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## Rapid Movements and Solemn Times

THE events of the past six weeks have been more rapid and astonishing than those of the past six hundred years, and the movements among nations during the past three years have transformed history and human passions more than any during the past one thousand years. Even students who, from the prophetic Word, have expected sudden and sinister events to happen have been surprised and alarmed.

We Seventh-Day Adventists have so often said that the last movements would be rapid ones, yet we have been amazed at the way in which so many unexpected things have happened. Perhaps that amazement is in itself an evidence of small faith. We have used phrases rather than having had profound convictions and a strong faith.

### THIS IS THE HOUR FOR FAITH

God has brought us to this hour. A well-known Christian editor recently wrote: "The high meaning of the present ruinous condition of the world is that we are now all of us 'in the hands of the living God.'" The church is now confronted with a situation which will call for the exercise of faith amid the darkest tidings. "The outlook is not flattering. . . . Soon there is to be trouble all over the world. It becomes every one to seek to know God."—"Testimonies," Vol. 9, page 227.

Some have had very definite convictions as to how certain prophecies

By H. W. LOWE

must be fulfilled, and now that some things have happened contrary to preconceived views, they become a little fearful. Others see such gloomy events impending, that they talk despondency, and cast despair on all around. Still others are puzzled by the apparent triumph of evil forces, having believed that right must always triumph on earth. Taken singly or altogether, these things produce faintness of heart, and this is not a time for that. In *Ministry of Healing*, page 513, are a few sentences worth noting just now. "Pray when you are fainthearted. When you are desponding close the lips firmly to men; do not shadow the path of others; but tell everything to Jesus. Reach up your hands for help. In your weakness lay hold of infinite strength. Ask for humility, wisdom, courage, increase of faith, that you may see light in God's light, and rejoice in His love."

Those churchmembers who during the years have been unsurrendered to God, and who have only "half believed" the truths of His message must now make up their minds quickly whether this is not the hour to forsake half-heartedness, aloofness, criticism, and to give themselves wholly to the Lord. For them the phrase "a quick work will

the Lord do" has an intimate relation to their own hearts as well as to an impending world judgment.

We must all remember that "courage, fortitude, faith, and implicit trust . . . do not come in a moment."—"Testimonies," Vol. 5, page 213. To wait longer may be too late for our surrender. The time is now, while grace and mercy linger. All the signs indicate that the Advent message is true, that judgment is upon the earth, that Jesus is at the door. There certainly seems to be no hope for mankind short of an external and divine intervention, in the dreadful madness which sinful man has brought on himself. Beside these great questions of preparation of heart to meet God all else is unimportant.

"Christ is seeking to reproduce Himself in the hearts of men; and He does this through those who believe in Him."—"Christ's Object Lessons," page 67.

This is the hour for believing, faithful Adventists to show Christ to the unbelieving. We dare not hold back now. We dare not doubt.

This is faith's great hour!

### THE HOUR OF THE SPIRIT'S PRESENCE

For many years we have talked of finishing God's work, and we have known that this termination of divine mercy for men can come only after a great last spiritual outpouring of power. This we have called "the latter rain of the Holy Spirit."

Now the Holy Spirit is described as "the personal presence of Christ to the soul." (E. G. White, *Review and Herald*, Nov. 22, 1892.) In this way alone can the church become God's instrument for concluding His work.

How long shall we hold back from allowing Christ to reproduce Himself with spiritual power in our hearts? "Christ is waiting with longing heart for the manifestation of Himself in His church. When the character of Christ shall be perfectly reproduced in His people then He will come to claim them as His own." Which suggests the question whether the world or the church is in the more serious condition.

This is the day when the church must arise in spiritual power, putting aside every reservation, and giving the whole heart and life and service to God.

When this experience of complete abandonment to God and the eternal principles of His Gospel comes upon the people of God, the witness of the church will be mighty and fruitful.

The conditions are here for a power-filled church to face the world in the greatest struggle of the ages. We must take some great steps of faith and render to God the service of courageous actions against outwardly great odds.

This is the day of the Spirit's power!

#### ONE ENEMY, ONE BATTLEFRONT

We must not waste time and energy by creating difficulties for ourselves. The times are so disjointed that the narrow-minded can find round every corner the opportunity for the conflict that it loves. When contention for the principles of God's truth is necessary, the Spirit-inspired church of God knows how to fight and suffer and, if need be, to die beside her Lord. But there is no need to confuse the tendency to run into difficulty at every turn, with a godliness that refuses to rush into needless clamour except on the one ground that vital Christian principles are at stake. The church will have trials enough without seeking for them.

To illustrate. Some people to-day adopt ultra-pacifist principles, refusing to assist the State and vainly imagining they can live apart from

world-shattering events. That is a rock on which the enemy would love to see the church wrecked, but it is not the main battleground on which we serve our Master. The Seventh-Day Adventist Church is recognized as a body which seeks to serve and sacrifice in those many spheres of usefulness known as noncombatant. While doing so, it does not expect to be disloyal to other principles of Christian conduct, including a recognition of God's holy day. Provided a man can be true to his faith in these matters, there is no reason why he should not assist the government in every way. The battleground is a defence of Christian principles, not an unnecessary conflict against "the powers that be," which to us "are ordained of God."

#### THE SOLEMNITIES THAT CHALLENGE

As we view world events that stagger the mind, we can readily understand that Satanic power is captivating men's minds the world over. "Christ v. Satan" is written across almost all the news of the world. "The spirits of devils, working miracles" have gone "forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole

world," and we do not doubt that the end can only be "the battle of that great day of God Almighty." Rev. 16:14.

There is no avoidance of the personal necessity for taking sides in this issue. The tragedy of neutrality ends the same way in religion as it does in some other things. It is not a church that decides just where one stands in the conflict. It is the individual.

Does God have your heart, your life, your all? Christ stands athwart the world, pointing solemnly to you and to me, and one thinks one hears two words in His peremptory challenge—DECIDE NOW!

"Christ desires nothing so much as to redeem His heritage from the dominion of Satan. But before we are delivered from Satan's power without, we must be delivered from his power within."

The solemnities of these epochal times challenge us. Christ challenges us. The time to "think things over," to postpone complacently is gone.

Decide now! That is the meaning of these lightning events and of these solemn times.

## A Frank Talk To A.R.P. Workers

HUNDREDS of Adventists are now rendering some form of voluntary or full-time A.R.P. service. They include men and women, and their work includes hospital, ambulance, fire, warden, clerical, and other branches of service. Some have put in long hours of voluntary work at night, in addition to their daily occupations. All this work and sacrifice is to the good, and we appreciate it very much. It has borne fruit already in the shape of a good reputation for the church. Nothing that follows is intended in the least to discourage these many self-sacrificing workers.

There is an inevitable, if unfortunate, agitation against conscientious objectors, which makes it imperative that every Christian, and especially every Adventist, be exceedingly careful in speech and conduct if real trouble is to be avoided. In so far as the term "conscientious objector" denotes a person who is

unwilling to assist the State in any capacity, Seventh-Day Adventists are not in that class. Subject to two objections, namely, our desire not to take part in human slaughter and our inability to perform any but necessary or merciful works on the Sabbath, we are willing to serve and to sacrifice to the limit. We must patiently endure any unavoidable misunderstanding on these matters, but we should not unnecessarily bring reproach upon ourselves.

Here and there some of our A.R.P. workers have been indiscreet, and we should like to help to avoid consequences that may be embarrassing. It is natural in serious religious people to "witness." Perhaps there may come a tendency that witness shall take the form of argument. More often than not, argument annoys and does not convince. It has certainly led some council authorities to object to employing our people and innocent ones may

lose their work as a result. "Don't Talk" is a good motto just now. Witness by your life rather than with your words, and studiously avoid argument and debate. You may have to work with the ungodly. If so "let patience have her perfect work." Remember that the pearl of truth was not given you to throw into the gutter of unbelief.

Sometimes, it seems, an Adventist in some position of authority has lost his sense of Christian humility. Position, a uniform, a badge of office, etc., must not be allowed to unbalance a Christian man. He should be more humble, more watchful, and more desirous of serving all about him. To be officious is to be offensive, and that is unchristian.

Some young men have been exempted from military service on

condition of remaining in A.R.P. or other nationally important work. This lays no obligation on councils or employers to retain these men. They should therefore be doubly careful to be no less efficient and faithful because of the tribunal ruling.

You, perhaps, need to guard against the inclination to absent yourself from worship in these busy times. That is a loss to you at a time when you need God and His church more than ever, and it is also a discouragement to God's people.

To all, voluntary or full time, we would say: Before you talk—THINK; before you think—PRAY.

May God guide all our dear people in their efforts to serve and be true to Him. H. W. LOWE.

ing and multiplying problems for Christians, and particularly for Adventists. We must face situations that are new and trying. We have no past experience on which to rely for guidance.

Many expect the church to tell them what to do in every emergency. What work can we accept? Suppose compulsory powers are used to make us do this or that? How shall we act if parachutists land among us, etc.?

The church cannot answer all these questions which, in the last resort, are for the individual to decide in the light of his immediate circumstances. We cannot premeditate every hypothetical question, and where emergencies call for instant action it is safe to assume that the God who has promised to teach His people what to say in a crisis, will also show them how to act in a war emergency. Government instructions and not the advice of the church, is the source to look to for such things as parachute landings, etc. If we live in mechanical times, we must not expect automatic guidance from the church in the complicated eventualities of life. It is right to seek God's guidance and to depend on His Spirit and His angels, especially in matters where experience and His Word give no clue.

#### BELIEVE IT NOT!

SOMEONE recently stated that these are admirable days for those suffering from "rumourism"! When you hear that one of our institutions has been bombed, churches destroyed, etc., etc., the safe rule is not to believe it, unless it is officially confirmed. Nothing of this sort has happened, and we hope our people will avoid the repetition of disturbing rumours. The best of people enjoy the experience of adding a little "official" touch to reported statements. Let us guard the door of our lips so that we do not bring discouragement to those about us. H. W. LOWE.



THE Bible is a book of faith and a book of doctrine and a book of morals and a book of religion, of special revelation from God; but it is also a book which teaches man his own individual responsibility.—Daniel Webster.

## *Notes from the Union President*

### OVERSEAS EVACUATION

WE have now received word that our churches in Canada, America, South Africa, and Australia are glad to co-operate in finding Adventist homes for children evacuees under the Government scheme. We are also in touch with the Children's Overseas Reception Board, and are therefore in a position to advise any parents in this matter. It should be pointed out that the whole scheme is under revision and on account of transport difficulties may be dropped. Where parents are willing to assume the responsibilities involved they should get in touch with us at the Union office.

### ENCOURAGING STATISTICS

OUR churchmembers will find a good deal of encouragement in the fact that for the first six months of 1940 our tithe throughout the Union is about £1,000 more than it was for the first six months of last year. This compares a war period with a peace period and is surely a remarkable achievement. Evidently the epochal events transpiring on every side of us are leading many hitherto non-tithe-paying members to that kind of deep consecration which touches our material possessions. There are still many among us who have enjoyed signal blessings of God in these difficult times who should study this matter carefully

and render to God the tithe which is His.

### SECONDARY SCHOOL PROGRESS

BROTHER WHITE, recently released from Newbold College science department, has now taken up residence in Watford, to connect with the new secondary school which we are sure will be a blessing to our people. A certain number of children from a distance will be catered for, and interested parents should get in touch with their conference president concerning this. Members able to contribute to a fund to provide some financial assistance to needy families, and also to provide a small amount of necessary equipment, are invited to make their donations to this worthy cause without delay.

On the subject of special gifts, in another connection we recently had a letter from one of our worthy doctors in which he stated, "It is not the single large or medium donation that is wanted so much as the systematic habit of turning into the treasury regularly every quarter steady substantial contributions to this fund." Special educational funds are no exception to the doctor's statement, and we commend this to the attention of those able to render assistance.

### WHAT SHALL WE DO IF—?

To-DAY life presents daily chang-

## SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE

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### Notes from the President

#### SIX MONTHS OF PROGRESS

DURING these days of increasing strain it is well for us to remember that God's cause and the progress of the Advent message is Heaven's supreme interest—as it should be ours. In days of uncertainty the one great certainty is that "the day of the Lord hasteth greatly." It is therefore with joy and thankfulness that we report *fifty conversions to the Lord and to the Advent message* expressed in baptisms throughout the conference this past quarter. We heartily and prayerfully welcome these new believers into the fellowship of the church. Other baptisms will be held throughout the conference during this present quarter. Pray for those now making their decisions.

#### SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS

MORE and more it is clearly revealed that spiritual things are the indestructible things in this material world—God's cause is a spiritual cause and because of this it will triumph gloriously. In a marvellous way this past six months the spiritual life of our membership has been reflected in increasing tithes and offerings. Truly God has been abundantly blessing His people during these difficult months and it is inspiring to know that God has a loyal and faithful people in South England. These following facts should bring confidence and courage to all our membership.

*Tithe*—For the six months we are able to report an *increase in tithe income of well over £300* as compared with the same period of 1939. That year was a record year for the tithe income, so that the Lord is leading us into something "Better than our Best." The budgetted figure for tithe income (a high figure as compared with 1939) has been reached for the six months period. This is to us a remarkable indication of loyalty and faithfulness and we praise God for this great

spiritual achievement. May this faithfulness continue to increase in our midst.

*Mission Offerings*—The close of the second quarter has revealed our position in regard to two special mission offerings (Week of Sacrifice and Big Week.)

The figure now reached for the Week of Sacrifice is the largest since 1933 (a special year for Week of Sacrifice). This offering is still being received and it is evident that the final figure will be the largest for many years. The missions overseas will truly benefit from a real voluntary Week of Sacrifice.

For the first time we are able to report the Conference Goal reached in the Missions Extension Campaign. Already more than £250 is reported, thus assuring the figure set us as our goal. This is a victory for which we can be especially thankful.

*Sabbath-School*—Here again the second quarter's figures are the best on record and constitute a "best ever" in the history of the conference for a second quarter. Surely in days of crisis this speaks to us of the Lord's leading and blessing and calls us all individually not to let these blessings of spiritual advance pass us by.

*Ingathering*—The story of the month of June can only be described as a "*marvellous month*." To reach over £3,250 in one month is beyond all former experience or even of present expectation. God went before us in a remarkable manner and the willingness of His people brought victory in the June campaign. Now we are pressing on with the privilege of a July campaign and it is confidently expected that the full conference goal will be reached in record time. It is impossible to close such a review of progress without expressing, not only thankfulness to our Lord whose cause we serve, but also thankfulness for a united band of conference workers and for a membership rising to the

call of God for more consecrated and sacrificial service in these crisis days.

#### WORKERS' MEETING

ON Tuesday, June 25th, our conference workers in the environs of London gathered together for a day of prayer and study. It was an occasion of real spiritual blessing to all who attended. Other such gatherings of worker groups will be planned for those unable by distance, to be present in London. These are days when a spiritual ministry is more than ever a great essential.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

ADMINISTRATIVE problems are not decreasing as the days go by. More and more we need the strength and wisdom of wise counsel guided by God's Spirit. Since the calling of Pastor J. M. Howard to the Union publishing department, our conference executive committee has been working with a member short. At a recent meeting of the committee it was definitely felt that this deficiency should not continue. Accordingly, it was unanimously voted that Pastor L. G. Hardinge be invited to accept the responsibility of executive committee membership. We extend to Brother Hardinge a hearty welcome to join with us in seeking to solve our administrative problems, and trust that his election will be a source of strength to the whole field. Our executive committee is now thus composed:

G. D. King, J. H. Parkin, E. R. Warland, H. Benwell, C. A. Reeves (on leave of absence), Dr. A. H. Williams, W. H. Meredith, L. G. Hardinge, J. Chapman.

You are particularly asked to remember these committee brethren in your prayers as they carry the responsibility during these difficult but glorious days.

G. D. KING.

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#### "Apart—To Pray"

THIS crucial hour surely calls insistently for more constancy, as well as more urgency, in prayer. As we face the mounting difficulties of a final evangel to these islands, we realize that all our means and methods, however well perfected, must still be counted as subservient

to the promised Pentecostal power.

It was because this imperative need was felt as never before, that the field workers of the London area were called together on June 29th, for a special day of solemn intercession and study.

During our morning gathering, Pastor G. D. King showed us from the gospels how the Saviour always approached the major crises of His

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ministry in a spirit of prayer. We saw that when a weighty and far-reaching decision was imminent, as, for example, in the choosing of His disciples, the Saviour ignored His physical needs, and spent many hours in the earnest preparation of prayer. Then, when the time came, He acted with speed and decision, being conscious and confident of heavenly aid.

The lesson was not lost upon us. The future may well call for wise but rapid action. Then the present calls for prevailing prayer.

During the afternoon session, we listened with all attention to a thoughtful survey of world affairs and their implications from Pastor H. W. Lowe. We were reminded of the comprehensiveness and the inevitability of the Dragon's wrath. Wherever we are, on this earth's surface, we must expect to meet the enemy's onslaughts under one guise or another. Pastor Lowe showed how that even in the western hemisphere, with all its enviable appearance of peacefulness and toleration, there is lurking already the hideous monster of religious bigotry, which awaits but the favourable opportunity to begin the active persecution of those who dispute the "sanctity" of Sunday.

In the late afternoon, as in the morning, we knelt again to pray; and we felt anew the heavy responsibility of our task. We knew that the Lord had spoken to our hearts, as His humble instruments, that we should close our ranks. Henceforth we determined to stand, resolutely, shoulder to shoulder, united as never before, in the strong purpose of feeding, sustaining, and encouraging the flock of God in this hour of trial. Then, when the Chief Shepherd shall appear, but not until then, we may be relieved of our sacred charge, and enter, with them, into the peace of the heavenly fold.

E. COX.

## FLASHES

### From the Home Front

#### The Baptism

THE opening night and the baptism are the most thrilling to Evangelist. Each at its end of the campaign has its own joys. Between them lie months of toil and tears, of perseverance and prayers, of forlorn hoping, and jubilant reaping.

Evangelist recollects many to whom he went early in the campaign. These received the message with joy. At the end of his campaign they were among his bitterest enemies. Others fighting all the way are now crushed and vanquished at the foot of the cross. They rise from defeat to be the most valiant soldiers of the new Leader. For both these classes Evangelist has prayed earnestly. How to present the Gospel to meet their individual needs has been his greatest burden. Only the Spirit of God can give wisdom.

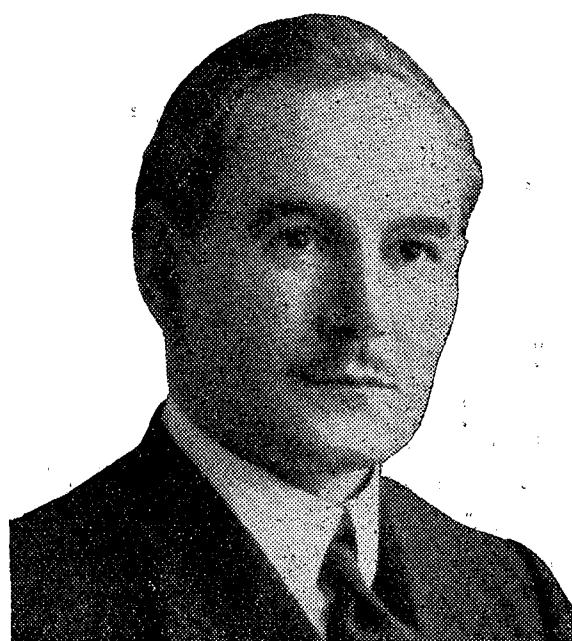
To God's people the appeal is made: Pray every time you kneel before your Lord that wisdom and courage be granted to the field workers to help them; and faith and trustful surrender to the Word Incarnate and Inscribed be developed in the servants of the living God who day by day are being sealed.

The baptismal cards are counted scores of times. What a thrill to see the growing numbers. At last the joyful day arrives. The glow of peace, joy and love which fills the service will never be erased. The joy is not less be the numbers large or small. Evangelist and the workers have given their utmost—God gives the increase. Thus as old methods of Evangelist are used again and

new ones are adopted, the presentation of the message goes on. We in the fighting line need your prayers. We need your financial support. We need your active co-operation when we work in your district. You may make or mar the work of God by your faithfulness or your lack of it.

Pray and work with us to hasten the kingdom.

LESLIE HARDINGE.



H. HUMPHRIES

District Leader: Norfolk  
Norwich Church, Dereham Company

Conducted campaign this year in Norwich—a town well watered with the Advent Message. Nine have already been added to the church and others continue to reveal solid interest. A further baptism before the year closes is expected. The Norwich church reports a full Ingathering Goal reached in record time. Tithes and offerings reveal a good spirit in the church and the addition of new members has been a great inspiration.

(Temporary) Associate Worker:  
Mrs. M. E. Brooks.

#### "I Paid My Tithe and—"

IT was about the middle of last summer that my wife and I became convinced that it was part of our reasonable service to pay to God His share of our income. The result is exactly as follows. In September last my pay was increased; in April of this year a further increase; and again, on May 11th, a third increase. Two of the three increases were totally unexpected; and the position is, that the money I have left over is more than before I commenced to pay tithe. And what it has meant to us in joy and blessing I cannot hope to tell you. Truly God is no man's debtor.

E. A. PLUMMER.

## NORTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE

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### Notes from the President

#### ANSWERED PRAYERS

THE membership of this conference everywhere has, we are sure, been praying for the various departments of this great work, and for each other in these days of peril. We want to tell you of answers to your prayers:

1. The Harvest Ingathering Campaign is going well. The churches are determined to reach their goals, and those who have reached it are working until their July permits expire. The amounts reached by the churches beyond their goals, plus the amount that Newbold hopes to contribute when College reopens, plus the amount our faithful isolated members send in, should give us an overflow that the missions must have to "speed on the truth."

2. The Literature Conventions held during the first half of the year are bearing fruit. While the sales of the colporteurs show a loss, the sales of the home missionary workers show an increase. This has turned a loss into an aggregate gain of £100.

3. Our finances show a very small gain at the end of the first quarter of this year. The tithe for the first six months of this year compared with the same period last year shows a gain of £593. This is £93 more than we expected—the "fragments which remained." Our aim is to become self-supporting as a conference as soon as possible. We thank all who have made this gain possible. We appeal to the many non-tithe-payers to "prove" God now. The other offerings are more than holding their own with last year's totals, except those received from the missionary volunteers.

4. The campaigns are beginning to have their harvests. In Wellingborough, Pastor Bird has had his first baptism, when five were immersed. The new Sabbath-keepers in Hull number twenty and at Scarborough, fifteen attend regularly. You will rejoice that Pastor McCrow has launched a new effort in Weoley

Castle, Birmingham. Thirty non-members attended his opening meeting, and ten gave in their names for literature. The majority were there as a direct result of his house-to-house tract work.

5. The children's services are holding their attendances. A member who is running a very successful Sunday service in one town found that not one child out of the thirty then present ever said his own prayers, and not one child owned a Bible. God will bless all those who work for the fertile and alert minds of the children.

6. We can all testify to God's care over us. One of our members was called away from her home a fortnight ago to nurse a sick person. That very night a bomb fell on the pavement outside her house and it collapsed. In another town, a member's home was undamaged, though the houses on either side were very badly damaged in a raid. "In the time of trouble just before the coming of Christ, the righteous will be preserved through the ministration of heavenly angels."—"Patriarchs and Prophets," page 256.

#### THINGS FOR WHICH TO PRAY THIS MONTH

1. That our evangelists and Bible-workers will see large rewards for their faithful seed-sowing.

2. That the colporteurs will take courage from the predictions in *Great Controversy*, pages 609, 610: "By thousands of voices all over the earth, the warning will be given. . . . The seed has been sown and will spring up and bear fruit. The publications distributed by missionary workers have exerted their influence."

3. That our members who are serving in the various branches of National Service may stand firm to their convictions and use this splendid opportunity to testify for the truth by their daily influence.

4. That we as a people will realize the peril of ceasing to feed on the Word of God for ourselves.

5. That our prayer meetings may have much larger attendances. Do

YOU go every week? There is a divinely imposed responsibility in prayer, and prayer should be of the kinds mentioned by Paul in 1 Timothy 2:1, 2. We are told to pray over national and international problems. Was there ever more need?

#### THINGS TO REMEMBER

1. THAT "The third angel flying in the midst of heaven . . . represents our work. . . . Human agencies are to be employed in this work. Zeal and energy must be intensified; talents that are rusting from inaction must be pressed into service. The voice that would say, 'Wait: do not allow yourself to have burdens imposed upon you' is the voice of the cowardly spies. *We want Caleb, who will press to the front—chieftains in Israel, who with courageous words will make a strong report in favour of immediate action.*"—"Testimonies," Vol. 5, pages 466, 467.

REMEMBER, the work of God is your concern.

2. That Job said, "Now men see not the bright light which is in the clouds." Job 37:21.

3. That "In every difficulty He has a way prepared to bring relief. Our heavenly Father has a thousand ways to provide for us of which we know nothing."—"The Desire of Ages," page 330.

4. That, 1,900 years ago, Jesus predicted this very time in earth's history and said, "Se that ye be not troubled." Matt. 24:6.

R. S. JOYCE.

#### Coventry

AT the end of last year we added about forty new members to the small church that was here in Coventry. It may be of interest to see how these new recruits have responded to their new life in Christ.

The tithe for January to June of this year shows a gain of £104—or 200 per cent increase over that for the same period last year. The Sabbath-school offering as compared with last year has a gain of £12—about 70 per cent increase. The average attendance at Sabbath-school has been fifty-seven, and thirty-eight gained a Perfect Record Card last quarter.

The Harvest Ingathering amounted to £150 in four weeks! Twice as much as the full total for last year and six times the amount gathered in 1938. Two of our new members gathered more between them than the 1938 total and some of the older members eclipsed that which they had ever done before. In spite of the age limit there were just on fifty collectors.

All the meetings are well attended. We still need a hall seating 100 for the week-end services and the week-night hall seating forty is crowded at every meeting.

A good spirit of cheerful co-operation prevails. We have indeed much for which to thank our heavenly Father as we press on together in these difficult days.

E. A. BUCK.

had reached from the table. Three minutes—and we are still "quiet." Again the slight rustling of pages as another "Group" book is taken and scanned. I am sure that the student was earnestly praying that God would impress the girl to make a favourable decision, as indeed I was.

Suddenly came the ringing answer, "Yes, I must have a copy at 12/6 in six weeks' time," and we all agreed that God does give "guidance" as she gladly wrote her name in the prospectus and handed over a deposit.

The next canvass had to be partly written on a slip of paper, for the lady was deaf, and her brother deaf and dumb. As we showed the pictures in *Bible Certainties*, especially those of Jesus, and indicated some of the choice statements for them to read, their enthusiasm rose to great heights. They were very happy to pay half-a-crown deposit on a copy in the best binding.

Such experiences as these again remind us of the tremendous importance of this literature ministry. Thousands of honest souls, perhaps bound by Satan physically, or being entrapped spiritually, are waiting for the deliverance which the Adventist colporteur can bring.

Let us be awake to these needs and press on.

B. BELTON.

## Ministry of Literature

### City Missioner and "Present Truth"

THE city missioner looked puzzled.

"So you are the man who sold *Present Truth* in this district. You must be selling a large number of papers for everywhere I go I see your little magazine."

The colporteur-evangelist looked questioningly into the questioner's face. Was any hint of bigotry registered there. Quietly the colporteur explained his purpose in the city. He had been the one responsible for the placing of so many copies of *Present Truth* in the homes of the people.

It had now come to the ears of the religious leaders of the city. Here indeed was a miniature re-enactment of the apostolic age. Peter and John had been severely punished for their boldness for they had dared to preach in His name. Was their modern counterpart to suffer in the same manner? It was a critical moment. The atmosphere was tense. For what purpose was this interview? The answer to this latter question was soon forthcoming.

The city missioner's voice broke the silence. "You must send me a copy of each issue of *Present Truth*" he requested, "it's a splendid little paper. I took it once but lost touch with it some time ago."

A fervent silent prayer ascended quickly to the throne of grace. Colporteur-evangelist's work was not to be jeopardized. A request for a regular reception of the *Present Truth* was good but there was more to follow.

It was another request and the

colporteur could hardly believe his own ears.

"In my visits, I am particularly anxious to obtain some tracts which contain a definite message. I am tired of leaving behind the stereotyped leaflets by the bedside of the sick. Can you supply me with tracts?"

The colporteur hastened to reply that he would be only too glad to help out in that way.

"But," added the missioner with a smile, "I don't mean the doctrinal ones, you know."

Doctrinal or not, thought the colporteur, here was a rank outsider wanting to distribute our own message-filled literature.

The interview ended. With a song in his heart the colporteur-evangelist stepped out into the sunshine. But the warmth in his heart outrivalled the rays of the sun. God's work had been given an impetus the value of which no one could estimate.

JOHN C. FRENCH.



### Bringing Deliverance

"WOULD you mind if I had a 'quiet time' before making a decision?" asked a bright, enthusiastic Oxford Grouper as we demonstrated a *Bible Certainties* to her a few days ago.

So picture the student-colporteur, the field missionary secretary, and this earnest young Christian with bowed heads around the table in the latter's sitting-room.

One minute passes—two minutes. Then we hear our "prospect" turning the leaves of a little book she

### Londonderry

OUR services are held in the Church of Ireland Men's Club Hall, 9 Pump Street, Londonderry, as follows: Sunday: 7:45 p.m.; mid-week (Thursday): 7:45 p.m.; Sabbath: Sabbath-school 3:30 p.m., Preaching service 4:15 p.m.

ERIC ZINS.

### "Great Controversy" Reading Plan

Assignment for August	
August 4th-10th	Pages 531-540
August 11th-17th	Pages 541-550
August 18th-24th	Pages 551-562
August 25th-31st	Pages 563-681

# Seven Thousand Pounds!

THIS is the Union Ingathering total up to the first week in July. By the time this issue of the MESSENGER is printed another seven or eight hundred pounds will have been added.

In spite of war conditions, the 1940 campaign is the best in our history, thus far. The response on the part of both collectors and the public has been wonderful. We hear of many with individual sums up to £25. A few have gone beyond that figure.

Forty churches and companies have passed the £2 per member quota. Here is the list in alphabetical order. Those in capitals have a large overflow.

Aberdare, Accrington, BARRY, Brean and Weston, Blackburn, Bromsgrove, Burnley, Cheltenham, Clacton, COVENTRY, DARLINGTON, DOWLAIS, Eastbourne, EDGWARE, Enham, Gloucester, GRIMSBY, High Wycombe, Ipswich, Killamarsh, Lincoln, LUTON, Medstead, Mountain Ash, Norwich, READING, RHOS, Salisbury, ST. MABYN, SLOUGH, SWANSEA, Taunton, WAKEFIELD, Weymouth, WOLVERHAMPTON, YORK.

The church at Darlington seems out to capture the Ingathering laurels this year. Though not a large group, it looks as though they might reach £200.

We have a substantial three-figure list, the total of which represents one third of the whole.

Stan. Park	£460	Cardiff	117
Darlington	165	Nottingham	114
Coventry	151	Bristol	111
Chiswick	145	Edgware	111
Hull	140	Wimbledon	110
Holloway	128	Walthamstow	106

Bournemouth 125 Reading 105  
Newport 123 Manchester 102

The next report will see Ealing, Ilford, Newcastle, Plymouth, Watford, Wood Green, and York in the three figure list.

As we write, the sun is streaming down upon a group of collectors just leaving Stanborough Park for another day's work. The work has gone well at headquarters this year.

With this good weather, and a large measure of freedom to move about still prevailing, let us give the remaining days of July to a victorious closing up of this important missions effort. £3,000 to get. Three more reports to come in. Sixteen days in which to do the work. On to Victory.

J.H.

## His Reason

"I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul." 1 Peter 2:11.

IN the days before air-conditioned trains were known, a young man was crossing the American continent aboard a fast train. It was an important trip; he was going to join his sweetheart, and they were to be married. The passengers in the coach noticed with amusement that the young man rose from his seat every hour and went into the washroom to wash his face and hands. It was a dusty trip across the desert country, and all the passengers were covered with dust and cinders. Finally an elderly man said to him, "Why do you wash you face and hands so often? If you wash once at the end of the journey, you will arrive there just as clean."

"That is probably true," replied the young man, "but you see I want to go clean all the way."

There are persons who believe that it is perfectly all right to be thoroughly soiled by sin in our journey through life, if in the end we have all our sins washed away by repentance and God's forgiveness.

They forget that even if forgiveness is attained, there are natural consequences to living in sin which will rob us of most of the happiness of life.—*Sunday School Times*.



THE omnipotent power of the Holy Spirit is the defence of every contrite soul. Not one that in penitence and faith has claimed His protection will Christ permit to pass under the enemy's power. The Saviour is by the side of His tempted and tried ones.—*"The Desire of Ages," page 490.*

Brother Fred Sanders, aged sixty-six, died of pneumonia on June 27, 1940. He leaves two children to mourn their great loss: Arthur, who for many years has faithfully served the cause in varied capacity at Stanborough Park; and Lilian (Mrs. Casburn), who throughout the years has been an enthusiastic worker in the church at Wellingborough. Brother Fred Sanders was baptized at Rushden by Pastor A. S. Rodd in 1908. Small of stature but large of heart, he was beloved by all who knew him. We laid him to rest in the Wellingborough cemetery on the Sabbath afternoon to await the soon-coming Saviour.

A. F. BIRD.

THE Treasurer of the South England Conference acknowledges with thanks the receipt of the Lord's tithe, £11, through Mr. W. Fisher; 10s., from Folkestone; £6, L.M.

## Advertisements

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## SUNSET CALENDAR

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LON' N NOT'M CAR'FF EDIN BEL'T
July 26th 8.58 9.09 9.11 9.32 9.36
August 2nd 8.47 8.57 9.00 9.19 9.24

## BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

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