

# Eastern Canadian Messenger

Life and Health

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## Dropped Stitches

I dropped a stitch in my knitting  
As I sat at work one day,  
And it seemed such a little matter  
I sang as I worked away.  
But, lo, when my work was finished,  
I saw with infinite pain  
The stitch I had missed in the morning  
Had rendered it all in vain!  
That all of my perfect stitches  
Were useless because of one;  
That one little flaw had cost me  
The loss of my heart's "well done!"  
Just so it is in our lives, dear;  
But the stitches dropped, ah me!  
Are part of the soul's own garment  
We weave for eternity.  
The stitch of unbridled passions,  
Of an evil bitter thought,  
The stitch of neglected duties,  
Are into the pattern wrought.  
The stitch of the first cigar, lad,  
The stitch of your first strong drink,  
And the work of your life is ruined—  
Does it pay, dear, do you think?  
Alas, for the stitch unheeded!  
Ah me, for the mischief done!  
For the glad hopes of the morning,  
For heartache at set of sun!

—Selected

## MARITIME

Every member in the Maritime Conference constitutes a part of the great church of God, and we therefore are the recipients of many great blessings, and are also collaborators in the great plan to evangelize the world.

The great commission to the Maritime Conference is, Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them. This command is just as necessary to carry out in our lives as the command to "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy," or "Children, obey your parents."

Each member could not do as well in making this glorious work a success working alone as all working together; so Christ organized a church where leaders of ability could oversee and plan to carry out this great commission, so that the efforts of all working under the plan could accomplish the most in the short time before Jesus comes again to reward his good and faithful servants.

Maritime working to this plan has been raising an amount equal to 3 cents a day or 20 cents a week for each member which is equal to \$10.40 for the year. This is not a very large sum when we think of what the people of the world spend for pleasures of this world. Why not devise some way to make \$10.40 this summer? Raise a missionary garden or some missionary chickens; sell some magazines or books, and I believe that before the summer is over all could send their \$10.40 in to the treasury, and the missionaries would be carrying out Maritime's gospel commission, and we shall never know the souls that may thus be saved and brought to the knowledge of the Saviour's love until we are at home in the new earth.

The father says to his son, "John, will you put some oil in this lantern?" John comes back with just a little in the bottom and the light soon goes out so that the father cannot lighten the path through the dark wood for the visitors who are coming to father's home. Our heavenly Father asks you and me to proclaim this glorious message of light carried by our missionaries into the darkest paths of earth. Shall we furnish them with little oil, shall we just bring a little in the vessel of our means, or shall we bring a vessel full that it may burn brightly all the year? \$10.40 cents will make your light in the hand of the missionary under God's guidance burn a whole year.

Let us keep the light burning and if some one fails let us put some oil into his and keep all the lights going. "Arise, shine for the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee."  
G. H. SKINNER.

### The Lord's Portion

One tenth of man's income belongs to the Lord  
 Return it to him with good pleasure,  
 To support one more worker in Maritime field  
 And reward we shall have without measure.

G. H. S.

The principle of tithing, giving one tenth to the Lord, is a very old and Godly practice. Abraham paid tithe nearly two thousand years before Christ; Jacob paid tithe about seventeen hundred and sixty years before Christ; Jacob's children paid tithe sixteen hundred years before Christ. Christ taught the tithing truth and the church carried it out during the first hundred years after Christ. Ambrose, who lived about 350 A. D., says, "The Lord has reserved the tenth for himself, and if you give not the tenth part to him, he will take from you the nine parts." Augustine about 400 A. D. says, "God who has given us the whole, has thought it meet to ask the tenth from us, not for his benefit, but for our own." The Lord has told us now in these days through his servant, "God reserves to himself a portion of all that we receive. When that is returned to him the remaining portion is blessed; but when it is withheld, the whole is sooner or later cursed. God's claim is first; every other is secondary." Test. Vol. 6, page 150. While the Seventh-day Adventist, the church with a Message, the church that practises all the truth of God's word, follows the tithing, there are others who believe in it also. Arthur V. Babbs, A. B. says—"When God gave the church of the theocracy a tithing law, he provided the best system of church finance that has been devised in the whole history of man." Another writer says—"Christ today, in the heavens, as priest for the race, is the receiver of tithes from all his church, the church that he has redeemed with his own precious blood, the church which needs the tithes today to carry on his work victoriously; and to rob it of them is directly to rob Jesus. Another writer in Layman, "The divine order is 'tithes and offerings' the one being an expression of our debt, the other of our gratitude. Both are moral duties; and all moral duties have their origin in our moral nature. Law defines but does not create them." Still another adds—"The tithe, God's tenth, is a debt, and our debts to God are no less sacred and binding than our debts to each other."

"Nine-tenths plus God is more than ten-tenths without him."

"He who is careful of God's tenth will be careful of his own nine-tenths."

"The cure of self-indulgence and extravagance and poverty on the one side, and for spiritual poverty on the other, is proportionate giving." A business man in St. John, with whom I had some transaction

recently, said to me that he always gave a tenth to the church and as he was dealing with me he would give his tithe to me, and gave me five dollars, which I turned into the conference treasury. The tithing system appeals to all who recognize God's ownership and who recognize a sensible business proposition.

"Bring ye all the tithes into the store-house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing."

G. H. SKINNER.

### Notice

The pledge cards that have been mailed to the members of this conference have been printed on postal cards so that all that is necessary will be to sign your name only, together with the amount you pledged. If the amount and name is only filled in no further postage will be required.

We would request that all letters not strictly personal be addressed to the Maritime Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

### How a Boy Succeeded

Boys sometimes think they cannot afford to be manly and faithful to the little things. A story is told of a boy of the right stamp, and what came of his faithfulness.

A few years ago a large drug firm in New York City advertised for a boy. Next day the store was filled with applicants, among them a queer looking little fellow, accompanied by a woman, who proved to be his aunt in lieu of faithful parents, by whom he had been abandoned. Looking at this waif, the advertiser said: "Can't take him; places all full. Besides, he is too small."

"I know he is small," said the woman; "but he is willing and faithful."

There was a twinkling in the boy's eyes which made the merchant think again. A partner in the firm volunteered to remark that he "did not see what they wanted with such a boy; he wasn't bigger than a pint of cider." But, after consideration, he was set to work.

A few days later a call was made on the boys in the store for someone to stay all night. The prompt response of the little fellow contrasted well with the reluctance of the others. In the middle of the night the merchant looked in to see if all was right in the store, and presently discovered his youthful protegee busy scissoring labels.

"What are you doing?" said he. "I did not tell you to work nights."

"I know you did not tell me so, but I thought I might as well be doing something."

In the morning the cashier got orders to "double that boy's wages: for he is willing."

Only a few weeks elapsed before a show of wild beasts passed along the streets, and very naturally all hands in the store rushed to witness the spectacle. A thief saw his opportunity, and entered at the rear door to seize something, but in a twinkling found himself firmly clutched by the diminutive clerk afore-said, and after a struggle was captured. Not only was a robbery prevented, but valuable articles taken from other stores were recovered. When asked why he stayed behind to watch when all others quit their work, he replied, "You told me never to leave the store when others were absent, and I thought I'd stay."

"Orders were given once more, Double that boy's wages; he is willing and faithful."

Today that boy is a member of the firm.—*Sel.*

## ONTARIO

### Ottawa

The church is growing at Ottawa. It surely does one good to visit a live, active, growing church where a spirit of unity and zeal for the Master's work prevails. There are several men engaged in the sale of our good, truth filled literature. Some who work all day at other work spend one or two hours after supper selling magazines and small books. One brother sells about eighty *Temperance Instructors* a week. He has his mind made up to attend our annual camp meeting at Toronto in June and he has started a camp meeting fund.

Many are working with the Present Truth among their neighbors and a real interest has sprung up. They have Bible studies in the homes and invite the interested ones in to hear Brother Hurdon explain the Scriptures. He visits a different home each night and has a good company of intelligent people to hear him. The writer attended two of these studies and was convinced that this is the work our church members could do with good results if they would only study their Bibles, search out a few plain texts on the different important doctrinal subjects and teach them to their neighbors, thus causing honest souls to give their hearts to Jesus and obey his word.

The Sabbath and Sunday night meetings which are held in the Conservatory of Music are well attended.

There are many bright boys and girls of church school age in the church and the brethren have decided to have a school this fall. A fund has been

started for the purpose and already a good sum is in the treasury. While I was there Brother Hurdon came in with his face lighted up with joy and said, "What do you think a man gave me today?" As I could not guess he said, "Twenty-five dollars for our church school and he is not a member of our church. I was simply telling him of our plans and he handed me the money."

There are about six members of the Ottawa church who plan to enter the work this spring as colporteurs. A colporteurs' institute will be held at Ottawa April 2 to 12. If there are others in this end of the field who would like to go into the book work kindly write me and we can plan together.

JOSEPH CAPMAN, *Miss. Sec.*

### Belleville

The writer visited the city of Belleville on a recent trip in the interest of the canvassing and home missionary work. Elder F. W. Johnston has been the means in the Lord's hands of raising up a good company of excellent people. His meetings are well attended by interested people. Another good feature of his work is that he is well able to write an interesting synopsis of his sermons and have it published in the daily papers. The people are reading them too. One lady we canvassed said she is reading his sermons and finds them real interesting. She said she is looking the texts up in the Bible and finds that they apply to the subjects presented. She said, "I can't find a thing wrong with his preaching so far."

One of the new converts in Belleville ordered one hundred copies of the little book "Armageddon" and has sold about half of them. He is now canvassing for "Bible Readings" and taking orders for it.

The church ordered a club of the *Weekly Signs* and one thousand copies of Present Truth to do home missionary work with. May the Lord bless these new members in their efforts to win souls for the Master's kingdom.

JOSEPH CAPMAN, *Miss. Sec.*

### Missionary Letters

Brother T. K. Martin canvassed in the country for the book "Bible Readings" during school vacation last summer. When the students at the Seminary formed correspondence bands to write letters and send papers and tracts to friends, he remembered some of the farmers who seemed most interested in his book. The following letter is a reply to Brother Martin's correspondence:—

# Eastern Canadian Messenger

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE  
EASTERN CANADIAN UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY  
ADVENTISTS

Office Address  
Edna Leach

Oshawa, Ont.  
Editor

Entered as second-class matter. Price, 50 cents a year in advance.

"Dear Sir:

It is with much pleasure that I write you these few lines to let you know that we received your two letters and the papers. We appreciate them very much. Mr. Martin, we have read your book very nearly through and find it a very interesting one. I would not take twice the money for it if I could not get another like it. I would have it read through by this time but my neighbor has borrowed it from me and it is at his place now. Your papers are very nice to read. They explain the way the world is going at the present time. I have lent them to a neighbor and he said they describe the way the world is going. I feel thankful to you for these papers. We want you to answer this letter. Goodbye. Write soon. We remain

Your friends as ever."

It seems to me that this would be a splendid way for some others to do home missionary work. The colporteurs could supply the names of many farmers who show a real interest in Christian literature and especially the Bible. I have many names I can furnish if there are any who would like to correspond with those who showed an especial interest in the book "Bible Readings." You could write them nice letters and send them copies of the *Signs* or the *Present Truth*. Try it. *JOS. CAPMAN, Sec.*

## What Changed the Offering

"A pastor who was taking a missionary collection said: 'I want each of you to give today as if you were putting your money into the pierced hand of Jesus Christ.' A lady came up afterward, and said, 'I was going to give a half dollar, but I did not do so.' 'Why did you not do it?' the preacher asked. 'Do you think I would put a half dollar into His pierced hand? I have ten dollars at home, and I am going to give that.' If we were putting our money into the pierced hand of our Lord, our contributions would amount to vastly more than they do."

It is not inspiration but perspiration that wins success.

## OBITUARY

MARLET—Nathaniel Marlet was born at Ancaster, Ontario and died in Brantford Ontario Feb. 9, 1917, at the age of eighty two years. On his eighty-first birthday he gave his heart to God and soon after was baptized and united with the Seventh-day Adventist church in Brantford. He died with a full assurance of a part in the first resurrection. He leaves two sons and two daughters. Funeral services were conducted by the writer.

A. V. OLSON.

## The Tongue

The second most deadly instrument of destruction is the dynamite gun; the first is the human tongue. The gun merely kills bodies; the tongue kills reputations, and oftentimes ruins characters. Each gun works alone; each loaded tongue has a hundred accomplices. The havoc of the gun is visible at once. The full evil of the tongue lives through all the years.

The crimes of the tongue are words of unkindness, of anger, of malice, of envy, of bitterness, of harsh criticism, gossip, lying, and scandal. Theft and murder are awful crimes, yet in a single year the aggregate sorrow, pain and suffering they cause in a nation are microscopic when compared with the sorrows that come from the crimes of the tongue. Place in one of the scale-pans of justice the evils resulting from the acts of criminals, and in the other the grief and tears and suffering resulting from the crimes of respectability, and you will start back in amazement as you see the scale you thought the heavier shoot high in the air.

At the hands of thief or murderer few of us suffer, even indirect. But from the careless tongue of friend, the cruel tongue of enemy, who is free? No human being can live a life so true, so fair, so pure as to be beyond the reach of malice, or immune from the poisonous emanations of envy. The insidious attacks against one's reputation, the loathsome innuendoes, slurs, half lies, by which jealous mediocrity seeks to ruin its superiors, are like those insect parasites that kill the heart and life of a mighty oak. So cowardly is the method, so stealthy the shooting of the poisoned thorns, so insignificant the separate acts in their seeming, that one is not on guard against them. It is easier to dodge an elephant than a microbe.—*William George Jordan.*

Better blunder than do nothing, if you only know you are blundering, and are really trying to do well, and are properly ashamed of yourself for not doing better.—*Scottish Reformer.*