

See Gay Gan Conf. Pub. Dept.

INDIANA REPORTER

VOL. IX.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., SEPTEMBER 16, 1903

No. 19

THIS REPORTER AND CHRISTIAN COLPORTER WORK.

It will be observed that we have given considerable space to the matter of circulating our religious literature in this issue of the Reporter. It is desired that our church officers hold a special meeting next Sabbath in all our churches to consider this branch of the work, and that these articles be read. Our field secretary has prepared a program to be carried out at the meeting, and we hope that as far as possible all will enter heartily into this work. Wherever our workers are located or meet with our churches next Sabbath, we trust that they will use their influence to awaken a deeper interest in this line of work. The Lord has said repeatedly that no line of work is of more importance than the canvassing, and we know that thousands who are now in the ranks of the Seventh-day Adventists first became interested by reading our literature.

I do not like the name "canvasser," as the term usually signifies when applied to those circulating worldly books. I wish that we had a name that we could use to designate our workers who go forth to circulate the printed pages containing present truth. Their work should not be confounded with that of worldly canvassers. They are ministers of Christ; they are "Christian colporters;" and I know of no better name by which to designate them than the term colporter, for this signifies the work in which they are engaged.

A greater effort must be put forth to circulate our literature than has been for some time past. We ought to be educating many of our young people to enter the colporter work. Even the children in our ranks here in Indiana might circulate thousands of copies of our small books between now and the holidays, and thus be gaining an experience that would aid them in selling larger books when they are older. We have many easy-selling books like the Story of Joseph and the new book by Elder Lane,

"Our Paradise Home," which has just been published. These books cost but little money, and will almost sell at sight. Scores in this conference should be gaining an experience by selling these books this fall. They would not only be gaining an experience, but at the same time receive some remuneration which would assist them in doing other missionary work, or in a financial way, if needed.

Sister White's article, which follows, shows the great importance of this work. May the Lord help us to obtain a deeper experience and a missionary spirit and zeal that will cause us to take hold of this work with an interest that we have not manifested in the past.

We hope to have more to say in the future along this line, and shall not be satisfied until we see scores of Christian workers circulating the printed pages of present truth in the Indiana conference. W. J. STONE.

CANVASSING A PART OF THE LORD'S WORK.

The canvassing work, properly carried on, is missionary work of the highest order, and is as good and as successful a work as can be done in placing before the people the important truths for this time.

The importance of the work of the ministry is unmistakable; but there are many who, though hungry for the bread of life, have not the privilege of hearing the truth from the lips of God's delegated preachers. For this reason it is essential that the publications containing these important matters be placed before the people, that the truth given us of God may go where the living preacher can not go. In this way the attention of many will be called to the important events that are to occur in the closing scenes of this world's history.

God has ordained the canvassing work as a means of presenting before the people the light contained in these books, and canvassers should have impressed upon them the fact that

the work of bringing before the world as fast as possible the books which are necessary for their spiritual education and enlightenment is the very work the Lord would have them do at this time. *We can not too highly estimate this work;* for were it not for the work of the canvasser, many would never hear the truth.

It is true that some who buy the books will lay them on the shelf or place them on the parlor table, and seldom look at them. Still, God has a care for His truth, and the time will come when these books will be sought for and read. Sickness or misfortune enters the home, and through the truth contained in these books God sends peace and hope and rest. His love will be revealed to their souls, and they will understand the preciousness of the forgiveness of their sins. Thus the Lord co-operates with the self-denying human workers.

There are others who, because of prejudice, will never know the truth unless it is brought to their doors and left in their homes. The canvasser may find these souls, and minister to them according to his God-given ability. He can do a line of work, of house-to-house labor, more successfully than any others. He can become acquainted with the people; he can pray with them, and can understand their necessities.

The lost sheep of God's fold are scattered in every place, and work that should be done for them is neglected. From the light given me, I know that *where there is one canvasser in the field there should be one hundred.* Canvassers should be encouraged to take hold of this work, not to canvass for story books, but to bring before the world the books containing truth so essential for this time.

The canvassing work is an important field of labor, and will do much towards carrying the gospel to all the dark corners of the earth. The intelligent, God-fearing, truth-loving canvasser should be respected; for

he occupies a position equal to that of the gospel minister.

To those who are engaged in this work I would say: As you visit the people, tell them you are a gospel evangelist, and that you love the Lord.

The Lord desires that the light he has given on the Scriptures shall shine forth in clear, bright rays, and it is the work of our canvassers to put forth a strong, united effort, that God's desire may be accomplished. A great and important work is before us. The enemy of souls realizes this, and is using every means within his power to lead the canvasser to take up *some other line of work*. This order of things should be changed. God calls the canvassers *back to their work*. He calls for volunteers for the canvassing work, those who will put all their energies and enlightenment into the work, helping wherever there is an opportunity. The Master calls for every one to do the work given him according to his several ability. Who will respond to the call? Who will go forth to work in wisdom and grace and the love of Christ for those nigh and those afar off? Who will sacrifice ease and pleasure to enter places of error, superstition and darkness, working earnestly and perseveringly, speaking the truth in simplicity, praying in faith, doing house-to-house labor? Who at this time will go forth without the camp, imbued with the power of the Holy Spirit, bearing reproach for Christ's sake, opening the Scriptures to men and women, and calling them to repentance?

To our canvassers, to all to whom God has given talents that they might cooperate with him, I would say: Pray, O pray for a deeper experience. Go forth with your hearts softened and subdued by a study of the precious truths which God has given us for this time. Drink freely of the water of salvation, that it may be in your hearts as a living spring, flowing forth to refresh souls ready to perish. God will then give wisdom to enable you to impart aright. He will make you channels of communicating his blessings. He will help you to reveal his attributes by imparting to others the wisdom and understanding which he has imparted to you.

May the Lord open your minds to comprehend this subject in its length and breadth, and may you realize

your duty to represent the character of Christ by your patient courage and steadfast integrity. If you will take with you into the canvassing field principles of righteousness, you will be respected, and many will believe the truth that you advocate, because your daily life will be as a bright light which gives light to all that are in the house. Even your enemies, as much as they may war against your doctrines, will respect you; and your simple words will have a power that will carry conviction to hearts. Mrs. E. G. WHITE.

REASONS FOR ENCOURAGEMENT

If there ever was a time when God's people ought to be full of courage, it is to-day. God is ready to finish his work in the earth, and now is the time for us to be saying, "My meat is to do the will of Him that sent me, and to finish his work." It is no time now to say "There are four months, and then cometh harvest," for Jesus says, "Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are white already to harvest." Instead of planning to enter the work at some future time, now is the time. "Lift up your eyes and look." The fields are *white and ready to harvest*. Much will be lost if we delay longer.

Nehemiah describes how the work was finished in his day: "So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof; *for the people had a mind to work.*" Neh. 4:8. To-day God wants to give his people a mind to work again; and all may have it if they will take it.

"God orders our surroundings, and he will place us where we shall have test after test to prove us and reveal what is in our hearts." G. W., p. 446. The surroundings God has permitted us to be in for the past few years in the canvassing work has, from a natural standpoint, been discouraging; but now the instruction is, "Look on the bright side. If the work is hindered, be sure it is not your fault, and then go forward, rejoicing in the Lord." Vol. 7, p. 244. "Commit thy way unto the Lord (Roll thy way upon the Lord, margin); trust in him; and he shall bring it to pass. Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him (Be silent to the Lord, margin); fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass." Ps. 57:5-7.

The time spent in quiet trusting

and patient waiting has not been lost, for the servant of God, in late testimonies, says, "I have been instructed that the canvassing work is to be revived with increasing success. It is the Lord's work, and a blessing will attend those who engage in it with earnestness and diligence."

"The canvassing work should no longer be neglected. Many times I have been shown that there should be a more general interest in our canvassing work."

"Canvassing campaigns are to be organized for the sale of our literature."

"The canvassing work should now be earnestly and decidedly taken up."

"The old truths given us at the beginning are to be heralded far and near. The lapse of time has not lessened their value." Nothing will help herald these "old truths" more than our larger books.

"The larger books, Patriarchs and Prophets, Great Controversy, and Desire of Ages, should be sold everywhere."

"My brethren and sisters, will you not now make an effort to circulate these books? and will you not bring into this effort the enthusiasm that you brought into the effort to sell Christ's Object Lessons."

"Take the books to business men, to teachers of the gospel, whose minds have not been called to the special truths for this time."

"Many are sad and discouraged, weak in faith and trust. Let them do something to help some more needy than themselves, and they will grow strong in God's strength. Let them engage in the good work of selling our books."

"Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled," Christ says. Do not these words plainly outline the work of the canvasser?"

"The canvassing work is a most successful way of saving souls."

"Time is short. We are to hold out urgent inducements to the men who are now to be engaged in missionary work for the Master. The highways and byways are unworked. The Lord calls for men to labor as canvassers and evangelists to do house to house work in places that have not yet heard the truth. The Lord calls for canvassers and evangelists. Those who will go forth to do this work under his direction will be wonderfully blessed."

"We have no time to lose. We must encourage this work. Who will go forth now with our publications. The Lord imparts a fitness for the work to every man and woman who will co-operate with divine power. All the requisite talent, perseverance, courage, faith, and tact will come as they put the armor on. A great work is to be done in our world, and human agencies will surely respond to the demand."

Believing these statements brings courage, and the promise is, "They may expect success, for theirs is the promise, 'Lo I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.'"

There are many in this conference who realize that they ought to be engaged in this work, and now, in view of what God has said, will you not surrender and enter it? Has not God said enough to cause many to say, "Here am I; send me?"

We are earnestly praying that God will give his people a spirit of work, and then the work will soon be finished.

J. E. DUNN.

PROGRAM.

The following program is suggestive for the services Sabbath Sept. 19, 1903.

Opening song, 1260. (Hymns and Tunes).

Prayer.

Song 1256.

Reading articles in the Reporter.

Season of prayer.

Testimonies and call for volunteers for this work.

Closing song, 1069.

Let our ministers, church elders and leaders of companies improve this opportunity of calling attention to this important branch of the Lord's work. Do not let anything keep you from having a part in this service. Let every one make the most of this opportunity. God is able to wonderfully bless when all our people in this conference are united in seeking him for his blessings and leadings in this line of work. If the work is built up as it ought to be the Lord must do it, hence the importance of all seeking him.

Let the burden during this meeting and especially during the season of prayer be, that God will especially bless all connected with this work and place the burden on all who should be connected with it.

While the spirit of God is with you

in the meeting impressing hearts to give themselves to this work, let the leader call for volunteers who will devote a part or their entire time to the circulation of our literature, and report at once to our Field secretary, J. E. Dunn, 616 E. Lincoln St., Greenfield, Ind.

MANUAL TRAINING ACADEMY

The time for the opening of our Manual Training Academy is fast approaching. Many of our young people are preparing to attend. Are there any who ought to be in our school who have not yet decided what to do? Do we realize that God is calling us to work? He needs every one. He is calling young men and young women into his work. He wants them to have such a training as will make them efficient workers. In volume 1, page 113, of the Testimonies, you will read: "Satan is a vigilant foe, intent upon his purpose of leading the youth to a course of action entirely contrary to that which God would approve. He well knows that there is no other class that can do so much good as young men and young women who are consecrated to God. The youth, if right, could sway a mighty influence. Preachers or laymen advanced in years can not have one-half the influence upon the young that the youth devoted to God can have upon their associates."

With these words before us, can we be contented to get what God calls foolishness? Let us make the most of our opportunities. The Manual Training Academy offers a Christian training to all. The Lord wants you in our school; your influence may be needed to make it a success.

We are now ready to mail our announcements, and if you do not receive one, kindly write to the principal, remembering that our address is R. F. D. No. 1, Fairland, Ind.

B. F. MACHLAN.

OOLITIC

After the camp meeting at Peru we returned to this place and resumed work. During our absence the other churches sent for and obtained an eloquent speaker, who has been holding meetings, and so the attendance at our meetings has been much reduced. Last Sunday night the imported speaker (who is blind) spoke on the Sabbath question, but the

reasons given for the observance of Sunday did not appear to satisfy his audience. So last night (Sept. 9) we spoke on the Sunday and Sabbath question to a good congregation.

We have organized a fine Sabbath school of 35 members, and by next Sabbath we expect some additions, as several have taken their stand for the truth since we returned from the camp meeting, in addition to the sixteen who signed the covenant before camp meeting. We expect to administer baptism to a good number on Sabbath, Sept. 12. Pray for the work here.

U. S. ANDERSON.

J. W. COVERT.

THE GOOD HEALTH BATH CABINET

Is recommended by physicians of the Battle Creek Sanitarium as one of the best means of breaking up colds, symptoms of grippe, fevers, etc. It relieves the soreness of the muscles, rheumatism and the disorders of the liver and kidneys, and assists in keeping the skin in active health condition.

Write to-day for full description and prices.

Good Health Pub. Co.

Battle Creek, Mich.

Agents Wanted.



THE GOOD HEALTH ADJUSTABLE WAIST

Meets the requirements of every woman who desires a healthful and artistic dress. There are two styles,—the short waist ending at the waist line; the long waist ending five inches below the waist line. The adjustable features are:—

A Shoulder Piece, which may be shortened or lengthened, and the Under Arm Lacing. Write for full information of material, measurements, sizes, and prices. Satisfaction guaranteed. 2,000 sold since Jan., 1901. Every woman is delighted with it. Supports everything that needs support without harmful pressure. Good agents wanted.



Dress Dept., GOOD HEALTH COMPANY, Battle Creek, Mich.

NEWS AND NOTES.

H. S. Browning has moved to 2541 Brookside avenue.

Albert Yeazell orders 25 Signs for one month to Sheridan, Ind.

Our office will have the New telephone service, as well as the old.

Bro. and Sister Hinton have removed to Anderson from Muncie.

Bro. G. W. Laufer is having some success in canvassing at Vincennes.

Elder W. D. Curtis spent last Sabbath with the company at Rock Lane.

Peter Sailor writes from Rexville that he will enter the field in the near future.

Martin Dunn, of Greenfield, bought 16 Paradise Home, and expects to sell them.

Elder W. A. Young made a flying visit to Ohio on conference business last week.

A. F. Light is doing well with The Story of Redemption and Patriarchs and Prophets near Troy, Ind.

Elder Stanley's address is 208 Ravine avenue, Peoria, Ill. The Reporter will visit him there regularly.

Sister McMahan writes encouragingly with reference to the outlook for a successful church school at Anderson.

B. H. Welch reports that he will at once take up the canvassing work in the city of Washington. The Reporter bids him Godspeed.

Bro. Jas. O. Tibbitts made a substantial remittance of tithe from Brazil, and accompanied it with an order for tracts and Paradise Home.

Elder Hankins has left with us for sale a good parlor heating stove and small extension dining table. Write us for prices, or call at 626 E. Eleventh street.

On account of poor health, Elder J. W. Covert has had to return home and leave his work at Oolitic. Elder Bliss has been invited to go there and assist in the work.

The Indiana Manual Training Academy, near Boggstown, is fast nearing completion. It is hoped that everything will be ready to begin school the first of October.

"Our Paradise Home" will soon be on hand in sufficient quantity to fill delayed orders. Can you not pave the way for the sale of Object Les-

sons with this little book? It sells at 25 and 50 cents respectively in the board and cloth bindings. Agents' discount to all who will sell Elder Lane's splendid little book.

Encouraging reports reach us concerning the work at Peru. Elder C. H. Bliss called at the office recently, and obtained a good supply of books and tracts for the workers there.

The lesson quarterlies for the fourth quarter are ready for delivery. We suggest to Sabbath schools that it would be well to give us a standing order for your lesson pamphlets.

Elder C. A. Watkins, lately of the Ohio conference, passed through the city en route to Louisiana, where he will labor for a time. He accepted the truth in northern Indiana, at the age of sixteen.

A recent letter from Elder Harris says the Lord is blessing the work at Peru. We trust the work there will be greatly strengthened as a result of the camp meeting and tent effort that has followed.

On account of overdoing, Elder Stone was not so well last week. He is, however, feeling better again. We ask that he be remembered in your prayers that he may continue on the upward road to health.

Sister Minerva Anderson, formerly of Hartford City, Ind., was accidentally killed while attempting to cross the railway tracks at Elgin, Ohio, about Sept. 1. Elder E. J. VanHorn conducted the funeral services.

E. Hayes writes an encouraging letter to the office from Huntington. We are glad to know of the earnestness of this faithful brother, and to hear from him in detail concerning the work and faithful few at that place.

We acknowledge receipt of a copy of the Pacific Health Journal. The October issue will be a special vegetarian number; 5 cents a copy; clubs of ten or more 2½ cents each; yearly subscription, 50 cents. Address Pacific Health Journal, Oakland, Calif.

Bro. Austin Churchill has returned to factory employment. We regret to lose another canvasser from the field, but are glad that others are passing into it. We hope to see Bro. Churchill take up the work again before long. He has done well in the field.

Bro. John Leonard, of Montgom-

ery, Ind., was swindled out of \$5 by the impostor mentioned by Brother Sparks in the last issue of the Reporter. Review and Herald and the Signs of the Times please copy the item, "An Impostor," as appears in No. 18 of the Reporter.

Bro. B. G. Borgeson writes from Bass Lake that there are twelve Sabbath-keepers there, who meet regularly for Sabbath school and Bible study. He also says there is quite an interest to hear the truth, and desires that the work receive the attention of the conference.

Mrs. Nancy Wells took 12 orders, and Mrs. Jennie Lane 7, for Paradise Home, in one afternoon. This is good. We only wish that some of our brethren would sell with this book, "The Story of Joseph," for the benefit of the cause in the South. This is your opportunity to aid in that part of the vineyard.

Elder Hankins writes: "Bro. Webb leaves from Philadelphia for Liverpool, on an American steamer, Oct. 3d. Hope we will be ready to go with him." The Reporter wishes these brethren and sisters a safe voyage and rich blessings in our Master's work in their former field of labor.

Joseph Blankenship is having a rich experience with Bible Readings at Medaryville. He has been a guest of a Methodist minister, to whom he sold a copy of the book, most of the time. Bro. Blankenship is new in the field, and asks our prayers in his behalf. He mentions 7 orders, \$14.50, in his first report.

H. S. Browning reports a good interest at Bible readings, and has sold \$83.25 worth of books since camp meeting. He reports good success at canvassing and taking orders on the partial payment plan. He re-canvasses many families, selling from \$15 to \$20 worth in many homes. However we would not encourage our canvassers to handle a large list of books, except where circumstances are favorable, as in this case.

ADDRESS ELD. W. J. STONE.

We call attention to the fact that Eld. I. J. Hankins is no longer in this field, and inasmuch as some are yet writing to him with reference to the work in Indiana, he desires that all correspondence intended for the conference president should be sent to Eld. W. J. Stone, at No. 2020 Ashland Avenue, or in care of the Indiana Tract Society at 626 E. 11th St., Indianapolis, Ind.