

The Central Advance

“Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward”

Vol. I

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The Central Advance

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Must I Go, And Empty Handed

“MUST I go and empty handed,
Thus my dear Redeemer meet?
Not one day of service give Him,
Lay no trophy at His feet?
Not at death I shrink nor falter,
For my Saviour saves me now;
But to meet Him empty-handed—
Thought of that now clouds my brow.
“O, the years in sinning wasted!
Could I but recall them now,
I would give them to my Saviour;
To His will I'd gladly bow.
“O ye saints! arouse, be earnest;
Up and work while yet 'tis day,
Ere the night of death o'ertakes you,
Strive for souls while yet you may.”

THIS beautiful poem was written by C. C. Luther. The story accompanying it is that a young man, after only a month of Christian life, and nearly all that spent upon a sick-bed, lay dying. Suddenly a look of sadness crossed his face, and to the query of a friend he exclaimed, “No, I am not afraid; Jesus saves me now; but O, must I go, and empty-handed?”

Something Every Day

HISTORY informs us that in the short reign of two years, Titus, the Roman general and emperor, won the title, “The Friend and the Delight of Mankind.” He was unwearied in his acts of benevolence and in bestowal of favors.

Having let a day slip by without some act of

kindness performed, he is said to have exclaimed reproachfully, “I have lost a day.” With this thought and doubtless this incident in mind, the poet has said:—

“Count that day lost
Whose low, descending sun
Views from thy hand
No worthy action done.

A day lived only to self is lost. Each day we should endeavor to bless and put a bit of brightness or good cheer into the life of some fellow-traveller along life's journey. Let our motto be, “Something every day.”

“On the Jump”

NEW life is beginning to come into the canvassing work. One of our state agents writes that he is so busy now that he is “on the jump” from 6 A. M. till 10 P. M. And he adds that his heart is full of praise to God. Industrious people are generally the happiest when they are the most busily engaged in their work.

We sincerely trust that we shall see a genuine revival in all branches of aggressive missionary work this year, the canvassing work, tract work, and all, and that the truth will go as it has never gone before.

Blow a Charge!

ONCE in a war between England and Germany, England's men were being mown down by the enemy, and the captain said to the bugle boy, “Blow a retreat!” The boy said, “I don't know how to blow a retreat, but I can blow a charge.” Then said the captain, “Blow a charge!” He did so, and they gained the victory. Some of our canvassers have been mown down by the enemies of indifference, worldliness and discouragement, but we must now blow a charge. God forbid that we should ever blow a retreat.

"They All with One Consent Began to Make Excuse"

AS PEOPLE excuse themselves from giving their hearts to God, so in like manner many who profess to love Him excuse themselves from laboring with Him to save souls. Some excuse themselves from labor because they see something in the way. "The slothful man saith, There is a lion in the way; a lion is in the streets." Like Christian in Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress," we need to surmount all difficulties, and pass the lions; for when we reach them we will find them chained. In order to be successful in working for Christ we will have to overcome all obstacles, and not allow obstacles to overcome us.

Some reason that they will do something sometime in the future in the work of soul-saving; but does not the Lord say, "Now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation"? And He plainly tells us not to put off the day of labor. "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." John 4:25. Souls are going down to ruin all around us on account of our spiritual indolence and indecision. We reason that we will go to work sometime; but when the Lord says, "Now is the accepted time" and "Look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest," why not take Him at His word, and now gather fruit unto life eternal?

Others reason that they have but one talent, and therefore they are satisfied to bury their talent in the earth. But why do so? Why not with that one talent work for God? Would it not be better to use the one talent in serving God rather than mammon? If we continue to serve the world, in the reckoning day the Lord will say unto us, "Thou wicked and slothful servant." Matt. 25: 24-30. Someone may say, "I am too weak. I cannot do anything for the Master." But suppose you are weak, Jesus is anxious to help you, and He says, "My grace is sufficient for you." Through Him your strength will be made perfect in weakness. 2 Cor. 12:9.

Others excuse themselves by saying, "I would take hold of the work if I only knew that I could be successful." You can do all things through Christ strengthening you. Phil. 4:13. The Lord says, "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand; for

thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both alike shall be good." Eccl. 11: 6.

As servants of the Lord we should not excuse ourselves from labor. God has called us to service, and only those who work faithfully will receive the "well and faithfully done" at the coming of the Master. As a people, we need a baptism for service. In fact, this is one of our greatest needs. We need a definite, soul-saving conversion.

E. T. RUSSELL.

Is the Master Calling You?

ANOTHER holiday season is past, and a new year has come to us. What record shall be made in the books of heaven of your work and mine during 1903? In view of the nearness of Christ's coming and of the great, sinful world, lying about us, in view of the ignorance of precious truth on the part of many even who profess Christ, and of the impending judgment, shall we not arise and be about our "Father's business"? Has not the Spirit been saying to you, "My brother, my sister, will you not go and do this or that thing for me"?

Many opportunities are open before us to work for the Master. Shall we not improve them? The new tracts prepared by the General Conference should be scattered like the leaves of autumn. This is one kind of work for the Master in which many can engage and do something for Him.

Then there are our pioneer periodicals, the *Signs*, the *Sentinel*, the *Good Health*, the *Pacific Health Journal*, the *Advocate*, and the *Life Boat*. One or the other of these is adapted to all classes,—laboring men, business men, professional men. Every church ought to have a club of one or more of these papers to circulate among their friends and neighbors, and those who are leaders of thought and molders of public opinion.

There is another work also which some one ought to take up in every church,—that is the securing of subscriptions from all our people for the *Review*. Every Seventh-day Adventist family should have this paper regularly. Where individuals are too poor to pay for it, a fund should be raised to pay for the paper for such.

The circulation of our larger publications by our regular canvassers is another important work, and hundreds of new canvassers should be enlisted in this work. A recent communication from Sister White says: "The canvassing

work is to be revived" and "carried forward with increasing success." Thank the Lord for these encouraging words. In the same communication are these words also: "Let no one think that he is at liberty to fold his hands and do nothing. That any one can be saved in indolence and inactivity is an utter impossibility." Should not these words stir our hearts and cause us to take up work of some kind for the Master?

To-day the Master is calling to us and asking, "Who will go and carry My message of love and salvation to a dying world?" Who of those who are yet doing nothing will respond to His call, and enlist in the great army of faithful workers? Those who do this will find that the "love of Christ will touch and transform them, making them willing for His sake to do and dare."

S. N. CURTIS.

Let us Complete the Work

In this time of remarkable developments, the world is being taught one important lesson. That lesson is the fact that success in any undertaking follows persevering effort.

The marvels of electricity, and lastly that of wireless telegraphy, are the crowning acts in the field of scientific research. We stand dumb before any proposed new plan of invention to-day, admitting that perhaps it can be done, whereas a few years ago we would have dismissed it at once with, Impossible!

How has this all come about? You answer, "the Lord is preparing means by which to speedily carry His last message of truth to the earth before His second advent." That is true; yet Mr. Edison, the great electrician, when working upon new inventions, it is said, will not leave his shop for bed or meals for days and nights together, so intense and persistent are his labors.

Lastly, Mr. Marconi, in perfecting the wireless telegraphic system, like Cyrus Field in his plan to lay the Atlantic cable, and Columbus in his efforts of discovery, pressed on in the face of unbelief and laughter, persevering until the work was accomplished.

We now stand with these and numberless other examples of the results of persevering effort before our eyes. We see the signs fulfilling that declare our Saviour at hand, even at the door. The earth reels under the curse, and heaves great throes of earthquake shocks, volcanic eruptions, and tidal waves. Famine, pes-

tilence, and labor troubles abound: wars and rumors of wars resound throughout the world, all telling us that what is done to carry the message to the world must be done quickly. The Lord even commissions the angels to hold the winds of war until His message is carried to all nations.

And while the angels hold the winds, what does the Lord say to us?—"Go out quickly," not with a spasmodic winter campaign, or with a few tracts only, but in every way possible to spread the message; with papers and with large books, with small books, with Bible studies and with the ministry of the word, and ministry for the poor and needy, until the Master comes.

But in the haste in which we are commissioned, let us not forget that when an important enterprise like the selling of "Object Lessons" for a definite purpose is entered upon, we should not leave it half finished to run after another line of work. God is a God of order. He ever commends perseverance, and rewards it with success. Let me make this plea, that along with our other work in this Union Conference, we arise and complete this "Object Lessons" work before General Conference is over, and then enter upon other plans.

R. C. PORTER.

Let Us Sound the Warning

It is now time for this people to arise and give warning of the coming King. It is the duty of every Seventh-day Adventist to warn every one within his reach, of the doom that hangs over the world. I believe we need a thorough awakening along the line of tract work. Every one can work in this line as the expenses are light and the work easy. Three of the new tracts for the tract campaign are now ready. These are all one-cent tracts, and are put up in packages of twenty-five each. They can be procured from the Missouri, Nebraska, and, we believe, all our Tract Societies at a discount of forty per cent. Each society, each church, and each individual should take hold of this immediately, beginning with number one and following with the other numbers, until every family in your respective neighborhoods has been supplied. We should not stop there either, but send them by mail to as many others as possible. This line of work will not only cheer and give courage to our own souls, but will also cheer us in the day of judgment; for then it can be said

of us, "He saw the sword coming, and gave them warning." Do not delay to order a good supply immediatly. Remember the Saviour's warning, "Go out quickly." Let us be in a hurry to get the truth before the people.

J. M. REES.

One Way to Sell Books

ABOUT four weeks ago we in the Book and Periodical Department of the Pacific Press Publishing Company made up our minds we would take hold of the "Object Lessons" work anew. As our work was very heavy, and opportunities of going out very few, we cast about for other means of accomplishing this than by going from house to house. We concluded we would try the correspondence plan. We therefore wrote the following letter to the Governor-Elect of California:—

Hon. George C. Pardee,
Oakland, Cal.

Dear Sir:—

From the enclosed leaflet entitled "To the Friends of Christian Education," you will notice that the Pacific Press Publishing Company is printing 150,000 copies of the accompanying book, entitled "Christ's Object Lessons," free of cost, and that it is doing so to assist in establishing on a better basis, industrial and religious training schools. The proceeds of 24,000 copies are set apart for the endowment of the College at Healdsburg, this state.

The plan is for those interested to sell the book and give the entire proceeds to this school. About half of this number has been sold, and the remainder is being shipped out as rapidly as we can manufacture them. It is not only a book of literary merit and of general interest, as indicated by the enclosed testimonials, but it is one of the finest productions of the Company from a mechanical standpoint.

Desiring to acquaint you with this movement, and yet take up as little of your time as possible, we take this method of bringing it to your attention.

If you wish to keep the volume the price is \$1.25, which amount will go, as stated, direct to the Healdsburg College.

Yours very truly,
Manager Book Department.

As this was our first effort, we made this letter a partnership affair: one person dictated it, another wrote it, another wrapped the book and addressed it, and still another delivered the package. Two or three days afterwards the \$1.25 came in. Letters were then sent to the President and Vice-President of the First National Bank, the General Agent of the Southern Pacific Station, the Passenger Agent of the Union Pacific Railroad, one of our prominent real estate agents, and others.

In one case the man addressed came right up to the office himself, and said that while he had already purchased one of the books, he had enjoyed it so much that he wanted another one for a friend who lived in a distant part of the state. A day or so after, we received a letter from the President of the bank, enclosing \$2.50 for himself and the Vice-President. Other letters were received within a very short time, in every instance accompanied by the price of the book.

In the meantime, another of our workers who had been delivering the *Signs of the Times* to readers whom he had secured two years previous, took copies of the book to them. As a result he sold to each one. One of these readers, who is a class reader in his church, volunteered to take the book to church with him to recommend it.

Another copy of the book was sent to a traveling man who is in the East. After some delay a letter came from him containing \$1.25 for the book, thanking us most heartily for remembering him, stating that he had been taken sick on his way home, and had been confined to a hospital.

From these and many other experiences which we might relate, we are convinced that the Lord's "biddings are enablings."

H. H. HALL.

The General Conference Daily Bulletin

ARRANGEMENTS have been made to issue a *Daily Bulletin* during the thirty-fifth session of the General Conference, to be held in Oakland, Cal., March 27 to April 13, 1908. A larger staff of editors and assistants will be engaged in the preparation of the paper than heretofore, by which means we hope to make it even better than it has ever been in the past. It will contain complete statistical and general reports from our various conferences and mission fields, information regarding organizations and institutions, as well as full stenographic reports of all conference proceedings and of the Bible studies. The *Bulletin* should be carefully studied by all our people who desire full information with reference to our work in all parts of the world, as brought out in the conference. The subscription price is fifty cents for the session. All orders should be sent to the Pacific Press Publishing Co., Oakland Cal., and at an early date, to insure the receipt of every number from the first. Orders may also be sent through any state tract society.

A. G. DANIELLS.

From the Field

Alma, Nebraska

WE spent the week of prayer with the churches at Ragan and Alma. We held two meetings each day at Ragan, and closed with a quarterly meeting. The last Sabbath at Alma we had a quarterly meeting. One sister united with the church on profession of faith, and two by letter.

There are six from this church in our schools or sanitariums, preparing for the work. The Lord surely has blessed the Alma church.

Sunday and Monday, December 28 and 29, we visited Beaver City. Every one who took their stand with us at our tent meeting last summer was present, all stating that they were of good courage. At all these meetings one of the live questions was the sale of "Christ's Object Lessons." Since these meetings we have driven down the Republican River to Red Cloud, visiting all the scattered believers of the truth. We expect soon to begin a series of meetings in a new field.

GEO. H. AND ANNA H. SMITH.

A Colporter Wagon

A LITTLE over a year ago some of the brethren in Nebraska helped purchase a colporter wagon and harness for me to labor with. I praise the Lord for his loving-kindness to me. I used the rig in Hamilton county nearly one year.

At our last camp-meeting I was recommended to go to Alma and labor there. I have been pleased with the work since coming here. My book sales have not been large, but I have met with some individuals who were inquiring after truth and wanted more reading matter. Many times I have been asked to read and pray with the people. My talents are small, but God is great, and He supplies all my needs. I have distributed papers at nearly every house, and disposed of a good many tracts and pamphlets.

Soon after arriving at Alma I succeeded in getting a prayer meeting started. This has been a help to all the believers here. During the week of prayer we did all we could to get the church to "plant their feet on higher ground." Brother Smith was with us the last part of the week, and rendered valuable help in this work. Every week brings deeper, sweeter experience in working for the Lord. I ask an interest in the prayers of the lovers of truth.

C. S. WILBER.

Another Worker from Nebraska

ANOTHER of our Nebraska workers, Eld. G. M. Brown, has been called by the Foreign Mission Board to labor in another field. He goes to take charge of the work in Mexico. He has been with us over three years, during which time he has been very active, especially in the educational line, as he has had charge of the church schools and Young People's Work. His vacancy in these lines will be filled by Eld. C. R. Kite.

Elder Brown's counsel was always appreciated by the Conference Committee, of which he was a member. His vacancy on the committee will be filled by Eld. J. H. Wheeler.

Elder Brown is the fourteenth laborer who has been called from the Nebraska Conference within the last two years. While it is with sadness that we part with these dear laborers, we are glad that our Conference has workers who can go out bearing the message to those who sit in darkness. We thank the Lord that we have men and women who can step in and fill the ranks when our workers are called to other fields. It gives us courage to take hold and make our home field a recruiting station from whence many more laborers may be sent.

N. P. NELSON.

Junction City, Kansas

JUNCTION CITY is a place where many of the people profess to know God, but in works deny Him. There are many here who love pleasure more than they love God. While the churches are nearly empty, the theatres, the minstrels, the operas, the balls, and the clubs have a full attendance. I have never been in a place before where these things are so prevalent as here. One reason for this, no doubt, is the many soldiers located near by. As many know, we have located near this place one of the United States' largest forts, Ft. Riley. There are from one thousand to two thousand soldiers here most of the time.

Very little had been done to spread the truth in this place until last spring, when Elder Crane came here, and later the writer. The first of August we commenced a series of tent meetings, following which we held our state meeting here. The Lord has blessed the work, so that at the present time we have a little company of Sabbath-keepers, and a Sabbath-school of about twenty members.

At present we are engaged in the tract and paper work. The people are willing to read, and some homes are now open for Bible work. We are using tracts, the *Signs of the Times*, and the *Life Boat*, quite freely. We take the *Life Boat* to the Fort Hospital, and to the soldiers at Ft. Riley. The publishers of the *Life Boat* supply the papers for the latter.

We long to see some good soldiers of Christ in this place to represent the heavenly King and His country.

A. E. JOHNSON.

Work Among the Colored People of Kansas City

THE work among the colored people here is moving along steadily. Amid trial and discouragement, we are having victories. Kansas City has a population of 40,000 colored people. There has been comparatively very little work done among them as yet.

We have two organized churches here, with a membership of sixteen and fourteen respectively. Since our separation we have gained in numbers. In Kansas City, Mo., we have a Sabbath school of thirty and a Mission Sunday school of fifty.

In our Mission Sunday-school we use our literature and teachers. It would do you good to see the interest taken in this. One thing we need is more literature in our Mission work. We use the *Little Friend*. If any can donate some in clubs we will be pleased to receive them. At present we have only one paper to every five students.

As I see the hand of God working, I feel to press forward. My desire is to see the message accomplish its work among my people.

SYDNEY SCOTT

St. Louis, Missouri

OUR work in this city is progressing nicely. I have spent two Sabbaths reviewing the arguments of a Lutheran minister who spoke against the truth. We had a large attendance on each occasion. I told the people that if they had any Lutheran Bibles to bring them along, and asked them to read the texts as loud as they could. This made a deep impression on the strangers, and the truth gained many friends.

The German people here seem anxious to attend the Sabbath meetings. Some of them come a distance of twelve miles. There are two sisters who walk eight miles to reach the street car in order to attend the Sabbath meet-

ings. Two who have accepted the truth were Roman Catholics. May God bless and prosper His work in this great city.

H. GELLERT.

Missionary

Conducted by Miss Katie Coleman

The Better Way

The world has griefs enough;
It has no need of thine,

Or mine;

So hide from human gaze

The thorn that thou must bear;

But on thy breast, where all may see,
The rose of gladness wear.

The world has tears enough,

From hearts more sad than thine,

Or mine,

Then in thy closet shut,

Let all thy tears be shed;

But to the world do thou still turn

A smiling face instead,

The world has doubts enough;

It must not hear of thine,

Or mine,

If of thyself thou hast

No tidings that will please,

The grace and goodness of our Lord;

Oh, let it hear of these!

Elizabeth Rosser.

The Tract Work

THE work to which we as Christians are called is to co-operate with Christ for the salvation of souls. We must follow His example in faithfulness by giving our attention to the little things. In this way only can we make a success of our Christian effort and influence. The distribution of our good literature, while it may appear to you to be an insignificant part of the Lord's work, is a grand and noble work which will lead many to Christ. *Do not neglect the tract work in your churches.* We can recommend no better way to carry on this work systematically than the house-to-house, or "envelope plan."

The people of to-day are reading people, and if we do not place before them something that will be uplifting and elevating, and will lead them to a higher life, the enemy of truth will place in their hands those things that will poison their minds.

Now, while we are selling "Christ's Object Lessons," is a good time to push the tract work. Take tracts with you, and leave a package in every home, even though you do not sell a book. If you are isolated and cannot engage in this work in an organized effort, keep a good supply

of tracts in your home and hand them out as opportunity affords. God wants a real missionary committee to be composed of father, mother, and the children of each family. Take a portion of the worship hour, hold a missionary council and plan how you may help your neighbors and friends to a better, happier, and holier life.

KATIE COLEMAN.

An Encouraging Letter

THE following interesting letter shows how some of our State Agents are laboring to make the canvassing work a success:—

The canvassing work never seemed so near to my heart as it does now. If I had to give up this work now it seems to me that it would break my very heart-strings. I know the Lord has called me to it, and I expect to remain in it till He comes. I feel as never before that I must be faithful, and redeem the time because the days are evil.

We are having good interest in our canvassers' institute. I think all in the class are good material. One young man is taking up "Heralds of the Morning," all the others are taking up the large books, "Home Hand Book," "Desire of Ages," "Patriarchs and Prophets," "Great Controversy," and "Daniel and the Revelation." We are pushing the books that God has said we should push. I believe when we take the books He says we should take, and work as He directs, then He becomes responsible for the results. We want to get on to right principles, and then work and trust in God, and we will succeed. We expect to send out ten good canvassers from this institute.

We now have three good canvassers in one of the largest cities in our state, besides the work I am doing there. One brother I met when I first came here was traveling for a commercial house in Chicago. I got him on to "Patriarchs and Prophets," and I am pleased with the way he is developing. He is doing good work, and says he expects to remain in the work till Jesus comes.

Many things here encourage me. I have been watching the resident canvassing work. I think it will do well in this state. I found a place where one brother had sold "Home Hand Book," "Desire of Ages," "Patriarchs and Prophets," "Coming King," and some smaller books, and I sold in the same house "Great Controversy" and "Daniel and Revelation." I shall not be satisfied until we have canvassers located in all parts of the state.

Canvassing Work in Missouri

A RECENT testimony states that the canvassing work is to be revived, and that it is to be carried forward with increasing success. This being the case, should there not be many more canvassers in the field than there are at the present time?

We also read that delay can be no longer. Is it not therefore true that those who are

halting now are losing ground?

Brethren J. H. Hill and M. V. B. Reynolds report good success in their work, and say they are of good courage. Brethren Starks and Duce have just finished a small but very successful delivery in Cass county. Others report encouragingly of their work.

I have been canvassing some for "Home Hand Book" in Bates county. I trust that 1903 will be the best year we have ever had to sell books. There is plenty of money in circulation, and thousands of people are desiring and needing our books.

F. E. FAIRCHILD,

State Missionary Agent.

Some Encouraging Reports

WE cannot always see the results of our labor for souls, and will never realize what our work has done until Jesus comes. But the Lord permits us even now, at times, to witness results of faithful service. Encouraging reports have been received from some of our faithful workers.

One young brother only fifteen years of age, who entered the canvassing work in Colorado at the close of the institute in December, writes:—

I have worked twenty-five hours and have taken forty-two orders, value \$59.70. I am enjoying many precious experiences, and expect to remain in the work till Jesus comes. One lady met me on the street and said that she had been looking for me that she might place her order for a book. Frequently I have taken two orders with one exhibition.

A brother from Kansas writes:—

Though badly crippled, and having my farm duties on hand, I have canvassed Stafford county three times during the last three or four years, and sold more books the last time than the first. As I get acquainted with the people they put confidence in me. I have sold "Bible Readings," "Prophecies of Jesus," "Daniel and the Revelation," and about \$300 worth of small books, Bibles, etc.

Last year a church of fifty-three members was raised up in this section. The minister who presented the gospel to the people said to me: "My success there was due to the work of the canvasser." Quite a number were ready to keep the Sabbath; in fact, two had begun doing so before the tent was pitched. One canvasser was sent out from this church and has been doing faithful work. Brethren, our books are to be placed in the hands of the people, and "nothing is to hinder the sale." May the Lord impress others to go and work in His vineyard.

C. W. HARDESTY.

HAPPINESS is not perfect until it is shared.

An Interesting Letter from Brother Jensen

THE brethren of Kansas will doubtless appreciate a brief report from Brother Jens Jensen, who for a number of years was a faithful canvasser of that state, but has since removed to Texas. He writes:

I am enjoying my work immensely. My delivery was excellent. I find the people here very pleasant and sociable. Here in Clifton, I have sold to all classes, preachers, merchants, bankers, and saloon keepers. We have recently organized an anti-cigarette movement. The State evangelist of the Christian church, residing here, has promised to aid us all he can. He was present at our meeting, and gave a good talk to the boys. A doctor who was present at a meeting where I spoke of our work, said: "I did not intend to come here, but I could not rest at home; I felt that it was a good cause and I must come." God is working on hearts here, and we shall be in need of help next summer.

Laborers Together

WE have many things to thank the Lord for. One thing is the excellent weather we have been enjoying, which has enabled us to labor for our neighbors by carrying to them the printed message. The Lord is blessing our efforts along this line. The more we study God's word the greater burden we will have to labor for others. Now is the time to work, while the angels are holding the four winds. We have a special message to give. Will we shrink from this responsibility? Volume VI of the "Testimonies" says: "There are souls ready to perish because of the theoretical errors which are prevailing and which are circulated to counterwork the gospel message. Who will now consecrate themselves to become laborers together with God?" In going forth to labor we have the blessed assurance that "he that planteth and he that watereth are one; and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labor."

W. F. SURBER.

How to Gain Proficiency in the Work

IN visiting some of our churches during the week of prayer, I was glad to see the earnest desire manifested on the part of most of our brethren and sisters to do something to help on the Third Angel's Message. Now this desire is good, but to work is better.

The question came to me: Is there any way to help those who are ready to work, to do more active service for those living in their communities? A thorough organization of our young

people, also the older ones, with an active leader, would be effective for good.

Our proficiency is increased by experience gained while at work. I was very much impressed by the following statement in one of Sister White's articles in the week of prayer readings: "Skill in this work, as in every other, is gained in the work itself."

It is by training in the common duties of life and in ministry to the afflicted and suffering that efficiency is attained. Without this the most sincere purposes and efforts are often useless and even harmful. It is in the water not on the land, that men learn to swim. O. E. JONES.

Health Department

Conducted by Mrs. Lura B. George, M. D.

"Prosper and be in Health"

Effect of Poisonous Drugs

MULTITUDES remain in inexcusable ignorance in regard to the laws of their being. They are wondering why our race is so feeble, and why so many die prematurely. Is there not a cause? Physicians who profess to understand the human organism, prescribe for their patients, and even for their own dear children and their companions, slow poisons to break up disease, or to cure slight indisposition. Surely they cannot realize the evils of these things, or they could not do thus. The effects of the poison may not be immediately perceived, but it is doing its work surely in the system, undermining the constitution, and crippling nature in her efforts.

Every poisonous preparation in the vegetable and animal kingdoms, taken into the system, will leave its wretched influence, affecting the liver and lungs, and deranging the system generally.

Nux vomica, or strychnine, and opium have killed their millions, and have left thousands upon the earth to linger out a wretched suffering existence, a burden to themselves and those around them.

Mercury, calomel, quinine, have brought their amount of wretchedness, which the day of God alone will reveal. Preparations of mercury and calomel taken into the system ever retain their poisonous strength as long as there is a particle of it left in the system. These poisonous preparations have destroyed their millions, and

left sufferers upon the earth to linger out a miserable existence. All are better off without these dangerous mixtures.

The endless variety of medicines in the market, the numerous advertisements of new drugs and mixtures, all of which, as they say, do wonderful cures, kill *hundreds* where they benefit *one*. Those who are sick are not patient. They will take the various medicines, some of which are very powerful, although they know nothing of the nature of the mixtures. All the medicines of this kind they take only make their recovery more hopeless.

If invalids would dispense with all poisonous medicines, and improve their habits of eating, and exercise as much as possible in the open air, their names would soon be dropped from the invalid list.

When poisonous drugs are introduced into the system, for a time they seem to have a beneficial effect. A change may take place, but the disease is not cured. It will manifest itself in some other form. The disease which the drug was given to cure may disappear, but only to reappear in a new form, such as skin diseases, ulcers, painful diseased joints, and sometimes in a more dangerous and deadly form.

MRS. E. G. WHITE.

Call in the Maker

I DON'T want a physician who sees no God in human anatomy to doctor my broken bones. If God made us, and the Bible is true, then it is not strange that prayer not only traverses natural cause, but introduces a new cause. When God made natural law, He did not make it so that He could not work in harmony with it or even suspend it. If God made our bodies, when they are broken, He is the one to mend them; and it is reasonable that we should call Him in to do it. If my furnace in the cellar breaks down, there is no one so competent to repair it as the manufacturer. If my watch stops, there is no one so competent to set it going as the one who made it. If the body is disordered, call in the Maker of it.—*Talmage*.

Graduating Exercises

THE graduating exercises of the Nebraska Sanitarium Training School for Nurses were held in Union College Chapel, Saturday evening, January 31. Appropriate music was rendered by a quartet and violinist. The address

given by Eld. W. A. Colcord was full of earnest words of encouragement and counsel. Those enlisted in the medical missionary work were especially urged to keep near to God and His people, to hold up truth in all places and under all circumstances. The diplomas were presented by Dr. W. A. George.

We earnestly pray that the blessing of God may follow these young people, and that in their future years of service there may indeed be "No steps backward."

The class was unusually small on account of some of the members having fallen out by the way, or, having spent more than the usual time in outside nursing, are waiting to finish their class work.

At present, only one class a year is admitted to the Training School; this will make the classes in the future much larger. The class which began the first of last October numbers twenty-four.

Healthy, strong, earnest, consecrated young men and women are needed everywhere as trained missionary nurses, and we trust that a goodly number from all parts of the Central Union Conference will be ready to join us in this work. The new class begins next fall. No spring class will be formed this year.

Educational

Conducted by L. H. Hoopes

Why Not Work for the Teachers?

MILLIONS of pages of literature dealing with health principles, with religious liberty, and with our doctrinal points, have been scattered but almost nothing has been done to give the world the great principles of Christian education. They recognize the need for something of this kind, and the presidents of our large universities are seeking for light where there is none. God has graciously shown us the light on Christian education that we might give it to the world. Comparatively nothing has been done by us in this line in the past. The educational department of the General Conference is planning to issue some special numbers of the "Advocate of Christian Education," especially fitted for distribution among the public school teachers of America. The March number is to be the first of these, and will contain truth that should go into the hands of every public school teacher.

Every church and Sabbath-school should see that teachers in its county receive this special number. The journal will be mailed from the *Advocate* office at four cents per copy. Get the names and addresses from your superintendent, and send them to the Advocate Publishing Co., Berrien Spring, Mich., together with sufficient money to pay for the magazines you order sent, and the matter will be attended to. We must move at once or it will be too late. I trust that our people, and especially our church school teachers will sense the importance of this matter. You can engage in no better missionary work.

FLOYD BRALLIAR,
Educational Secretary.

Union College Items

THE students of Union College are making an effort just now to raise one hundred dollars for the education of a worker in Argentina.

Quite a number of the German students of the College are supplying the German portions of the city of Lincoln, Neb., with tracts, using the envelope plan.

Miss Alice Wammack lately arrived at Union College from Logan, Phillips Co., Kansas. There is now an enrollment of forty-eight students from Kansas.

Mr. Wm. Eden, of Talmage, Neb., visited Union College a few days since. He has four children in attendance here, and is much pleased with the work being done in the school.



Notices



Canvassers' Institute

THERE will be an institute of two weeks duration for the Nebraska canvassers at the close of the special course at Union College. It is very much desired that all the Nebraska canvassers shall attend this institute.

Elder R. F. Andrews will give Bible instruction, and Brethren Hardesty and Surber will give the studies in the different books. Let us thank the Lord and the dear canvassers for what was accomplished in the book work during the past year, but as we are nearing the end of time we ought to put forth more strenuous efforts to do more and better work than ever before.

This is an age when a great deal of reading is done, so it is very important that we get the

right kind of books before the people, that they may have a chance to learn the truths which have become so precious to us.

The institute will commence February 19th and close March 5th. The canvassers will receive two dollars a week during this time with which to pay for their board. The conference will also bear the expenses of transportation.

If there are any of our good old brethren who would like to take up the colporteur work, we would be pleased to see them at the institute.

N. P. NELSON.

The Names of Our Young People

WE have an army of youth, and we want to see their energies turned into the cause of God. The Central Union Conference desires to get in touch with all the young people of this district. To do this we have sent out blanks to all the Sabbath-school superintendents, or those who were superintendents last quarter. Let each one see that this blank is properly filled out and returned as soon as possible. Let us pray that we all may have a part in the "forward movement" of the Third Angel's Message.

THE CENTRAL UNION CONFERENCE.

Notice, Topeka (Kansas) Church

At a meeting of the officers of the Topeka church the following resolution was passed:—

Whereas, There are a number of the Seventh-day Adventists church of Topeka, Kansas, from whom no report has been received for some time, therefore,—

Resolved, That earnest effort be put forth to learn their present condition, and after six months from January 5, 1903, if not heard from, they be considered no longer members in good standing.

MRS. L. WINSTON, *Clerk.*

WANTED. Two men for market garden work. Will give board and \$25 per month, with liberal increase to competent men.

S. F. McCULLY.

Sheridan, Wyo.

Obituaries

CLARK.—Died at the home of her son in Beatrice Neb., Jan. 14, 1903, Mary Clark, aged 77 years and six months. Deceased was born in England, July, 1826, and came to this country when quite young. She accepted present truth about twelve years ago, and died in the blessed hope of our soon coming Saviour. Two sons and two daughters and a large circle of friends are left to mourn, but not without hope. Brief services were conducted by Rev. Sharp of the United Brethren Church, also at the home of her daughter in Geneva, Neb., the place of interment.

Mrs. F. B. Fisher.

BURDICK.—Died Jan. 25, at North Loup, Neb., Amos R. Burdick, aged 75 years, 8 months, and 28 days. Brother Burdick was born at Scott, N. Y., April 27, 1827. He came to Nebraska in 1872, taking up a homestead

near North Loup. For the last fifteen years he has made his home in California. He and his companion were visiting their daughter, Mrs. A. M. Stewart, when he died. He leaves a companion, four sons, and two daughters to mourn their loss. Funeral services were conducted by the writer in the Seventh-day Baptist church, our own being too small to accommodate the people. The church was well filled with attentive listeners, and favorable impressions, we believe, were made. J. S. HART.

UNEMPLOYED MEN AND WOMEN

WE are prepared to offer agents for our Magic Pocket Vaporizers liberal terms. The season for colds and catarrh is here. Write for particulars to the Modern Medicine Co., 242 Champion St., Battle Creek, Mich., naming your choice of territory.

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News and Notes

KINDNESS has converted more sinners than zeal, eloquence, or learning.

BRO. C. E. PECKOVER, of Kansas, is now in College View, and expects to remain during the Special Bible Course.

A. S. BRINGLE is holding a series of meetings south of Great Bend, Kansas, and reports a splendid interest.

A FROWARD will indulged begets lust; lust served becomes a habit, and a habit not resisted becomes a necessity.

DR. B. E. FULLMER, who has been acting as state superintendent of church schools in Iowa, has gone to Berrien Springs, Mich., as Bible teacher in the school there, for the present.

ELD. J. H. WHEELER is spending a few weeks at Cozad, Neb., binding off the work there. On Jan. 24 a Sabbath-school was organized, and two persons took their stand to obey the Lord.

GOOD reports have been received from Lead, S. D., where Bro. L. E. Johnson and Brother Patterson are laboring. Some have begun to observe the Sabbath and keep all the commandments. The interest is still good.

BRO. J. W. BEAMS, who has been laboring at Ionia, Wyoming, writes, stating that the Lord has been blessing the work there in a marked manner. Many are rejoicing in the Saviour's love who recently were skeptical. Over twenty have taken their stand for the truth, and others are deeply interested.

MISSSES Smith and Burkhardt, of Chicago, visited Union College last week in the interest of the *Life Boat* work. They are making a tour through the western states in the interest of this work, and as the result of two weeks' work they have, from their own personal efforts, realized a profit of over \$150.

A CARD received from Brother and Sister I. G. Knight says: "We are getting ready to go to Central America. We expect to visit our daughter who resides in Trego county, Kansas, and other relatives in the state. We will then go to Kansas City, Missouri, to visit Mrs. Knight's youngest sister, and will start from Kansas City about February 15 for our new field of labor."

BRO. WM. STONE, of Galena, Kansas, has moved to College View. He comes to attend the special course.

ONE brother, a farmer, in Kansas, has canvassed one county in the state three times. He reports more books sold the last time than the first.

SOME of the employees of the Pacific Press have discovered a new way for busy people to sell books. See an account of it on another page.

ELD. R. W. PARMELE and wife have recently gone to Altoona, Kansas, to follow up the interest there since the removal of Eld. Knight to Central America.

ELDER McREYNOLDS expresses a desire to see a general move in the tract work all over the land. He says "it would start a blaze that would bring something to a head."

DOCTOR EDWARDS and wife, of Berrien Springs, Mich., are at present connected with Union College in the interest of the Medical Missionary work. From here they expect to go to other states in the Central Union Conference giving instruction to our people. They will doubtless remain in this territory until the time of the next General Conference.

AT its recent session, the Colorado Conference passed a recommendation "that the entire membership of the conference, from the ministry to the laity, take hold of the work of selling 'Christ's Object Lessons,' and that the months between January first and May first be set aside to wage a campaign on this, and that during this time the ministering brethren, in connection with the churches, devote as much of their time as possible to the work." Colorado evidently is anxious to sing the "jubilee song of freedom."

MISS MARY F. BEATTY, who has been connected with the work of the Nebraska Tract Society office for fourteen years, twelve years of which she has acted as Secretary and Treasurer of the Society, left for California, Feb. 3, where she expects to visit friends and relatives. She plans to be gone until after General Conference. We trust that she will be greatly refreshed by this much needed rest. Bro. L. E. Koon will assist in the work in the office during her absence. All orders for supplies from all within the Nebraska Conference should be addressed to the Nebraska Tract Society.