



Free Advent Banner

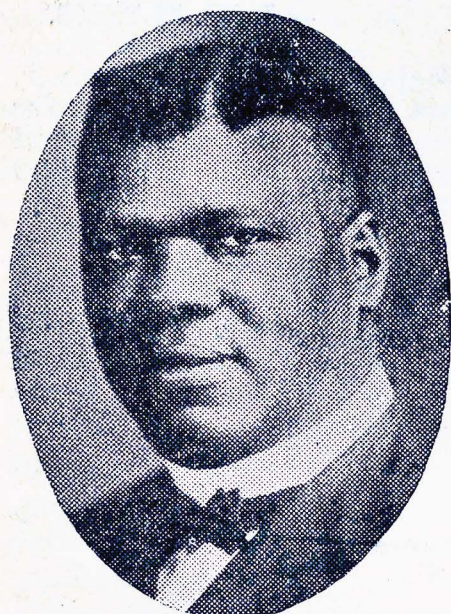
“He that Wineth Souls is Wise”

VOL. I

SAVANNAH, GA., MARCH, 1921

NUMBER 5

A CALL FOR HELP



Dear brethren and sisters in the Lord Jesus, we have started a new year. The record of 1920 has closed. A new record is being made for 1921. What shall it be? Should we be satisfied with what we did last year, or shall we set a goal much larger for 1921?

Our tent meeting conducted in this city last spring was a grand success. Those brought to the truth are still rejoicing in the God of our Salvation. All were very faithful in paying their Tithe and Offering for the support of the work. We are looking yet for more honest ones to take a stand for the truth as a result of this effort last spring. Many who became interested are still visiting the services at the church and some have almost decided to stand

for the right. We are praying for them, asking God to help them to decide for Jesus. Much more can be done in this city.

After the effort here closed, the writer was called out West. I spent several weeks in Los Angeles, Cal. I conducted meetings with the Berean Church of Free S. D. A. Before I left the church voted to unite with us. Elder J. W. Owens, who was at that time making St. Louis his home, was invited to take charge of this church and serve it as pastor. This he accepted and he has located in Los Angeles. He has made some good reports since taking up the work there. We are looking forward to a strong working church in this city. In a letter from Elder Owens, he states: “The church is now free from debt. I have paid off the last notes.” We are glad to note that he has been of so much help to the church since his connection with it. May God continue His blessings upon them.

Now that the winter is all but gone, and the spring is here. What shall we do? Many calls are coming in for tent meetings. We cannot answer them all. But now is the time to start our efforts for this year. Who are willing to help in conducting the work?

Money is needed. Our people should make a sacrifice, such as has not been made, in order to carry on the work during this coming tent season.

It may be asked of us, as was

asked of the Jews in the time of the building of the walls of Jerusalem. Of which work Nehemiah was at the head. “What do these feeble Jews?” Will they fortify themselves? Will they sacrifice? Even that which they build, if a ox go up, he will break down their stone wall.” But you can see, this talk did not discourage Nehemiah, he prayed, and God heard him. He had a strong faith in his God. He said: “So built we the wall for the people had a mind to work.” Neh. 4:1-6. Can we find a Nehemiah today? Can we find some of the old courageous people like those who followed Nehemiah, today? Yes, I dare say we can, but we will also find a brother Judas who will also declare, “The strength of the bearers of burdens is decayed, and there is much rubbish; so that we are not able to build the wall.” Let us not cry, “Hard times,” but let us make our prayer unto our God. He can help us do what is to be done. Our Father is rich and is of no respecter of person, but in every nation, he that feareth God and worketh righteousness, is accepted with Him. God will do for the Negro race just what He has done for any other people.

Who will take courage, now, and send in a good liberal offering for the tent meeting next season? Now is the time to send it in. Who will make a sac-

(Continued on page 4)

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Editorials

Those who are most weary of life, and yet are most unwilling to die, are such as have lived to no purpose, who have breathed rather than lived.

—Clarendon.

What a vast portion of our lives is spent in anxious and useless forebodings concerning the future, either our or that of our dear ones! Present joys present blessings slip by and we miss half their sweet flavor, and all for want of faith in Him who provides for the tiniest insect in the sunbeam.

Why cannot we, slipping our hand into God's each day, walk trustingly over that day appointed path, thorny or flowery, crooked or straight knowing that evening will bring us sleep, peace and home?—Selected.

We greatly appreciate the efforts of our readers in the behalf of our little paper, the "Banner." We feel, however, to offer the following suggestions; which will be of much help to the editors:

Write short articles. Write plainly. Use a typewriter if you can. Do not write small and fine, with crowded lines. Please let your lines be wide apart. Write only on one side

of your sheet of paper. Tell where your quotations are to be found.

Please do not require the editor to insert your article, as one sister said, "I wrote an article and it was changed and did not appear as I wrote it." We will try to be careful, and never make a writer say what he did not in his article. You will understand, however, in order to save the writer and the paper, we may have to make some changes. Some eliminations are made, as well as a few words will have to be added to give the proper thought, grammatically.

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A good many people honestly believe that it is presumptuous to say that they are saved—that they have passed from death unto life—that they are going to have a place at God's right hand. But the Bible teaches very clearly that we can know we are saved. If we want light we can get it. We can know that we have passed from death unto life if we are in earnest about it.

There are twenty-one chapters in the gospel of John, and they all speak of believing. "Believe" is the key of that gospel. But turn over into John's first epistle, and you will find that the key to that epistle is "know."

Forty-two times that word appears in these few chapters. "These things are written that we might know." I do not believe that it is the mind of God we should go through the world in darkness, not knowing whether we are saved or not.

I think the best book on assurance is the first epistle of John. If you are in doubt about your own salvation, read it, and you will know. I think Christ taught this doctrine very clearly when the disciples came back by twos. They were greatly rejoiced because they

had such wonderful power, but He seemed to check them and said, "I will give you something to rejoice for. Rejoice that your names are written in heaven." He wanted them to know it.

Do you think Paul, amid all his difficulties and persecutions would have gone right on if he had not known his name was written in heaven. Do you think those martyrs would have gone to the stake if they had had any doubt about their salvation? It is a privilege of every child of God to walk in the light—to say, "Abba Father! Heaven is my home; God is my Father; Jesus Christ is my Saviour."

—J. W. MANNS.

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BLUE LAWS

When a man is a criminal and when he is not generally a matter of geography. It is as easy to be virtuous in Massachusetts as it is in Oregon, but whether the law recognizes you as such depends entirely upon the particular state where you live. A writer in Hartford (Courant) passes out a resume of some of the old New England blue laws, laid down by the forefathers concerning the observance of the Massachusetts Sunday. Any zealous public official, if he wishes to insure himself unpopularity and failure to be re-elected, has only to busy himself with some of these old ordinances. Of course, most of them are no longer enforced; yet if they were strictly applied to present-day conditions, and to games and the use of objects invented since the blue-law legislation all acts, such as,

The purchase not only of meat and groceries, but also milk, bakery products, ice

all can say, "The eternal God is our refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms."

Mrs. CELIE M'CALL,
1464 Central Ave.
Los Angeles, Cal.

—x—

CONGRATULATION

To the Editor of the Free Advent Banner:

I congratulate you for your noble little journal. I praise the Lord for this wonderful working of the Holy Spirit.

I think the Banner is just the paper to make known our work to the people. I wondered long ago why we couldn't have a paper of our own edited and published by Negro Seventh-day Adventists.

The Apostle Peter said, "I perceived that God is no respecter of persons."

Years ago the Holy Spirit moved upon the hearts of our white brethren to publish truth filled literature. I praise the Lord because the same Spirit has moved upon the hearts of our colored brethren representing Free Seventh-day Adventists to do likewise. May God bless the Banner and prosper it wherever it goes.

To show you that I am in harmony with the work and am willing to co-operate in every way that I can, I enclose herewith \$1.00 for one year's subscription.

"One thing have I desired of the Lord; that will I seek after:

That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

To behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple."

"For in the time of trouble, He shall hide me in His pavilion:

In the secret of His tabernacle shall He hide me;

He shall set me upon a rock"

"And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me;

Therefore will I offer in His tabernacle sacrifices of joy;

I will sing, yea I will sing praises unto the Lord: Amen, Amen."

ANNIE W. GRAHAM.

NOTICE

Recently we have received many requests for the "Banner," numbers, 1, 2 and 3. These numbers carried our "Salutatory," the main article wanted. We are indeed sorry that these issues have been entirely exhausted. However, we have decided to bring out this "Salutatory" in the April issue of the "Banner," so that our many readers may get it all in one paper. Trusting that no one will miss this issue in April, we are yours in the cause of Righteousness, Justice and Truth,

—The Editors.

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OBITUARY

BELL.—Mrs. Mary E. Bell was born in Hawkinsville, Ga., and died in Savannah, Ga., Jan. 17, 1921, age fifty-four years. Eight years ago she accepted the third angel's message, remaining an earnest member of the Free Seventh-day Adventist church, and rests in hope of a part in the first resurrection. She was the mother of eighteen children and leaves to mourn a devoted daughter and two sons.

—Mrs. L. L. JOHNSON.

HEIDT.—Mrs. Adeline Clifton Heidt was born in Chester County, S. C., March, 1858 and died in Savannah, Ga., Jan. 9, 1921. In April of 1912 she heard and accepted the third angel's message, remaining a faithful member of the Free Seventh-day Adventist church until her death. She is survived by her husband, daughter and several sisters and brothers. —Mrs. L. L. JOHNSON.

Obituary—March 14, 1921

One year ago, Thomas S. Dennison departed this life after a lingering sickness which he bore with patience. Not once murmuring, but always expressing himself as being fully resigned to the Master's will and confessed his acceptance of the truth as taught in the last message of our Lord to this world before he died. He was a loving and dutiful husband; a kind and faithful father; a quiet and peacable

citizen for many years of Lincolnville, S. C.

Dearest loved one, you have left us,

But your sufferings are o'er. There's only a few more sorrows now

And we'll meet to part no more.

Wife and children:

Mary Florence Dennison,
Ethelind Dennison,
Thomas Dennison,
Timothy Dennison,
Susie Dennison,
Jacob Dennison.

—x—

SPARKLETS

To know what you prefer, instead of humbly saying "Amen" to what the world tells you you ought to prefer, is to keep your soul alive.

Don't carry your wish bone, where your back-bone ought to be.

The world is looking for the man who can do something, not for the man who can explain why he didn't do it.

Your friendship must not be allowed to warp your judgment. Don't be a mental caterer.

It is not the occasional action that makes or mars character—consequently life. It is the thought made permanent, it makes or mars just to the extent it is persisted in.

As James Allen says in "The Path of Prosperity," circumstances can effect us only as far as we allow them.

Count that day lost, whose low descending sun views from thy hand, no worthy action done.

Mrs. C. LILLIAN LATTIMORE
1719 W. 35th St.,
Los Angeles, Cal.

—x—

HAS GOD A PERSONALITY.

The present system of education is to question and doubt. First reason out the fact, and after all quibbles are answered then believed. God's method is to believe because He has spoken, and then "by faith we understand." This is the difference between the Lord's and Satan's method of educating the mind. A few texts of scripture will settle the question of

the personality of God with every believer.

"And God said, 'Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion' So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him." Gen. 1:26, 27.

But says the reasoner, "How shall we understand the word image? The Lord answers this question by the way he uses the term in other places. "And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after his image." Gen. 5:3.

Image refers to two things. First, form, likeness, resemblance in shape. Second, character. Adam possessed both of these; and so did Seth, the son of Adam, and so has every human being who has been begotten in sin, and retained the form of his parents.

The New Testament teaches the same truth. "Hath in these last days spoken unto us by His son, whom He hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; who being the brightness of glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high." Heb. 1:2, 3. God intended us to understand that He had a personality, and that His person was in the form of Christ or these words are deceptive for the words here used teach that God has a form.

Again, "In Him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily." Col. 2:9. The character of God was perfectly represented in the character of Christ, and the body of Christ represented the personality of the Father. Once more. "Who being in the form of God deemed not His equality with God a thing to grasp at, but emptied Himself, taking upon Him the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men, He humbled Himself, being obedient unto death, and that the death of the cross." Dean Al-

ford's translation: "He was in the form of God, equal with God, but took the form of a servant, being found in the likeness of men."

These words require no comment. They themselves are a comment on a fact; viz., the relationship of Christ to the Father and humanity.

—Mrs. L. L. JOHNSON

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THE HARDEST TRIALS

"In the trials to be suffered,
In the fellowship with care,
'Tis the hidden inward struggle
That will prove the worst to bear.

'Tis the strife that no man pities,
'Tis the cry that no man hears,
'Tis the victory unpeaned
But by secret sobs and tears.

Oh, my friends, when God's great angel
Sounds aloud the deeds of might,
On the day when hearts are opened
In the holy Father's sight.

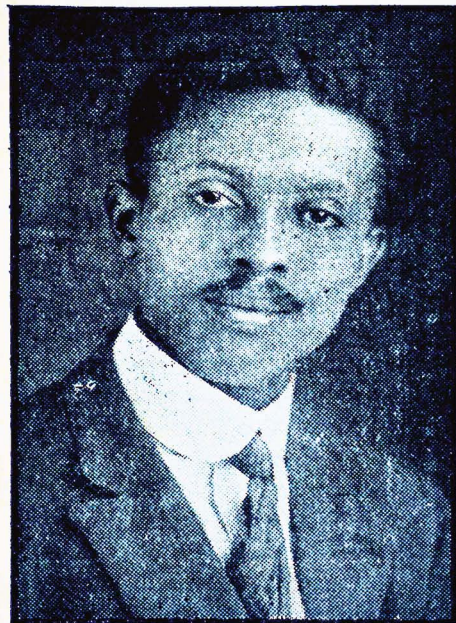
Then the great deeds and noblest
Will be those unheard of now,
Hidden under silent heart-beats,
And an uncomplaining brow:

Deeds of patient self-rejection
Wrung from hearts that made no moan
Tender hearts, that like the Master's,
"Trod the winepress all alone."
Hearts that purer grew, and fairer,
In the struggle day by day,
Learning thus from holy teachers
How to suffer and to pray."
—Selected.

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