

# Union Conference Record

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

VOLUME VI.

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NUMBER II.

## Our Work as True Believers.

As a people, we profess to believe sacred truths. Because of our belief in these truths, are we happier and holier, more earnest, self-denying, and fervent, than the people of other denominations? What evidence do we give to the world that our faith is above that of the ordinary religionist? By the fruit that we bear in word and work, we reveal the influence that advanced truth and increased light have on us. "By their fruits," Christ declares, "ye shall know them." Do our works correspond to the sacredness of our faith?

The true Christian "cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God." His godly life is a daily testimony against sin.

He is a representative of the truth that he professes. Of these true-hearted followers, Jesus declares that He is not ashamed to call them brethren.

Weighty responsibilities rest upon all who have received the message of truth for this time. Entrusted with great light, we should remember that "unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall much be required." As stewards of the manifold grace of God, we are to be a blessing to those around us, exerting an influence that will draw them to the light of God's Word. "Even Christ pleased not Himself." He lived for the good of others, and we are to work as He worked. We are to love our neighbor as ourselves. We are our brother's keeper.

Christ "gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." And that faith which fills us with godly zeal is the only genuine faith. Christ abides in the hearts of those who abide in Him. Only those who are one with Him can bear rich clusters of fruit.

All that we are and all that we have should be consecrated to the Lord's service. Our voice, our influence, and our means should be used in proclaiming to the world God's message of invitation, "The Spirit and the Bride say come. . . . And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely."

Christ declares that for the fulfillment of His purpose of mercy, the co-operation of divine and human agencies is required. Angels of mercy are sent to our world to minister to those who shall be heirs of salvation. Unitedly God's children, with voice, with pen, and with their entrusted earthly treasures, are to give God's invitation, "Come." And heavenly agencies are holding themselves in readiness to co-operate with human agencies in laboring for the salvation of sinners.

We call upon you, brethren and sisters, to unite with the heavenly agencies in advancing God's great work. Use your influence and your means in His service, doing what you can in the closing years of the

earth's history to diffuse the light of the gospel message.

If we are true believers in Jesus, we shall shed light on the darkened pathway of those around us, revealing the gracious character of our Redeemer. And by our influence many will be drawn to behold the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world." They will yield themselves to His service; for Jesus will be in them "a well of water, springing up unto everlasting life." Those who have honored His name, who have been co-laborers with Him in seeking the salvation of souls, shall enter into His joy, and sit down with Him on His throne, to share in His eternal glory.

MRS. E. G. WHITE.

## How Does the Drought Affect Our Work?

WHEN darkness was in the land of Egypt, the children of Israel had light in their dwellings. In speaking of the cloud which proved such a blessing in guiding them from Egypt, through the wilderness to the land of promise, it is said, "It came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel: and it was a cloud of darkness to them, but it gave light by night to these."

That which proved darkness to the enemies of God was a light to Israel. God commanded the light to shine out of darkness. Only "the fool (who says in his heart, There is no God or good in this experience) walketh in darkness." "He shall not be afraid of evil tidings. His heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord."

"Two men looked out from their prison bars,  
One saw the mud, the other the stars."

In every providence, experience, or trial, no matter how dark to the world, the one who trusts God sees light.

Much has been said about the drought, the scarcity of money, etc. Some have almost felt as though God's work would have to stop until times became more prosperous. Is there in this cloud which appears so dark and threatening to the world, light for the children of God? Certainly there is. God lives. God rules; not only in heaven, but among the inhabitants of the world. Satan, the prince of the power of the air, may be permitted to bring the whirlwind, but God "has His way in the whirlwind." The wind and the waves obey His will. The promise is, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature, and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Not only so, but "I will send my angel in the way before you." In every providence, even in the drought, we are to recognise the One who has gone in the way before us to prepare the way, by preparing hearts and giving them a desire to receive the truth. "When Thy judgments are in the land, the inhabitants thereof will learn

righteousness." It has been demonstrated that prosperity (the slaying of oxen, killing sheep, drinking wine) is not conducive to spirituality or to the spread of God's work. "Let favor be shown to the wicked, yet will he not learn righteousness." This drought has resulted in the destruction of much valuable stock. Beefsteak, mutton, and other flesh foods have rapidly gone up in price. There can be no doubt but that the drought will also result in a great increase of disease among the animals that survive it. The high price of meat, and the danger of contracting disease by its use, will pave the way for the spread of the health principles, and the principles of health will act as an entering wedge for the Third Angel's Message in its completeness. They are the John the Baptist, the forerunner to prepare the way for the sanctifying truths which are to fit a people for Christ's coming. What an excellent opportunity to spread the reforms God has given us! Can we not see that God has gone in the way before us, and while darkness reigns in Egypt, there is light in the dwellings of God's people? The cloud that is so dark to the world is a light to guide us in our work. The scarcity of money will also afford an opportunity to call the attention of the people to the fact that they have been spending their money for that which is not bread; for tea, whiskey, tobacco, etc., substances that are harmful.

We call upon all to help in the circulation of health literature, especially our health journal and Good Health library booklets. "Blessed is the man who trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green, and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit." The drought cannot interfere with the yielding of fruit. It cannot injure the progress of God's work, only as we permit it to get inside. When the drought is in the soul, we shall not be able to see when good cometh, like the heath in the desert.

All things work together for good, and after the council of God's own will. We must learn to see light where others see darkness, success where others see defeat. The just shall live by faith.

D. H. KRESS.

### Wipe Away the Debts.

If our people only knew the blessed experiences that await them in an effort to sell "Christ's Object Lessons," all would want to have a part in the work. It is not enough simply to give our quota of books away; this will not bring the blessing; it is personal private work for others that raises our spiritual thermometer. We are told that we are not to wait until the people come to us, we are to seek them out where they are. "Many will not accept the gospel message unless it is carried to their homes." "The humble worker who obediently responds to the call of God may be sure of receiving divine assistance. To accept so great and holy a responsibility is itself elevating to the character. It calls into action the highest mental and spiritual powers, and strengthens and purifies the mind and heart. Through faith in the power of God, it is wonderful how strong a weak man may become, how decided his efforts, how prolific of great results."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, page 354.

Many are desirous of doing something with this book, but have not the courage to make a beginning. To such our Leader says, "Lo, I am with you alway, even to the end of the world."

Some who have sold their quota have ceased work, thinking that with the sale of ten books their work has ended. But has the Master released anyone? "After the immediate necessity is met, do not loose your zeal, feeling that there is no further need for special effort. Let not your interest flag. Let it rather increase until every institution among us is free from the curse of debt. And even then do not fold your hands and think there is no call for further effort. Press forward in the work. Sell the books wherever you can, and bring our larger books to the notice of the people. . . . As long as the message of mercy is to be given, there will be a call for efforts similar to that which has been made for the relief of our schools."—*Special Testimony*, No. 3.

There are some who from various causes will be unable to dispose of their full quota of books. Should not all who can do so, by selling extra copies, help to make up the deficiency of these weaker brethren and sisters?

It would develop the spirit of unity and love in a church for those who have met with success to help those who are behind in their work, so that all could unite in the jubilee song of having sold their quota in the church.

Many have been waiting for the long days of summer to begin work, when they could call upon their neighbors after working hours in the daylight. Those who are employed all day can pleasantly spend their evenings at this season of the year in visiting their neighbors and seeking to interest them in the book. God is now giving the opportunity, so let us try to wipe away the debts by a united effort at the present time.

C. P. MICHAELS.

## The Avondale School for Christian Workers.

### Beginning of the New School Year.

#### PROCEEDINGS IN THE CHAPEL.

THE pulse of the Avondale School for Christian Workers began vigorously beating anew on Tuesday, January 6, when the school was re-opened in the presence of a large number of visitors.

The chapel was tastefully decorated for the occasion. Having been provided with splendid new desks and neat strips of cocoanut matting, it now presents a very attractive appearance.

On the rostrum there were present, Brethren G. A. Irwin, C. W. Irwin, E. H. Gates, J. H. Paap, J. E. Fulton, and F. L. Chaney. At 10 A.M., by which time the seating capacity of the spacious chapel was severely taxed, an overture, "Das Velchen," was played by Sister J. H. Paap. This was followed by the "Old Hundredth," and, after the reading of the fourth chapter of Proverbs by Professor C. W. Irwin, prayer was offered by Pastor G. A. Irwin.

Then came a quartette, in which Brethren F. L. Chaney and Parkin and Sisters Alicia Trehwella and Eva Osborne took part; then came a piano solo, "Ripples on the Atlantic," by Sister J. H. Paap.

After this Pastor G. A. Irwin stepped forward and said, "I am glad to be here. It encourages my heart to see so many present, for it betokens an interest in this

school and in God's work now being carried forward in the world. Instead of making remarks of my own I prefer to read some statements from the servant of the Lord, who, as most of you know, took such a deep interest in this school, and to whose untiring perseverance this school owes so much. I will now read some remarks made by Sister White at the opening of one of our schools in America, and I trust that we shall receive them as if addressed directly to us:—

A TESTIMONY TO STUDENTS.

(Talk at the Opening of the Fernando School, October 1, 1902.)

I am indeed glad to see so many here this morning. Students, will you remember that the prosperity of the school depends in a large degree on your endeavors. Will you remember that you are to help to make the school a success. Your teachers will find their task difficult as they try to understand for themselves and to help

You remember the *experience of Daniel*. He received wisdom and understanding because he placed himself in right relation with God. God has intelligence for you, just as He had for Daniel. He has knowledge for you that is far above all human knowledge. If you stand where Daniel stood, you will gain a progressive education, and a *progressive education means a progressive sanctification*. Such an education will prepare you to inherit the kingdom that from the foundation of the world has been prepared for God's faithful ones. As you strive to obtain a knowledge of God, He will commune with you as He communed with Daniel and his companions, and will give you power that will prevail.

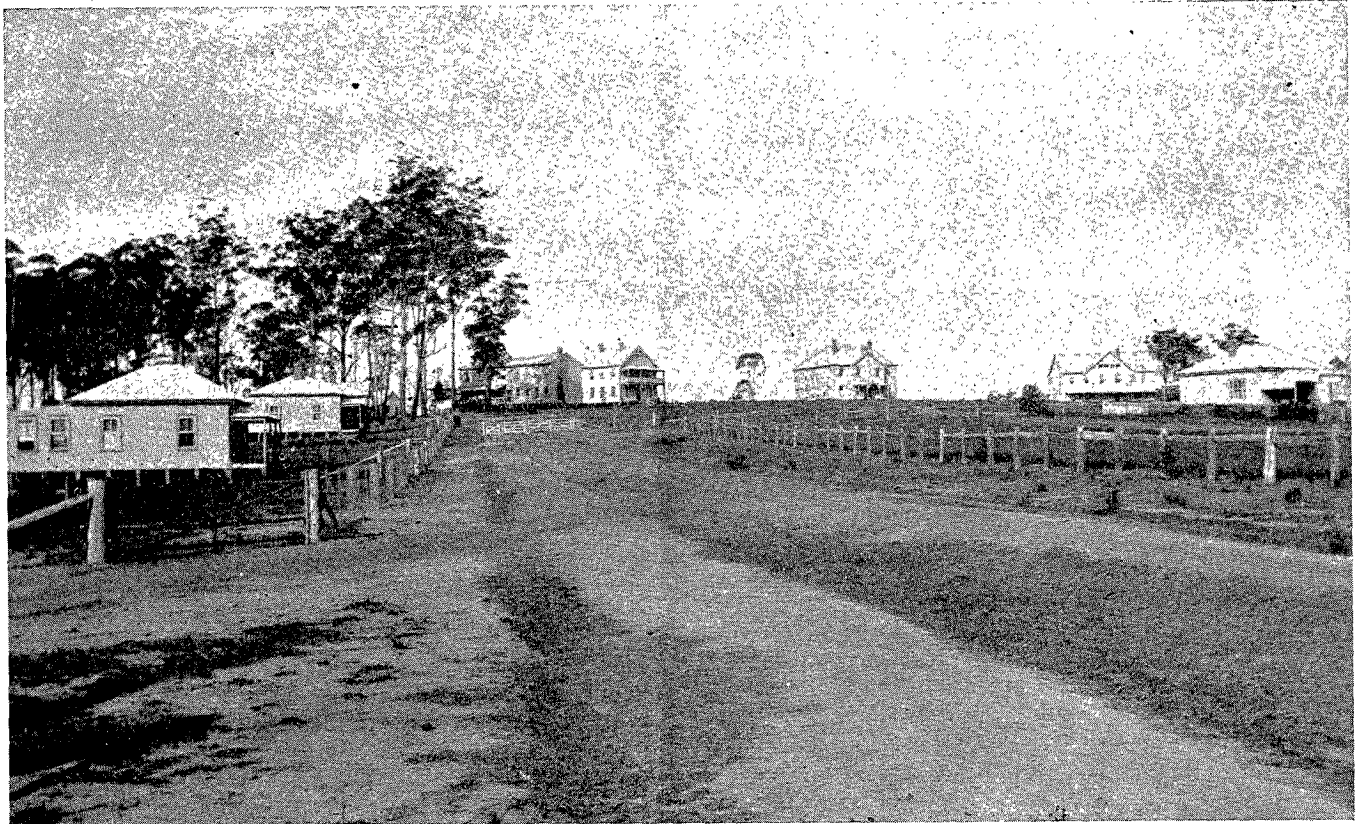
Your teachers will do all that they can to help you. They will try to show you what you must do to inherit eternal life. They will try to show you how to become conversant with the *living principles of truth*, that you may stand before God and men on vantage ground. Will you co-operate with your teachers? Will you strive earnestly to become useful men and women? Christ is waiting to help you, and He is an all-powerful Helper. When God gave Him to our world, He gave all heaven. He placed in His hands every

Daniel's Experience

Progressive Education

Living Principles

Responsibility of Students.



Buildings of the Avondale School.

you to understand what the Word of God means and what its requirements comprehend. Will you resolve not to make the work of your teachers harder by your perversity. I plead with you as Christ's purchased possession to help your teachers and your fellow-students by being so closely connected with God that into this school *heavenly angels* can enter and abide. Let everyone see what he can do to bring into the school sunshine and sweetness. Let everyone manifest that conformity to God's will that brings His rich blessing.

Students, you are here to fit yourselves to enter the *higher school*. You are here to obtain a knowledge of God, to learn how to obey His commandments. *Obedience is our life* in this world, and it will be our life in the world to come. And remember that a knowledge of God and of Christ is the *sum of all science*. God teaches us to count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus our Lord. To know God and Christ—this is eternal life. Incorporated with the life, this knowledge fits us for heaven. And all other knowledge, however high and broad, unless charged with it, is valueless in God's sight.

power, every faculty of heaven, to give to those who receive Him. Christ came to our world to give us an example of what we may become, to show us that we may live a *perfect life*. He says to us, "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

What are you here for? Is it to obtain an education that will help you to stand by the side of Christ in unselfish service? This is the *highest education* that you can possibly obtain. The Word of God declares, "Ye are laborers together with God." "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you, both to will and to do of His good pleasure." As you stand firm for God, filled with courage and perseverance, constantly revealing self-denial, angels from heaven will come into this school. They will keep guard over you. Your *health* will be precious in God's sight, *because you keep His commandments*.

Do not let self-assertion mingle with your work. Remember the lesson that Christ gave to His disciples when they were contending as to who among them should be the greatest. Placing a *little child* in the midst of them, He said, "Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom

A Perfect Life.

The Highest Education

Obedience Ensures Sound Health.

Presence of Holy Angels.

Obedience is life.

The Sum of All Science.

of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven."

In your school work, do not spend time in learning that which will be of little use to you in your after life. Instead of trying to gain a knowledge of foreign languages, strive first to speak the English language correctly. Be sure to *learn how to keep accounts*. Gain a knowledge of those lines of study that will help you to be useful wherever you are.

Remember constantly your need of a union with Christ. United with Him, you will bring into your work the fragrance of His character, and your well-ordered life will be a blessing to your teachers and your fellow-students. The sanctifying presence of God will be with you as you seek to do His will with a sincere desire to glorify Him.

Among these students there are those who have come here to prepare themselves for missionary work. May the Lord help you, and bless your efforts. The number of our *missionaries* is not half large enough. The fields are white, ready to harvest, but the laborers are few. God is waiting to endow you with power from on high, that you may go forth to work for Him.

I want to speak a few more words to you about *helping one another*. Not all are able to grasp ideas quickly. If you see that a fellow-student has difficulty in understanding his lessons, explain them to him. Be patient and persevering, and by-and-bye his hesitancy and dullness will disappear. He will gain courage and strength to endure trial. And in the effort to help him, you, too, will be helped. God will give you *power to advance in your studies*. He will co-operate with you in your efforts to help your fellow-students, and in heaven the words will be spoken of you, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Let two or three students meet together, and ask God to help them to be missionaries in this school, a blessing and a help to their fellow-students. The lives of such ones will exert a powerful influence for good on those who scoff at religion.

Let your faith be pure and strong and steadfast. Bring all the *pleasantness* you can into the school. Let gratitude to God fill your hearts. Remember the words, "Whoso offereth praise glorifieth God." When you rise in the morning, kneel at your bedside and ask God to give you strength to fulfill the duties of the day and to meet its temptations. Ask Him to help you to bring into your work Christ's sweetness of character. Ask Him to help you to speak words that will draw those around you nearer to Christ.

Live in this world to some *purpose*. If you waste the life God has given you, when Christ comes to gather His children home you will have no place in the mansions that He is preparing for those that love Him.

God wants you to receive the wisdom that He has for you. He wants you to be *Bible students* and Bible believers, living in obedience to the words, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself." Then He can bestow on you the power of His truth. Then He can mould and fashion you after the divine similitude. Living in conformity to Christ's will, you will be *changed* into His likeness. You will grow up into Him, and at last the pearly gates of the holy city will for you swing back on their glittering hinges, and *you will enter* to hear the words, "Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." In your hands will be placed a golden harp, and touching its strings, you will join with the redeemed host in filling all heaven with songs of praise to God and His Son.

Students, do your *best*. This is all that God asks of you. He who has given His life for you will aid you in your efforts to win eternal life. God wants you to have a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. Obey Him, and in this school His salvation will be revealed. I want to meet you all around the throne of God. Learn here the lessons God desires to teach you, and you will join in the song of triumph in the heavenly courts.

Pastor E. H. Gates arose and said, "As you will remember, last Sabbath I read from the Spirit of Prophecy. Some of these statements I will now read again: 'The world is full of those who need our ministry. The poor, the helpless, the ignorant are on every hand. Those who have communed with Christ in the upper chamber will go forth to minister as He did. Jesus, the served of all, came to be the servant of all. And because He ministered to all, He will again be served and honored by all. And those who would partake of His divine attributes, and share with Him the joy of seeing souls redeemed, must follow His example

of unselfish ministry.'"

#### SPIRITUAL DARKNESS OF THE EAST INDIES.

"One year ago, this moment, I was in the China Sea, where I saw many things that showed the urgent need of such a school as this. Connected with the many false religions of the East Indies I saw a great deal of senseless mummery. On the ship were twenty Roman Catholic missionaries, who were proceeding to New Guinea and New Britain. Much of their time was spent in drinking, smoking, playing cards, and telling funny stories. The spiritual darkness of the East Indies is perfectly appalling. In Singapore alone there are 80,000 Buddhists and over that number of Mahommedans. There are only a few who even profess to be Protestants, and but a single soul who believes in the present truth, which is so dear to us. There are millions upon millions in the blackest darkness. But God has now sent His own truth, so that some may go forth like Abraham to enlighten the world. And I trust that some of those now present before me will prepare to engage in this glorious work. I have just received an interesting letter from an old student of this school—Sister Evelyn Gooding—who is located at the mission in Rarotonga. [Pastor Gates here read several passages from the letter anent the conversion and baptism of two of her pupils, and her great joy thereat.] Three years ago Sister White said that we should get students from the Islands. This is a most important work. The Islands are unhealthy for white people. It is very necessary that native teachers and preachers be trained here at Avondale as quickly as possible. While getting an education, remember that it all amounts to nothing unless we consecrate our talents to God. Learn all you can, consecrate your all to God, and then go and carry the light to those who sit in darkness."

Pastor J. E. Fulton then stepped forward, and made some pointed remarks upon the subject of Christian education. The young men and young women of the school had assembled here, he said, for the purpose of studying divine principles. And the two most important text books were the Bible and the book of Nature. The study of these themes would ennoble the mind, just as anciently it had ennobled the minds of Joseph and Daniel.

After the singing of hymn 180 in "Christ in Song," Professor C. W. Irwin extended a hearty invitation to all in the vicinity to meet again at 6 P.M., when produce from the school farm would be on view, fruit handed round, and extracts read from the Testimonies relative to the school land.

#### AN EXHIBITION.

At 6 P.M., notwithstanding the fact that a heavy wind had arisen, a large number of visitors and students assembled near the Factory, and were accommodated with forms, which had been arranged in the form of a huge circle, in the centre of which were placed several tables, whereon were exhibited products of the school farm, orchard, and apiary; comprising, rosy-cheeked apples, pears, peaches, plums, grapes, passion fruit, pumpkins, squashes, turnips, parsnips, marrows, rhubarb, carrots, cucumbers, potatoes, corn, beans, honeycomb, honey, canned cherries, plums, peaches, apples, blackberries, tomatoes, and blackberry wine.

On another table was a splendid display of health food products; comprising, granose biscuits, granose flakes, meltose, granola, charcoal tablets, protose, bottled grape juice, infant food, and caramel-cereal. And another

table carried a pile of tracts and books for the Islanders, journals, papers, leaflets, folders, account books, book-covers, etc., from the Avondale Press.

There were also three stands of well-finished brooms from the broom factory.

"In one of the Testimonies," said Pastor G. A. Irwin, "relative to the Avondale School and farm it is stated that 'this institution must not depend upon imported produce, for the fruits so essential to healthfulness, nor for their grains and vegetables. This is the very first work that must be entered upon.'

"We have before us," said he, "a verification of what the Lord told us through His servant over seven years ago. He has indeed spread a table for us in the wilderness."

It was truly an impressive object lesson as to how wonderfully God has blessed the school farm.

INTERESTING INFORMATION.

Much interesting information was supplied by Professor C. W. Irwin. For instance, last year £50 was spent for fruit. This year the fruit sold was ample to pay for all the fruit purchased. Last year maize was sold to the value of £40, turnips to the value of £25, and honey to the value of £60. Last summer the vegetable produce was just sufficient to keep the school family, while this summer the school family (numbering 25) has been maintained from the produce of the farm, and, besides, a considerable sum of money has been received every week from produce sold, amounting, since the beginning of October, to over £130. This year, peanuts, taro (a Fiji potato), soy beans, and broom millet are being tried. This season 2,000 quarts of blackberries were produced. The school now has 154 stands of bees. Last winter the orchard was thoroughly drained, and all the trees were fumigated.

At the present time there are growing on the school farm,—

$\frac{2}{3}$ acre fine sweet potatoes	$\frac{1}{2}$ acre black-eyed peas
1 acre sweetcorn	$\frac{3}{4}$ acre naricot beans
7 acres oats (some over 6 feet high)	$\frac{1}{2}$ acre soy beans (a splendid new bean)
12 acres corn	1 acre Lima beans
2 acres tomatoes	40 acres pasture
1 acre blackberries	1 acre sorghum.
2 acres pumpkins	

Also conveniently-sized patches of carrots, parsnips, beet, rhubarb, marrow, squashes, cucumbers, French and butter beans, cabbages, peas, and turnips. About fifty bushels of peaches have been sold, realising up to 5/6 per half-bushel case.

Brother M. Hare related that when he came to settle in Cooranbong seven years ago, the people who had been living here for forty years told him that it was impossible to grow vegetables. His heart sank into his shoes at the news. But, he was glad to say, it was not long before he proved their words to be false. In his own garden he raised excellent vegetables. Some of his sweet potatoes, in fact, were so large and heavy that it was almost as much as one person could do to carry a single tuber. His experience was that the ground improved with cultivation.

Brother S. W. Carr, who has charge of the orchard and vegetable garden, stated that he preferred to work the school land rather than the land near Dural, although the latter land was supposed to be of a much better quality. Many visitors came to Avondale to inspect the

farm, and were much impressed with all that they saw. As the Testimonies had stated, the school farm would soon be an object lesson for the farmers of New South Wales to study. During the height of the drought it was stated by the *Newcastle Herald* that "Cooranbong was the greenest spot in all New South Wales."

The success of the industrial department of the school is largely due to the efficient management of those in charge of the different enterprises, and also to the faithful labors of the students.

The number of students enrolled already amounts to 110. Everything indicates that the school year just entered upon will be a most successful one both temporally and spiritually. H. E. A. MINCHIN.

Successful Workers.

"It requires a stout heart to go from door to door in these hard times," said a canvasser. Yes; and there is something else needed which is an essential element to the worker, namely, the grace of God in the heart. It is this which leads a person to give himself unreservedly to the service of the Master; and though obstacles, opposition, and bitter heart-breaking discouragements are met, the worker will triumph.

Often success is judged by how much money a person has gained; and this is true from the world's point of view. But a Christian (not a nominal one) looks at success from a different standpoint, and will conduct canvassing as a missionary enterprise. The object will be not to get gain, but to give light to the people. "Selfish principles and love of gain belong to the world. The thirst of money will sap the life out of any Christian, and will bring his consecration to nought; for 'the love of money is the root of all evil. Take heed unto yourselves lest your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, . . . and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares.'"

Seek the kingdom of God first, then all the temporal wants will be satisfied. "And having food and raiment, let us be therewith content. Labor not to be rich; . . . for riches make themselves wings; and fly away as an eagle toward heaven."

"When men realise the times in which we are living, they will work as in the sight of heaven. Their strength, their courage, their success, will depend on how fully the truth presented in the books is woven into their own experience and developed in their character. Imbued with the Spirit of God, they will gain a deep, rich experience, and heavenly angels will give them success in the work." A. SMART.

Put sinners into a paradise, and they would not rest satisfied until they had converted it into a hell. Hell is the natural choice of the carnal mind, hence the existence of such a place cannot be blamed on the Almighty. The Lord gives the wicked only what they choose, and adds death to it to make their choice more tolerable.—*Selected.*

The service of the Lord is not slavery, but the only thing that frees a man from slavery. The Lord will have no one in heaven who does not possess perfect freedom to do as he pleases.—*Selected.*

## REPORTS FROM THE FIELD.

### THE SUCCESS OF OUR WORK.

THE success and prosperity of our printing offices depends wholly upon our people in the field, upon the number of books sold, and the number of tracts distributed. A few years ago nearly every Seventh-day Adventist carried a supply of small leaflets with him to hand out as opportunity might afford. Weekly missionary meetings were held, where papers, health journals, and leaflets were wrapped and addressed and sent out upon their mission. This resulted in the rapid growth of all branches of our work. Of recent years these efforts have not been so marked. The Lord says, "I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love." The Saviour says we need to do our first works. The success of our sanitariums, food manufactories, cafés, and treatment rooms, likewise depend on the free distribution of health literature. Our work is educational. People must learn that they are spending their money for that which is not bread (supposing it to be bread), and be called upon to eat that which is good, before we can help them, before we can hope to get patrons to our cafés and sell our health foods. They must understand the deception of drug medication, and become acquainted with, and have confidence in, the virtues of God's remedies, before we can expect them to come to our sanitariums, where most of the chronic invalids who have suffered many things may be restored to usefulness and health.

Let the old spirit of the work be revived. Do something, and do it quickly. The field is ripe for the harvest, but the laborers are few. People are in need of the help we can give them. Many are crying to the Lord in their affliction, and He will deliver them out of their distresses. We may be His helping hand. God has given to every man his work. There need be no idlers saying, "No man has hired me." God wants no hirelings. "Whatsoever is good, that will I give thee," He says. "Go, work to-day in My vineyard, and he that worketh receiveth wages." "Thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just."

D. H. KRESS, M. D.

### ROCKHAMPTON CHURCH.—DEDICATION SERVICE.

WITH an appropriate programme of exercises, the new Seventh-day Adventist church building in Rockhampton, was dedicated on Sunday afternoon, December 7.

The sum of £82 1s 5d had been received in cash donations. At the beginning of operations, only a few pounds were in sight, but as the work advanced by faith, the means kept coming in as fast as needed, until the building was completed and dedicated free from debt, and with a small balance in the treasury.

The Lord has helped us in a remarkable manner, to complete a very neat and convenient place of worship. It stands in the very centre of the city, not more than three minutes' walk from the general post office. The building is painted with two and three coats of lead and oil, and, with a beautiful motto over the rostrum, painted by Brother Chaney, gives the inside a neat and cheery appearance.

The funds did not warrant the erection of Sabbath-school rooms at the back, as we had planned to build

if possible, and as we had resolved to go no further than the cash in hand would pay for, these much needed rooms are deferred till some future time, which we hope will not be many months. There is something over £5 worth of iron and other material left over for that purpose, so that about £10 more will complete the two rooms at the back, 12 x 12 feet, and will thus provide not only Sabbath-school rooms, which are greatly needed, but also accommodation for opening a much needed day school for the children of our people.

Another cause for deep gratitude to God is the fact that not only has the church building been growing, but the Lord has been adding to the membership of the church those whom we trust will be saved in the kingdom. Recently six glad souls followed the example of the Saviour by being baptised. These, with one other from the Baptist Church, were added to the membership of the Rockhampton Seventh-day Adventist Church.

We are planning to visit Rockhampton again after a few months, when we hope to see others who are interested take their stand for the truth.

The Rockhampton church, on the occasion of the dedication, gave expression to sincere and heartfelt appreciation for the help furnished by the Union Conference and the Queensland Conference in the way of workers; and sincere gratitude to the three score and more persons who had donated to the building fund. It is really a most marvellous thing, that through the liberality of so many people, few of whom had even been asked to donate, we have been enabled to erect this building in a time when the direst distress has been upon the land, and pressing so heavily upon our own dear people, that it has been a serious problem with some as to how they were to provide necessary food for their families. The Lord gave us definite impressions that we should move forward, when it seemed an utter impossibility to accomplish the task, and now for the success that has attended the work, all the praise is due and shall be ascribed to His dear name. I am asked by the church to pass along its thanks to all who have donated, and this I am doing through this report in the RECORD. One or two pledges made and not yet paid, can be forwarded to the writer, and the same will be applied toward a fund to erect the school rooms.

A. T. ROBINSON.

**Your Help is Needed.**—"Curse ye Meroz," said the angel of the Lord, "Curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof, because they came not to the help of the Lord against the mighty." The reasons why the inhabitants of this city referred to refused to come to the Lord's help in time of great need, are not stated. Reasons can never be given for refusing to respond to God's call for help. At such a time above all others, even the members of the body which seem more feeble, are necessary and should be brought into action. Excuses of, "I have bought a piece of land, a new house, married a wife, etc., etc.," may be made. But the question is, Did the Lord request you to make the purchase? Did he ask you to invest the means he has placed in your hands in houses and lands? Does He not say at such a time, "Sell that ye have and come to my help?" Let us all try to do something. When we come to the Lord's help, God will come to our help, and much may be expected. He will then move upon the Gentiles to assist us.

D. H. KRESS, M. D.

**OUR SCHOOL IN RAROTONGA.**

THE last days of the year have just closed, and it seems proper to look over the months that have gone, and call to mind the manifest working of God in our midst.

Early in February, Sister Evelyn Gooding reached the island in order to conduct the school that we contemplated beginning. After a week or two of prayer and counsel, we decided to erect two suitable native houses for dormitories, and in the meantime to begin a day school at Arorangi. Sister Gooding began with one scholar, then two, and so on, until she had fifteen scholars on the school register. This school was held in the morning, and as most of our brethren live in Titikareka, another village, we decided to conduct an afternoon school for the benefit of their children, Sister Gooding driving there four days in the week.

Owing to a good deal of trouble in securing roofing material for the dormitories, it was not until the beginning of July that we were ready to convert the two day schools into a boarding school. In doing so we lost some of the scholars of the Titikareka school, but those who did come were greatly benefited by being under our personal supervision. The Arorangi youth still continue to attend as day students. Our class room was the largest room in the mission house, but it soon proved far too small to contain the growing number of students.

Seeing this, we decided to erect a school house with accommodation for forty or fifty students. The walls of this house are built as natives often build, the lower part stone and the rest of sticks bound side by side to the frame. This ensures thorough ventilation, which is so much needed in a schoolroom. The roof is of iron, and the floor is concrete, which is clean and cool, and in every way suitable for this climate. It was a happy day when we were able to move into it after being so cramped in the mission home.

School begins at 7 A.M. and continues until 12.45 P.M., with the exception of an hour and a quarter intermission during the morning. For three hours during the afternoon, all the students are engaged with manual work. They grow part of their food, the remainder being supplied by their parents and friends. The boys have built a nice native house for the caretaker. Several came to school with sores all over their bodies, but by insisting that they eat regularly, and by other simple remedies, their skins have become as clean as could be.

During the last two months an epidemic of measles and dysentery has been the cause of shutting up every school in the island with the exception of ours. We have not had one case among the scholars living here. This is all the more remarkable when we consider that every family represented in the school has been afflicted with one or other of the diseases, and in some cases by both of them, and they are continually coming to the school with food supplies for their children. To the kind watchcare of our heavenly Father alone can we attribute this immunity.

When our readers realise that the grandparents of the children of Rarotonga were out and out heathen, they will better understand the material that we have to deal with in our school work. But we know that God was in the movement, and gradually the scholars became disciplined to a good degree. Yet this was not all; several have given their hearts to God, and the two leading students, youth budding into manhood, desired to follow their Lord in baptism. This they have had the

privilege of doing to-day. It was a blessed service. As we gathered on the shore of a beautiful lagoon, which divides the land from the ocean beyond, every heart seemed animated with the presence of God's Spirit. At the conclusion of the ordinance, as we rose from seeking God's blessing upon what had been done, there was hardly a dry eye among the assembly. Brethren and strangers alike were moved by the Spirit. The father of one of those baptised, himself a Sabbath-keeper who has not gone forward in baptism, went to the edge of the bush which fringes the beach, and there wept like a child. Another, a Maori woman not of our faith, said to me with tears running down her cheeks, "O, missionary, my heart is sad because of my sin, yet very happy for what I have seen with my eyes to-day." As we went from one to the other, we had the privilege of pointing them to "the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world." We believe there are others in the school and outside who will ask for baptism before long. May the blessed work go on, and may we have the prayers of the brethren in the homeland that it might be so.

A. H. PIPER.

**TASMANIAN CONFERENCE.**

THE second annual session of the Tasmanian Conference was held at Hobart, November 28 to December 8. Four churches of the conference were represented by seventeen delegates. Pastor G. B. Starr, Dr. D. H. Kress, J. Johanson, and Miss E. M. Graham of the Union Conference were present. Twelve meetings of the conference were held.

The committee on nominations submitted the following report, which was adopted:—

FOR PRESIDENT: E. Hilliard.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT: G. Teasdale.

FOR SECRETARY AND TREASURER: P. H. Pretzman.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: E. Hilliard, G. Teasdale, G. B. Starr, M. D. Rogers, Henry Murfet.

TRACT SOCIETY SECRETARY AND TREASURER: Mrs. M. D. Rogers.

SABBATH-SCHOOL SECRETARY AND TREASURER: Miss Edith Hill.

EDUCATIONAL SECRETARY: G. Teasdale.

Resolutions were passed favoring the holding of tent meetings on the north west coast at an early date; also regarding the completion of the work with "Christ's Object Lessons," and pushing the health literature and the religious liberty literature, as well as the *Bible Echo* and the *UNION CONFERENCE RECORD*. The subject of Christian education was duly discussed and the importance of it emphasised by resolutions. Resolutions were passed favoring a forward movement in individual missionary effort. The canvassing work was not forgotten; and the importance of the nursery of the church, the Sabbath-school, was also emphasised. A resolution was passed inviting Pastor G. B. Starr to connect with the Tasmanian Conference. The matter of the second tithe was given due importance. The health food business was the subject of another resolution. Plans are to be laid for increasing and developing that line of business.

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

FOR CREDENTIALS: E. Hilliard, G. Teasdale.

FOR MISSIONARY LICENSES: Mrs. Ida Hilliard, Miss I. Robertson. Adjourned *sine die*.

An abridged report of T. HOUSE, *Secretary*.

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## Items of General Interest.

BEING considerably run down physically through trying labors in Queensland, Sister A. T. Robinson is spending a season in rest and recuperation at the Sydney Sanitarium.

PASTOR E. W. Farnsworth and wife were privileged to spend a few days recently at the Wahroonga Sanitarium, at which time important council meetings were held. Pastor Farnsworth afterwards sailed for New Zealand, to attend the camp-meeting at Dunedin, while Sister Farnsworth made a visit to her old home at Avondale, before returning to Melbourne.

**The Fiji Mission.**—The little local paper called the "Rarama" has been doing a great and good work in Fiji. That this work might go forward, some new machinery and material has been very much needed. The Lord has sufficient to supply our every need, and in this case He supplied it by leading the brethren of the Avondale Press to donate to the Fiji mission over £30 worth of type and machinery. Our Fijian mission already has a printer, and with the improved facilities, we will look for especially encouraging reports in the future. An edition of "Great Controversy" in the Fijian language, is to be issued at an early date by the Avondale Press. Several pounds in donations have already been collected by Brother Fulton towards defraying the expense of getting out this important work.

**Notice.**—Through the hearty co-operation of the many friends of present truth who appreciate the relation that the principles of health sustain to the closing message, we have increased the monthly circulation of the *Good Health* to 10,000 copies. But there is no reason why we should not double this number in the next two months. All that is needed is a *little* effort on the part of each one. Let each one send for at least ten copies of the February number, containing the addresses that were given at the opening of the new Sydney Sanitarium, by Pastor Irwin, Dr. Kress, and others, January 1, 1903. This number will also contain pictures of the Battle Creek Sanitarium, and of our other health institutions scattered throughout the world. This is a good number to circulate freely. We must be up and doing. These principles are the forerunners of the last message of mercy to the world, and must, therefore, be carried into every home and brought to the attention of every member of every home. We need *your* help in this work.

**The Avondale Press.**—AN encouraging report was given at a recent Board meeting of the Avondale Press, concerning the work of that institution during the past six months. A good work has been done in educational and missionary lines, while the financial aspect is still

encouraging. That the institution might be better equipped for aggressive work of a high standard, it was voted that another press be added to the plant. A "Victoria Art Illustration Platen Press" has accordingly been purchased, and will be installed within a few days. The degree of success which lies ahead of each and every institution is largely dependent upon our individual adherence to the principles of right, which will bring a spirit of co-operation and unity.

## A NEW ZEALAND LETTER.

THE following interesting report is from one of our most successful canvassers:—

As you appreciate reports from the field, I will tell you some of this week's trials, tribulations, joys, and sorrows. As I am, as far as I know, the oldest and weakest canvasser in this New Zealand field, I might with some propriety make excuses and knock off a good many days during the month; such as Monday being a washing day, the women will be busy at their tub and will not want to be bothered with agents. Then there is the half-holiday, the fair day, the market day, etc. Monday I took eleven orders; Tuesday, eleven; Wednesday, I rode to Geraldine on my wheel, and found all in a bustle about the market, great flocks of sheep being dogged into the stalls. I at once called at a large general store, which is called "The Beehive," and inquired for the proprietor, who told me I had come in a bad time. Can't you come to-morrow? No, I told him I must establish an agency for health foods, and was going right to work, and wanted to know where to send the people for the foods. I had come to advertise. As I intended to make him my agent for the foods, I would like his order for *Good Health*. He then told me he had ordered that of Mr. Redhead some time ago, and as the territory was already canvassed there was poor show for me. I told him Mr. Redhead was working on a book, and only took an order here and there, so I must not be hindered, and intended to visit every house. He, seeing I meant business, quickly took the agency, stamping all my circulars, and paid me for two caramel cereal and three granola packets that I brought on my bike. Going on with my work, I obtained ten orders along Main Street that day. The next morning the sun shone very hot, and my head was aching. I nearly trembled as I thought of my ambition to finish the town and return to Temuka before the Sabbath. But resolving to take the cool side of the walk and keep in the shade as much as possible and talk slowly, I proceeded. The town being in a long strip, and many houses small, and the people trying to support two hotels, I began to contrive how I would select some of the most favorable houses and skip some, and then I thought surely as the houses are dwindling down ahead of me, I might as well cut off the last quarter mile. But some way orders came in where I did not expect them, and on I went to the very last house, and I found, as often is the case, people are like a flock of sheep, when a few get started the rest will follow. So when I gave the canvass and quickly showed the list of subscriptions before they refused, I was pretty sure to get their order, unless they had no money, and then I often managed to secure their last threepenny bit for a single copy. That warm day yielded me seventeen orders. The next day, Friday, I felt encouraged to believe I could finish the town and obtain ten more orders by canvassing on the back to Temuka, where I arrived in good time before the Sabbath, securing fifteen orders that day; and now I feel quite well and very thankful to our heavenly Father for such kind friends and comfortable homes as I find here. Calling at a few houses after the Sabbath, I obtained one more order, making sixty-five in all last week. The little I make on single copies and health foods pays my expenses. So you see the Lord is rewarding me in a financial way for diligent, hard work. The single copies of back numbers are quite a help to me; sometimes by giving an extra copy, I make a sale, and often secure their last pennies (perhaps their lollie money). I think I could use one or two hundred more.

D. A. OWEN.

WE regret that for lack of space much interesting matter is crowded out of this issue.

JESUS CHRIST is the Tree of Life to which the descendants of Adam have had access since the expulsion from Eden.—*Selected.*