Maggie Tabbing

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The Reformed Presbyterian ADVOCATE.

SEPTEMBER 1924.

Published by the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church.
in the interests of its Principles and Institutions
A MONTHLY MAGAZINE for CHRIST'S CROWN and COVENANT.

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The Reformed Presbyterian ADVOCATE.

Stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong.

Published the first of each month by the General Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, at Duanesburgh, N. Y.

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VOL. LVIII. SEPTEMBER 1924. NO. 9.

EDITORIAL.

The London Conference has recently adjourned after solving some difficult problems in bringing about a settlement between Germany and France on the matter of Reparations. It is hoped now that the French Army will be with drawn from the Ruhr within a year. The part American Statesmen took in making such a settlement possible is one that will bring honor to our whole country and raise the United States still higher in the esteem of the other nations.

The month of August has passed away and vacation time for many people is over. The work in the church should now begin in earnest. On another page you will find an appeal for the help of our mission work. We hope this appeal will not go unheeded, Many people have been asked in former times why doesn't our church do more in the cause of missions? We want to see our church doing something. Now we are conducting a very successful mission in Kentucky, and we call on all such persons to come up to the help of the work that it may be a success. The "poor widow's mite was doubtless just what she could give, but let big men remember that they are not "poor widows," and a copper, a nickle, and a dime, will not do in this present emergency.

Erratta! In the August Advocate, page 191 in lines 17 and 18 read Miss Stella Duncan, and Dr. Savage instead Dr. Sawyer.

Acknowledgements for this month will appear in the October Advocate.

THE BIBLE

This Book contains— The mind of God, the state of man, the way of Salvation, doom of sinners, and happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldiers sword, and the christian's charter. Here Paradise is restored, Heaven opened, and the gates of Hell disclosed. CHRIST IS ITS GRAND SUBJECT, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life will be open at the Judgement, and be remembered for ever. It involves the highest responsibility, rewards the greatest labor, and condems all who trifle with its holy contents.

AN EPIGRAM ON THE BLESSEDNESS OF DIVINE LOVE

Faith, Hope, and Love were questioned what they thought
Of future glory, which Religion taught.
Now faith believed it to be firmly true,
And Hope expected so to find it too;
Love answered, smiling, with a conscious glow,
Believe? expect? I KNOW it to be so.

JOHN BYROM

A NOTICE

The Pittsburgh Reformed Presbyterian Presbytery will meet in the R. P. Church, Fairview, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, on the Second Tuesday of September, the 9th day of the month, at 11 o'clock A. M.

(Signed) ALEXANDER SAVAGE,
Clerk.

AN APPEAL

The Board of Home Missions earnestly appeals to all the congregations, under the care of General Synod, to forward, at their earliest convenience, the amounts assessed by Synod, as a special assessment to aid in carrying on our important work in the Kentucky Mission field. For information concerning the assessment, see minutes of General Synod, Page 60—1924. The amounts assessed, where raised, should be sent to Mr. W. J. Imbrie, New Castle, Pa., R. F. D., No. 2.

It is also desired by the Home Mission Board that the regular annual offerings be raised as soon as it is convenient by all our congregations in order to maintain our work within the bounds of our Presbyteries, and also in the Kentucky Mission field.

The Lord in his mercy and grace has given the Reformed Presbyterian Church an important work to do for his honor and glory. He has given the church her work in the Home and Foreign Mission fields, and the church is able to do the work so honorable and important assigned her by her glorious Redeemer. Then let the church arise in her strength and in faith and love furnish the means to carry our work and have the approval and blessing of our King.

Our institutions of learning, our college and Theological Seminary require the aid of the whole church, and as a denomination we are well able to carry on all the work the Saviour has given us to do. Then let us realize that the Saviour has given us the means and opportunities to honor and glorify him by rendering faithful service, and when our day of service shall close we can transmit the work to worthy and faithful servants to carry it forward and crown it with success. "Be thou faithful unto

death and I will give thee a crown of life."

(Signed) ALEXANDER SAVAGE,
Chairman.

LETTERS FROM KENTUCKY.

Houston, Ky.,
July 15, 1924.

Dear Friends:

It is school time here again. Mr. and Mrs. Butler and Miss Wilson arrived here Saturday. Mr. Stewart had a wagon to meet them at Oakdale so as to bring their baggage also. They were lucky in getting in when they did as it began to rain a short time after they got here. It was quite different than when we came in after our vacation. It rained so hard that we did not get any farther than Highland (a mission station about three miles from Oakdale) that night. The creeks had gotten up and were too dangerous for us to go any further. One boy with a load of goods attempted to go on, but when he came into Turkey Creek he was hit by the tide, which he could not see until it was too late to get out of the way. It took him, mules and wagon down the creek quite a ways. The boy almost lost his life in attempting to save the mules. After the creek had run down quite a bit we came in the next day.

Miss Foster left for her vacation on the Friday after we got back. She went by Cedarville to visit friends and then on to her home in Iowa. Her vacation was broken and saddened by the death of little Ruth Deaton. She was a little girl the Misses Elva and Estella Foster had taken home with them a year ago this last March. The Cedarville people probably would remember her as she was with the Foster sisters when they visited in Cedarville at the time they took her home. She was a very sweet girl and was loved by all who knew her.

She died of tuburcular meningitis on July 8 at the home of Miss Cunningham, in Richmond, Kan. Miss Foster expected to bring her back with her. She wanted to see her daddy so bad and he could hardly wait for the time to come when she would be coming home. So it was very hard on him when he received

the unexpected news that his little daughter could not live. He cried nearly all night, the night before Ruth left here, so you can see how he loved his little girl. The people of Richmond, Kan., also thought a lot of her as they were willing to bear all funeral expenses. Also they would have paid for a specialist if he could have done any good. We had planned to have her with us this year along with her two brothers, but it was not God's plan. Miss Foster is not here yet, but we expect her in a short time.

We have been quite busy since coming back in trying to get everything ready for the starting of school. We had three rooms to paper and four to paint and curtains to put up. I wish it were possible for some member of each congregation that has furnished a room to visit us here and see for yourself just what you are doing. There are still two rooms that have not been fixed, so will be able to see the change that the kind people have permitted us to make. We want to thank all those who have helped to bring about such a change and to make it so much more pleasant for the workers here.

We started school this morning, but nothing so very much could be accomplished as we had no books. All school books throughout the State change this year, so that makes it that everyone had to get new books. The price of them is so high that it is going to be impossible for some of the poor people to buy books for their children. Mr. Stewart got up this morning at 4 o'clock and rode to Highland after books and has gone back again this afternoon after more. Miss Wilson, who will have the primary grades, had more this morning than the other rooms put together. Her room is full with two in a seat and all did not enter this morning. All the people do not have their corn hoed out yet, so some of the children have to stay at home and help. We have a very good corp of teachers this year, so we feel that we are going to have a very good year of work here.

We still feel that we need your prayers and ask that you continually remember us at the throne of grace.

Yours in the Master's service,

MRS. ROBERT W. STEWART.

August 24, 1924.

Dear Friends:

Amidst our busy moments we must turn aside to write you a few of the happenings at Houston. I notice in the August issue of the Advocate that came in the mail tonight that Mrs. Stewart's letter for some unknown cause did not appear so I will have a few more things to tell.

Mrs. Stewart and myself arrived at Houston after our vacation, feeling prepared for the work of another year. We got here the second Wednesday of June. On account of a very heavy rain that raised the creeks so that they were unsafe, we were forced to stay at Highland all night Tuesday and wait for the creeks to run down. We found out after reaching Houston that one of the boys tried to get home with a wagon and that he almost lost his mules and his own life. The creeks are very dangerous when they get full. Miss Foster left the following Friday for a few days visit in Cedarville and then journeyed on to her old home in Iowa.

During the month that Mrs. Stewart and I were here alone we were kept busy papering, painting, sunning mattresses, etc. In fact it was a general clean-up in preparing for the opening of school on July 14.

On July 8 we were saddened by the death of little Ruth Deaton. She was here in the Home for a while and while here made a host of friends. She had been taken to the West by the Misses Foster and Cunningham, and it was there at the home of Miss Cunningham, in Richmond, Kansas, that she died of tubercular meningitis. She was always happy and jolly spreading God's love wherever she went. But her life work having been accomplished she was called to that home where there is joy evermore.

It was Saturday evening, July 12, our new teacher arrived after a rough ride in the wagon from Oakdale. It was get to business right away, for school opened Monday morning. A short meeting was held that evening in order that we might get our worked mapped out as best as possible. Mr. Butler is teaching the higher grades, Mrs. Butler, the intermediates, and Miss Wilson the primary grades. Our school opened with 79

enrolled, and now after one month's work we feel that we are going to have a very successful school year. We are indeed glad that Mr. Butler is able to teach music, as our pupils need it so bad. Also we feel that our athletics will be helped a great deal, as both Mr. and Mrs. Butler have had athletic training. We secured some baseball equipment about a week ago but have been having some trouble in getting the boys to take hold of the game. It is entirely a new game to them and most of them seem afraid of the ball. The text books all changed throughout the State of Kentucky this year. The new books were so high that it makes it very hard for the poor people to get books for their children. Some of the children do not have a book yet, and I don't know when they will be able to get them.

At the present time we are very busy installing a sanitary sewage system modeled by the State of Kentucky. It had come to the place that with so many children here something had to be done. There was no money in the treasury of the Home Mission Board, so after talking it over with some of the workers we decided that it must be installed and that it would be paid for. The work of the Lord must go on. This system will not cost less than $125, and if anyone feels like helping to pay for the installing of this system we would be glad to receive your remittance.

The crops this year will be much better than was expected. All garden stuff was exceptionally good and the corn looks very well so far. The fruit is going to be fairly good, so taking everything into consideration we feel again God's love and care for his children. We are sorry to see those who do not appreciate what their Heavenly Father does for them.

On Tuesday of this week, through the courtesy of Dr. Guerrant, superintendent of Highland Mission, Dr. Harper and Miss McClaren came over and made a physical examination of our school children. It has been about five years since Dr. and nurse have been here to examine the children of this school. The following results were obtained; 1½ per cent. had otis mediO following results were obtained; 13 per cent. had conjuntivitis; 33 per cent. had hypertrophied tonsils, which require an operation; 1½ per cent. had otis media, and 10 per cent. had teeth that were

affecting the health. No, on account of it being so far to a doctor fro mhere, there will be a lot of these cases that will receive no attention at all.

We have made plans for the holding of a fair here on September 5. It will require an immense amount of work, but it is work that keeps mankind out of mischief.

Hoping and praying that the blessing of the Lord may rest upon the entire church of God and those who are engaged in his service. I close.

Sincerely yours,
ROBERT W. STEWART.

DARLINGTON, PA.

The Woman's Missionary Society met at the beautiful new home of Mrs. Iva Graham, Darlington, Pa., Wednesday, July 9, 1924, at 2.00 P. M.

The devotional exercises were conducted by Miss Stella Duncan, the topic for study being, "What is real success?"

The first chapter of Joshua was read as a scripture lesson, the eighth verse applying directly to the subject.

"This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein; for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success."

Joshua was brought up in bondage in Egypt and after the great deliverance of the Hebrew nation he was one of the explorers sent to spy out the land of Canaan. It took great faith and courage to stand up against public opinion and give a good report of the land.

Joshua was appointed Moses' successor, and his greatest work was done after he was 83 years old.

Some individuals are successful in early life, but many, like Joshua, by being faithful in little things have slowly climbed the ladder of success and reached the top at a time in life when the ordinary person has retired from the scenes of active service.

The meaning of success depends upon the viewpoint of the individual. If he desire knowledge, when he has acquired it, he is successful in his own opinion. If he is a miser, then his success would lie in his ability to pile up gold; if he be a missionary, his success would depend seemingly upon the number of converts; if a philanthropist, the great good he might accomplish would be his success; if a florist, the raising of the finest flowers would be satisfying. Doing the best that can be done along any certain line is success.

If Satan could overthrow Christ and His kingdom of righteousness he would consider it great success. But what is real success?

"The book of law" refers to the laws given through Moses and made permanent by being written in a book or roll. It is God's truth.

"Observe to do according to all that is written therein." All effort to please God is in vain without obedience.

No one ever obeyed God's Word and failed to make a success of life. There are by-ways to wealth, honor, thrones, power and enjoyment, but no other road to real success.

Teach me, O Lord, the perfect way
Of thy precepts divine,
And to observe it to the end,
I shall my heart incline.
Give understanding unto me,
So keep thy laws shall I;
Yea, ev'n with my whole heart I shall
Observe it carefully.
In thy law's path make me to go;
For I delight therein.
My heart unto thy testimonies,
And not to greed incline.
Turn thou away my sight and eyes
From viewing vanity;
And in thy good and holy way
Be pleased to quicken me.

The Literary exercises were quite interesting. Miss Stella Duncan read a poem, the subject of which was "We Find What We Seek." Mrs. Anna Sawyer read a story concerning Child

Labor. The subject was "Why She Didn't Like Roses." Appropriate remarks by Dr. Savage followed by the closing prayer brought this interesting and instructive meeting to a close.

After the meeting the hostess served a dainty lunch and received a vote of thanks from the society. The next meeting will be held at the home of the Misses Merle and Mayme Caughey, Darlington, Pa.

Sincerely yours,

EVA D. NAGEL.



Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.—Psalm 119: 105.

The solution of the evils and social unrest which trouble the world today—for *right thinking* and *right living*—is the practical application of the teachings of the Word of God

THE BIBLE SERVICE BUREAU CINCINNATI, OHIO

POWER OF THE WORD OF GOD

Psalm 19: 7 The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.

8. The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.

9, The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the judgements of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

10. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than the honey from the honeycomb.

11. Moreover, by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.

PRAYER:- O God, give us greater reverence for thy word and thy law. Help us to relize that thy way is always best for us. May obedience be a mark of our love to thee. Amen.

A PLEA FOR THE MINISTRY

By Rev. J. B. Wilson, D. D.

During the last few years we have been hearing of the decrease in the number of young men who are offering themselves for the Gospel ministry, and much anxiety has been shown by those who have been carefully watching the results. If the supply of ministers falls far short of the demand, shall not every great interest of the church be deteriorated? The question is one of vital importance and must not be passed over with indifference. To fill vacancies caused by death in our branch of the church at least an average of twenty-five licentiates would be needed each year. To occupy the places of those who go to other denominations eight more, and to serve in the cause of missions in the Home Fields (new work) ten more, and in the Foreign Fields, ten more. According to this calculation our church would need to license fifty-three men every year to preach the Gospel, if her home pulpits are rightly filled and the needs of her Foreign Fields properly met. It appears from the minutes of the last General Assembly that instead of fifty-three we had only twenty-three licensed. No thoughtful man that loves the church and her King can consider these facts without alarm. They mean a crippled and a deteriorating ministry at home, and utter inefficiency in Foreign operations. They imply a lowering of our home pulpit which will tell on the spread of the Gospel, on the growth and progress of the church as the Lord's agent for the salvation of souls, and on the liberalities by which her aggressive movements are sustained. If ministers of the right stamp and in sufficient numbers are wanting, it will not be long till everything great and good will be wanting also. An able and faithful ministry is accompanied and followed through God, by the blessing and benefits of the Covenant of Grace. The absence of such a ministry would amount to a judicial infliction on the church.

We would have expected from the nature of the case that the supply of young men for the ministry would have been

abundant. College and University education is at hand and cheap. The need of men with sound minds and large hearts, of deep rich spiritual life, and cultivated gifts and endowments, was never so great. We have enjoyed lately in many of our congregations a series of movements in religious matters almost amounting to revivals. We have had the young people in training for ten years in our societies. All the other learned professions are over-stocked with men; so that the church, the first and noblest institution on earth, and the one charged in the highest degree with all the elements of human good and welfare, is the only great organized interest that languishes for want of men. We are accustomed to think that when the Divine life enters an educated mind the exclamation is soon heard "I would do good" and to the things that would hinder in the direction of time, money and study the uniform answer would be "I have opened my mouth to the Lord and I cannot go back." We believe that there are many parents in our congregations whose faith is like Hannah's. Why then does not the pulpit reap fruit of the choicest kind among converted young men from godly homes? Undoubtedly the real and somewhat sad state of matters throws some doubt on the spirituality of young men and on the Christlessness of their parents. It raises the question, whether their conversion is complete; whether their transfiguration through grace has been thorough. For religion means service, and service is true nobility; and the noblest of all noble things is the Christian ministry. The office as delineated by its Divine Author touches all that is lasting and grand in intellect and morals; and fills the world of the spiritual and celestial. It embraces the highest interests of time; it reaches in all its strivings into eternity. If sublimity, excellency and utility, beautified by holy intelligence and losing themselves in infinite and enthroning glory, are real attractions, then young men to whom the spiritual and the ideal are real and rapt experience, must turn with lofty preference to the ministry of the Word.

Parents generally desire an important place for their sons in life. Amid all the competing claims on earth there is none like the ministry. The pulpit hedges its occupant round from

many fierce temptations common. It gives scope for work, so that there is no fear of the curse of idleness. It is the best education possible for a future life. It opens fountains of pleasure, all pure and holy, such as no other employment can show. It lays the whole man under contribution and taxes his powers to the uttermost, so that the strength of the soul is elicited and matured; it hallows life in a way to which there is no parallel, and gives it a power that vibrates through eternity. Occupying the mind with the loftiest themes, and wielding the powers and splendors of the invisible, the Christian ministry bears down on ignorance and misery with a force all its own. It is a current of benevolence which, like the gulf stream, is ever on the flow, to impart life and cast verdure over the sin-blasted souls of men.

Give the ministry scope, reality, faithfulness and freedom and it will herald the springtime of the world; before it, on its march, a human wilderness where no spiritual good ever grew; behind it, a smiling Eden of moral beauty and fruit. The teacher, philosopher, money-maker, writer and statesman, each has his place in the economy of things; but that place is beneath the pulpit when it is occupied by a man of God. It were a matter of importance if the ministry in real spiritual society had a higher standing among men. Something might be done to make the office more attractive. Is it possible, keeping in view the mode in which Christ managed and taught and lived with His disciples for three years, so to conduct our schools and seminaries that in the estimation of young men they would appear ever surrounded with an atmosphere of Divine beauty? That each Professor should be a father whose learning shone all the brighter for the holiness that distinguishes it; whose tender love overflowed ever like that of John Brown of Had- and whose teaching ever silvered and blended, in conception and delivery, with an unction like that of John Brown of Haddington, and an enthusiasm like that of Thomas Chalmers and an engrossing and absorbing heavenliness of devotion to the glory of God and the students' spiritual good, like that of the late J. B. McMichael, who by familiar intercourse and by the force and majesty of his own character trained many a young man to think, study, live and preach for the glory of God. We

believe (from personal experience) that the silent force of a noble character is the grandest factor in all education.

To make the ministry more attractive to young men, something might be done in the home life. If in the home young men hear only cynical criticism on the pulpit, it is not to be wondered that they turn their backs on the ministry and even lose interest in the work of the church. If in the church courts they listen to heated debate in which the Christ-like spirit is not manifested, where selfish passions are exhibited and whisperings concerning a brother's character indulged in, young men of deep piety must turn away in disgust. But let the meetings of ministers be truth and reality; where heart embraces heart; where College and Seminary misunderstandings are forgotten; where jesting remarks about a brother's peculiarities and frailties, made in a covert manner are not heard; where charity hides under her mantle every weak point in a brother, and where the consciousness of the God of love in each welds the whole into a body of which the life is Christ, into the holy beauty, wisdom and benignity of His Divine Personality, and it will not be difficult to see young men of ideal excellence and noble aspirations attracted by the rays of their light and the beams of their love. Such a ministry would be the regeneration of our church and country. Let us give Our King no rest until He raise up a race of such men, and perpetuate it.

BIBLES FOR GERMAN-SPEAKING THEOLOGICAL STUDENTS

In response to an urgent request from Dr. Adolf Keller, of the Bureau for Relief of Evangelical Churches in Europe, the American Bible Society recently sent funds to the well-known German Professor, Dr. Adolf Deissmann, of Berlin, for securing and distributing Nestle's Greek Testament among theological students in Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Austria, who otherwise could not procure them.

In a letter to Dr. W. I. Haven, General Secretary of the

American Bible Society, acknowledging the grant, Dr. Deissmann writes:

"You have done the Evangelical cause a great service. Many young people who have dedicated their lives to God send their life-long thanks. You have proved 2 Thess. 3:1—'That the Word of God may have free course.'"

Letters from the faculties of theological schools which benefited by the grant bear evidence of the need for this service and the gratitude with which it was received. We make quotations from a few of these letters:

The Dean of the Theological Faculty at Kiel, writes:

"Our students are very poor today, and through your kind gift we will be able to give them some real assistance and thereby lighten their burden. May the receivers of these books always remember that Christendom, which was the originator of this Book, unites the hearts across the ocean."

From the school at Cablong, Austria, comes the cheering message:

"You have given us a great deal of joy and have made a real contribution to the theological studies in our country by your gift of the Nestle's Testaments."

The Director of the school at Bethel by Biedefeld, says:

"For our evangelical theological students the New Testament is the daily bread of God. Therefore, you could do us no greater service than by sending us a number of New Testaments through the Wurtemburg Bible Society."

The Dean of the Theological Faculty at Bonn, writes:

"This gift was as a sign to us of the brotherly convictions which bind us together."

The Dean of the Theological Faculty at George August University, Gottingen, writes:

"This kind gift will be received with the greatest appreciation by our students who through the very trying and hard times find it almost impossible to secure their study books."

Dean of the Theological Faculty at the University of Breslau, writes:

"It is with great joy that through such a gift we again realize the renewed alliance, and particularly in such a gift of New Testaments, is a symbol of the spiritual oneness which

binds both sides of the ocean."

Czechoslovakia expresses h[illegible]preciation in a message from John Hus Theological Fac[illegible] Prague:

"We greatly and heartily appreciate this generous gift. It will be a substantial help to our students who are suffering from the consequences of war perhaps not in the same degree as in Germany, but have also to undergo a great deal of suffering and privation. Especially theological books published in other countries such as Germany and America and England are practically inaccessible to them as well as for our library. And because our own theological literature is in its beginnings only, we cannot do without foreign books."

Professor of New Testament Exegesis at Friedrichs University, Halle-Wittenburg, expresses his personal interest in making the distribution:

"I have handed out each individual copy with an earnest exhortation that the student apply himself assiduously to the study of the New Testament with a view to fulfill the purpose of the donors and to the honor of our heavenly Lord."

A letter from the Dean of the Theological Faculty at Ruprect Kars University, Heidelberg, emphasizes the poverty of the students:

"This worthy gift will be most welcome to our students who at times are not able to secure the most urgent needs for study and living."

Professor Steark, of Jena University, also emphasizes the need for the assistance rendered:

"In the past it was understood that the students supplied the Holy Scriptures in the various languages upon entrance in school. Now we must see to it that the students have, at least, the Scriptures in Hebrew and Greek. Hereby you can see how valuable your gift is."

Professor Burscher writes from Warsaw, Poland:

"In the name of the students of the Evangelical Theological Faculty of the University of Warsaw, who will take advantage of your kindly gift, I am glad to express our hearty thanks for your kindliness."

—Issued by the American Bible Society, Bible House, Astor Place, New York City, August 13, 1924.

A FALL PROGRAM OF EVANGELISM PROPOSED

On June 24 to 26, at Northfield, Massachusetts, the denominational secretaries for evangelism, together with other evangelistic leaders, met for a three-day conference and retreat as guests of the Federal Council's Commission on Evangelism. In this place, hallowed by memories of Dwight L. Moody, the conference reached decisions that should have far-reaching influence upon the life of all the churches of the country.

One of the most significant results was the decision to enter unitedly next fall upon a program of increasing church attendance. The plan has two main objectives; first, to reinterest the absentee church member who does not take church attendance seriously as a duty; and, second, to secure the attendance of those not now members of the church.

The first Sunday in October is suggested as a day for the simultaneous launching of this program throughout the country. This day was chosen because some of the denominations had already selected it for their own special emphasis.

The conference also gave special attention to plans for developing a fall evangelistic program by the pastors and laymen of the churches. During recent years, the period in the spring just preceding Easter has come to be generally accepted as a time for concerted emphasis on evangelism. It was felt that a similar plan needed to be developed for the fall. This would be the climax of the proposed campaign on church attendance.

The findings of the conference, as unanimously adopted, are as follows:

Proposed Fall Program on Evangelism.

1. Churches and pastors should know their fields. To this end we urge that wherever possible there be a survey of the field this autumn sufficiently thorough to result in a list of names of all in the community who ought to be reached by the church. Where there is more than one church in the community the survey can be made co-operatively, each church receiving the names of those who express a preference for it or are

its normal responsibility. If a survey is not undertaken, there should be at least an assembling of as many names as possible of people in the community who are not members of any church, placing these names on a prospect list. Such names can be secured from the various members of the church, the Sunday School, public school lists, etc.

2. There should be in every church this autumn a special period of "friendly visitation" in the homes of the community, carried on by a group appointed for that purpose, designed to enlist fresh interest among those who are already church members, and to invite to the church those who are not.

3. We commend the growing practice of holding a church "Rally Day" in the fall, on which day special attention is given to securing the attendance of all in the community and seeking to interest them in the life and work of the church. There is special advantage in a concerted observance of this day. In view of the fact that the first Sunday in October is already observed as "Rally Day" among many churches and Bible Schools, we suggest the observance of this date as widely as practical, with Sunday, September 21, or any time in the intervening two weeks used as a visitation period.

4. Every church should have a definite plan for extending to every unchurched person in the community a personal invitation to become a member of the church. This plan would not be a plan of the minister alone. His part is to inspire men and women to desire to do the work of personal evangelism and to organize his members in a systematic way for a definite personal evangelistic program. We commend the plan of setting aside a special period in which those outside the church will be visited by laymen and urged to become Christians.

There should be at least a brief period of training for those who are to carry on this program of personal evangelism in the local church. Such services of laymen will result not only in securing permanent accessions to the church, but also in enriching the religious experience of all who participate.

5. We believe that there should be a definite attempt on the part of all churches to secure an autumn ingathering, planning just as specifically for this as for the ingathering in the pre-Easter season.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR TOPICS

September 7, 1924

Topic: In His Footsteps, IX. How Jesus Helped Sinners, Luke 15:1-7; 19:1-10. Consecration Meeting.

BIBLE READINGS

Monday Forgiving Sinners Matt. 9:1-8
Tuesday Loving Sinners Matt. 23:37-39
Wednesday Saving Sinners Acts 4: 1-12
Thursday Living for sinners Heb. 7:19-28
Friday Dying for Sinners Gal. 2:20-21
Saturday Patient with sinners Mark 5:1-17

COMMENT

Jesus was friendly with sinner. He hated their sin, but loved them. In Jesus eyes, men were lost; yet they had a value to God as a sheep has to a shepherd. Jesus helped men by making appeal to the best that is in them, challenging them to sacrifice.

PERTINENT QUESTIONS

1. How has Jesus helped me?
2. How can I help Jesus to help others?
3. Why do sinners need help?

September 14, 1924

Topic: How can we serve our Sabbath School John 21:15-17

BIBLE READINGS

Monday Service by prayer Matt. 7:7-12
Tuesday By training Matt.4:19
Wednesday By teaching Matt. 18:1-6
Thursday By Visitation Jas. 1:22-27
Friday By friendliness Phil. 2:5-11
Saturday By support Heb. 10:23-25

COMMENT

Work for Christ especially children, is ever based on love, and without love will fail. If we would befriend Jesus, or love Him, we shall care for His little ones. Jesus does not take an unsatisfactory answer, but comes back again and again, until we see what He wants us to do.

PERTINENT QUESTIONS

1. How can we help our Sabbath School?
3. Why should we organize a teacher training class?
3. Can we start a mission Sabbath School?

September, 21, 1924

Topic: "The Beatitudes" of the Psalms. Ps. 1:1; 32:2; 34:8

BIBLE READINGS

Monday Blessed Refuge Ps 2:12
Tuesday Blessed nation Ps. 33:12
Wednesday Blessed integrity Ps, 40:4
Thursday Blessed benevolence Ps. 41:1
Friday Blessed choice Ps.65:4
Saturday Blessed tears Ps. 94:12

COMMENT

The word "blessed" means happy. The only real happiness is in a good life, To know that God loves us and has forgiven our sins floods the life with joy. The more we taste God's goodness, the more of it we want. It creates a great appetite.

PERTINENT QUESTIONS

1 What beatitude most appeals to you? Why,
2 How is our happiness dependent on ourselves?
3 How can we help others to realize happiness

September 28, 1924

Topic: Organizing to Get Things Done Neh. 1:1-6; 2:1-6; 4:1-6

BIBLE READINGS

Monday Organizing for victory I Kings 20:13-21
Tuesday For Charity Acts 6:1-7
Wednesday For discipline Tit. 1:1-16
Thursday For efficiency Neh. 4:12-23
Friday For helpfulness Mark 2;1-5
Saturday For worship I Chron. 23:25-32

COMMENT

Nehemiah began organization with prayer. We need more than organization; we need power. Prayer leads to wisdom, opens the way step by step to find and do the right thing. Organization is first of the mind. Nehemiah did not fumble when questioned; he knew what he wished to do.

PERTINENT QUESTIONS

1. What things may our society do for Christ?
2. In what directions is our organization lacking?
3. Where and how can we get ideas as to things to do?

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