



Two Aspects of Evangelism

LET us agree most definitely that the Gospel preached from pulpit or platform is not self-sufficient but lives with other relatives, the nearest of which is perhaps personal work. And because they dwell together, both must be subject to a common plan. A single mind must direct each to make them complementary in the great service.

Much emphasis is placed upon the preaching of the Word in the New Testament. "Woe is unto me," says Paul, "if I preach not the Gospel!" To him it was of paramount importance: the work to which he had dedicated his life. The masses were to be awakened and brought to a knowledge of the reality of sin and their minds made to inquire, "What shall we do?" through effectual Spirit-controlled preaching. It was prophetically said of our Lord that the initial reason why the Spirit rested upon Him was so that He could "preach." Isa. 61:1. There was to be no change in the plan of God as the ages rolled by. The last generation was to be warned primarily by a symbolic angel who had the everlasting Gospel to "preach." The finishing of the work would be immeasurably slower if the mighty trumpet of public presentation were silenced or muted. Let us always give to the preached Word the primary place God ordained it to have.

What place then does personal work occupy in the economy of God? It has a most honoured calling, even though it may be

By W. W. Armstrong

secondary in rank. Very few sermons are recorded in the New Testament, but it abounds with the details of many personal contacts. This editorial work of the Spirit was not done to decry the importance of public effort, but rather to correct us in our natural apathy toward individual work. As we read of the marvelous and solid decisions made as a result of the Spirit bringing two persons together, we are prompted to bestir ourselves to think and act for individuals as well as to preach to crowds.

Personal work has two hands supporting the evangelist both on and off the platform. A preacher may have great knowledge of the Word and be able to expound it most skilfully, and yet fail to hold his listeners unless he knows them. Here lies a great exploratory field, for the courses of men are intricate and their needs differ as the faces we wear.

The evangelist who allots time to acquaint himself with the trend of thought of his hearers will mount the platform with a deeper confidence in his message for that hour. He who has succeeded through tact in opening the "secret house" of some of his listeners will see the "exceeding breadth" of the Word and how its divine thought so adequately covers every human experience and need.

The preaching that grips is al-

ways presenting "new treasures" with the old. And certainly one sure way of discovering them is by first ascertaining the intimate needs of one's hearers and then searching the storehouse of truth to find the food that perfectly satisfies.

Prayerful personal work gives us a truer estimation of the deep food value of the Word and provides us with a living feast to dispense when in the pulpit.

As the evangelist leaves the platform and bids "good-night" to his hearers he will see in the faces of many a look of inquiry or a puzzled expression. The awakening is evident and the truth has made an impression. But those preconceived opinions are challenging the truth and already questions, perhaps doubts, are there in their minds.

The evangelist must "preach the Word," and truth is so full that he can find little time, if any, to deal with error in detail from the platform. For this reason every right way must be followed to get in personal contact with the awakened ones, to give death-dealing blows with the Sword of the Spirit to the enemy's strongholds in the mind and heart and "mop" up any lurking pockets of resistance.

It is personal work which brings an individual face to face with his own deficiencies in the light of perfect truth. In the quietness of a room, as soul meets soul before the Maker of all, the

complete victory may be won for Christ.

The personal work that counts arises out of the reality of one's own life with God. On the platform one may assume a deportment that may attract and hold. In the home one is seen as he is, and for this reason the worker must depend almost entirely upon spiritual qualifications. If these are lacking, personal work proportionately fails, and even the spark of our platform fire dies out in the hearts of the hearers. Hence, in our personal contacts it is most necessary for one to have the inward knowledge that he is completely at God's disposal and moulding. Some may be limited in the evangelical gift, but the power to influence in private is for the reception of all without measure. Only as one grows and shows himself able to meet individuals and combat their errors and sins, turning them to walk in the pathway of truth, can it be said that that one has made "full proof" of his ministry.

Notes from the Union President

ITEMS FROM ABROAD

WORD from our workers in free China indicates both wonderful opportunities in the development of our work, and the most disastrous famine which has destroyed people by the thousand.

We have had word from Eastern Europe indicating that our people are meeting tolerable conditions under German control, as comparison with the former Russian occupation is evidently a moderating factor.

Our work in Sweden has had its difficulties, mainly arising from the fact that the pastor of a state church discovered a law prohibiting meetings of societies, clubs, parties, and non-registered churches. For some reason during the last war our church was not registered, but this difficulty has now been overcome and we are duly registered and meetings continue unhindered.

The Swedish school graduated eighteen students last year. Forty-seven colporteurs are out

this summer in Sweden, thirty-five of them being students. About the same number of colporteurs is at work in Finland.

Twenty-nine evangelists were able to meet recently in Riga, Latvia, and they reported 144 baptisms during 1942.

E. Kanna, who was at our English college some time ago, is preaching in Latvia, and with the help of lay members has reconstructed a house into a nice chapel building.

The island of Jamaica is 140 miles long, and it has one church for each mile of its length. Last year forty churches were under construction in this progressive island, and 4,700 people were baptized in the first six months of 1942. This is good news from a British field.

FOR YOUR DIARY

AUGUST 14th is the date for our Students' Aid Fund offering. Under war conditions we are finding difficulty in raising sufficient money to help worthy students. From now on our educational work at the College is entering a period of increasing difficulty. We cannot provide all the labour we need and our enrolment may be somewhat curtailed for the duration of the war. There could hardly be a more worthy project than that of assisting young people to find a place in the Lord's work. A collection will be taken, and pledges provided for, payable up to the end of the year. Will you make a note of this and prayerfully consider what you are going to do in this worthy cause?

MISSIONARY APPOINTEES

MR. AND MRS. L. NORMINGTON and Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Farrow have been granted permission to take up work in Africa. We are glad for this providential opening for the relief of hard-pressed mission staffs, and we bespeak the prayers of all that travelling mercies and fruitful service may be granted these worthy young people.

DR. ESSERY has accepted a mission appointment probably in the Arabic Union, where he laboured for years before taking up medicine. For the next few months the doctor will take some post-

graduate work until details of his future work and transportation are settled.

THE FUTURE AND OUR HEALTH WORK

THERE are some of our youth who have time and opportunity for study. Quite a number are availing themselves of present facilities for taking nurses' courses, and some are studying medicine. Our sanitarium will doubtless call for the services of a limited number of qualified nurses. Some others should get their eyes on private work, and in this respect we believe the future holds good openings for male and female nurses in small private hydros and clinics which should spread throughout this land. Vision, ambition, initiative are needed in developing this phase of our health work, which should be closely linked to our organized work in its spiritual and moral influences.

Those not quite educationally prepared should improve themselves by enrolling in our Correspondence School, which has grown encouragingly and is now in process of reorganization to cater for larger work.

H. W. LOWE.

South England Conference

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Victory Celebrations in Norwich

WE had cause indeed to celebrate over here in Norwich, for our 1943 Ingathering chart showed us we had doubled our church goal of £92.

The following figures indicate how the money was brought in. Two members collected over £33 each, a brother and his wife over £13, another brother and his wife over £12, three sisters over £8 each, another sister over £5. Altogether there were twenty-five members who collected over £2 each.

Special praise should go to the faithful little company of seven

BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

at Dereham for raising £33.

Norwich and Dereham between them brought in over £200. What an achievement, for had we not but one short month to get the grand overflow on which we had set our hearts.

Beside our official chart, we had hanging up, a beautifully painted picture of a beehive set in a cluster of brightly tinted flowers. The bees were to be seen all round the hive seemingly very busy on the task in hand. As each member obtained his or her goal, a pair of wings was fixed in the space provided below the hive, and by the end of the campaign, the space was filled with wings.

Well, we felt we ought to celebrate such a brilliant accomplishment and Whit Monday afternoon saw the young folk with older members and their friends wending their way toward 2 St. Andrews Avenue, the home of Brother and Sister Tapping, where soon a garden party was in full swing. We were indeed happy to have our friends from Dereham, Lowestoft, and Yarmouth with us, to share our enjoyment. Grown-ups and children joined in the games and races. Everyone felt young that afternoon and even showers of rain did not damp our spirits.

Soon the clouds dispersed and the sun shone on us as we sat down to a sumptuous tea on the lawn. We are especially grateful to Brother and Sister Tapping, and the deacons and deaconesses who worked hard to make the garden party such a success. We look forward to more of these social gatherings for they promote a feeling of cheerfulness and good fellowship in church life.

CHURCH CLERK.



Lay Evangelist's Reward

SOME eight months ago Brother H. J. Brookes, a lay preacher of the Stanborough Park church, began a series of evangelistic meetings in our little mission hall at Wembley. From the first meeting a man and his wife attended regularly and showed the keenest interest in everything that was presented from the Scriptures by the preacher.

The grand climax came when

these two souls made public confession of the truth by baptism at the Watford Town church on Sabbath, June 19th. The step taken was at great sacrifice on the part of both of them; his being the loss of a good managerial position in a factory; hers the unusual renunciation of Judaism to take her place with the remnant of Israel.

Pastor W. H. Meredith conducted the baptism and the writer welcomed them into the fellowship of the Wembley church on behalf of the members who had already made them feel at home in their midst. We invite the MESSENGER family to pray with us that God will richly bless their joint co-operation with the church in its effort to win others to the truth. J. H. PARKIN.

Welsh Mission

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Superintendent's Notes

WE cannot yet give the *final*, final figures, for the 1943 In-gathering campaign, but we can say that whereas Wales scored a great triumph in 1942 by gathering in the record sum of £1,385 in six weeks, this year we have passed the £1,613 mark in four weeks! And whereas we had probably the second highest per capita world record in 1942—viz., £2. 19s. 1d.—this year finds us with a per capita of £3. 11s. 6d! This is truly an amazing result.

Never was there so much enthusiasm, never was the public so responsive. It was an exhilarating experience to observe the piles of red boxes awaiting the agent's knife! And they were unusually heavily laden this year. Long hours were spent by the appointed few co-operators of the agents and just how the latter managed to transfer the weight of coin to home and bank, is somewhat of a mystery. For £70 or more in cash (as we observed more than once in both Newport and Cardiff is no light affair! But it *was* done and every difficulty overcome.

We would like to observe the following outstanding features of the campaign in Wales:

1. Most of the members had a share in the task.

2. Many timid souls—non-starters of previous years—ventured out and met with remarkable success.

3. The organization worked smoothly and efficiently.

4. There was eagerness to outstrip last year's record figure, even though two weeks' less working time was allowed.

Later, we hope to supply the final figures and refer to a few of those who have been "mentioned in dispatches."

DAY OF FELLOWSHIP

On June 19th, a Day of Fellowship was enjoyed by the churches in South Wales. St. Paul's Congregational church was the venue and we had as our guest speaker Pastor W. T. Bartlett, our veteran minister, who always loves to return to Cardiff, where he laboured as a young minister some forty years ago. The day began with prayer, led by Brother J. R. Lewis, and was followed by that characteristic feature of Adventist Sabbath services—the Sabbath-school. This was led by Brother F. E. Powell, the elder of the Swansea church, while the lesson study was conducted by Brother H. Humphries.

The morning message and the afternoon study were given by Brother Bartlett while the evening service was opened to the public and the church well filled to hear the writer speak on "The Great To-morrow: What Does it Hold?" The Isobelle Davies Choir, of Barry Dock, provided appreciated choral music.

It was a happy day, with a feast of good things providing another opportunity for friendly intercourse and binding the fellowship of God's people in the South Wales area.

MEETINGS IN SOUTH-WEST WALES

DURING the week-end of June 12th we were able to do what had often been desired but which had never materialized. We gathered in *all* the scattered believers living in Carmarthenshire, Cardiganshire, and Pem-

brokeshire, and had happy fellowship in the Friends' Meeting House, Milford Haven. We were not a very large company, but we made up for that by the spirit of love and enthusiasm which was manifested. Friends were there—some of them now veterans of the church in Wales—from Milford Haven, New Quay, Llandissul, Tenby, and Pembroke. In addition we had two of the College students with us—Humphrey Kinman and George Emm—to complete the family gathering. This gathering proved a great blessing and a great encouragement, more so, seeing that all were members of the fraternity characteristically labelled "Isolated."

MOVEMENT OF WORKERS

PASTOR H. K. MUNSON bade adieu to Wales at the end of June and has now joined the staff of the North England Conference. Brother Munson had spent some five years in Wales and we wish him good success and happy days in his work in the north.

BROTHER J. R. LEWIS is now in Shrewsbury and hopes soon to find a temporary home so that he can busy himself with the task of building up the work in that lovely city. The members there are anxious to co-operate in every way to make his sojourn among them a real success.

WE regret to say that Miss Mabel Howlett, who came to Wales a few months ago, has had to return home, on account of ill-health. It had been hoped that a few weeks' rest would make it possible for her to return, but progress has not been encouraging and our sister reluctantly has asked to be relieved of her duties. We all pray that Sister Howlett will find restoration in the not too distant future.

THREE new workers to the Welsh field and their stations, are as follows:

Miss Phyllis Standen, Newport,
Mr. A. H. Watson, Barry Dock,
Mr. C. D. Watson, Cardiff.

These locations are for the summer period and will be subject to change when the autumn work begins. We are very glad to have these new recruits; they certainly bring with them earnestness and

enthusiasm, and we believe that they will serve the Welsh Mission well. May the Lord bless them and prosper their efforts to extend His kingdom.

S. G. HYDE.

Onward in the South Seas

A LETTER from Brother Shirley of the "Signs" Publishing House in Australia gives some welcome news of the courage of the native workers in the war areas of the South Pacific.

"You have inquired as to how the native believers are carrying on in the Solomon Islands and New Guinea areas which have been invaded. From the news that we have received (it is meagre but authentic) the natives are doing splendidly. The teachers and ministers who are heading the work up are carrying it forward as near to perfection as one could expect.

Of course, in some areas where the enemy has invaded in force, the believers have just had to scatter and we have received no tidings. But from what we have been able to learn from various of our members who are now in the fighting forces and have contacted native believers, all is well and the work will triumph."

Wedding Bells

LACEY-KNIGHT.—On June 1, 1943, at Packwood, Monica Knight, the daughter of N. H. Knight, the College manager, and Kenneth Lacey, the son of the veteran colporteur, were united in marriage in the presence of a large number of relatives and friends. It was the first wedding service to be held in the College chapel, which was beautifully decorated for the occasion. The reception was held in the College dining hall.

The good wishes and prayers of all go with them. Their home will be in Coventry. We wish them a future of happiness, contentment, and great success in the work to which they have dedicated their lives.

R. S. JOYCE.

Acknowledgments

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THE treasurer of the British Union acknowledges with thanks, the Lord's tithe, £20. 11s. 3d.



LARMINIE.—The small company in the Isle of Man have lost by death one of their oldest members. Sister Mrs. Larminie fell asleep in Jesus at the home of her daughter Dorothy in Warrington, Lancs., on May 19, 1943. Our sister accepted the truth for these last days about thirty-seven years ago in the town of Wigan. She leaves to mourn their loss, her husband and two married daughters. During her last illness she was devotedly nursed by her younger daughter Dorothy (Mrs. Lewis). The elder daughter is now living in Washinton, D.C., where her husband, Pastor Ludgate, is located. We laid her to rest in a quiet little cemetery at Sankey, Warrington, there to await the call of the Live-giver. Our sympathy goes out to the mourners who, though they sorrow not as those who have no hope, yet for a time are parted from one whom they loved. Words of comfort were spoken in the home and at the graveside by the writer. J. E. BELL.

WEBB.—It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Brother John Webb, who fell asleep in Jesus on May 21, 1943, at the age of eighty-seven. He accepted the message through the labours of Pastor S. G. Hyde at the Manchester church in 1934, together with his dear wife who passed away last year. Brother and Sister Webb were both charter members of the Stockport church. The service was conducted by Pastor W. R. A. Madgwick and our brother was laid to rest in the glad hope of a soon-coming resurrection.

G. DONLEY,
Church Clerk.

CLEW.—After a brief life of only twenty-one months, Mabel, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clew of Exeter, fell asleep on June 10, 1943. For the first year of her life she had given promise of becoming a bonny child, but illness came, and during the last eight months she suffered greatly. She was laid to rest in a village churchyard near Exeter, mourned by relatives and friends. We look forward, however, to the time when, restored to life by the Master, she will attain to the maturity withheld in this present life.

H. W. WALKLETT.

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SUNSET CALENDAR

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Lon'n Not'm Car'ff Edin Bel't
July 23rd 10.03 10.14 10.15.10.38 10.42
July 30th 9.53 10.04. 10.06 10.26 10.31

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