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THE

MISSIONARY SURVEY



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HOME MISSIONS

FOREIGN MISSIONS

MAY, 1922

CHRISTIAN
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THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U.S.
AT HOME AND ABROAD



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Many of our families go back to Italy again. Several have gone this last summer. And when they came to say good-bye, and I put the Gospel in their hands as a parting gift to take back to the homeland with them, who can say what the result may be? God has said, "My Word shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it

shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." So inasmuch as we believe His word, we will continue, "In the morning sow thy seed and in the evening withhold not thine hand, for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good." Christ also said, "Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me."

"CARRYING ON" AT HOME

Mrs. J. A. KOHOUT

(About two years ago East Hanover Presbytery granted Rev. J. A. Kohout, our pastor among Czecho-Slovaks in Prince George County, Virginia, leave of absence to labor among his own people in Czecho-Slovakia. His salary was to be continued, but out of it a supply for his churches was paid. Mrs. Kohout tells in this article something of the work at home while Mr. Kohout was in Europe.)

Among the first things which we did was to take our Heavenly Father at His word. Our salary was small, and we realized it to be insufficient for us to exist upon. Two of the older children were to go back to college, but for the sake of their father's work overseas, were ready to abandon the idea and help support the family. But God in His goodness provided a way by which I could keep the family, that is those who remained at home, and a way opened also for the two older children to go back to college. Our older daughter was given a position by the president of the college, which paid her board and room; and another younger daughter received a loan which she is paying up this year, by teaching.

I was asked by the Superintendent of public schools to teach school near our home. I would never have asked for another school, but on the roll of this one all but about three were Czecho-Slovak children, among whom I was able on account of knowing the language, to do (as I was told by the Superintendent) what another teacher could not have done. Especially did I

try to impress the great truths of the Bible upon their little minds wherever opportunity presented itself. In this way I received a salary, which helped towards our support.

Perhaps to some it would seem that there would not be much time left for religion, after doing one's duty in secular instruction, but it is surprising how much can be done in that way without encroaching on the time of the other. I was not the pioneer of the work, however, at this school, as my daughter had already dug the way, having taught the school three years before. Nevertheless, here was a great opportunity for further influence of the Gospel on the lives of the school children.

I entered into this work with heart and soul. It is surprising how much instruction can be put into fifteen minutes of time allotted the teacher for morning devotional exercises with the pupils. A Christian friend of mine, to whom I am very much indebted, used to send me regularly the large Sunday-school picture rolls, and it is impossible to describe the interest manifested by every child in the different pictures and the lessons which these pictures conveyed to the hearts of the children.

From the older ones down to the little seven year old tots, the picture story with its lessons could be told. At times the children would be urged to learn the Golden Texts for their coming Sunday-school lessons. A ques-

tion or two a day would be taught them from the catechism also the names of the books of the Bible were memorized, and many gospel songs.

At times when there was no one to lead our Sunday-services the lot fell to me. I also had a Sunday-school for my school children in our little school building. Could this little building talk it would have many a touching incident to tell.

The older pupils were so anxious to have the young beginners make progress in their work, that each would have charge over one of the little ones and would do all in his power to help him along.

A kindly spirit prevailed among the pupils and not only were they kind to each other, but they became gentle and kind to birds and animals. A little bird that had built its nest near the door of the porch of the school house,

hatched its little birds without being disturbed.

As I was returning to the school one morning, the train for some reason could not be stopped, but carried me past the station to another stop, where I had to wait for another train to take me back. By the time I could get to the school it was long past the starting time. Everything was quiet inside of the school room, and I thought of course that the children had all gone to their homes. Imagine my surprise when I opened the school house door, and there found all the children sitting quietly in their seats, and under the supervision of two of the older pupils the work was going on just as if I had been there, even to the Devotional exercises.

Such is the influence of the Gospel on the lives of those who come under its light.
Centralia, Virginia.

THE SILENCE OF GOD

"God who at sundry times and by divers manners spake in time past . . . hath in these last days spoken . . . by His Son." Heb. 1:1, 2.

Jehovah saith no more. The voice of God hath ceased.
No more by vision or by dream, by prophet or by priest,
By ephod or by teraphim, by angel or by star,
By altar or by sacrifice,—He speaketh from afar.

Jehovah saith no more. Why should He speak again
When His last word is echoing yet within the ears of men?
But they refuse to hear, and through the flying days
They eat and drink and buy and sell, and go their careless ways.

No more,—He saith no more; the silent heavens wait;
The silent agents keep their watch beside the open gate;
The silent Christ bends low with tender, pitying face,
To see if one more soul on earth will seek God's offered grace.

Jehovah saith no more. His last great Word is said,
Till from the earth and sea His voice shall call the dead;
Till like the thunder's peal His judgment word is hurled,
To shake with awful wrath the unbelieving world.

But now His voice is still. Oh, ye whose hearts have heard,
Ye are the voice of God to speak His gracious word;
Repeat it to the sons of men though they the call ignore;
For save as ye shall speak His word Jehovah saith no more.
—Annie Johnson Flint, in *The Missionary*