

The Church Officers' Gazette

VOL. V

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NO. 2

Church Officers' General Instruction Department

Calendar

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Lessons for the Use of Church Elders

Lesson 53

Announcements.

Hymn.

Prayer.

Hymn.

Lesson: The Work of the Holy Spirit.

Testimony Service.

The Work of the Holy Spirit

1. Why was it necessary for Christ to go away? John 16: 7.
2. For what purpose was the Comforter to come? Verse 8.
3. Into what would he guide the disciples? John 16: 13.
4. How long is the Holy Spirit to abide with us? John 14: 16.
5. What is another phase of his work? Verse 26.
6. Where is he to dwell? Verse 17.
7. How has God revealed the hidden things? 1 Cor. 2: 10.
8. By whom were the prophecies given? 2 Peter 1: 21.
9. How willing is God to give us the Holy Spirit? Luke 11: 13.
10. What is the fruit of the Spirit? Gal. 5: 22, 23.
11. By whom is the love of God shed abroad in the heart? Rom. 5: 5.
12. Of what does the kingdom of God consist? Rom. 14: 17.

Lesson 54

Announcements.

Hymn.

Prayer.

Hymn.

Lesson: The Day of the Lord.

The Day of the Lord

1. Is there a period called "the time of the end"? Dan. 11: 35, 40; 12: 9.
2. By what other term is this time known? Isa. 13: 6.
3. What signs show us when we are in the "day of the Lord"? Isa. 13: 9, 10.
4. What will characterize that period? Joel 2: 11; Zeph. 1: 14-18.
5. What calamities will take place in various places? Joel 1: 4, 6, 7, 10-12, 17-20.
6. What is another part of last-time evils? Joel 3: 9-11.
7. Will wealth avail in those days? Eze. 7: 19; Rev. 6: 15-17.
8. Upon whom will the day of the Lord bear heavily? Isa. 2: 12.
9. How will the day of the Lord come to the world? 2 Peter 3: 10.
10. Is there any need for this ignorance concerning it? 1 Thess. 5: 1-6.

11. In this time of trouble, what are God's people urged to do? Zeph. 2: 3.

12. How will the Lord recompense people in that day? Obadiah 15.

13. What attitude will God's people take? Ps. 110: 3.

14. What will they be willing to do? Isa. 58: 6, 7; Matt. 25: 35-40; Mark 16: 15.

15. What will the Lord say of such people when he makes the final settlement? Mal. 3: 16-18.

Letters that Should Have Earnest, Careful Attention

It becomes absolutely necessary in the conducting of our work, which has developed to such large proportions, to rely to a considerable extent upon correspondence. It is recognized of course that personal visits and a personal touch always prove more effective than do letters in laying plans and in accomplishing things; but the various interests of the work cannot be handled in that way. The many things that we are trying to do have necessitated the establishment of various departments, and the many lines of work carried forward under the direction of these departments have increased the amount of correspondence necessary. This has developed, on the part of some of our church officers, a tendency to slight and ignore letters bearing the postmark of the conference office or of some departmental secretary. It is true there are letters mailed out in a general way that do not call for any special action on the part of those receiving them, more than that they should be carefully read that it may be known whether they should receive definite attention or not.

On more than one occasion I have known a church officer to receive an important letter outlining some special campaign or presenting some urgent problem requiring immediate attention, who, on seeing that it was a letter from the conference office, laid it aside without opening it until later, when it was found, on inquiry, that the matter had not been presented to the church nor had it received any attention. Those having the work in charge in our conference offices everywhere are making it a study to avoid making letters too numerous and too lengthy. Special care is taken to state the point briefly and clearly, for it is realized that a great many letters pour in to those carrying responsibilities in our local churches. It will become clear to any one who gives this question a little study, that if the conference letters are neglected the work is affected seriously. Although the church is small and it is thought that the response would be on the part of only a few, and feeble at that, yet those few should be given an opportunity to respond. The purpose for which special letters are sent out should be made known to every church and company without any such hindrance.

As a people we are earnestly endeavoring, in the best way we know how, to carry forward and finish the great work committed to us. Many of us look about for big things to do, and express a desire to be instrumental in accomplishing some real good in connection with the cause; yet many who are holding positions in our churches overlook the fact that the harmonious and united response of our people to the various interests for which we are working, depends very largely upon the earnest and faithful attention that is given to every letter received from any department of the work. In one conference where a call had been sent out in behalf of a certain fund which was generally approved, it was found that fully fifty per cent of the churches had not responded to the call simply because, through neglect, the letter presenting the matter was not read to the church. Would it not be well for church elders to take up this matter in some of the church

officers' meetings, and earnestly study and carefully discuss this question of faithfully and carefully giving attention to all correspondence from our conference office? I venture to say that if, in every case, without a single exception, all letters received proper attention and were carefully and thoroughly presented, when necessary, before the church, we should see in our work everywhere a very decided improvement. Even a circular letter deserves careful attention. I would urge that church officers welcome these letters, and make such use of them as is intended for the forwarding of the work.

E. K. SLADE.

Fuel for a Missionary Meeting

CHURCH officers should give much study to the missionary meetings, in order to make them both interesting and instructive. Care should be exercised against getting into a rut. The deeper a rut becomes, the narrower it is.

Of course the most helpful thing for a missionary meeting is for all the members of the church to be actively at work. Nothing will inspire a meeting more than to relate some experiences from those who have been campaigning in the advance trenches of missionary work, either at home or abroad.

The following short excerpts from men in whose heart the fire of missionary zeal has burned, will be helpful for consideration in some meeting. They need not all be studied in the same meeting.

"Let us advance upon our knees."—*Joseph Hardy Neesima.*

"We are playing at missions."—*Alexander Duff.*

"The word 'discouragement' is not found in the dictionary of the kingdom of heaven. Never let yourself use the word if you have God's work to do."—*Melinda Rankin.*

"That land is henceforth my country which most needs the gospel."—*Count Zinzendorf.*

"I cannot, I dare not, go up to judgment till I have done the utmost God enables me to do to diffuse his glory through the world."—*Dr. Asahel Grant, Persia.*

"I will go down, but remember that you must hold the ropes."—*William Carey.*

"It is my deep conviction, and I say it again and again, that if the church of Christ were what she ought to be, twenty years would not pass away till the story of the cross would be uttered in the ears of every living man."—*Simeon H. Calhoun.*

"If I thought anything could prevent my dying for China, the thought would crush me."—*Rev. Samuel Dyer.*

"Oh, let me pray once more for Fiji."—*John Hunt.*

"My Jesus, my King, my Life, My All, I again dedicate myself to thee."—*David Livingstone.*

"If this is the last chapter of earthly history, then the next will be the first page of the heavenly."—*Bishop Hannington.*

"While vast continents are shrouded in almost utter darkness and hundreds of millions suffer the horrors of heathenism or of Islam, the burden of proof lies upon you to show that the circumstances in which God has placed you were meant by him to keep you out of the foreign mission field."—*Ion Keith-Falconer.*

"Facts are the fingers of God. To know the facts of modern missions is the necessary condition of intelligent interest."—*A. T. Pierson.*

"Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God."—*William Carey.*

"If I had a thousand lives to live, Africa should have them all."—*Bishop Mackenzie.*

"Oh rock, rock, when wilt thou open to my Saviour?"—*Francis Xavier.*

"Give until you feel it, and then give until you don't feel it."—*Mary Lyon.*

"A true missionary never knows defeat."—*Rev. A. A. Fulton.*

"A man is good for nothing but to be used up."—*Dr. Arthur Mitchell.*

"The prospect is as bright as the promises of God."—*Adoniram Judson.*

"God buries his workmen, but he carries on his work."—*John Wesley.*

"Let us write on the very doorposts of our churches and homes, and on our gates, this grand motto, 'The Whole World to be Evangelized in the Present Generation.' It can be done, it ought to be done, it must be done."—*A. T. Pierson.*

"Woe is unto me if I preach not the gospel."—*The Apostle Paul.*

"The medical missionary is a missionary and a half."—*Robert Moffat.*

"My parish is the whole world."—*Count Zinzendorf.*

"If you want to serve your race, go where no one else will go, and do what no one else will do."—*Mary Lyon.*

The following facts will be appropriate to consider in some missionary meeting when work in the regions beyond is the topic under consideration:

"There are one thousand million heathen in the world."

"There is one doctor to every five hundred eighty-five people in the United States."

"Forty million heathen die every year."

"They are dying at the rate of 100,000 a day."

"Every tick of the watch sounds the death knell of a heathen soul."

"Every breath we draw, four souls perish never having heard of Christ."

"We spend annually \$1,200,000,000 for liquor and \$600,000,000 for tobacco."

"South America has been called the Neglected Continent, because the missionary force is so very small."

"Over eighteen hundred years have passed since our Master's command, 'Go ye' was written, and millions have not heard the good news yet."

The following texts contain some pointed instruction on the duty of Christians along missionary lines, and may be read before the meeting closes:

1. "Where hast thou gleaned today?" Ruth 2:19. A searching question this.

2. "Why stand ye here all the day idle?" Matt. 20:6. Another searching question.

3. "Such as I have give I thee." Acts 3:6.

4. "Give ye them to eat." Matt. 14:16. Do not send for some one to come and do the work God has given you to do. Do your own work.

In this time of great stress in the world, we should have missionary meetings intensely interesting.

G. B. THOMPSON.

"Our Day in the Light of Prophecy"

How many times we have wished we had a book, written in an interesting manner and well illustrated, that would give our friends a good knowledge of the message. We have books on parts of it, on particular doctrines, on the prophecies, but we have not had a book that gave the whole message in an attractive form.

We cannot say that any longer, for the new book by W. A. Spicer, "Our Day in the Light of Prophecy," is just what we have wanted. It has thirty-four chapters, each on a phase of the message, sixty-one full-page illustrations, besides a number of smaller ones, and contains 330 pages. The prices are: Cloth, \$2; half-leather, \$3; leather, \$4. It is just the book to give to relatives and friends, and to place in the hands of our neighbors. It should be added to every church library. Each church missionary secretary should order a copy to show to the members, for many will order it as soon as they see it.

"EACH one professing the name of Christ is to be an interested worker ready to defend the principles of righteousness."

Home Missionary Department

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY DAY PROGRAM

Fourth Sabbath in February, 1918

Suggestive Program

1. Opening Song: "Christ in Song," No. 335.
2. Prayer.
3. Second Hymn: "Christ in Song," No. 789.
4. Reading of article entitled, "What Has the Future in Store?"
5. Short prayer for God's continued protection over his people, and for more zeal and a deeper consecration among us.
6. Offering for Religious Liberty work.
7. Renewal and solicitation for *Liberty* magazine subscriptions.
8. Closing Song: "Christ in Song," No. 788.

Instruction to Leaders

Do not forget to call the attention of our people to the importance of the Religious Liberty Day Offering. Please make this announcement on the Sabbath before the offering is to be taken up, so that they may come prepared not only to give a liberal offering, but to renew their subscriptions to the *Liberty* magazine. This will be an opportune occasion to get our people to take a club of fifty copies to distribute among the town or city officials, judges, lawyers, editors, and reading-rooms of libraries. A club of fifty copies sent to the church would cost the church only \$8 for the entire year. In this way the church member could get his own subscription supplied to him at 4 cents a copy, or 16 cents for the entire year. If any copies are left over, the people could sell them or distribute them among prominent officials. This is an easy way to secure the *Liberty* magazine, and this opportunity should be presented to the church; otherwise a single subscription will cost 35 cents.

In clubs, the price of *Liberty* is 25 cents per yearly subscription. A bundle of fifty copies, sent to one address, for the church, can be obtained for \$2, or 4 cents a copy. Present this matter at the close of the reading which follows. Whatever impressive and spiritual remarks you can add to the program that will aid in the interest and importance of this branch of the work, will be greatly appreciated by the Religious Liberty Department.

The entire Religious Liberty Offering of the day is to be sent to your local conference treasurer, for the Religious Liberty work in your conference. Whatever is raised for a church club, of course, is retained by the church itself. May God bless you as a leader of his people.

What Has the Future in Store?

God, in his infinite love and mercy, has safely brought us through another year of trouble and turmoil which at times seemed as if it would engulf us in utter destruction. But God has heard the prayers of his people, and honored the uncompromising faith and trust of those who have loyally stood the severest tests that can possibly come into any man's life.

Some of our boys were tested in their loyalty and obedience to the fourth commandment, at the point of the bayonet and the crack of the rifle, but they endured the test without flinching; and like the three worthy Hebrews who went through the fiery furnace, they have been promoted to positions of greater honor. Some who made compromises in the very beginning are not faring nearly so well as those who, under test, were strictly loyal to their convictions.

The Government does not have much mercy for any one who is not true to his convictions. In the first place, the Government wants to know whether a man has convictions, or whether he is a mere sham. Each individual has to stand his own test. He cannot depend upon some one else. He has to stand alone for God, and truth, and conscience. If he has satisfied the Government that he has sincere convictions of his own, which are dearer to him than life itself, he has won his battle, and goes free. But the individual who equivocates, wavers, yields, and compromises, here a little and there a little, soon finds that he is in a hopeless entanglement from which he cannot extricate himself.

This has been the experience of our boys in the cantonments thus far in the proceedings of the war. What the future has in store for our boys, and for us as a people, depends principally upon our devotion, faith, loyalty, and consecration to God. The future certainly looks forbidding at present. We can see only serious trouble awaiting us as men reach their wit's end and get into desperate straits in international affairs.

The servant of the Lord tells us that as we see trouble coming, we should make mighty intercession before God for help. "It is our duty to do all in our power to avert the threatened danger. We should endeavor to disarm prejudice by placing ourselves in a proper light before the people. We should bring before them the real question at issue, thus interposing the most effectual protest against measures to restrict liberty of conscience. We should search the Scriptures, and be able to give the reason for our faith."—"*Testimonies for the Church*," Vol. V, p. 452.

Now, as never before, we ought to work, watch, and pray that the angels may hold the four winds from their utter loosening in the four corners of the earth, until we have finished the work of God in the earth. God has stayed the threatening cloud of evil from spreading over the earth. He has confined it to a small circle on the soil of Europe. This certainly is a providential staying of the winds from blowing in the four corners of the earth. But how much longer can we expect God to hold the winds in answer to our prayers, if we do not embrace our opportunities to finish the work?

God has granted us many favors during the past year. He has enabled us to stay action on the Sunday bills which were pending before the Sixty-fourth Congress. One of these bills was favorably reported from the committee to the Senate. It was called up eleven times on the calendar for passage by the Senate, but on each occasion we succeeded in getting our friends in the Senate to "pass it over" for future action. In this way, action was postponed upon the Sunday bill until the Sixty-fourth Congress finally adjourned *sine die*.

Two drastic Sunday bills are now pending before the Sixty-fifth Congress, one in the Senate and the other in the House of Representatives. Both bills were introduced on the opening day of the extra session of the Sixty-fifth Congress. On account of the war measures' taking precedent over all other general legislation, these Sunday measures have not been taken up so far.

One of the benefits accruing from the war has been a disposition on the part of legislators to relax on the subject of Sunday legislation and enforcement during the period of the war; but it has been with the understanding that strict reforms are to be inaugurated after the war is over. We can look for a veritable avalanche of reform legislation of all kinds after hostilities cease. Reformers and reconstructionists of every type will leap to the front to join hands with the victorious forces. All kinds of drastic remedies will be presented to cure forever the ills of humanity, and to establish permanently the long-hoped-for reign of peace and righteousness on the earth.

Sunday laws of the most stringent type will be put into operation, and Seventh-day Adventists will be the special objects of hatred and malice. Our real troubles will begin when the reformers, reconstructionists, and religious organizations get into power, as they are bound to, during the reconstruction period. It is then that the power of religious legislation will be fully developed, and will manifest the same intolerance and oppression that prevailed in past ages. It is then that human councils will assume the prerogatives of Deity, crushing under their despotic power the freedom of divergent religion and the liberty of a dissenting conscience. Imprisonment, confiscation, exile, and death will await those who dare to oppose the constituted authorities. Popery and apostate Protestantism will make common interests, and join hands to save the world from a future calamity like the present. Anybody who opposes their measures and stands in their way, will have to be sacrificed for the good of the

whole. The same old Caiaphas argument will prevail in their councils then as when Christ stood before the judgment bar; namely, It is better that this small sect should die, than that all the nations should perish.

This world will never be the same again. This war is breaking down barriers which have safeguarded religious freedom and liberty of conscience, and they will never be restored. From this time on, the tendency will be to tighten the reins of authority.

As we see these things coming upon us in the near future, what ought we to do now? One who caught a heavenly vision of the dangers which were to confront God's people just before the end, not only pointed out the issues which they were to face, but how they were to meet these stirring and soul-testing issues.

The servant of the Lord, in "Testimonies for the Church," Vol. V, wrote the following striking statements concerning the perils which are now facing us:

"When God has given us light showing the dangers before us, how can we stand clear in his sight if we neglect to put forth every effort in our power to bring it before the people? Can we be content to leave them to meet this momentous issue unwarned?"

"There is a prospect before us of a continued struggle, at the risk of imprisonment, loss of property, and even of life itself, to defend the law of God, which is made void by the laws of men. In this situation worldly policy will urge an outward compliance with the laws of the land, for the sake of peace and harmony. And there are some who will even urge such a course from the scripture, 'Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. . . . The powers that be are ordained of God.'"

"God has revealed what is to take place in the last days, that his people may be prepared to stand against the tempest of opposition and wrath. Those who have been warned of the events before them are not to sit in calm expectation of the coming storm, comforting themselves that the Lord will shelter his faithful ones in the day of trouble. We are to be as men waiting for their Lord, not in idle expectancy, but in earnest work, with unwavering faith. It is no time now to allow our minds to be engrossed with things of minor importance. While men are sleeping, Satan is actively arranging matters so that the Lord's people may not have mercy or justice. The Sunday movement is now making its way in darkness. The leaders are concealing the true issue, and many who unite in the movement do not themselves see whither the undercurrent is tending."

"It is our duty, as we see the signs of approaching peril, to arouse to action. Let none sit in calm expectation of the evil, comforting themselves with the belief that this work must go on because prophecy has foretold it, and that the Lord will shelter his people. We are not doing the will of God if we sit in quietude, doing nothing to preserve liberty of conscience. Fervent, effectual prayer should be ascending to heaven that this calamity may be deferred until we can accomplish the work which has so long been neglected. Let there be most earnest prayer; and then let us work in harmony with our prayers."

One of the most effective ways of staying the power of our enemies is to disseminate our excellent literature. The *Liberty* magazine is doing a wonderful work in molding public sentiment in favor of the principles of freedom of conscience. It has never been more popular among legislators and public men than at the present time, judging from the encouragement we are getting from these men. The *Liberty* magazine ought to be sent to every judge, lawyer, newspaper editor, and city and town official, and should be placed in the reading-room of every library. Let there be a liberal offering today, so that the conference can send the *Liberty* magazine to all the State and court officials, and to the members of the legislature. Let each one become a subscriber. Let the church take a club of fifty copies, and in this way obtain the four yearly numbers of *Liberty* at the remarkably small sum of sixteen cents. Let us do all we can to uphold the standard of freedom, because now as never before "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

C. S. LONGACRE,
Secretary of Religious Liberty Association.

P. S. Events are transpiring rapidly. Just as the writer finished this article, he glanced at the headings on the front page of the *Evening Star* (Washington, D. C.), dated December 11, and saw that Senator Jones, of the State of Washington, introduced on that date another drastic Sunday bill which prohibits all unnecessary work in the District of Columbia on Sunday, with jail imprisonment and heavy fines as penalties. Now is our time to work and to enlighten the public mind.

C. S. L.

MISSIONARY MEETINGS

Suggestive Program for First Week

OPENING EXERCISES: Song; Season of Short Prayers; Scripture Exercise; Minutes; Song.

Lesson: The Circulation of Magazines.

Reports of Work Done.

Plans for Work.

Closing Song.

Note to the Leaders

For the Scripture exercise have all read in unison Phil. 4: 13, and let the leader impress on the members what this means in their efforts to save souls. After the article, "The Circulation of Magazines" has been read, remind them of the text, and ask for recruits who will be responsible for selling five or ten magazines each month. There should be some in every church who will do this.

The Circulation of Magazines

WE often hear quoted the words of the wise man: "Of making many books there is no end." The same can be said of magazines, for the world is full of them. Many of us can look back to the time when they were not so plentiful, but when quality took the place of quantity. A very small per cent of the magazines today are for the thinking man. Too many of the conservative magazines have given way to the clamor of the public, and are filling their pages with light reading in order to sell their publications. Such reading has a tendency to divert the mind from God, and from those things which deal with the problems of life. Satan knows too well that if he can get the public occupied with such reading, he can more easily lull them to sleep, and thus day by day create such a strong appetite for this class of literature that all desire for that of a more ennobling character will be destroyed.

Knowing that such a condition would exist, God impressed his servants to put into the field magazines that would lead men back to him, and at the same time, give the world an opportunity of knowing what is coming upon the earth, and what will be the signs of the coming of the Son of man. Our hearts are made to rejoice to know of the good that is being accomplished through this agency of God, yet we are sad when we think of what might be done if all the people "had a mind to work."

Our greatest need in the circulation of these magazines is new recruits. We are living in a time when the word "recruits" is a very familiar term, for our nation is calling for recruits to enlist in service for our country. The Lord is also in need of recruits to serve in his army.

When one thinks of the magazine work, his mind goes out to the cities as the places best adapted to the selling of them. Much has been written by the servant of the Lord about warning our cities, and one of the agencies that can be and is being used to carry out this instruction is the consecrated magazine worker. Too often the mistake is made of working the business portion of the city only, passing by the residential district. I believe that when a worker is assigned to a city, he should work that city so thoroughly that all may have the opportunity of receiving the benefits of the truth-filled magazines.

It is in the homes of the people that one will find those who need help, so think of the opportunities lost by working

only the business district! When a city is thoroughly covered each month, the work can be followed up with more than one magazine, and openings will be made for Bible readings.

The assigning of territory should be left with the one in charge of this work, usually the home missionary secretary. He would perhaps be the one most closely in touch with the situation.

How to Circulate Foreign Magazines

As a denomination we have laid great plans for our work in the foreign fields, when right at our doors lies a great foreign field that is sadly neglected by all denominations. I am speaking of the foreign population in our cities. The immigration to this country has been tremendous in the last ten years, and it is estimated that in the North American Division Conference there are at least 25,000,000 to whom this message must be given in their own language. From Home Missionary Series, No. 12, I quote the following:

"In New York City, there are sixty-six languages spoken. Nearly fifty-five per cent of the male inhabitants of voting age are foreign by birth. These foreigners live together in communities, with their own stores and institutions, so that they remain just as foreign as when they arrived.

"There are 229 cities in the United States which have a population of from 25,000 upwards, in which the foreign population numbers twenty-six per cent. In the earlier days of immigration, the immigrants spread over the country, tilled the land, made homes for themselves, and amalgamated with the native-born population. Now they settle in the cities, and usually in the worst parts of the cities. Many of those who are now coming are illiterate, and settling as they do in these foreign communities in the large cities, they have no incentive to improve their education. This therefore, is the situation we have to face. We have but a short time left in which to give this message, so must face the conditions as they are.

"It would seem reasonable to believe that the Lord must have some purpose in permitting this wholesale immigration to one country. It is a situation unknown in any other time or place. In this time of the end, the Lord has planned for many things to develop which will enable his people to do a quick work in warning the world. May it not be that in this immigration of many people from many lands, the Lord is bringing them to our very doors that we may give them the truth instead of having to seek them out in far countries?"

"The salvation of the heathen has long been deemed a matter that should engage the interest of Christians, and it is not more than justice to bring light to their dark borders. But home missionary work is just as much needed. The heathen are brought to our very doors. . . .

"The message must be given to the thousands of foreigners living in these cities in the home field. . . . Among these millions are the representatives of many nations, many of whom are prepared to receive the message. Much remains to be done within the shadow of our doors. . . . There is a work to be done in foreign fields, but there is a work to be done in America that is just as important. In the cities of America, there are people of almost every language. These need the light that God has given his church."

The question arises: How are we to reach the foreigners with our magazines? First, we must have magazines printed in the languages of the people if we expect to reach many; and when this is done, they will furnish the supplies with which the work can be carried on.

Second, consecrated workers are needed who feel a burden for the foreign field, but who are willing to remain at home and carry the message to these benighted souls by selling the magazines.

Third, when we as laborers in this great cause of God get under the burden of this neglected field and carry out the instruction given through the Spirit of prophecy, the problem

In conclusion, let me say that as we contemplate the conditions prevailing in the world today and the opportunities afforded us as a people, it ought to stir our hearts to determine that we will, under God, endeavor to place in the hands of the reading public the truth-laden magazines, that they may serve as a *Watchman* to proclaim the *Signs* of the oncoming storm, and if heeded, will bring *Liberty* and everlasting *Life and Health* to the overcomer.

A. L. BAYLEY.

Suggestive Programs for Second Week

Opening Exercises: Song; Prayer; Minutes; Song.
Reports of Work Done.
Lesson: Tract Study—"Why Not Found Out Before."
Plans for Work.
Closing Song.

Note to the Leaders

Give out copies of the tract the week before, that the members may study it and be prepared to answer the questions. Write the outline on the blackboard as the questions are answered. It is a sad fact that the circulation of our tracts has been dropping, yet tracts have been used by the Lord to save many souls. Has your church territory been thoroughly worked by the tract-lending plan? If not, why not start this plan now? It is systematic and gives every one an opportunity to know the truth. Remember that the only thing that is delaying the coming of the Lord is the failure of his people to give the warning. Is your neighborhood fully warned? If not, the systematic circulation of tracts will greatly help to remedy the failure.

Tract Study—"Why Not Found Out Before"

Analysis

1. EVERY reform has had this objection to meet.
2. The claim that the seventh day is the Sabbath is not a new doctrine.
3. Great apostasy predicted; seeks to change the law of God.
4. Quotations from papal statements making such claims.
5. Time of papal supremacy now closed; God is leading his people into advanced truth.
6. Promises made to the Sabbath keeper.

Questions

1. What question do Sunday keepers frequently ask, when it has been proved that the seventh day is the Sabbath?
2. What two reasons show the fallacy of this argument?
3. What is one feature of God's truth?
4. What was foretold in prophecy concerning the relation of the Papacy to the Sabbath?
5. How has this prophecy been fulfilled?
6. Give some statements showing that the Papacy has changed the Sabbath.
7. What reformation has been foretold in the Scriptures?
8. When is it to take place?
9. What movement is a fulfilment of this prophecy?
10. What is to be built up?
11. What does this prophecy prove?
12. Upon whom is a blessing promised?

Suggestive Program for Third Week

Opening Exercises: Song; Minutes; Several Short Prayers; Song.
Lesson: Soul-Winning by Mail.
Reports of Work Done.
Plans for Work.
Closing Song.

Note to the Leaders

Do you have a correspondence band in your church? Missionary correspondence has won and is winning many souls. Not long ago we learned of one letter that had brought twenty-two people into the truth. All letters do not do this, but who knows which the Lord will prosper, either this or that. One thing is certain, the unwritten letters

save no one. A careful canvass of your members may find some who can take up this work who are not now doing anything for the Lord.

Soul-Winning by Mail

MISSIONARY correspondence, which had its beginning among our people back in the year 1870, suggested the plan of a church tract and missionary society; thus we may safely say that this line of correspondence is the foundation principle on which has been built the great retail system of our publishing department—the tract societies.

It has been clearly demonstrated that in no other way, except, perhaps, by the colporteur, can the outside world be more effectively reached with our literature than by missionary correspondence. A missionary letter written to an individual, calling his attention to a marked article sent under separate cover, entitled "Reasons for High Cost of Living," or some current subject in the paper, does not so often arouse prejudice as where one comes in direct contact with the person. A letter, tactfully prepared, enters the home and does its work without creating any marked prejudice. If neatly written, and delivered, as it is by the hand of the United States Government, such a letter carries a dignity with it that we all admire, and is welcomed by every one.

Then, too, it comes right into the quiet office or home, where the person is alone. The Holy Spirit can work more effectively under these circumstances than when a man is placed on his guard because of a visit from a worker, whom he knows to be there to press upon him some peculiar religious views. He reads the marked article with pleasure, and in the same paper he will see other articles, and being alone, with no one to say, "Oh, you are reading one of those Advent papers, are you?" he will gain many points of truth that otherwise he would never gain.

Again, what one individual says to another may be forgotten, but what is written stands out as a perpetual encouragement as long as it is preserved. In my Christian experience I have been told many encouraging things which I do not remember, but those that have been written to me have a place in a special file, and they are of lasting benefit to me.

In general, one should observe the hints given in the Home Missionary Series Leaflet, No. 11, entitled "Missionary Correspondence," regarding (1) the avoidance of expressions with which we as a people are familiar, but which would not be understood by others; (2) praising our literature too highly; (3) following the Master Teacher in starting at a point of contact of common interest to both; (4) not considering them a subject of special missionary labor; (5) following the usual course of good form, such as discouraging young girls' correspondence with convicts, or with any man; (6) and above all, and with all, putting yourself in the class with them as seekers after truth.

1. Correspondence Classes in Churches

I would suggest that the correspondence band be in charge of a woman—one who is a real mother in Israel, with a deep religious experience, and an unfeigned love for fallen humanity. This leader may get some valuable suggestions by asking all the members to write a sample missionary letter, not signing their names. Then the best points in all of these could be used by those who carry on the correspondence.

The class, or band, could meet with the regular missionary meeting, and while others were marking special articles with the blue pencil and wrapping the papers, they could be writing the letters, weaving in the suggestions received in the samples. Then in their prayer season they could ask the Lord's blessing, not only on the papers sent out, but especially on the letters, that they might be received in the spirit in which they were written.

We certainly should see greater results from our work if it were carried on in this way than by its being done in the

wholesale proxy way that is so often done by many of our young people. It will be found that many a person who does not seem to have many literary attainments, or who is not forward in his church, will be able to write a splendid missionary letter—one that has enough love in it to win souls. Writing in general is not a lost art by any means, but we are inclined to believe that this line will be soon, if we, as missionary leaders, do not do our part to encourage those who can do it. It is a latent talent that must be developed more and more as we draw near the end. After many other lines of spreading the message have been discontinued, we shall still be able to use the pen and the mail to send the truth in private letters.

2. Following Up the Work of the Colporteur

The scene changes a bit as you take up correspondence with persons on whom a colporteur has called. As a usual thing, they have purchased a book, and if possible, you should know what the book is. The book may have been laid aside without being read; so, in writing to them, the general rule of finding a common point of contact should be brought into play. By referring to chapter and page, an interest may be created in many a book that the faithful colporteur has worked hard to sell, thus much quicker results are obtained than if the purchaser were left entirely alone, not knowing the real value of the work in his hands.

This plan will bring effective results, and will be a source of great encouragement to the colporteur, who should be informed of the success you have. Of course, the particular belief that you hold should not be disclosed until you are sure that it would not create prejudice. Any colporteur who is regularly in the work, will be able to supply a church society with plenty of names. This is just another way to help finish the work quickly.

3. Reaching the Sparsely Settled Districts

This is always a source of perplexity to conference committees, but to the well-organized church missionary society, with an active correspondence band, it is a field of opportunity.

Two reasons present themselves to me in forming the above conclusion: One is, the very fact that these people are isolated from the large centers of activity, prepares them, in a special sense, to receive with gladness anything that the rural delivery may bring in the way of printed matter, or letters. The other is that fast living has not penetrated the sparsely settled districts to the extent that it has the large cities; consequently the people take more time to read, and I believe profit more by their reading than any other class.

The names of such persons may be secured from telephone directories, registrations at the county clerk's office, or from some colporteur who has passed that way with his message-filled literature.

In closing, may I suggest that to have success in missionary correspondence, one must have a passion for souls. This is gained by getting Christ's point of view of human needs and God's love. With this in mind, let us not "wait for things to turn up," but turn something up! Do something quickly—start right, and start right away!"

H. B. THOMAS.

Suggestive Program for Fourth Week

Opening Exercises: Song; Season of Prayer; Minutes; Song.
 Reports of Work Done.
 Lesson: Humility.
 Plans for Work.
 Closing Song.

Note to the Leaders

Impress on the members that the witness of their lives to the truths they teach will give power to their soul-winning work. A changed life is the greatest miracle of the gospel, one that no one can gainsay. We should study the principles of character given in the Bible and live by every word of God.

Humility

1. WHAT is necessary in the Lord's work? Micah 6: 8.
2. Who is our example in this? Matt. 11: 29; Phil. 2: 5-8.
3. How does the Lord regard the humble people? Isa. 66: 2.
4. What are we to put on? Col. 3: 12.
5. What is it better to be? Prov. 16: 19.
6. What blessing comes to the meek? Matt. 5: 3; Ps. 37: 11.

7. Who have been the most successful in winning souls? "Those who have been most successful in winning souls, were men and women who did not pride themselves in their ability, but who went in humility and faith, and the power of God worked with their efforts in convicting and converting the hearts of those to whom they appealed."—*Gospel Workers*, p. 337, 338, old edition.

8. What is necessary for effective work? "This parable [the call to the vineyard] is a warning to all laborers, however long their service, however abundant their labors, that without love to their brethren, without humility before God, they are nothing. There is no religion in the enthronement of self. He who makes self-glorification his aim, will find himself destitute of that grace which alone can make him efficient in Christ's service. Whenever pride and self-complacency are indulged, the work is marred."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 402.

9. In what is to be found the secret of success? "Not in our learning, not in our position, not in our numbers or intrusted talents, not in the will of man, is to be found the secret of success. Feeling our inefficiency, we are to contemplate Christ, and through him who is the strength of all strength, the thought of all thought, the willing and obedient will gain victory after victory."—*Id.*, p. 404.

10. What will be the result of such work? "However short our service or humble our work, if in simple faith we follow Christ, we shall not be disappointed of the reward. That which even the greatest and wisest cannot earn, the weakest and most humble may receive. Heaven's golden gate opens not to the self-exalted. It is not lifted up to the proud in spirit. But the everlasting portals will open wide to the trembling touch of a little child. Blessed will be the recompense of grace to those who have wrought for God in the simplicity of faith and love."—*Ibid.*

How to Have Interesting and Successful Missionary Meetings

The Fourth Sabbath Missionary Service

THE purpose of this service is twofold. First, it is to give a definite and co-operative direction to the work of the churches throughout the field, and second, it is to be the means of missionary education to every church member.

Direction. It is essential to the success of the third angel's message that every member work and act in harmony with the forward movements of the body, hence the plans and principles that are being incorporated into the fourth Sabbath programs are essential to every church, if its members are to keep pace with the movement.

The leaders, who in God's providence have been appointed to have charge of the work, have given much thought and study to the subjects that need to be presented to the churches, and the readings contained in the fourth Sabbath programs have been prepared to meet these needs. Full instructions have been given concerning the importance of these lessons and how to use them, but some do not yet seem to grasp the idea that every one of them is of vital importance to the churches.

Educational. If we are to move forward as a united body in this work, we must all strive to reach a high ideal of Christian character and life. The lessons have been prepared with the idea of bringing all of the people in every church up to this standard. The practical instructions along lines of active missionary work, of real missionary effort, and of

Christian development are of the most vital importance.

Every church elder or leader takes upon himself a great responsibility when he neglects to give the church this instruction that has been sent out. The fourth Sabbath meetings should be planned ahead, giving out the parts to different individuals, so that all may have time to prepare to help a little. The plan of handing out the texts for Bible study to the members of the congregation to read, is one very good way of retaining the interest. Then the leader should take time to study the needs of the church so that the lessons can be made practical and helpful to the persons present. This service should not be made long and wearisome. It is not the idea for the one in charge of the service, to preach a sermon on missionary work, and then try to give the fourth Sabbath program, but rather to direct the thoughts through the program to the vital needs of the church and apply the lesson to the profit of the members. The people should have the privilege of hearing the program on this occasion.

Of course an interesting and successful meeting is assured if the members have been working during the month, for each will have a good report to render of what they have been doing for the Lord, and of what he has done for them. A working church will long for the fourth Sabbath to come, but a church that is asleep will not care to have it come.

The missionary secretary should have the full report of the past month's work ready, so as to show what has been done during the month.

Week Night

This is as essential as the fourth Sabbath service and needs as much thought and study. In this meeting those members who are too timid to take part in the larger service may be encouraged to do some work. In this service the church members can come closer to each other in their prayers and plans than in the more public meeting.

Some societies use one evening in the week for wrapping the papers that are being sent out, which is a most practical way of doing missionary work.

As "variety is the spice of life," we need to guard against too much sameness in our missionary meetings. Occasionally have a special song by the children or the young people. Let the young people sometimes take the fourth Sabbath service, also the regular service on week nights, or whenever the missionary meeting is held.

The Missionary Committee Meeting

If there is one meeting more important than another for the success of the missionary interests in the church, it is this meeting. Nothing can take its place, and the other meetings will succeed or fail just in proportion to the holding or not holding of this meeting. It is the duty of every church missionary leader to call his committee together for prayer, counsel, and planning for the spiritual growth of the members, and to help every one perform some definite work for Christ. This service will then become the center of influence and power in the church and community. Nothing should hinder such a gathering of the leaders in our church missionary work. When such a meeting is established in all our churches, we shall see a great deal more interest among our own people and much more accomplished for others.

MRS. W. S. HYATT.

BROTHER D. D. VOTH, Y. P. M. V. secretary for Oklahoma, writes in a recent letter:

"We have in this conference 1,150 children and young people from six to twenty-five years of age, and a large number of them are Christians. These Christian young people are becoming more earnest and active workers for God. Seventy-two were baptized during the first three quarters of this year, which is two above our goal. We have also more than reached our Reading Course Goal for 1917. More money has been given by the Missionary Volunteers this year than during any other similar period. I thank God for what he has done for our young people. A reformation is taking place among many, and the work is progressing."

Missionary Volunteer Department

Prayer and Social Meeting for Week Ending February 2

Senior

Subject: "The Word of Their Testimony."

Motto: "They overcame . . . by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony." Rev. 12:11.

1. Singing: Two appropriate hymns.
2. Scripture Reading: Ps. 34: 1-10; Mal. 3: 16, 17.
3. Prayer: By three members.
4. Solo or duet.
5. Brief Talks on the Topic: Why Witness for Jesus? That They Might Know Him p. 16; Bible Examples of Witnessing.
6. Poem: Speak a Word for Jesus.
7. Readings: Silent Witnessing; Is Your Life Telling?
8. Song: Now Just a Word for Jesus.
9. Testimony service.
10. Offering. Reporting. Benediction.

Junior

Subject: *Speaking for Jesus.*

1. Three brisk songs, two verses each.
2. Repeat Psalm 23.
3. Prayer, followed by song.
4. Leader's Talk: Witnessing for Jesus.
5. Two-minute Talks by Juniors: Bible Examples of Witnessing.
6. Readings: Showing His Colors; My Actions Will Show.
7. Song: Jesus Bids Us Shine.
8. Testifying for Christ.
9. Offering. Secretary's report and roll call. Benediction.

Leaders' Notes

SENIOR: In order to have sufficient time for a good social meeting, it may be necessary to select only a part of the material furnished. Keep your meeting well within the hour, and do not allow the testimony service to drag. Surely our young people "who really love Jesus" will be so anxious to praise him, that when opportunity is given they will not allow a moment to go to waste. Encourage several to rise to their feet at the same time. In unity there is strength.

Do not forget to ask for reports of work. It would be a good plan to call upon one of the band leaders each week to tell what his company is doing. Be sure to notify him some time before the meeting, so that he will be prepared with a good report. To expect reports from your bands, will help to stimulate them to activity.

JUNIOR: In the talk on Witnessing for Jesus, impress the children with the thought that "how much I love thee, my actions will show." Some little folks will become regular little Pharisees, if care is not exercised to avoid this. Frequently we find children who will always be among the first to speak in social meeting, glibly rattling off their testimony, with complacency and self-satisfaction, yet at the same time habitually contradicting their words by their actions. Guard against hypocrisy, and encourage sincerity in each childish heart. If some of the children are too timid to testify, let them repeat or read a Scripture text. Every one should take some part, if possible.

Have you set your Juniors to work? Remember, an ideal society is a working society. Here are a few suggestions which others have found workable: Collect and bind copies of *Our Little Friend* for children's hospitals. Make scrap-books for the same purpose. Place a reading rack in some public place, and have the boys and girls keep it filled with good literature. Collect garments for the South. The school at Vicksburg, Mississippi, will be glad to receive either church school books or clothing. Address L. V. Crawford, Vicksburg, Miss.

Bible Examples of Witnessing

- THE Little Jewish Maid. 2 Kings 5: 1-14.
Philip the Evangelist. Acts 8: 26-40.
Andrew. John 1: 40-42.
Daniel in Babylon. Dan. 1: 8-16; 2: 24-30; 6: 10-23.
Stephen. Acts 6, 7.

Why Witness for Christ?

(Thoughts for the Leading Talk)

1. WHEN you receive something good, you want others to know it, and to share it with you. When you have found Jesus, and experienced the happiness and satisfaction which he can give, surely you will want to tell others of it, and to make them acquainted with him, so that they too may share the same blessings that you enjoy. Your personal testimony will help.

2. If a friend were to snatch you from in front of a flying express train, saving your life, do you think you would be slow in speaking about it to others? Would you feel timid about praising that friend? Your Saviour has not only saved you from sin and death, but is constantly showering you with blessings, and for the future has promised you eternal life. Is he not worthy of your praise?

3. It is selfish to remain silent when an opportunity to praise God is presented. "I can't think of anything to say," is the excuse often given, which is but another way of saying, "I haven't anything new and interesting to say, that people will like to hear." But remember it is to glorify God, not to exalt self, that we bear testimony.

4. When you fail to witness for Christ, you take a backward step. No one stands still in the Christian life—one must either progress or retrograde. A lost opportunity to bear witness for Christ does not spell advancement. Then, too, your failure to testify may affect others, who need just the stimulus of your example.

5. By witnessing for Christ, you strengthen your own faith. Every time you speak of the love of God, it takes on an added luster in your eyes—it shines the more brightly.

6. When you declare your allegiance to Christ, it stirs you to carry out in *deeds* the words you utter.

7. If Jesus at the last great day is to confess you, you must acknowledge him here and now. "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven."

8. By witnessing for Christ, you show that you love and fear him. "They that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord harkened, and heard. . . . And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels."

How Witness for Christ

1. By speaking for Christ whenever opportunity affords, whether in meeting or elsewhere.

2. By taking part in active missionary work for the Lord.

3. By testifying of the love of Christ in correspondence, whether to friends, or to those whom you are seeking to win to him.

4. By earnestly endeavoring to lead the unsaved to Christ.

5. By showing your colors, when questions of principle are involved.

6. By living an unselfish, sincere, consistent Christian life in the home, on the street, at work, at play; in short, at all times and in all places.

Silent Witnessing

ONE of our soldier boys in a Western camp recently had an opportunity of showing his loyalty to God by his consistent Christian example. In relating the incident, a friend wrote: "At night, when the time came to retire, Brother G. sat on his bunk to read his chapter, while the room was filled with tobacco smoke, oaths, coarse jests, and the usual accompaniment of card games, three of which were in progress at the time. When he knelt down to pray, every game stopped, the cards were turned upside down, and quiet reigned in the barracks. God is still able to bless and protect those who will prove loyal to him in time of trial and test. It takes an altogether higher type of courage to be true in such an ordeal as this, than to stand before the fire of the enemy."

Impressed by our soldier boy's adherence to principle, another young soldier walked three miles, that he might have a talk with him about the Christian life. He said he desired to be a Christian, and asked the prayers of Brother G. in his behalf.

Speak a Word for Jesus

SPEAK a word for Jesus in the morning gray,
Ere the hours of business call your thoughts away.
In the quiet highway or the crowded street,
Speak a word for Jesus every chance you meet.

Speak a word for Jesus in the busy shop,
Where the talk is profit or the failing crop,
Talk of Christ's bruised body and his pierced feet;
Speak a word for Jesus every chance you meet.

Speak a word for Jesus when you are at home,
Tell the little children that the Lord says, "Come!"
Tell the old, old story, for it is so sweet:
Speak a word for Jesus every chance you meet.

Speak a word for Jesus to the lonely ones,
Point them on to victory, and the Lord's "Well done."
Tell of heavenly music that their ears will greet.
Speak a word for Jesus every chance you meet.

Speak a word for Jesus by a life of faith,
Guided by this motto, "What My Master Saith;"
Then shall noble actions, freed from earth's conceit,
Speak a word for Jesus every chance they meet.

—Selected.

Is Your Life Telling?

AN American teacher was employed in Japan on the understanding that during school hours he should not utter a word on the subject of Christianity. The engagement was faithfully kept, and he lived before his students the Christ-life, but never spoke of it to them. Not a word was said to influence the young men committed to his care. But so beautiful was his character, and so blameless his example, that forty of the students, unknown to him, met in a grove and signed a secret covenant to abandon idolatry. Twenty-five of them entered the Kioto Christian Training School, and some of them are now preaching the gospel which their teacher has thus commended in his daily life.—*Hugh T. Kerr, in Sunday School Times.*

Showing His Colors

THERE was an unusual hum of excitement among the boys as they congregated at the corner grocery that Thursday afternoon. Every one was talking at once, and each was trying his best to make himself heard above the din of voices.

"I tell you, boys," shouted Lambert Murray, "we must make the greatest spread we've made this year. Let's plan to hire two sleighs instead of one, and every fellow ought to give a dollar toward a good old-fashioned supper, when we get to Morton's restaurant. This snowstorm has come just in the nick of time for the sleigh ride."

"Listen, boys," interrupted Irvin Graham, excitedly. "Tomorrow is Washington's birthday. Won't it be pretty fine to celebrate it right up in style? What do you say to our helping ourselves to a few of old man Brown's Northern Spies to take along? The barn's all open, and he's got more than he needs any way. He wouldn't care."

"No, sir!" exclaimed Alec Carter. "For one thing he's a poor cripple, and for another, it would be stealing; and that would be a great way to show our patriotism on February 22! Can you imagine Washington's taking things that didn't belong to him? I can't, and I guess that if he knew that fellows who pretended to be celebrating his birthday were up to such tricks, he wouldn't feel very complimented."

"That's right, Alec," agreed big Dan Paine. "We'll call that off then. Now let's count noses and see how many there are of us to go. One, two, three, four,—what are you shaking your head about, Alec? Aren't you expecting to be in the crowd?"

"Guess I'll have to miss our annual affair this year, boys, but you can count on me for next winter."

"Well, what in the world has struck you? It isn't like you to be a quitter. Explain yourself."

"Well, you see the ride comes on Friday night, and you all know I'm a Sabbath keeper, and the Sabbath begins at sundown Friday evening. Then another thing, I have promised to give a dollar toward buying *Temperance Instructors* for the soldiers at Camp Gordon, and as I've only a dollar to my name, I couldn't pay my pledge and go on that sleigh ride, too, even if it were some other night. See?"

There was a chorus of incredulous exclamations when Alec had explained his reason for not joining the sleighing party. The boys tried hard to coax him to change his mind, but he stood firm as a rock. Everybody liked Alec, for he was leader in all kinds of sports, and a good-natured, resourceful lad. The boys felt that half their good time would be spoiled without him. But when they saw that it was useless to try to dissuade him from his purpose, the crowd broke up, grumbling about "quitters," but still planning for the ride the next evening.

"What's come over Alec lately?" asked Tom Brown abruptly, as he and Brenton Jones walked home together that evening.

"Well, I'll tell you—he's decided to be a Christian, and when a fellow makes that decision, it means he's got to show his colors. I can't help wishing I had half the courage that Alec has to stand up for what he thinks is right."

The next day the boys met to complete their plans for the sleigh ride. They were busily talking between mouthfuls of the cookies Lambert had just passed around, when Tom Brown suddenly stamped his foot and called, "Silence in the courtroom! Now, fellows," he pursued, when all was quiet, "I've a plan to place before you. As this is Washington's birthday, it seems to some of us that we ought to do something to really show our patriotism, instead of just going off to enjoy ourselves. What do you say to our giving the cash we were going to spend on the sleigh ride to Alec to be used in buying more temperance papers for the soldiers? All in favor say, Aye."

"Aye—Aye," came the deafening response.

"And how would it be for us to go over to old Mr. Morton's this afternoon, not to swipe apples, but to carry in that big pile of wood that's lying out in the wet? They say he has the rheumatism so badly that he can't stir outdoors."

"Hurrah! That'll be great—and we'll have some snow-balling afterward."

The boys never really stopped to figure out what it was that had so changed their plans. But anyone who is a bit good at guessing could tell in a minute that it was all because Alec wasn't afraid to show his colors.

My Actions Will Show

NOT so very long ago a little boy and his sister were quarantined for several weeks, because of scarlet fever in the home. It was hard to be shut up in the house, while all the other children were out playing in the lovely, sunshiny autumn days. One Sabbath the teacher told the boys and girls at Sabbath school about Elsie and Arthur, how a sign had been put up on their door, and the doctor had forbidden them to go outside, because it wouldn't be safe for the other children. She said they were learning their verses and studying their lessons, but they were quite lonely, and the days seemed very long to them. That afternoon five of the boys sat down and wrote little letters of cheer to Arthur and Elsie. One of the five had a beautiful garden back of his home, from which he picked a bouquet of flowers for the children. Then the boys all went in a body to carry sunshine to the little shut-ins. What was it that prompted this thoughtful deed? You remember the little verse:

"I love thee, I love thee, and that thou dost know;
But how much I love thee my actions will show."

Every boy and girl who really loves Jesus will be a witness for him, not only in words, but by doing kind deeds, and being helpful and sunshiny each day.

Programs for Week Ending February 19

Senior

Subject: *Mission Pictures from India.*

Motto: "Expect Great Things from God; Attempt Great Things for God."—William Carey.

1. Two missionary hymns.
2. Responsive Scripture Reading: Matt. 5:1-12.
3. Special prayer for our mission work.
4. Instrumental selection.
5. Facts About India.
6. Talks by two members: A Glimpse of Life in India; Miss Ray's School.
7. Mission song.
8. Missionary Roll Call. See note.
9. Secretary's report. Oral report from one or more of the bands. Offering for missions.
10. Repeat our Aim and Motto. Close with prayer.

Junior

Subject: *Glimpses of India.*

Motto: "Some Can Go; Most Can Give; All Can Pray."

1. Songs: Two bright selections.
2. Sentence Prayers.
3. A Mission Picture from India: Miss Ray's School.
4. Recitation: The Call of the Lost Ones.
5. Special Song.
6. Facts About India. (To be told by a Junior.)
7. Story: A Little Hindu Boy. See *Instructor* of January 29.
8. Secretary's report. Offering. Song. Benediction.

Notes to the Leaders

Encourage the member who presents "Facts About India" to master the items so that they can be given orally. Sketch-maps of the United States and of India, showing their comparative size, will add interest to the talk. The use of the blackboard as the statistics are given will impress these facts more deeply.

For the Missionary Roll Call have the secretary call the names of the society members, each one responding with one of the items given. These should be passed out before the meeting, and should be read distinctly, so that all can hear. If you need more items, current numbers of the *Review* and *Herald* will furnish them.

Ask some one to get from "An Outline of Mission Fields" one or two interesting items about the beginning of our work in India. Every society ought to have a copy of the Year Book; for in it is given the story of the last year's progress in missions. This book will enable you, in a very few sentences, to give your society in connection with each mission picture, the leading facts about our work in that field. The Year Book may be obtained from your tract society for 25 cents.

Make this program on India a call to deeper consecration to service in all the band work in your society. If possible, meet those taking part on this program fifteen minutes before the meeting, for prayer that all may be united in working for this result.

The Call of the Lost Ones

INDIA'S dusky sons are pleading,
Brahma's children weeping call,—
"Long we've worshiped worthless idols,
Daily we before them fall;
Long we've thrown our helpless infants
'Neath the Ganges' sacred wave,
Now we turn to you, O Christian,
Send your God to help and save."

Salt tears fill my aching eyelids
As I listen to their tale,
See their poor secluded women,
Hear again their bitter wail;
And I long to bring them blessing,
Yearn to make their pathway clear,
Seek to shed the light of Jesus
In their darkness, cold and drear.

O, the millions of earth's children,
Waiting for some friendly hand,
Showing them the way to heaven,
Pointing to Immanuel's land,
Christian, do you hear them calling?
You who pray to God above,
Go and tell the heathen dying
That our God is full of love.

H. S. STREETER.

Facts About India

THE total area is 1,328,392 square miles. The population is 320,000,000; 240 persons live to each square mile.

To get a good idea of the size of India, get a map of North America, and note the following: If the country of India could be extended over North America, its northern point would be in the latitude of Richmond, Va., and the southern point near Panama. The eastern boundary would be at Baltimore, and the western near Salt Lake City.

THE great rivers of India are worshiped and regarded as sacred. The people believe that to wash in the waters of these streams takes away all sin. Why does India need the gospel of Jesus Christ?

THREE hundred languages and dialects are spoken in the Indian Empire, including Burma and Siam.

INDIA is the greatest Mohammedan country in the world. Its wealth is found in its forests, its growing fields, and pasture lands. About one fourth of its land is idle.

FLOODS, plagues, failure of rains, and the village and caste system, are the causes of the many famines.

BOMBAY is the second largest city in the British Empire after London, and is the greatest cotton market in the world after New Orleans.

THE climate is very varied. The cool months last from November to the middle of February. From June to September is the wet season.

WHILE India is less than half as large as the United States, it contains more than three times as many people.—*Selected.*

Missionary Roll Call

1. "PERHAPS some one says, 'I have no taste for missions. I don't like them.' Well, some persons have no natural taste for tomatoes, olives, celery, but seeing others enjoying them so much, they learn to like them, succeed in cultivating the taste, and end by thoroughly enjoying them. No one has a natural taste for unselfishness in himself, though every one admires it in others. But unselfishness is desirable, and can be cultivated. And one who has been 'born again' can cultivate a taste for missions, and he must cultivate it if he would be loyal to the Master."

2. TEN cents in India is as much as a dollar here. Seventy cents for a day's work would mean seven dollars here. The people are very poor. At one time when a missionary had been holding a prayer meeting with a company of natives, they said, "We have been praying, now we must give." The missionary replied, "You have come a long way, and need what you have." They answered, "We cannot pray, and not give."

3. IF our Lord Jesus Christ had given only one day to each village in India, and had worked every day of every year from his ascension until the present time, he would not have gone around all the villages of India. Think of it!

4. THE caste system is a terrible barrier to the spread of Christianity in India. It is a social distinction between different classes of people. At first there were four main classes of people; viz., the priests, the warriors, the farmers, and the common laborers. There are many subdivisions now. As many as twenty thousand caste names have been reported.

5. THE night is dark in India, and we have light. The call for help comes from 320,000,000 of India's people. They appeal with an insistent call for some to go, and for all to give and to pray.

6. THE Scudder family is famous for its mission work in India. Dr. John Scudder might have been the most prominent of New York's physicians if he had not read "The Call of Six Hundred Millions," as he waited to see a patient in New York City. That call from out of the darkness and superstition and suffering of India laid hold on his heart, and drew him to that land to give his life in self-spending ministration. His life and work blazed the way with a trail of light through India's darkness, and never, since it set the light ashining, has there been a day when there was not a Scudder in India to keep this torch burning. Nine of Dr. Scudder's children, and fifteen of his grandchildren, have given their lives to India.

7. ON one occasion Fidelia Fiske, a beloved and faithful missionary, had the joy of sitting down to the Communion table with *ninety-two* persons whom she had been the means of bringing to Christ. Was that not a glorious reward for unselfish service?

8. A SMALL boy who was a member of a mission band, confessed with shame that a quarter for *peanuts* looked as big as a pinhead, and a quarter for *missions* as big as a cart wheel! That small boy has a great many grown-up relations.

9. FORTY million heathen die every year. They are dying at the rate of 100,000 a day. Every tick of the watch sounds the death knell of a heathen soul. Every breath we draw, four souls perish, never having heard of Christ.

10. THERE are about 150,000,000 Protestant Christians in the world. If each one gave five cents a week for missions, —a street-car fare,—it would aggregate nearly \$400,000,000 a year.

11. THE people of India need Jesus. The poor, degraded, suffering women, the proud, self-centered Mohammedan men, the little Indian children—how they need the blessed gospel! Every Missionary Volunteer can help supply this need. Are you doing your part?

12. THE Missionary Volunteers in the Columbia and Lake Union Conferences are giving their mission offerings this year to the work in India.

13. ELDER W. A. SPICER, who is now our foreign mission secretary, was one of our first missionaries to India.

14. THE Seventh-day Adventist missionary headquarters is located at Lucknow, where we have a large training school.

15. WE have about fifteen mission stations in India. Some of the most important ones are located at Lahore, Simla, Mussoorie, Calcutta, Karmatar, Bombay, Nazareth, Pondicherry, Meiktila, and Coimbatore.

Miss Ray's School

IT all seems very far off now—that morning which gave me my first glimpse of life in India; but I have only to close my eyes to see again the long reach of waving sugar cane and level rice fields, hedged in by vine-covered century plants. I see the clumps of slender bamboos, whose feathery tops shade the road, and whose closely growing, stemlike trunks make hiding places for innumerable snakes and squirrels; the groves of orange trees laden with loose-skinned, red-gold fruit; flocks of little green parrakeets; stretches of tall jungle grass; and, last of all, the big pipal tree that represented the village deity of the India village which I had come to visit with Miss Ray, a missionary—a beautiful, wholesome American girl.

The pipal tree was hung with garlands of yellow marigolds, which the simple villagers had put there to incite the spirit of the tree to bring peace to the village it guarded. My companion pointed to a dish of milk at the foot of the tree, saying, "There is a sick child in the village, and the mother offers milk to the cobra that lives among the roots of the tree."

There was not a sign of life anywhere when we descended from our little cart to pick our way through a narrow, mud-walled way. But when Miss Ray stopped at an opening and called cheerily, "*Roi Hai!*" it seemed to me that the children came out of the ground, there were so many of them around us all at once. Little boys half clothed, and little boys with still less on; girls jingling bracelets, earrings, noserings, and anklets, as they said gleefully, "Salaam, Miss Sahib; Salaam, Miss Sahib," to Miss Ray who chattered merrily with them, quickly asking questions and getting answers, all in a queer, and, to me, unknown tongue. Then she went toward a little hut. I did not think much of it that morning, but when I came to know later how very poor these people are, and how much it had meant to them to keep one little, clean mud house for the American girl who came to teach the children, I understood why Miss Ray was so proud of it.

We sat on some little cane stools, while the girls sat on a piece of matting; that is, they folded themselves up like reversed capital "N's," and sat on their heels, some of the little, unclothed boys came shyly to the door, and looked in for a while; but they soon went away, as this school was a girls' school.

The first thing that attracted me in the faces turned toward me was their very bright eyes, made brighter, probably by the gay-colored head dresses and heavy earrings. Then as the head dresses slipped back, I noticed how dirty and unkempt the black hair was. The girls all looked as if their hair had been washed, combed, and braided but once, and as if that once had been very long ago.

After settling, they first produced some knitting of white crochet cotton. Now white crochet cotton can get very dirty, and this had reached the limit of uncleanness. But the girls did not seem to mind; neither did Miss Ray, who, I suppose, felt it was no use to say anything. She turned to me as she pointed out a mistake in a curious-looking heel, and said, "I'm not allowed to teach them to read, unless I also teach them to make something with their hands."

After this the work was put away, and the girls sang with great vigor a hymn, to queer, rising-and-falling music; they repeated the Lord's Prayer and some verses; and, lastly, produced some little books written in comical, grasshopper-like letters, which were opened and read in a rhythmic sing-song, with much swaying to and fro.

As I did not understand, I slipped out to look around, and soon came to an open gate. I stopped curiously, and looked into a little courtyard where the only sign of life was a yellow dog asleep in the sunshine, and a cow dreaming of green fields. Again, I could hardly tell where the people all came from; for some children and women quickly appeared, saying in their language, "Come in, come in."

I could not talk to them, so I just looked and smiled, while they did the same to me, until one old woman pointed to the buckle on my hat and nodded her head to another old woman. Then laughingly they began to examine me—my belt, my collar, the binding on my skirt, my shoes—discussing everything with words of surprise, though not always of approval, while I tried to turn the interest by pointing to their jewels. I did not know what we should have done next if I had not heard Miss Ray say just then: "O, here you are, you rash girl! Don't you know you might get lost?" School was over and she was ready to go.

After picking our way through more narrow streets, between mud walls, where we had to step carefully between piles of filth and over vile little drains leading from the unseen lanes on the other side of the walls, we at length came to the outskirts of the little Indian village, and presently were wending our way homeward.—*Adapted.*

A Glimpse of Life in India

ON reaching India, the first place I wished to visit was a zenana. I had heard much of zenanas and "purdah" women, and was very grateful when a medical worker, then located in Calcutta, kindly offered to take me to see some of our Indian sisters in their homes.

We were taken in a one-horse rickety conveyance through crowded streets and narrow lanes, to a congested part of the city. Our first call took us to a roomy-looking house, where we were first taken into a spacious, airy room. This we afterward learned was enjoyed only by the gentlemen of the house. After waiting awhile, a servant took us up a narrow flight of stairs to the women's apartment. Here we found a group of women at home,—but what a dreary, cheerless, comfortless home! It was so different from the homes we were accustomed to see. Here were the mother-in-law, her two daughters, and her two sons' wives. They could not even look out into the street, and the latticed windows were so high that they could not see into the near-by garden of a more favored neighbor.

The women very thoughtfully had some chairs brought from the men's apartments for us, as their furniture consisted of rope beds and a few brass cooking dishes. We looked very strange to them. They asked many questions as to where we lived, how many children we had, and why we were so far from home.

(Concluded on page 16)

Prayer Meeting for Week Ending
February 16

Senior

Subject: *The Victorious Life.*

1. Songs of Victory: Faith Is the Victory, Victory Through Grace, or other appropriate selections.
2. Silent Prayer, followed by two short prayers.
3. Announcements. Plans for work. Reports.
4. Special Music: Mixed quartet.
5. Talk: The Victorious Life. See Steps to Victory and The Miracle of Victory.
6. Blackboard Lesson: The Hand Which Saves.
7. Recitation: If You Were.
8. Experience Meeting, interspersed with song.
9. Song. Repeat the Pledge. Benediction.

Junior

Subject: *Christ in the Heart.*

1. Three songs, two verses each.
2. Morning Watch Verses.
3. Prayer, by several children.
4. Leader's Talk: How We may Have the Victory. Adapt from Senior helps.
5. Song: Let Jesus Come into Your Heart.
6. Blackboard Lesson, by a Junior.
7. Recitation: If You Were.
8. Story: The Sunshine Girl.
9. Offering. Song. Benediction.

Leaders' Notes

SENIOR: If you wish to have a good meeting, helpful to all and enjoyed by all, remember the three watchwords: *Preparation, Co-operation, and Mobilization.*

You don't understand how these words apply? The first one is clear, surely. Don't fail to have your program carefully planned at least two weeks previous to your meeting, and all parts assigned at an early date. That is Preparation.

Co-operation—working together—is the next important point. Tactfully encourage each one who is to participate in the program to *master* his part,—really to get into the spirit of it, and to feel a responsibility to help you in making the meeting a success.

Mobilization—that is the final step, and really of prime importance. It means “to assemble and put in a state of readiness for active service.” The day before your meeting, get in touch with each one who is to take part, and see that all is in readiness for the meeting,—poem well learned, talks prepared, blackboard picture ready. This will prevent many a hitch at the last moment.

The subject of the victorious life and how to live it is a practical and necessary one. Every Missionary Volunteer must have daily victory, but how to obtain it is the great question. Endeavor so to shape the program that it will meet the needs of those groping for help. Pray earnestly that the Spirit of God may be in the meeting. The way to hold a victory is to use it. It is said of Hannibal: He knew how to gain a victory but not how to use it. There can be no deep and permanent impression without expression. Service is the best expression of victory in the heart. If all are not members of a band, urge them to join at once, and experience the joy of working for the Master.

JUNIOR: When Juniors are asked to read or recite, the leader will need to take special care to see that they are well drilled beforehand. Otherwise the meeting will not be a success; for stumbling, halting reading or half-learned poems will take the spirit out of the program. The Blackboard Talk will impress the lesson for the day very forcibly, if it is well presented. Seek to teach the children that with Jesus to help, they can be Christian boys and girls every day, but without him no one is strong enough to meet and conquer temptation. “Let Jesus come into your heart;” that is the only safe way.

Steps to Victory

THE first step toward the victorious life is self-surrender. Even Christ with all his power cannot save those who are at cross-purposes with him. You must do to Christ just what you do to your physician: surrender yourself into his hands. No physician, however skilful he may be, can cure you if you are not willing to put yourself completely under his care.

The second step is to hand over to Christ the *whole mat-*

ter of victory. If you are dead in earnest about this matter of present salvation, you have probably come already to the place where you are saying, “It is no use; I have got to have more power; I have prayed, and I have failed; I have tried, and I have failed; I have struggled, and I have failed.” Happy the day for you when you do come to that place and find out that you are really powerless to save yourself, if it leads you to stop trying, and *let Christ do it.*

The third step—I ask your careful attention now, for here we come to the crux of the whole matter—is *believing that Christ has taken you in hand, and is winning the victory in you and for you.* You have consecrated your life to him; you have crowned him as your king; you have made him the Lord of your will, your mind, your heart; you have handed over to him the whole matter of your present salvation. Now *leave it there.* Don't begin to doubt him. Don't begin to wonder if he is really going to save you. Don't take up the burden you have just laid on him. Don't keep on trying to do his work. *Let him do it!* Just believe that he has taken your case into his hands, and that he is already working in you mightily. Just believe his own word, “My grace is sufficient for thee.” Say that over to yourself, and believe it with all your heart, never allowing yourself to doubt it. Note that it says *is*, not was, or will be. That is, Christ means that his grace, his divine power, is sufficient all the time; that he is energizing you all the time, not spasmodically; and therefore that he is winning for you a complete victory, and guarding you from stumbling. Just believe that implicitly. He gives you his word for it.

Get up from your knees after you have thus handed your life over to Christ, and say to yourself: “I believe Christ. I take him at his word. I just trust him to do what he has promised. I am not going to doubt him, nor wonder if he will do it. Neither am I going to wait for any special feeling that will convince me that he will do this for me. I just believe him.”

Now all this does not mean that you will stop praying, or reading your Bible, or stop developing your powers of mind and will, or stop reading the very best books, or stop doing anything that will bring power into your life. Rather, it means that you will pray all the more earnestly, for the Spirit of Christ is the Spirit of prayer. You will study your Bible the more diligently, for the Spirit of Christ within you will direct you to God's Word for spiritual food and guidance. You will develop your powers of mind and will the more earnestly; for you will want the Christ, who would use you in his service as well as give you personal victory, to have the very best possible instrument of service. But the *saving* is Christ's part, not yours; the *overcoming* is Christ's part, not yours; the *victory* is Christ's, not yours. Your part is to let Christ do the whole work of deliverance and growth. He *can* and *will* do it. He can do it, for he is able. He will do it, for there is nothing he more desires to do.—*S. S. Times.*

If You Were

If you were busy being kind,
Before you knew it, you would find
You'd soon forget to think 'twas true
That some one was unkind to you.

If you were busy being glad,
And cheering people who are sad,
Although your heart might ache a bit,
You'd soon forget to notice it.

If you were busy being good,
And doing just the best you could,
You'd not have time to blame some man
Who's doing just the best he can.

If you were busy being true
To what you know you ought to do,
You'd be so busy you'd forget
The blunders of the folks you've met.

If you were busy being right,
You'd find yourself too busy quite
To criticize your neighbor long
Because he's busy being wrong.

—*The Continent.*

Blackboard Talk: The Hand Which Saves

(A member of the society may draw this, and give the talk.)

THERE is only one way whereby the sinner may escape from the black mire of sin. He cannot save himself; he is utterly helpless. But "thanks be unto God," a strong, loving, all-powerful hand is stretched forth to accomplish the



—Selected.

work of rescue. It is the sinner's part to accept the help extended, holding on by faith to that mighty, saving arm. Victory will follow if he holds fast; his feet will be firmly planted upon the Rock. It is only a refusal to accept the proffered assistance that can keep one from victory.

The Miracle of Victory

CHRIST'S victory is perfect victory. Christ's victory in us is as different from any victory we can win for ourselves as God is different from man. We must recognize this, as we seek and claim the victorious life in Christ; otherwise we shall be deceived, but not satisfied, by a counterfeit victory. Here is what occurs when Christ is our victory: As we trust Christ, then, without our having any more to do with it than we have to do with holding the sun in its place in the heavens, we find that, by a mystery and a miracle that we cannot understand but that we gratefully, joyously accept, we are set absolutely free from the law of sin; the result is that we hate and loathe all and every form of known sin so utterly that the very thought of sinning is distressing and painful to us; to sin in any way would be agony; not to sin is the easiest, most delightful thing in the world; so, without struggle or effort on our part we are floated buoyantly along on the ocean of God's grace, not praying or trying for victory, but praising and trusting that Christ has won, is winning, our victory. Do our hearts tell us that this is different from what we have been calling victory in our life? Yet this, and this alone, is normal Christianity, "the life that is Christ." It is never acquired; it is never an attainment; it is a gift. And it is freely offered this moment, and always, to those who believe God.—Selected.

The Sunshine Girl

BETTY looked up at the window with a smile and nod of her head. And her sister Lizzie, following her look with a pair of astonished eyes, saw a pale old face that was smiling, too, and a thin hand fluttering a greeting.

"Why, Betty! how did you get acquainted with that old lady? She's been sick ever since those folks moved in."

Betty seemed to be thinking.

"I guess I didn't get acquainted with her," she said, reflectively. "But she sat there by the window all wrapped up in shawls, and she looked as if she were watching for somebody she knew. And one day I waved my hand, and she waved back. That's all."

"That was a queer thing to do," Lizzie admonished her, "speaking to an old lady you didn't know. Probably she thinks you are a very strange child."

Something happened just then to turn Lizzie's thoughts into another channel, and she forgot all about the old lady. But a few days later Betty was taken sick, and after she had been ill a week, Lizzie was stopped on her way to school one morning, by a woman whose face she did not remember.

"Excuse me," the stranger said, "but haven't you a sister with blue eyes and yellow curls? She wears a little white hat."

"Why, you must mean Betty," Lizzie said, staring.

"Well, is she sick? We haven't seen her for a number of days."

Lizzie explained, and the woman listened with interest. "Mother said she was sure the sunshine girl was sick," she remarked when Lizzie had finished. "We have always called her that since she began smiling at mother in the window, and waving her hand. You see, we came here from Ohio, and it was pretty hard on mother, leaving all her friends so far behind. She says that transplanting is all right for young plants, but not for the others. Well, she was sick so long that she got awfully blue and downhearted, and then one day as she sat by the window, so homesick and forlorn it seemed as if she didn't care whether she lived or died, your sister went by, and she smiled up at her and waved her hand.

"It was queer how much that meant to mother, such a little thing. Seems as if it took her out of herself. She kept talking about that little girl, and what a pretty face she had, and what a sweet smile. And she wondered if she'd go by the house again, and whether she'd look up. But she did both the very next day, and mother was as pleased as she could be. I really believe that's one reason she is so much better. And then when a whole week went by without a glimpse of her, mother got real worried, and she was sure the sunshine girl was sick."

"I guess she'll be out tomorrow," Lizzie said. "And if she goes by your house, I'll tell her to be sure to look up at the window."

The woman laughed. "I guess that won't be needed. She isn't one of the sort that needs telling. It's just like sunbeams. They don't have to be told to shine. They keep on brightening things up for folks just because that's what they are here for."—*The Girl's Companion*.

Meeting for Week Ending February 23

Senior

Subject: *Our Missionary Volunteer Pledge.*

Helpful Thought: "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Matt. 24: 14.

1. Song Service. See note.
2. Secretary's Report, including report of work.
3. Scripture Reading: John 17: 4-26. See note.
4. Talk: Our Aim and Motto. See article, Our Missionary Volunteer Pledge, in *Instructor* of February 12. Three to five minutes.
5. Song: No. 624, "Christ in Song."
6. Talks: (1) Value of the Pledge. Three minutes; (2) The Pledge Analyzed. Seven minutes; (3) Living the Pledge. Three minutes. For all these talks see, Our Missionary Volunteer Pledge, in *Instructor* of February 12. See note.
7. Round Table. See note.
8. Reports, and plans of work. See note.
9. Close by repeating the Pledge in concert.

Junior

Subject: "Be Ready Always."

1. Song: Give Me the Bible.
2. Morning Watch Drill.
3. Standard of Attainment Roll Call. See January Gazette, p. 14.
4. Advent stories: Even a Child; A Vicious Horse Subdued.
5. Bible Quiz.
6. Talk by the Leader: The Junior Standard of Attainment. See Thoughts for the Junior Leader's Talk, page 15.

Notes to the Leaders

SENIOR: Give special attention to the singing. Spend about ten minutes in singing songs on consecration for service. Nos. 478, 600, 810, and 566 in "Christ in Song" are good ones.

Scripture Reading.—Make a few remarks in connection with the Scripture Reading. Our Saviour was the first Missionary Volunteer, and John 17 is his "talk" with the Father at the close of his mission here on earth. This prayer reveals the very essence of faithfulness, self-denial in the highest degree, that deep personal interest in others that lays all on the altar, and fills all service with earnest prayer. He is our example. How do we follow him? Peter followed "afar off;" do we?

Talks.—When assigning the talk on "Our Aim and Motto," suggest that the one who gives it have all repeat our Aim and Motto in concert. It would also be well to have these written on the board, where all can see, if you do not already have them on a good wall chart. From what scriptures are the Aim and the Motto drawn? See Matt. 28:18-20 and 2 Cor. 5:14. Material for "Value of the Pledge" will be found in the *Instructor* article on "Our Missionary Volunteer Pledge" under the subheads, "What the Pledge Means to the Movement;" "What the Pledge Means to the Individual;" and "Our Pledge Is Reasonable." The acrostic should be placed on the board with the first letter in each line made prominent, so as to make the words *Our Pledge* stand out clearly. Of course, it goes without saying that every society should have a wall chart with the words of the Missionary Volunteer Pledge on it in big, clear letters, so it can be read across the room. If your society does not have one, get some one to prepare a temporary one for this meeting. The last two talks on the Pledge need the wall chart even more than the first one.

Round Table.—An announcement concerning the Round Table should be made at the beginning of the meeting. Ask all to give good attention, and to be prepared to give one good thought gleaned from the talks. Open the Round Table by asking the "Questions for Round Table," (these questions were answered in the talks). Then ask that every one present give one thought on the Pledge. If you fear that all will not fill in the time enthusiastically, arrange to call the roll. Close the Round Table by giving a few suggestions on "Using the Pledge." Have membership cards on hand. If any member has lost his pledge card, arrange to give him a new one.

Reports of Bands.—Let the band leaders tell briefly some interesting experiences they have had during the past week; or each leader could arrange for a member of his band to relate a recent experience. This is one excellent way of keeping the society enthusiastic. Each band leader should announce the time and place of the next band meeting, unless this is on the bulletin board.

General.—This program should stimulate every line of work conducted by your society. The bands should take on new life; the devotional features should be seen by all in a new and more important light; the educational features should receive perceptible impetus, for the Pledge is related to all these, and calls for efficiency in every member. Determine to make this meeting an irresistible invitation to the Missionary Volunteer who has grown cold to return to his first love and zeal in Christian service. Make it also an invitation to the stranger to make Jesus his personal Saviour. Let every member of the executive committee search his own heart to see if he has been loyal to the Pledge. If not, make this a new decision day. Renew your consecration. Wrestle with God for victory. Be sure that each of you have victory in your own hearts before opening the meeting.

JUNIOR: For the Standard of Attainment Roll Call, clip the various items, and distribute them to the children in plenty of time, so that they can read them over carefully before the meeting. Call for these items by number, and have each Junior come to the front of the room, and read his paragraph distinctly. These items appear on page 14 of the January GAZETTE.

Advent Stories.—These may be told or read by two

Juniors. Of course, *telling* is usually preferable. The stories given are but two of the many interesting incidents connected with the history of our denomination.

Bible Quiz.—The purpose of this is to help the children to see that they really need to know better what the Bible teaches, that they may "be ready always to give . . . a reason of the hope that is in" them. Our Junior boys and girls who "really love Jesus" will surely wish to be prepared to tell others of the blessed truth which they believe.

In your Standard of Attainment talk explain the Junior Standard of Attainment. It is a systematic plan for helping boys and girls to become acquainted with Bible doctrines and our denominational history. A Junior Standard of Attainment Manual, containing a list of questions on each of these subjects has now been prepared. Tests will be given in May and December of each year, and these tests will be based on the questions in this Manual. Every Junior passing the test in both subjects (passing grade, 75%) will receive a certificate and become a Junior member of Attainment. Juniors may study alone or in groups. Junior Standard of Attainment classes may be organized at home, as well as in your Junior society. These classes should meet regularly, and master the questions in the Manual. Write to your conference Missionary Volunteer secretary for a copy of this Manual.

Questions for Round Table

1. WHAT is our Motto? our Aim? our Pledge?
2. How is the Motto related to the Aim?
3. Explain how the Pledge is related to both.
4. What does the Pledge mean to the movement? to the individual?
5. Why is our Pledge reasonable?
6. Analyze each phrase in the Pledge.
7. How may one become an efficient Missionary Volunteer?
8. Why should each Missionary Volunteer be faithful to his Pledge?

Bible Quiz

1. WHY do you keep the seventh-day Sabbath?
2. Give a text that shows that Jesus is coming back to this earth again.
3. How do you know that good people do not go right to heaven when they die?
4. Can you show from the Bible that God made the world, and created man?
5. Who first brought sin into this world?
6. Where in the Bible do we read about the temptation of Eve?
7. Describe the New Jerusalem.
8. Where is the law of God found in the Bible?
9. Repeat the first angel's message.
10. Give a text that shows that the "dead in Christ" will be raised and given eternal life when Jesus comes.

A Vicious Horse Subdued

HAVE you ever read of the wonderful experience that Brother and Sister White once had with a vicious horse, back in the early days of the advent message? They were very, very poor, and had few things of their own; but people knew that they were working for the Lord, and often supplied them with what was necessary to carry on their work.

One time Brother White "had the use of a partly broken colt and a two-seated market wagon, which was constructed without a dashboard, but had a step across the front of the wagon, and an iron step from the shafts. It was necessary that extreme care be taken in driving the colt, as in case the lines or anything touched his flanks, he would instantly kick furiously, and he had to be held in continually with a taut rein to keep him from running. . . . As Brother White had been used to managing unbroken colts, he thought he would have no serious trouble with this one. Had he known, however, that during its frantic demonstrations, it had previously killed two men, one by crushing him against the rocks by the roadside, he might have been less confident."

One day Brother and Sister White started out on a short trip to the home of some friends. "There were four persons in the wagon, Brother White and his wife on the front seat, and Brother Bates and Israel Damon on the back seat. While Brother White was giving his utmost care to keeping the horse under control, Sister White was conversing about the truth, when the power of God came down upon the company, and seated in the wagon, she was taken off in vision. The moment she shouted 'Glory!' as she went into vision, the colt suddenly stopped perfectly still, and dropped his head. At the same time Sister White arose, while in this state, and with her eyes looking upward stepped over the front of the wagon, down on to the shafts, with her hands on the colt's haunches. Brother Bates called out to Brother White, 'The colt will kick that woman to death.' Brother White replied, 'The Lord has the colt in charge now; I do not wish to interfere.' The colt stood as gentle as an old horse. By the roadside the bank rose up some six feet, and next to the fence was a grassy place. Sister White, with her eyes still upward, not once looking down, went up the bank on to the grassy plot, then walked back and forth for a few minutes, talking and describing the beauties of the new earth. Then, with her head in the same posture, she came down the bank, walked up to the wagon, stepped up on to the steps, with her hand on the rump of the colt, and so up on to the shafts, and into the wagon again. The moment she sat down upon the seat, she came out of vision, and that instant the horse, without any indication from the driver, started up, and went on his way.

"While Sister White was out of the wagon, Brother White thought he would test the horse, and see if he was really tame or not. At first he just touched him with the whip; at other times the horse would have responded with a kick, but now there was no motion. He then struck him quite a blow, then harder, and still harder. The colt paid no attention to the blows whatever, but seemed as harmless as the lions whose mouths the angels shut the night Daniel spent in their den. 'It was a solemn place,' said Brother Bates, 'and it was evident that the same Power that produced the visions, for the time being subdued the wild nature of the colt.'"

Thoughts for the Junior Leader's Talk

LONG ago, so the story runs, there lived a poor man who received a check for several thousand dollars. He took it gratefully, but he never cashed it. The check that might have supplied his wants and enabled him to help the poor about him, lay tucked away unused, and he continued to live in a shack, go about in rags, and eat barely enough food to keep him alive. He could neither care for himself properly nor help others; yet he might have been able to do both.

Somebody else has received a wonderful treasure. God has given his precious book—the Bible—to our Juniors. It is full of principles of Christian character. It is the guide book to heaven. It is God's letter to us. Its pages will tell us about our Saviour, and how we may follow him. So we need it every day; we need to know it for ourselves, and we need to know it so that we can help others to find the path that leads to heaven.

It seems a pity, doesn't it, that the man did not use the check which might have saved himself and others from want in this life? But what about the Juniors who tuck away unused the Book that will teach them how to be saved, and help them to show others how to make sure of heaven? Are they not making a greater mistake than the poor man made?

Our Juniors need to know the Bible story. "None," says the Spirit of prophecy, "but those who have fortified the mind with the truths of the Bible will stand through the last great conflict." They should know our denominational history, as well, to help them to understand that the God who works such miracles in the Bible is still doing a wonderful work in the world. Every boy and girl in the United States knows what 1492 and 1776 stand for. This is right: the girls and boys of our great country should know this and much more

about its history. But surely every Seventh-day Adventist boy and girl should also know the most important dates and facts in our denominational history. If they really know the history of our church they will be very thankful to be Junior Missionary Volunteers, and thus have a part in helping others to get ready to meet Jesus.

Jesus was an ideal Junior Missionary Volunteer. When he was twelve years old, he had already consecrated his life to service. At the temple, he said: "Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" He was prepared to do his Father's business; he knew the Scriptures so well that he could ask questions that puzzled the priests.

Are the Juniors in your society prepared to do their heavenly Father's business? God called upon boys and girls to help give the advent message in 1833-44, and the Spirit of prophecy tells us that before the end comes, children will be called again to proclaim the message where older persons will be forbidden to speak. The Lord may call upon Juniors in your society to do some of this work. Let all be faithful now. Remember the Pledge! and study hard to become better workers for the Master. God is looking for boys and girls who will be loyal Junior Volunteers. Can he count on the Juniors in your society? Will they be ready, when he calls, to say, "Here am I; send me"?

Even a Child

LONG ago, as far back as 1831, the Lord wished to give a special message to the world, telling the people that the judgment was beginning in heaven. There were hundreds of men all over the earth whom God raised up to give this message, and many thousands of persons were warned.

In some countries grown folks were forbidden to preach, as the tidings they bore were not in harmony with the teachings of the established church. One of these countries was Sweden. But though men and women were not allowed to preach, God's message was proclaimed just the same; for he used children as his witnesses. "A little boy, eight years of age, who had never learned to read his letters, began to preach the message, quoting many scriptures. The people said, 'That boy is just filled with Bible.' The priest of that place could not get the boy before the court to stop the work; but he told the people to bring the boy before him, and he would expose him, and show them his ignorance of the Bible.

"Before a crowd of people, the priest opened his hymn book and asked the boy to read for him. The boy replied, 'I cannot read;' but turning his back to the priest, he sang the hymn through correctly from first to last, the priest meanwhile looking on the book in astonishment. The priest said to the lad, 'You seem to know everything.' The boy replied, 'No. We are not always permitted to tell all we do know.'

"The priest then opened the New Testament and said to the boy, 'Read for me in this.' The boy replied, 'I cannot read.' The priest inquired, 'What do you know about the Bible anyway?' His reply was, 'I know where there is a text that has the word *and* in it fourteen times.' The priest said, 'No! there is no such text in the Bible.' The lad said, 'Will you please read for me Rev. 18:13?' 'Yes,' said the priest. As he read, the people counted, and sure enough the word *and* was there just fourteen times, and among the fourteen times was the binding of the 'souls of men.' The people shouted, 'There! *there!* the boy knows more about the Bible than the priest!' Much chagrined, the priest dropped the subject, and left the people unmolested after that."

So the Lord used even a child to confirm his word and to bring his truth to the attention of the people who were not allowed to hear any teaching but that of the established church.

"No other influence that can surround the human soul has such power as the influence of an unselfish life. The strongest argument in favor of the gospel is a loving and lovable Christian."

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Using the Pledge

To help the society members to remember the Pledge and magnify it in their daily lives, it would be well to repeat it in concert at the close of the society meeting. A large Pledge Chart in the room where the meetings are held is a constant reminder of its call to service. Occasionally short talks should be given in the society on the Pledge or on one phase of it, by the leader or one of the members; and frequently the social service could be based on the Pledge; ask each member to tell what it means to him, how it has helped him through the past week; or ask all who will to reconsecrate their lives to the great work to which the Pledge demands loyalty. Aside from this, the officers should encourage each member to keep his pledge in sight at home, —on the dresser, perhaps as a bookmark in his Bible, or on the wall of his private room,—somewhere so that the eye will frequently see, and help the heart to remember, his sacred covenant with God.

Missionary Volunteer Programs for Advanced Schools

For Week Ending February 2

Subject: "And Some Teachers." Eph. 4: 11.

Students need to have presented before them from time to time the various avenues of service open to them in the cause of God. The teacher's calling is a sacred one, and our college students should understand its claims and importance.

This program may well be assigned to the Normal Department to prepare.

For Week Ending February 9

Each society will prepare its own program.

For Week Ending February 16

Subject: Supreme Decision of the Christian Student.

Years ago, at the opening of the exercises of our Australian training school, Sister White said: "The missionary work in Australia and New Zealand is yet in its infancy, but the same work must be accomplished in Australia, New Zealand, in Africa, India, China, and the islands of the sea, as has been accomplished in the home field. . . . The field is the world, and the light of truth is to go to all the dark places of the earth in a much shorter time than many think possible."

Marvelous progress has been made since these words were uttered; and greater things are yet to take place. The magnitude of the work before us must be apparent to every one who listened to the program outlined for January 19 on "The Unfinished Task." Surely the supreme decision of the Christian student is the decision to give his life to the proclamation of the advent message in the regions beyond.

This program should be given by the Foreign Mission Band. Our "Foreign Mission Declaration" should be presented, and students invited to join the mission study groups or become members of the Foreign Mission Band.

Excellent help will be found in a leaflet by George Sherwood Eddy, on "The Supreme Decision of the Christian Student," published by the Student Volunteer Movement, 600 Lexington Ave., New York; price, 5 cents; Other Student Volunteer publication will be found helpful. Doubtless good material can be found in your college library also.

For Week Ending February 23

Each society will prepare its own program, or make use of the regular program for this date. The subject of this program, "The Missionary Volunteer Pledge," is very important, and should probably be presented to your society.

A Glimpse of Life in India

(Concluded from page 11)

Our medical worker tried to interest them in a Bible story, but they were so eager to ask questions that I fear the Scripture lesson made little impression upon them.

As the day was very hot, we asked them for a drink of water, which they brought in a little earthen cup. After we had drunk from it, they took it and threw it on the floor, breaking it in pieces, as we had defiled it.

A new missionary has much to learn. Many Indian women will not take a book or a piece of fancywork from the hand of a Bible woman, until it is first placed on the ground. This caste system which the missionary meets on all sides is one of the great barriers to mission work in India.

We hastened on to another near-by zenana, and found a timid, graceful little Bengali lady. She was more shut away, if possible, than her neighbors whom we had just visited; but her little corner was clean, yet devoid of every comfort. She was very sad as she told us of the death of her only son. This comes as a great blow to an Indian household, as it is the son who insures to his mother a safe passage into the future world.

Our missionary friend tried to tell her of a soon-coming Saviour who would bring joy and peace. For a moment she seemed to catch a ray of light, then a far-away look came into her eyes, as she said, "But this is my fate—it is written in my forehead." We left her alone, and returned to our carriage.

We drove out of the congested city, and came at length to a cluster of little mud houses. Here the children were more free, and were out playing their simple little games. One wee mite had a red mark on her forehead that told us she was a little bride. Another little girl was carrying, as we thought, a little baby sister on her hip, but on inquiry we found it was her own child. This was the youngest child-mother we had ever seen. We were surely awakening to the fact that we were in reality in a new world.

Going into one of the little mud huts, we found a house full of women, with teeth blackened, and lips and mouths stained blood-red from the filthy weed they had chewed. Their ears, noses, necks, arms, ankles, and toes were loaded with jewels. Indian women are very fond of jewelry, and many times their worldly possessions are represented by their jewelry.

In the group we spied a sweet-looking little Indian girl. We casually asked if we might have this little girl to take to our own home. To our astonishment the mother was delighted, and we found ourselves in rather an awkward position. When we returned to the carriage, a servant came carrying the little one in his arms, telling us to take the child with us. We tried to explain that we did not think it best to take her away from her mother, and withdrew in as graceful a manner as possible. From that time on, we were careful not to ask for little girls in India, unless we had some definite plans for them.

Our hearts went out to these poor mothers as we learned of the sorrow that the future held for them. We do not now wonder that they seek for some way of escape for their little ones, whose future is so dark and uncertain. This was our first introduction to the home life of our Indian sisters, and the beginning of many varied experiences.

MRS. J. L. SHAW.

That They Might Know Him

IN China a peculiarly ignominious form of punishment is to fasten upon the criminal a heavy plank in which a hole has been cut to admit the head. Upon this plank a description of the crime is printed in large characters. The offender is turned into the street, to wander in the presence of a jeering, hooting mob.

Recently, in one of the villages a man was seen walking slowly up and down the main street bearing upon his neck this badge of shame. The curious crowds that pressed forward to learn his crime were silent through astonishment. Instead of reading upon the board a record of broken law, they saw sentences like these: "God is love." "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved."

This man was not "ashamed of the gospel of Christ." Longing to share with his countrymen the good news of salvation, he chose to wear the criminal's collar, that the thronging crowds that should gaze upon it might thus read a message from the true God.—Mrs. A. L. Metz.