

BRITISH ADVENT

MESSENGER

Prayer and Submission

SUBMISSION is an important element in prayer. In this Jesus is our example. All His prayers were offered in full submission to the will of His Father. In the greatest struggle of His conflict with sin and Satan in the garden of Gethsemane, the surrender of His own will was complete even though it was attained by a battle so intense that He sweat blood. He prayed, "Father, if Thou be willing, remove this cup from Me: nevertheless not My will, but Thine, be done." Luke 22: 42.

The greatest battle of the soldier of the cross is fought over the surrender of self to the will of God. We must be "willing to be made willing" to give voluntary submission to co-operation with the divine agencies. The will must be placed on the side of God's will. Prayer is the secret of unconditional surrender. How happy we should be that many of our requests have never been granted. If they had been granted they would have done us more harm than good. How true it is that "we know not what we should pray for as we ought."

Moses is an outstanding example of one who was submissive to the will of God, and yet when he faced the greatest disappointment of his life he begged to have his own way. (See Deut. 3: 23-27.) When the Lord told him to drop the subject and never mention it again, Moses humbly submitted. When he died, "God buried him"—an honour such as has never

By TAYLOR G. BUNCH

been bestowed upon another human being. Later he was resurrected and taken directly to the heavenly Canaan, where he has been an honoured citizen ever since. He found that God's way is best.

Elijah was a man who knew the meaning of answered prayer, but one of his requests was not granted, because the Lord had something better for him. In a moment of discouragement he prayed that he might die. How foolish that request must seem to Elijah now. For almost three millenniums he has been an honoured guest in heaven; whereas if his prayer had been answered he would be lying in an unknown and unmarked grave. He is probably one of the twenty-four elders sitting on thrones around the throne of God and assisting Christ in the priestly service of the heavenly sanctuary. He, with Moses, was sent as a special messenger to visit Christ on the mount of transfiguration to "encourage Him concerning His death," and to represent the resurrected and translated saints in that miniature representation of the second advent.

We cannot know the future and what is best for us. What we desire to-day may not be for our eternal welfare. Wise parents do not grant all the requests of their children, and well-trained chil-

dren submit to the will of their parents. They know that the superior wisdom and experience of the parents make it possible for them to know what is best.

Character is developed more by deprivation of the things we desire than by gratification. Sacrifice is indispensable to character building. True submission always says, as did Christ, "Even so, Father; for so it seemed good in Thy sight."

"The prayer of the publican was heard because it showed dependence reaching forth to lay hold upon Omnipotence. Self to the publican appeared nothing but shame. Thus it must be seen by all who see God. By faith—faith that renounces all self-trust—the needy suppliant is to lay hold upon infinite power.

"No outward observances can take the place of simple faith and entire renunciation of self. . . . We can only consent for Christ to accomplish the work. Then the language of the soul will be, Lord, take my heart; for I cannot give it. It is Thy property. Keep it pure, for I cannot keep it for Thee. Save me in spite of myself, my weak, un-Christlike self. Mould me, fashion me, raise me into a pure and holy atmosphere, where the rich current of Thy love can flow through my soul." —"Christ's Object Lessons," page 159.

This is the prayer of submission, of surrender, to the will of Him who is all-wise, who never makes a mistake. Such praying merges our will in His will, so

that in carrying out our own impulses we are submitting to the will of the Eternal. This is Christianity in action.

Notes from the Union President

FROM THE WORLD FIELD

"THERE are still sixty-five of our workers, not including children, in the Philippines. Most of them are in prison camps, but some of them are in and around Manila with considerable freedom. They have the necessities of life, and are living on native foods with no imported food at all. Our Chungking China Hospital was struck by a five hundred pound bomb and demolished. They have rebuilt larger and added another storey. In Tokyo our sanitarium is operating under a Japanese doctor. There are only two of our ministers left in Finland, but our sisters are carrying forward the work successfully. Their school has the largest enrolment in its history. Our school in Norway has more than doubled its enrolment. They have taken our leader in Norway out of the country, and he is no doubt a German prisoner. Our church building in Cologne was bombed, rebuilt, and bombed again. We learn that our church in Moscow is packed to the doors; not even standing room."—*Extract from an address in Loma Linda by E. D. Dick, "The Medical Evangelist," March 15, 1944.*

THE FLYING TERROR

"WE are obviously entering the final phases of the war, when men resort to blind frightfulness. How long it may last none can tell, nor can we know what suffering it may bring upon our own people. One member has been killed; three churches, and several Adventist homes, have been damaged, and our public evangelism is affected in the south. But our people are bravely calm and our work is not stopped. Our services continue everywhere and the spirit that has brought us through darker days will sustain our work and workers and members everywhere.

We must work on, despite every contrary circumstance. A crisis often uncovers a divine purpose, and seed sown to-day may yield unexpectedly sudden and surprising harvests. "We may be sure, God's seed will bring God's harvest, but it may not be the harvest we expect. "The word that goeth forth from My mouth shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."—*Dr. Fullerton, friend of Spurgeon.*

ADVENTISTS IN D-DAY INVASION

A NUMBER of our youth went out in the great armada, and, as far as word from them indicates, all got through safely. Some write to say our soldiers' literature service has followed them into Normandy, and is much appreciated. All seem to be engaged in the care of the wounded, and a few English boys are regularly transferring the injured across the Channel. We hear of interests aroused by their personal witness.

ADVENTISTS APPRECIATED

AN article in *The International Review of Missions* (April, 1944), in dealing with Protestantism's problems in Argentina, has this to say of Seventh-Day Adventists:

"There are one or two indisputable conclusions to be drawn from a study of this picture of the Argentine Church. The first is that the difficulties are not insurmountable. The Adventists and Pentecostals here as elsewhere have solved the problem. Their insistence on the elementary duty of every believer to contribute to the financial necessities of the work, the tithe being the aim, has solved that difficulty. They are not dependent on a foreign mission board. Their elimination of the pulpit-pew complex, by enrolling every churchmember as an active participant in the activities of the body, has made for a living, growing, working community. Their recognition of the fact that man is not only a spirit, but possesses a mind and a body, and that Christ came to save the whole man, has led them to provide an outlet and an occupation for every urge of his being in self-expression."

H. W. LOWE.

South England Conference

President: Pastor G. D. King
Office Address: 780 St. Albans Road, Watford
Telephone: Garston (Watford) 2213-4.

Great Croydon Attraction!

APRIL 2nd was D-Day for Croydon.

Forty thousand homes in Croydon and district had received an invitation to hear the last message of grace, and with great faith all preparations were made. The Civic Hall, the finest and largest hall in Croydon, seating 1,000 people, was booked for twelve Sunday nights, and newspapers, trams, and buses, posters, and handbills spread the invitation far and wide.

With anxiety we looked forward to the first Sunday night. Would the people respond? Would the works of faith have another triumph? How happy we were on the opening night to see two long queues at the door. How thrilling it was to count more than 600 people singing the good old Advent hymns and choruses, ably conducted by Mr. Sidney Mather from North London, and how eagerly the congregation listened as Pastor L. D. Vince expounded the old prophecies of Daniel.

Week after week the solid interest was kept up. The visiting list has grown and exceeded even the greatest expectations; more than 400 people have given their names for free literature.

On the tenth week the true Sabbath was presented as the Emblem of Liberty, Loyalty, and Love, and to give the earnest Christians in the congregation an opportunity to follow out the injunction of the Word of God, a series of Sabbath services was planned. After some difficulties in securing a hall suited for this purpose we began these important meetings on June 10th.

Again our faith was rewarded, and the power of the Spirit was manifested. How encouraged and happy we felt as the empty seats were slowly filled; soon we had to bring more chairs, and even the

forms along the walls were occupied.

As Pastor Vince appealed to the congregation and admonished the seventy-five non-members to follow the Word of Christ, the Holy Spirit was deeply felt and many hearts were moved.

Will you not together with us pray that the work in Croydon will result in a large harvest of souls?
A. H. BRANDT.

North England Conference

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Notes from the President

WE are very glad to add the name of Mrs. Weston of Grimsby to the Honour List of those who collected £50. Actually, she brought in £60. Congratulations!

Five hundred and fifty members reached and passed the target of £5—that is, one shilling for each year of our denominational history. Well done! We thank God for the hard-working, faithful membership in North England.

LAY CAMPAIGNS

ONE lay evangelist was faced with what for a time appeared to be an insuperable obstacle. He was the church organist and there was no one else who could take his place. He could not start his campaign until he found someone who could play. He advertised in the local paper for an organist and then visited all those who replied until finally he secured the services of a non-member who was interested in Bible study and who promised to attend all the meetings of the campaign. North England values the church officers and lay preachers God has raised up to do such dependable work.

CAMPAIGNS

PASTOR D. J. HANDYSIDES, who is assisted by Mr. V. H. Cooper and Miss H. M. Ford, started his campaign in Barnsley two weeks ago. His opening audience numbered 360, and ninety-five requested literature. Brother Handysides is one of the

last to start because he could not find a hall. However, he writes: "I am starting a fortnight later than last year, but I have worked out a programme of services whereby I hope to have a baptism before the end of the year."

Brother V. H. Cooper will commence his first campaign next Sunday. This will be in addition to assisting Brother Handysides.

THE FUTURE

THOUGHTS about the future can easily be disturbing. Parents wonder about the future of their children. Those who are getting older are concerned about their old age. We read in *Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*, page 149:

"If you have given yourself to God to do His work, you have no need to be anxious for to-morrow. He whose servant you are knows the end from the beginning. The needs of to-morrow, which are hidden from your view, are open to the eyes of Him who is omnipotent"

CHURCH ATTENDANCES

THESE solemn days especially demand a full attendance at the weekly services. We urgently call for stronger prayer meetings. Where special effort has been put forth to build up the devotional service attendances, the results have been most encouraging. It can be done.

A religious writer, deploring the desire of some to decrease the number of weekly services, goes on to say: "We incline to the belief that the perilous times in which we live ought to cause churches to be open more than ever. The closing down of prayer meetings and Sunday evening services is a depressing manifestation of a decline in the militancy of Christianity in both faith and service. The message of Christ to the anguished and burdened hearts of the people should be ministered unto with greater persistency and compassion than ever."

The pressing need to-day is for the full quota of weekly services.

GOOD CHEER

As you know, your tithe is used to pay the expenses of the evangelistic campaigns. You have every cause to be cheered by the efforts of the evangelists in 1944.

This is by far the best year in our history for evangelism, although it is the fifth year of the great world struggle.

The Huddersfield campaign is proving to be a great success. For the past seven weeks, the average non-member attendance at the meetings is as follows: Sunday, 94; Mid-week, 49; Sabbath, 78.

Let us pray that God will continue to bless this excellent campaign and also the good work the other evangelists are doing in the name of the Lord. We have cause to be grateful for the united band of ministers and Bible Instructors in North England.

Brother K. A. Elias, who is conducting an evangelistic campaign in Liverpool, and is assisted by Miss E. A. Buck, had forty-two non-members present at his first Sabbath meeting.

R. S. JOYCE.

Scottish Mission

Superintendent: Pastor J. A. Mc-Millan

Address: 15 Rowallan Gardens,
Broomhill, Glasgow, W.1.

Telephone: Western 6350

Superintendent's Notes

SCOTTISH members met in Edinburgh over the weekend of June 23rd to 24th. We had a truly blessed time together, and the messages delivered stirred our hearts. The churches were well represented, and the weather was ideal for a gathering of God's people in our beautiful capital city of Edinburgh.

Pastor W. G. C. Murdoch took the opening meeting on the Friday evening and conducted the lesson study in Sabbath-school. In addition he led us in a study of the life and translation of Enoch on the Sabbath afternoon. Pastor G. D. King preached at the Sabbath morning service, and again at the closing meeting, leading our minds to consider the ideals which God has set for our endeavour.

Our little band of workers had a refreshing from the Spirit of God in two meetings on the Friday afternoon, addressed by the two visiting brethren in turn. We return to our several tasks with renewed courage and faith, re-

solved to labour for the finishing of God's work in this mission.

EVANGELISM

BROTHER D. P. BLEASBY, the first Seventh-Day Adventist in Scotland, is still conducting the services in Greenock, and a good interest is being maintained. He has had around a hundred at his **Sunday** afternoon meetings. Throughout the winter months, Brother Bleasby has faithfully visited Greenock each Sabbath and Sunday. Pray that the Lord will give a rich increase from these faithful efforts on the part of our lay preacher.

In Aberdeen Brother Watson is conducting a small campaign, and souls are being led into the full message of present truth as the campaign progresses. Pastor H. T. Johnson is still unable to find a habitation in Kilmarnock, though putting forth every effort to find something suitable. Pastor L. G. Hardinge is conducting meetings in both Edinburgh and Musselburgh, and fruitage will appear in due time. Pastor D. Morrison still holds the fort in Dundee and will be supported by the labours of Brother Vigors, our latest recruit to colporteur-evangelism. Brother Rosier is nursing the little interest in Coatbridge on Sundays, and two Sabbath-keepers have been raised up there. We are planning two further campaigns in the autumn.

CONGRATULATIONS

We congratulate Bernard Howard in passing his examinations in the University of Glasgow. Bernard is now entitled to show the degrees, B.Sc., M.A. (Honours). We wish our church organist much success in his career.

J. A. McMILLAN.

Wedding Bells

BULLOCK - GUMMER — Brother Oral Bullock, of the U.S. forces, and Sister Eileen Gummer, third daughter of Brother and Sister G. Gummer, were united in marriage in the Bristol Seventh-Day Adventist church before a goodly company, including a commanding officer and chaplain. A short address was given by the writer. We wish the happy couple every blessing of the Lord as they journey life's road together.

O. M. DORLAND.

Welsh Mission

Superintendent: Pastor S. G. Hyde
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Telephone: Llanishen 600

Superintendent's Notes

THE HEREFORD CONFERENCE

PLANS are being pressed forward in preparation for the conference of Advent believers in Wales.

ITS PURPOSE

The deepening of the spiritual life; the strengthening of the bonds which bind us together as a remnant people; the revival of the Advent faith, spirit, and devotion, as characterized by the pioneers and, finally, to celebrate the Centenary of the 1844 movement.

FOR WHOM?

Firstly, the members of the Welsh field. But the nature of the conference makes this an open meeting, for any who love the Advent movement and people and would share the spiritual blessings of this weekend.

TIME AND PLACE

Meetings will be held from Friday, July 28th, on through Sabbath, July 29th, and possibly into Sunday, July 30th. Programmes with dates and times of services are in preparation and will be sent to anyone requesting the same. Through the kindness of the minister and diaconate, the main services will be held in the Baptist Church, Commercial Road, Hereford.

THE CITY

No lovelier old-world city could have been selected for these conference meetings than Hereford, the capital of Herefordshire. With the lovely River Wye winding its way through the county and the city, and the lovely Norman Cathedral, begun in the eleventh century (containing among many other things a chained library), and many other historic and picturesque places, this quiet and "safe" city will afford a fitting retreat for seekers after God.

THE SPEAKERS

Dr. E. G. Essery and Pastor J. M. Howard will be the principal

guest speakers. Pastor G. Baird and the writer will also be there to have a part in the ministrations, as will some of the workers belonging to our Welsh field.

FACTORS FOR A SUCCESSFUL GATHERING

The presence of the Holy Spirit—and the presence of the people to whom the Holy Spirit can minister. Will you come and join us and will you pray for these meetings that they may prove a refreshing in this time of need.

ACCOMMODATION

Every endeavour will be made to provide friends with apartments and attention. Please send now for what you need giving fullest particulars to: Pastor S. G. Hyde, "Ventnor," Ty-Glas Road, Llanishen, Cardiff.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF WORKERS

A FIRST-YEAR worker who gave promise of developing into a successful Bible-worker—Miss Phyllis Standen—has left us for further medical training. A new arrival, in the person of a recent graduate, Miss Jessie Baird of Scotland, has connected with the work in the Swansea district. We welcome the much-needed help that Miss Baird will provide. We pray God to bless both these workers in their respective spheres.

S. G. HYDE.

Advertisements

PRINTING.—C. Russell, Newton Street, Macclesfield.

WANTED, three assistant nurses, cook, and assistant cook. Good salary. Apply: The Forest Hydro, 894 Forest Road, E. 17.

"APPOINTMENT with God" Seven for threepence. Post free. Lister, Vineyard Road, Wellington, Salop.

SUNSET CALENDAR

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Lon'n Not'm Car'ff Edin Bel't
July 21st 10.05 10.16 10.17 10.40 10.44
July 28th 9.55 10.06 10.08 10.28 10.33

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