

The North American

Informant

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Confidence in Divine Leadership

By W. B. OCHS

Acting Vice-President, North American Division

DAVID of old, in his shepherd's psalm, stated, "He leadeth me." This man of God had a real experience in the things of the Lord, and naturally could say with surety of heart and mind, "He leadeth me." With him it was a personal experience, and the same experience must become a reality in the life of every Christian who hopes to be immortalized. The future, as far as the world is concerned, is indeed very dark; it is obscure. The leaders of the world, recognizing this fact, are bewildered and dazed. They are in the dark, hoping for some ray of light. This condition is a fulfillment of prophecy. Speaking of the days in which we are living, the Lord foretold, "Upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; . . . men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth."

In spite of world conditions and the uncertainties that we see all about us, the children of God never had a brighter hope. The darker it seems for those in the world, the brighter must be the outlook for those who have their hope and trust in the Lord and His divine leadership. We must believe that He will lead us through the uneven paths of life and bring us safely into His eternal kingdom. We have been forbidden to lift up our heads and rejoice, knowing that our redemption draweth nigh. The God whom we



W. B. OCHS

serve is in supreme charge of the nations of the earth. They are open before Him, and although we cannot always see and understand their maneuverings, we must believe that He will permit nothing to come to pass that will in any way frustrate His divine plan. No wonder the messenger of the Lord said, "Above the distractions of the earth He sits enthroned; all things are open to His divine survey; and from His great and calm eternity He orders that which His providence sees best."—*Ministry of Healing*, p. 417.

If the children of God could always believe and understand that the Lord not only has the destiny of the nations in His hand but that He is also the leader of His church, they would have far greater trust in His leadership. There is nothing so dear to the heart of God as His own people, for "the Lord's portion is his people." He guards them as the apple of His eye. He protects them in time of need.

Furthermore, we must have faith enough to believe that God is leading each one of us individually. He takes an interest in every child of His and we, with David, ought to be able to say confidently, "He leadeth me." Oh, for that personal experience in Him that will cause us to say under all conditions and under all circumstances, "He leadeth me." We do not always understand why the Lord leads us as He does, but He knows what is best for us. In *The Desire of Ages*, page 225, we read, "God never leads His children otherwise than they would choose to be led, if they could see the end from the beginning, and discern the glory of the purpose which they are fulfilling as co-workers with Him." With such an assurance how dare we complain when we do not always have our own way. It is for us to place our hands in His and permit Him to lead us in the way that is best for us. God's way is always the best way for His children. What a

wonderful Leader we have in Him! He knows the way we should and must take, and His way will lead us triumphantly into His eternal kingdom. Thus believing in Him and trusting Him day by day with a heart that is willing to follow Him, we shall better understand in our own personal experience what David meant when he said, "He leadeth me."

LAKE REGION

T. M. Fountain, Pres. F. N. Crowe, Sec.-Treas.
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Farewell

THE Lord has truly blessed the work in the Gary, Indiana, and Chicago Heights, and Robbins, Illinois, district. When Mrs. Laurence and I arrived to take over the work, we found our people friendly, responsive, cooperative, and zealous. During the time we spent in that district we were privileged to see a decided increase in tithes, though we regretted that an unfortunate tax bill in Chicago Heights caused a drop in our mission offerings.

The most gratifying fact is that the Lord added to His churches such as would be saved. Eighteen precious souls followed their Saviour in baptism, and one was added to the fold by profession of faith. At the time of this writing thirteen more are candidates for church membership although we have not been able to conduct a major evangelistic campaign.

When we left this district the interior of our church auditorium in Gary was in process of decoration. We wish publicly to thank our people in the Gary district for the noble way in which they have held up our hands and trust that they will do the same for our successors.

We ask an interest in the prayers of all our friends as we take up our new work.

J. PARKER LAURENCE.

Mission Stations in Mexico and Cuba

(Continued from last month)

AFTER we had arrived in Merida we told our guide we would like to find Samuel the Sabbatista. He took us to the city cab stand and to Samuel. We thought it most remarkable that in a town of 140,000 people an Adventist would be so well known. Why? Because everyone knows that Samuel the Sabbatista (which is a coined Spanish word meaning "Sabbathkeeper") does not drive his taxi on the Sabbath.

In this city, as in Mexico City, there is a need for more funds to expand the work and meet the demands of those who have learned of the message. They also need teachers. The church is well kept, clean, and has a loud-speaker system. Music is played prior to the beginning of services to attract those on the outside to enter. My impression of Merida? Mission funds well spent, more needed!

From Merida we journeyed by air across the Gulf of Mexico to Havana, Cuba, one of the most beautiful spots I have ever visited. On Sabbath morning we went to the Vibora church, which is the finest church building in the Havana area. It has been built only recently and is a roomy, comfortable, white stucco structure. The membership of this church is about 130. As usual, the Sabbath school program familiar to all Adventists was being carried out. The striking feature, however, was the thirteenth Sabbath program with the children calling everyone's attention to the needs of Africa. There was also a large branch Sabbath school group, that had been brought in by a member who had two dreams directing her to return to her home town and work for souls if she would be saved. We understand that much interest has been aroused in the truth by this good sister's efforts.

While in Cuba we visited four churches—all under one pastor, Elder Sauza. More workers are needed, but funds are also needed to support them in the field. Visit-

ing these four churches, we had but a short time to talk to a few members; all of them were cheerful, happy in the Lord's work, and they asked to be remembered to the people in the United States.

The high light of our trip to Cuba was the nearly two-hundred-mile bus ride to Santa Clara to the Colegio de las Antillas, our Seventh-day Adventist ten-grade school. There we found forty-five energetic students on the campus during the summer, working to pay off last year's bills and to earn credit for the coming year. The school is located in a beautiful country spot about five miles from the city. There are thirteen buildings of stucco, frame, and corrugated tin neatly situated in a small area on the 240 acres. There is a broom factory which thus far has not lost money but is on the way to becoming an asset to the school. The print shop, which is being very capably run by Brother Meyer, who had approximately nine years of printing experience prior to going to Cuba, is doing considerable printing for the Inter-American Division.

It was with mixed feelings that we left the school and boarded the bus for our return trip to Havana. It seemed that we had seen so much, had been asked to convey so much, that we were fearful we might forget some request that may have seemed inconsequential. But we would urge all to increase their offerings to the mission field. There is no doubt in my mind that God is finishing His work in these last days, and that His coming is near. Those we met seemed to realize with great earnestness the sacred trust that is theirs. MRS. HARVEY A. MACKAY.

The North American Informant

Representing the colored work of the
Seventh-day Adventist Denomination

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Oakwood College

F. L. Peterson, Pres.
Huntsville, Ala.

Oakwood College

WE are pleased to release the following interesting news items of the college just received from Dean Edwards:

"Our enrollment is not so large as it was a year ago, but we are happy to state that more than three hundred energetic and enterprising college youth have come to the Oakwood campus to educate themselves and one another.

"They have come from 30 States, the District of Columbia, and these foreign lands: Africa, Bahamas, Cuba, Central America, Haiti, Jamaica (B.W.I.), Puerto Rico, Republic of Honduras, Tobago (B.W.I.), Trinidad (B.W.I.), and the Virgin Islands.

"These students find an enlarged curriculum, which includes physical chemistry, high school curriculum problems, seminar Cervantes, Spanish American literature, 18th-century French literature, and accounting problems.

"A number of our teachers have spent the summer months in graduate study, and one of them, Prof. C. E. Galley, head of the department of commerce, received his Master's degree from Pittsburgh University early in September.

"Eighty-six have enrolled in the academy."

O. B. EDWARDS, *Dean,*
Oakwood College.

"THERE is so much good in the rest of us, and so much bad in the rest of us, that it's hard to tell which one of us ought to reform the rest of us."

IF we surrender our lives to His service, we can never be placed in a position for which God has not made provision."

SOUTH CENTRAL

H. R. Murphy, Pres. V. Lindsay, Sec.-Treas.
Box 936, Nashville, Tenn.

South Central Conference Sabbath School Associations

FOUR Sabbath school associations have been organized in the South Central Conference within the past few months. These organizations are designed to promote the work of Sabbath schools and give opportunity to the officers, teachers, and workers to discuss and analyze problems. These associations meet once a quarter; several churches are grouped together according to their locality, and meet at one church. Within the past month three of these associations held meetings as follows:

Louisville Area Association

The Sabbath School Association of the Louisville, Kentucky, area was held in the Louisville church on Sabbath, October 1, 1949. Brother William Ford, president of the association, presided. Sabbath schools represented were Lexington, Berea, Danville, Covington, and Louisville. The topics on the agenda were thoroughly discussed by those in attendance, and everyone profited thereby. Some of the topics of interest were as follows: "Increasing the Sabbath School Membership," "The Sabbath School Secretary," and "Handling the Sabbath School Finances."

Valuable help was given by Elders E. T. Mimms, of Louisville, and J. N. Richardson, of Lexington. Special music was given to help promote the value of the service. The meeting will reconvene the first Sabbath in January, 1950, in Covington, Kentucky.

Birmingham Area Association

This association held its last meeting in Sterrett, Alabama, on Sabbath afternoon, October 1. Miss Lucy McDonald, of Birmingham, is president of this association. Mrs. Hobert Jackson, also of Birmingham, is secretary.

Oakwood College Association

Sabbath school members from Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Florence and Huntsville, Alabama, met with the Sabbath school at Oakwood College on a recent Sabbath to organize a Sabbath school association. Under the leadership of Elder R. H. Wentland, Sabbath school secretary of Southern Union Conference, and Elder B. H. Ewing, Sabbath school secretary of South Central Conference, the association was formed and made a very good start. Officers were elected as follows: E. E. Rogers, president; F. L. Jones, vice-president; Nell Rice, secretary; and Pauline Rainey, assistant secretary. Oakwood's pastor, C. E. Moseley, and superintendent, T. T. Frazier, made it very pleasant for the visitors and also gave valuable help in discussing the agenda. After a very lively and beneficial meeting the association adjourned until January 2, 1950, at which time the meeting will again be held at Oakwood College.

It is hoped that through these Sabbath school associations much help can be given to the immediate needs and problems of the Sabbath schools in the South Central Conference.

News Notes

RECENT baptisms in our field were 39 baptized by D. B. Reid in Birmingham, Alabama; 14, by E. J. Humphrey in Chattanooga, Tennessee; and 6, by B. W. Abney in Jackson, Mississippi.

A LAY preachers' institute was conducted in the Meharry Boulevard church in Nashville, Tennessee, the first week end in November. This institute was to prepare laymen to do aggressive soul-winning work. After the institute the conference formalized a unique plan by which lay evangelism was promoted in a very definite way.

THE conference was pleased to have as guest in its field A. R. Haig, secretary of the Publishing Department in the British West Indian Union. Elder Haig assisted in a very helpful way in the recent Beginners'

Colporteur Institute held by our conference at the Southern Publishing Association.

H. R. MURPHY, *President,*
South Central Conference.

Good Tidings Concerning the "Message Magazine"



BY LOUIS B. REYNOLDS, *Editor*

IN the recent union home missionary session of the Southern and Southwestern unions at Nashville, Tennessee, plans were brought to light that we had considered hardly possible in our day. Union home missionary secretaries are talking in terms of making the *Message Magazine* campaign an institution to be supported by all the churches in North America.

We were amazed over the order of three hundred subscriptions for the *Message Magazine*, coming from Nova Scotia about one week before the official date for the beginning of the Subscription Campaign.

Out in front of all the rest, Southwestern Mission has several churches already over their goals. The total missionary subscriptions turned in thus far is more than one thousand. Word has just been received that 75 per cent of the people who accepted the truth during

the Dallas evangelistic effort this summer gave testimony to the fact that their first contact with the Advent message came through the *Message Magazine*. One of the richest widows in Dallas, who is now studying the truth, says that her first interest in Adventists was the result of reading the *Message Magazine*.

A cash order of 117 subscriptions came from one person in the South Central Conference, with a list of all the Negro colleges in the United States, requesting that we send the *Message* to every library. The one sending these subscriptions, we learned later, works for a meager wage but has a large vision of missionary work through the *Message Magazine*.

On a recent Sabbath someone gave to one of our Chattanooga members a check sufficient to send *Message* subscriptions to all the high school teachers in that county. The sister who received the check—one of our new believers there, and herself a high school teacher—was inspired by the gift. She pledged in turn to arrange for the sending of *Message* subscriptions to all the grade school teachers in that county—a total of 225. On the same day 110 subscriptions were gathered from the congregation.

Riverside Sanitarium is over the top by more than twice its goal.

At Cleveland, Ohio, the Cedar Avenue congregation, where J. H. Laurence is pastor, responded with 423 subscriptions. A brother who had been baptized just one week took one hundred subscriptions to extend the influence of the gospel to that many more people.

Our little church of ten members at Coatesville, Pennsylvania, supervised by Brother Jacob Soughs, has taken one hundred *Message* subscriptions, and they are sending them to every home within the community where the church is located.

Oberlin, Ohio, members have sent a subscription for the *Message* to every colored family in that town. Recently the minister of the Baptist church there read his Wednesday evening prayer meeting sermon

from an article in the *Message Magazine*. In a rally for church funds these community friends who knew the source of their magazines, brought their gifts. This incident demonstrates the fact that sending the *Message* really pays.

The Oakwood College student body and faculty took 515 subscriptions last week. Many of these represented considerable sacrifices.

We should like to point out the experience of Mrs. J. J. Bentley, who called on a businessman for an Ingathering contribution. The man flatly refused to give a cent toward our work. Mrs. Bentley thereupon sent to him a year's subscription to the *Message*. The next year he gave her a check for thirty dollars.

We are suggesting this year that our folk send subscription clubs to various institutions. A club of ten subscriptions, for example, at 87½ cents each, would be a wonderful blessing to a Y.W.C.A., a Y.M.C.A., or a Phyllis Wheatley organization. It would bring new inspiration to groups of boys and girls in a local detention home or jail, or to men and women in prison. It would lighten the day for old folks' homes, orphanages, and hospitals. These clubs could be sent to persons in charge, with a letter explaining their purpose. We mail them from the publishing house to the institutions at the rate of 87½ cents each per year.

We have had quite a bit of enthusiastic discussion over the idea of sending *Message* clubs to our missionaries in West Africa. The postage would be a little more, but imagine their gratitude upon receiving monthly clubs of the *Message* from friends in America. Letters might be addressed to Elders Dunbar Henri, G. Nathaniel Bar Donald B. Simons, or Phillip Giddings.

A request for such clubs has just been received. Excerpts from the letter follow:

"At present I am working a self-supporting missionary. . . . My great need is for literature. . . .

"The purpose of this letter is to

ask you to kindly furnish me with the *Message* for use in my work here. A club of them would be very much welcomed regularly. I can use as many as you send me. Perhaps you could make some appeals to our churches in the States for funds to enable me to receive clubs of the *Message*. . . Yours in the blessed Advent Message, Aaron A. Nahman, P.O. Box 53, Wankie 8, Southern Rhodesia, South Africa."

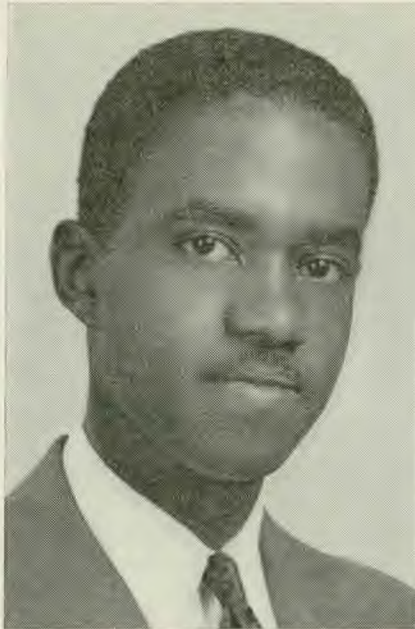
Riverside Sanitarium and Hospital

THE Lord is continuing to bless the work at the Riverside Sanitarium and Hospital. The daily average of patronage this year has almost doubled that of 1948.

The atmosphere is very uplifting at the institution. Groups of departments have morning worship at various hours each day, and this has increased the Christian attitude that is to prevail in our institutions.

The sanitarium store has greatly expanded and is now known as the Riverside Mart. It carries all kinds of foods, notions, and appliances. The Riverside laundry has also opened and all the flat work of the institution is done there.

The nursing staff here at Riverside has recently been augmented by additional nurses of the consecrated type. Miss Wilson is night supervisor; Miss L. Hubbard, obstetrical supervisor; Mrs. R. Warren, operating room supervisor; and Mrs.



DR. J. MARK COX

H. Stelle, central supply supervisor. Mrs. R. Stafford is director of the nursing service. There are four other graduate nurses on the nursing service and two nurse's aids.

Mr. B. Abney, Jr., has charge of the church school this year.

Elder E. F. Carter, our chaplain, is engaged in an effort in town. There has been a splendid attendance each night, and we are expecting a large number to take their stand for Christ.

To date we have over eleven thousand dollars on our new chapel. Pray that God will continue to bless the work here at the sanitarium.

J. M. Cox, M.D.
Medical Director.

Importance of a Press Secretary in Your Church

IN these days when Seventh-day Adventists the world around are making headlines, it is gratifying to notice that news of our colored churches is on the increase. Many excellent stories have recently been received by the General Conference Press Bureau, showing the work of the church and its members in both white and Negro newspapers. A recent letter from the Baltimore *Afro-American*, thanking us for an article submitted, showed a great interest in further stories. This attitude is typical among editors today.

According to a letter from Elder Owen A. Troy, of the Pacific Union Conference, where much favorable publicity is being received, "one third of the Negro families living in cities regularly subscribe to Negro newspapers. These are commonly passed from family to family, and are sometimes read aloud in informal gatherings." He also quoted from a recently published book, written by a man considered to be an authority, who said, "The greatest single power of the Negro race is the Negro press."

The fact that such a large percentage of the Negro population of America reads Negro newspapers should impress us with the possibilities of using this medium to reach the fourteen million Negroes in America. Yet many of the 232 Negro publications are probably not receiving Adventist news.

This is, of course, true of many other newspapers. And this is why an effort is right now being made to impress all our churches with the importance of electing a press secretary. Some churches already have secretaries; others do not. Local church leaders are encouraged to follow the General Conference policy of electing a press secretary in their church. As a result of the local church press secretary plan, Seventh-day Adventist news is now going out in hundreds of communities through the local papers.

The General Conference Press Bureau will send instructional material and other aids to help your



Riverside Sanitarium and Hospital

newly elected secretary get started. Frequent releases from the bureau will supply them with stories for the papers. Information on how to meet the editor and on the proper method of preparation of copy will also be mailed.

The name of the secretary should be forwarded to the local conference press secretary as soon as the election has taken place. In this way all helps will reach him at the earliest moment. Churches having active press secretaries should reelect them. The experience they have gained is worth a great deal, and every effort should be made to keep these trained workers in their present position.

E. N. WENDTH, *Bureau of Press Relations, General Conference.*

A New School in Enid, Oklahoma

WE are happy to announce the opening of our new school in Enid, Oklahoma, on September 6, 1949.

Through the loyal, untiring efforts of our members in Enid, the grounds around the school were cleared, and the sidewalk was laid. The heating plant has just been completed. Modern sanitary facilities have been installed.

God has marvelously blessed us. At first some of our children were not in the school, but, thanks be to God, all our Adventist children in the grades are now in church school.

School has been going on for only two and a half months, but already we see signs of the breaking down of the prejudice because of the interest created by the school. We now have non-Adventist, as well as Adventist, children enrolled. The total enrollment is 30.

Many parents and public school teachers have attended our Sabbath services and expressed keen interest in our program with a desire to know more about our doctrines as a direct result of our having the church school. The teacher is Mrs. Grayce Hamilton Williams; chairman of the school board, Mr. Martin Trawick. Remember us in your prayers.

LAFAYETTE WILLIAMS, *Pastor.*

SOUTHWESTERN MISSION

W. W. Fordham, Pres. V. Roberts, Sec.-Treas.
P. O. Box 6289, Dallas, Texas

Southwestern Mission Baptismal Service

APPROXIMATELY five hundred spectators witnessed a most unique baptismal service at the Bible Crusade Tabernacle in Dallas. This service yielded forty-one new believers to the faith; the first fruits of the city-wide effort conducted by the Fordham brothers and the official staff of the mission.

Assisting Elder Fordham in the baptismal service were Pastors S. D. Meyers, L. R. Proctor, R. E. Tottress, and Fred Parker. This service marked the first of many similar services to follow.

NEWCOMERS TO THE FIELD

The mission was happy to have the following individuals join the ranks in the field of education for the present school year: Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Bliss, Mrs. L. G. Cox, Miss Mabel Miller, Miss Emmeline Nelson, Mr. Richard Norman, Mr. Clayton Pritchett, Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Randall, Miss Mable Rollins, and Mrs. Lafayette Williams.

CORA ISABEL.

The Surrendered Life

In giving up our will to Christ
We really do not lose it.
He takes it in His hands that He
May teach us how to use it.

The Christian's will is stronger than
That of his worldly brother.
He gains the victory in things
That overcome the other.

We give our little all to Christ.
Do we grow poor by giving?
No, He supplies our every need.
We have a richer living.

When I gave God my life, and chose
His guiding and His sending,
I thought my life would narrow be,
With all its progress ending.

But looking back across the years,
I mark that time of giving
As just the point where things began
That made life worth the living.

J. O. McCLELLAND.

MARRIAGE, A CONTRACT FOR LIFE

BY THE EDITOR

THE marriage relation is holy, but sad to mention, in this degenerate age it has been used to cover villainess and recklessness of every kind. It is abused and has become a crime which now constitutes one of the signs of the day. The good Book declares, "In the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, . . . incontinent, . . . despisers of those that are good." 2 Tim. 3:1-3.

When the sacred nature and claims of matrimony are understood, it will be approved of heaven. The result will be happiness to both parties, and God will be glorified. Marriage is an institution that originated in the Garden of Eden, at the time of man's innocency, before he had sinned against his Maker. The Saviour honored a marriage festival with His presence, thus setting His seal of approval to it. While there He performed His first miracle by turning water into wine.

Mrs. E. G. White states: "Every marriage engagement should be carefully considered; for marriage is a step taken for life. Both the man and the woman should carefully consider whether they can cleave to each other through the vicissitudes of life as long as they both shall live."—Letter 17, 1896.

"Among the Jews a man was permitted to put away his wife for the most trivial offenses, and the woman was then at liberty to marry again. This practise led to great wretchedness and sin. In the sermon on the mount Jesus declared plainly that there could be no dissolution of the marriage tie, except for unfaithfulness to the marriage vow. 'Every one,' He said, 'that putteth away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, maketh her an adulteress; and whosoever shall marry her when she is put away committeth adultery.'

"When the Pharisees afterwards questioned Him concerning the lawfulness of divorce, Jesus pointed His

(Continued on page 8)



Ushers and Usherettes of Sharon, Portland, Oregon



Members of Cooking Class, Sharon Church

Each week the students looked forward to the regular class lecture. During the course we were privileged to have as guest speaker Miss Chedwah van Tijn, dietitian from the Oregon State Health Department. She showed a film taking in the basic seven, and commended our church for taking such interest in diet for more healthful living. She expressed her desire for more such classes in the city of Portland. The class had as its course of study the twelve lessons in Nutrition and Cookery.

Most of the members of the Sharon church are new, for it was



Sharon S.D.A. Church

organized only two and a half years ago. At the time of organization there were nineteen members, and at present there are approximately ninety. The dedicatory service was held last fall with Elder G. E. Peters, of the General Conference, as the main speaker. Elder C. A. Scriven, president of the Northwest Pacific Union, offered the dedicatory prayer. The church building was purchased a few months prior to this great occasion.

Elder McDaniels and his associated workers are formulating plans for further evangelization of the city of Portland.

EVANGELISTIC COMPANY OF
SHARON CHURCH.

"If men would consider the end of sin, they would shun the beginning of it."

News From Portland, Oregon

ELDER P. W. MCDANIELS, pastor of the Sharon church of Portland, Oregon, has recently closed his tent. He was assisted by Miss Justine Reed, Bible instructor, and Mrs. P. W. McDaniels, pianist.

In connection with this effort there was a cooking class conducted once each week on Monday evening. Miss Reed, class instructor, reported an enrollment of 20. There were five men in the class, including the pastor, who showed his deep interest and appreciation for all that was being done.

Marriage, a Contract for Life

(Continued from page 6)

hearers back to the marriage institution as ordained at creation. 'Because of the hardness of your hearts,' He said, Moses 'suffered you to put away your wives; but from the beginning it was not so.' He referred them to the blessed days of Eden, when God pronounced all things 'very good.' Then marriage and the Sabbath had their origin, twin institutions for the glory of God in the benefit of humanity. Then, as the Creator joined the hands of the holy pair in wedlock, saying, 'A man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife; and they shall be one,' He enunciated the law of marriage for all the children of Adam to the close of time. That which the eternal Father Himself had pronounced good, was the law of highest blessing and development for man."—*Mount of Blessing*, pp. 99, 100.

Those who contemplate marriage should consider carefully the future character and influence of the home they are founding. It should be remembered that upon the character of the home depends the condition of society; and that the weight of each family's influence will tell in the upward or downward scale. Before assuming the responsibilities involved in wedlock, young men and women should have an experience in practical life that will enable them to be prepared for its duties and burdens. They should watch the development of character in one with whom they think to unite their life's destiny. Marriage should not be entered into lightly, but reverently, discreetly, and in the fear of God, for it affects the after-life.

From letters of advice by Mrs. E. G. White we cite the following: "A woman may be legally divorced from her husband by the laws of the land, and yet not divorced in the sight of God and according to the higher law. There is only one sin, which is adultery, which can place the husband or wife in a position

where they can be free from the marriage vow in the sight of God. Although the laws of the land may grant a divorce, yet they are husband and wife still in the Bible light, according to the laws of God."—Letter 4a, 1863.

"Nothing but the violation of the marriage bed can either break or annul the marriage vow. We are living in perilous times, when there is no assurance in anything, save in firm, unwavering faith in Jesus Christ. There is no heart that may not be estranged from God through the devices of Satan, if he does not watch unto prayer. . . . Men are not at liberty to make a standard of law for themselves, to avoid God's law, and please their own inclination. They must come to God's great moral standard of righteousness.

"If the wife is an unbeliever and an opposer, the husband cannot, in view of the law of God, put her away on this ground alone. In order to be in harmony with the law of Jehovah, he must abide with her, unless she chooses of herself to depart. He may suffer opposition and be oppressed and annoyed in many ways; he will find his comfort and his strength and support from God, who is able to give grace for every emergency. He should be a man of pure mind, of truly decided, firm principles, and God will give him wisdom in regard to the course which he should pursue. Impulse will not control his reason, but reason will hold the lines of control in her firm hand, that lust shall be held under bit and bridle. . . .

"God gave only one cause why a wife should leave her husband, or the husband leave his wife, which was adultery. Let this ground be prayerfully considered. Marriage was from the creation, constituted by God, a divine ordinance. The marriage institution was made in Eden. The Sabbath of the fourth commandment was instituted in Eden, when the foundations of the world were laid, when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy. Then let this, God's institution of marriage, stand

before you as firm as the Sabbath of the fourth commandment."—Letter 8, 1888.

The plan of God is that the union once formed should be sundered only by death. If these rules were applied, the contracting parties would solemnly consider the duties they assume, and wanton divorces would disappear.

It is the duty of the husband to provide for the support of his wife, to shelter her from danger, and to cherish for her a manly and unalterable affection, remembering the command of God: "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it."

"Happy the home when God is there,
And love fills every breast;
When one their wish, and one their prayer,
And one their heavenly rest.

"Happy the home when Jesus' name
Is sweet to every ear;
Where children early lisp His fame,
And parents hold Him dear."

It cannot be ignored, however, that in order to live out these principles fully, we must have Christ as our helper.

"I must have the Saviour with me,
In the onward march of life,
Through the tempest and the sunshine,
Through the battle and the strife."

What human beings cannot do in their own strength, God's grace will accomplish for those who give themselves to Him in loving trust. It has been said, "The gospel is a wonderful simplifier of life's problems."

A MAN is poor, not because he has nothing, but because he does nothing. The way to have nothing to give, is to give nothing.—J. S. LING.

"WHEN asked to pronounce the blessing upon a roast pig set before him on the dining table, John ley prayed, 'God, if Thou canst bless what Thou didst curse, then bless this pig.'"