

# THE PRESBYTERIAN

OF THE SOUTH  
COMBINING  
THE SOUTHWESTERN PRESBYTERIAN  
THE CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN  
THE SOUTHERN PRESBYTERIAN

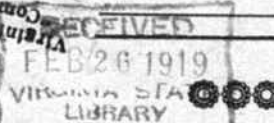
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## Editorial Notes and Comment



LACK of interest in church work on the part of the members of the church is often felt by pastors and other leaders in this work. In most cases this is due to lack of information. People are rarely much interested in subjects of which they know little. Information is the foundation of inspiration and inspiration is the foundation of effort. The pastor is the only source of information for most of his people in regard to the general work of the Church. He may and should occasionally preach a sermon on missions or on some other part of the work, and as he visits from home to home he may talk about this work sometimes. But to give all the information needed would require more time than he has for all of his preaching and pastoral work. His first duty is to deal with the spiritual affairs of his people. He should win men to Christ and build them up in their faith. The best and the only practical way to furnish this information and inspiration to all the Church is through the Church papers. They go into the home every week. They carry their messages to all the family. We believe that every session should recognize the responsibility resting upon them in this connection and make an earnest effort to see that a good Church paper is found in every home. If the people were in need of food, every effort possible would be put forth to supply the need. Many souls are hungering for the food that would be supplied by such a paper, and their spiritual lives are failing of development because of a lack of it. Elders, think about this.

STEWARDSHIP is sometimes contracted in its meaning and made to apply to the use of money only. The steward is not only expected to use properly money entrusted to him, but his time and his faculties of body and mind belong to his master. Paul commends the Macedonian Christians for their use of their money, and calls attention to the explanation of it. They "first gave their own selves to the Lord." If all Christians would thoroughly and honestly do this, there would be no need to make strenuous efforts to get people to work for God or to give for His cause. "Consecrate yourselves today to the Lord, . . . that he may bestow upon you a blessing this day."—Ex. 32:29.

PROHIBITION having been accomplished in this country and the brewers having been driven out of business, we are informed that some of them are moving their machinery to China, expecting to establish their business in that country. The Chinese were an opium-smoking race, but they have driven opium out of their land. They have never been a nation drinking beer or other strong drinks. Shall American brewers degrade those people by making and selling them the beer and other li-

quors? They will do it if they can. The best way to counteract their influence is to increase largely and at once the number of Christian missionaries sent to the Celestial Empire. One of our own missionaries was largely instrumental in awaking the government and the people to the curse of opium, so that the expulsion of the opium traffic was secured. American missionaries will be the most efficient fighters to put American brewers out of business in China.

Often churches complain that they are not given credit for their contributions when the trouble was that the treasurer delayed sending in the money in his hands, so that it reached the committee after its books were closed for the year. It will be well not to wait for the collections of the last Sunday in the year. They can be sent later, but send as soon as possible all the money in the treasury for the various causes.

WOMEN of the Church do much of the work, especially what may be termed the personal work. Men work at their business and give money for the support of the work of the Church, but most of the work which involves dealing with individuals is done by women. What better work can the faithful women of our Church do than to see that as far as possible a good Church paper is subscribed for by every family in their churches? At this time of the year many societies are trying to raise money enough to meet all their obligations and to reach the goal of the budget adopted. Much hard work is often done to reach this end. The Presbyterian of the South will help the ladies. If they will secure some new subscribers for this paper, we give one-half of all the money they receive, upon these conditions: The subscriber must be one who is not taking the paper and who does not take the place of another subscriber. He must pay \$2 for the paper for a year. This gives the ladies a commission of \$1 for each new subscriber. For a little work two results will follow, the families of the new subscribers will be greatly helped and money will be made for other work.

CHURCH officers are now planning their budgets for the new Church year beginning April 1st. These are to be provided for in the Every-Member Canvass which is to be made in most churches during the latter part of March. One of the items that is to be provided for is the pastor's salary. Church officers are generally the leading business men of the Church. Let them look at this matter as they would at matters connected with their business. If the pastor is doing the work that he has been called to do, he is certainly entitled to at least a comfortable living. If he is not getting it, an increase of his salary should be included in the budget. If he is not doing the work of the church satisfactorily, do not try to starve him and his family in order to force him to leave. Have the courage and the brotherly love to go to him and talk to him about it. You will find it will help wonderfully. If he still does not prove satisfactory, at your suggestion he will seek another field. But do not starve him. God has blessed you. In return bless and provide for him who ministers to you for God in response to your call.

### The Lord's Prayer

(The following beautiful composition was captured during the Civil War at Charleston, S. C., by an Indiana soldier. The dingy, time-worn paper on which it was written, evidently with a goose quill pen, bore the date of July 4, 1823. The author is unknown.)

Thou to the mercy-seat our souls doth gather,  
To do our duty unto Thee—OUR FATHER,  
To whom all praise, all honor should be given;  
For Thou art the great God—WHO ART IN  
HEAVEN,  
Thou, by Thy wisdom rul'st the world's whole  
frame,  
Forever, therefore—HALLOWED BE THY  
NAME.  
Let nevermore delay divide us from  
Thy glorious face, but let—THY KINGDOM  
COME.  
Let Thy commands opposed be by none,  
But Thy good pleasure and—THY WILL BE  
DONE.  
And let our promptness to obey be even  
The very same—ON EARTH AS IT IS IN  
HEAVEN.  
Then for our souls, O Lord, we also pray,  
Thou would'st be pleased to—GIVE US THIS  
DAY  
The food of life, wherewith our souls are fed,  
Sufficient raiment, and—OUR DAILY BREAD;  
With every needful thing do Thou relieve us,  
And of Thy mercy, pity—AND FORGIVE US  
All our misdeeds, for Him whom Thou didst please  
To make an offering, for OUR TRESPASSES;  
And forasmuch, O Lord, as we believe  
That Thou wilt pardon us—AS WE FORGIVE,  
Let that love teach, wherewith Thou dost acquaint  
us,  
To pardon—THOSE WHO TRESPASS AGAINST  
US,  
And though sometimes, Thou find'st we have forgot  
This love for Thee, yet help—AND LEAD US  
NOT  
Through soul of body's want to desperation,  
Nor let earth's gain drive us—INTO TEMPTA-  
TION;  
Let not the soul of any true believer  
Fall in the time of trial—BUT DELIVER,  
Yea save them from the malice of the devil,  
And both in life and death, keep—US FROM  
EVIL.  
Thus pray we, Lord, for that of Thee, from whom  
This may be had—FOR THINE IS THE  
KINGDOM,  
This world is of Thy works, its wondrous story  
To Thee belongs—THE POWER AND THE  
GLORY,  
And all Thy wondrous works have ended never,  
But will remain forever, and—FOREVER,  
Thus we poor creatures would confess again,  
And thus would say eternally—AMEN.

CHURCH treasurers are usually busy men, but it is only busy men who usually find time to do things promptly. The church year will close on the 31st of March. The books of the various committees in charge of the general work of the church will close on that day.