ON NOVEMBER 28, Thanksgiving Day, a chain of Bible readers around the world, will inaugurate the third Worldwide Bible Reading program, which is sponsored annually by the American Bible Society. The program covers a 28-day period of suggested daily readings from the Scriptures, continuing from Thanksgiving to Christmas and has as its central day Universal Bible Sabbath, observed by Seventh Day Baptists on December 7.

President Truman has joined in “appealing to all Americans to read and ponder the sacred Scriptures particularly between Thanksgiving and Christmas” and for the observance of Universal Bible Sabbath.

The President's message, directed to the American Bible Society, in endorsement of Worldwide Bible Reading follows:

In my opinion your society with its long and notable record in dissemination of the sacred Scriptures is performing a patriotic service in appealing to all Americans to join in a worldwide Bible reading this year from Thanksgiving to Christmas.

The Bible, the embodiment of the wealth and the wisdom of the ages, happily is still the world's best seller. That fact alone augurs well for the success of your crusade to promote worldwide Bible reading.

I am afraid that we of this generation do not know our Bible as well as did our fathers and mothers. It is well for us to remember that the Old and New Testaments remain as they have always been, a source of strength and comfort and inspiration to all who will seek the wisdom which they hold.

I trust that the interest of all Americans in the Bible will be quickened as a result of the observance of Universal Bible Day and that our people generally will read and ponder the sacred Scriptures particularly between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

DENOMINATIONAL "HOOK-UP"

RIVERSIDE, CALIF. — Plans have been made for an interesting series of Bible studies on Sabbath afternoons at 2 o'clock. The general subject is “The Holy Spirit and His Work,” and the topic on November 2 was “The Fruit and Gifts of the Spirit.” Alta Grieshaber is conducting the course.

LOST CREEK, W. VA. — The Building Committee of the church has recommended that the parsonage and adjoining lot in Lost Creek be put up for sale. The home of Lotta Bond has been offered for use by the pastor’s family until plans are completed and a new parsonage is erected on the church property.

SALEMVILLE, PA. — Gospel meetings were held in the Salemville church from October 25 to November 3. A service was held each evening, except October 26, beginning at 8 o'clock. The evangelist was Rev. James L. Skaggs, pastor of the church at Salem, W. Va.

“JOYOUS GIVING,” an effective film strip describing the work of Church World Service, has been prepared, together with a script to be read while the pictures are being shown on the screen. The Committee on Relief Appeals has several of the films on hand and will gladly loan them, without cost, to churches or individuals upon request. Address the committee at 510 Watchung Avenue, Plainfield, N. J.
WHAT WHERE
TOWARD A MORE CHRISTIAN WORLD

Professor Pauck, of the Chair of Theology at the University of Chicago, is urging Protestants to study and discuss the great reformation revival under Luther, Calvin, Knox, and the Quakers, and that the Church is in need of a new great awakening. Dr. Henry Smith, executive of the World Council of Churches, says that the world today is not atomic fusion, but rather that force which holds the atom together. The world neighborhood needs to be aware of a similar sense of togetherness. . . . Our world community desperately needs to be a spiritual community. Actually there is no world church nor any world community. Yet the only group of people that says that a completely world-wide togetherness is the Christian church.

Fifty youth representatives from eighteen countries have met at Geneva, Switzerland, to prepare for the World Christian Youth Conference to be held in Oslo, Norway, in 1947.

"Civilization is a race between a destructive, explosive force and a sense of togetherness, that many men should again focus their attention on light, the greatest Light that has ever come into the world. One poet has caught the spirit of the hour thus:

Before matter or life was, or man, Thou wast, First thought of God projected into space.

Light! Composite of rainbow hue and radiance. Life-giving light! Germ and demon dethread thy power.

All beauty, all joy, all glory wait in Thee. Without Thee the earth is filled with shadow. With gloom, pitfalls, and creeping things. And yet a new Light! God's supreme gift to man! The Christ light—humbled by star and angel's song, Prototype of natural light in spiritual realms! Panacea for pain, grief, and dull despair, For cruel thrust and anguished heart, a cure, Hope's elixir to strengthen and glorify life. That had been ruled by strife and gloom and sin.

Let us call the second light in the home—the light of tolerance. Tolerance is to be effective. Suppose we call the first light the—light of religion. . . . (It) must reach out and embrace each member of the family in his daily life if it is to be effective.

The fourth light in the home could well be called the—light of truth. A little child thrives on love, but a good teacher of foreign languages. Light has many definitions, and the word 'God' is used in diverse ways with myriad connotations. But with surprising unanimity, discussions of the subject can be associated with or traced back in a very real way to the Great Light—the source of all light. For example, "The Seven Lights in the Home," an article by Edith Sandfield in the Protestant Voice, uses the word light to describe desirable qualities of home life. Together, however, these traits add up to one major consideration—following the Christian Light in matters of conduct and attitude. The author of "A Bill of Rights for Children" and outlines his argument as follows:

If there could be seven lights in the home where there are children, how many ill of our modern society might be eliminated, and each child would have the chance that is his birthright. Suppose we call the first light the—light of religion. . . . (It) must reach out and embrace each member of the family in his daily life if it is to be effective. Let us call the second light in the home—the light of love. A little child thrives on love, but fades like a cut violet when there is anger, hate, and confusion in the home.

The light of laughter could well be the third light in the home. Laughter is a tonic to each and every one of us, and when we hear it we feel a certain degree of assurance that all is very nearly well.

The fourth light in the home could well be the light of respect. Respect should be a mutual affection.

The fifth light in the home might well be called the—light of education. And the education comes in the home. And will be formally organized in September, 1947.

Gospel Messenger.

Dr. Frank C. Laubach, internationally known missionary and "apostle to the illiterate," has developed the "Laubach method" for teaching people of any country to read "basic words and characters" in a few lessons—believes that only God and the Holy Spirit can save the world from its warring, strife, and confusion. "Children is daily at the meetings of the United Nations, praying for God's guidance upon the issue of world peace. . . . The future is at hand, and it cannot be delayed or postponed. . . . The world must be raced, not by five hundred men around peace tables," he says, "The crux of the problem is not the power to frighten suffering men into submission, but the power to heal their misery. This is the way of the Good Shepherd, and the only way out." — W. W. Reid.

A constitution outlawing war, limiting the emperor's powers and giving the people a specific bill of rights was accepted by the Japanese House of Representatives as effective in April, 1947.
As these lights are mentioned it is very easy to imagine what Christ, Light of the World, would say about them. They are all in keeping with the best we know about Christian conduct. The Sermon on the Mount, as well as other Biblical injunctions, teaches just such rules of living, and Christ set just such an example by his own life. These are a part of the Light he brought into the world.

"What if the Light had not come?" asks Milton A. Yaeck, writing for The Moravian. "What if there had been no Christmas?"

Answering the cynic who might lament that things could not be much worse than they are, Mr. Yaeck points out that it is often the way of man to take his blessings for granted and to cry out in protest against the evil which tends to spoil his life. Even at the time of the first Christmas, the author recalls:

It was a dark time, and man was bringing no light into that darkness. But a dawning occurred—a light did come to dispel that gloom. It came down from the Father of lights, and it was a surprisingly thrilling occasion to those who witnessed it—the shepherds, the wise men, and Mary and Joseph. It came as an invading event from beyond and above history. This is both literal and figurative truth, at once reality and mystery.

Out of the darkness we came, and back into the darkness we must return if we lose our vision of Him who is the Light of the World. As Christians we accept the fact of Jesus Christ. He became incarnate into sin and misery and humanity that was effected in Christ becomes both a focus point and a point of radiation. It becomes possible that a new energy has come among men, quickening them, enabling them to share in the divine purpose and to live as bound to the divine purpose and to live as bound to the

and take the Light of the World for our example.

There is a lesson for us in the story of the shepherds. They were trained men, a mind fitted to grasp the great questions of the day in philosophy, science, art, literature. It became apparent that the shepherds taught the world the most noted teachers of the day. He was a master of oratory, and yet his mind was dark on the matter of redemption from the curse of sin. When God was working out—a plan prepared by Him in creation, and by His promises a plan available to those who choose to accept it —this gloom of spiritual darkness and doubt and unbelief enshrouded him till after that day on the Damascus Road when he met God face to face. The Light which shone about him, and he heard the voice of the Redeemer saying, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? Go into the city Damascus, and there shall the man called Saul do thee what thou must do." That light was a purifying light, a dispelling light. It dispelled the darkness that had been impossible for Paul to walk in the light of the Master's love. After the assuring words of Cornelius and the scales had fallen from his eyes, he saw clearly the light that was needed for him and for all mankind.

The experience that came to Paul as he walked in the light that was given him is akin to the experience that will be yours when you accept the Light and walk in it in the light of purpose and obedience.

Do you realize how it is possible for the spirit of man to become the candle of the Lord? Look at the record of Moses, from the day of his birth to the day he went, for the last time, to Mt. Nebo's top. From young manhood on through the years of his youth, and in the spirit of serious life, he gave thought to God and careful attention to the directions given. It took courage and strength of purpose to listen to God as he stood there by the burning bush in the desert, and then to go forth, as he did, to an unrevealed process in the deliverance of his people from slavery to bondage. The choice of service he then made prepared him for the experiences of Mt. Sinai and the journey, as they followed the light that illuminated their path through the Red Sea and along the devious ways through the wilderness. He became the "Master's light." From the light of that candle has come, to all subsequent people of the earth, the plan of God's dealings with the nations of the earth. The revelation seen in Moses is basic to the work of the world's redemption. Jesus came to the world to reveal God. John 1: 4 says that "In him was life; and the life was the light of men." In Him we

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**PIN POINT EDITORIALS**

The true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. — John 1: 9.

**Prayer in Darkness**

When the enemies of life had brought midnight into the darkness, he did what most people do—he prayed. But he did not ask God to dispel the darkness. He prayed for the awareness of God in the darkness. "Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness." Psalm 143. What does it mean to be aware of God in the darkness? It means that we will be aware of certain indestructibles: LOVE! You can always count on love returning. BEAUTY! You can always count on beauty appearing. TRUTH! As long as there is an orderly universe, some things will always be true. Love! Beauty! Truth! These will endure until the heavens fall. — Virgil A. Kraft.

He that has light within his own clear breast May sit in the centre of the night, and see The distant scene—one step enough for me. Lead Thou me on! — John Henry Newman.

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**THE SABBATH RECORDER**

**A SERMON**

**THE CANDLE OF THE LORD**

**TEXTS: PROVERBS 20: 27; MATTHEW 5: 14-16.**

By Rev. E. Adelbert Witter

"ON THE BANKS of the St. Lawrence, a hundred miles below Quebec, in one of the surest spots in Canada, a story is acted by summer residents. It stands in a grove of trees. There is a lonely grave outside of the church. On a simple headstone, bearing a name found in Canadian history, is this striking inscription: 'The Spirit of Man is the Candle of the Lord.' Artists come here from Europe to paint beautiful sunsets, and in the fall the stars themselves seem to hang like a candelabrum from the ceiling of the heavens. 'Lord, what is man that thou art mindful of him?' And yet when you and I come to think about it, if it were not for men and all the beautiful things would mean nothing at all."

Yes, as far as you and I can see, the only spiritual candle to be found on the earth is the spirit of man. This story from Canada illustrates that. Sometimes it happens that the world is lost in greatest darkness, from which there is no escape save as the darkness is dispelled by the introduction of a dispelling light. What is true in the case of the world or nation is as true with the life of the individual.

Let us look at Paul as an illustration of the fact that we were trained men, a mind fitted to grasp the great questions of the day in philosophy, science, art, literature. It became apparent that the shepherds taught the world the most noted teachers of the day. He was a master of oratory, and yet his mind was dark on the matter of redemption from the curse of sin. When God was working out—a plan prepared by Him in creation, and by His promises a plan available to those who choose to accept it —the gloom of spiritual darkness and doubt and unbelief enshrouded him till after that day on the Damascus Road when he met God face to face. The Light which shone about him, and he heard the voice of the Redeemer saying, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? Go into the city Damascus, and there shall the man called Saul do thee what thou must do." That light was a purifying light, a dispelling light. It dispelled the darkness that had been impossible for Paul to walk in the light of the Master's love. After the assuring words of Cornelius and the scales had fallen from his eyes, he saw clearly the light that was needed for him and for all mankind.

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MISSE NOS OR MUNITIONS? This was the theme of the sixteenth annual observance of Men and Missions Day this year. During the recent political campaign, one of the major political parties used a voting challenge which we could appropriately parody. "Had Enough? Support Your Missions." For those on the receiving end in foreign lands we might say, "Had Enough? Christianity is brought before them with a humble spirit and practiced by those at home as well as in the foreign mission fields, it cannot be controverted, can it?"

Just fifteen short months ago most of us would have admitted that we had enough of munitions. As the British express it, "We'd had it!" We had been through four years of war, some of whose most disagreeable and atrocious deeds are still being uncovered and brought to light for the whole world to view.

Think about the Chinese for a moment. They had been at war since 1937. Why did this occur? Without going into the detailed diplomatic causes, we can explain the cause as a failure of practical Christianity. We failed to spread the gospel to all the world in sufficient quantities to prevent a world catastrophe.

It was my fortune—or misfortune—during the war to have served a year of my Army days in China. As far as I know, a great amount of information is concerned, I didn't get it. I spent too much time watching the taxpayer's money explode. But if a man never traveled farther in India than from his airplane to his tent, and he were awake, he could see where a little concentrated missionary work would do a world of good. Missionary work is being done in some localities, and very wisely with an emphasis on economic ventures. The way to travel there was on foot, and that was not too good on the cobblestone roads.

This mission was a welcome relief from the terrible heat and humidity of India, but even there in the cooler climate, the ravages of disease did not appear to have slowed their tempo. Just inside the West Wall of Peking, some of whose most dis...
small with only a handful of American Baptists for supervisors, and so loaded down with medical and educational work that they could not possibly reach more than a few hundred people. After seeing these conditions, I can readily see why many missions are not farther inland. The missionaries probably spent all so much of the needed doing when they first stepped ashore that they started right there.

Church Must Help

Yes, I think both India and China have had enough also. Now it is up to the Christian Church to help them. In 1945 30 million Protestant church members gave 500 million dollars through their churches. Of this total, 400 million went for local church expenses; 80 million for educational and benevolent activities in this country, and just under 25 million was designated for foreign missions. In 1944 over 23 billion dollars were appropriated by the United States government for the Army Air Forces alone. (I pick on this field because that is the one with which I am the most familiar.) This was for payment of personnel and purchase of equipment and did not include any of the bombs or munitions that we expended. Compare these two figures. Less than one tenth as much was given voluntarily for the Catholic and those of Jewish faiths also were taxed by the government: so let us be generous, and say that the Protestants gave maybe one half of the appropriation mentioned. Still that means we gave only one fifth of one per cent as much for foreign missions.

Financial Basis

We had had enough of a lot of things fifteen months ago, and we are going to continue to do so, although for many years to come. The world can be evangelized on such a financial basis. Experience has shown that the only way to get an adequate response to this great need in the world is through education and personal subscription to this definite object. We were forced to use munitions, and they temporarily returned us to the semblance of peace, but they cannot retain this peace. Missions can, and must!

PILGRIM FOREFATHERS
CAME SEEKING BOTH ECONOMIC AND RELIGIOUS FREEDOM
By Rev. David S. Clarke

In the popular cynicism of our day, many have devalued the motivations of our forefathers. Their migration to America, it is said, was for economic gain and security as much as it was for religious freedom from the bigotry and mendacity that then existed in the European churches and states. Our pilgrim pioneers are reduced to the status of gold hunters, adventurorous but misguided religious thinkers.

The fact probably is true that our forefathers came seeking economic freedom as much as they did religious freedom. But the driving force behind theなんか is a bundle of shortsightedness, to say the least. We have lost sight of the close connection of religion with economics, even in this day when so much preaching is directed at the social systems about us. Freedom under God to work at a chosen profession, to expend one’s time and wealth, to use the gifts of the economic and geographical frontier of our expanding nation. “The church was there” to safeguard the freedom of men in worship: always on the leading edge of the frontier.

Are you seeking economic freedom as a family, as an individual, as a community? This freedom is the gift of God when He gave you a soul, a mind, and a finite body. You will find this freedom only as you place your burdens on the shoulders of another. “Here am I, send me” of conscience within the kingdom purposes of God. You will be free from entanglement with alliances, and the dictates of the priesthood. But this freedom to do as you ought. That is the freedom Americans wanted in 1620, and want in 1946!

Light is the first of painters. There is no object so foul that intense light will not make it beautiful. — Nature.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

THE BIBLE AND LITERACY
By Frank C. Laubach

This year the American Bible Society celebrates its one hundred thirtieth anniversary. It is appropriate that the society should stress literacy. Literacy and Bible translation are twins. Perhaps it would be better to call them the two legs on which the Bible, or a part of it, has been translated into the languages of perhaps 90 per cent of the population of the world. But only 40 per cent of the world knows how to read the Bible in any language; 60 per cent cannot read at all. This 60 per cent must be taught to read before the Bible can teach them.

History shows that the days of Wycliffe and Martin Luther and George Whitefield have been placed upon the translation of the Bible, so that it would be available to every man. One of the distinctive basic principles of all evangelical Christianity is the priesthood of all believers. Every man can and must search the Scriptures for himself. Unnumbered millions of days and nights have been spent by Biblical scholars in making translations in over 1,000 tongues. One dimly realizes the immensity of the labor which these translations represent sent down through the centuries.

Yet this difficult task of translation has run far ahead of the twin task of making people able to read the Book after it is translated. This is partly due to the work was so fascinating; partly because the missionaries could always depend upon the fact that they were on mission work (while they had the problem of corralling their students before they could teach them); partly because there was always the hope that someone else—perhaps the government—would teach the people to read, while there was no doubt that the translation had to be done by men of God or it would not be done at all. There came to be a feeling that making people literate was a rather secular job, while translating the Bible was unquestionably sacred.

Medicine shared the same dignified position as Bible translation. Jesus was the great physician; missionary doctors have everywhere been regarded as Christlike. Missionary doctors and secular doctors together have made gigantic strides in eradicating epidemics and other diseases, with the result that population has increased around the world far faster during the past hundred years than ever in all history. Indeed until two centuries ago many Christian countries had scarcely a literate to be found. For example, the population in India increased 33 million between the censuses of 1919 and that of 1929, but literacy increased by only 5 million.

So, with all the magnificent strides in Bible translation made in the past fifty years, we were confronted with the discouraging fact that this vast literature could read the Bible because they could not read anything. This was especially baffling for foreign missionaries. Ninety per cent of the non-Christians who foreign missionaries are trying to reach are illiterate. And until twenty years ago the literacay of non-Christian countries was slowly but surely increasing.

Since 1920 there has been a change. Now literacy is getting ahead of the increase in population. Soviet Russia did the most startling thing in this direction. She taught 100 million people to read in fifteen years—lifted the literacy from about 13 per cent in 1932 to over 90 per cent in 1944. She did it by adopting an alphabet that was pracically possible to teach rapidly; by arousing tremendous patriotic fervor for and using millions of volunteers; by preventing a man from getting a decent job without literacy; and by using a phonetic method of teaching. The
most important lesson for the world and for us was that the Russians could do it when they set their minds to it and had the will to do it. Now Russia prints more books, magazines, and newspapers than any other country, and everything they publish teaches Communism. That is the reason for the amazing solidarity of the Russian people behind their present government. They read and believe Soviet teachings. The printed page is still the mightiest force on earth for molding public opinion; that is to say, it is so where the people can read.

Dr. James Yen in China is giving a similar dramatic demonstration that a great nation, in this instance the most populous in the world, can be taught to read. He is proving that a people's movement, free from the compulsion of totalitarian dictatorship, can teach millions of illiterates if it is just the spirit of compassion and patriotism is aroused, so that each one will teach one.

The third great literacy movement was started among missionaries in the Philippines, in Africa, in India, in South America, and in the islands of the Pacific. This has been going on for many years, but in the past fifteen years it has blossomed forth in a way that leaves me, at least, standing forth as a witness for Him. I have been traveling from one country to another for the past few years, observing it, and helping as I could. A large number of missionaries in many parts of the world have felt the need for a literacy movement and have experimented in making lessons. The World Literature Committee has served as a clearing house for workable ideas. The missionaries are not afraid to experiment. They are the most independent and imaginative thinkers in the backward countries of the world. They are today what Christian missionaries have been of old—the agents of Christ—bringers of the Light to their world.

The same pattern has been followed in most lands. Missionaries have made lessons and started a literacy campaign. Then the government officials have become interested and have asked the missionaries to cooperate. This has been beneficial to both the government officials and to the program of missions. It is exactly the kind of contact missionaries are always seeking with government officials. Every government in backward countries now realizes that illiteracy is "enemy number one" to its progress. It cannot have technical industries with its laborers illiterate, and it will grasp eagerly for any help the missionaries can give in this direction. The doors of the world are opening!

Missionaries have also discovered that teaching illiterates offers them the long, close contact which they covet for personal evangelism. Each of the members of mission churches is being trained to select some illiterate neighbor and win him to operate while teaching him to read. Teaching illiterates has advantages over every other form of personal work if a missionary has just one student, each one teaching one; and if he witnesses for Christ a little during each lesson. We have found that if the Christian has this heart for winning souls and for Christ as it is to teach him to read. In the process the church is conducted in a way in which most of the missions are open doors of winning souls and their own lives are given a new fire. The missionaries thus multiply their own efforts many fold, for they have more and more of the Christian community working for Christ.

Missionaries everywhere are trying to teach the Bible or Christian doctrines in their courses for non-readers. They find that the most scientific effort will soon be off the press. It is the "Story of Jesus" in short sentences and a very easy vocabulary. It requires the 1,500 most useful words in the English language—the Thornrike-Large list of a thousand words and the 500 words. Every story is used five times in quick succession. Here are the first three sentences; see how the words are repeated:

"Literacy needs the Bible. . . . The Bible is God's letter from heaven; but people will die if they are not able to read."

This begins the story of Jesus. This child does not begin with the mother of Jesus. The mother of Jesus was Mary.

This "Story of Jesus" follows after the phonetic lessons. It will be used all over the world where the government officials and educated people who desire to learn English. This will do two things. It will give the missionaries a fine contact, and it will teach the life of Jesus. When people are just starting they memorize every word. So they are really memorizing the story of Jesus, which I wish every Christian would do.

This same life of Jesus is now being translated into other languages in which we have literacy lessons, as a second reader. Thus we hope to have many thousands of people memorizing the life of Jesus all over the world in their own language or another language.

The American Bible Society has for the first time in its history started to publish translations of Gospel narratives in languages in which literacy campaigns are planned and the reader preparation of people translating in such widely used languages as Spanish.

Literacy needs the Bible. Every time I pass a railroad news stand and see the books and advertisements for movies, I am made to think of the possibilities for evil in literacy. It is good only if people read good things. It is bad if they read bad things. You can ride in on the tremendous wave of enthusiasm for literacy all over the world and find a taste for reading in the Bible if you use this material for a textbook. You can win millions to Christ and to the Bible if you use this material in the three fifths of the world who are illiterate and the other fifth who ardently desire to learn English. If people really want to see the Bible or learn English there is another cause which will bring such large returns for the time or effort or money invested as the投身波浪. The Foreign Missions Conference, together with the American Bible Society's program of Bible production and distribution, has been done.

Dr. Theodore Fricke, just back from visiting American Lutheran missions in New Guinea, reports an incident that shows how the so-called "illiterates" are benefiting from literacy campaigns.

During the New Guinea campaign our Air Corps learned that the native people there had been taught to read English so they could use their Bibles. Our airmen promptly flew over a battle area and dropped leaflets to warn the people that they were going to destroy that area with bombs. The natives fled to the hills.

After the bombs had been dropped, our infantry entered the area. They found the Japanese dead; but soon the natives began to come in from the hills. To the soldiers' amazement, the people welcomed them in English. The soldiers asked, "Why did they learn and speak English? What use is it to you out here in the jungles?"

One native replied, "We read your letters from heaven. They saved our lives. We would be dead now if we had not been able to read."

The Bible is God's letter from heaven; but people will die if they are not able to read.

LITTLE LETTERS TO LOVED ONES
By Pearle Halladay

Precious Ones:

You are so very dear to me, but far more dear to God, our Father; always remember that. And remember, too, what the Master said in Matthew 5: 16: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and be glorified in it which is in heaven."

Where does the light shine brightest? In a dark room or outside? Who is most in need of light? Why, those who are in darkness. Can you not see, dearies, that you may be the light of this day, and your love and tenderness show forth in all that you do and say? You may be the ray of God's love and light that will make the way clear and bright for others around you. So you may be a help and a hope to the sad and oppressed. I know; it may be hard for you to witness for Him, but the Master knows all your difficulties, and what you do for His sake and for these loved ones. This is the other cause which will bring such large returns for the time or effort or money invested as the投身波浪. The Foreign Missions Conference, together with the American Bible Society's program of Bible production and distribution, has been done.

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You are so very dear to me, but far more dear to God, our Father; always remember that. And remember, too, what the Master said in Matthew 5: 16: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and be glorified in it which is in heaven."

Where does the light shine brightest? In a dark room or outside? Who is most in need of light? Why, those who are in darkness. Can you not see, dearies, that you may be the light of this day, and your love and tenderness show forth in all that you do and say? You may be the ray of God's love and light that will make the way clear and bright for others around you. So you may be a help and a hope to the sad and oppressed. I know; it may be hard for you to witness for Him, but the Master knows all your difficulties, and what you do for His sake and for these loved ones. This is the other cause which will bring such large returns for the time or effort or money invested as the投身波浪. The Foreign Missions Conference, together with the American Bible Society's program of Bible production and distribution, has been done.

Dr. Theodore Fricke, just back from visiting American Lutheran missions in New Guinea, reports an incident that shows how the so-called "illiterates" are benefiting from literacy campaigns.

During the New Guinea campaign our Air Corps learned that the native people there had been taught to read English so they could use their Bibles. Our airmen promptly flew over a battle area and dropped leaflets to warn the people that they were going to destroy that area with bombs. The natives fled to the hills.

After the bombs had been dropped, our infantry entered the area. They found the Japanese dead; but soon the natives began to come in from the hills. To the soldiers' amazement, the people welcomed them in English. The soldiers asked, "Why did they learn and speak English? What use is it to you out here in the jungles?"

One native replied, "We read your letters from heaven. They saved our lives. We would be dead now if we had not been able to read."

The Bible is God's letter from heaven; but people will die if they are not able to read.
IN LOVING MINISTRY

The sympathy of Jesus was often shown by His touching those in need of healing; a still realisation that He was setting an example for the world; He was probably more keenly aware of the real need for a larger family income. Jesus was a poor boy. And did His hands get calloused, torn by splinters or misguided chisel? Did He pound His thumb like any boy learning to be a carpenter? Did His muscles ache? There is no instance where His being divine excused Him from the common hardships of humanity. It was part of the Plan that He should live as we must live. The rhythm around the Cross unconsciously uttered a great truth: "He saved others; himself he cannot save." Matt. 27: 42. "Wherefore in the days of his flesh he was found in fashion as a man, and mocked of men, and rejected of the children of men;" Phil. 2: 6, 7. As the children are partakers of flesh destined to serve and to suffer, when we consider those "hands" of Baby Jesus, the Incarnation. "Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God, but made himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was found in fashion as a man. And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." Phil. 2: 6-8. And it is fitting that we look at the hands of Jesus. God assures Zion that His are the hands pierced for our salvation: "He saw their sorrows, He considered their travail, and touched their womb with the towel wherewith he showed those hands of Baby Jesus, and laid a side his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself after that he poured water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded." John 13: 4, 5. O that our hands, Lord, should give all act in loving service as the hands of Jesus!

REBUKING WRONG

At least twice Jesus emphasized the spoken word is of the very essence of the hand. When He found money-mad speculators using the temple for a brokerage office and turning the temple precincts into a barnyard, His answer was: "Cast out those that sell and make room for the print of the nails in His hands." Another prophet opens a door into a realm where those who are not fully acquainted with all that Jesus suffered: "And one shall say unto him, what are these wounds in thy hands? Then he shall answer them, those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends." Zech. 13: 6, and see other Messianic references in the same chapter. We do not trust our lips without hesitation or reserve to those hands which bled for us: Shall not our hands serve as His hands served?

A pair of little hands I see,
Two chubby infant hands to see,
Clutching at their mother's dress,
"Mother, mother, what is this?"

(Continued on page 410)
When Jesus Was Born in Bethlehem

IN A LITTLE VALLEY

Among the hills of Galilee, about seventy-five miles from Bethlehem, was the pretty little town of Nazareth, lying on the hillside at one end of the valley. This was the home of Joseph and Mary, the parents of Jesus.

Before Jesus was born Joseph and Mary had been called to Bethlehem to be taxed. For Caesar Augustus the Roman Emperor and ruler of Palestine, had commanded that all the world should be taxed.

So Joseph and Mary started on the long, tiresome journey which they met every one they met about the beautiful angels, their message, and the joy they felt as they looked upon the baby Jesus, "Who is Christ the Lord?" “And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.”

Then they went back to their sheep, telling all they met about the beautiful angel coming down to the sky. He was coming right toward them, "Ye shall see a child wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."

Then as the angel paused, a multitude of other angels joined him, all praising God singing:

1. Glory to God in the highest,
And on earth peace, good will toward men.

This beautiful, soul-stirring song has been sung many, many times by those who love and honor our dear Lord Jesus.

2. Suddenly, as they watched, a bright light shone around them, and looking up they saw a beautiful angel coming down to them from the sky. He was coming right toward them, and at first they were afraid. But they soon forgot their fears, for the angel smiled at them lovingly, and their hearts were filled with rejoicing as they heard him say, "Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy..." 

3.亦然，他们看到了一个明亮的光围绕着他们，看着天空他们看到了一个美丽的天使正向他们走来。他正向他们走来，起初他们害怕。但很快他们忘记了恐惧，天使对他们微笑，他们的心充满了喜悦。

4. As soon as the gates of your voice, and the words you use. Do double watch over your speech, the tone of your voice and the words you use. Do things, not to be praised by your fellow men, but because you love God and want to keep your lamp of life bright and clear and because you want to be a help to those in need of the Light you hope to let shine. A person is not judged for his much speaking or much doing, but for the purity and purpose of his life. "Keep thy heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life.

Jesus challenges us to live by His inner spirit, not by some code. We must let the truth of Christ go down deep into us till it gets under our thoughts and purpose. We must "seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness" if in life we would prove that "the spirit of man is the candle of the Lord." Let us pray—

THE BABE OF BETHLEHEM

The moon shone down on a manger bed,
In Bethlehem long ago;
And the stars above their soft light shed;
As the angels came below—

To the shepherds guarding their flocks at night,
As they slept on the grassy hill,
They bowed as the heavenly light shone bright,
With awe their hearts to fill.

They hastened to go where the Baby lay,
With the father watching near,
As the mother bent o’er His bed of hay;
There was nothing for Him to fear.

And the Wise Men followed their guiding star
Bringing their gifts of love,
Riding from their lands afar,
To worship that Babe from above.

Our hearts shall happy be—
To Thee our morning song we raise,
Our Father, Priest, and King;
The house of our grateful hearts,
To Thee, we gladly bring.

Although despondent we may be,
And dark the way may seem,
Help us, dear Lord, by faith to catch
One bright and shining gleam.

Help us, dear Lord, by faith to clasp
Thy loving hand in ours,
To feel that Thou wilt be with us
Through all life’s darkest hours.

Lord, help us thus by faith to live
And wholly trust in Thee.
Thus, though of man dark and drear,
Our hearts shall happy be—

Selected.

THE CANDLE OF THE LORD

(Continued from page 398)

Such has been my own experience, and to anyone who now laments I would say:

"Cease not your striving. Draw near to God every day, not only in prayer, but in searching out illustrating passages of Scripture. Read them carefully, and let them speak to you. Set a double watch over your speech, the tone of your voice and the words you use. Do things, not to be praised by your fellow men, but because you love God and want to keep your lamp of life bright and clear and because you want to be a help to those in need of the Light you hope to let shine. A person is not judged for his much speaking or much doing, but for the purity and purpose of his life. "Keep thy heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life.”

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UNDISCOVERED

I do not know what I may appear to the world; but to myself I seem to have been only like a man playing on the seashore, and diverting myself, and then finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me.

Sir Isaac Newton.
Today's homes are beacon lights guiding children into tomorrow.

History of Tomorrow in the Making Today
By Mark Sanford, Little Genesee, N. Y.
Licensed minister and deacon in the Seventh Day Baptist Church

WE ARE TOLD that Jesus, after he was baptized, spent forty days in the wilderness of Judea thinking things through and meeting the temptations presented by the popular ideas of His day. There alone with God He was able to draw upon the influence of His home training and see the real values of all human relations. He could see that moral and spiritual gains were more important than physical gains. "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." He could see that the world could not be saved by spectacular leadership or by civil laws. He could see that the only way to change the world was to change the spiritual ideas of the common people. He decided to live the life of a common man among the common people, and by living and dying for his ideals He has changed the world.

For two thousand years we have been trying to use the methods which Jesus rejected, and they have always failed. The new order in Europe and the new deal in America were attempts to work from the top down rather than from the bottom up.

The only real progress we have made has been the result of improving the ideals of the common people. This leads us to a choice of leadership. We choose the leaders we will follow. There could be no Hitlers or Tojos without people, who are willing to follow such leadership.

We cannot depend upon our schools, churches, or other agencies, to train our children; first, because the children cannot overcome the influence of their home life, and second, because our teachers and other workers in these institutions, the products of our homes and cannot be expected to have ideals very much above the ideals of the homes from which they come. If we wish to raise the ideals of our schools and colleges. we must train our children, but we should remember that no one has ever learned how to keep from teaching their children. They see our lives. Indifference is as easy to teach as any other quality. We do teach something.

We may be able to slide through life on the influence of our home training, but what about our children? What kind of home life do they have?

The history of tomorrow is being written in our homes today.

CHILDREN ARE OFTEN LEFT TO SHIFT FOR THEMSELVES
By J. Edgar Hoover

Children, who need love and guidance to prepare their minds and bodies for the serious business of adulthood, are often left to shift for themselves. I recall the case of Robert, age 16. On one occasion, he entered a small liquor store and ordered a pint of whisky. Upon being required to show his Selective Service card, the youth pulled out a .32 caliber revolver and told the proprietor to place the contents of the cash register in a paper bag. Robert got away with $84. A few months later after other such crimes, Robert was sentenced to serve a total of twenty to forty years in prison.

If we wish to raise the ideals of our schools and colleges, we must raise better teachers and students.

We often feel that we do not know how to teach our children, but we should remember that no one has ever learned how to keep

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HUMAN PERSONALITY

MOST Precious Material in the World
By Rev. Harley Sutton

"If it takes a fifty-thousand-dollar man to guide a client,
Develop a coal mine,
Put a corporation on its feet,
What is the teacher worth who takes that to another man?
Guides him,
Develops him,
Puts him on his feet,
And makes a man of him?"

Yes, those who are the Christian leaders in local churches is entrusted the most precious material in the world—human personality.

In the lives of eager-eyed children needing to be led, in the alert young people standing at the crossroads of life, in the confused adults seeking guidance in an adult world, we find our task and the call of consecration to that task.

"Consecration is not alone renewal of purpose. It is the giving oneself to training for that purpose. Indeed the degree to which a leader applies himself to preparation indicates the maturity of his consecration. While it is true that we need more leaders in our churches, it is equally true that we have need of better training for the leaders we already have, those now on the job."

So states a Baptist booklet.

The final test of the teaching work of the church is not the training it leads people to live the Christian life!

The following questions must be answered by the Church as it faces its teaching task:

(1) Does your church in its teaching work lead to a progressive relationship with God? (2) Does it develop a growing understanding and appreciation of the life and teachings of Jesus, of His loyalty to Jesus as Saviour, Friend, and Leader, and result in an acceptance of Him as personal Saviour? (3) Does it provide for the development of knowledge, understanding, and love of the Bible, and an intelligent appreciation of other records of Christian experience? (4) Does it ever set before young people the example of such a development of character in harmony with the ideals of Jesus? That is, does the Christian life come to apply to every phase of life? (5) Does it lead

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Rev. Harley Sutton, Alfred Station, N. Y.

THE SABBATH RECORDER
into enthusiastic and intelligent participation in the building of a Christian community and world? (6) Does it develop an intelligent understanding of the purpose and work of the church, leading to habitual, joyous participation in its life and work? (7) Does it lead to the acceptance of a Christian interpretation of life and the universe?

Except as these things be in your church program and abound, that program is not meeting the needs of growing persons. Just as the sailor's compass must be adjusted so that it will always point in the right direction, so our program of Christian education needs to be held up before these standards to find out where it needs to be strengthened.

Yes, Christ calls. He calls us to so many kinds of service. Those who are called to teach should be thoroughly trained. Young people, both boys and girls, should be called out by the church for special training to become teachers in the Sabbath school. Unless there is emphasis on this need there will not be enough recruits to fill the needs of the church.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR

The International Society of Christian Endeavor is one of the oldest youth movements in the Church. Just now an enrollment challenge is being made by the society under the slogan, "Enlist for Christ" and a very fine packet of enrollment materials has been prepared and can be secured from the society's new headquarters at Box 1110, Columbus, Ohio. Every youth group should have this packet and go to work.

WORLD-WIDE CONFERENCE

As a part of the World Council of Churches there is to be a world-wide youth conference at Oslo, Norway, next summer where the need of bringing the gospel to bear upon world problems and world peoples will be presented in a tremendously important program.

UNITED CHRISTIAN YOUTH

The United Christian Youth Movement is a branch of the International Council of Religious Education and represents the inter-denominational program of Youth Fellowships in over forty Protestant denominations. This movement has been sponsoring youth rallies of great magnitude in such cities as Dayton, Ohio. Summer conferences are also sponsored by this movement, where thousands of youth receive inspiration and much-needed training in how to put the Christian gospel into action, and how to win other youth to Christ.

THE SABBATH RECORDER

THE HANDS OF JESUS

(Continued from page 405)

Two boyish hands, sturdy and brown,
Holding the plane in Nazareth Town.
In Joseph's shop, as the sun goes down.

Two hands of a youth, older grown,
Folded in prayer by a rugged stone.
Out on the hilltop all alone.

A young man's hands, tall-marked and strong,
Seeking to aid in the restless throng.
The helpless victims of sin and wrong.

Two tired hands beneath the olive tree,
In the garden of Gethsemane.
Clasped for my sins in agony.

Two hands outstretched on a cross of wood,
From cruel nail-wounds red with blood.
Bringing a lost world back to God.

O hands of my Crucified Christ Divine,
Take into thine own these hands of mine,
And teach them to serve with a love like thine.

The above poem entitled "My Saviour's Hands" was written by Bell Mona Menzie, and originally appeared in The Sunday School Times.

SABBATH SCHOOL LESSON

FOR DECEMBER 14, 1946

Philemon: A Letter on Christian Brotherhood
Basic Scripture-The Book of Philemon
Memory Selection—2 Corinthians 3: 17

LIGHT

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

Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you. — John 12: 36.

Those having lamps will pass on to another. — Plato.

OLD-TIMER SE Z

"I had a team once that was a willin' pair of horses. One was willin' to pull, and the other was willin' be should. They didn't git fere with a load. We won't neither—if we work that way!"

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THE LAW

Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. — Matthew 5: 17, 18.

The transgression of the law constitutes sin, and the wages of sin is death. Thus, all who have transgressed the law are condemned to death. However, Christ took our sins upon himself and paid the penalty demanded by the law and the law was thus fulfilled, but it most certainly was not thus destroyed.

All who accept Christ as their personal Saviour, as their sin-guilt substitute, are truly saved from the penalty of death, and eternal life is thus attained. We glory in salvation by grace, which is the love and favor of God, rather than in animal sacrifices.

The Ten Commandments, including the seventh-day Sabbath, were not destroyed by the fulfillment of the law, nor was any other day made holy thereby.

All of the Ten Commandments remain the will of God and essential to 100% Christian living AFTER salvation is attained.

MY PERSONAL DECISION

"Let your LIGHT so shine before men . . ." — Matthew 5: 16.

I thoughtfully and solemnly

☐ Accept Christ as my personal Saviour and declare my purpose with God's help to accept and useful Christian life.

☐ Reaffirm my faith in Christ as my personal Saviour and rededicate my life to Him in faithful service.

Name: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________

[Clip out the above blank, checking the decision of your choice, or copy down your decision. Sign your name and address; and give or send the statement to your pastor. If you are not now a member of and would like to join a Seventh-day SABBATH TRACT SOCIETY, write the American Sabbath Tract Society, Plainfield, N. J.]

BOOKS OF LIGHT

The Sabbath, by Rev. Alva J. C. Bond 60¢
Bible Studies on the Sabbath Question, by Rev. Arthur E. Main 75¢

Order from —

THE AMERICAN SABBATH TRACT SOCIETY

510 Watchung Avenue Plainfield, N. J.
THE LIGHT OF GOD IS FALLING

The light of God is falling
Upon life's common way;
The Master's voice still calling,
"Come, walk with me today."
No duty can seem lowly
To him who lives with thee,
And all of life grows holy,
O Christ of Galilee.

Who shares his life's pure pleasures,
And walks the honest road,
Who trades with heaping measures,
And lifts his brother's load,
Who turns the wrong down bluntly,
And lends the right a hand;
He dwells in God's own country,
He tills the Holy Land.

Where human lives are thronging
In toil and pain and sin,
While cloistered hearts are longing
To bring the kingdom in,
O Christ, the Elder Brother
Of proud and beaten men,
When they have found each other,
Thy kingdom will come then.

Thy ransomed host in glory,
All souls that sin and pray,
Turn toward the cross that bore thee;
"Behold the man!" they say;
And while thy Church is pleading
For all who would do good,
We hear thy true voice leading
Our song of brotherhood.

—Louis F. Benson.