

95

THE MINNESOTA WORKER.

“Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might.”

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THE MINNESOTA WORKER,

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THE EDITOR,

Mrs. A. E. Ellis, - - Box 447, Dodge Center, Minn.

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FIRST DAY OFFERINGS.

I wonder how many readers of the “Home Missionary” in our conference read the General Report of First Day Offerings as published in the extra of the Dec. no. There we see for the membership of our conference the average amount paid is five and four tenths cents per member for the quarter ending Sept. 30, 1894. Brethren let us study the readings on Foreign Missions as published in the “Home Missionary,” and see if we can remember our First Day Offering boxes, oftener and more liberally. Many of the pennies, nickels and even dollars that are spent for needless things to gratify both appetite and pride, could be used much more profitably in sending the “gospel of the kingdom” where the Lord designs that it *must* go.

The work is fast closing up, and these privileges, for such they are, of placing our treasures where moth and rust do not corrupt, neither can thieves steal it. The angel of mercy is represented as about to fold his wings to leave the earth forever.

I wonder again how many families in our conference do *not* take the “Home Missionary.” Will each librarian consider this a personal invitation to solicit subscriptions, both new, and old, for the new year, and work this interest with others of the society. We earnestly pray that the new year we are entering upon will show, at its close, efforts and interest greatly increased.

N. W. ALLEE.

OUR POOR.

At the State meeting in Mankato last fall, the ministers and brethren assembled talked over the matter of providing a home or some way of relief for those in needy circumstances, such as the aged poor in our state. There are some such unfortunate ones among us all the time, and Christ says that they always will be among God’s people.

Our duties, or rather privileges, in respect to such persons are plainly set forth in the word of God. The fact that God has chosen us “to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house; and when thou seest the naked that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh.” Isa. 58:7. Then follows a long list of good things which the Lord promises to those who do these things.

A committee of three was appointed to study up the matter, and to formulate plans to present to the Conference at our next meeting. This committee has thought best to let our people know, through the WORKER, that they have not forgotten their work. We believe many in this state wish to assist in this work. One way of so doing is by donations. Such a work needs means. But perhaps you say, “We have no means.” Well, we should be glad to hear from any one who is willing to donate a farm of from 40 to 160 acres or more, for a home for the unfortunate. Perhaps some one can donate part of a farm for such a purpose. The committee would be glad to hear from any such.

All communications should be addressed to Box 989, Minneapolis, Minn.

JOHN HOFFMAN.
For Com.

CIRCULATING PETITIONS.

“In the time of peace, prepare for war,” is a maxim that we may apply to our work just at this time. It is more than probable that something may arise in the Legislature this winter, that may demand our attention, by way of circulating petitions. It is my opinion that it would be much better that a petition should

be written instead of being printed, as in the past. The petition, however, should be written by some good penman, so as to carry an influence with it from the standpoint of scholarship. Where this cannot be done, if so desired we can send a printed petition, when needed. If there is no good penman in your society, get the school teacher or some other good penman to write it for you. The proper form will be given in the WORKER when it is needed. So watch the WORKER, and if it becomes necessary to act, we hope that the elders and librarians of every society will feel that they are needed as leaders, to set the work in motion in their several localities.

And here let me ask: Are you all doing all that you would be pleased to see recorded in the books above with that leaflet, 'Now in Jail for Conscience' Sake? If not, why not?
H. F. PHELPS.

THE MISSIONARY WORK.

A letter received from one of our librarians says: "I wish the librarians of the different societies would report through the WORKER. We want to know what they are doing." All right, we wish so too. However, the most careful search in the aforesaid letter failed to reveal a single item for the WORKER. Strange, wasn't it?

Blank reports have been sent to all librarians, which we hope will be promptly returned. It will be a great help to us, also, if every one will send a full reply to the letter which accompanies the blanks.

If a new librarian has been elected, the one who formerly held the office should fill out and send the report for the last quarter, and also, with the report, the name of the newly elected officer.

We still hear, occasionally, some chronic grumbler inquiring, "why is it necessary to report?" but our five societies and workers have long ago outgrown such queries. The subject has been so fully and clearly treated so many times, that they must be dull indeed who cannot see that it is not an arbitrary requirement or a matter of personal preference, but a part of the Lord's business as much as the reporting of the tithes and offerings. "Cursed be he who doeth the work of the Lord negligently." Then don't neglect the reports.

Do you keep the WORKER on file? If so, you have only to look back to the date when the department of Missionary Work was first started in its columns, and follow that department down to the present time, to find that nearly every question that ever comes up in reference to that work has been fully and clearly answered, that definite instructions have been given in almost every line of missionary work, with very many helpful hints, suggestions and items of personal experience. If you have thrown away your papers, begin now to save them. They are of convenient size and shape for preservation.
A. E. E.

"Let us all go to preaching. Send polished Paul up to Athens, and plain Bartholomew down among the

fishing smacks by the sea. Do not look so anxiously into your pockets for your diploma from Yale, or your license from Presbytery. If the Lord does not send you into the ministry, no canon of the church can shoot you into it. But if he has put his hand on your head, you are ordained, and your working apron shall be the robe and the anvil your pulpit; and while you are smiting the iron, the hammer of God's truth will break the flinty heart in pieces. Peter was never a sophomore, nor John a freshman. Harlan Page never heard that a tangent to the parabola bisects the angle formed at the point of contact by a perpendicular to the directrix and a line drawn to the focus. If George Muller should attempt chemical experiments in a philosopher's laboratory, he would soon blow himself up. And hundreds of men, grandly useful, were never struck on commencement stage by a bouquet flung from the ladies' gallery. Quick! Let us find our work. You preach a sermon; you give a tract; you hand a flower; you sing a song; you give a crutch to a lame man; you teach the Sabbath class their A, B, C's; you knit a pair of socks for a foundling; you pick a splinter from a child's finger. Do something. Do it now. Christ will come soon."—Sol.

PROGRESS OF THE WORK.

Pine City and Mooso Lake.

As stated in my last report, I promised to make another visit to the friends of the cause in these places. This I have done; going to Pine City the 12th ult. The powers of darkness pressed hard against the work, but the Spirit of the Lord lifted up a standard for the truth. A church was organized consisting of eight members. Trustees were also elected to hold the church property. A Tract Society was organized, with Sister Babcock as Librarian. This was necessary, as there was no evidence of the existence of a society, except a debt to the State Society. Steps were taken to lift the debt, and to further improve the church building by seating it. The attendance was not what we had hoped; but the Spirit of the Lord was with us. Satan has tried hard to destroy the work here; but if the few who have now entered the organization will only press together in the work of God, we may confidently expect that others will yet be added to the church, such as shall be saved.

The 19th ult., I went to Mooso Lake, remaining five days, presenting words pertaining to the kingdom of God. The Spirit of God was present with us in a marked manner, and the church was edified and built up. Those who took their stand at the previous visit, were established and settled into the work. Several names were added to the Sabbath school; and five new members were added to the Tract Society.

Since the middle of October I have spent but one Sabbath with the church in St. Paul. But this now closes my work with the churches for the time being; and I take up my work of the winter. The first to the middle of December, I sent out letters to our coming representatives, calling attention to the Sentinel, which is being sent to them; also to the leaflet "Now in Jail &c." which I sent with the letter. I have received some very interesting replies. My next work is to send the same leaflet to the various editors throughout the State

asking for editorial comments regarding the same. Pray for this line of work.
H. F. PHELPS.

Brainerd.

The week of prayer is in the past, but the remembrance and effect we believe will be lasting with this company here in Brainerd. From the first, the meetings were of deep interest, and kept increasing as such till the very close. Every one, nearly, seemed to understand what we were gathered together for. To seek the Lord with all the heart, and to draw that strength from above, which is so much needed in these perilous times. Brother Hilliard was with us till Thursday morning, then Sr. Hilliard and I took the responsibility of the meetings. We held two meetings each day, and most every member was present at all the meetings, and there seemed to be a hungering and thirsting after righteousness, and the promise "ye shall be filled" was verified unto us. Truly some of the droppings of the sanctuary fell upon us, and we were made to rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory.

There was not a note of discord throughout the entire meetings. We seemed to have come back to the time when we first embraced the "Third Angel's Message," and indeed, brethren, it was good to be here, as all testified in our last meeting. The wine was good in the beginning, but the best was brought in at the last of the feast. One message was, "Arise and shine, for the light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee," and each caught the inspired words, and joy and gladness beamed upon every countenance. Some that have attended several camp meetings said that these were the best meetings they ever attended.

Our sheaves were gathered in Sunday (the day appointed) and \$31 were gleaned out. We took it and all bowed together in prayer, asking the Lord to accept it, and sow it where it would produce a hundred fold to His honor and glory, and dear brethren, we believe we will see the fruit of this offering in the New Earth.

We are of good courage here, and praying earnestly for a revival of that pure and undefiled religion that visits the widows and fatherless in their affliction, and that will keep us unspotted from the world.

MRS. MARIA MEAD.

Among the Churches.

Since my last report I have visited the companies at Dassel and Hutchinson and also the few believers at Eden Lake. The blessing of the Lord attended the efforts put forth at these places and we were glad to see a spirit of unity take possession of the brethren and sisters and a desire to lay aside the little differences and imaginary injuries that had been magnified into a middle wall of partition by the accuser of the brethren, which of course always shuts Self in and Jesus out. But he is our peace who hath made both one, having abolished in his flesh the enmity.

I also spent a short time with Bro. Pogue at Lake Hook, assisting him what I could in the meetings he has been conducting at that place. These meetings have been well attended and a good degree of interest has been manifested on the part of many, and it is expected that some will obey the truth.

W. A. ALWAY.

Since my last report I have visited Villard, West Union, Sauk Center and St. Cloud, and we had good meetings at all these places. Bro. C. M. Emmerson was with us at Villard and spoke twice to good acceptance.

Our meetings there were attended by the M. E. and Congregational ministers. The M. E. minister publicly stated that he enjoyed the meetings much. At St. Cloud we had the help of Bro. Hilliard. The Lord gave freedom in presenting practical truth for this time, and it was well received by the brethren. We hope that now the week of prayer with its privileges and blessings is in the past, we will not slacken our zeal in the least, but press on with renewed consecration to the work the Lord has called us to do. Pray for us.

W. B. HILL.

THE SABBATH SCHOOL.

A New Program for Family Study.

All of our schools as far as we have been able to learn which adopted the program for family study were so well pleased with the results that we have decided to continue the plan this quarter, and have accordingly arranged a program suited to the present lessons. A number of these have been sent to each school in the State so that each family may receive a copy. Should any fail to receive one if they will let us know we will supply them at once.

There are many advantages to be gained by a daily systematic study of the lessons. In order to gain the best results each one engaged in the study should have his Bible and turn to the references, that the location on the page may be observed and be fixed in mind. This aids greatly in becoming familiar with the Bible and also impresses the lesson more clearly on the mind. All may take turns in reading the answers to the questions and thus all, even the little ones will have an interest in the exercises.

If only ten texts are committed to memory each week, and more can easily be, we should have 520 precious passages of Scripture stored up in our minds at the end of the year. I am afraid that is more than many of us have done in the past.

Lessons learned in this way are certainly fixed in mind and longer remembered than they ever can be if studied one or even two hours at the end of the week.

Some object to this plan as taking too much time. But if we wait until we have plenty of time, Satan will see to it that we never have any more time than we have now.

Parents will draw their children nearer to them by this kind of study and their influence over them will be strengthened. Our Sabbath Schools can do much for the children but they can never do the work of the parents. "While it is essential that wise, patient efforts should be made by the teacher, the work must not be left altogether to the Sabbath School teacher and the church worker, but must find its foundation and support in the work of the home. Parents have a sacred responsibility and charge committed to them, and they are called upon to keep their charge, to bear their responsibility in the fear of God, watching for the souls of their children as they who must give an account.

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..... The responsibility which God has given to men and women as parents, many have shifted from themselves to the Sabbath School and church influence. But each instrumentality has its work, and parents who neglect their part will be weighed in the balance and found wanting. The instruction of Christ from the Pillar of Cloud to the children of Israel, defines the duties of parents, and is not indefinite or hard to be understood. This instruction is for our admonition and benefit. Therefore shall ye lay up these words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes'..... And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down when thou risest up.' Mrs. E. G. White in S. S. Worker.

Is there any reason why we should not learn our lessons so thoroughly this quarter that we shall never forget them?

We think our schools will be glad to note that our donations for the first six months of 1895 are to be given to further work in Zambesia. We have taken much interest in the journey of Brn. Wessels, Draillard, Hurvey and others into the interior of Africa that we shall be glad to improve the opportunity of learning more of that country and aiding the work there all we can. The article of Bro. Wilcox in the review of Dec. 18 will be of special interest at this time and we hope will be carefully studied by the schools. Also the article in the S. S. Worker on Matabeleland. A. L. L.

Reports from Schools.

OGATA, N. D.—“Our school at present is pretty small as all the brethren and sisters have moved away but myself and family. We have our Sabbath School every Sabbath and get our lessons and have our general reviews. Myself and wife fill all the offices and we enjoy ourselves, and God comes near and that to bless, as we study these precious lessons on the life of our dear Saviour, and our hearts go out to him in love and gratitude for the sacrifice he has made for us. Pray for us that we may remain faithful to the end.”

HOLDINGS' FORD.—“We have enjoyed much of the blessing of the Lord since we organized the little family Sabbath School, and we have learned so much about the goodness of God in the gift of his dear Son. We propose to continue our little school as long as we remain an unbroken family.”

ST. CLOUD.—“The family program for the study of the S. S. lesson has been quite faithfully presented to the school and in some cases it is followed. The results when the plan is followed are all that could be desired. We have the topic cards and like them well. The great difficulty is to get all to put forth the effort required to study them.

Teachers meetings are held regularly and we could not get along without them. Also childrens' meetings

are held monthly with a good interest.

As a whole our school work is advancing, and we feel that God has greatly blessed the efforts put forth.”

MISCELLANEOUS.

Just received. A supply of the new book, “Story of Pitcairn Island,” by a native daughter of the island. Price post paid \$1. Discount to societies. Address all orders to: Minn. Tract Soc., Box 939, Minneapolis, Minn.

WANTED.—To correspond with any one who can tell me of a small place to rent among Sabbath keepers, where we can have meeting and sabbath school privileges. Should like a place where we can keep a cow or two, or more if we choose, and some chickens. Please write at once stating all particulars to E. H. PULLEN, Courtland, Minn.

Cash Received on Pledges

To General Relief Fund Since Last Report.

Nov. 1st 1894 to Jan. 1st 1895.

Alden	Society	\$ 25 00
Amboy	”	3 40
Brainerd	”	2 60
Budd, Geo., W. Union	”	50 00
Crow Wing	”	7 70
Cambridge	”	9 30
Canby	”	2 50
Duluth	”	3 55
Evergreen	”	8 00
Eagle Lake	”	2 00
Garden City	”	75 00
Guderian, Ed., Good Thunder Soc.	”	2 93
Hancock	Society	6 00
Lake Eunice	”	5 50
Litchfield	”	12 90
Minneapolis, Eng.	”	6 00
Minnewaukon, N. Dak.	”	2 00
Mankato	”	4 00
New Auburn	”	5 20
Owatonna	”	7 00
Princeton	”	50 00
Rasmussen, H. Courtland	”	4 00
Round Prairie	”	3 50
Redwood Falls	”	4 25
Riceville, N. Dak.	”	31 00
Scattered	”	5 00
St. Paul, Eng.	”	6 75
St. Paul, Scand.	”	1 80
Tracy	”	22 00
Wells	”	4 60
West Union	”	7 25
Zumbro Falls	”	—
Total		381 53
Previously reported		560 01
Grand Total		941 54

L. B. LOSEY.