

# AUSTRALASIAN RECORD

"Sound an alarm: for the day of the Lord cometh, for it is nigh at hand."

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## Dedication of the "Melanesia"

JUNE 3, 1917, will always be a memorable day in the history of our work in Australasia, and those who were privileged to be present at the dedication of our new mission boat, will not soon forget the glad, yet solemn occasion. The intense interest that our members are taking in this boat was evidenced by the large attendance which must have numbered five hundred.

The spot chosen was at the head of Berry's Bay on the North Shore. The free use of the wharf was kindly granted to us for the occasion. The weather was ideal, calm and sunny, yet with sufficient keenness in the air to make it invigorating.

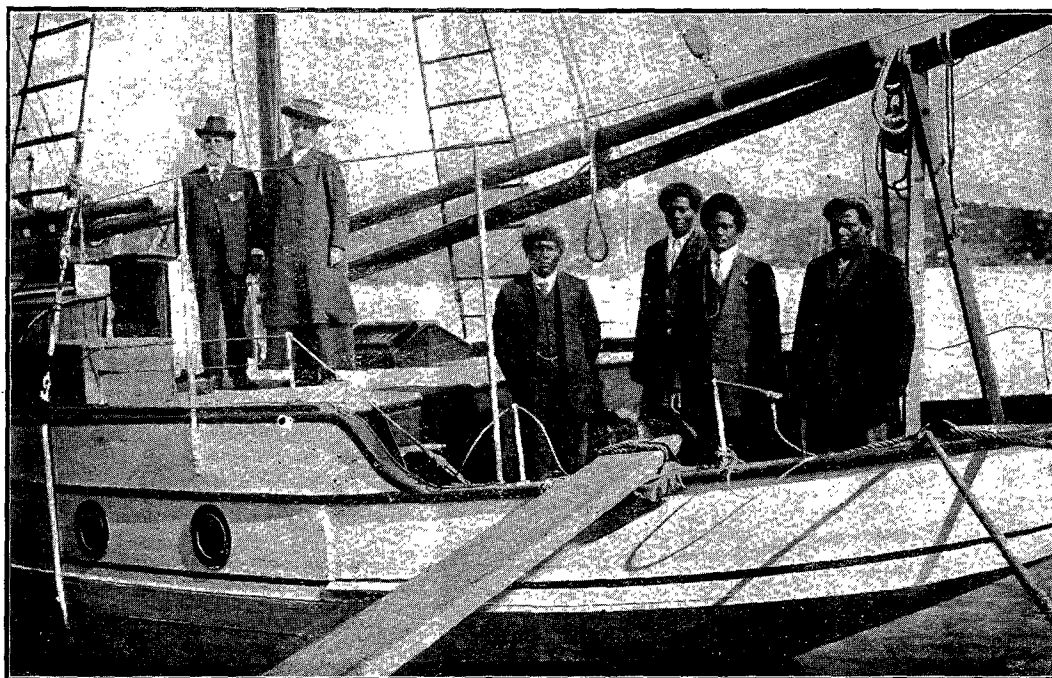
All faces wore an expression of proud ownership as they viewed the graceful little vessel riding at her moorings, bedecked with her bunting in honour of the occasion. One good brother aptly expressed the thoughts of many when he said, "She is a *multum in parvo*," for as we peered into her cabins and glanced over her

decks, we could not but wonder how so many necessary features could be crowded into so small a space.

A few moments after three o'clock Pastor A. W. Anderson, as chairman, called the gathering to order, and the

fruit already gathered, as represented by the four Solomon Islanders taking part in the service. The report of the Building Committee was then presented as follows:

"Seventh-day Adventists, believing



Pastor Jones and Wife and Solomon Islanders on Board the "Melanesia"

strains of the beautiful hymn, "Giver of All," rose heavenward from grateful hearts. Pastor W. J. Smith then invoked the Lord's blessing upon the meeting and the enterprise which had occasioned it, at the same time offering thanks for the

as they do that God has entrusted them with the proclamation of the great threefold message recorded in the 14th chapter of Revelation, must necessarily be a missionary people. John in vision saw the messenger flying in the midst of heaven, having

the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people.

"The work here foretold is world-wide and it corresponds with our Saviour's statement, 'This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness, and then shall the end come.' The message is definite, too: 'Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come: and worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.'

"In almost every nation of the world this message is being sounded to-day. The countries yet unentered can be counted on the fingers of one hand; and it cannot be very long ere the work will be finished. We rejoice to know that Australasia is to have a prominent part in its completion and triumph. Upon Australasia has been laid the responsibility of carrying the gospel of the kingdom to the islands of the Pacific.

"It is only thirty-two years ago that the first party of Seventh-day Adventist missionaries landed in Australia, and brought the first sound of the message to these shores. If anything were needed to convince us that the power of God is behind this movement, a retrospective glance at its progress is sufficient. We need not stop to trace the various stages in its development. It suffices to say that Australasia, which but thirty-two years ago first heard this message, is to-day operating missions for its promulgation in the following islands: Fijian Group, Tongan Group, Samoa, Cook Group, Society Islands, Pitcairn, Niue, New Hebrides, Norfolk Island, Lord Howe Island, New Guinea, and the Solomon Islands.

"Not only is this so, but there are to-day over thirty Seventh-day Adventist missionaries in China,

Japan, India, the Philippines, Sumatra, and Java, who have been trained and sent out by the Australasian Union Conference.

"To-day we are to witness an epoch in the history of our missionary operations—the dedication of a mission vessel, for the use of the superintendent of one of the most difficult and yet most promising fields—Melanesia. Our work has out-grown the conveniences afforded

Jun., of Berry's Bay, and those of us who have had the privilege of inspecting the little vessel, now in our view, will agree that he has done his part truly and well.

"As usual, many obstacles met us in the execution of our plans, and some unexpected delays have occurred, hindering her completion, which in the first place was expected in March last. Shortage of materials and freight have been



The Dedication Service of the "Melanesia"

by ordinary trading vessels, and henceforth with the blessing of Almighty God the movements of Pastor Jones will be unfettered by time tables, etc., and he will be free to pass from group to group and place to place as the needs of the work demand.

"At the Union Conference council held in September, 1916, it was decided to build an auxiliary ketch for the use of the superintendent of our Melanesian Mission. Providence had ordained that Pastor Jones, prior to his becoming a missionary, had been a master mariner; thus what might have been our greatest difficulty—the securing of a master for the vessel—was provided for at the outset.

"It was decided to place the work of building the vessel in the able hands of Mr. W. M. Ford,

amongst the greatest difficulties experienced. These have not only caused delay, but have also increased the cost of the vessel. However, our plans and efforts have outlived the storms and to-day we thank God and take courage, praying that the hand that hitherto hath helped us in this project will guide the *Melanesia* through the storms and dangers which will, no doubt, meet her in the future, and preserve her to a career of usefulness in His service.

"Her chief dimensions are as follows: Length 60 ft. 8 in.; beam 15 ft. 6 in.; depth 7 ft. She is fitted with a 50 horse-power motor engine, which it is anticipated will give her a speed of eight or nine knots.

"In the first place it was expected that the total cost of the boat, fittings, and instruments would be about

£2,000, but the large advance in prices of materials, instruments, etc., will, we anticipate, bring the cost to at least £300 above that figure.

"Almost as soon as the project was definitely decided upon, the members of our Young People's Missionary Volunteer Societies undertook to raise the £2,000 required. The year 1917 was specified as the time in which this sum is to be raised. Tremendous enthusiasm has taken hold of our young people, and at the close of the first quarter, a little over £700 had been raised by them.

"Enthusiasm is always contagious, and we believe that many who are having a hand in this enterprise can be counted as young people in heart only, as their years belie their claim to youth. However, we are glad of their help, and trust that it will be continued. By maintaining this enthusiasm and energy there is every prospect of not only the £2,000 being raised, but that the excess in cost will also be provided by our Missionary Volunteers.

"The launching took place on the 12th of April and passed off without a hitch, under the most pleasant weather conditions.

"Heaven has granted to us similar ideal weather for this occasion, and we trust that this may be an omen of good for the future. In closing this brief report, the committee entrusted with her building wish to heartily thank those who have so freely contributed either funds, services, or advice, which have been so essential and so helpful in securing the excellent results achieved thus far."

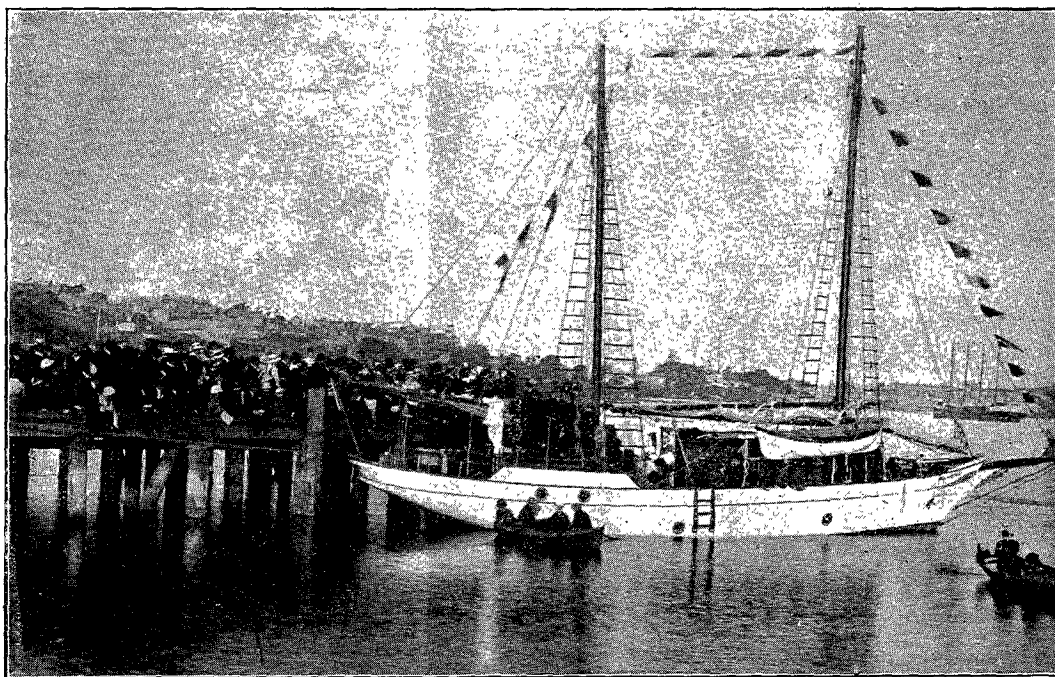
The next item on the programme was a male quartette rendered by four of the nurses from the Sydney Sanitarium. This hymn entitled, "Send Us Help," was written about twenty-seven years ago, to be sung at the dedication of our mission schooner, *Pitcairn*. Its plaintive plea for those

in spiritual darkness came with just as much force on this occasion, as it did then; and the presence of the four natives, who listened intently to the song, seemed to add to it an additional, though mute plea for their people.

Pastor Anderson then proceeded with the dedicatory address. After speaking of the purpose and meaning of such a service he called upon Sister Jones to christen the boat, *Melanesia*, and to "break" the house flag from her masthead. All eyes were raised aloft as Sister Jones released the flag under which she is to sail, and which is already well known in the Solomons, where it floats on the *Advent Herald*.

A brief description of the flag may be of interest. The ground is white. A green olive branch runs from the bottom left-hand corner to the top right-hand corner, while from the top

"Within 1,000 or 2,000 miles of this coast there are thousands of men and women who will never hear the gospel message for these last days unless we own boats that will take our workers direct to them. There are hundreds of islands at which no trading vessels now call. There are many islands that the gospel has not reached at all." Proceeding he explained why the *Melanesia* had been built her particular size. She was as large as the circumstances of the case would permit, and was of sufficient size to outlive the storms which, no doubt, she would meet sooner or later, yet her draught was not too great to allow of her travelling amid the shoals and reefs of the island fields in comparative safety. In his closing remarks he reminded his hearers how Solomon prayed that God would accept the temple which he had built.



Inspecting the "Melanesia" after the Dedication

left-hand corner the letters, "A. U. C." (Australasian Union Conference), in red, descend diagonally to the right.

Continuing his address, Pastor Anderson thanked those present and all other contributors for what they had already done, and invited hearty continuance of their interest and support. He next spoke of the need for such a vessel in the following words:

The Lord answered the prayer, "I have hallowed this house which thou hast built." "We believe," he continued, "that God will hallow this boat which we are now consecrating to His service."

At the close of the address, the hymn, "Send a Light," sung in English by our four boys from the Solomons, was listened to with interest akin to wonder, as it was

explained that until Brother and Sister Jones met them they knew nothing of Christianity and practically nothing of the English language. The following poem entitled, "Into All the World," which had been written for the occasion, was read by Pastor Smith. Brother F. Knight, on behalf of the young people of Australasia, expected to recite this as their farewell message to the ship's company, but a severe cold in the throat prevented his doing so.

### "Into All the World"

'Twas given in the years gone by,  
Christ's great command to "go";  
And power was hidden in His word—  
The years have proved it so—  
For men have heard and men have gone,  
Have yielded life and all,  
Have braved the flame, the sea, the sword,  
To bear the gospel's call.

It comes as loud to us, to-day,  
The Master's great command,  
And still He gives the needed power  
To men in every land.  
For love of God and love of souls,  
His servants onward go  
To lands where sin and darkness reign,  
The way of life to show.

They stay not, tho' the deadly taint  
Of fever fill the air;  
They care not if by savage hand  
The martyr's fate they share.  
They toil beneath the burning sun,  
They cross the raging sea;  
'Mid tempest wild they still reply,  
"Lord, here am I, send me!"

To-day we meet to dedicate,  
For service of the Lord,  
This little vessel we have built  
To bear the saving word  
To souls in need and souls athirst  
For living waters pure.  
To isles afar God speed her course  
'Mid shoals and storms secure.

We, too, have met to bid farewell  
To those who'll form her crew;  
We pray, "God bless, preserve, sustain,  
With daily strength renew."  
Our prayers and gifts will follow you,  
Dear comrades of the cross,  
Who for Christ's sake leave home and friends,  
Nor heed the pain nor loss.

To build your boat we've lent a hand,  
Nor shall we cease to-day;  
For her support to do our best  
We'll give and watch and pray.  
We'll not forget when from our shores  
Ere long you put to sea,  
But on our hearts engraven deep  
Will *Melanesia* be.

Paster Gates, who offered the dedicatory prayer, before doing so presented to the ship a framed photo of the *Pitcairn* which almost twenty-seven years previously had first brought them to this field—he being in charge of the mission

party on board of her. Then the hearts of all were uplifted to God in silent endorsement of the earnest words of entreaty that God, in Jesus' name and for His sake, would accept the gift of His people—imperfect though it may be—as the best they knew how to give; that He would accept their grateful praise for the blessed results of the efforts already put forth; that He would bless and protect the beloved workers who were to sail in her, and that His angels may guard and protect her in her voyaging among the islands to which she was destined to sail; that God would bless all those who had so freely given to build the vessel; and all who had any part in her; that she may be used to hasten the great gathering day; and that all present may in the earth made new, join in the chorus of praise which shall ascend from the ransomed throughout all ages.

The singing of the hymn, "All Things Are Thine," followed and Pastor W. L. H. Baker pronounced the benediction.

At the close of the service, the *Melanesia*, which had been inspected by many in the earlier part of the day, was again thrown open, and throngs of interested members and their friends continued to view her until the approaching darkness necessitated her return to the builders' yards.

C. H. PRETYMAN.

### Let Me Go Back!

Let me go back! I am homesick  
For the land of my love and toil,  
Though I thrill at the sight of my native hills,

The touch of my native soil.  
Thank God for the dear home country,  
Unconquered and free and grand!  
But the far-off shores of the isles for me,  
And the shores of the Promised Land.

My brain is dazed and wearied  
With the homeland's stress and strife,  
With the race for money and place and power,

And the whirl of the nation's life.  
Let me go back! Such pleasures  
And pains are not for me;  
But O for a share in the harvest home  
Of the field beyond the sea!

For there are my chosen people,  
And there is my place to fill,  
To spend the last of my life and strength  
In doing my Master's will.

Let me go back! 'Tis nothing  
To suffer and do and dare,  
For the Lord has faithfully kept His word;  
He is with me always there!

—Written by a returned missionary.

### Progress of the Work in Samoa

AMONG the many interesting occurrences that help to make up our experiences from day to day, we think the following will be of interest to the readers of the RECORD.

Truly the Lord is good and His promises are very sure. We are told many times in the Spirit of Prophecy that now is the time to circulate our literature. With a firm belief that the message is to go to every soul, we have tried to sense our obligation to give this message to all within our reach, and we are circulating such literature as can be used in this work.

We ordered twenty copies of the Harvest Ingathering number of the *Signs of the Times* for use among the people here. Just at this time one of the leading merchants wanted a small job done, and it so happened that the writer was the only one in the place that could do it, and thus offered his services. When the merchant desired to know what the charge would be, and was told that there would be no charge, he said that he would give me something for my missionary fund; and to our surprise, when the job was finished, he sent along his card and a cheque for £10. With other offerings that we received, we raised the amount for missions to £15 14s.

It may be of interest to know that when the writer first met this man, over two years ago, while circulating the *Tali Moni*, he stormed and raged and said that we were trying to break up homes with our teaching, and that he would give him two shillings to keep it away. But now he will not only read the paper, but is subscribing for the American *Signs* magazine, and will read anything that I take to him. I have also held some Bible studies in his home, and his only brother is subscribing for the same paper. Besides these we have five other subscribers for this magazine, including the officer commanding the garrison troops.

Another very interesting item that might be mentioned is our Chinese work. We have increased our club of Chinese *Signs* to twenty copies a month. Among our subscribers we have some of the storekeepers, the government interpreters, the Chinese evangelist, and the Chinese consul. Not only does this consul take the Chinese paper, but he is subscribing for the

American *Signs* magazine and the *Watchman* and has purchased a Chinese Bible, an English Bible, and a copy of "Bible Readings." I am holding Bible readings with him and his brother at the consulate, and find them very earnest Bible students.

Just before the commencement of our week of prayer, we had the joy of burying five precious souls in the watery grave, as an evidence of their desire to follow in the footsteps of the meek and lowly Saviour. One of these is the sister of Brother Fred Hunt, the translator of our *Tala Moni*. Two others, a man and a woman, have been nominal Sabbath-keepers for many years, but the tobacco habit has kept from them the blessings of a true connection with the message, and at last they have made a full surrender. Another of the candidates is the widow of a man that used to attend our meetings as far back as 1909. This woman was also a slave to King Tobacco, but is now one of the brightest Christians we have found in this field. The fifth is a woman who is the wife of a missionary (now deceased) in New Guinea. She is also an earnest Christian.

Our week of prayer was a blessing to all who attended. We held meetings in four different places. Three of these were held in the Samoan language, Brother Howse having translated the readings for these services. Brother Howse conducted the meetings in a place called Malie; Brother Larwood at Vailoa; Brother Landells at his home in Savii; and the writer at Apia. All that could do so, met at Apia on the last day of the feast. The meeting that usually occupies an hour continued for over two hours. All declared that God had come very near by His Spirit, and that having given of their means in the annual offering, they desired to give themselves also. This offering was the record for Samoa, reaching the sum of £32 12s. 6d.

For all these things we give God the praise. We realize that it is not by might nor by human power that this work can be done, but by the Spirit of the Lord.

JOSEPH E. STEED.

"WEAK is that man who is content  
With worldly fame, on pleasure bent."

### Notes from Queensland

WE praise our Heavenly Father for His blessing upon the Queensland Conference since our camp-meeting. Recently it has been my privilege to visit the Richmond and Tweed Rivers of New South Wales, which territory is now ceded to and under the control of the Queensland Conference. The Lord has blessed the eldership of the Corndale Church, and, as a result, souls have responded to the message. We now have four colporteurs working in this territory, and we are planning to have a tent mission operating there.

The Lord has wonderfully blessed the company of believers at Woolooga, on the Kingaroy Line. Several have recently taken hold of the truth, and on the Sunday of my visit, at a beautiful spot in the Widgee Creek, three adults followed their Lord in the sacred rite of baptism. Others are preparing for the same step.

Following on my visit to Woolooga, I spent the next week-end at Calloope. We have some faithful souls in this company, and a profitable time was spent together. The Lord drew very near us as three sisters went down into the water, demonstrating to angels and men their determination to follow the Master.

The church at Rockhampton has had many "ups and downs," but lately the "ups" seem to be in the majority. One lady of influence has taken her stand for the truth, and others are requesting baptism. The churches at Toowoomba and Gatton also report new additions to the message.

God has blessed the missions that are now in operation in the conference. Some good souls have responded to the efforts of Pastor Rudge, who has associated with him Miss Hopgood, Brother James Crammond, and Brother B. Cormack, who has lately arrived in Queensland. In a large picture theatre in the centre of South Brisbane, these workers have started a new winter effort, and thus far an excellent attendance is reported.

In Townsville, Pastor L. Currow and his wife have had a hard struggle, but perseverance is winning the day. Souls are now beginning to respond to the efforts of these faithful workers.

In Maryborough Brother Reuben Hare and Miss Westerman are working earnestly, and the Lord has blessed them in giving souls for their

efforts in this prejudiced town. The deep working of the Spirit of God is manifest in Gayndah where Brother and Sister L. Newbold are labouring. Since the camp-meeting a Sabbath-school has been organised of about twenty-five members and others are still interested.

We are thankful to report that the finances of the conference are now on the up-grade, and last quarter, ending March 31, a record tithe was received. While we rejoice at this, we long to see a better percentage of tithe-payers. If all were faithful in this, we would be enabled to put more workers into the field and hasten the Lord's coming.

The week of prayer has been a great blessing to our people. Decided victories have been gained, and from a letter just received from Brother Mills, the treasurer, we are confident that we shall exceed our aim of £200; for already £196 was in hand and one large church and some companies had yet to report. To God we give all the glory.

For the quarter ending March 31, the secretary of the Sabbath-school and Missionary Volunteer Departments reports decided increases in both lines of work. At the time of writing I am on board the *Canberra* en route for the far north of Queensland. I expect to be away for two months. We thank God for His goodness, and with all our dear people we determine by the grace of God to push a vigorous, successful offensive until Jesus comes.

H. E. PIPER.

### Week of Prayer in Victoria Park, W. A.

I FEEL it both a pleasure and a duty to send to our beloved RECORD a little report of the week of prayer spent here in Victoria Park.

To me it was a wonderful time. We held all our meetings in the Alexander Hall, which we have engaged for our church services.

Although our district is a scattered one and the weather left much to be desired, our meetings were well attended, especially those at 6.30 a.m., when Bible and testimony studies were given. Our young people's meetings held at 4 p.m. were very encouraging. Each one felt that our dear Heavenly Father was very near, and all reconsecrated their lives afresh to His service. May God bless our young people. At the even-



ing meetings we found the deeply spiritual nature of the readings very uplifting.

After listening to the reading for the last Sabbath we had a social meeting and the Holy Spirit made itself very manifest amongst us.

The first testimony, a written one, was from a brother whose feet are almost touching the shores of eternity. He has but lately come to a knowledge of this precious truth and is rejoicing in the mercy and love of our dear Saviour. He deeply regrets having so little time in which to labour for the Master, and that his opportunities are confined to the sending out of messages. He pleads with us to work while we have the time and strength. Tears flowed fast while this testimony was being read.

Almost all testified to the goodness and mercy of our Heavenly Father. Those who were too overcome to speak, mutely testified by simply rising and sitting down again. Occasionally we sang verses of that beautiful hymn, "I surrender all."

As we reluctantly parted from each other to go to our homes, our hearts were overflowing with joy in the Lord. We earnestly desire the prayers of all God's people that many souls in Victoria Park may be won to this beautiful truth.

MARY E. WILSON.

### Came Solidly Into the Truth

ONE bright young lady has come solidly into the truth through missionary correspondence during the past six weeks. Her mother also believes in the Sabbath, and the daughter thinks she is going to keep it. She is a Lutheran. The young lady says she sees nothing in the doctrines of Seventh-day Adventists but that she can believe with all her heart, and nothing in the line of duty but that she can readily accept. Books have been lent to her which she intends to buy shortly, and she has subscribed for our periodicals.

"THOSE who will study the manner of Christ's teaching, and educate themselves to follow His way, will attract and hold large numbers now, as Christ held the people in His day."



### Home Mission News Notes

#### Bendigo

THE statement found in "Testimonies for the Church," Vol. IX, page 117, which says, "The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers," would seem to indicate that if we have a finished work in sight it is our duty to be very earnest now in our home mission activity, ever seeking as church members to work for souls until that glad time when all God's people have been sealed, and the cry shall ring from heaven's courts, "It is finished."

With the object of placing before some of our Victorian members the great call that comes to-day to finish the work, the writer left Sydney on May 8 for Melbourne, there meeting with Brother J. S. Stewart, the Victorian Home Mission Secretary, and planning a series of conventions to cover a period of four weeks.

The first church visited was Bendigo. It is a fine city, from the many mines of which great quantities of gold have been gathered. We reached here on Friday, May 11. On Sabbath we were taken to the comfortable and well appointed church, pleasantly situated in High Street. The morning hour was occupied in placing before the congregation the importance of the home mission work, confirming from scripture and the Spirit of Prophecy its great value and wonderful opportunities. Through all ages it has been God's plan to win souls to Him through the church, and the lay members of the denomination have as clear a call to go out and win souls as has the ordained minister or conference worker. The afternoon was devoted to plans for an immediate home mission effort through our periodicals, tracts, correspondence, and Bible studies. Suggestions were made as to how to commence and continue this work. Sabbath afternoon we dealt with finances and business matters connected with the

work, and at the close of this meeting called for volunteers to accompany us on the morrow in visiting people with the *Outlook*. A fair response was made, but rain commenced to fall Sunday evening and continued through the next morning, rather upsetting our plans. However it cleared in the afternoon, and Brother Stewart and I decided to go along, others being unable to accompany us. In just over an hour we disposed of twenty-four copies, working directly around the church. The following day four sisters came along for instruction and territory for tract loaning. The necessary help being given these four went out with their note books and twelve tracts each, returning after about an hour's visiting with excellent reports and glad hearts.

The next day, Wednesday, was successfully spent in *Signs* and magazine work, concluding with the regular prayer and missionary meeting. Somehow this meeting was rather different from the usual missionary meetings, and it reminded some of the "old time" meetings. A splendid company gathered, some having a four-mile walk to the meeting,—eight miles in all. At first the meeting went along much as usual, but when the time arrived for reports of labour and experiences in work, a new interest was aroused, and as one after another arose and told of what the Lord had enabled them to do for Him during the preceding three days, we certainly felt the Spirit of God in our midst. All who had worked had something good to say, and just around the church homes were found openings for the truth, much to the surprise of the members who had previously felt that Bendigo was about worked out. When we systemize and concentrate it is surprising the many openings that can be found. Before the meeting closed that evening, orders for tracts came in far beyond the supply, and we have since heard that this church is weekly circulating upwards of one hundred tracts, selling many magazines, and securing *Signs* readers.

One brother, who told us he could do nothing, went out one day and did splendidly, and so far has received about twenty subscribers in the new *Signs* Campaign. We greatly enjoyed our experiences with these brethren and are confident that if they con-

tinue this good work God will give them many souls in the near future to add to their number.

W. G. TURNER.



### Are You a Teacher?

If you are, you are a debtor to your scholars just as surely as Paul was a debtor "both to the wise, and to the unwise." He explains to what extent he was involved: "as much as in me is." So is the Sabbath-school teacher indebted to every member of his class.

Many people would gladly spend time and money to prepare themselves for a place in this work, that they might be the means of bringing some one into the truth. The Sabbath-school teacher has even a more important work than that to do. To him is entrusted the responsibility of instructing those who are already in the truth that they may continue in the truth and remain faithful unto the end.

No one ever leaves the truth while he is a regular attendant at the Sabbath-school. No one ever leaves the Sabbath-school who is interested in the lessons. Herein lies the grand opportunity of the Sabbath-school teacher. Make the lessons interesting. You can do so by the grace of God, if you will devote yourself to the work, knowing that the Lord has called you to it. Do not be discouraged. Your failure, or partial failure, results from lack of appreciation of the responsibility God has laid upon you. If you understood the importance of doing your work better, and still better, you would be surprised how easily you would improve.

Teaching is a noble art that every one should do his best to develop. Especially should the Sabbath-school teacher give time and thought to it. The day-school teacher spends several years in training under the guidance of experienced instructors. This he does in order that he may be able to impart to young people information that pertains wholly to this world and this life. How much

more necessary it is that teachers, upon whom the responsibility of instructing the young concerning the life and the world to come, should do their best to improve, that on the judgment day their skirts may be free from the blood of their fellow-man.

How often I have heard expressions similar to this from teachers: Do you know Johnny So and So? I saw him smoking a cigarette the other day; I am told he goes to the picture shows almost every night, and also gambles a little. Such a pity! He used to be a good boy: was in my Sabbath-school class a year or two ago: but he lost his interest and soon stopped coming. May the Lord have mercy on little Johnny. Also may the Lord forgive his teacher who when he had a good little boy, or old man, or anybody else attending his Sabbath-school class, did not appreciate the seriousness of his calling enough to make the lessons and the class sufficiently interesting to keep the little boy or the old man in the Sabbath-school.

Next week I shall point out some common causes of failure, or partial failure in Sabbath-school teaching, causes that can be easily rectified.

AN OLD TEACHER.

### Obituaries

DAWES.—Died at the home of her parents, Park Street, Auburn, at the age of twelve years and five months, Myrtle, the youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. T. Dawes. Little Myrtle fell asleep in Jesus on Monday, May 21, and was buried on the following Wednesday in the Rookwood Cemetery. She was one of the lambs of the flock who loved and served her Lord with a clear hope of seeing Him soon. Although an invalid all her life, yet she did not complain, but was content to leave her life in the hands of Him who does all things well. For several weeks before her death she was very sick and was willing and content to die, being confident that the Lord would remember her on the resurrection day. A large number of relatives and friends followed her remains to the graveyard, where we committed her body to its last resting place, and her life to Him who will keep it safely until that great day. To the sorrowing parents there is comfort: "Thus saith the Lord; Refrain thy voice from weeping, and thine eyes from tears: for thy work shall be rewarded, saith the Lord; and they shall come again from the land of the enemy." G. TEASDALE.

SOBEY.—Ethel May Sobeys died of the dread disease meningitis, in the Melbourne General Hospital Monday, April 16, 1917, aged twenty-eight years. It is with feelings of sadness and deep sympathy that we pen the record of this dear girl's death. Ethel

was ill only eight days, during which time her mother was permitted to look upon her face but once. Our departed sister was, in her girlhood, a member of Bendigo Sabbath-school; but of recent years resided with her widowed mother at Albert Park, Melbourne. It was on a bleak, cold day that her remains were conveyed to Coburg Cemetery, there to rest in undisturbed sleep until the Archangel's voice shall wake the dead. Our hearts go out in sympathy for Sister Sobeys and her family in their hour of sorrow, and our prayer is that the arms of omnipotent love may be about them, and that the sweet Spirit of the Saviour may comfort their sad hearts. Truly "in the midst of life we are in death." The funeral service was conducted by the writer.

THOS. H. CRADDOCK.

BURTON.—William Arthur Burton was born in Redruth, Cornwall, England, September 26, 1854. He died of apoplexy at Brighton, Victoria, Sabbath, May 18, 1917. After the first stroke he lay in a precarious condition for several weeks, but under skilled medical attention and nursing, part of the time at Warburton Sanitarium, he so far recovered that his friends were led to hope for his recovery, but a second stroke, received on Sabbath eve, May 18, resulted in his death. Brother Burton was brought up with the Methodists, and, prior to his observance of Jehovah's Sabbath, was an accredited local preacher with that body of Christians. Our brother was a man possessed of sterling Christian qualities, and was held in high esteem by all who knew him. He stepped into the light of the third angel's message nineteen years ago, his first interest being aroused at Balaclava (Melbourne) camp-meeting. During all these years he has been a consistent member of Windsor Church, where, from time to time, he filled some church office, at one time being church elder. His presence will be sadly missed. Our brother has left a wife, six sons, and one daughter to mourn their loss. May the Lord sustain them in their deep sorrow. Four of the sons are at the battle's front fighting for their king and country. He was laid to rest in the Brighton Cemetery, Monday afternoon, May 21, where he will sleep till the Life-givers' trumpet call. The funeral service was conducted by the writer, assisted by Pastor J. H. Woods. A memorial service was also held in Windsor Church, Sabbath, May 26.

THOS. H. CRADDOCK.

### For Sale

NEW bungalow cottage, four rooms, pantry, bathroom, laundry; ceiled verandah on four sides. Stands in three-fourths of an acre of splendid soil, gentle slope, all cultivatable; thirty-six assorted fruit trees that have just come into bearing. Good view of sanitarium. May be secured either cash or terms. Particulars, H. E. Hughes, Fox Valley Road, Wahroonga, N. S. W.

IN heaven we shall never regret any sacrifice, however painful, or labour, however protracted, made or performed here for the cause of Christ.—Mary Lyons.

## Australasian Record

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE  
AUSTRALASIAN UNION CONFERENCE  
OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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Australia

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Approved advertisements will be published in the Record at a charge of 2s. 6d., forty words or less, for each insertion, and 1d. per word for each additional word. Remittance must always accompany copy for advertisements.

A CHURCH-SCHOOL has been opened at Kalgoorlie, Western Australia, with Miss Clara J. Brown as teacher.

BROTHER WALTER CODLING has accepted a position in the Health Food Factory, and is making his home at Avondale.

AS THIS paper contains the report of the dedication of the *Melanesia*, it will be of special interest. Extra copies may be obtained at a penny each.

By request of the Union Conference, Pastor Cole is making a brief visit to Norfolk Island, calling at Lord Howe on his forward and return voyages. In the early history of our work at Norfolk, Pastor Cole laboured there for a time, and is well known to many of the people. Sister Cole accompanied her husband on this trip.

THE Wahroonga Sanitarium continues well filled with patrons. At the request of some of the patients who wish to have a better understanding of the prophecies of Daniel and the Revelation, Pastor Smith arranged to give studies two or three afternoons a week. Fourteen or fifteen availed themselves of the privilege of these studies. Some have gone from the institution and others have come, but it speaks well for the interest that a few have attended right through from the beginning of the series.

PASTOR CORMACK of Western Australia sends along the following interesting experience:

Not long ago a gentleman called at the office and intimated that he considered himself a Seventh-day Adventist. I questioned him concerning the various points of our faith and found that he was comparatively intelligent concerning them. The source of his information was primarily the *Signs of the Times*, although after keeping the Sabbath alone for some months he was visited by a colporteur who was working in his district. This man not only seems to be well informed as to the doctrines we teach, but gives evidence of a sincere desire to yield his life wholly to the Lord.

It has been decided by the General Conference to hold its next quadrennial meeting in San Francisco, from March 29 to April 21, 1918. The San Francisco Convention League has kindly placed at our disposal the Exposition Auditorium, lighted and heated, and the use of its numerous committee rooms and pipe organ, free of charge. It has extended to our denomination a most cordial invitation to hold our next General Conference there. It seems indeed providential that this immense building with all its advantages and conveniences, has been so freely offered to us.

PASTOR PARKER writes that all arrangements are now made for the building of the Rest Home in Fiji. He writes: "We have four acres of good land at a rental of a shilling an acre, and the building will soon be up. It is a beautiful place. The atmosphere is cool and bracing mornings and evenings. The Lord has worked in giving us the sympathy and help of the government, and the commissioner has been very kind." It may be of interest to our readers to learn that in response to Pastor Parker's statement in the RECORD, setting forth the need of such a home, offerings came in which helped in the carrying out of this project. One sister in New South Wales sent in £10 toward this building.

ON May 1 Pastor Daniells wrote from Shanghai, China:

Our work is about finished for the present in the Asiatic Division. The great conference has closed. The delegates have gone, and in two days we shall take the *Korea Maru* for San Francisco, where we shall be due May 25. We have had a most profitable meeting. We were together from April 5 to the 25th. We did such thorough work during the conference that we did not have very much left over business. Brother Fulton has been elected president of the

Asiatic Division, Pastor Porter's health having failed him completely. Brother Fulton's long experience in the mission fields and his acquaintance with the affairs in the Asiatic Division eminently qualify him for the work, and we are glad that he has been chosen to serve in this capacity. I wish that I might remain here another six months helping Brother Fulton to get all the new plans in operation, but I must hurry back to the United States where I can meet thousands of our people in the camp-meetings, and impress upon them the needs of this great field. It will probably be July 1 when we reach Washington.

## A Closing Work

As I hear of the terrible calamities that from week to week are taking place in the world, I ask myself, What do these things mean? Are they permitted to come to arouse those who are transgressing the law of God? The most awful disasters, by fire and flood, are following one another in quick succession. The judgments of God are in the land. They speak in solemn warning, saying, "Be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."

There are many, many in our churches who know little of the real meaning of the truth for this time. I appeal to them not to disregard the fulfilling of the signs of the times which say so plainly that the end is near. O, how many who have not sought their soul's salvation will soon make the bitter lamentation, "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved!"

We are living in the closing scenes of this earth's history. Prophecy is rapidly fulfilling. The hours of probation are fast passing. We have no time—not a moment—to lose. Let us not be found sleeping on guard. Let no one say in his heart, or by his works, "My Lord delayeth His coming." Let the message of Christ's soon return sound forth in earnest words of warning. Let us persuade men and women everywhere to repent and flee from the wrath to come. Let us arouse them to immediate preparation; for we little know what is before us. Let ministers and lay members go forth into the ripening fields. They will find their harvest wherever they proclaim the forgotten truths of the Bible. They will find those who will accept the truth, and who will devote their lives to winning souls to Christ.

MRS. E. G. WHITE.