

## ANGELOPHONE COMPANY CLOSING OUT

The friends who organized the Angelophone Co. had hoped to furnish good records dictated by Brother Russell. Some of the first were not as clear as desired, and Brother Russell expected to re-record them, but passed away before being able to do so.

Orders came in so rapidly, the number of records to be handled was so great, and the requests so urgent, that it was impossible to test each set before shipping; hence the filling of many of the orders in the original packages of the manufacturers. It was later found that these records were not even as good as those first received, and the manufacturers claim they cannot do better.

So many complaints have lately been received that the

Angelophone Co. has decided to close out at once. Some of the records are quite good, and all orders on hand will be filled as far as possible, unless otherwise ordered. Some may desire to have even these imperfect records. If so, orders should be sent at once.

The WATCH TOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY possesses two excellent Columbia records of Brother Russell's voice, consisting of four introductory and four intermission talks of the PHOTO-DRAMA OF CREATION. Each of these is a double record—two talks on each side. These records can be used on an Angelophone by reversing the reproducer. We are obliged not to sell the Columbia records under \$1.00 per record.

## NO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

After the passing away of Brother Russell, who was executive officer of the Society by virtue of being President, the Board of Directors provided for an Executive Committee to look after the executive work of the Society. That Committee ceased to exist upon the election of a President; hence there

is now no Executive Committee. To avoid delay and confusion, please address no mail to the Executive Committee. The President of the Society is the executive officer of the Society and matters of that nature are in his hands.

VOL. XXXVIII

BROOKLYN, N. Y., APRIL 1, 1917

No. 7

## "CONSIDER HIM"

"Consider him who endured such contradiction of sinners, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds."—Hebrews 12:3.

[On Wednesday evening, October 11th, 1916, at the Brooklyn Tabernacle, after the Church Activities Committee had read the various reports of the work done during the past quarter, Brother Russell gave a short address to the New York City Congregation, which proved to be his last words to the church in the midst of which he lived and labored. Those words were taken down at the time, and are here transcribed for the benefit of the friends. The topic and text were those of the Manna for the week, and were the same as those used on the same evening by classes of the I. B. S. A. the world over.]

There is a natural tendency amongst people to tire of a thing when the novelty wears off. Even the hearing of the truth, strange as it may seem, causes weariness to some after a time. It is the same way with the soldier. It is easy for him to enlist and march forward when the drums are beating and the bands are playing, and enthusiasm runs high; but when the damp, cold weather comes, when ice forms in the trenches and there is no martial music, he is liable to grow weary; and army life does not seem to be nearly so attractive as it appeared at the first. This is true in our spiritual warfare—in fighting the good fight of faith. There are times when all around seem joyous, when the Christian soldiers are marching, and all are stimulated and encouraged; whereas there are times when the clouds hang low and are dark, chilliness surrounds us, ardor is abated, and we are liable to get discouraged. It is partly for this reason that the Lord has directed us to "consider him," that thereby we might be stimulated and encouraged to press on and to inspire others. He knew just what we would need.

### "LEST YE BE WEARIED AND FAINT IN YOUR MINDS"

The Apostle Paul exhorts us not to forget the assembling of ourselves together, and so much the more as we see the day approaching. Why so? Because "the day" will have its peculiar trials, its difficulties, its attractions in various directions; and the story of the Cross will likely seem old—not as new as some things; and consequently we shall need to bear each other up. Because there is danger of becoming lukewarm spiritually, it is generally recommended that the Lord's people meet together; for to do so is stimulating. In proportion as we seek to stir up others in the way by putting them in remembrance, we are thereby reviving our own minds. We can, therefore, see a wisdom in all of God's arrangements with respect to the truth.

I believe that in every congregation there is danger of growing weary in well-doing. Well-doing costs something. It means sacrificing. If you are serving the Lord's cause, you are denying yourself in some way. Unless we have some special love for the Lord and for the truth, we might say, "This is a very tedious work, I am pressed in many other directions, and there are those who are inviting me to see them." So many things come to you, and to us all, that we might consequently be retarded and slacken our efforts. The world, the flesh and the adversary are pressing hard to draw us, not exactly from the prize, but from the narrow way that leads to the prize. They would slacken our zeal and beat our courage down; they would make us faint and cause us to say, "Oh, I am so tired; I cannot do any more!" Doubtless we all have had such experiences. If we get faint in body, we can rest ourselves; but if we get faint in mind, it is more difficult to become refreshed.

### WHAT SHALL WE CONSIDER ABOUT HIM?

What, then, shall we do, in case we get weary and faint in our minds? The Apostle tells us: "CONSIDER HIM!"

Whom? We all know that he is referring to our Lord Jesus, the one great "HIM" in all the whole world. What shall we consider about him? His birth? Yes, that is profitable; but it is not what the Apostle here suggests. His glory and honor? Not that exactly; but rather, how much HE ENDURED WITHOUT GETTING FAINT AND WEARY, without giving up the work which he undertook to do. He undertook to do a certain work, and so have we! In some respects we have undertaken to do the same work that Jesus did. Let us consider him, lest we get weary and faint in following on in his footsteps!

Of course, the world is not exhorted in this text, but merely those who have come into the Lord's family, and have taken up their cross to follow him—those who have consecrated themselves to him, those who have made a covenant with the Lord by sacrifice, declaring that they will give all to him and his service—that they will follow him at any cost. These are the ones who are exhorted to consider him.

But what about him shall they consider? What he endured without fainting, in carrying out the Father's will. What he endured in the way of contradiction of sinners against himself. This is the very kind of difficulty which we have in our endeavor to carry out the Father's will. If there were no devil, no sinners, and no trials, this would be a very pleasant world to go through. It is because we have to swim upstream, against the current, when almost everything is going in the opposite direction, that we have such a difficult work. Watch the swimmer! He must battle up-stream against the down-flowing current; a moment's relaxation and the current carries him downward. With us there is a natural tendency in ourselves, as well as in the currents of thought and activity about us in the world, to pull us back in the opposite direction from which we are trying to go.

### OUR LORD'S LOYALTY AND OBEDIENCE

Let us consider his example, his words; or else we may become faint. There are many reasons why we might become so. One of them is that we might consider that the opposition against us is too great. Jesus had the opposition of all those of national influence in his day. He was continually misrepresented, until finally the slanders culminated in his being called a profane person, one who had spoken blasphemies against God, who had said that he was like God, and was as great as God. This was a part of the charge against him. Although the accusation was not true, nevertheless he endured it, even though he had power to stop it. If he could cast out demons and open the eyes of the blind, then surely he could have done something to change things in his own case. Why, then, did he not do it? Because he was doing the Father's will; and it was the Father's will that he should bear witness to the truth and demonstrate his loyalty in connection with it.

Is it not the same with us? But why does the Father care about our loyalty? Because he is seeking a certain class for a certain purpose. In Jesus' case, he was seeking one to be the Head of the church. In our case, he is selecting

those who will be members of the body. He has a great plan that contemplates the overthrow of sin and the blessing of all the families of the earth; and he is now looking for a class who is in sympathy with all his plans and arrangements. He is seeking for those who would rather suffer death than violate his Word, or shrink from doing his will.

This is our glorious position, and we are considering one who never made a mistake in carrying out the Father's will. Yet he suffered as though he had made a great many serious mistakes. He suffered as a disloyal person, although he had always been loyal. The Jews declared that he had no patriotism at all, yet he was loyal to his own nation in every respect. As Jesus said, "They hated me without a cause."

#### HIS TEMPTATIONS SUBTLE

Turn these things over in your mind! Consider him! This kind of suffering is necessary; for the Father would not be wise in exalting to such a high position any one who was not thoroughly loyal. He could not give even his own son the divine nature without a thorough testing. Our Lord, as a new creature, was tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin. He was not tempted as a fallen man or as a father; he was not tempted with liquor, etc. The temptations coming to the new creature are different from those which come to the sinner.

Jesus was tempted to grow weary and faint in his mind. This was one of the ways through which special temptations from Satan were placed before him. Satan told our Lord that he would get rid of these difficulties if he would coöperate with him and would avoid those things which would necessarily and surely come to him if he should continue in the way marked out by Jehovah. Our Lord's answer was, "Get thee behind me, Satan!" Another temptation was to show the great power which he had received as a spirit-begotten Son, to use this power either to gratify his own natural appetite or to make a display before the people. So it is with those of us who may wish to do things in a showy way instead of in the humble way marked out for us. We may expect to have the same temptations that our Lord had. Therefore we should be on guard that we may prove loyal to the Father.

#### CHRIST CALLED TO SACRIFICE—"THE BODY" ALSO TO SACRIFICE

"If we suffer with him, we shall also reign with him." The reason why the Father is so careful in making the selection of the church class, is that they are to reign. He could not take hypocrites or any disloyal ones or even careless ones to be rulers and teachers of the people in the coming kingdom. He would not select those who had first learned humility before he could use them to teach humility to others. God desires such a company of priests and judges to be associated with his Son for a thousand years in ruling and blessing the world as will prove faithful under all circumstances—those in whom he can place absolute confidence, who have been tested and found faithful. This is the reason that he tests and proves during this Gospel age every one whom he will receive for that future work.

The call of the Gospel age is, therefore, one to sacrifice. God does not hide this fact from us. He does not call us to simply stand up and say that we wish to be followers of Jesus. No! Our Lord says, "If any man will be my disciple, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me." There is no deception about the matter. If we have been deceived, it is our own fault. The Old Testament says the same thing: "Gather my saints together unto me; those who have made a covenant with me by sacrifice." There is nothing hidden. Whoever would follow Jesus must prove his faithfulness by his willingness to sacrifice.

In the past, false doctrines confused us; but now "we see Jesus"—we see what he accomplished, and how he endured without growing weary or giving up. It makes our course plain when we consider him. We sometimes say that we have not been careful enough in this or that matter, and have consequently made some mistakes. We can often find some fault in ourselves, thus demonstrating that we are partly to blame for our sufferings. But in our Lord's case it was different. He received the slanders, the misrepresentation, and everything else that came against him, without having any fault in him at all. "He was holy, harmless, undefiled and separate from sinners," still he endured. We, though following in his footsteps, have not as much to endure as had the Master.

#### THE OUTCOME OF OUR FAITHFUL ENDURANCE

We are also to consider the outcome. While the Father let Jesus die on the cross as a malefactor, yet he did not let

our Lord go permanently, but kept his promise to raise him from the dead. We have the promise that, as the Father raised Jesus from the dead, so also will he raise those up who are found worthy by being faithful unto death. In raising up Jesus the Father has given us a testimony to his faithfulness. In the case of Jesus, no one had set him an example. It was all by faith with him; none had gone before. With us it is different. Besides, we have not so much to lose as had our Lord. However, if we trust God, he is faithful to keep us and to do what he has promised—to raise us up with our Head. Consider what great things God has done for his Son. Consider also that he has promised us a share in our Lord's glory if we be found faithful. It is amazing—almost beyond conception! Unless God had made it plain, I fear that I would not be able to receive it. If he had said it but once, I might have doubted it; but since he has stated it over and over again in so many ways as to remove all grounds for doubt, I must believe it. How wonderful it seems!

Consider him! Consider that God has highly exalted him! Consider what a great privilege has been afforded us of walking in his footsteps, especially as our lives are so imperfect, so unsatisfactory even to ourselves, and as life is all that we have to give. What a thought that God will count our little sacrifice as a part of that which Jesus gave! We are to be heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ, "to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation, ready to be revealed at the last time." Then to think that we are in the last time now! We are right at the close of the age. The new dispensation is opening all around us, and the great majority of the people are so bewildered that they do not know what to make of the wonderful things of our day. "None of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand." (Daniel 12:10) The Lord's true people are the only ones who have a correct understanding of these things.

How carefully the people of God, therefore, should weigh their thoughts and deeds! "Seeing that these [present] things are to be dissolved, what manner of persons ought we to be in all holy living and godliness, looking for and earnestly desiring the coming of the day of God! . . . According to his promise we look for a new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness. Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for these things, give diligence that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot and blameless" in his sight. "Ye therefore, beloved, knowing these things beforehand, beware lest, being carried away with the error of the wicked, ye fall from your own steadfastness. But grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever. Amen."—2 Peter 3:13-18.

#### CLOSING EXHORTATION

In view of what we see ahead of us as sharers with Jesus of his glory, honor and immortality, we should be leading holy lives. We should be living in the future rather than in the past. Do not think too much of the past. Let us not live in the past and dwell upon our mistakes and shortcomings, and thus be cast down; but let us believe that "if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9) And we should have such an appreciation of these mercies and blessings of forgiveness as to show it forth in our conduct.

Let us give heed more and more to the suggestion of our text, and consider him whom the Father has so greatly exalted—so highly exalted. Let us remember that he has called us with the same high and heavenly calling and has promised to help us all the way through! If we remember this, we shall cease to be weary and faint and shall become strong in the Lord and in the power of his might; we shall go on from grace to grace, from glory to glory; we shall be transformed by the renewing of our minds, more and more proving what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. Then, finally, we shall attain unto the glorious things which he has in reservation for those who love him more than parents, or children, or self, or any other person or thing.

"Hold on thy way with hope unchilled,  
By faith and not by sight;  
And thou shalt own his Word fulfilled—  
At eve it shall be light."

## FOREIGN BRANCH REPORTS

### BRITISH BRANCH REPORT

DEAR BRETHREN:—

It is once again our privilege to send to you the Annual Report of the British harvest work. Included in the War zone, as Britain is, we are very thankful to our heavenly Father that we are able to send so gratifying a report. Opportunities for witness have been greatly affected by the war, and the operation of the Military Service Act has taken from us many of our valued workers. Other features, such as the cost of living, the darkened streets, making travel by night a risky matter, and for some time past the lessened supply of tracts, have all interfered to some extent with active propaganda. Conditions might have been much worse, and we are therefore very thankful for the work's sake and for the brethren's sake that in the Lord's providence we have had so favorable a time under adverse conditions. The general condition of the country is not altered in outward appearance, and despite the difficulties the good work continues to go forward.

The Colporteur Department has suffered considerably through the altered conditions, but there has been much activity during the year. War work has brought prosperity to some and employment to many. The rate of unemployed in 1916 was the lowest on record, and as fairly good wages have been paid, there has been plenty of money about. We have now on the list a total of 45 colporteurs, nearly all of whom find their work self-sustaining, while not a few report an increased percentage during the year. We would urge upon all who have the necessary talent and time at their disposal the importance of this branch of service. The opportunity is still great, but signs are not wanting that soon "the night cometh, wherein no man can work."

The output of STUDIES for the year is no less than 71,776, most of which has been handled by the colporteurs.

In the volunteer work the dear brethren have labored to make up for the depletion in their numbers. The number of B. S. M. delivered as volunteer matter is 5,926,000 copies, while the total distribution of free literature amounts to 7,198,145 copies. We are very pleased to be able to report this, and we are sure the brethren have been greatly blessed in their labors. We were for a short time limited through lack of funds, and then of paper. The B. S. M. cost almost twice as much as in pre-war days, even though we use a cheaper paper.

The class extension work has revived and is on the increase. The exhibition of the Photo-Drama of Creation, although closed down for several months, has commenced again with considerable success.

Three general conventions have been held and have proved a means of blessing to the dear friends in these difficult times. The pilgrim service is much appreciated by the classes, more especially at the present time, when so many have had their elders removed by the Conscription Act. At no time have the brethren needed comfort, encouragement and counsel so much as now.

Since the introduction of compulsory service in this Country—in March, 1916—there have been 153 of the brethren imprisoned as Conscientious Objectors to Militarism, and all of these continue under Government control—separated from their homes. This has meant considerable suffering in the cases of some of the married brethren, whose families of five and six children have been left without any visible means of support. Those brethren more favorably situated have joyfully assisted to the best of their ability and, as a result, we do not think there has been any real distress so far.

The dear friends have kept the office alive with their letters, and we have to report the goodly number of 23,383 received and 25,484 sent out.

The death of our beloved Pastor is the outstanding feature of the British Harvest Work, as it is with you, and all. The news came with staggering suddenness; the expected happened unexpectedly. But with the assurance in the hearts of the brethren that the work is the Lord's, there has been no faltering nor hesitancy, and the brethren are prepared to carry on the work of the Lord as it has been manifested through the life and writings of our dear brother and Pastor.

We are indeed grateful to the SOCIETY for the assistance and comfort sent us in various ways since the death of our beloved Brother Russell. These have served as a great stimulus to the brethren. We are looking forward to increased activity for a time through the pastoral work, and are endeavoring to set ourselves in order for the increase which we believe the Lord will send.

We enclose a summary of the circulation of the STUDIES. Briefly the figures are:

		DECREASE
STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES.....	71,776	18,924
Books, MANTRAS, SCENARIOS.....	20,257	19,540
Booklets .....	16,400	8,108
Tracts of all kinds.....	7,198,146	3,586,625

Letters sent out.....	25,484
Letters received .....	23,383

48,867

The summary of the year's Finance is as follows:

#### CASH SUMMARY

Nov. 1, 1915—Oct. 31, 1916.

	£	s.	d.
Nov. 1, Cash on hand.....	952:	10:	1½
Receipts .....	13,269:	9:	2
	£14,221:	19:	3½

	£	s.	d.
Expenditures .....	13,019:	17:	0½
Balance on hand .....	1,202:	12:	1½
	£14,221:	19:	3½

Appreciating all your loving coöperation in giving us supplies of material with which to help carry on our work, and your loving sympathy, we are,  
Yours in His grace and service,

W. CRAWFORD,  
H. J. SHEARN,  
J. HEMERY,

British Branch Managers.

### REPORT OF THE AUSTRALIAN BRANCH

DEAR BRETHREN IN CHRIST:—

It is with a full and tender heart that this letter is begun. Had it not been for the pressure of work it would probably have been sent last mail and addressed as usual to our dearly beloved Pastor, our Brother Russell. For over a quarter of a century I have loved him, not only for his work's sake, but also for his beautiful character, have rejoiced in the truths he has sent out as "meat in due season," and in his counsel, admiring the sympathetic, kind, loving nature so grandly blended with fortitude and strong determination to do and dare anything in order to accomplish what he believed to be the divine will or the unfolding of his Word.

While there is a sense of loneliness as one realizes that this strong stay is removed in person, yet one cannot but rejoice that he has finished his course, fought a good fight and gained the great reward, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." "Praise ye the Lord!" It was praise as soon as his lips could frame the song to his Creator, I do believe; and it has been praise and sweet incense from the golden altar all his life. We can but reecho the same now that we know that the abundant entrance into the kingdom has been administered. "Praise ye the Lord!" His life has been an inspiration to me, and his death seems to impress one the more with desire to prove also faithful and loyal to the Lord, following him even as he followed Christ. It is good to think that his intensest sufferings did not extend over a long period. No doubt Jehovah saw that he had borne sufficient of the cross throughout his course. No doubt many of us would like also to take our tickets, enter the train and go home; yet "Thy will be done," while we wait patiently upon him.

The work of another year has been such that we may rejoice in that "our labor has not been in vain in the Lord." While our records show a diminution in the output of Volumes of STUDIES, as also of free literature, the reasons are apparent. On the other hand, there has been a good increase of interested readers, and, what is still better, we are sure that there is deeper sense of responsibility in regard to the holding of the truth, and the necessity of sending out the light of the glorious Gospel of the divine plan, which alone can offer the comfort and consolation which the desolated homes and wounded hearts require in this day of trouble. The events of our day are to us developments of the great Architect's plan; and the various features of the changing dispensation become clearer as we progress and as our faith grows stronger. The removal of our beloved Pastor is only another evidence of the closing of the harvest work in the near future.

As you are aware, it was the shortage of paper which curtailed the work of sending out the free literature. The friends everywhere have been just as zealous as ever; and if material lasts, we may depend upon there being a good work in this direction; for never was there a time when the Truth was more acceptable to the people. The fact that Christian ministers of all churches have been energetically aiding the

military in the matter of recruiting and preaching conscription in their pulpits has made a great many people disgusted with their professions; and many have left the churches on this account and just need the satisfying portion of truth.

The pilgrim work here is difficult to operate in a regular way on account of the great distances. Nevertheless all the States of the Commonwealth have been visited with the exception of West Australia; and we are hoping that our Brother Brewster will be along there shortly. Besides this, there has been the follow-up work in connection with the PHOTO-DRAMA OF CREATION.

The DRAMA has been shown at fifteen different places—164 exhibitions with attendances of about 65,950. Great interest has been evidenced. Good attendances have been at the follow-up meetings; and 928 names have been received as having been helped by the DRAMA and desirous of having some literature. A great number of volumes have been supplied to these, when our workers have called upon them; and there are many now rejoicing in the fulness of the truth through this means.

Brother Micheltore is operating, and Brother Brewster giving the Finale talks and follow-ups. While it is expensive through long distances, and few friends around who are able to accommodate the brethren, yet they have done remarkably well.

The colporteur work continues to go fairly well. The war conditions, while favorable from the standpoint that people are more easily interested in these matters, yet have on the whole probably interfered somewhat with the work. One or two of our colporteurs have through sickness or other cause not been able to continue. There is still a happy band of faithful workers—about 14 or 16—and then others that can do a little now and again.

Brother Nelson has taken the Finale, follow-up work and a little extension work in New Zealand. The friends there are zealously entering upon a work with the EUREKA DRAMA, and good reports are being heard of their efforts.

The Brisbane, Perth and Tasmanian brethren have also been zealous with the EUREKA DRAMA. We had hoped to have reports of results of their efforts to include with this, but have received particulars from only one in Tasmania. He has had 44 shows, with attendances of 1,560, for which he traveled 500 miles. Probably the largest EUREKA Show was at Broken Hill, where the attendance was about 1,500 at one meeting.

It is a great privilege to serve the Lord's cause and his dear flock. We realize that without his grace to help and the strength and comfort from the love of the dear friends, together with their loving assistance in every way possible, our efforts would be of no avail. What is done is the Lord's doing. His Spirit is working through his people in zeal and sacrifice; and so we swing into another year relying on the promised grace to help in every time of need; for "When I look at self I tremble, when I look to thee I'm strong."

With Christian love to all, and praying for you the wisdom from above that such arrangements may be made for the carrying on of the work of the Lord as shall best serve his cause,

Yours in the Service of Christ, R. E. B. NICHOLSON.

#### SUMMARY OF THE WORK—OCT. 31, 1915-NOV. 1, 1916.

STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES, Bound Vols. ....	21,040	
STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES, Paper Edition .....	2,136	
	23,176	
Booklets .....	3,350	26,526
PHOTO-DRAMA OF CREATION SCENARIOS, Cloth .....	811	
PHOTO-DRAMA OF CREATION SCENARIO Booklets .....	693	1,504

#### FREE LITERATURE

B. S. M., EVERYBODY'S PAPER, and and P. P. ....	843,620	
THE WATCH TOWER .....	4,118	
Hell TOWERS .....	1,341	
Debates .....	170	
Free Copies PHOTO-DRAMA lectures. ....	25,030	874,279
Letters received .....	4,371	
Letters sent out .....	5,132	

#### EXPENDITURES

Owing to Brooklyn Office, 1915 .....	£1,959:14: 3	
Pilgrim Work .....	80:12: 8	
PHOTO-DRAMA Work .....	239: 6:—	
Printing, Posting, etc., PEOPLE'S PULPIT .....	374:—:10	
Stereos, travel, etc., in connection with Publication of sermons .....	128: 3: 6	
Freight, postage, etc. ...	48: 9: 5	
Gas, rent (house and office), and Personal Expenses .....	103: 1:—	
Draft to Brooklyn on a/c		
Print Paper .....	100:—:—	
Exchange on Same .....	1: 5:—	£3,034:12:8

#### RECEIPTS

Donations received .....	£ 906: 7:10	
“ to PHOTO-DRAMA fund .....	115: 8:10	
Subscriptions to PEOPLES PULPIT .....	126:14: 4	
Subscriptions to Newspapers with Sermons .....	35:17:—	
Now Owing to Brooklyn Office .....	1,852: 4:8	£3,034:12:8

Beside the above amounts contributed to the Tract Fund and the PHOTO-DRAMA Fund there have been other expenditures, by friends in various parts in paying the local expenses of DRAMA operations. This we know to have amounted to £255. Also a considerable amount has been spent by classes operating the EUREKA DRAMA; for instance, Brisbane, Perth, Broken Hill, Hobart, Wynyard (Tasmania), and New Zealand. We had hoped to have particulars of the number of these meetings and their attendance; these have not come to hand as yet.

#### REPORT FROM FRENCH BRANCH

##### BELOVED BRETHREN:

Looking back over the past year we perceive the innumerable blessings which the Lord has shed upon us in permitting the translation of Vol. 5, STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES, the *Journal pour Tous*, containing our dear Brother Russell's sermons, four new Tracts, the Great Pyramid pamphlet and the PHOTO-DRAMA pamphlet, of which 2,000 copies have been printed on two different occasions during the year—in all, 4,000 copies. Here are assets given us by the Lord as talents to invest and to make the most of, in order that the house of God may be abundantly supplied with spiritual food. Let us show our gratitude towards God by serving him acceptably with reverence and godly fear (Hebrews 12:28); and let us value highly all the privileges given us, and remain faithful during his harvest.

In spite of our weaknesses and our poverty the Lord has nevertheless been willing to shower his blessings upon his dear work. In all departments there has been a great increase of business.

Despite many struggles and difficulties we have continually placed the work before the Lord; and he has heard our prayers. Since the work is his, it cannot fail. On the contrary, while our balance sheet closed last year with a deficit of 2208.53 Fr., this year it closed with a surplus of 729.65 Fr. We are living in a perturbed period of the world's history; and the adversary tries hard to strike us down with his poisoned arrows or with his noisome pestilence. (Psalm 91:5-7) Therefore we watch and pray, that we may have the disposition of our Lord and may banish from our hearts all that is not love.

Our report from Nov. 1 1915, to Oct. 31, 1916, follows:

Letters and cards received .....	3,740
Letters and cards sent out .....	1,884
Packages and parcels sent out .....	746
Tracts, pamphlets sent out .....	58,510
Papers distributed .....	115,000
Public lectures and presentations of the PHOTO-DRAMA .....	235
Attendance at lectures and PHOTO-DRAMA .....	51,277

#### RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

Assets—from "Good Hopes," and other sources .....	22,498.74 Fr.
Liabilities—money spent for general expenses .....	21,769.09 "
Balance on hand .....	729.65 "

The Lord has done great things for us and we owe Him our deep gratitude. As we see the diminution of "Good Hopes," partly due to the present hard times, we think that some of our blessings have not been understood by all. Is it not indeed a marvelous privilege to have the opportunity of continuing the Lord's harvest work, no matter the conditions? The Lord, seeing our faith, has supplied our needs. Thanks to important sales, we have been able to balance our accounts in a satisfactory manner. These sales, by judicious management, have supplied the deficit in the "Good Hopes" for the year.

With much Christian love and with our best wishes and greetings for you all from us all, I am,

Your brother and servant in the Lord, A. FREYTAG.

#### REPORT FROM FINLAND BRANCH

DEAR BRETHREN:—

My most affectionate regard to you. Here is my report from Dec. 15, 1915, to October 15, 1916:

LITERATURE	
STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES.....	400
First Volume (special) .....	1,609
	2,009
Booklets .....	1,772
Bibles .....	23
Subscriptions to FINNISH WATCH TOWER.....	539
"    " SWEDISH "    " .....	33
	572
WATCH TOWERS given out free.....	6,211
Kilometers traveled by Pilgrims.....	19,938
Meetings held .....	249
Convention .....	1
Letters and cards received .....	596
Total number pieces of mail sent out.....	5,751

#### EXPENDITURES

Headquarters .....	6,067:51	Fin. Mks.
Convention and meeting expenses	2,151:33	" "
WATCH TOWER (Finnish and Swedish .....	1,933:20	" "
Postage and freight .....	460:38	" "
Other expenses at Headquarters...	147:65	" "
Help to Colporteurs .....	128:05	" "
Pastor Russell's sermon in the press .....	32:35	" "
Cash on hand.....	878:37	" "
Total .....	11,798:84	" "

#### RECEIPTS

Voluntary contributions .....	6,991:55	Fin. Mks.
From Headquarters in Brooklyn...	1,961:98	" "
Books sold .....	1,789:14	" "
Other donations .....	99:55	" "
Subscriptions to WATCH TOWER...	956:62	" "
	11,798:84	" "

Four Colporteurs have been in the field part of the time, but we have been out of books for some time. Now, however, we are beginning to receive some, and more are offering their services for the Colporteur work.

Another Pilgrim and myself have been out the last few months holding meetings. The number of kilometers traveled by the other pilgrim is included in my report.

I hardly know what else to write in regard to last year's work. However, I am thankful to God that I have been privileged to have some part in the harvest field, and that the work has gotten a fresh start, after having ceased altogether in August, 1915.

Yours in Him, and by His grace,

MARTI LIESI.

## JESUS RAISES LAZARUS FROM THE DEAD

[This article was a reprint of that entitled "I Go That I May Awake Him," published in issue of April 1, 1908, which please see.]

## JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD

[This article was a reprint of that entitled "The Shepherd, the Door, the Flocks," published in issue of March 15, 1908, which please see.]

## SOME LETTERS OF INTEREST

### WILL SUPPORT AND STRENGTHEN THE HANDS

DEAR FRIENDS:—

We have already, with the class at Loveland, expressed our heart-felt sympathy and love to the dear brethren at the Bible House for their loss, as well as ours, of "that faithful servant." But we desire to assure you again of our determination to bear up, support and strengthen the hands of those left in care of the work, by prayer for their guidance, and by any other means within our power, that they may be faithful in pointing the Lord's dear sheep to the green pastures and still waters. And haven't we six of these pastures, and are they not kept green by the water of the Word, the Spirit of truth that runs through them?

In Luke 12:43, our dear Lord said, "Blessed is that servant who, when he (Christ) cometh, shall find watching . . . He will gird himself and make them to sit down to meat and will come forth and serve them." Our dear Lord came in 1874, girded to serve the whole church; but he appointed one visible servant as a steward through whom he gave his church "meat in due season."—Verse 42.

There is no question but our dear Brother Russell was that steward; and now he is gone. He finished the work given him to do this side the veil. And now that the steward is gone, what shall we do? Must we starve? The Lord says he will spread a table in the presence of our enemies. And have we not just such a table, groaning under its load of "meat in due season?"

Let us look at some of the dishes. What are they!—the six Volumes of SCRIPTURE STUDIES, Towers and Tracts. What is in them? Let us lift the covers and see. First, creation, then condemnation, law, ransom, resurrection, justification, sanctification, glorification, restitution, second death. Then we have faith, hope, love, and all the fruits and graces of the Spirit. And we asked ourselves, "Have we perfected all these fruits?" and we answered, "No." Then we went to the table and began feasting upon the food to strengthen these fruits and graces; and oh! how sweet and strengthening those viands

were to our souls! And we remembered the words of 2 Peter 1:4-8, 10, 11, that through a knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus, grace and peace are multiplied unto us, and thereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises, that by these we might be partakers of the divine nature. But there is something more; for we must, besides this, give all diligence (all our time and strength), adding to our faith (how! by feasting on these precious truths now on our table) virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, god-likeness, brotherly kindness, love. If these things be in us, and abound they make us that we will neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

So our determination is to more diligently feast at the table, that we may be filled, may abound to overflowing; for the Apostle says, "If ye do these things ye shall never fall; for so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom." This is our determination to attain this kingdom honor, and is our prayer for all spiritual Israel.

Your brother and sister by His grace,

MR. AND MRS. G. N. CHAMBERLAIN.—Colo.

### RESOLUTION TO STAND CLOSER TOGETHER

DEAR BRETHREN:—

It has been our custom in past years at our Annual Business Meetings to elect our dear Brother Russell as Pastor of the church here, but now that he is not with us in the flesh, but has entered into his reward, we can no longer do so. We have been glad to look to him for the precious "meat in due season" and for pastoral counsel through THE WATCH TOWER, SCRIPTURE STUDIES, etc. We believe him to have been God's faithful steward in supplying us with food from the store-house of God's Word.

When we think of the confusion in which we were before reading the STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES, and of the effect of these upon our hearts and lives, we testify that through the noble sacrifice of our late Pastor on our behalf, we have been led to a deeper reverence and love for God and an ever-increas-

ing faith in and love for the Bible, as God's inspired Word; to a stronger desire to be more God-like in thought and word and deed; to a fuller consecration of our lives to do the will of God and to be used in His service; to a greater love for the brethren in Christ and for the world of mankind; and to an intelligent appreciation of God's plan as revealed in his Word.

We desire to express our confidence in the wisdom of our late Pastor in selecting an Editorial Committee to carry on the good work, and rejoice in the great privilege which is yours in serving the household of faith. We convey to you our sincere Christian love and confidence, trusting that the Lord may continue to use you as faithful stewards in the interests of his people. We have full confidence in the Lord, and know that he who has led us thus far will lead us to the end; and with faces Zionward, we resolve to stand closer together in love, unity, humility and faith, under the Captain of our salvation.

Yours in the glorious hope of the High Calling of God in Christ Jesus,  
MELBOURNE ECCLESIA.—Australia.

#### WRITTEN PARTLY BEFORE AND PARTLY AFTER BROTHER RUSSELL'S DEATH

DEAR BROTHER RUSSELL:—

Christian love and greeting in our Lord and Redeemer! My desire in writing is to thank the Lord for your ministrations in spiritual things. How gloriously beautiful the truth is, in letter and spirit, as you portray it both by word and example! We thank God for you, and feel our own shortcomings, weaknesses, imperfections, and oh, such inability to perform the desires of the new mind!

Every test and trial is a special one along the line of patient endurance and love, and we fear and abhor the thought of allowing anything like a Judas spirit to lodge in our minds. We feel it so difficult to endure patiently, uncomplaining, what God sees fit to permit. The blessedness of our Advocate is very precious. "He knows, and loves, and cares. How true it is that the flesh wishes to rise from its condition of reckoned deadness!

\* \* \*

My heart is too full—I can write no more, having heard of the glorification of our beloved Pastor! Oh, we bless the Lord for his marvelous life, and earnestly crave of the Lord a greater measure of his spirit of Christ-likeness! My prayer to God is to "prefer to be where the Lord prefers me to be!" May our gracious God and Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Advocate bless and keep God's children in the faith to the end! I am

Your sister by His grace, MARGARET BODDEN.—Scotland.

#### "A MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART"

DEAR BRETHREN:—

We greet you, dear brethren in the Anointed, assuring you that we are not one whit behind the various classes and

brethren over the known world with regard to the departure of so noble a man after God's own heart. Brother Russell's character and influence knew no bounds—"the man of God," the under-shepherd of God's sheep, and our loving Pastor. Truly our hearts, like others, were disposed to shed tear drops, and though sighs of sorrow throb our hearts, yet we are confident that he has done his part and now has received his glad "Well done" from the Master's own lips.

How he and Brother Paul must be shining lights of our God! Believing that those to whom the work is now entrusted will continue under the guidance of the holy Spirit to the completion of the harvest, we will endeavor to continue our earnest prayers for you, and all the ecclesias of God in Christ, until the fruition of our hopes is reached.

GATUN ECCLESIA.—Canal Zone.

#### "LITTLE FLOCK" WILL NOT BE MISLED

DEAR BRETHREN:—

We realize with you that there is work still to be done in the "harvest" field, and we rejoice in the preparation which "that faithful servant" left for the continuance of THE WATCH TOWER for our spiritual nourishment. (Isaiah 21:6)

Seeing with what carefulness Brother Russell handled the Lord's work, we cannot do otherwise than remain loyal supporters of this work, until the waters are fully divided and we have done all the Lord has for us to do.

We rest assured that the "little flock" will not be misled, but will receive the meat in due season; for it is written (Isaiah 62:12), "A city not forsaken"; again (Matt. 28:20), "Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age." Therefore it behooves us to heed the Master's admonition (Rev. 2:10), "Be thou faithful unto death"—faithful to our covenant vows, and to do all we can both spiritually and temporally for the furtherance of the cause, in righteousness and love.

So be assured, dear Brethren, you have our prayers, our sympathy, and our love as never before, and we shall esteem it a privilege to coöperate with you as we may be able. Pray for us. With much Christian love,

Your brethren in the one hope of our calling in Christ Jesus.  
EVERETT ECCLESIA.—Wash.

#### WILL ASSIST THOSE LEADING IN THE VAN OF TRUTH

DEAR BRETHREN:—

The class here has passed a resolution to be forwarded to you to this effect. Assuring the SOCIETY of our sincere determination of loyalty to the truth to the best of our ability, and that we will assist in every way possible those responsible for and leading in the van of truth, in the harvest work and the smiting of the waters of Jordan, we cease not to pray for the collaborators and that the divine blessing may be with you.

In the name of our Lord and Master,

THE CLASS AT TOOGOLAWAH.—Australia.

## A WORD OF EXPLANATION

Some time before his death Brother Russell arranged to have a set of fifty phonograph records made of the choicest old fireside tunes, many from the MILLENNIAL DAWN HYMNAL, and on the reverse side a short talk by himself explaining the doctrinal points of the hymn. It was his thought that a large number of these should be prepared and sold to the five and ten-cent stores, expecting that they would have a wide sale and awaken in the minds of the righteously disposed a desire for spiritual things. Brother Russell was always alive to use every channel possible to send out the light and truth and each of these talks is a gem itself.

Friends who knew of his plan urged him to have the Bible Talks recorded in his own voice. This he did; but owing to his rapidly declining strength, it was later found that his voice was not strong enough to make a good record.

Brother Russell then thought to have them re-recorded by the gentleman who made the CREATION DRAMA records so great a success. Our Pastor's death, however, upset these plans.

The brethren interested in the Angelophone Company, believing that Brother Russell's friends would be very glad to have even so weak a record of his voice, continued to carry out his instructions so far as possible. Some of the friends who purchased the records, not understanding why Brother Russell's voice was so weak and low, and thinking the manufacturer at fault, complained. Others who purchased the records write that they are so well pleased that they would not be without them for a thousand dollars, if they could not secure another set. We believe that many more will take this same view when they understand all the circumstances.

In the March 1st TOWER we mentioned the fact that the Angelophone Co. is now going out of business. However, as they still have about five hundred incomplete sets of these records, and about two thousand machines, they are prepared to fill orders as long as the stock lasts. The machines have given general satisfaction, and play records of any make.

## ANGELOPHONE HYMN BOOKS

The Angelophone Co. had prepared an attractive booklet containing the above mentioned fifty hymns with music, and an appropriate talk by Brother Russell on the reverse side of each page. These have been turned over to us. Some of the

friends have found them specially appropriate for public services, occasionally presenting a copy to one who might show special interest. Two styles: Limp cover, 5c each; stiff cover, 10c each, postpaid.