

The Missionary Leader

"The leaders took the lead in Israel"

Vol. 4

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No. 3

Church Missionary Programmes

First Week Seed-Sowers

Opening Exercises.
Reports of Labour.
"Promises to the Seed-Sowers,"
"Missionary Experiences."
Poem: "To-day."
Plans for Work.

Promises to the Seed-Sowers

1. WHAT does God ask us to do in the mornings and evenings? Eccl. 11:6, first part.
2. Where are we to sow the seed? Eccl. 11:1.
3. What are waters in symbolic language? Rev. 17:15.
4. What is the seed? Luke 8:11.
5. What then are we to sow, and where?
6. What promise is given to the sower? Ps. 126:5, 6.
7. How much will be accomplished? Isa. 55:11; Eccl. 11:6, last part.
8. How many peoples are to receive the seed? Matt. 24:14; Rev. 14:6.

Missionary Experiences

Results of Seed-Sowing

"I AM much interested in the circulation of the *Signs of the Times*. It was the first Seventh-day Adventist literature I ever read. Some one posted a copy to me at a time when I was anxious to know the truth regarding the Sabbath question. I read and re-read every article in it, and sent for some tracts that were advertised in its columns. With Bible in hand I carefully studied the subject matter of each, and soon after began the observance of the Sabbath. When an opportunity presented itself, I was baptized, and became identified with the Seventh-day Adventist people.

"For the encouragement of others, I will relate briefly an experience and its results. Some time ago, while selling the *Signs of the Times*, I met an elderly man who was in-

terested in mining. His house stood back from the road, and I had passed it by a number of times, thinking it was useless to try to sell a paper there.

"At last, feeling that I ought at least to give the person living there an opportunity to subscribe, I returned to the house, and met this gentleman at the gate. I obtained his subscription for six months.

"Three months later, while labouring in another town, I again met him. He recognized me, and requested me to visit him. I did so. He then said the *Signs of the Times* was the best religious paper he had ever read, and that he now was keeping the Sabbath. He also informed me that his daughter in the East, to whom he had been sending the paper, also had begun the observance of the Sabbath. A few weeks later she wrote him that she had passed the same paper on to her neighbour, and that she too had taken her stand for the Sabbath. This neighbour gave the paper to a deacon of the Methodist Church of which she was a member, with the result that he also embraced the truth.

"The miner requested me to write to his daughter. I learned that she had interested others in the truth presented in the *Signs of the Times*, and they all desired to hear a Seventh-day Adventist minister. I wrote to the president of that conference. A tent effort was held there, and a church was organized as a result. Yes, the *Signs of the Times* does bring people into the truth! I can truly say that I never had accomplished so much in so short a time and with such a small outlay of means as was brought about by that six months' subscription to the *Signs of the Times*.

She Planned Her Work

"One of our leading home missionary workers told me of a sister who so plans her work that a few hours each week are given to making calls with our literature. She is situated

just as hundreds of others are, but makes it a regular business to get in touch with all the families in her vicinity, and others as she can extend her work. She makes their acquaintance first, and then, as the way opens, she gives them reading matter. This sister has been privileged to see several families come into the truth during the past two years. The reason is very simple. Results are sure to follow such endeavour. Read 1 Cor. 15:58, last clause. In a letter from this sister there is reported the sale of thirty-five small books and the distribution of several hundred *Signs* and magazines.

What One Company Did

"A company of Adventists going on a journey took a large supply of tracts and papers with them. The tracts were put up in envelopes and covered the most important points in Bible doctrine. These envelopes were given away on the road. Sometimes they were handed to the people at the gates, sometimes thrown into the automobiles, and other vehicles that passed, or given to people in the towns. Every tract was picked up. If it failed to land in the vehicle, the driver would invariably get out and pick it up and begin to read. All along the road the people were indeed glad for something to read, and no one can tell the good that may be accomplished by these seeds of truth scattered through the country."

To-Day

Make the best of to-day,
The future is all unknown,
In wisdom God hides it from us,
But to-day is our very own.
If we but do our best, in His time we
shall reap
All the good that our deeds have sown.
There's work for you in the world to-day,
So square your shoulders, and toil away
At your appointed duty.
There are blows to be struck in the cause
of right,
And smiles to be given to make life
bright—
For a smile is a thing of beauty.

—Selected.

Second Week

Right and Wrong Methods

Opening Exercises.

Reports of Labour.

"The Place of the Bible in This Work."

"The Work That Brings Greatest Results."

Plans for Work.

LEADER'S NOTE.—We cannot overestimate the value of a careful and thorough study of the Bible in our missionary work. We need to absorb God's Word into our own souls before we can give it out to others. There was a time when most Seventh-day Adventists had a good knowledge of the Bible and could readily give texts in proof of the doctrines of the message, but this knowledge is not now nearly so general. This is a sad commentary on the spiritual condition of Seventh-day Adventists, and must be changed before the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit can be looked for. The leader of the meeting should lay emphasis on his point, and do all in his power to encourage Bible study.

The Place of the Bible in This Work

ALL Christian workers have proved that to be successful they must be skilful in the use of the Bible when working for souls. Prov. 15:28; 1 Tim. 4:5, 16; 2 Tim. 2:15; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17.

"The Bible is the soul-winner's indispensable equipment. But it is not necessarily his tool. A moment's consideration of the principles already studied will show why. Ninety-nine persons in a hundred, of those who have not yet come to Christ, are not deeply interested in the Bible. A Bible text is not, as yet, attractive bait to them. The fact that the Bible ought to be attractive to them has nothing to do with the matter. We are working with men as they are, not with men as they ought to be. If they were already just where they ought to be in their interests, they would be in no need of our attention.

"Recognizing, therefore, that the Bible and its teachings have little place in the chief interests of the great number of those whom we would reach; if we would use bait that shall attract them at the outset, and seek interests that are common to them and ourselves, we must, as a rule, begin with something else than a Bible quotation.

"This principal was one of Christ's principles in the work of individual soul-winning, and is in accordance with all that we know of human nature, and of God's approved ways of dealing with men. It underlies

successful man-winning in every sphere of life. Don't expect the man whom you would win to begin with your interests; begin with his.

"Apply the test to some of the actual instances of successful soul-winning that we have already studied. Take the case of the whisky-drinking seatmate in the railroad train. What would have been the outcome if, after the flask had been proffered, the soul-winner had begun his conversation with the impressive words, 'Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging.' Probably some such answer as, 'Then I guess I'll do my raging back in the smoker, stranger,' and that day's opportunity would have come to an abrupt ending with the man's exit.

"Or suppose the young army chaplain, hitherto unknown to the profane old skipper in charge of the perilous transport expedition, had introduced himself that evening with any of these phrases: 'Swear not at all.' 'Let your speech be, Yea, yea; Nay, nay.' 'Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.' Just what likelihood is there that the skipper would have been so won to the stranger as to have offered him his cabin for that night?

"The point is not that those Scripture passages do not contain truth which those two men sorely needed to consider. But the men were in no state of mind to listen to Scripture passages at the outset. Later on, when that old skipper had 'come as a little child to be a disciple of Jesus,' he probably treasured some of those very Scripture passages as safeguards of his life. But this was because he had been talked to first of all in his 'own language,' which was not the language of the Bible, and about his own interests, which were not as yet Scriptural or spiritual."

The Work That Brings Greatest Results

WHAT is individual work?—The telling others of Christ's love, that they may share in it.

Who should engage in it?

It is not the most brilliant or the most talented whose work produces the greatest and most lasting results. Who are the most efficient labourers?—Those who will respond to the invitation, "Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart."

If men to whom God has entrusted

talents of intellect refuse to use these gifts to His glory, after test and trial He will leave them to their own imaginings, and will take men who do not appear to be so richly endowed, who have not large self-confidence, and He will make the weak strong because they trust in God to do for them those things which they cannot do for themselves. God will accept the whole-hearted service, and will Himself make up the deficiencies.—"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. VI, pages 443, 444.

The Lord Jesus takes those whom He finds will be moulded, and uses them for His name's glory, to meet His own spiritual conception. He uses material that others would pass by, and works all who will be worked. Through very simple means a door is opened in heaven, and the simplicity of the human agent is used by God to reveal God to man.—"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. VI, page 444.

The knowledge of the most learned man, if he has not learned in Christ's school, is foolishness so far as leading souls to Christ is concerned. God can work with those only who will accept the invitation, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light." Matt. 11:28-30.—"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. VI, page 318.

When should we engage in it?

There is danger in delay. That soul whom you might have found, that soul to whom you might have opened the Scriptures, passes beyond your reach. Satan has prepared some nets for his feet, and to-morrow he may be working out the plans of the arch-enemy of God. Why delay one day? Why not go to work at once?—"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. VI, page 443.

Could the curtain be rolled back, could you discern the purposes of God and the judgments that are about to fall upon a doomed world, could you see your own attitude, you would fear and tremble for your own soul and for the souls of your fellow-men. Earnest prayers of heart-rending anguish would go up to heaven. You would weep between the porch and the altar, confessing your spiritual blindness and backsliding.—"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. VI, page 408.

How shall we engage in it?

We are soldiers of Christ; and those who enlist in His army are expected to do difficult work, work that will tax their energies to the utmost. We must understand that a soldier's life is one of aggressive warfare, of perseverance and endurance. For Christ's sake we are to endure trials. We are not engaged in mimic battles. We have to meet the most powerful adversaries; for "we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Eph. 6:12. We are to find our strength just where the early disciples found their strength; "These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication." "And they were filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. And the multitude of them that

believed were of one heart and one soul." Acts 1: 14; 4: 31, 32.—"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. VI, page 140.

Workers for Christ are never to think, much less to speak, of failure in their work. The Lord Jesus is our efficiency in all things; His Spirit is to be our inspiration; and as we place ourselves in His hands, to be channels of light, our means for doing good will never be exhausted. We may draw upon His fullness and receive of that grace which has no limit.—"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. VI, page 467.

The end is near! God calls upon the church to set in order the things that remain. Workers together with God, you are empowered by the Lord to take others with you into the kingdom. You are to be God's living agents, channels of light to the world, and around about you are angels of heaven with their commission from Christ to sustain, strengthen, and uphold you in working for the salvation of souls.—"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. VI, page 436.

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Third Week

Prayer an Important Factor

- Opening Exercises.
- Reports of Labour.
- "The Need for Prevailing Prayer."
- "Service for God."
- Plans for Work.

LEADER'S NOTE.—Last week the question of Bible study was considered, and this week the second vital secret of success is to be studied. Bible study and prayer must precede all successful soul-winning work. In these last days we need to prevail in prayer. If the principles laid down in God's word are studied and lived up to, the prayers of God's people will accomplish wonderful things in the finishing of the work. For the Scripture exercise assign Isa. 55: 10, 11, to one of the members the previous week, asking him to make a few comments on it, not taking more than three minutes.

The Need for Prevailing Prayer

1. WHAT authority have we for seeking God for labourers to enter His harvest field? Matt. 9: 38.
2. Why did the Saviour tell His disciples to pray for labourers? Matt. 9: 37.
3. Are the circumstances as true of our work to-day as in the time of the disciples? "Unless your hearts are touched as you see the situation in foreign fields, the last message of mercy to be given to the world will be restricted, and the work which God would have done will be left undone." "Many more workers ought to be in the field. There should be one hundred where now there is only one."—"*An Appeal for Missions*," pages 3, 22.
4. Why should we seek the Lord to choose the labourers? 1 Sam. 16: 7.
5. What may the righteous man accomplish by prayer? James 5: 16.
6. What grounds have we for believing that definite requests according to His promise will be answered? Rom. 4: 20, 21.

7. Give several illustrations of answers to prayer.

Abraham prayed for Ishmael, and the Lord heard because of Abraham His servant. Gen. 17: 18, 20. Abraham's servant prayed that the Lord would lead in finding a proper person for a wife for Isaac, and the Lord answered according to his faith. Gen. 24: 12-27. Moses prayed for the children of Israel, and the Lord answered for Moses' sake, and forgave them. Num. 14: 19, 20. While Cornelius prayed the Lord directed him to send for Peter, and Peter, found in prayer, was prepared to carry the gospel to a Gentile. Acts 10: 1-9, 30-33.

8. With what confidence may we present our petitions for labourers? 1 John 5: 14, 15.

Service for God

WE are invited to affiliate with the greatest work the world has ever known,—the work of giving the warning message to a dying world. "The harvest indeed is plenteous, but the labourers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He send forth labourers into His harvest." Luke 10: 2.

The Lord wants workers that will be meek and lowly, that are willing to forsake the world and its pleasures; such workers He can use. You may say, I am willing to go wherever the Lord wants me to go, but I await the pleasure of the conference, as I shall have to be assured of a salary before I can undertake the work. Says the Master: "Therefore I say unto you, Be not anxious for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for the body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than the food, and the body than the raiment? Behold the birds of the heaven, that they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; and your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not of much more value than they?"

When the Lord sent out the disciples, He said: "Go your ways; behold, I send you forth as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no wallet, no shoes." Luke 10: 3, 4. They went out according to the Lord's instruction, believing that they would not want for anything, and they were wonderfully blessed. So will God's children receive these blessings to-day, if they go out by faith, not doubting.

The Lord has a place for you. You may say, I have often prayed that the Lord would use me, but have never had a call to service. I

would ask, Have you prayed in faith, and have you confessed all known sins? The Lord will not answer our prayers if we cling to any known sin. If we put away all sin and believe with all our heart that our prayers will be heard, the Lord will never fail to answer if our petition is in accordance with His will.

When the prayer is answered and the call comes, the answer may not be just as we should like to have had it; but if we accept the answer and trust fully in Jesus, it will be just as we would have chosen if we had known all. But you may say, I fear my faith is too weak to permit me to step out. Follow the instruction given in "Testimonies for the Church," Vol. V, page 302. "Those who talk faith and cultivate faith will have faith." Let us cultivate more faith, so that when the call comes we may step out by faith and labour for the Master. He has promised us plenty of power to do the work if we will humble ourselves as little children and be led by our Saviour wheresoever He desires us to go.

Why look for positions from the world when we have such opportunities offered us in the Word of God? Look at the reward that is promised us,—a home, all our own for eternity, with no more sorrow or crying, where everyone will be happy! Can you afford to miss this chance to work for Jesus?

Let us pray that we may have this faith that will secure us a place in God's service, so that we may be numbered among those who are working under a Master who has never failed, and whose love and care over His workers are so great that he takes them home with Him after their work is over, to live with Him through all eternity.

JAMES B. ANDERSON.

Fourth Week

Redeemed for Service

- Opening Exercises.
- Reports of Labour.
- "Our Work."
- "Service for God."
- Plans for Work.

Our Work

1. WHAT are the believers in God to be? Eze. 33: 7-9.
2. In what special sense does this apply to Seventh-day Adventists?

In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light bearers. To them has been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world. On them is shining wonderful light from the Word of God. They have been given a work of the most solemn import,—the proclamation of the first, second, and third angel's messages. There is no other work of so great importance. They are to allow nothing else to absorb their attention.

The most solemn truths ever entrusted to mortals have been given to us to proclaim to the world. The proclamation of these truths is to be our work. The world is to be warned, and God's people are to be true to the trust committed to them. They are not to engage in speculation, neither are they to enter into business enterprises with unbelievers; for this would hinder them in their God-given work.—“*Testimonies for the Church*,” Vol. IX, page 19.

3. What is our work? Matt. 28: 18-20.

Christ calls upon us to labour patiently and perseveringly for the thousands perishing in their sins, scattered in all lands, like wrecks on a desert shore. Those who share in Christ's glory must share also in His ministry, helping the weak, the wretched, and the despondent.—“*Testimonies for the Church*,” Vol. IX, page 31.

4. What limit should there be to our efforts?

Human beings have no right to think that there is a limit to the efforts that they are to make in the work of soul-saving. Did Christ ever become weary in His work? Did He ever draw back from sacrifice and hardship? Church members are to put forth the continuous, persevering efforts that He put forth. They are to be ever ready to spring into action in obedience to the Master's commands. Wherever we see work waiting to be done, we are to take it up and do it, constantly looking unto Jesus. If our church members would heed this instruction, hundreds of souls would be won to Jesus. If every church member were a living missionary, the gospel would speedily be proclaimed in all countries, to all peoples, nations, and tongues.—“*Testimonies for the Church*,” Vol. IX, page 32.

5. What example has Christ given us? Matt. 9: 35.

6. What is daily becoming more apparent?

More and more, as the days go by, it is becoming apparent that God's judgments are in the world. In fire and flood and earthquake, He is warning the inhabitants of this earth of His near approach. The time is nearing when the great crisis in the history of the world will have come, when every movement in the government of God will be watched with intense interest and inexpressible apprehension. In quick succession the judgments of God will follow one another,—fire and flood and earthquake, with war and bloodshed.—“*Testimonies for the Church*,” Vol. IX, page 97.

7. What might and should be done at this time?

The mercy of God is shown in His long

forbearance. He is holding back His judgments, waiting for the message of warning to be sounded to all. O if our people would feel as they should the responsibility resting upon them to give the last message of mercy to the world, what a wonderful work would be done!—“*Testimonies for the Church*,” Vol. IX, page 97.

Service for God

“CHRIST'S followers have been redeemed for service. Our Lord teaches that the true object of life is ministry. Christ Himself was a worker, and to all His followers He gives the law of service,—service to God and to their fellow-men. Here Christ has presented to the world a higher conception of life than they had ever known. By living to minister for others, man is brought into connection with Christ. The law of service becomes the connecting link which binds us to God and to our fellow-men.

“To His servants Christ commits ‘His goods,’—something to put to use for Him. He gives ‘to every man his work.’ Each has his place in the eternal plan of Heaven. Each is to work in co-operation with Christ for the salvation of souls. Not more surely is the place prepared for us in the heavenly mansions than is the special place designated on earth where we are to work for God.”—“*Christ's Object Lessons*,” pages 326, 327.

The preceding needs no explanation. That man might serve both God and man was the great object of redemption. “The law of service becomes the connecting link which binds us to God and to our fellow-men.”

Have you found that special place on earth where you are to work for God? Begin at home, in your own household, in your own neighbourhood, among your own friends. Here you will find a favourable missionary field. This home missionary work is a test revealing your ability or inability for service in a wider field.

Prayer

We cannot do better than present individual cases before God in the arms of our faith. “He can arouse them, He can awaken their sympathies, He can soften their hearts, He can reveal to their souls the beauty and power of the truth.” “The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.”

It is when we consecrate ourselves

wholly to God, when we bend every energy according to our entrusted ability to the saving of souls, that divine agencies co-operate with us, and results of the greatest magnitude are seen.

Tracts

A very effective method of keeping in touch with interested persons is by the use of tracts. When a favourable impression has been made, and an interest in missions created, it is not at all difficult to introduce a tract. It will be read in the light of the first acquaintance; and that this same kindly feeling may continue, we suggest that great care be exercised in the selection of the first tracts distributed. Something on the second coming of Christ is always acceptable.

“The Signs of the Times”

Our missionary periodical, *The Signs of the Times*, is doing an excellent work. This paper certainly does bring people into the truth. We must constantly guard our methods, working patiently, wisely, considerately, winning our way by the tender ministry of love. Too great stress cannot be placed upon the importance of our being all that we wish our neighbours to be. It will give altogether a new complexion to the subject matter of our books and periodicals if we live Christ-like lives.

“The great and wonderful work of the last gospel message is to be carried on now as it has never been before. The world is to receive the light of truth through an evangelizing ministry of the word in our books and periodicals.”—“*Testimonies for the Church*,” Vol. IX, page 61. In this blessed ministry we are to make the most of every opportunity, and use to the limit every agency God has provided.

Bible Study

During the long winter evenings many can find access to the homes of the people to study the Bible. If this is entered into in the right spirit, the interest will increase. Do not let it degenerate into argument. Let the Bible speak, and let that be an end of all controversy. It is often well to open the study with a short prayer. Generally speaking, if you wish to continue the studies for some weeks, it is a good plan to confine each evening to the consideration of one definite subject. It is best not to study too long. Some may enjoy

it, but as a rule you will hold the interest better by limiting the study to about one hour.

We trust these few suggestions will prove helpful to some who are desirous of doing faithful and effective service for God. "To His church God has committed the work of diffusing light and bearing the message of His love. Our work is not to condemn, not to denounce, but to beseech men to be reconciled to God. We are to encourage souls, to attract them and thus win them to Jesus."

"The Lord Jesus is our efficiency in all things; His Spirit is to be our inspiration; and as we place ourselves in His hands, to be channels of light, our means of doing good will never be exhausted; for the resources of the power of Jesus Christ are to be at our command. We may draw upon His fullness, and receive of that grace which has no limit."—*An Appeal to Our Churches*, page 29.

"Work, for the night is coming,
Work through the morning hours;
Work while the dew is sparkling,
Work 'mid springing flowers.
Work when the day grows brighter,
Work in the glowing sun;
Work, for the night is coming,
When man's work is done."

F. W. PAAP.

Missionary Volunteer Programmes

First Week

Giving

Hymn.

Prayer.

Secretary's Report.

Scripture Drill: Matt. 3:17.

Reports of Labour.

Hymn.

"The Privilege of Giving."

"Privilege and Blessing of Giving."

"What Really Happened."

"Generosity."

Five-minute Exercise: Questions on "Life Sketches" for week ending March 3.

LEADER'S NOTE.—In this reading, "Privilege and Blessing of Giving," those assigned only a line or two may repeat the quotations; others may give the thought in their own words. This exercise may be followed by one of the members telling (not reading) "What Really Happened."

The Privilege of Giving

1. All Belongs to God.
2. He is the Great Giver.
3. It is Our Duty and Privilege to Give.

Proof Texts

1. Ps. 24:1: "The earth is the Lord's."

Haggai 2:8: The silver and gold are His.

Ps. 50:10, 11: All living creatures are His.

2. John 3:16: God so loved that He gave.

James 1:17: Every good and perfect gift comes from Him.

1 Tim. 6:17: He gives us all things.

3. Prov. 3:9: "Honour the Lord with thy substance."

Ps. 96:8: "Bring an offering and come into His courts."

Acts 20:35: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Luke 12:33, 34: By giving we lay up treasure in heaven.

Privilege and Blessing of Giving

"GRATITUDE in deeds enlarges and purifies."

"Giving to the Lord is but transporting our goods to a higher floor."

"Earthly arithmetic says, 'Give and want.' Heavenly arithmetic says, 'Give and grow rich.'"

"When you die, you can take your money with you, but you must first have changed it into the currency of the country to which you are going."

"The liberal man ever will be rich. God's providence is his estate, God's wisdom and power his defense, God's love and favour his reward, and God's Word his security."

"Go ye into all the world," we say to our missionaries. "Stay right here in my pocketbook," we say to our bank notes. We take an interest in missions, but we keep our money on interest! "Thy kingdom come," we pray. Ah! we must send our money to fetch it. The Lord will judge us, not by our prayer books, but by our account books."—*Amos R. Wells*.

"Give as you would if an angel
Awaited your gift at the door;
Give as you would if to-morrow
Found you where giving is o'er;
Give as you would to the Master
If you met His searching look;
Give as you would of your substance
If His hand your offering took."

Letting God Give

"Our giving to God releases His giving to us. But we never can equal Him in giving. The more we give Him the more He will give us. If His resources are greater than ours, if His love is greater than ours, we can be sure that He will give us more than we can ever give Him. But He cannot give us all that He wants to unless we give Him all that He wants us to. Paul Rader, the new pastor of the Moody Church in Chicago, says: 'Giving is the same as handing God a basket, which He can fill with fruit and pass back.' Or again, 'Giving is like putting a chute into your cellar, so that God can fill it with coal this cold weather.'"—*Sunday School Times*.

Our Giving Measure

"God's great purpose in wanting men to give to Him is that He may be enabled to give more abundantly to them. It is impossible for a man to give anything to God that does not come back to the man a thousandfold. And we could not even give unless God first had given to us. 'God does all before He asks us to do anything; He redeems before He enjoins; and only the redeemed can truly keep His commandments.' When we are redeemed, and with hearts of love endeavour to give to God of our substance, our time, or our service, we find God pouring back infinitely multiplied blessing. 'You can't match God in giving,' said a Christian recently, in telling of his experience in giving more and more of his money to the Lord's work, and finding the money coming back to him in richer store. 'I've found the meaning,' this man said, 'of God's request in the Old Testament that the Jews bring to Him their offerings for the tabernacle. He wanted their gifts for one purpose, that He might come down and dwell with them and pour out richer blessings for them.' Let our giving, then, have this measure, which is God's own—'without measure.'"

What Changed the Offering

"A pastor who was taking a missionary collection recently, said; 'I want each of you to give to-day as if you were putting your money into the pierced hand of Jesus Christ.' A lady came up afterward, and said, 'I was going to give a half-dollar,

but I did not do so.' 'Why did you not do it?' the preacher asked. 'Do you think I would put a half-dollar into His pierced hand? I have ten dollars at home, and I am going to give that.' If we were putting our money into the pierced hand of our Lord, our contributions would amount to vastly more than they do."

What We Can Give Away

"One day when I was lying down, my little boy came to me. Whether he thought I was not well, and in some way wished to help me, I do not know; but he said very tenderly, 'Mamma, I am going to give you something.' I said, 'Thank you, dear; I shall be glad to have you give me anything.' So looking around the room, he said, 'Mamma, I will give you all the pictures in this room.' I said, 'Thank you, darling'; and then looking around he said, 'And I will give you every book,' and again I thanked him. Then he seemed to grow taller; he was getting a taste of the joy of giving, and he never stopped until he had given me everything in the room. The last thing he gave me was the carpet. How happy he was when everything had been given! And he did not give me a thing that did not belong to me! That is what we call entire consecration, giving to God what belongs to Him; and yet it makes us so happy, so rested. O, how many times has the picture come back to me of the happy child who had given me all that belonged to me! And is God pleased when we give Him His own?—Most certainly He is."—*Margaret Bottome.*

What Really Happened

"THREE years ago," says Brother J. L. Burkhart, of Wyoming, "my wife, my three children, and I decided to set aside one acre of potatoes for missions. So I selected an acre of what I thought to be an average of the soil of the field, and asked God's blessing on it. On harvesting the crop in the fall, I found this particular piece was more fruitful than the rest of the field, although no extra cultivation had been given it. The proceeds of this acre were £45.

"Last year the boys and girls of Wyoming were given an opportunity to compete in raising potatoes, a silver cup to be given to the one

having the largest yield. I asked my daughter if she wanted to enter, giving the proceeds of the crop to the Lord. She made the entry, and when the men employed by the state dug the potatoes in the fall, it was found that she had won the cup, the acre yielding six hundred and forty-eight bushels. This was found to be next to the largest yield of potatoes in the United States.

"This year my wife, my daughter, and I are giving the net proceeds of one-half acre to the same cause. We have dug only one-eighth of an acre, but have a good yield. One-eighth of an acre was entered in the contest again by my daughter, and the state authorities informed her that she is winner again in Sheridan County, the yield being at the rate of five hundred and ten bushels an acre.

"The Lord likes a part of our time. Will it pay? Dear brother, dear sister, give it a trial, and in this way *let the Lord help raise the funds for missions.*"

Generosity

SURELY the kind friends who gave six pounds a year to educate Wen Hsien, a little Chinese girl, never regretted being generous even if she did not grow up to be a missionary. While in the girls' school in Peking, she was taken seriously ill. Soon the teachers realized that she would not be with them long. Some of her old heathen friends came to see her. They gazed in amazement into her peaceful face; and went home with the wonderful news that Wen Hsien had learned about Jesus and was not afraid to die. *

"Wen Hsien, do you want anything?" asked one of her teachers.

"I want—to—write—a—letter," she feebly replied. "O, you are too weak! What is it you want to say? Tell me and I will write it for you." Then as she was breathing her last, she gasped: "I—want—to—tell—my—kind—friends—that—they—did—not—spend—their—money—in—vain—for—me."

It is never in vain to be generous. Generosity always blesses the generous with the most lasting kind of riches. It enlarges their interests, and binds them more sympathetically to their fellow-men, for back of the generous hand, beats the generous heart that rejoices in a neighbour's joy and shares a neighbour's grief.

The choicest kind of generosity knows not that it is generous. It flows out in kindly deeds from the heart that is at 'leisure from itself' to soothe and sympathize." Loose purse strings are not the only evidences of generosity needed. There is even greater generosity in kind words, cheering smiles, pleasant "good mornings," and sincere praise. How inclined we are to withhold these, miserly, when we should be showering them generously upon our friends and especially upon our loved ones at home.

A person's generosity is a very good index to his character and to his outside interests. By the following little argument you and I may test our generosity toward missions and measure our interests in them:

"If I refuse to give anything to missions this year, I practically cast a ballot in favour of the recall of every missionary, in both the home and the foreign field.

"If I give less than heretofore, I favour a reduction of the missionary forces proportionate to my reduced contribution.

"If I give the same as formerly, I favour holding the ground already won, but I disregard any forward movement. My song is 'Hold the Fort!' forgetting that the Lord never intended that His army should take refuge in a fort. All of His soldiers are under marching orders always. They are commanded to 'go.'

"If I advance my offering beyond former years, then I favour an advance movement in the conquest of new territory for Christ. Shall I not join this class?"

We may apply this little argumentative test to other things, and it can furnish very profitable thoughts for meditation. There is a generosity that gives up personal rights, pleasures, and privileges for the good of others. There is a generosity that generously forgives the offender, repressing the sharp reproof and crowding out every feeling of revenge. There is a generosity that seals every unkind story in an air-tight bottle labeled "never-repeat-it." The list of generousities is as long as the list of kind deeds that the golden rule brings for each one of us to do, but among them all there is no higher type of generosity than that which forgets self in loving service for others. —*Selected.*

Second Week
Soul-Winners

Hymn.

Prayer.

Secretary's Report.

Scripture Drill: Heb. 1:6.

Reports of Labour.

Hymn.

"Promises to Soul-Winners."

"The Christian's Sweetest Joy."

"A Youthful Witness at Colon."

Poem: "Hold the Light."

"Determination Brings Success."

Five-minute Exercise: Questions on
"Life Sketches" for week ending
March 10.

Hymn.

Promises to Soul-Winners

"Down by the sea of mild Galilee,
The Saviour passed time and again;
From the shore of the sea, He called,
Follow Me,
And I'll make you fishers of men."

"He is calling to-day, in the same earnest
way;
He is calling for fishers again.
And the brightest names known up
around God's throne
Will be those who were fishers of men."

"Follow Me, and I'll make you
fishers of men." "Follow Me" is
the *one* condition of soul-winning.
Upon that command rest all the
promises to soul-winners. Judas
started to follow the Master, but
turned aside for thirty pieces of silver;
Demas started to follow Him, and
worked for a time with Paul, but he
"loved this present world" and for-
sook Paul.

You cannot expect to be a soul-
winner unless you are willing to fol-
low Jesus. When He grew up in
Palestine, all the opportunities of
life lay before Him. He had ability
to amass great wealth; He might
have revealed marvellous scientific
truths; or He might have attained
great fame in the political and relig-
ious life of the Hebrew nation. But
He turned aside from all these in-
ducements, and made it the *first* busi-
ness of His life, and the *only* business
of His life, to seek and to save the
lost. He did not waver, although He
knew the path He had chosen led to
the cross and its shame.

Jesus chose at all costs to be a
soul-winner, to seek and to save the
lost. He was thoroughly consecrated,
giving Himself entirely to that
one great profession. He studied the
Scriptures, and had a practical work-
ing knowledge of them. He was
always finding and making opportuni-
ties to bless others. He was filled

with the Holy Spirit so that He had
power to win souls. And in all these
things Jesus says, "Follow Me, and
I will make you fishers of men." He
does not say, Follow Me for a
little while, or Follow Me in a few
things, and I will make you fishers
of men. He says, "Follow Me." That
is so complete that it includes
all requirements; it permits of no
omissions; it means to follow Him
in all things at all times.

So much for the price of success
in soul-winning. Do you ask who
can pay it? Let me assure you that
you can. God never asks you to
do anything that He will not give
you wisdom and strength to do. His
commands are our enablings. Then
plunge into the great soul-winning
campaign, knowing that each person
you win means victory for Christ.

When addressing his last graduat-
ing class at Antioch College, Horace
Mann said, "Remember, I beseech
you, and treasure them up in your
hearts, these my parting words: 'Be
ashamed to die until you have won
some victory for Christ.'"

Are you a Christian? Then "listen
to the roar of the Niagara of
human souls pouring moment after
moment into the unseen without God
and without hope. Remember that
each one is as sensitive to joy and
sorrow, to hope and fear, as you are
yourself; remember that you have that
which they need as urgently as the
starving need bread, and then con-
sider if you cannot sympathize in
the vehemence of the apostle's pas-
sionate desire to carry them the gos-
pel: 'Necessity is laid upon me; yea,
woe is unto me, if I preach not the
gospel! For if I do this thing will-
ingly, I have a reward.'"

Most of us can preach only to the
one-soul audience, and God will bless
us in doing that. A passage in
"Christ's Object Lessons" says:
"To a great degree this work must
be accomplished by personal labour.
This was Christ's method; His work
was largely made up of personal inter-
views."

There is no promise to the soul-
winner that shields him from grief,
disappointment, or heartache. The
Psalmist pictures the successful
worker as "going forth with weep-
ing"; and truly,—

"We cannot expect to be mowers
And gather the ripe, golden ears,
Until we have first been sowers,
And watered the furrows with tears."

The Christian's Sweetest Joy

YET he who has tried soul-win-
ning knows it to be one of the
Christian's sweetest joys and one of
the strongest influences for drawing
the worker more and more fully into
the presence of the Master.

"Do you not get very lonely in
this work?" asked a stranger of a
lighthouse keeper. "No, indeed!"
answered the keeper, while his eyes
fairly danced. "I never get lone-
some since I saved my man." The
joy of soul-winning is akin to that; it
banishes gloom and discouragement,
and inspires one with a grace of con-
tinuance in cheerful, enthusiastic
service.

The world justly honours the hon-
est man who can make money, who
acquires fame, or who attains extra-
ordinary success in any chosen pro-
fession. But how empty the reward
of him who wins gold or celebrity
compared with that of the soul-win-
ner. The world knows not how to
measure the reward of the soul-win-
ner; still, from every point of view,
"he that winneth souls is wise." Doubtless there was much neigh-
bourly gossip about the foolish young
man who refused to become ruler of
Egypt because he esteemed "the re-
proach of Christ greater riches." But we who can look back over the
democratic past where the dust of
strife and ambition has cleared away,
and things stand forth in their true
values, have no difficulty in deciding
that Moses made a wise choice. Think of the influence he is exerting
in the world to-day! Would you
not rather have led a nation out of
bondage, been the author of the
ninetieth Psalm, and blessed the
world with the splendid instruction
given in the Pentateuch, than to have
ruled Egypt for a few years, and
after been a mummy in some
Egyptian museum?

There are men who are rich to-day
because a few years ago they made
shrewd investments in real estate.
There are men who are sighing to-
day because they failed to seize the
opportunity to buy property that has
tripled in value during the last
decade. But these joys and sorrows
cannot last long. We are hurrying
on in breathless haste to a gate where
all desire to enter. The entrance
fee will not be gold or silver; these
will no longer be legal tender. The
fact that your name is on the church

roll will not admit you; you cannot pass through on your Missionary Volunteer membership card. He who enters there must have a record in heaven showing that he heeded the Master's call to "follow Me."

What bitter disappointment awaits those who have heard the call, but have not heeded it! With what anguish of soul the Judases and Demases, who have followed for a time and then turned aside, will look at the gate that shuts them out from the home of the saved! There will be deeper sighs, sadder sighs, than this world has ever yet heard. Men and women, Christian men and women, and some Missionary Volunteers, I fear, will sigh in bitter regret because they failed to invest in soul-winning.

But how joyful will be the entrance of those who have invested their all in soul-winning, who faithfully have followed their Master all the way. They have followed Him in sacrifice, in self-denial, in suffering. They have followed Him in living for others, and in seeking to save the lost. They have shared His power for winning souls and have tasted with Him the joys of success. They have followed Him faithfully, and now victoriously they enter to receive the kingdom prepared for them. There are great rewards for the soul-winner in this life; there are greater ones awaiting him in the life to come. But when he reaches that happy land, will not his greatest reward be to have others come to him and say: "I am here because you led me to Christ and taught me how to follow Him"? M. ERICKSON.

A Youthful Witness at Colon

"WE had at Colon a young man who came down from British Honduras to find work. He had lost an arm, somehow, and it was difficult for him to find employment where he could keep the Sabbath. He found work, however, with one of our brethren. In his spare time he would go over to the West Indian workmen's camp, by the Canal, and talk with the boys about the truth. He was a quiet youth, and said little of his work at the camp. A few months after his arrival, we had a Sabbath afternoon meeting in which the believers were testifying as to how the truth came to them. 'I received it through Brother Leigh,' said one, this being the name of the

young man who had worked in the camp. 'And I, too, learned of this message through Brother Leigh,' said another. In the course of that meeting six bore testimony that they had been brought to a knowledge of the truth through this young brother's work."

Hold the Light

Ho! thou traveller of life's highway,
Moving carelessly along,—
Pausing not to watch the shadows
Towering o'er the mighty throng,
Stand aside, and mark how feebly
Some are struggling in the fight.
Turning on thee wistful glances,—
Bogging thee to hold the light!

Look! upon thy right a brother
Wanders blindly from the way;
And upon thy left a sister,
Frail and erring, turns astray;
One kind word, perchance, may save
them—
Guide their wayward steps aright;
Canst thou, then, withhold thy counsel?
No! but fly and hold the light.

Hark! a feeble wail of sorrow
Bursts from the advancing throng;
And a little child is groping
Through the darkness, deep and long;
'Tis a timid orphan, shivering
'Neath misfortune's withering blight;
Friends, home, love, are all denied her:
Oh! in pity hold the light.

Not alone from heathen darkness,
Where the pagan bows the knee,
Worshipping his brazen image
With a blind idolatry—
Where no blessed gospel teachings
E'er illumine the soul's dark night,
Comes the cry to fellow mortals,
Wild and pleading, "Hold the light!"

Here, as well, in life's broad highway,
Are benighted wanderers found;
And if all the strong would heed them,
Lights would glimmer all around,
Acts of love and deeds of kindness
Then would make earth's pathway
bright,
And there'd be no need of calling
'Ho! thou traveller, hold the light!'
—Selected.

Determination Brings Success

A YOUNG woman recently baptized had a friend with whom she greatly longed to talk about the truth, but she could never seem to find the courage to speak with her on this subject. She invited her to attend a tent meeting. The friend came and was at once deeply interested. She reproached the young woman very earnestly for not having told her before about these things.

Our young sister then determined to do more to win souls. She visited

the hospital and talked with the women. As she was leaving one day, she saw a young man on a cot, apart from the men's ward. At first she thought of speaking with him; then she felt it might not be a proper thing to do. But again she felt she could not pass by saying nothing, so spoke with him. He said he would gladly hear the Bible read. She read, and offered prayer for him. She learned he was from the island of St. Kitts, that he had been sent to a reformatory for boys, and falling ill, was put in the hospital. She corresponded with his mother, who was rejoiced to hear of some one's taking an interest in her boy. As the correspondence continued, our sister was able to weave in something about the truth every time. The mother read the letters to her neighbours. As a result three persons began to keep the Sabbath, who had learned of it only through this girl's letters. Some time ago it was arranged for this sister to visit these people in St. Kitts, and in a letter received from her she stated that there are more than those three now keeping the Sabbath—there are nine.

Third Week

The Morning Watch

Hymn.
Prayer.
Secretary's Report.
Scripture Drill: Heb. 1: 8, 9.
Reports of Labour.
Hymn.
"The Bible."
"Meditation."
"Prayer."
"Two Experiences With the Morning Watch."
Poem: "The Bible."
"What the Reading Course Has Done."
Five-minute Exercise: Questions on "Life Sketches" for week ending March 17.
Hymn.

LEADER'S NOTE.—The lesson of this programme is a very important one and cannot be impressed too early on the lives of the young people. Give the time and effort to this subject which it deserves. You will observe in the study of the Morning Watch its threefold object: Bible study, Meditation, and Prayer. The first Bible study emphasizes the general idea of growth; the second, "Meditation," shows how success in the Christian life may be obtained; the third, "Prayer," tells how we may live to the glory of God. After the paragraphs on the Morning Watch have been read, enrol as many as possible, who are not already doing so, to keep to the Morning Watch.

The Bible

"It is the best Book God has ever given to man."—*Abraham Lincoln*.

"The principles of the Bible are the groundwork of human freedom."—*Horace Greeley*.

"The Bible is God's chart for you to steer by, to keep you from the bottom of the sea, and to show you where the harbour is, and how to reach it without running on rocks or bars."—*H. W. Beecher*.

"Do you know a book that you are willing to put under your head for a pillow when you lie dying? Very well; that is the book you want to study while you are living. There is but one such good Book in the world."—*Joseph Cook*.

"If you are ever tempted to speak lightly or think lightly of it, just sit down and imagine what this world would be without it. No Bible! A wound and no cure, a storm and no covert, a condemnation and no pardon, a lost eternity and no ransom! Alas for us if this were all; alas for us if the ladder of science were the only stair to lead us up to God!"—*R. R. Meredith*.

"The Bible is a treasure. It contains enough to make us rich for time and eternity. It contains the secret of happy living. It contains the key of heaven. It contains the title deeds of an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeeth not away. It contains the pearl of great price. Nay in so far as it reveals them as the portion of us sinful worms, it contains the Saviour and the living God himself."—*James Hamilton*.

Meditation

"It is what we meditate upon that will give tone and strength to our spiritual nature."—*MRS. E. G. WHITE*.

"It is not he that reads most, but he that meditates most on divine truth, that will prove the choicest, wisest, strongest Christian."—*Bishop Hall*.

"Fight shallowness. Insist on reading thoughtfully. A very suggestive word in the Bible for this is *meditate*. Run through and pick out this word with its variations. The word underneath that English word means to mutter, as if a man were repeating something over and over

again, as he turned it over in his mind."—*S. D. Gordon*.

"Meditation is the tongue of the soul and the language of our spirit; and our wandering thoughts in prayer are but the neglects of meditation and recessions from that duty; and according as we neglect meditation, so are our prayers imperfect, meditation being the soul of prayer and the intention of our spirit."—*Jeremy Taylor*.

Prayer

"ALL the progress of the soul depends on prayer."—*Rufinus*.

"Secret prayer . . . is the life of the soul."—*Steps to Christ*, page 102.

"Personal effort for others should be preceded by much secret prayer. . . . Before communing with men, commune with Christ."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, page 149.

"One must get alone to find out that he is never alone. The more alone we are as far as men are concerned, the less alone we are as far as God is concerned. It must be unhurried time, time enough to forget about time, when the mind is fresh and open."—*Gordon*.

"Prayer itself is a very simple thing. It is the pleading or claiming by a sincere heart, for some needed thing, based on some promise of God's Word, and pleaded on the ground of the blood of Jesus. Such prayer is very simple. Its strength, so far as the man praying is concerned, is in its simplicity. Such praying never fails. It never has. It never does. It never will. It cannot. Heaven and earth will pass away before such prayer can fail."—*S. D. Gordon*.

"If the hill back of Nazareth could give forth its secret, if the lake of Galilee could tell what it witnessed, if the desert places round about Jerusalem could tell their story, if the Mount of Olives could speak out, and tell us what occurred there, they would all tell us, more than anything else, of the prayer life of our Lord. They would reveal its intensity, its unselfishness, its constancy, its godly fear that made it irresistible."—*John R. Mott*.

Two Experiences With the Morning Watch

ABOUT three years ago one of our young men went down to a Spanish town to spend his vacation and there

to sell our literature. He had worked there the summer before with success, but on account of lack of practice had forgotten the language. On beginning his work, he found he had forgotten many words and expressions in Spanish. Riding all night to the city in which he was to begin his work, he arrived in the morning and went for a walk to look the place over. He noticed the large palace of the governor, and his heart sank a little as he realized his condition. Returning to his room tired and sleepy, he thought of the work before him, and feeling his need of divine strength, went on his knees to plead for power.

Rising, he felt that he needed some assurance from the Lord that would strengthen him for the day's work in the government palace and among the best business men of the city, and reaching for his Bible, he looked up the Morning Watch text for the day. Finding it to be Isa. 41:10, he read, "Fear thou not; for I am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God; I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of My righteousness." This was as good as if the very Lord Himself had spoken to him out of the heavens. He took courage, went out trusting in the great promise of our Father in heaven, and was able to secure that very day orders to the value of eight pounds.

Four years ago I had no use for the Morning Watch. Whenever I was asked about it, I replied that I got along quite well reading wherever I cared, and received plenty of good advice from Proverbs and Psalms and Galatians and Peter. On reading of the experience related above, I decided there and then that I would ever in the future study the Morning Watch texts and make good use of any help they offered.

Time and time again have I related this experience to interest some one in the use of the Morning Watch which is becoming so popular among those who wish to progress in the Christian way and prepare for the time when even the Word of God will be taken from us. And my convictions of the great help of the Morning Watch have been much strengthened since hearing of the following experience given by one of the colporteurs.

Contrary to my plans for him,

he had taken it upon himself to go into territory assigned to others, and had there fallen into sin, and had given up Bible study and prayer. God saw fit to punish immediately and his sales fell, getting worse all the time until he had to ask for financial help. When he came to the place where he was practically penniless, the Spirit of God moved upon his heart, and he began to think of the cause of his condition. It came home to him very forcefully that it was the result of his unfaithfulness to God. The next day he took his pen and wrote me of what he had done, of his thinking that it would never get to my ears, of his sorrow for the past, and his determination to do differently in the future. As soon as he mailed the letter, Satan came up and tried to convince him that he had done wrong in confessing his sin and asking forgiveness. He thought and thought and then determined that in the Bible he could find consolation. As in the experience of the other brother, he reached for his Bible, looked up the Morning Watch text for the day, and behold exactly what he needed. Read it in 1 John 1:9. No doubt you can repeat it from memory, it is such a great promise to us sinners, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

This is only another proof of the genuineness of the Word of the living God, and an encouragement to study it more with the help of the Morning Watch.

Are you using the Morning Watch, my friend? If not, why not?

H. A. B. ROBINSON.

The Bible

Upon Thy holy Word, O Lord,
The weary ages rest;
Upon their aching hearts is poured
This balm of Gilead blest.

Upon this firm foundation set
Thy church doth stand, O Lord;
Its sword, its crown, its life, is yet
Thine everlasting Word.

O heart of Christ, Thy boundless love
In this Thy Word doth beat;
Still o'er Thy head appears the dove,
The nail prints in Thy feet.

Thou fount of living waters free,
Thou voice of Holy Ghost,
Still daily let me live with Thee,
Until I join heaven's host.

—Selected.

What the Reading Course has Done

"WHEN visiting a friend one day, I noticed a Reading Course certificate adorning her wall. At that time I did not realize the value of the Reading Courses planned for our young people, but I secured a book and read it. I obtained a second book and read it, and then completed the third. In due time I received a certificate. Later I read all the books in the back courses. In summing up the value of the courses, my desire to be a missionary is perhaps the greatest, but I have also learned from the courses the value of utilizing my spare moments, have acquired a taste for good literature, gained a great deal of knowledge, and I have come nearer to God, and found in Him my nearest and dearest Friend."

Fourth Week

From the East

Hymn.
Prayer.
Secretary's Report.
Scripture Drill: 1 Tim. 3:16.
Reports of Labour.
Hymn.
"Good News from a Far Country."
"She Sleeps until Resurrection."
"A Missionary Experience."
"Scripture Enigma."
Five-minute Exercise: Questions on "Life Sketches" for week ending March 24.

Good News from a Far Country

"As cold water to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country." Prov. 25:25.

During my twelve months furlough I have had a number of letters from my far-away mission field, bringing good news. While reading these, it has brought great joy to my heart as I hope it will bring to yours as I give you a little of the contents of a few:

From West Java

Brother Tan Teck Liem, one of the first Sabbath-keepers in West Java, tells in his letter about a young heathen Chinaman with whom he is studying the truth. When this refined young man, holding a high office, took hold of Christianity, it made a stir in the whole town among the Chinese people. In the market it was the topic of conversation. He was forbidden to go to Brother Tan Teck Liem's home or study the Bible.

Finally one of his relatives went to the idol and asked advice. The idol said, "You must not be too hard, you must use patience with him." Notwithstanding all this stir and prejudice, Brother Teck Liem adds, "He comes to my house and studies and is firm in the faith."

Sister Kivie Nio, Brother Teck Liem's sister, wrote also telling how they had given studies to this man, Liang Hie, on all the different points of our faith except the tithing, and he is walking in the light as it comes to him. He has given up meat. They thought they would wait until he was well established before introducing the tithe, but one day he brought twenty-six guilders (about £2 10s.), saying, "This is my tithe that I have put aside for several months." I asked, "From where did you receive knowledge that you should pay tithe?" He said, "I read it from the Book."

Is it not wonderful how a raw heathen like he will take such a firm hold of the message and begin to pay tithe from only reading about it? Here, in the homeland, where the people have such great light and are urged over and over again to give what belongs to God, so that the light may go quickly to these poor heathen who are anxiously waiting for it, many go on robbing God and thinking they can enter heaven. But oh, what a disappointment there will be on the great reckoning day!

What a Javanese Girl Did

Ati is a Javanese servant girl. She cannot write herself, but has had some one write to me for her several times. She tells of how she goes out to sell tracts and papers and earns her living in that way. She often turns the paper upside down when showing it to the people because she cannot read. She says the Lord has helped her to meet the people and give them the message. Ati was employed as nurse maid when the third angel's message came to her. When some of our workers would give Bible readings to her mistress, Ati would come in quietly on her bare feet with the baby in her arms, and unobserved, would listen through the cracks of the door. Thus the first beams of this glorious message won its way into her ignorant and darkened heart for the first time. She made wonderful progress. I have often heard her up praying long before

daylight, at three or four o'clock in the morning. Then she would come out so bright, and her face just beaming with the joy of heaven.

I have often been with Ati when she was canvassing, and have listened to what she told the people. She has a definite message for this time. She would say, "It is now very necessary to become converted and get rid of your sins, because we are almost at the end of the world, and the coming of our Lord Jesus is near, when the wicked shall be judged." This made a great impression on the people and they began to ask if what Ati had told them was true.

Poor Ati was all broken up when I told her I had to leave, and she fell down and wanted to kiss my feet. Ati used to be a great gambler and lived a wicked life, but oh, what a beautiful character now is hers.

Victory Over the Opium Habit

Sister Duckworth from West Java sends another message of joy and courage: "You will be so glad to hear that Brother Tan Ek Yoe has gained a complete victory over the opium habit. He was very ill one day last week and really they thought he would die, but his faith was strong and he was quite well the next day, and now looks the picture of health. He came to Sabbath-school last week, and we all joined in thanking God for His goodness to the returned prodigal." This man is sixty-eight years old. Another man, Nicodemus, at the age of sixty-three, has also gained the victory over opium. These two old men have spent nearly half of their lives in the opium dens, but now, through divine power, they have gained a victory which has given comfort, joy, and hope.

Sister Tan Ek Yoe, the wife of the former brother, writes me about a heathen man who was also a slave to opium. She helped him to get into a hospital where they help the opium slaves. He gained the victory over the habit, and could not be thankful enough to Sister Ek Yoe who helped him. This brought the result that he wanted to study the Bible with our sister, and finally accepted the whole message with earnestness and joy. The last mail brought the news that this man had just been baptized.

Oh! what joy it will be in that day to clasp hands with those from

every tribe and every land, all joining in that grand chorus on the sea of glass.

PETRA TUNHEIM.

She Sleeps until Resurrection

A SHORT time ago I received a card from Sister Wood of East Java, telling me that poor old Saripah had closed her eyes in death. Saripah is a Javanese woman who came out from Mohammedanism, and who learned to love our dear Saviour and His precious truth. It may be of interest to you to know a little of the history of Saripah, and how that the mighty power of God can change the hardest of hearts and make them like our lowly humble Jesus.

Saripah was one of the women from a colony of poor and sick people that we had charge of for several years. She was not good looking by any means, and she had the queerest, most stubborn, and disagreeable disposition of any human being I have ever seen; consequently no one liked her; but one could read on her countenance that there was a real longing for friendship and sympathy. Oh, how many poor souls there are in the world to-day with the very same heart-yearning for a little sympathy this unfortunate one had.

At night when I would sit quietly in my little bamboo hut, studying hard at that difficult language, Saripah would creep in quietly and squat down on the ground floor in the door-way. After a few nights she would come still nearer and sit right beside me, and finally bend her head over into my lap. Often she would look right up into my face with a pleasant smile, and say, "I love you." I could not express to her in words how that Jesus had placed His love in my heart for her, but I would show it by stroking her hard, black hair, that was shining from the daily smearing on of old rancid cocoa-nut oil.

This poor unfortunate soul, who had been friendless and so very unhappy in this world, began to be brighter and happier. Her former gloomy life was changed, little by little, and she learned to love the One who through infinite love had given His life for her. It was not long before she gave up her filthy betelnut habit, and so many, many other bad habits that she possessed, and became neat and clean in her work.

She had been with us for nine years. The last two years we have had to isolate her up near our mountain home, because the bronchial cough she had for years finally turned into consumption.

A year and a half ago, when I visited her, she was so happy to see me. She was weak and could only walk a short distance with great effort, but she would come daily, struggling along, and offer to make some clothes for me. Even now when I look at the neat button holes, and all the fine stitches of love that she made with her thin shaky hands, tears come to my eyes. A great change had come into her life; she became so quiet and gentle.

When I was about to leave, she came again and again to me, saying: "I desire to follow mistress. I want to follow you until I die." I said, "No, Saripah, you cannot follow me now. We have to go through the bitterness of parting here below in this land of death and sorrows; you must plead earnestly to be covered with the perfect and pure garment of Christ's righteousness and become like Him; then very soon we shall meet in that glorious home where we shall have the joy of being together forever more. There you will have a strong and perfect body, reflecting the beauty of our Redeemer. He will place a glorious crown upon your head more brilliant than the beaming sun."

The long years of Saripah's suffering, which she has borne so patiently, are now ended. She sleeps in Jesus, awaiting the glorious resurrection morning that is soon to dawn, when the King of kings shall appear in His glory with all His holy angels. Then shall also Saripah's grave be opened and she will be called forth clothed with immortality. Then, I hope to have the joy of clasping her hand in mine, and there together without once hearing that sad word, "good-bye," we shall sing praises to Him who has redeemed us, throughout the ceaseless ages of eternity. What a joyful anticipation!

PETRA TUNHEIM.

A Missionary Experience

"AN incident was brought to my attention which leads me to believe that the young people can do effective missionary work. A girl about fourteen years old went regularly

to the home of an acquaintance to help take care of the baby. While there, she often spoke of her interest in the Bible. This resulted in the housewife's reading a copy of "The World's Crisis." The little missionary kept speaking of the Bible and its truthfulness. Finally she asked if the lady had a Bible, and was told that there was one in the house somewhere, but that its whereabouts was not known. The Bible was found in a writing desk, and was studied. Later the lady bought a copy of "Bible Readings" from one of our colporteurs. She is now keeping the Sabbath, and her husband is earnestly studying the message."

Scripture Enigma

1. WHERE did a holy man bury his wife?
 2. Who, tangled in thick branches, lost his life?
 3. Where went the Saviour to a marriage feast?
 4. Who was an old man and a great high priest?
 5. Who made warm coats and garments for the poor?
 6. Who saw an angel by his threshing floor?
 7. Who bathed seven times and lost his leprosy?
 8. Who was deceived because he could not see?
 9. Who took rich goods, and hid them in a tent? and, being discovered, did too late repent?
- Answer these questions, they will truly name
A land from whence a cry for succour came.

(Answer to Enigma)

Macedonia

1. Machpelah.
2. Absalom.
3. Cana.
4. Eli.
5. Dorcas.
6. Oran.
7. Naaman.
8. Isaac.
9. Achan.

"EVERY sun that sets in the heavens, every clock that strikes the hour, every pulsation of our heart, warns us that the time of our dissolution is approaching, and is bringing us nearer to the brink of eternity."

Sabbath-School Missionary Exercises

(March 3)

Medical Missionary Work at Kalyan, India

One of Many Experiences

THE Scripture had been read, the people had been pointed to the coming King as their personal Saviour. In a little while a crowd had gathered around the medical missionary as one by one they told her of their pain, their sufferings, and their sorrows. Presently a little woman pushed her way through the crowd and presented her baby for examination. What a pitiful sight!

The mother's face was sad and pinched by hunger—*anxious and careworn*. The child of about twelve months was in a starving, dying condition. As soon as the poor woman saw our attention was attracted to the child she began: "I fall at your feet! I am a poor widow. My husband died the month before this boy was born. Daily I have worked in the fields and kept myself and the child alive. He has dysentery trying to eat my unleavened bread and red peppers. What shall I do?"

"Woman, give me the child, I will feed him," I answered. She looked at the crowd. They read the question in her eyes and cried, "Give it to Mamma Sahib." I urged her. He will surely die. I must save him if I can, I thought, and my heart ached for these poor people.

She stood looking at the child in her arms, then at the people around her, and then she looked at me. Finally the struggle was over and she bravely and firmly stepped forward and said: "I reckon my son as dead, take him, you are his father and mother. Your God is good and great."

I quickly drew up a paper containing her statement that the child was given to me. As she could not read or write, I painted her thumb with ink, then pressed it firmly upon the paper as her signature which was signed by two witnesses—policemen—both waiting for treatment themselves.

I then arose to take my gift, and reached out for the child. She handed it to me at once, then gave one last look at her baby and disappeared

in the crowd. I stood, looking, as she had done, at the child. Only a dirty piece of cloth was wrapped around him. His eyes were so large and black! His abdomen so distended! His arms and legs only bone and dry skin! His face so drawn as to appear like an old man!

Time was flying. Over sixty or seventy people were waiting for treatment. I must attend to these. This was only one incident of the morning to me—to her it was a life's sorrow.

The mother's loss has been the child's gain. To-day he laughs, plays, sleeps, and eats like all well-kept children. But friends, remember, his mother reckons him dead. She has never returned. We call him Chintoo. Pray for these poor people; there are many such cases. Let not these people cry out, "No man cares for my soul," but let us heed the Macedonian cry, "Come over and help us."
MRS. M. D. WOOD.

(March 10)

Coimbatore, South India

I AM sure the Sabbath-schools would be made happy this morning if they could have the privilege of visiting the training school at Coimbatore, and of seeing the class of earnest boys and girls who are here preparing themselves for service in the Master's vineyard. Thirty-five students are enrolled this year. Most of these have been converted and baptized. A number of those who have not yet publicly taken their stand for the truth are planning to be baptized soon.

One of the boys who has just come to us from the Malayalam field came to me a few days ago and said: "Sir, ever since I came to this school, I have felt that there is something in this mission that I have not seen anywhere else. Although I am a born Christian, I never felt the need of a Saviour until I came here. My sins seem like a great burden upon me, and I want to get rid of them in some way. I cannot sleep sometimes for thinking of my sins." I gladly taught him how he could be freed from sin. He will be baptized next month.

Our Sabbath-school and young people's society are doing active work. Almost every day some of the boys are out with tracts and papers, visiting and talking with the people of the

town. We also give them two or three days' leave each month for missionary work. On these days we usually go out in a group to the surrounding villages to preach and do colporteur work. We have good experiences with the people. There are always some who are interested in what we have to say, and with such we leave literature that will increase that interest.

We feel that there is a bright future for the work in this part of India. At present we have workers in three of the six language areas of South India, and are publishing literature in four of these languages. The message is finding its way into the dark corners of the field through our literature. Much larger results would be seen if we had workers to follow up the interests thus created. It is to supply this great need that the training school at Coimbatore is maintained. As the students go out from this school into the work, their influences and effort will surely be seen in souls saved.

There is room for many more students in the school, but because of the lack of means we have to turn down the many applications which come to us from time to time.

G. G. LOWRY.

(March 17)

Prayer and the Gospel Colporteur in Japan

THAT the Lord is using the colporteur and the printed page in Japan the same as in other parts of the world, can be seen from the following interesting experiences, as related in a letter from Brother H. Stacey, who has charge of our book work in that country. He says:

"One Sabbath morning, about four months ago, a stranger walked into our mission church on the Tokio compound. This man had been a Christian for a number of years, and had been engaged for some time in colporteur work for a Bible Society. Two years ago he attended a few meetings where our people were conducting a tent effort, and became interested. He immediately began studying our literature, and at the time referred to came to headquarters to tell us of the stand he had taken, requesting that he be permitted to work in the same territory where he had been canvassing for Bibles. He left the com-

pound next day loaded with literature, and is now one of our most faithful workers.

"A few weeks ago I visited him at a town where we have one believer, an old lady. That evening this sister invited in three young men with whom she had been studying, and the colporteur studied and talked with them for several hours. We feel sure that one of these young men will soon take his stand for the truth. He is a member of another church, and the only objection he raised was the certain loss of his position if he were to keep the Sabbath. To this objection the colporteur related an experience that made us all feel doubly sure that the Lord is waiting in these heathen lands to respond to the call of faith. I will give the experience as nearly as possible in his own words:

A few weeks ago I was canvassing up in the mountains. One day I worked from early morning till late at night, and sold only five papers which brought in twenty-five sen. Of this amount I was compelled to spend twelve sen for lunch. The remaining thirteen sen was far from sufficient to secure accommodation for the night, and I worked on till eight o'clock without further results. As there was no other help at hand, I decided to go to the Lord. Withdrawing from the road several feet, in the darkness I poured out my petition to God. On returning I could see some one standing in the road, and was confronted with the words, "You are a Christian; you have been praying to God to help you find accommodation for the night. I am only a farmer, but you are welcome to come right along with me."

"The colporteur told us he knew this was an answer to his prayer, so he followed the farmer to his home. On entering the house, the first thing he noticed was a Bible on the table, and the way was soon opened to have some studies."

Notice, that while the colporteur was praying, the Lord sent the answer to his prayer. It is prayer that gives success. It was when working the more difficult sections of the country, "the mountains," and when human resources had apparently failed, that God was sought, and relief came through prayer.

W. W. EASTMAN.

(March 24)

A Visit to Burma

MANY were the pleasant memories recalled by a recent visit to Burma. For one thing it seemed good to be back again in the church where some

ten years ago I heard this message preached for the first time.

Soon after reaching Rangoon we left for Brother Hamilton's station on the Salween, arriving there in the early hours of Friday. Truly this is a station carved out of the jungle. The last time I was there the ground was occupied by a few squatters' huts; but now we have a comfortable and well-built bungalow, besides a good dispensary and several smaller buildings.

We were glad to find all the workers well and busy. Sister Gibbs was hard at work in her dispensary, where she is receiving many interesting cases which come in from far and wide to seek her aid. Brother and Sister Hare, besides helping in the dispensary, are working hard at the Karen in which they have made excellent progress.

My next trip after reaching Rangoon was to Meiktila where I spent two pleasant days with Brother and Sister Ludington. The school is flourishing, some hundred and more boys being on the attendance roll; and at the last annual examination our boys took a very high place and earned the school the second place in the provincial list of registered schools. This is exceedingly creditable for the first year's work on the government code. Brethren Ludington and Denoyer have been busy on the estate and are greatly improving the appearance of the place.

After spending several days auditing in Rangoon I was reluctantly compelled to take boat back for Calcutta, feeling that Burma is as pleasant a place to live and work in as ever.

A. H. WILLIAMS.

(March 31)

Persecuted for Christ's Sake

UPON our arrival here at Dacca in the Bengal Mission, India, a young Brahmin was brought to us who is being persecuted for Christ's sake.

Only those who come out from Hinduism and those who are instrumental in bringing converts from Hinduism know what severe trials and persecutions a convert has to endure. The Brahmin boy referred to heard of our truths under rather peculiar circumstances. One of our colporteurs was stationed in a town not far from Dacca about a month ago. He took shelter with one of his friends—a preacher of the Baptist

Mission—in whose house the Brahmin boy was kept for Christian instruction. It so happened that our colporteur was asked to share the sleeping-room with this Brahmin lad.

Our brother took this opportunity every night when they went to bed of unfolding the truths about Christ's advent and the necessity of our preparation to meet Him. Ere long our colporteur rented a house and was joined by Brother P. C. Dey. Night after night the Brahmin boy visited them. He was given a copy of "Bible Readings" by Brother Dey, who also studied with him faithfully and regularly. As a result the boy has determined to identify himself with the people who have told him that the same Saviour whom he has newly accepted will soon come in the clouds of heaven to gather His children home.

The boy has parents living who have home and landed property. When he attains the age of majority he is eligible to become a priest as his father and elder brother. He leaves all to accept Christ.

For some time he had visited different places of pilgrimage in search of truth; finally he came to the Baptists where he found Christ. Since the time he gave his heart to Christ his father has become enraged and several times took him home by force from the Y.M.C.A. and other places. To keep him at home the father made arrangements, unknown to him, for his marriage, and on the day arranged forced him to marry. He has been beaten and tortured in many ways by his father, but still he continues in his new belief.

We are very much in hope that after receiving full instruction he will be baptized and join our little band of workers in East Bengal to proclaim the message of the soon coming of our Lord. May we ask you to remember this case before the throne of grace, that the lad may become indeed a living witness of the power of the gospel.

L. G. MOOKERJEE.

"HELP comes just at the time when most needed. 'God works in a mysterious way His wonders to perform.' It may not be my way, it may not be your way; but, somehow, in His own way, our Lord will provide. Faith and works have influence with God."

Fourth Sabbath Reading

"Speaking All the Counsel of God"

1. SINCE the fall God has chosen to reveal His message to mankind by *prophets*—men under the inspiration of His Spirit. 2 Chron. 36: 15, 16.

2. On account of the ill-usage with which His messengers have met, more than human courage has been required by them in order to fulfil their mission. Jer. 1: 6-9; Heb. 11: 33-38.

3. God instructed Jeremiah that no portion of His message was to be withheld; but all must be fearlessly delivered. Jer. 26: 2; 23: 28.

4. The case of Micaiah affords another instance of the spirit which God's messengers should manifest. 1 Kings 22: 14.

5. Our Saviour came with an unpopular message which He faithfully delivered, heedless of personal consequences. John 12: 48-50.

6. After His resurrection the disciples, in taking up the work He gave them, were at once faced with opposition and were forbidden to teach the full message. Acts 4: 18.

7. The apostles reply was fearless, clear, and decided. Acts 4: 20.

8. God sent an angel to instruct them that even in face of the forbiddance of the authorities "all the words of this life" were to be spoken. Acts 5: 19, 20.

9. Paul was similarly instructed by God to "be not afraid, but speak." Acts 18: 9-11.

10. To-day God is sending forth the three-fold message and He expects His messengers to fearlessly present the full truth for this time. Rev. 14: 6-12.

The Peaceful Fruit of Righteousness

GOD'S way of working is wonderful. Usually it is not our way. The changes wrought in human hearts are also wonderful. When the Spirit of God controls people, definite results are seen. Thus fruits of righteousness appear. As illustrations of God's way of doing things, His way of controlling hearts, two recent experiences up in the Lake Titicaca region in Peru are given.

Usually when Indians in this region congregate in large numbers, the government officials have their hands full in maintaining order. Brother Stahl writes:

"The prefect, mayor, and the director of San Carlos paid us a visit last week. I brought them out on the launch. They spent the night with us at our Plateria Mission. Over a thousand of our Indians met

them, and it was a very impressive sight.

"The prefect asked me in Puno how many soldiers he should take with him. I replied, 'None.' The order was perfect, and he was very much impressed. He said that he never could have believed it could be so. He offered us all kinds of help, and so did the others. The mayor wants us to open work at once on his land on the Qechwa side of the lake. He has been very good to us in times past, among other things giving us a general license."

As the sequel to the recent mobbing experience through which Brother and Sister Stahl passed on one of their tours among the Indians, at which time Brother Stahl nearly lost his life, the following experience illustrates how God works to make very plain the difference between the mob spirit and the true spirit of the gospel as illustrated in the life of Jesus Christ, our Lord:

"The medical work is taking on tremendous proportions among the Spanish people. We cannot answer their calls, that is, not all of them. I received a call a few weeks ago in the middle of the night. 'The man must have help at once,' the messengers said. They had a horse ready for me, so I got up and went with them. We reached the place eighteen miles distant at Elave, and found that the man to be treated was a priest; and more, he was the same priest that had induced the Indians to mob us a few weeks ago at Elave Pampa. At that time we had difficulty in escaping. It was their plan to kill us, but God delivered us out of their hands.

"Well, this priest was in a critical condition. He would have lived but a short time. The governor and the mayor begged me to help him, as they thought I would do nothing for him. I told them of course I would do all I could for him. I treated him, which gave immediate relief, and told him he must get to Arequipa as soon as possible.

"We called together some forty Indians and carried him to Puno. As we passed the people wondered who was the prisoner, he or I. We stopped at Plateria for coffee and attention. I saw him on the train, and I heard a man in the crowd say, 'What a wonderful thing! The Evangelista is taking care of the priest.'

"I charged him £4 10s., and he thought it was very reasonable. He

thanked me over and over, saying God would bless us. I have since received a good letter from him from Arequipa. Well, things like this help."

Yes, such experiences as this surely help. They help the people to see the truth in such texts as this: "Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven."

Resisting the Truth in Korea

IT is enough for the servant to be as his master. Jesus said, "If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household?" It was because Jesus revealed the truth, that He was hated and rejected. It is the truth to-day that men cannot endure, so those bearing it to the people are called upon to suffer persecution from those who in their hearts have rejected it. Brother C. L. Butterfield, superintendent of the Korean Mission, after reading of Brother and Sister Stahl's experience at the hands of a Roman Catholic mob, while labouring for the Indians of Peru, relates the following experience that one of our Korean colporteurs recently had while at his work. He says:

"Certainly Brother Stahl, of South America, had a hard time of it. One of our colporteurs had almost the same experience about three months ago while canvassing on the Island of Chaiju, to the south of Korea. It was the colporteur who was there about a year ago and sold literature to the man who was intoxicated, and who later became a Christian. But the colporteur was not beaten by a Roman Catholic, but by an ordained minister of a Protestant denomination. The only offence was that he was going from house to house selling literature—a thing which he had permission from the government to do. He had gone to very few houses where members of the other denomination lived, and when first attacked—being struck in the face, knocked to the floor and kicked—he was in the home of a heathen who protested and would not allow the

church deacon to further attack a guest in his house. There being no call for such actions the heathen, who gathered around, said they should go to the minister's house and have the matter settled. The colporteur was glad to go; for he felt that he would receive just treatment there. However, the minister abused him worse than did the deacon. He tore his clothes from him, demolished his hat, got him in a corner of a stone wall, and there abused him by kicking him in the stomach, etc., until he could not walk. Our brother thought he was dying. The heathen then demanded that he go to the police station. They carried him to the gate of the magistrate, but our brother begged them not to take him in. He said he did not like to report a minister of the gospel to the public authorities for such conduct.

"He was unable to work at all for some time. Later we brought him to Sebul to attend the institute, but he was not able to study, so we sent him to the hospital and they said he was suffering from internal injuries received by being struck in the stomach. He is not able to work, but is gaining somewhat. We trust that he will soon be well.

"When I wrote to the mission with which this minister was connected, they at first replied that it was not true, but later wrote and said that what I had written was so, and they were very sorry that one of their men, a native, should so disgrace himself. The matter is not yet entirely settled.

"Now the man who bought the literature while intoxicated is carrying on the canvassing work on the island. The 'dragon is wroth,' and doing all that he can to hinder the work, yet all such movements tend to increase the rapidity with which the work goes. A letter just received from the island says that another ten people are now ready for baptism and they are anxious for some one to come and baptize them.

"During the first six months of this year there were more than twice as many baptisms as during the same period last year. Our tithe and offering receipts from natives for the same period were sixty-seven per cent more than for the first six months of 1915. God is blessing the work in all lines and our great need at present is more help to look after the rapidly growing work."

Where the Word of God Is Practically Unknown

(ALL will be deeply interested in these experiences of our medical missionary, Miss Hoy, at work in Brazil, South America, where the Bible is withheld from the people, and where the darkness is dense.)

One day I was asked to go and visit a lady who was sick in bed. I went the following day and found her very much discouraged. I treated her and arranged to hold Bible readings with the family. They had heard two or three Bible readings before and liked them. One day I gave them a Bible reading on repentance and conversion. It seemed the Holy Spirit just melted their hearts and four of the family gave their hearts to the Lord. The sick one said, "I would like to become a Christian, but I am such a great sinner that I do not know whether Jesus will accept me." I assured her He would, and in the simplest way she asked forgiveness, with tears of repentance. After we all arose from our knees, she said to her husband, "Now write this date in your memorandum, so that we can always remember it, and when Satan tries to discourage us we can tell him that we belong to Jesus." The sister of the sick lady said, "Now our names are written in the Book of Life, and we must follow Jesus and keep all His commandments." When the light came to them on health reform and tithing, they also responded. Two of this family have already been baptized, two others are ready for baptism, and now the brother of the sick one, and his wife, have become interested and I am studying with them.

A few months ago some friends of this family (Portuguese) came to visit them. They told these friends about the truth they had found and showed them a Bible. I was afterwards introduced to them. So I visited them and sold them a Bible. Then I gave a Bible reading on "Studying the Scriptures." The mother said: "Surely our holy mother, the Virgin Mary, will not feel bad because I bought this book, for it seems to contain such beautiful and good thoughts. I had never seen one before, until I visited my friend the other day." I said, "No, surely the Virgin Mary will not

mind at all. So you do not know what this book is? It is a letter from God for His children, in which He teaches them how to live, and through which He tells us of His wonderful love for us. In fact it is a beautiful love-letter sent by our Heavenly Father to encourage us to love Him." So I made an appointment to read with this family every week. I also lend them tracts. A few weeks ago I left a tract called, "The Bible, Its Inspiration and Significance." So when I went there the following week, one of the little girls, seven years old, was standing up and writing very diligently. I asked the mother, "What is the child writing?" She said, "She likes that little book so, and thought the words were so beautiful, that she is copying some of them before you take it away." When I saw the little seven-year-old with such love for good things, it certainly touched my heart and I said, "You give me the paper that you have copied and I will make you a present of the tract." She gladly gave it to me, just think, written with pen and ink. Last week the mother said, "Will you please make some prayers and write them out for me, so I can learn them, too?" I told her just to tell her Heavenly Father what was in her heart and He would understand. You can see how hungry these people are for the truth and to know Jesus.

A few weeks ago I went to a lady to give her a Bible reading. After I got through, she said, "My people are opposed to the Bible and to this religion so I cannot have you come here any more, but if you will give me permission I will come to your house." So I told her what day she could come, and we had a good study. I asked her if she had a Bible. She said, "No," so I loaned her a New Testament and she took it home with her and hid it under her pillow, and at night she read it. In less than two weeks she had read nearly all of the gospels.

Last week it was pouring down rain. A knock was heard at my door at the time appointed for our study, and there she was. She said, "I had my New Testament under my pillow and my people found it, and yesterday they were reading it nearly all day, they liked it so well. They said, 'We understand now why you love these things.'" She said to

me, "I want to know these things, for once I committed a great sin. I took poison and was in a death-like trance for a long time. I heard them come in and make arrangements for my funeral. Some of the friends inquired, 'But why did she poison herself?' I was unable to respond. I longed to cry out to God to forgive my sins. Finally I prayed, and life came back to me. God saved me from this death and now I want to serve Him. I told Him I was willing to suffer anything that He thought best. I want to please Him. Ever since I heard that talk on alcohol, I stopped using alcoholic drinks." I said to her, "It seems to me that God spared your life so that you could receive the precious truth for this time." She replied, "It surely seems so."

The other week a girl came to me and said, "Can't you come to our house to-morrow?" I thought the case must be very urgent, so I said, "Is any one ill?" She said, "Yes, my mother." So I went. When I reached there I asked for the mother. The girl said, "She has gone to market, but I will send one of the children after her." Soon the mother came, a pale, thin-looking woman. She looked very troubled. I asked her what the trouble was. "Well," she said, "I am sick and I suffer every day, but it is not so much my physical condition that I am worrying over, but I am so unhappy. I need peace. I hear you people know about God and that you pray. Will you please pray for me and my family? I have been to mediums, to fortune tellers, but no one seems to be able to help me." I said, "I cannot help you either, by any power of my own, but there is a God in heaven who has all power and He can help you. I will lend you a Bible. You study it and I will come and study with you once a week." The girls said, "Can't you come twice a week? We need help so much."

There are so many calls and so many needs that often it makes my heart ache. But I do what I can and God surely has blessed me. I give readings to an old coloured woman who used to be a slave. She is poor and cannot read. Last week when I went there I said, "How are you?" With a smiling face she replied, "I am well, and I have never been sad since you gave me

that last Bible Reading, and prayed with me. I thought about those beautiful things all the week and they always cheer my heart and I cannot be sad."

I am very well and have never been so happy in all my life. I love this work, and am happy in it.

May God continue this work here, and also bless you dear ones in the homeland who are sending us the money so we can do this work. You shall surely have your reward when the Master comes to gather His jewels. And please pray for us and our work. L. CORINNE HOY.

Our Next Issue

To Be Reduced to Eight Pages

OWING to shortage of funds, the increasing demands for extension of our work in the island fields, and the great increase in cost of paper and printing, it has been found necessary to retrench in every possible way. One means decided upon recently by the executive committee of the Australasian Union Conference, is by reducing the size of the LEADER, which beginning with the next issue will be reduced to eight pages. We shall endeavour to crowd into the smaller space as much valuable matter as possible. All departments hitherto appearing will still be represented. The matter, however, will be more condensed and the leaders of our various church departments will have to use the matter supplied as a foundation upon which their programmes and studies can be built, and will have to gather for themselves matter for the superstructure.

HE that saveth his time from prayer shall lose it. But he that loseth his time for communion with God shall find it in a life of multiplied blessing.—*Wilder*.

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