of the school, and that the donations of the remaining Sabbaths be devoted exclusively to the mission fields specified by the Union Conference.

10. That our members be encouraged to study more thoroughly the Sabbath-school lessons, and this study may appropriately be made a part of family worship.

11. That a Sabbath-school convention be held, if possible, once during each quarter in every Sabbath-school in the State.

12. That this conference take hold of the sale of "Christ's Object Lessons" on the plans recommended by the Union Conference.

13. It is stated in the Spirit of Prophecy that "one reason why we do not enjoy more of the blessing of the Lord is, we do not heed the light which God has been pleased to give us in regard to the laws of life and health," and that "much of the prejudice that prevents the truth of the Third Angel's Message from reaching the hearts of the people might be removed if more attention were given to health reform." In view of this, it is recommended, that we encourage our people to study carefully our health publications, especially the health journal, thus acquiring the knowledge so much needed by them, and that they may be able to impart the principles of health to their neighbors and friends.

The Committee on Credentials and Licenses presented their report, which was received and adopted:—

FOR CREDENTIALS: A. T. Robinson.

FOR MINISTERIAL LICENSE: A. Smart.

FOR MISSIONARY LICENSES: Mrs L. V. Robinson, Miss Tuxen, Miss Prebble.

Some very interesting and instructive talks were given during the conference by the visiting brethren, which were appreciated very much. A spirit of harmony and unity prevailed throughout the meeting.

Adjourned *sine die*.

G. A. IRWIN, *Chairman*.

J. H. MILLS, *Secretary*.

THE QUEENSLAND CONFERENCE.

THE annual session of the Queensland Conference, officially reported by the conference secretary, proved to be a season of refreshing for all who were in attendance. It was deeply to be regretted that a more full representation from the various churches and companies of believers throughout the State could not have been present to share the blessings, and carry the spirit and influence of the meeting back to their home churches. No doubt the small attendance outside the Brisbane churches was due to the financial depression that is resting upon this part of the country. Yet we hope to see the time when our Queensland brethren and sisters will so fully appreciate the importance of our annual gatherings that a more determined effort will be made to have all parts of the field represented.

The workers from abroad took active part in the deliberations of the conference, and in presenting before us the advance moves along the various lines of work represented. All present realised that the work of the various institutions and organisations represented are simply agencies for the accomplishing of the great work of the Third Angel's Message, and no one felt that the brethren representing these institutions were desirous of building up local enterprises in the places where they are located.

How thankful every Seventh-day Adventist in Australasia ought to be that in the providence of God such noble institutions have been brought into existence as the Echo Publishing Company of Melbourne, the Avondale School, with its allied institutions in Cooranbong, the Wahroonga Sanitarium, and such organisations as the Australasian Union Conference, extending its paternal arms around its family group of seven local conferences.

I wish all our people would become more intelligent concerning all phases of our work. I want to tell our brethren and sisters in Queensland how every one, even the "lonely and scattered ones," may keep fully in touch

with our work and workers in all parts of Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands. It is by subscribing for our Australian church paper, the UNION CONFERENCE RECORD. This paper is now published twice a month, so that for the small sum of 2/6 you can have the full reports of the work brought right to your door every two weeks. We feel so anxious for you in this matter that we are arranging to have the issue of the RECORD in which this report appears sent to every family of our people in the Queensland Conference. If you are pleased with it and think it worth half a crown to have it come to you every two weeks, just enclose 2/6, with your post office address, and send it to Miss Emma Hill, Queensland Tract Society, Edward Street, Brisbane, Queensland, and your name will be placed upon the subscription list, and you will receive the paper regularly for twelve months.

The business meetings of the conference were brought to a close on Monday evening, but as the visiting brethren were remaining for a day or two to counsel with the Executive Committee of the conference, another meeting was held in the South Brisbane Church on Tuesday evening, when the hour was occupied by Brethren Irwin, Salisbury, Johanson, and Dr. Kress, each occupying fifteen minutes speaking of the special line of work with which he is most closely identified. Pastor Irwin outlined the organisation and work of the Australasian Union Conference, and its relation to the various State conferences, and the institutions located therein. Dr. Kress spoke of the struggles and victories connected with the erection of the new sanitarium at Wahroonga, N.S.W., now nearing completion. This sanitarium, he stated, which is to be opened in about three weeks, will be the most completely equipped and up-to-date medical institution in Australasia. Brother W. D. Salisbury, manager of the Echo Publishing Company, of Melbourne, sketched briefly the development of its work from its beginning in 1885. Among the facts and figures given were the following: First building erected, 1889; second building, 1898; third building, 1900; present floor space, 14,000 square feet; employees, 1885, one; 1890, twenty; 1897, twenty-eight; 1898, fifty-three; 1899, eighty-three; 1902, ninety; present value of plant about £15,000; business turnover last year, £19,390; wages paid last year, over £6,000; paper bought last year, 125 tons; total value of books sold up to the present time, £150,000. Brother J. Johanson gave some very interesting facts and figures, showing what has been accomplished by an organised effort in the distribution of our literature. This meeting was one of the deepest interest to all, and led to a feeling of gratitude and praise to God for what has been accomplished in the carrying forward of the message in this country.

During the council held after the close of the conference, some important plans were arranged for aggressive work in our conference during the coming year. Concerning these plans and the success attending our efforts to carry them out, frequent reports will be seen by all who are readers of the UNION CONFERENCE RECORD.

A. T. ROBINSON.

I AM surprised that intelligent men do not see the immense value of good temper in their homes; and am amazed that they will take such pains to have costly houses and fine furniture, and yet sometimes neglect to bring home with them good temper.—*Theodore Parker.*

THE NEW SOUTH WALES CAMP-MEETING.

THE following excellent report of the meeting we clip from the *Sunday Times* of October 19:—

This year the tents of the Seventh-day Adventists have been pitched midway between Croydon and Burwood, in a park-like enclosure sloping back from the railway line. The camp is a large one, numbering sixty family tents, and is arranged in the form of a hollow square, the centre being occupied by a large marquee, wherein the services are held. Two smaller marquees are used for young people's and children's meetings.

The whole encampment is most picturesque, and admiration is expressed on all hands by the many visitors at the neat and comfortable appearance of the tents. The campers state that they were not inconvenienced by the recent heavy rain one-half as much as was generally supposed.

Great interest is taken in the vegetarian restaurant and the food tent. Owing to the famine prices of meat, special interest attaches to scientific vegetarianism. At the restaurant may be sampled the protose (vegetarian meat), nut butter, and caramel-cereal, all of which are largely used by the Adventists, who are thorough-going health and temperance reformers. They also abstain from the use of tobacco, tea, and coffee, believing all to be more or less injurious. Their tables, however, dispel any idea that they are restricted to a starvation diet, various samples of highly nourishing food being in evidence.

They stick close to the Bible. Since their rise in 1846, the Seventh-day Adventists have made rapid progress. They now number 75,000. But it is to their religious tenets that the greatest interest attaches. There is probably not a sect in existence which sticks so closely to the Bible. They will have absolutely nothing to do with any doctrine for which a plain "Thus saith the Lord" is not forthcoming.

The principal point of difference in their belief and practice from that of other evangelical denominations is a belief in the binding obligations of the ten commandments, which leads to the strict observance of the seventh day, as enjoined in the fourth commandment; a definite belief in the literal and personal second coming of Christ, and that the prophecies show that that event is near at hand; and that death is an unconscious state, from which all will be awakened by the resurrection.

Believing from Rev. 12: 17; 14: 12; Isa. 56 that they have been specially raised up to honor the ten commandments and the seventh-day Sabbath, and to warn the world of the second coming of Christ, they work with great energy and perseverance along these lines.

The Adventists first began work in Australasia in 1885. They now have in the States sixteen ministers, fifty-two churches, and a membership of 2,500.

Their chief Australian centre is at Cooranbong, where they operate the Avondale School for Christian Workers, the Avondale Health Retreat, the Avondale Press, and a Health Food Factory.

In Melbourne they operate the Echo Publishing Company, where ninety hands are employed, and in Sydney they operate the Vegetarian Pure Food Cafe, and are erecting a very large sanitarium at Wahroonga.

The meetings during the session have been very well attended, the large marquee being frequently filled.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

FOR some time, Pastor Knight has been laboring in the Newcastle district, where he has met with good success in the selling of "Christ's Object Lessons," and is now doing aggressive ministerial work, and reports that some souls are responding.

Brother Finster, who has also met with good success in the disposing of "Christ's Object Lessons," is now doing Bible work and visiting at York, preparatory to holding a tent mission.

It will please the readers of the RECORD to know that we have now in this State 1,030 out of our quota of 1,500 "Christ's Object Lessons." We feel that with one more effort we shall have attained our mark, and be ready for what God has for us to do next. We praise the Master for what has been done, but wish we could say that the whole of our brethren had participated; for the call of God to take part in the "Christ's Object Les-

sons" enterprise is to *all*, so that *all* might be used of Him and enjoy the blessing of the soul winner.

This enterprise has proved beyond doubt that God can use our brethren. In my visits to the country companies, I have, after giving them instruction, said to myself, "Why here are these dear brethren willing to respond, and yet there are but few people in their neighborhoods that they can canvass, and these are much prejudiced. How can they do anything?" But "where there's a will, there's a way," and so God has blessed them far beyond our expectation. Some of the prejudiced have purchased, and other books have been sold by the brethren taking train to other places.

It was my privilege to visit the Bokara brethren recently. God is blessing this company. During my stay, one soul was baptised and added to the church. The brethren here have decided to build themselves a church. They have had the land given to them and the stone to build it with. This will be the first church building in West Australia.

We had a precious time last Sabbath week with the Perth church, when eight adults were baptised and added to the roll. There are ten others who will be baptised in the near future. Praise the Lord that the gospel chariot is catching up the honest in heart.

Our canvassing work is onward. The whole of our agents are of good courage and are meeting with good success.

JESSE PALLANT.

PERSECUTIONS IN RAROTONGA.

SUNDAY, August 31, while at the mission, the policeman saw a young native man, whom we have in training for the work, working at his house. He was summoned to go to court.

The case was tried the following morning. Tonga, the young man, was fined twelve shillings or in default twelve days' labor on the roads.

We again had the opportunity of bringing some thoughts of religious liberty before the court, but they did not avail to help our native brother.

Speaking for himself, Tonga told the judge that as he had observed the seventh day of the week as the Sabbath according to the commandment, and as God did not command any man to abstain from work on the first day of the week, he had worked. Tonga worked out his fine on the roads.

A. H. PIPER.

WHAT OUR CHILDREN MAY ACCOMPLISH.

FROM an interesting report of Dr. Paulson's we clip the following, as the principles involved in disposing of the *Life Boat* are applicable to this field with our good literature, the *Children's Friend*, *Good Health*, and *Bible Echo*. "The Lord gave the Word: great was the company of those that published it:"—

At the Iowa and Nebraska camp-meetings I grasped as never before what the children of this denomination may do. In these conferences our leading workers have been encouraging the children to undertake *active* missionary work, and they have found the selling of *The Life Boat* to be a convenient outlet for missionary activity.

At the Iowa meeting there were nearly forty children who had been selling *The Life Boat*, and they had live experiences to relate at the children's meetings.

To a certain extent this was true at the Nebraska camp-meeting. The children took hold of the selling of *The Life Boat* on the camp grounds with such enthusiasm that it fairly surprised the teachers. Nearly all the great missionaries began their missionary career in their childhood. When we are interesting children to do such

simple work, we may be laying the foundation in them for great missionary experiences in the future.

God has put a certain amount of activity into every child, and if it is *not* wisely directed into right channels, then, like confined steam, it will show itself in destructive ways. Our church-school teachers find that some of the most restless pupils take hold of this work with the most enthusiasm. Do not crush the active spirit in your children.

ADELAIDE, S. A., CAMP-MEETING.

THE camp-meeting in this State was held from October 11-19. We can report a good time. God in His merciful providence blessed us above all we could ask or think.

It was thought at first, through drought and various other causes, that it would be impossible to hold a camp-meeting, but at our annual conference, held in August, it was felt that it would be a calamity to the cause in this State if we failed to hold a meeting. So it was decided to move out in faith, and trust in God to supply the means. God honored the faith of His people and met all our needs. In fact, the conference is in a much better position now than before the meeting. The camp paid its way, with a balance sufficient to liquidate a debt on the tent fund.

We were sorry just at this time to lose our president, Brother J. H. Woods. We feel it a sort of calamity.

This conference not being able to secure a permanent minister for the present, a large share of the work fell to the writer and the conference committee. We had the promise, however, of Pastor E. W. Farnsworth to labor with us during the camp-meeting, and to continue the interest that would be aroused through the camp-meeting.

We were pleased to have with us from New South Wales, Professor C. W. Irwin. He gave us some interesting instruction on education and the need of church schools. Brother Johanson represented the canvassing work and "Christ's Object Lessons," and did some good work in interesting those who could to canvass for our books. Brother Hennig, president of the Victorian Conference, assisted Brother Farnsworth in presenting the various themes of the message. Brother Craddock, of this State, also filled his place in presenting lines of truth.

We secured a very pretty spot for the meeting, the "Old Kensington Oval," Kensington, well secluded, and a nice grassy plat; and when the forty-two tents were pitched in a semi-circle, it looked a model ground and a picture of neatness.

The opening night was not particularly favorable for attendance, on account of rain, but it cleared very nicely for Sabbath and Sunday meetings.

Large numbers attended, and listened with intense interest to discourses by Pastors Hennig and Farnsworth. The word spoken was with power, and many were convicted by the solemn and sacred truths presented.

The health talks were presented by the writer, and a deep interest was manifested in these important themes. Many were much taken by the health food preparations which were on display at the medical tent.

The book tent was well patronised, people having a desire to read and study these living issues, so a large number of books and tracts, etc., were disposed of.

At the close of our first Sunday night meeting, it began to blow a gale of wind, and it increased until it blew at the rate of seventy miles an hour. Stone walls, many sheds, and iron buildings were blown down. We had quite a lively time, and it seemed almost impossible

that the tents could weather the gale, but the Master held the ropes and tents. Little damage was done, and we were extremely thankful to the dear Lord for His watchcare and protection. The brethren and sisters were of good courage and feel none the worse for their blow. The weather cleared after this experience and continued fine to the end of camp.

The last Sabbath and Sunday meetings were crowded ones, especially the Sunday meeting. The afternoon meeting, "All about Sunday," by Brother Henning, was marked by splendid attendance, and a deep interest on the part of the listeners. This was followed by the usual health talk, 4 P.M., and at 7 P.M. Brother Farnsworth spoke on the subject, "Who Changed the Sabbath?" This was the largest attendance of any meeting we had. The ground was fairly thronged with people, and they listened with intense interest to the word spoken. The Holy Spirit presented the subject with wonderful clearness, and left no room for doubt with the honest inquirer, as to who was the author of the change of the Sabbath. Many in that meeting were stirred, and in their souls were convicted of the truths of God's Word. Many lingered to ask questions. Some stated that they would obey the Lord and walk in the way of His commandments. As the interest is followed up, we have faith to believe that many will unite with the Third Angel's Message.

Monday, October 20, the large tent was removed to a nice plot of ground at the corner of Queen and Regent Streets, Kensington, and there the interest still continues, and up to the present writing, seven have taken their stand for the truth. Praise the Lord.

A. W. SEMMENS,
Acting President of S. A. Conference.

"THE RIGHTS OF MAN, OR RELIGION AND THE STATE."

THE above is the title of a new book just issued by the Echo Publishing Company, on the subject of Religious Liberty. The book was written by Pastor W. A. Colcord, and is the outgrowth of several years of study and experience as an editor and teacher in this special line. The work contains 276 pages.

The book is not so large as to make it cumbersome or tedious to read, but it is a clear-cut presentation of the subject in a style and language that makes it attractive and easy of understanding to the ordinary reader, while at the same time it challenges the admiration and attention of the most learned by the clearness of its logic and the strict adherence to Bible principles.

The principles enunciated in this book are the principles of the Reformation of the sixteenth century, and are the very essence of the Third Angel's Message, which is a warning against a return to a union of church and State, which has always resulted in the domination of individual conscience and the crushing out of religious freedom.

The following article, quoted from Testimony, Vol. 6, pp. 402 and 403, is to the point in this connection:—

"GOD'S WORD TO BE SUPREME."

"The people of God will recognise human government as an ordinance of divine appointment, and will teach obedience to it as a sacred duty within its legitimate sphere. But when its claims conflict with the claims of God, the Word of God must be recognised as above all human legislation. 'Thus saith the Lord' is not to be set aside for, Thus saith the church or the

State. The crown of Christ is to be uplifted above the diadems of earthly potentates.

"The principle we are to uphold at this time is the same that was maintained by the adherents of the gospel in the great Reformation. When the princes assembled at the Diet of Spire in 1529, it seemed that the hope of the world was about to be crushed out. To this assembly was presented the emperor's decree restricting religious liberty and prohibiting all further dissemination of the reformed doctrines. Would the princes of Germany accept the decree? Should the light of the gospel be shut out from the multitudes that were still in darkness? Mighty issues for the world were at stake. Those who had accepted the reformed faith met together, and the unanimous decision was, 'Let us reject the decree. In matters of conscience, the majority has no power.'

"The banner of truth and religious liberty which these reformers held aloft, has in this last conflict been committed to us. The responsibility for this great gift rests with those whom God has blessed with a knowledge of His Word. We are to receive God's Word as supreme authority. We must accept its truths for ourselves. And we can appreciate these truths only as we search them out by personal study. Then, as we make God's Word the guide of our lives, for us is answered the prayer of Christ, 'Sanctify them through Thy truth; Thy Word is truth.' John 17: 17. The acknowledgment of the truth in word and deed is our confession of faith. Only thus can others know that we believe the Bible.

"Those reformers whose protest has given us the name Protestant felt that God had called them to give the gospel to the world, and in doing this they were ready to sacrifice their possessions, their liberty, and their lives. Are we in this last conflict of the great controversy as faithful to our trust as were the early reformers to theirs?

The "Rights of Man" is one of the agencies God would have us use at this time to bring truth home to the hearts of the people. So as to bring the book within the reach of all our people, and encourage its free distribution to members of parliament, judges, lawyers, and public men in general, the first edition of one thousand will be furnished by the Echo Company at one shilling each, the actual cost of the production. Every Adventist should procure a copy of this book at once, and read and study it carefully, so as to become familiar with the principles and enthused with their spirit. In the meantime, each State tract society should formulate and give out to each church in its jurisdiction a well defined and systematic plan for its distribution to the class of people indicated above. While the question of compulsory religious teaching in the State schools and the enactment of strict Sunday laws is being agitated, is our golden opportunity to give the last warning message of God to men.

"When God has given us light showing the dangers before us, how can we stand clear in His sight if we neglect to put forth every effort in our power to bring it before the people? Can we be content to leave them to meet this momentous issue unwarned?" Testimonies, Vol. 5, p. 712.

Let this article come as a personal appeal to each of you who read, and let each act his part nobly and in the fear of God.

GEO. A. IRWIN.

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Items of General Interest.

BROTHER W. A. Colcord, who has recently returned to America from Australia, will remain in Battle Creek for a time, and will assist in the work of the Mission Board.

THE publishers of the *Good Health* in England have increased the number of pages to thirty-two, and they guarantee a monthly circulation of fifty thousand copies.

BROTHER J. Johanson, Pastor A. T. Robinson, and Brother A. Smart spent several days in Brisbane after the close of the Queensland Conference, organising a forward movement in the sale of "Christ's Object Lessons."

PASTOR Robinson has returned to Rockhampton, where he will remain for a few weeks, until the dedication of the new church, and the completion of the work outlined for that place. Brother F. L. Chaney and wife will remain in Rockhampton until they leave to connect with the work of the Avondale School.

BROTHER A. Smart, who has been appointed general canvassing agent for Queensland, is spending a short time in Brisbane, working up the "Christ's Object Lessons" movement. He will then spend his time largely out in the field, working with his agents to increase the sales of our subscription books.

ONE of the most important achievements of modern times is the completion of the Pacific cable, which enables the people of Australia to keep in better touch with their distant friends. The world does not seem nearly so great as it did a few years ago. It will seem much smaller still to the happy company to whom our angels' wings will be unfolded the wondrous grandeur and magnitude of our Father's house in that happy gathering which is every day drawing nearer.

"MEN's hearts failing them for fear."—A naval authority of considerable repute announces that, because of the proficiency of the submarines, battle ships will in time of war only be safe in harbors that are carefully sealed against the unseen foe. No human mind can justly comprehend the perplexity, misery, and suffering which will come as a whirlwind from the Almighty when the dogs of war are loosed. The rapid developments in preparing instruments of destruction never cease. Satan is planning on a mighty harvest. We have no time to lose in warning the world.

AN ably written article on "The Curse of Calvinism" appeared in a recent issue of *Truth*. Some would-be reformers have introduced a bill into the State legislature of New South Wales, which is intended to guard

more carefully the supposed sacredness of the Sunday institution. The editor of *Truth* shows from the history of the past some of the baneful effects of such unwise legislation. The testimony borne by Buckle's "History of Protestantism in Scotland" is of a character to make one shudder, and thank God for the degree of liberty which we now enjoy.

A HUNDRED children poisoned at a Sunday-school picnic in Victoria is another gruesome piece of news which emphasises the importance of health reform. The reason assigned why so many dear little ones were brought to intense and severe suffering was the common one of ptomaine poisoning through eating ham sandwiches. Should not such conditions lead us to greater diligence in circulating health literature. Everyone who adopts the principles laid down so clearly in the little booklet "Dieteric Errors" need fear none of these diseases which afflict those who perish for lack of knowledge.

IN response to the call in the last RECORD to assist in the distribution of the December number of *Good Health*, one man, not a Sabbath-keeper, writes, "Send me one hundred copies." Another one says, "I have much pleasure in making my small contribution to assist the cause at issue. I pledge one pound for the copies, and will give one week's work in distributing the journals, and pay my own travelling expenses to any place you desire worked."

We feel grateful for the hearty response on the part of these, and trust others will do likewise. Send in your orders at once. For 12 copies, 1/6; 50 copies, 6/-; 100 copies, 12/-.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—At the recent session of the Queensland Conference, Miss Emma Hill was elected secretary and treasurer of the Tract and Missionary Society. All correspondence relating to the Queensland Tract Society, should now be addressed to Miss Emma Hill, Queensland Tract Society, The Arcade, Edward Street, Brisbane, Queensland. Brother J. H. Mills is still secretary and treasurer of the conference, and manager of the Health Foods Agency. All correspondence pertaining to either of these lines of work should be sent to Brother Mills, at the tract society address.

A. T. ROBINSON.

THE MISSIONARY SPIRIT RISING.

DURING the past few weeks a great wave of blessing has swept over many of our camp grounds in the United States, as the needs of foreign fields have been presented to the people. Such a response has never before been witnessed in this denomination.

At the Nebraska camp-meeting three hundred earnest, devoted young people deliberately, and without excitement, consecrated themselves to the missionary work in home and foreign fields. From among the many volunteers in several States a company of devoted young people has been made up for England and Europe. Some are to enter the canvassing work in England, others will attend the Bible school in London, and enter the canvassing or Bible work later.

God is working with His people, and turning their hearts toward distant lands. Strong young men and women are consecrating their lives to the service.

A. G. DANIELLS.