

round. We get many knocks and rebuffs. The strain upon our life is often intense, and every period has its own testing processes. Childhood has its strain, its temptations to be resisted, its trials to be endured, its difficulties to be overcome. Every man in every period of his life naturally feels that he is more sorely tried than anybody else, or than he ever was before. So the grown-ups are prone to look down upon the trials of the child as unworthy of notice. We think of them as mere trifles. They are not trifles to them, and they were not trifles to us when we were passing along there. Every worker with children needs to remember this. We must look upon their trials with a sympathetic eye. We must view their temptations from child's standpoint rather than from our own.

Training the child is a tremendously responsible work. The obligations of parenthood rest most heavily here. Father and mother cannot shift this responsibility to somebody else; and, if other people would remember not to interfere with the training the parents give, it would make it easier in many a home. What a pity that every passer-by feels that he or she must contribute something toward spoiling the child! But in the face of these cross currents that play upon the life of their children from all the environments that surround them, parents must continuously, persistently, conscientiously, prayerfully, give themselves to the tremendous task of making men and women out of their boys and girls. Not to do this is to betray the greatest trust that was ever reposed in them. It is the work of the home, and is vastly more important than palatial residences and landed estates, or distinguished public services. The home has the first and best chance at saving the child.

But this does not mean that other agencies may not be employed to help the home. In fact there are some things needed that the home cannot supply. The home is the unit of social life, but it is not intended to be an isolated unit. The child cannot be brought to the best that is in it without coming in contact with other children; and, however worshipful the home may be—and God pity the home that has no sanctuary in it—yet there is an element in the public worship that cannot be brought into that home in isolation. So the Sunday-school and the Church, or rather the Church with its Sunday-school, its Epworth League, and its other organizations, has an important part to perform in this tremendous task. We have been and are doing something—how much indeed we cannot measure. What the condition of this country would be had these agencies not been at work, it is impossible for us even to conjecture. The influence has been far-reaching and tremendously helpful; and yet we grow sick at heart oftentimes when we see how far short they fall of what might be done.

If every worker in the Sunday-school would take his work seriously, if he would only make it a real part of his life, if he would give to it the same thought and effort that he does to make a success of his secular affairs, if he would strive as earnestly to equip himself for it as he does for his profession, if the inherent forces of the manhood and womanhood of the Church could only be brought with their full force under the guidance of the Holy Spirit upon this work of the spiritual development of the rising generation, what an unspeakable impetus it would give to the cause of truth and righteousness in the earth! Every department of life would feel the thrill of it. The reflex influence would come back to the home with tremendous power. It would be felt in the realm of civil life. It would cleanse and purify the business world. Social life would feel its uplift, and the problems that hang about us, like weights about our necks, would dissolve away like mists before the rising sun. Why will we not put Christ really in the centre of our life? Why

will we not rally to the Sunday-school—to the Church—as one man, and do our part in bringing all men into that relation with Christ that will make each man a brother to every other man? This would do vastly more to solve our problems than all the economic and social theories that men are clamoring for today.

### The Joint Commission Reports

The Joint Commission on the Unification of American Methodism that held its third sitting at Savannah, Ga., January 23-February 6, 1918, has submitted its report to the Church. It is a document of sixteen pages and, as reported last week, is in an unfinished condition. It is so reported that the Church may know what has been "tentatively" agreed upon and what has been merely suggested but not yet acted upon by the Commission. They propose to meet again on April 10 in St. Louis, Mo., when action of some sort will probably be had on the parts of the suggested plan that have not yet been acted on by the Commission. We shall lay this report before our readers as soon as our space will permit, for it is a matter of vital interest to all of our membership. We hope that our readers will study it carefully and weigh the probable consequences that they may come to a reasonable conclusion as to its merits or demerits. We have not yet had sufficient opportunity to study it to give expression to our own views upon its provisions. We shall expect to do so in an early issue of the Advocate.

### Receipts for Purchase of Stock

Reported by Joseph G. Brown, Treas.  
 Fayetteville District: J. T. Gibbs, P. E.  
 Farkton Circuit .....\$45.00  
 Duke Charge ..... 25.00  
 Raleigh District: J. E. Underwood, P. E.  
 Granville Circuit .....\$ 2.00

The above is cash, not subscriptions, and we will be pleased to report other amounts as they may be sent in. Nothing will be reported except cash. Let each presiding elder remit to Jos. G. Brown, Treas., Raleigh, N. C., as rapidly as it can be collected.

### Mostly Personal.

Rev. S. T. Moyle, Farmville, has been visiting friends and relatives in Nashville N. C.

Rev. J. W. Autry requests us to say that his postoffice address is changed from Cove City to Clarks, N. C.

Rev. E. C. Few, pastor of our Church at Roanoke Rapids, occupied the pulpit at Weldon on a recent Sunday morning.

Bishop James Atkins is giving much of his time to the Methodist Missionary Centenary Commission. For the next two months or more his address will be 810 Broadway, Nashville, Tenn.

President W. P. Few has been elected a member of the Board of Trustees of the Jeanes Foundation in New York City. Chancellor Barrow, of the University of Georgia, is Chairman of the Board.

W. I. Underwood, son of Rev. J. E. Underwood, had a sinking spell the latter part of last week and his friends feared that the end was near, but he was improved at the last report, which was Monday of this week.

The Methodists of Sanford have finished paying for their new Church, and now we understand that they are moving to install a new pipe organ soon. Rev. W. R. Royall is the enterprising pastor of our Church at that point.

The Maryland legislature has ratified the Federal Prohibition Constitutional Amendment. This is the second "wet" State to ratify the amendment, and the sixth State altogether that has set its seal to it. The movement is moving.

It is stated that work on the new Methodist Church at Calypso will be resumed about March 1st. The Church at that place is much needed, and we understand that this one when completed will be one of the most beautiful in that section of the State.

The Methodist and Baptist Churches at Plymouth have been holding union services on Sunday evenings recently. Rev. E. N. Harrison is pastor of our Church at that point, and preached at the union service in the Baptist Church on a recent Sunday evening.

Rev. J. G. Johnson requests us to say that he has moved from Selma to Smithfield. Those who wish to address him will please do so at the latter place. He has recently organized a new Church at Carter's school house near Rain's Cross Roads. A new building will soon be erected there.

Rev. Andrew E. Clement, of Nashville, who during the past few months has been engaged in college campaign work, raising funds for schools of our Church, has entered the war work service of the Y. M. C. A. He is Religious Work Director of the Army and Navy Y. M. C. A. at Charleston, S. C.

We regret to see that Dr. M. Bolton, of Rich Square, has been unwell and found it necessary to go to a Richmond hospital for treatment. We are glad to report, however, that he is now much improved and it is hoped that he will soon be entirely well. Dr. Bolton is one of the most faithful men in our Church.

We feel a personal sense of loss in the going of Prof. F. P. Wyche, who has been for several years at the head of the Training School at Spartanburg, S. C. Prof. Wyche gave his life to the teaching profession, and during our pastorate at Laurinburg from 1900-1904 he was principal of a private school there. He was a man of sterling worth, of unswerving integrity, of loyalty to principle and duty, and was always ready to render a service whenever it was in his power to do so. To his wife and son who survive him we extend our sincere sympathy.

It is hard to get ahead of Dr. Gibbs, presiding elder of the Fayetteville District. The last session of our Conference voted to purchase the stock of the Raleigh Christian Advocate that has heretofore been privately owned. The amount was apportioned to the Districts and the presiding elders were requested to raise the money. Dr. Gibbs was the first to respond with a payment on this fund as will be seen in another column. It is important that this money be reported as rapidly as possible. Let us see who will be the first to raise the full amount apportioned his district.

Rev. James W. Lee, Chaplain of Barnes Hospital, has been invited by the McMillan Company, Publishers, New York, to prepare a book for them on the subject of Jerusalem. The volume will, perhaps, be entitled, "The Romance of Jerusalem." The McMillans are the most influential publishers among English-speaking people. They bring out all their books in elegant form. A book on Jerusalem at this time will certainly have a great circulation. Dr. Lee has written three books on Jerusalem already, known as the "Footsteps of the Man of Galilee," "The Romance of Palestine," and "The History of Jerusalem." The first named has had the largest circulation of any book ever published on Palestine. It was first brought out in portfolio form, and sent as premiums by one leading daily paper in each of the great cities in the United States and Great Britain, and thus the circulation of the work has been without any parallel on the subject of Palestine.