

UNION WATCHWORD

1916-1917

Steadfastly in Prayer and Ministry. Acts 6:4

Royal Service

SUCCESSOR TO OUR MISSION FIELDS



MRS. W. C. JAMES
PRESIDENT WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

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Calendar of Monthly Topics Woman's Missionary Union, 1916

JANUARY—Planning for 1916	JULY—Reading for Missions
FEBRUARY—Latin America	AUGUST—Missions in Europe
MARCH—Southern Social Problems and the Home Mission Board	SEPTEMBER—Our State a Mission Field
APRIL—The Missionary Doctor	OCTOBER—Present World Opportunities and the Foreign Mission Board
MAY—My Money and Missions	NOVEMBER—Home Missions at Work
JUNE—Foreign Mission Outlook	DECEMBER—Redeeming the Time in China

SUGGESTED LEAFLETS—Supplement to Programs

August—Missions in Europe

	Cents
Children of the War Zone (paper dolls).....	30 (including postage)
Flag Series—Italy.....	5
Italians and "The Simple Gospel".....	2
Religions in Italy.....	2
Roses and Thorns in Italy.....	2
The Italian and His Church at Home.....	2
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The Women of Turkey.....	2
Baptist Propaganda in Home of Roman Catholicism.....	free for postage

When stamps are sent in payment for leaflets or Royal Service kindly send, as far as possible, those of the two cent denomination.

MAGAZINE AND BOOK REFERENCES—Program Helps

Review of Reviews, March 1915, February, March, 1916
Missionary Review of the World, March, August, 1915; April, March 1916
The Foreign Mission Journal, current numbers
Soldiers of the Prince..... Rev. C. E. Jefferson
The Italians..... Sarah Gertrude Pomeroy

August Twenty-fifth

J. C. S. H.

One year in heaven—
Oh what has it meant!
No sorrow, no sighing,
Nor strength over-spent.

One year in heaven—
Its ecstasies shared;
A crown set with jewels,
A mansion prepared.

One year in heaven—
With God now at home;
Communion unbroken,
The world overcome.

One year in heaven—
With Christ face to face;
Beholding His beauty,
Transformed by His grace.

One year in heaven—
The ransomed among;
With voices accordant
The anthems are sung.

One year in heaven—
With angels a-wing.
O Grave, where is thy triumph?
O Death, where is thy sting?

Elizabeth R. Carpenter, South Carolina

EDITORIAL

A GREETING TO THE UNION

I AM glad that it is in the month of August that I give you my first greeting through the pages of ROYAL SERVICE, because it is in this month that all our thoughts turn in loving memory of her who, in this glorious season of sunshine when the earth has just yielded and is still yielding up her richest store, was called to lay down the cross and take up the crown.

I am glad to greet you when the influence of her great life is round about you and you are, because of it, more thoughtful, loving and prayerful.

How we do indeed miss the touch of that vanished hand, how tenderly we treasure the influence of that life which was "hid with Christ in God" and which yielded such a harvest, the richness and glory of which we shall more fully appreciate as the years go by.

But as the anniversary of her coronation approaches we would be reminded that for her "to die was gain" and because it was so very true of her—"I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me"—we can turn to the years that are to come without her guiding hand with a buoyant hope and a courage strong, knowing that Christ has a work for each of us that belongs to no other and that He will guide us all the way if we let Him live and work through us.

It is thus that I greet you—looking back with thanksgiving to the one great life, and not only to one but to the lives of many of God's noblewomen who have "fought the good fight" and have "kept the faith" for Christ through our Union—and looking forward with joy to the closer and more vital relationship with others of God's elect.

It is with pride indeed, on the one hand and with humility on the other, that I take up the wonderful work you have given me to do and I pledge to your service and His all the best that God has given me with all that He may yet bestow.

My joy shall be to strive with you to make God real to all the people, to make Christ regnant in every heart and thus hasten the coming of the Kingdom.—*Mrs. W. C. James, Richmond, Va.*

VACATION'S OPPORTUNITIES

SITTING alone in the cool of a quiet evening after a warm and distracting day, thoughts of the coming month of August were as balm to the soul when, out in the country away from glaring street lights, clanging bells and the many distractions of city life, the joy and peace of life would be in a measure realized. Following naturally comes the thought that such would be the case with many of our women and young people throughout the southland.

At this season we are approaching the almost universal vacation period when nearly every individual will have a few days, a week or perhaps a longer time of rest. All are planning for as thorough a relaxation as possible or for such a change of activities that the usual work and anxieties will, in large measure, be forgotten and we "almost deliberately plan for a slackened spiritual life".

Some of us stop working, not because we are weary, but because we have become accustomed to the idea that summer is the time for relaxation and for the storing up of our physical energy. Relaxation, however, is not always attended by inactivity. In many of the most wholesome sports the teacher strives to get his pupils to relax, as it is in this condition that they can do their best work. The pianist finds that without relaxation his technique is strained and mechanical and his best interpretation of the great master-piece is not brought out. And so it may be with the Christian under the soft sway of summer. A vacation may be necessary, a period of rest may be important, but "to deliberately plan that nothing serious or fruitful shall come of it is a waste which no earnest life will willingly face". There are those of us who will be in districts where we may so interpret our Master in service to those about us that we will return to our usual work stronger and happier than when we came away.

The experience of a minister's wife writing in the Sunday School Times gives testimony to this. She had been spending her vacation in a community of shy and struggling farmer folk, many of whose homes were without the Bible as well as hearts without a hope and whose little children had never learned to sing. After laboring among them she writes: "It was an unspeakable delight to see dull faces brighten with the realization that there was a work to be done even by the poorest and most circumscribed, that a helpful influence could ripple out from this secluded corner to the other side of the world and that out of great poverty could be given gifts to others poorer still. There were meager offerings brought to the little services in toil-hardened hands that must have glistened like diamonds in the sight of the angels." But did this summer woven texture bear the strain? The writer tells us that she and her husband went back to the city church with the happiest hearts they had ever carried home, with nerves rested and steady and bodies strong for another year's work.

It matters not where we are or whether we have the opportunity for this kind of service, we have always with us "A Mighty Means of Usefulness" the "Mighty Ministry of Intercession". "Many Christian workers lead such busy lives, every hour being claimed for speaking, visiting or the like that their minds absorbed in such duties are in danger of minimizing the sacred and important duty of intercession," says James G. K. McClure in the introductory note of his work "A Mighty Means of Usefulness". He refers in the text to the fact that Samuel in his address, delivered as he was retiring from public leadership, designated failure to pray for others as a "sin against God". One definition of prayer is that it is the psychological act by which the soul seeks and finds conscious contact or communion with God. Since communion involves not only the soul's contact with God, but God's contact with the soul, it is thus that God has His opportunity with man. In the hurry and strain of every day life it is well nigh impossible for us to seek and find God, which is the essential element of prayer, unless we have acquired the habit of prayer in its fullest sense. It is said of Francis Assisi that he "would frequently spend an hour or two in prayer on Monte Alverno, and the only word he would say would be 'God' repeated at intervals". The soul seeking contact with God.

Then during our vacation let us seek God whether on some mountain top, by the side of the mighty ocean, in some secluded wood or in the midst of some vast plain so that we may have real communion with Him. Then will this be a sacred time in which we may store up for ourselves spiritual reserves for coming duties and for the problems that confront us; a time when we may become familiar with God's method of speaking to our souls so that when we are at home again and busy with our accustomed tasks we may hear and understand; a time precious to us because without undue interruption we may prepare for and make use of "The Mighty Ministry of Intercession".

"The weary one had rest, the sad had joy
That day, and wondered 'how?'
A ploughman singing at his work had prayed,
'Lord, help them now!'"

"Away in foreign lands they wondered how
Their simple word had power;
At home the gleaners, two or three, had met
To pray an hour!"

"Yes, we are always wondering 'how?'
Because we do not see
Someone unknown, perhaps, and far away
On bended knee."



BIBLE STUDY



TOPIC—The Work of the Spirit

"The Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God": 1. Cor. 2 : 10.

The Holy Spirit is not from Himself—He is a divine Person and proceeds from God the Father: Luke 11 : 13. He is called the "Spirit of the Father": Matt. 10 : 20. The "Spirit of the Son": Gal. 4 : 6. He is sent by the Son: John 16 : 7. The things of God none knoweth, save the Spirit of God: 1 Cor. 2 : 11.

I. His *special work* is to declare the mind of God to us whence He is called the Spirit of truth: John 16 : 13; the Spirit of prophecy: Rev. 19 : 10; the Spirit of revelation: 1 Peter 1 : 10-12; Eph. 1 : 17. He instructed all the prophets that have been since the world began to know the mind of God concerning things present and future. Holy men were but His instruments "speaking as they were moved by the Holy Ghost": 2 Peter 1 : 21. He guided the apostles into all truth and by them instructed the world in the knowledge of God's gracious intentions toward mankind and in all the holy mysteries of the Gospel: 1 Cor. 2 : 9, 10; Eph. 3 : 5.

II. To execute the *will of God* in matters beyond the ordinary power and course of nature He is the *power* of the Most High: Luke 1 : 35. The *finger* of God: Luke 11 : 20. By Him God framed the world: Gen. 1 : 2, by "The Spirit of His mouth": Job 33 : 4 and "garnished the heavens": Job 26 : 13. "Creatures fade and die when their Maker withdraws His support, but as soon as the Spirit, the great vivifying principle, the author of material and spiritual life imparts His influence, they revive." The resurrection of the dead is ascribed to the Spirit, "God, who giveth life to the dead": Rom. 4 : 17. This the Holy Spirit will do at the last day: Rom. 8 : 11.

III. The *Instrument* of our salvation: He is the Author of our spiritual life. Regeneration is a creative act of the Holy Spirit: John 3 : 5; 1 : 12, 13; a new creation: 2 Cor. 5 : 17. The "new man" is Christ formed in the believer: Eph. 4 : 24. Every believer is *born* of the Spirit: 1 John 5 : 1; *indwelt* by the Spirit, whose presence makes the believer's body a temple: 1 Cor. 6 : 19; *baptized* by the Spirit: 1 Cor. 12 : 12, 13; 1 John 2 : 20, 27, thus *sealing* him for God: Eph. 1 : 13; 4 : 30. Applying the Scriptures in cleansing and *sanctification* of the Spirit: Eph. 5 : 26; 2 Thess. 2 : 13; 1 Peter 1 : 2. He is the power of all good inclinations within us, of all good works performed by us, of all happiness of which we are capable. To Him therefore we must render praise and thanks, assuming nothing for ourselves.

IV. An indwelling *Intercessor*: Heb. 7 : 25; Rom. 8 : 26, 27. The Holy Spirit presents our supplications and procures our good. He crieth in us. He pleadeth for us to God, whence He is called the Advocate: 1 John 2 : 1—"One called alongside to help". Christ is our "Paraclete" with the Father when we sin; the Holy Spirit is the believer's indwelling "Paraclete" to help his ignorance and infirmity and to make intercession. He proceeds from the Father and the Son: John 16 : 13-15. "Christ had left many things unrevealed, but He promised that revelation should be completed after the Spirit should come": John 15 : 26, 27. He chose His witnesses: Acts 1 : 8; 9 : 15-17.

"The New Testament distinguishes between *having the Spirit*, which is true of all believers, and *being filled* with the Spirit, which is our privilege and duty": Acts 2 : 4; 4 : 29-31; Eph. 1 : 13, 14; 5 : 18. "One baptism many fillings!"

V. *Office of the Spirit*: He is acknowledged as the source of spiritual blessings with the Father and the Son: 2 Cor. 13 : 14. He will teach, guide, witness, reveal the mind of God to us and plead with God for us. The Spirit gives the last invitation, the last message in the Bible, witnessing to the divine inspiration: Rev. 22 : 17-19.

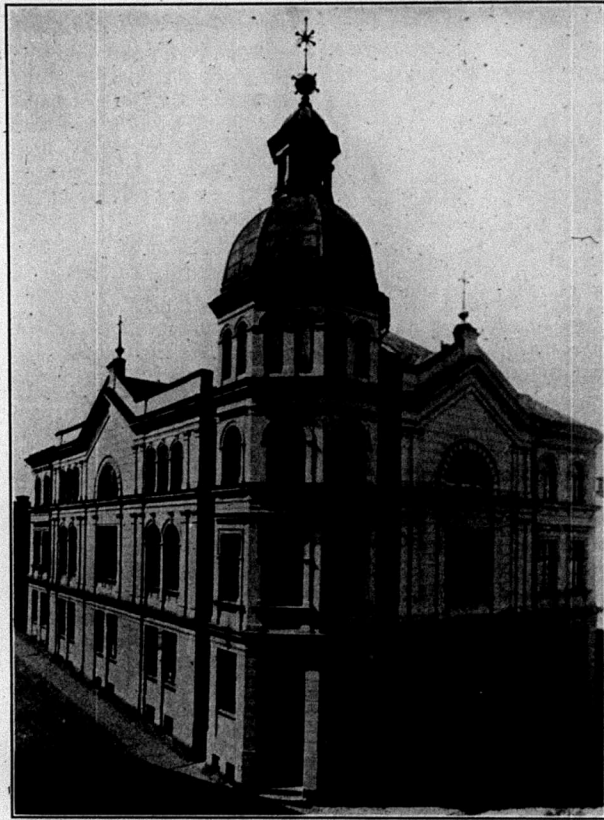
VI. There are three dispensations of the Spirit. 1. Within us for regeneration. 2. With us as comforter. 3. Upon us for service.—Mrs. James Pollard



PROGRAM FOR AUGUST



Prepared by Mrs. Geo. H. Whitfield



BAPTIST CHURCH, NORRKÖPING, SWEDEN
By Courtesy of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society

MISSIONS IN EUROPE

HYMN—"Publish Glad Tidings"

PRAYER—Bible Study (page 6)

HYMN—"The Son of God goes forth to war"

TALKS: Our Work in Italy (par. 1)

Missions in Central Europe and Russia (par. 2-4)

Educational Work in Turkey (par. 6)

Work in Prison Camps (par. 4-5)

PRAYER. CLOSING HYMN—"For all Thy saints"

In speaking of foreign missions our thoughts turn instinctively to Asia, Africa and the islands of the sea. It should not be forgotten, however, that several mission boards, among them the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society, the Congregational Board and others carry on a more or less extensive work in Europe also.

I. Italian Mission S. B. C. "Our work in Italy differs in many respects from the work in other fields. We have three missionary couples in Rome and the work is divided into three distinct spheres: the North Italian Mission extending north from the city of Rome into Sicily, Sardinia and North Africa, is under the direction of Dr. Everette Gill; the South Italian Mission extending south from the city of Rome into Sicily, Sardinia and North Africa, is under the direction of Rev. J. P. Stuart. In the City of Rome we have a great educational and publication work under the direction of Dr. D. G. Whittinghill.

"We have in Italy about 46 churches with a membership of 1,362. Most of the evangelistic and pastoral work is done by native preachers, many of whom are well trained for their work. While the field is exceedingly difficult there are many indications that the people are turning away from the Roman Catholic Church and are ready to hear the Gospel.

Since the establishment of our Theological Seminary in Rome more than twenty of the students have graduated and have been placed in charge of churches.

"The most remarkable feature of our work in Italy is the publication work. Through this medium our missionaries are reaching and influencing great numbers of the most thoughtful people in Italy. A monthly magazine, edited by Dr. Whittinghill and Prof. Paschetto, and a number of volumes explaining Baptist and Protestant doctrines have had a most remarkable reception." Mention was made in the June program in ROYAL SERVICE of the far-reaching influence of this monthly magazine. In his report for 1916, Dr. Whittinghill says: "The outbreak of the war, which in part paralyzed the work in the churches, has offered in a special manner wonderful opportunities for work among the soldiers. In such times as these men who ordinarily refuse and spurn anything religious think twice before doing so now, knowing that death may await them on the Austrian border. By means of colporters loaned to us by the British and Foreign Bible Society of London we were enabled to give 12,216 portions and 100 entire copies of the New Testament to departing soldiers and officers. This work was done in Rome and other recruiting stations. We helped some Bible women in Rome distribute 12,009 portions and 298 New Testaments to soldiers. In all, nearly 25,000 portions of God's Word were given to Italian soldiers, many of whom never returned home."

Dr. Gill writes of the North Italian Mission and the effect of the war upon that field as follows:

"The Italian war, as was foreseen, has been a serious blow to our work. The young men of our churches and congregations are under arms and several of our pastors are officers or are in the sanitary department." Two stations on the Adriatic and two in the Piedmont have been temporarily abandoned owing to the military service of the pastors and to other causes, but cause for encouragement is found in that the church at Milan, though pastorless, is continuing its work under the care of a lay member, a merchant. This shows a growing sense of responsibility and independence as does the increase in the voluntary contributions of the churches to the mission treasury, this in addition to their own local expenses.

He says further: "This war, waged for the gravest national and political reasons against a former ally that was judged guilty of disloyalty, has immense significance for the Italian people. It is a re-birth of the nation. The religious and ecclesiastical aspects of the war are in the highest degree interesting and illuminating. For example, Italy declared war against Austria with the Roman hierarchy solidly against her, which fact in itself demonstrates the attitude of the Italian people and government on the question of the temporal power of the Roman See, since it is generally recognized that an Austrian victory would mean either the restoration of the temporal power or its equivalent. It is clearly perceived on all sides that these are crucial and historic days both for the Italian people and for the Roman Curia. Evidently the Vatican is encouraged to believe that their prospects are bright for a restoration of the temporal power or some similar political blessing, in that during the year the pope did the unheard of thing of

publicly and bitterly attacking in a discourse the evangelicals doing mission work in Rome. His violent language was more suitable to a ward politician than to one who occupies so pretentious a throne. There seems to be imminent a new campaign of opposition to evangelical religion on the part of the papal authorities. In case of an Austrian victory our mission would be in the gravest peril. However, we face the future with the utmost calm and possess our souls in patience."

Dr. Whittinghill, directing the work of the South Italian Mission during Dr. Stuart's furlough, writes: "The war has greatly injured the work. More than a hundred of our members in the south are under arms, most of whom are at the front. The financial stress has cut short somewhat the collections." "But," says Dr. Stuart, "while I know that what he writes is true, I feel deeply grateful for the progress made among our people as shown by the statistics given by the workers in their annual reports. Much of our best work and results in Italy cannot be calculated in tables of figures and statistics, but I rejoice to see in the results of the past year's labors that the harvest time is coming in this beloved land where the difficulties have been legion and the laborers have been few. To me the first and greatest proof of this is that there were 124 conversions and baptisms.

"In this time of war it is natural to expect the weak churches of Italy to fall off in their contributions for the support of the work, but instead, some of them have given more than ever before; for instance, Naples, Turin, and Isola. The church at Naples is in many ways our strongest church in Italy, though its meetings are held in a hall approached through the back yard of the building and situated some distance from the street. It deserves a good building in the center of the city, equipped for work that it is trying to do among the thousands of emigrants that leave Naples and return every year.

"One factor that has been helpful in the work of the South Italian field is that many of the immigrants which have come to America from Italy have been from this section of the country. Many of them after coming in contact with Protestant ideas return to their native places. Some of them are converted while in this country and go back to work among their own friends in Italy, while others return with much more liberal ideas and are more ready to hear the Gospel."

2. European Missions of American Baptist Foreign Mission Society

"In Europe the methods employed by the Foreign Mission Society differ from those in pagan lands. It does not now organize missions or send out missionaries, but appropriates a sum of money which is administered by a local committee in each country, except Spain. This is chiefly used in connection with our theological institutions and in helping weak churches which are struggling for Baptist principles and religious freedom. There are special reasons why our European brethren should receive our sympathy and help.

In America Baptists are called 'Protestants'; in Europe they are really so. By their faith and practise they protest against the formalism of the state churches and the superstitions of the priesthood; against unjust laws, imprisonment and fines for worshiping God and against the closing of chapels."

Germany.—Nearly a hundred years ago a young German was converted in England, returned to Germany as a preacher and colporteur, there fell into company with a young American student, a Baptist, who led him to a study of the New Testament with the result that he was convinced that immersion was the scriptural mode of believers' baptism, and under cover of midnight darkness the colporteur and six others were baptized in the river Elbe near Hamburg. The colporteur was Johann Gerhard Oncken, founder of Baptist work in continental Europe, the American student, Dr. Barnas Sears of New York. Dark days of persecution followed. Mr. Oncken and many others were imprisoned, but in spite of all such hindrances Baptists grew in numbers and their influence extended throughout all the countries of Central Europe.

The founding of the theological seminary at Hamburg in 1880 and of the publishing house at Cassel have been the chief factors in disseminating Baptist principles throughout Protestant Europe and Russia. During the first thirty years since the founding of the seminary three hundred and sixteen students have received training at this institution. The success of the

seminary has been due largely to the wise leadership of Rev. Philipp Bickel, whose son, Captain Luke Bickel of the Fukuin Maru, has in his turn carried the Gospel to the shores of the Inland Sea in far Japan.

Denmark, 1838.—The work here, an outgrowth of the German work, was organized separately from it in 1888. The leader for Denmark was Julius Kobner, the son of a Jewish Rabbi, baptized by Oncken in 1838. Poet, preacher and organizer, he gave to both the German and Danish Baptists the hymn books which have made such deep spiritual impress upon their lives and faith.

Sweden, 1848.—"Another romantic story of Baptist principles and awakened consciences is connected with missions in this country. A young Swedish Christian sailor was so impressed by witnessing a baptism in New York that it led to his own baptism. Through his influence another sailor, F. O. Nilson, went to Hamburg and was baptized by Mr. Oncken. Nilson then returned to Sweden and began to preach with great power. The first Baptist church was organized in September, 1848. Never has a mission field yielded better returns. In fifty years the six members increased to 60,000. There is a strong theological seminary at Stockholm, where more than 400 ministers have been educated. Sweden is by far the strongest Baptist mission field in continental Europe. The work is thoroughly organized under five committees: home mission, foreign mission, publication, Sunday school and church edifice. From Sweden the fires spread to Finland and to Norway. Russia was the next to be touched and the river Neva consecrated to the sacred ordinance of Christian baptism."

France, 1835.—"In 1832, at the Triennial Convention, the early name of the Foreign Mission Society, a strong appeal was made for the organization of missions in France, Germany and Greece, and Professor Ira Chase of Newton was sent to France on a tour of investigation. The first worker appointed to France was sent out in 1834 and the first Baptist church organized in Paris in 1835, and for a time there was much to encourage the missionaries. Then persecution arose. Chapels were closed, preachers were fined and imprisoned. Persecution only led to firmer convictions, however, and the church continued to grow."

Since 1856 the work has been almost entirely in the hands of the French brethren themselves, with only financial aid from the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society. The work extended into different parts of France until its enlargement necessitated the formation of two committees, the Franco-Belgian and the Franco-Swiss, under whose direction the entire field is placed.

"The strongest influence for evangelical religion was given by the preaching of Mr. R. W. McAll, a young Englishman, who preached with power in the great city of Paris and devoted himself to evangelical work among the people. The success of the effort was phenomenal; the mission halls were crowded night after night and many for the first time experienced forgiveness and peace. It was the most remarkable movement ever known in that great city. Mr. McAll might well be called the Moody of Paris. The work grew to such proportions that an assistant became necessary, and through the leading of Providence Mr. Reuben Saillens joined the mission.

The influence of the McAll mission led to a general revival in all the Protestant churches in Paris and our Baptist pastors worked in the greatest harmony with the mission. Later it seemed best to organize the work along more strictly denominational lines and Mr. Saillens withdrew from the McAll mission and gave all his time to Baptist mission work. He was elected general secretary of the French Baptist Missionary Committee with oversight of the entire field. The war has changed the work in France as in all the other countries of Europe. All of the churches in northern France are under German rule and have suffered dispersion. The plight of hundreds is heartrending but their courage is high and their faith strong.

"It is interesting to observe how the different nations were linked together in witnessing. An American baptized the first German. A German baptized the first Dane. A Dane performed the first baptism in Sweden. A Swede did the same for Finland. A Finlander baptized the first convert in St. Petersburg and a Dane the first converts in Norway.

"It may seem on account of the rapid spread of the work throughout northern Europe that it was comparatively easy. Could the courts and prisons of Europe speak, they would tell of

such suffering, self-denial and Christian heroism as would compare well with the days of the Inquisition. Stoning, beating, fines, confiscations of property, imprisonment and even banishment were the rewards that were meted out to the early Baptists. Prisons had no terror for them. The dungeons were regarded by them rather as their theological seminaries. Here they had ample time to search the Scriptures and when their prison terms were at an end they emerged thoroughly versed in the Bible and greatly strengthened in their faith. Though the fire of persecution raged fiercely it could not check the onward movement of the Baptists; it only caused their zeal to glow with greater fervor. Their bitterest enemies admitted that their conduct as citizens and Christians was blameless.

"In the early days the Baptists were practically disfranchised. Their rights of citizenship extended only to the paying of taxes to the state, which gave them no standing, and to the support of the established church, to which, for conscience's sake, they could not belong. They were prohibited from holding positions where salaries were paid by the state. Their churches were not recognized and hence could hold no real estate. Obedience to the law was always demanded, but protection was rarely granted. Now these conditions are changed. Baptists are eligible to the highest political offices. Quite a few are members of parliament and are themselves lawmakers. Their influence has contributed largely to the bringing in of religious liberty and political equality. Great, immeasurably great, are the results which have sprung from that word spoken in season by the young American student to the German colporteur at Hamburg."

4. An Open Door for Russia

"After centuries of spiritual lethargy Russia is waking up. Russia has never known true liberty of conscience and religion. Every Russian has been bound by stringent laws to belong to the Great Orthodox State Church. No one was allowed to leave the church and woe to one who dared to preach to his neighbors the pure Gospel without the sanction of the priest!

"Baptist work in Russia, like that in other countries of central Europe, is an outgrowth of the movement which began with the baptism of J. G. Oncken and others. The first Baptist house of worship in Russia was built in 1872. The work was identified with the German mission in the reports of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society until 1888 when owing to the regulations of the Russian government forbidding religious work to be carried on in that country in the name of foreign organizations, the Baptists in Russia formed a Union of their own.

"The decree granting religious liberty, 1905, revealed the fact that all over Russia there existed communities of Baptists who when free of fear of persecution began at once to propagate their faith with an earnestness and zeal that brought about a great spiritual awakening. In southern Russia Baptist churches sprang up by scores. All classes were reached and all eastern Europe set on fire with religious zeal. It is thought by some who have studied the subject that Baptists of eastern Europe today are second in number only to those of the United States." In 1905, when an imperial manifesto gave a partial liberty of religion, meetings of the evangelicals were permitted and permission given to build chapels. But after the assassination of the Prime Minister these liberties were abrogated, and many Baptist leaders sent into exile, notably among them Pastor Fetler, whose sentence was finally changed from banishment to Siberia to exile first in Europe and now to America. No Sunday schools were permitted, no Gospel meetings allowed except under restrictions designed to prevent the spread of evangelical Christianity, no preacher might preach out of his own church and no foreign preacher was allowed to preach in Russia except by a special permit which is scarcely ever granted.

"The Baptists of Russia have passed through great persecutions, which have proceeded chiefly from the priests of the Greek Church, who, since that is the national church, make use of the officers of the government to carry out their bigoted and cruel plans. Whole churches have been arrested, clad in prison garments and amid great suffering compelled to travel as prisoners with loathsome and evil companions into the Trans-Caucasian country or into Siberia. Many Baptists are now found in this sterile and desolate land. Some have even been driven to its far borders, there to drag out a miserable existence amid the degraded and ignorant savages of northern Siberia. In one instance an entire Baptist church in the Baltic provinces

decided to emigrate to South America. They are now in Brazil and have formed two churches which have received help from the missionaries of the Southern Baptist Convention."

"In the providence of God comes at this time the opportunity for work among the Russian prisoners of war, of whom there are in Germany and Austria about two and a half millions. In Russia in time of peace this great number of men could not have been reached by messengers of the Gospel, but now men of many races and tribes have been wonderfully brought together from all parts of Russia and are ready for the message. They are unusually open to approach and conversions in the prisoners' camps of Germany are already taking place. Now one of the special characteristics of a Russian saved is that almost every convert becomes a missionary. Russia needs more witnesses of the grace of God. When these men return to their homes after the war the message of salvation will be carried all over the Empire, north, east, south and west. Swedish and German workers are already among the camps. The appeal is made to American Christians that as years ago they sent ship loads of grain to Russia in time of famine so they will now give the bread of life to these countless thousands and save them from spiritual famine, reaching them at this time in a way that has never before been possible and thus entering the open door which the Master has set before His people in this favored land.

5. Work Among Prison Camps in Russia

"Rev. Fred P. Haggard, D.D., former home secretary of the American Baptist Foreign Mission Society, has accepted the call of the International Committee of the Y. M. C. A. to go immediately to Russia and take charge of the work being conducted there on behalf of the German, Austrian and Hungarian prisoners of war. In many respects this is the most remarkable and the most hopeful opportunity for large and unselfish service presented in connection with the present world war. There are more than four millions of men and boys in the prisoner-of-war camps of the countries on both sides of the struggle. Of all the countries where these prisoners of war are found, Russia affords possibly the most significant opportunity. In European and Siberian Russia, chiefly the latter, there are today concentrated in scores of prison camps over one million Teutonic soldiers. They represent the flower of the manhood and boyhood of the Middle Empires. They have all their time on their hands; they are serious and responsive to kindness and to truth. The great question is, 'Shall their present life be a process of physical, mental and moral deterioration, or shall it be made the occasion for character building, for growth in efficiency, for effective Christian propaganda and for training in methods of unselfish service?' The International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations have been granted the unique privilege of entering all of these camps and of organizing practical Christian work on their behalf. What lends even larger significance to this movement is the fact that the Russian government has given permission to work among the Teutonic prisoners on condition that Germany and Austria would give similar permission to the International Committee to do a corresponding work among the Allied prisoners in these countries. This condition has been accepted. It would be difficult to exaggerate the importance of this enterprise on behalf of the prisoners of the countries on both sides of the war. It is believed that this unselfish service under American leadership will do more to promote right feeling and relationships after the war than anything else which is now being accomplished."

Dr. John R. Mott, in an address before the Executive Committee of the World's Sunday School Association says:

"In nearly thirty years of passing in and out among the nations, of standing before great citadels and great opportunities, I have never known anything to compare with the great opportunity presented to us just now by the millions of men under arms and in the military prisons. We never had the opportunity before the war—the unlimited opportunity—for the distribution of the New Testament and for preaching the Gospel. The place where the Gospel is needed most is the place where the men pause before going into battle, or where they come back to recuperate. If ever a man needs help, it is under those conditions."

The following are samples of letters from soldiers in the trenches:
"I received the Book in the trenches. I sacrificed my last candle. When the morning dawned, I was alone with the Book. I have read nine hours."

"The trenches have become real closets of prayer, which are a blessing to all of us. We are resting in God's hands when the bullets are hissing about us. God is a marvel to turn these trenches into places of prayer."

6. Christian Educational Work in the Turkish Empire

For nearly a century this field has been occupied mainly by the American Board (Congregational) and by the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions (North). The American Board here expends nearly one-third of its funds and has the strongest work of any denomination. In no other field have more conspicuously successful Christian institutions been established than in Turkey and that in spite of every conceivable hindrance that Turkish ingenuity could devise. Beside strong, aggressive Protestant churches, there is a notable list of colleges and seminaries and other schools of all grades, and education has accomplished more for the regeneration of this land than anything else. The bulk of the work and of converts is among Greeks and Armenians, owing to the greater progressiveness of the Armenian element in Turkey, although all classes are reached. When the first college for girls was projected it was scornfully said, "They'll be having a school for *donkeys* next!" In fact, one of the popular terms for a woman in Turkey is donkey! The report of the American Board for 1915 shows a total of 450 schools in the Balkans, western, central and eastern Turkey with a total attendance of 25,911 students. The American Board and the Presbyterian Board, together with some smaller missions, support four or five hundred foreign missionaries, most of whom are connected with the American Societies. They represent an investment of more than \$30,000,000 with an annual expenditure of about \$700,000 in gold.

Though Robert College at Constantinople is not directly connected with any missionary society it has exerted an incalculable influence for Christian life all over the empire. Its students have included representatives of twenty nationalities. The Syrian Protestant College at Beirut is likewise independent though in closest sympathy and cooperation with the Presbyterian Board, North. Mr. Mott writes: "This is one of the three most important institutions in all Asia. It has been the most influential factor in promoting popular education in Syria and in other parts of the East. Fully one-fourth of its graduates have entered Christian work either as preachers or teachers in Christian schools." In less degree the same results are shown by the records of the American Board colleges at Aintab, Harpoot, Samakov, Marsovan, and the girls' colleges at Marash and Constantinople.

The veteran missionary, Dr. Jessup says: "Protestant missions have given the entire population the Bible in their own tongue, have trained hundreds of thousands of readers, published thousands of useful books, awakened a spirit of inquiry, set in motion educational institutions in all parts of the empire, compelling enemies of education to become its friends. Protestantism has made ignorance unfashionable. It has broken the fetters of womanhood, created the system of education for women spreading over the empire and let the light into unnumbered homes where women have been consigned to ignorance and inferiority. The work it has done for women and girls would of itself justify all the labor and expense of nearly one hundred years."

Much of the educational work of the American Board has been interrupted and some of it destroyed. Especially has this been the case in Asia Minor, but "the missionaries still on the ground, write of their hopes for the restoration and for the advance; the missionaries detained in this land are eagerly waiting for the hour of their return. There is only one thought in the minds of the Turkey missionaries; only one expectation cherished by those who are following closely the missionary situation in that hard-pressed land. It is of harvest days to come; of a new and stronger grip on both Armenian and Turk; of readjustment and reinforcement for a mightier advance; of an enterprise so commanding and achieving as shall make what has gone before seem like the day of small things."

NOTE

The programs given month by month present the present-day conditions in our home and foreign mission fields. Societies just beginning mission study, or those wishing to review past history of any subject treated, will find what they desire in the mission study books, a list of which will be furnished, on request, by Woman's Missionary Union Literature Department, 15 West Franklin St., Baltimore, Md. For a few cents leaflets suggested in this number can be obtained from the same address.

Y. W. A. PROGRAM

Prepared by a Maryland Y. W. A.

Note: Y. W. A., G. A. and R. A. programs are merely suggestive and are to be adapted by leaders to the requirements of their auxiliaries. The paragraphs referred to in program outlines will be found in general program which begins on page 8. For helpful leaflets see page 3.

AUXILIARY DRILL

What is the Sunday School Board?

The publication agency of the Southern Baptist Convention

Where is it located?

At Nashville, Tennessee, in a fine building of its own

How does this board assist the work of the denomination?

The steady increase in its receipts has enabled the board to foster other denominational enterprises, such as the W. M. U. Training School, Fort Worth Training School, Judson Centennial Equipment Fund and the permanent Bible Fund, all of which have received substantial gifts from the board.

PROGRAM

Hymn—"Fling out the banner"

Prayer

Bible Reading—Psalm 24

Hymn—"Crown Him with many crowns"

Topic—Italy

I—A Sketch—"The Italians"

II—Give a brief resume of our work in Italy during the past year.

Hymn—"Hark the voice of Jesus"

Dismissal by Prayer

Italy as a Mission Field

Italy as a mission field of the Southern Baptist Convention is divided into two parts, northern and southern Italy, and then these sections are subdivided. Northern Italy which consists of all Italy north of and including Rome, is divided into two fields, Northern and Central Italy. Southern Italy consists of all of Italy south of Rome, Sicily, Sardinia and North Africa. At present we have six foreign missionaries in Italy namely Dr. and Mrs. Everett Gill, who labor in the northern field; Rev. and Mrs. J. P. Stuart in the southern field, and Dr. and Mrs. D. G. Whittinghill who have charge of the Educational work in Italy. Besides these missionaries, there are

many native workers who help them in their work.

In the second place, Italy as a mission field presents a hard problem for the difficulties that must be overcome are many while the signs of encouragement are few. Here, Christianity seeks to enter the very headquarters of the Roman Church. It is to Italy, the home of the Pope that Catholics of all nations look for guidance; and therefore the Italians even though they do not agree with the teachings and do not sanction the actions of the church, nevertheless they do not wish to see the downfall of the Roman Church, for does not this church bring prestige and honor to their country? In Italy, as is usual in countries where this faith predominates, superstition and ignorance are prevalent. The percentage of illiteracy here is high and only as the people become enlightened will they give up their superstitions. Again, the question of church buildings raises an obstacle in the path of our missionaries; for they know well, that the mission churches are insignificant as compared with the great cathedrals of Italy. It is hard for the natives to respect and love the small mission churches when there are so many beautiful cathedrals in their country; for the Italians are a people that have a great love for the beautiful. Emigration has also affected the work in Italy. The great number of Italians who leave Italy make it hard for the small struggling Christian churches. Of course, during the last two years this has not been the case. While the war has caused this emigration to stop, it has played havoc with the work of the missionaries. However, they have been able to do a great work among the soldiers. The theological seminary, at Rome, was closed this year on account of the war. The two most hopeful things about Italy are first the work which has been done, and second Italy's strategic position. Italy, being the stronghold of Catholicism, is a place that we are most desirous of winning for Christ.



G. A. PROGRAM



Prepared by Miss Wille Jean Stewart

Devotional Exercises—Leader
Sentence Prayers

Hymn—"He is able to deliver thee"

Reading—Paragraph 1. in general program
Debate—Resolved that Baptists should
send missionaries to Greek and Roman
Catholic countries

Hymn—"The Son of God goes forth to war"
Paper—What We are Doing and May Do
for the Soldiers in Europe

Missionary Information Match

Reading: Their Resolve

Romans 8 : 28 repeated in concert

Business. Refreshments. Dismissal

Notes on Program

In the devotional exercises let the leader speak briefly of the conditions in Europe resulting from the war with especial emphasis on the religious aspect and using as her key-thought that God is working His purpose out—Romans 8 : 28

For the sentence prayers assign beforehand the objects listed in the Calendar of Prayer for the following dates in August in the order named: First and sixteenth; second; sixth; seventeenth; eighteenth; twelfth and twenty-first; twenty-second, twenty-third and twenty-ninth; twenty-seventh, twenty-eighth and thirtieth.

The tract entitled "Their Resolve" may be gotten from the W. M. U. Literature Department, 15 W. Franklin St., Baltimore, Md., for two cents.

Missionary information with regard to the countries of Europe for the "Missionary Information Match" may be obtained from the current issue of "ROYAL SERVICE"; the objects of prayer for August in the "Calendar of Prayer". Other information can be obtained from the Report of the Foreign Mission Board contained in the minutes of the S. B. C. For this send to your state headquarters not forgetting to enclose eight cents for postage. Mission study books will also aid in this contest, especially "Southern Baptist Foreign Missions", price, paper 40 cents, postage extra, from Educational Department Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va.

What We Are Doing and May Do for the Soldiers in Europe

Although our regular mission work in Europe has suffered greatly and been much hindered by the war, a new and blessed avenue of service has been found in the work among the soldiers. Men who face death in the trenches are not apt to scoff at and spurn things religious as they are wont to do elsewhere. Wherever it has been possible to hold services for them they have been well attended and the minister given an earnest, respectful hearing. But in the very nature of the case, most of the work has been done individually. Many members of our churches in Italy are in the ranks and a number of our pastors are serving as officers and wherever reports have come from them they have given good account of themselves. One Austrian pastor who is interned in the Island of Sardinia is conducting a modest work in his own hired house and writes encouragingly of its prospects.

Cut off from their usual sources of supply the soldiers are eager for reading matter of any kind. What an opportunity for placing portions of the Word where they will be read and re-read! In Italy last year we aided in distributing nearly twenty-five thousand portions of the Scripture to as many soldiers bound for the front. Pastor Fetler, who is an exile from Russia, a Baptist minister of marvelous power, is in this country pleading for Bibles and tracts to be sent to the prisoners of war in the great camps of Germany, that these men may be converted and go back into their scattered communities taking the Light with them.

Some slight material relief has been given our Baptist soldiers also. At Christmas time last year many packages were sent out carrying just those articles most needed by soldiers sleeping in the snow and fighting in muddy trenches, and one pictures with joy the satisfaction and comfort of those who received them. But greater than these and richer, reaching out across the seas, have been the gifts of prayer and of sympathy for these who walk in darkness along such dangerous ways.



R. A. PROGRAMS



Prepared by Mrs. Harry S. Mable

FIRST MEETING

Hymn—"From every stormy wind that blows"

Scripture—Acts 27 : 21-25; 28 : 16, 30, 31
Story of Paul's Journey to Rome—By member

Sentence Prayers—For missionaries in Italy

Hymn—"Let the lower lights be burning"

Topic—Missions in Europe—Study of Italy, the only S. B. C. mission in Europe

Introduction of missionaries represented by boys

Special prayer for these fields

Hymn—"The King's Business"

Business. Roll Call. Offering. Dismissal

Missionary D. G. Whittinghill: "Mrs. Whittinghill and myself are located at Rome. Owing to the war our theological school was not opened in 1915. We have done good work in our publication department. The earthquake in January gave a loss of 30,000 lives. This was occasion for much relief work. Three days after the earthquake a large party from our theological school and the church went to the scene of disaster. In South Benedetto we found things in a horrible state, three fourths of the population killed outright. Most of our church members were killed including the pastor's wife. We gave first aid to the wounded and comfort to the dying. Later Dr. Gill and I again visited the place carrying clothing to the survivors. At Christmas Mrs. Whittinghill sent packages containing necessary articles to more than seventy of our Baptist soldiers at the front. We have many opportunities to comfort the wounded and the homesick."

Missionary Everette Gill: "Mrs. Gill and I are working in northern Italy. Our field is practically in the seat of the war. Pordenone is near the Austrian border and our Baptist church here is using the rare opportunity for Christian work among the soldiers. We have sowed the Word unsparingly and God has promised it will not return unto Him void. The outlook for our future is uncertain and in case of Italian defeat in this war we can

only see disaster for our work. We need your sympathy and prayers. Our faith is calm and strong."

Missionary J. P. Stuart: "After seven years of continuous labor on the south Italian mission field, which consists of Italy south of Rome, Sicily, Sardinia and north Africa, I with my family sailed from Naples for New York on the eighth of September for our first furlough. Our journey was a perilous one, a British ship was sunk within an hour of our steamer, but we landed safely at New York and under the blessing of God my health, which has been very poor, has been much improved. We can give a glowing report of work in south Italy. Most of the immigrants coming to America are from our section and are hospitable to Protestant ideals. The Sunday schools in south Italy are well attended. Oh that we may see Italy saved!

SECOND MEETING

Hymn—"I'll go where you want me to go"

Scripture—19th Psalm read in concert

Prayer—By chief counsellor

Map Exercise—Mission Stations in Italy (see S. B. C. report page 247)*.

Echoes from Asheville

Talk—Missions in Europe (see general program)

Hymn—"Work for the night is coming"

Business. Reports. Offering. Doxology

If possible have the meeting on a lawn or out of doors.

Talk by Leader: The mission work of Baptists in America had its birth in the courageous act of Judson and Rice in severing connection with their own church to obey, as they believed it to be, the definite teaching of God's Word. This was in 1813. In 1845 it became apparent to both north and south that a separation was inevitable on account of the slavery question and the Southern Baptist Convention was organized. The first meeting was held in Augusta, Ga. May 8, 1845. The

* Send eight cents for postage for this to W. M. U. state headquarters.

(Concluded on Page 31)



SUNBEAM PROGRAMS



Prepared by Mrs. George Stevens



WORLD CHILDREN

FIRST MEETING

SUBJECT—Italy

MOTTO—Whoever will may come

HYMN—"Jesus loves me this I know"

SCRIPTURE—Mark 4 : 26-32

PRAYER—For the children of Italy

HYMN—"I love to tell the story"

LESSON

MEMORY VERSE—Proverbs 8 : 17

ROLL CALL. OFFERING. PRAYER

Lesson

Leader: There is a beautiful country far away over the great wide sea where the sky is very, very blue, where sunny days and blooming flowers make a most delightful land, where there are many little dark eyed children and where, in spite of its beauty, there is a great need, for these people do not know God as we know Him. Their lives are not guided by Him because they have not been taught how to come to Him in the right way. They do not know the Bible for themselves and are taught to hold its teachings in fear. Now I

know some of you have guessed that this beautiful country is Italy.

In the city of Rome, in Italy, there is an old man who lives shut away from the world in a big and wonderful building called the Vatican. He is called the Pope and is the head of the Catholic Church. From this vast building with its beautiful decorations, art galleries and lovely gardens he directs the people, telling them how they must worship God. He forbids them reading the Bible except it be taught through the priests of the church. The people are content because they

do not know any better, but they are missing all the joy of serving the Lord Jesus Christ in the way the Bible teaches. They pray to God through the Virgin Mary and through very many dead saints.

Two little Italian children, Marie and Antonio, came with their parents to America, they found a home in a big city and were fortunate enough to be allowed to go to a mission school for Italian children. There they learned many Bible verses and were amazed to discover that they could talk to God just as they could to their father or mother. At first they could hardly believe it, but after a while they grew to know more of the Bible and, as most Italian children sing well, they quickly learned the hymns sung at the mission. They would go home and tell of the school, recite the verses and sing the hymns to father and mother who soon became interested and were led to believe in Christ and accept Him as their Saviour. They attended the Sunday school and were earnest workers for the Master.

After a few years it became necessary for the family to go back to Italy. When they were once more in their beautiful country among their old friends they told the Gospel story as they had learned it in America. When one of our missionaries in Italy came to invite them to the mission school they were all anxious to come and soon were learning Bible verses and singing "Jesus loves me this I know" just as sweetly as you dear children sang it today. Don't you think that Marie and Antonio were real missionaries?

The city of Rome is mentioned in the Bible, Acts 23 : 11, where our Lord told St. Paul that he must be a witness for Him. Can any one repeat this verse? (This might be assigned to one of the older children.) Does not this make Italy and Rome seem very real to us?

We know that Paul did preach the Gospel in Rome and many were won to Christ. There is another Bible verse that tells us that we are to be witnesses also: Acts 1 : 8. (Have this written out on blackboard.)

Quiz

Where is Italy?

Ans.—In the south of Europe

What is the shape of Italy?

Ans.—It is shaped like a boot.

How many people are there in Italy?

Ans.—About 30,000,000

What do they raise in the fields and gardens?

Ans.—Wheat, corn, barley, oats, rye, rice and all kinds of vegetables

Have they any fruit?

Ans.—Yes, they have an abundance, grapes, oranges, lemons, figs, almonds, dates and olives

What kind of climate do they have?

Ans.—In the north it is cold, but the rest of the country is warm and in the south snow and ice are never seen.

What about the scenery of Italy?

Ans.—It is wonderfully beautiful, its mountains, valleys, lakes, flowers and blue sky have been told in song and story and painted in many beautiful pictures.

How many missionaries have we in Italy?

Ans.—We have 6

How many Baptist churches are there in Italy?

Ans.—46

How many native preachers?

Ans.—32

Have the Baptists any schools and kindergartens in Italy?

Ans.—Yes, there are 9 schools, two of these are kindergartens.

Where are these kindergartens?

Ans.—At Reggio and Rome (use map)

SECOND MEETING

SUBJECT—What Sin Can Do

MOTTO—"Jesus the Light of the world"

HYMN—"Can a little child like me"

SCRIPTURE—Mark 1 : 29-38

PRAYER—For the children of Europe

LESSON

HYMN—"God is in heaven"

RECITATIONS

MEMORY VERSE—John 15 : 14

ROLL CALL. OFFERING. LORD'S PRAYER in concert

(Concluded on Page 31)



FROM OUR MISSIONARIES



A BELOVED PHYSICIAN

I was called to my old home in the states by the sickness of my father. I started as soon as I could after I found that his sickness was serious, but he had died and had been buried five days before I could get home, for the traveling is so bad now in Mexico and there are so many wrecks delaying the trains. I crossed the line the very day of the attack on Columbus, New Mexico, and when I got to New Orleans I read that U. S. troops had gone into Mexico. You can imagine how I felt for the moment until I had time to remember that God could still take care of my husband.

I got within two hours of my home before I heard of the death of my father, and it was so hard to bear the disappointment of not seeing him after coming so far and having such a hard journey. But I was able to comfort my mother in her grief and I know that that is why God let me go to her. They had been married 50 years in January of this year and my father lacked one day of being seventy-six years old. He had taught the Baraca class in the Sunday school sixteen years. It was easier for me to bear being with the family than if I had been down here alone. It is the first time that death has entered my immediate family since I have been big enough to understand it.

I stayed nearly four weeks and then came back. It looked so much like intervention in the affairs here that I could not be sure what God wanted me to do, but I came step by step as He opened the way and now I am sure He wanted me to come as one of our members is sick with both typhus fever and smallpox and I am attending her. The epidemic of typhus fever still rages. I have been nursing cases of it for five months and God has protected me from it. I do long for some vaccine virus to vaccinate myself. I would like to do that much for self-protection and help the Lord that much. But I forgot it when I was in the states and there is now no time to get it. I brought some medicines with me. Like the widow's oil they have never given out in all these months of poor or rather no communication with the base of supplies.

Our work is doing so fine here that it is very encouraging. I never go home without being thankful for our Mexican Christians. The First Baptist Church of my home town has a membership of about 500 and we have more members in prayer-meeting right here in our little church in Toluca than they do, and yet they do some big things for the Lord. Last December, the coldest month of the year, we held meetings daily for a week. Before this the people desired, as a preparation for these services, that we hold daily prayer meetings, the only hour when all could come was before any work started; so they came at five in the morning to a building without a fire. It was freezing cold but they stayed there one hour praying, there was hardly a person in the house who did not lead in prayer, and at six o'clock when they left it was still dark, not a ray of light to tint the eastern sky. That is what I call devotion! It is needless to tell you that we had a good meeting. Mr. Neal went to four other churches and held fine meetings.

We have 150 in our school this year and are doing good work, but we are fearing that the new government will close it for they are closing so many private schools. We hope and pray that they will spare ours.

I thank you so much for your prayers, they have been answered for God has protected us through all these years of revolution and, although the political condition is worse than we have ever seen it before, we are still trusting Him to save us from danger.—*Hallie G. Neal, M. D., Toluca, Mexico*

CHANGES

I am glad to get back and be at work. I found all well here, but there were changes of course. Some had gone; one was dear Zung Ta Ta from Quin San, not my Bible woman, but the paralytic, she went three weeks before my arrival—what an abundant entrance must have been hers! Then Mrs. Yang, for whom I had prayed so long, has really come out into the light. She had the pastor, Mrs. Zee, Mrs. Tsang and Miss Tucker all over to her house to witness the bonfire into which she threw all her relics of heathenism. There were

thirteen or fourteen ancestral tablets and all the idols in the ancestral cabinet. She was telling me about it this afternoon—said she could not help trembling when she saw them all go, but after looking at the pile of ashes, she realized that the power of the devil was broken. This woman was once in the Bible school, but went away and seemed to be very far from the Gospel. A severe illness brought her to see the truth in Christ Jesus.

Then there was a school here, owned and run by a very fine woman, but she has been bitterly opposed to Christianity; during the Eddy meetings she allowed me to take Mrs. Eddy there to talk to the girls, but the principal (Mrs. Soo) did not care to listen. Just a few weeks before my return there was trouble here in Shanghai and this woman with thirty of her girls fled to our school and took refuge with us. Miss Tucker gave her, and other teachers with her, my room and entertained them for several days, during that time they heard the Gospel morning, noon and night, and now there is a different attitude towards this once hated subject. I consider this the most wonderful opportunity we have had in all our work. So you see that gradually the walls of prejudice are broken down, and slowly we are gaining ground. I had a reception for the women this afternoon and told them of my visit home and something about our W. M. U. work and of the great Houston meeting. After that they were all invited to the Smith Bible school and bowls of macaroni served, not like our macaroni, but that's the best name I know for it.—*Willie H. Kelly, Shanghai, China*

THE GIFT OF HEALING

If you will walk over to the hospital with me in a few minutes you will soon understand why I have not written as often as I would wish.

I have two bath tubs for the patients to use, one is for those who are very unclean, perhaps have not had a bath since their birth, and the other one is for those who are fairly clean. If I had not been on the spot first a nice woman would have gotten a bath in the tub for the unclean, and I had rather this would not happen. I have been trying for months to teach the women to be very careful about contagious diseases and cleanliness and I thought they were about taught until I took

them by surprise this morning. Then again yesterday I walked into the hospital after the morning work was supposed to be done (I had had a severe headache the night before) and found a patient whom they had taken in, lying upon a nice clean white bed with all her dirty rags on! I asked them why they had not given her a bath as was the custom of the hospital. They said, "Well, perhaps she will be here only one night."

You would laugh if you could hear some of the remarks they make about bathing. They are so afraid they will take cold. I can not blame them though for not bathing often for their homes are so cold in the winter. I have made many, many visits to their homes in connection with my hospital work. We do not always have a full hospital of women and children; in that case I do evangelistic work on the outside. The Bible woman and I have made a great number of visits to the country and have gone to the very back where, it seems to me, they will never have an opportunity to hear the gospel except by visits, and by their own people. We have a splendid Bible woman who loves to preach. She is now visiting in the city. We have preaching twice a day in the hospital and all patients always hear the gospel. Dr. Taylor preaches every other morning to the in-patients and to the helpers. He is kept very busy as there is so much surgical work, some of the results are wonderful.

We were very sorry to give Miss Mackenzie up. She was doing splendid work, all the Chinese are so fond of her and long for her to come back. We trust she will soon be well. We have been reading some of the sermons of the great evangelist, Billy Sunday. He certainly must be a wonderful man. Ding Lih Mei, one of China's great evangelists, has been in Yangchow conducting a ten-days meeting. Many heard his message and were wonderfully blessed.—*Edna E. Teal, Yangchow, China*

HOMES AND HEARTS IN CHINA

We have but lately moved into our new cottage on the land bought about eighteen months ago. Before this we lived almost a mile from the church and schools and this made it very hard to go back and forth in all weathers, especially as there was a river to cross and this river at times was too angry to cross at all.

We are also so glad to be here because it is the first time in the years we have been in China that we have lived on land belonging to the Foreign Board. This is only built of the cheapest lumber so is a temporary house, but we can live in it until the hospital and schools are built and the money for permanent houses can be furnished. In fact we will probably live here until our next furlough. There are no houses to rent here and we had to have a home, so this cottage was put up and we are so glad to have it and are quite comfortable.

We are looking forward to our new compound very hopefully, the grading for the hospital and Girls' School will soon be completed. We hope to get the hospital started soon as the present building is old and inadequate and has been under water during the floods of the last two years. The board has sent us part of the money for this building and we are so thankful for the poor Chinese do need help during flood times, and so far our hospital has been flooded out as well as almost all of the houses along the lower streets.

The work here is going on in many ways better than ever and all of us are so busy we wish we were four people each instead of one. Dr. Hayes, Dr. Leavell and Mrs. Hayes and two Chinese physicians have all they can do in the hospital work. Miss Rea is at present teaching all day in the Girls' School. Miss Scarlett is doing work with the Bible woman and is just now in the country on a three weeks' trip. Mrs. Leavell is studying and working in the Sunday school. Mr. Tipton is the only evangelist in this part of Kwang Si (our mission) and is editing the Sunday School Student, our Baptist Sunday school literature, and teaching in the Boys' School. I am teaching our two daughters and helping wherever I can. Mrs. Leavell and I are hoping to have a primary school in the fall but where the time for this is to come from is difficult to see. If we could only have two ladies for school work and another evangelist we would be so glad. The work is simply crying out to be done and our hands are so full, but it is all God's work and He will carry it on. Pray for us won't you? Pray that in some way these workers may be sent out where the opportunity is so great!

I wish you could be with us in the Sunday school some morning. Miss Rea has trained two girls who are doing fine work in the primary class. Now she has gone to a higher

class and Mrs. Leavell is to have charge, I shall help in this work. The little ones are so interesting, they open their big brown eyes and seem anxious to understand what Oi Chan or Chan Ying are saying to them about the Bible stories. Often there are sixty or more of these children. They love to sing and really sing well. We have a small organ that the children have helped to buy and they sing with as much enjoyment as any American child could. Some of them are so dear and cute. The hardest part of the work is to keep them still as they know nothing about order when they first come. Of course they are divided and sometimes we have four classes and big ones at that. Some of these tots have babies strapped to their backs and when baby cries the jiggling begins as the motion of the small nurse's body seems to quiet the baby, but you can readily see that it does not quiet the class. These small nurses are kept in one class as far as possible. I said above that there were sixty or more children but sometimes there are a hundred and forty.

Our women's prayer meeting meets on Tuesday afternoon and the women take turns in leading. Always an opportunity is given to each to say a few words of praise or request. One woman feels that God has healed her of a tumor and it seems that she has been fully cured. All rejoice in the love of Jesus, but quite often sorrows are told. Two weeks ago one old woman from a boat said that her two granddaughters had gone up the river to row some one, it was late at night and a bad storm came on and she had not heard from them, it was now three days since they left. She asked that we all pray that she find them. As they were only going half a mile I fear she will never hear of them. There are ten thousand boat people here in Wuchow. They are the degraded women of China, poor things! The red light district is all on the boats and so boat people are considered to belong to this class and no people who live on land will visit them except in the rarest cases. The old lady of whom I spoke told me in the saddest voice that she was a boat woman. I am sure she lives the best life she can.

Our church has decided to become self-supporting this year for which we are glad.

The ROYAL SERVICE is a most welcome visitor and brings encouragement as well as a knowledge of other fields.—*Mary Bryson Tipton, Wuchow, China*



SOCIETY METHODS



CIRCLE PLAN TESTIMONIALS

A pastor's wife writes:

The territory in which our church is located comprises 6,000 or 7,000 people. Necessarily some of our women live several blocks from the church. We, therefore, at the regular monthly business meeting of the society divided the territory into four sections, using certain streets as the dividing lines, and secured four homes, one in each section, in which the women living in that section were to meet on a certain day to organize their circle which should be auxiliary to the Woman's Missionary Society. At the appointed day the women met in the different homes and elected a chairman, a secretary and a leader each of mission and Bible study. We found it more practical to have just one treasurer for the four circles to whom we pay our dues when we have the monthly business meeting of all the circles of the church, at which meeting the society president presides. She does not belong to any one circle but is free to visit all at her discretion. Each circle meets every week and, in addition twice each month all the circles meet at the church, one of these meetings being for business and one being for the missionary program in ROYAL SERVICE. The circles also have a joint meeting at the church every fifth Thursday, the subjects for these "Fifth Thursday" meetings for this year being: Judson's Wives, Fanny Crosby and Her Songs, Temperance and Mother.

As you have noticed our plan makes a number of meetings each month but the women in all the circles voted to do this as they were unwilling to miss their four Bible and mission study meetings in their circles. The circles do not use the same mission study books for I have learned that the book which appeals to the women in one locality is not suitable for the women of another.

The results have been gratifying, not only in enlisting new women but interesting for active service many who were already members. Women with no servant, in ill health or having small children will attend a meeting in a home near by who cannot go to the distant church. The children can be taken to the home and play with the other children there. It also enlists women of no denomination as a friendly invitation to a neighbor's home is nearly always accepted. More than twice as many women are present in each circle each week as attended the weekly meetings at the church under the old plan. A message has just come asking for another circle in a section hitherto untouched by our society. Fourteen women have expressed a desire to join, only three of the fourteen being at present members of the society. This new circle will, therefore, enlist at least eleven more women.

A state W. M. U. vice president says:

Our pastor sent out cards to each lady members of the church asking her to come to the church to a mass meeting on Sunday afternoon. Very few knew what this meeting was called for and, therefore, many who had never attended either of the two societies came while, of course, the faithful society members were there. After a short devotional service, the pastor's wife was asked to explain the circle plan as it had been used in the society from which she came. After her careful explanation a motion was made and unanimously adopted to disband both societies and organize the Woman's Missionary Society which using the circle plan should do all the woman's work of the church. The pastor then appointed the executive board of each of the former organizations as a nominating committee and also as the temporary executive board of the new organization. After much prayer, many meetings, lots of hard work and of course much discouragement, this committee prepared the constitution and selected the women for officers and circle chairmen who they thought were most capable and willing to carry on the work of the new organization. Their report was accepted with almost no changes.

In dividing our membership into circles, we selected all the active missionary workers and

divided them equally, writing their names on slips and letting the four chairmen draw them. Then we divided the less active ones in the same way and finally the non-active ones. This plan gives each circle the same strength and prevents jealousy. Each year at the annual meeting new chairmen of circles are elected and the membership re-divided as in the beginning so that the same women are not always working together and thus getting into a rut.

The circles alternate in carrying out the monthly missionary program which follows the general business session. One circle furnishes the program, another the decoration and another the social half hour at the close of this meeting. The circles alternate in these monthly duties.

The secretary of each circle is furnished with a card on which she makes her monthly report which she reads to the society and then turns over to the society secretary. The card which is divided by months has a column for each of the following items: Circle Number; Circle Meetings; Church Attendance; Circle with Society; Mission Study Class; Calls; Gifts to Missions; New Church Members; New Circle Members; Denominational Magazines; and Weeks of Prayer. The personal service and other standing committees consist of one member from each circle.

We had never had a mission study class until we had the circles. This year we have five classes with forty three members in all. As soon as we have completed the book we are now studying we will begin five more classes using another book.

We are very much gratified and encouraged with the success of our circle plans, the society having increased in spirituality, information, efficiency, attendance, contributions and membership, but I believe that the greatest good coming from the circle plan is in the development of the individual and in the developing of more leaders.

A W. M. U. Training School trustee writes:

What are the advantages of the circle plan?

1—*The Personal Touch*—Many members drop out unnoticed, lose interest, get sick or discouraged. A visit or word in personal touch from the circle leader, who can number her members on her fingers, tells the absentee how she is missed and oftentimes she returns with even greater interest.

2—*Develops Leaders*—In the exercise of her duties a circle leader fits herself it may be for the leadership of the society.

3—*Develops Each Member*—Where the society is large and has only a monthly meeting much talent must lie dormant. Only those take part who write the best papers and pray the easiest, in other words only those who are already developed. The timid woman is afraid of her own voice in a crowd but give her a chance in her own parlor before a small number and she will do her part. To build a live missionary society each one must do her part over against her own house as in the days of Nehemiah.

4—*Divides Responsibility and Work*—The circles take turns in presenting the monthly missionary programs, leaving only the business part of each meeting to the society president. This gives the president as well as the society the comforting support of a new group of helpers for each meeting.

5—*Provides a Natural Mission Study Class*—Did you ever try to organize a mission study class? If so perhaps you got six out of as many hundred women to join. The circle, meeting in the homes of its members between the meetings of the society, requires a different missionary program. How natural to select a book each winter and have a regular mission study class or, if need be, just a reading course.

6—*Increases Gifts*—Five years before we had the circle plan we had a splendid president who worked hard on her program and on the enlisting of new members. After the circles were organized the programs and enlistment became easier and the offerings have more than doubled in amount. In a letter to me the society secretary, speaking for all the circles as they assembled for their annual program, testifies thus to our allegiance to the circle plan after five years' experience: "We love the circles. They have been the means of better work, more enthusiasm, more knowledge of missions and more sociability. The women as a body are heartily in favor of their continuance".

CURRENT EVENTS

THE WORLD FIELD.

INSPIRING lines of progress in mission work were outlined recently in an address at the General Methodist Episcopal Conference. "The Evangelistic Campaign is moving Japan as nothing has before, the missionaries have sent calls for 500 to aid them." "Out of great political, social and commercial confusion, new China is emerging with tremendous tasks and responsibility." "With the process of Americanizing in the Philippines is a wonderful turning to Protestantism." "For the first time vast numbers in Mexico are willing to open the Bible." "The per cent of increase of converts to Christianity in Africa exceeds that of any other field except Southern Asia." "More than 4000 are being baptized every year in India." "Superstition is passing in South America."

The tent work and open air preaching of the New York City Evangelistic Committee which has been such an effective agency in past years is planning a vigorous campaign for this summer. Last season 2477 meetings were conducted in 118 centers and in eight languages. This has proved a very successful way of reaching the foreigners who are attracted by the music and held by the sound of their own tongue. Many converts of one season serve as valuable helpers the next season. "The poor have the Gospel preached to them. It is Christ's work being done in Christ's way."

Thanks to the interest and effort of Rev. Ernest Grigg, an American missionary, and to the generosity of Rev. Henry M. Sanders of New York, a permanent memorial is to mark the spot in Ava where the old prison stood in which Adoniram Judson was held for eleven months. A memorial boulder of great beauty has been put in place and in addition a most attractive and well equipped Rest House for travelers and for the religious instruction of wayfarers has been erected.

The Christian Chinese Intelligencer is a weekly paper published by the American

Presbyterian Mission which is constantly growing in influence because of its reliability in both religious and secular news. It is read in all parts of China and links together God's people from north to south, but its circulation is not limited to Christians. The literate and merchants are reading it because "it respects and knows the truth", and many false impressions of Christianity are being corrected through it.

About one third the population of North America is Christian. To make it wholly Christian each one should reach and gain two others. The average foreign missionary has about 70,000 people to reach. What a contrast! It should be a great stimulus to our endeavors to increase the force on the foreign field.

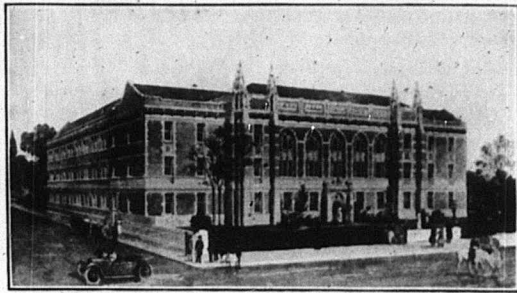
A bill is pending in Congress to prohibit the exporting of any kind of intoxicating liquor to any part of Africa. The terrible effects produced among the native peoples by this liquor, which in many cases they have first known of through the American product, is a great blot on our national life.

Tibet, the hermit nation of the world, has not yet been opened to Christianity, but along its border for two thousand miles are many missionary posts, where missionaries are slowly reaching the Tibetan people. Grammars and dictionaries have been published and a translation of the New Testament has been issued. These are all entering wedges which in time will break down those walls of isolation and seclusion.

During the academic year-1914-15 the organizations of College Students in the United States and Canada gave \$218,652.00 for missions. The number of students contributing was 60,000 and the work of educating the students to give and of collecting the money was done by the students themselves. This training will mean much to them in the days when they have left college.



TRAINING SCHOOL



PROPOSED BUILDING FOR BAPTIST W. M. U. TRAINING SCHOOL
334 E. BROADWAY, LOUISVILLE, KY.

PICTURE PROOFS

WE are often told that the eye retains more than the ear. Year after year at our Annual Meetings the women of the Union have been told of various phases of work done in the Training School. The home life, the class work, the personal service department, the settlement work, the crowded conditions of the building, the personelle of the students, the purpose and ideals of the school; all have been discussed on the platform or presented in episode or playlet. But perhaps the history of the school, its influence and the scope of its work have never been so clearly presented as in the series of stereopticon slides shown at the Asheville meeting.

We naturally like to know the beginnings of things. The first of these pictures showed the little house rented by the Louisville women in 1904 to house the first four students, then the faces of the first student body came on the screen. Soon the school outgrew its quarters and an old mansion was rented for its use. This passed before our vision and then was shown the magnificent gift of the Sunday School Board to the Union, the lot and building at 334 E. Broadway, for in 1907 at the Richmond meeting the Union had decided to adopt the embryo school, the child of the love, prayer and sacrifice of the Louisville women. But the school was "no pile of brick and stone, it was a living thing" and soon its life was pulsing across the sea. There were pictures of its foreign missionaries in China, Japan, Mexico, South America and Africa who as teachers, nurses, evangelists, kindergartners and homemakers are taking the light to a dark and sin sick world. How nobly these women are fulfilling their mission is a matter of current knowledge.

"The light that shines farthest shines brightest at home." Picture after picture followed showing the work of Training School students in the homeland where they work among the foreigners at Tampa, Fla. and at Norfolk, Va. under the Home Mission Board and under a city mission board in St. Louis, Mo. Work among the mill people of the Carolinas was shown while settlement work in our cities, kindergarten work, mountain school, Sunday school and city mission work all came in for a share in the pictures. But Training School students have received too much from our Sunday School Board and our Woman's Missionary Union not to turn eagerly to the work fostered by these great organizations. So several groups of students now busy as state leaders of W. M. U. work smiled at us from the screen. A little glimpse in the back yard of the Training School was given where May Day was celebrated by students and faculty, and several scenes from the Good Will Center work showed how the students were trained for soul winning and the leading of women and children into active Christian

(Concluded on Page 31)



PERSONAL SERVICE



THE MASTER'S QUESTIONS

"Have ye looked for the sheep in the desert,
For those who have missed the way?
Have ye been in the wild, waste places,
Where the lost and wandering stray?
Have ye trodden the lonely highway,
The foul and darksome street?
It may be ye'd see in the gloaming
The print of My wounded feet!
Have ye folded home to your bosom
The trembling, neglected lamb,
And taught to the lost one straying
The sound of the Shepherd's name?"

"Have ye searched for the poor and needy,
With no clothing, no home, no bread?
The Son of Man was among them—
He had nowhere to lay His head.
Have ye wept with the broken-hearted
In their agony of woe?
Ye might hear Me whispering beside you,
'Tis the pathway I often go.
My disciples, My brethren, My friends,
Can ye dare to follow Me?
Then where'er the Master dwelleth
There shall the servant be."

A BOY'S CLUB IN BALTIMORE

WHEN an industrial school was opened last fall a number of boys and little children came to the meetings. They could not sew, but should they be sent away? The women in charge thought not, and two kindergartners came in to work with them. The little children however could not be interested with the older boys and were finally put into a class to sew picture cards, leaving the boys to themselves. The whole schools always had their hymns and opening exercises together. Two of us then did what we could to interest the boys. Everyone knows how a boy loves a game. There was not space enough in our little kitchen room for physical games so we had to confine ourselves to checkers, crokinole, dominoes, also picture puzzles and books. We also know how boys love candy, no matter how inexpensive or stale it may be. It was for these things probably that the boys came every week, but before they could play a game or have a piece of candy they had to go through the opening exercises and then listen to a story, presenting usually a strong Gospel message. At first they listened reluctantly, indeed they were very rude and noisy, one or two had to be put out (only to return the following week to behave themselves), but we worked on, assured that it was all being taken care of by Him whose purpose must be accomplished.

From the very beginning we taught these boys Bible verses, very simple ones at first—such as: "God is love", "He careth for you",

going on through John 3 : 14-16; Acts 16 : 31; I Tim. 3 : 15; Rom. 3 : 23; I Cor. 15 : 3; I Peter 2 : 24 and others. Sometimes we made each boy recite the new verse before he could have candy or play a game. One would think that boys of this class would mock and ridicule such proceedings, but they did not.

Starting with the first week in May we held our meetings for boys on a different afternoon, having thus the big room with piano and big chairs to ourselves. What a difference this change of environment made in the rough set we had worked with in the back room! They were now well behaved, reverent during the prayer, listened attentively and played quietly. We tried at this time some raffia work with them and several napkin rings and picture-frames were made and taken home. Some of the older boys wrote their verses on pieces of paper which were made into books for them. Over fifty boys were enrolled and we have an average attendance of twenty.

With the games, candy, etc. as the means, we aimed to present to the boys the saving truth of the atonement of Jesus Christ. We taught them plainly that they could do nothing to save their souls. If asked now what is the only way to be saved they answer promptly, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved".

*Whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only ***** verily I say unto you he shall in no wise lose his reward.—Matt. 10: 42.*



UNION NOTES



ROUND TABLE

THE program offered at Ridgcrest was well prepared and helpful to those who attended the conference of the Baptist Student Missionary Movement. It was a great inspiration to be with the nearly 500 fine college and school girls at Blue Ridge. It was a joy to note the enthusiasm of the more than 115 Baptist girls, from twelve different states in the southland, who attended the denominational meeting on June 8. Every chair was filled and some stood during the meeting. Miss Margaret Burton, National Y. W. C. A. Secretary, led the devotions. The work of our Foreign Mission Board was presented by Mr. McNeal Poteat of the Louisville Seminary. 'The Need of Leaders for the Graded System of the W. M. U.' was brought in a forceful message by Miss Pearl Todd of Georgia. 'Home Missions, W. M. U. Organization and the Training School' was presented by Miss Metcalfe. Miss Louise Robinson of Judson College in Alabama led in prayer. It was with interest and encouragement that we noted the loyalty of our Baptist girls to their denomination. One hundred and fourteen girls signed the cards expressing a willingness to return to the home church to take up the work as leaders among women, girls, boys and little children. Many girls sought information from the W. M. U. representative along the lines of work mentioned above. In almost every case we found that the student was greatly interested in the Training School. Some of the very best students are volunteers for foreign work. It is hoped that the state leaders will make every effort to follow up the work of the conference by getting in touch with the girls, whose cards will be sent to each state by Miss Tyler, W. M. U. college correspondent. The above interesting account of the Baptist and Y. W. C. A. student conferences as held in Ridgcrest and Blue Ridge, N. C., was written by Miss Clyde Metcalfe of Alabama who was the official Union representative at those conferences. The Union is indeed grateful to Miss Metcalfe and Alabama for her helpfulness at them. The new Year

Books have been sent to the state W. M. U. headquarters. It is intended that each society president as well as leaders of the young people's organizations shall receive one copy from their state headquarters. Increasingly the presidents and leaders are coming to realize that this copy belongs to the society and that its contents should be made known to the society members. It is highly important that this Year Book be passed on to the new officers and leaders should changes be made during the year. Organizations desiring additional copies may obtain them at 5 cents each from W. M. U. Literature Department, 15 W. Franklin St., Baltimore, Md. During the summer it is the custom of many societies to plan to send boxes of clothing to the frontier missionaries working under the Home Mission Board. Letters from such missionaries may be secured by applying to the W. M. U. corresponding secretary, Miss Kathleen Mallory, 15 W. Franklin St., Baltimore, Md. Union organizations will of course remember that the sending of such a box is over and above the regular apportionment to home missions but that where a society can do both it is highly desirable. The Mexican situation can but effect our faithful frontier missionaries and render their needs all the greater. Last fall during the visit of the W. M. U. corresponding secretary to New Mexico and Oklahoma many of these missionaries told her what the boxes had meant to their families. One of them said that in their box he received a new suit of clothes and that it was the first new suit he had in five years. How proudly and gratefully he did rub his hands over it as he told how the box contained just what each member of his family needed the most and of how, after everything had been taken out of the box, the family sat down to talk it all over in gratitude. In the midst of the circle was the baby and as the older ones talked it constantly rang its little bell as though to say: "My gift is the best of all!" Some societies get their boxes packed in September or October so that they reach the missionaries before the severe

winter has set in. It is easy to understand how doubly helpful this early assistance is. Copies of the W. M. U. Annual Meeting minutes for the given years are needed for duplicate files in the Baltimore headquarters: 1897, 1898, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909 and 1910. As the completion of these files will be a valuable asset to our work it is hoped that Union members all over the south will look through their copies of the minutes. If they have them we believe they will gladly give duplicates to Union files. Kindly send them to the W. M. U. corresponding secretary, Miss Kathleen Mallory, 15 W. Franklin St., Baltimore, Md. Word comes that a Training School Dollar Club has been organized in one of the Florida churches. Doubtless many others have been formed not only in that state but all over the south. The Training School trustees are justified in using the Biblical injunction: "Go thou and do likewise". And "as you go" use the souvenir receipt cards and subscription blanks which have been attractively and conveniently prepared by a sub-committee in Louisville with Miss Mary Pratt of the Board of Managers as its chairman. Write to your state W. M. U. headquarters concerning these cards and blanks. Any suggestions for making a success of October as "Enlistment Month" will be gratefully received by the Baltimore office. Last May we reported a total of 13,424 societies and this May 14,663. However, this May we said there were 3154 new societies which if added to last year's total should make our present total 16,578. It is thus seen that during the past year our real gain was only 1239 societies and that we lost 1915. It will be splendid if during this new year and especially during October we can enlist many new workers and organize many new societies but equally important is it that the strong societies foster the weaker ones so that we shall not lose any of our oft-times hard-won and certainly always needed victories. The dates for the January Week of Prayer for World Wide Missions are: December 31, 1916 through January 6, 1917. The subjects are: Teaching the Word; Publish Abroad the Kingdom; Some to Be Evangelists; China; For the Healing of the Nations; A Well of Living Waters; and The Field Is the World. It is proposed to have certain of the women missionaries at home on furlough prepare these programs and the leaflets which will go with

them. This will insure first-hand information and from-the-heart appeals. It is further proposed that the Sunday and Thursday programs be rendered by the young people in the presence of the Woman's Missionary Society. Similar plans will be carried out for the March Week of Prayer for Home Missions, the dates for which are: March 4 through March 10, 1917. The subjects for it are as follows: Foreign and Indian Children; Home Mission Assets; Church Extension; Mountain Schools; From Fort to Plain; Our Outlying Opportunities; and Home Mission Liabilities. The W. M. U. corresponding secretary was able to attend the middle of June the annual meeting of the Eastern District of the Maryland Baptist Association. It was held at Easton which is across the Chesapeake from Baltimore. The attendance was quite gratifying and the interest very manifest. The second afternoon was given entirely to woman's work, the district vice president, Mrs. L. G. Frazier, presiding. Miss Marie Buhlmaier, several of the state W. M. U. officers and others spoke. In addition to this afternoon meeting an hour's conference on methods was held. One of the largest societies in the W. M. U. headquarters city observed with great enthusiasm the "Summer Solstice Program" on behalf of the debt on the Foreign Mission Board. The Jubilate white roses were brought as suggested and were sent to one of the members who was in great sorrow. The society raised more than three times as much as was asked of it for the debt.

THINKING CAP

1. Which of the Italian churches is strongest?
2. What is the difference between Baptists in this country and in Europe?
3. Who was the founder of Baptist work in continental Europe?
4. Find mention of a missionary son of a missionary father.
5. Who has been called "The Moody of Paris?"
6. Where is "donkey" a popular term for "woman?"
7. Where has God set before us "an open door?"
8. What great work has been entrusted to the International Y. W. C. A.?
9. Find two letters from the trenches.



BOOK REVIEWS



Studies in the New Testament

ATENTION is called this month to four valuable books published by the Sunday School Board. Dr. A. T. Robertson of the Louisville Theological Seminary, has written *Studies in the New Testament*, with the thought in mind of Sunday school teachers, members of Bible classes, students in schools and colleges, etc. In his preface he says: "The purpose of the book is to make the New Testament more intelligible and more easily taught to others. The connection in the whole wondrous story is duly emphasized. I love to think of the great multitudes of men and women who are eager to know about Christ and love to teach what they know." The individual student too, may follow this book with great profit in the daily quiet Bible study. By its use one may see familiar passages stand forth in brighter light and precious truths reveal themselves in clearer understanding. The first part dwells with the Roman World B. C. 5, and Life in Palestine in the First Century A. D.; the second part, the Life of Christ; the third part, the Apostolic History. Most heartily do we urge this little book, for class work and for a daily reading course. Paper .35; cloth .50

The Heart of the Old Testament

"Where can I find an Old Testament manual written by a modern scholar who believes thoroughly in the supernatural in both Testaments?" We are told that this little book is the answer to the above question. "The author has not limited himself to biography and history, nor to literary analysis and appreciation, nor to the growth of Bible doctrines, but he has freely drawn from these and other departments of Old Testament study whatever seemed of most value to young people in Christian homes and schools in the twentieth century." This book by Dr. J. R. Sampey, D. D. of the Louisville Theological Seminary, may be used in the Sunday school normal class and in the Young People's Society. We recommend its use by the general reader in studying the Old Testament Scriptures. Postpaid, paper .35; cloth .50

Order the above mentioned books at the quoted prices from Educational Department, Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Virginia

The New Normal Manual

A number of years ago the Sunday School Board issued the Convention Normal Manual for Sunday school workers. Of this book we learn that over 70,000 copies were sent out and that through its use more than 22,000 Convention Normal Manual Diplomas were granted. With the rise of new methods and ideas in Sunday school work, came the need for a revision. We learn too, through Dr. Frost's explanatory word that the first division, dealing with the Sunday School has been revised, that the second and third, respectively, have been rewritten, and that new material, in the form of two doctrinal studies, has been added. We note too that this "New Normal Manual now presented will entirely supplant all former editions, making impossible the further use of older editions in our Normal Course work."

Dr. B. W. Spilman has contributed the section on the Sunday School; Prof. L. P. Leavell on the Pupil and Dr. P. E. Burroughs on the Bible. The doctrinal sections have been taken from the writings of Dr. F. H. Kerfoot, D. D. Postpaid, paper .35; cloth .50.

Old Testament Studies

This little volume by Dr. P. E. Burroughs comprises material, we are told, that has been presented "in teaching Old Testament history in various states, in local classes, in educational institutions," etc. and that "it is offered in this permanent form at the request of the Sunday School Board's Normal Course Committee with a view to its use in the Convention Normal Course". The studies are "designed as a guide for the study of the Old Testament. They will largely fail of their purpose if they are used apart from the Old Testament". Dr. Burroughs tells us they are planned with one thought—"to convey a connected and continuous view of Old Testament history, as that history reveals God and His redemptive purpose". Though prepared perhaps more for class study, the individual Bible reader must surely find this guide book of great profit. Paper .35; cloth .50

TRAINING SCHOOL

(Concluded from Page 26)

service. Through the clubs at this settlement valuable lessons in homemaking and right living are taught by the young missionaries to those who so keenly need them.

The last pictures showed different views of the "New Building" for which the Union is now working so earnestly. The end of the dining room, the interior of the Heck Memorial Chapel and the front view of the entire building made our hearts thrill to the task and spurred us to renewed effort.

Four different sets of these lantern slides have been prepared and may be used with stereopticon—not with radiopticon. The slides, with typewritten text explaining them, have been gotten out for use at summer assemblies, state meetings, associational meetings, city union meetings, etc. These pictures will be a fine prelude to the establishment of Dollar Clubs for the Enlargement Fund, and will make a good basis of appeal for the \$98,000 from 98000 people needed to erect the new building. If you desire to use them communicate with Mrs. Maud R. McLure, 334 E. Broadway, Louisville, Ky.

R. A. PROGRAM

(Concluded from Page 17)

gift for that year was \$11,689.00. Today the work of the Convention is three fold—Foreign Missions Board, Home Mission Board and Sunday School Board. The W. M. U. is auxiliary to the entire S. B. C. (Leader introduces distinguished visitors represented by boys.)

President S. B. C., Lansing Burrows, D.D., L.L.D.

Corresponding Secretary Foreign Mission Board, Dr. J. F. Love

Corresponding Secretary Home Mission Board, Dr. B. D. Gray

Corresponding Secretary Sunday School Board, Dr. J. M. Frost

All of this happens because of sin in the hearts of the rulers and those who have power. They do not seem to have learned that they are to love the Lord their God with all their hearts and their neighbors as themselves. We see how sin causes great wars, not all at once, but little by little sin gets into the heart until it is so big it will even kill to get what it wants, and this brings great trouble not only to the sinner but to others also.

We can learn a lesson from this terrible war, and that is not to let sin creep into our hearts, because it will bring trouble to us and those who love us, just as these great countries have brought sorrow and woe into their lands by sinning against God. Just now we must pray for these nations at war and for our own dear country too, asking that God will soon bring peace into the world.

Sunshine Cake

"Fill a measure full of sunshine,
Some crumbs of comfort, too,
Then mix them well with loving thoughts
And words both kind and true.
Let them quickly rise with action
To deeds of golden hue,
And you'll have a cake worth eating,
When baking time is through."

When mother tucks me in at night
I tell her everything;
All we Sunbeams do and say
And every song we sing.
Mothers always understand
When you talk about the "band".

SUNBEAM PROGRAMS

(Concluded from Page 19)

Note: Have August meeting out of doors if possible and teach the 24th Psalm as a Bible study.

Leader: At our last meeting we talked about Italy, this is one of the countries now at war. We know that war is a fearful thing and comes when men love themselves and power and gain better than they love God. The rulers of the great countries now at war in Europe (show places on map) call out to fight the fathers and brothers of the family and sometimes they never come back to their homes again. Then the mothers and little children will suffer for clothing and food, for there will be no one to earn them for them.

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