

decide the matter we suggest that a Bible study class has been following the usual style of studying a chapter brought in contest with a class which has been using the best described method of Berean Bible study. Let the classes take up any Bible topic that may be suggested; it will soon be ascertained that those who have been following our Berean Bible study plan know ten or twenty times as much about the Bible on every subject.

STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES have not sought to follow

any human creed or theory, but merely to bring together the various Scriptures on a subject and to find the harmonious view reflected from these various passages. The method has proved itself so satisfactory to those who have tried it, that they would not now think of using any other method of Bible study, considering that all other methods are of little value in comparison. Nevertheless, the matter is purely for the individual or the class to determine which is for its own best interests, which will serve its purpose best.

### DEDICATION OF "THE TEMPLE"—NEW YORK CITY

Contractors promise to have "The Temple" ready for use on Sunday, December 7. The services for the opening will be a little out of the ordinary. So far as the opening is concerned it will be Dedication Day. As respects the congregation it will be Thanksgiving Sunday. The program will include the entire day. The opening service will begin at 10:30 a. m. The Pastor, Brother Russell, will give the address.

At 2 p. m. there will be a Symposium in which several members of the Peoples Pulpit Association will participate, the topic being "Thankfulness." Its various phases will be discussed.

At 4 p. m. there will be a general Praise and Testimony

Meeting.

At 8 p. m. the Pastor, Brother Russell, will give an address, closing what, we trust, will be a very pleasant and very profitable day of spiritual refreshment.

As it is anticipated that numbers of THE WATCH TOWER readers will want to be present at these services, coming from surrounding cities and villages, it is proposed that no public advertising be done, so that we may have plenty of room for comfort and fellowship. Of course, the Brooklyn Tabernacle will be closed for the entire day.

All WATCH TOWER readers and their interested friends are cordially invited to this house-warming. "Seats free and no collection."

### 1913—ANNUAL REPORT—1913 WATCH TOWER BIBLE AND TRACT SOCIETY DECEMBER 1, 1912—DECEMBER 1, 1913.

Permit the balancing of our accounts and the rendering of the same before the first of the year, it is our custom to start a new financial year on December 1st. The sum total of the work reported a year ago was so large for us that we doubted whether it could not be our banner year. Additionally, the threats and enemies were heard on every hand. They boasted that another year our Society's work would be stopped. The basis of this threat was their intended and already begun campaign of slander, abuse, misrepresentation—anything to stop us. In closing our last year's Report we said: "Do not be fearful of the great adversary's roar, when he roars like a roaring lion he would seek to intimidate us. 'Be of courage, and the Lord shall strengthen thine heart.' "

#### OUR MOST SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Be sure that our readers are awaiting this report with interest. Wonderful as it may seem, it is our privilege to report that the past year has been in every way our most successful one. The more the Lord permitted our enemies to do, the more did he strengthen and comfort our hearts in the evidences of his favor. He demonstrated that he who is on our side is mightier than all that be against us.

Indeed, we have had various evidences that the vicious attack upon our ministers has had an effect the very reverse of what was intended. The public have seen the adversary's weakness manifested; and even worldly people know the difference between the Spirit of Christ—the spirit of meekness, the spirit of love—and the contrary spirit of Satan—the spirit of malice, envy, evil-speaking, strife. If God sees best to awaken his children to thought by the wolfish growling of some of our representatives of the Great Shepherd, it is not for our question the divine wisdom, but to say with the Master, "For which my Father hath poured, shall I not drink?"

the Editor alone in these experiences. While he is the target, all identified with the work in a public way are marked for those described by the Psalmist: "They will shoot their arrows, even bitter words, that they may hit in secret at the perfect." (Psalm 64:3, 4) Surely all rejoice in the privilege granted us of sharing in the blessings of Christ. "For if we suffer with him, we

shall also reign with him." And if our sufferings be the way by which the Lord would attract and bless others of his true sheep, we may surely, with the Apostle Paul, "glory in tribulations also."—Romans 5:3.

#### CLASS EXTENSION WORK

One of the most encouraging features of the work is the zeal manifested in various quarters in the Class Extension Work. Hundreds of dear brethren, backed by the classes with which they are associated, have gone forth as evangelists. They have held meetings in cities, towns and villages in the vicinity of the class home. They have broken a good deal of new ground in this way, have corrected misapprehension in respect to our Gospel message, and have brought a considerable number to full consecration to the Lord and to great joy and blessing in the knowledge of the truth.

It is now two years since this work started; and this year, for your encouragement, we must give some figures. The friends in thirty states have joined in this work. The average number of speakers per month throughout the twelve months was 105; 3,050 meetings were reported, with an attendance of 91,881. The cost of these meetings as reported by the classes was \$8,546.61. This amount does not appear in our Report, except about 10 per cent. The classes rejoiced in the privilege of financing their meetings, and only in a few instances was the Society's help needed. Of course, the Society furnished the literature used at these meetings, which with freight and expressage was no small item.

We trust that this noble work will go on, and that the Lord's blessing will continue with it. We sometimes term it the "Layman's Home Missionary Movement." We observe that the classes participating in this work most vigorously are usually the most blessed of the Lord spiritually, as well as numerically. And undoubtedly all who thus serve as evangelists receive a great blessing in their hearts from the Lord. In the interests of those classes that feel that a repetition of the Class Extension Work would not be wise, or that feel that they have speakers or financial strength which they can furnish for Sunday work at greater distances from their homes, we have recently proposed an "Auxiliary Pilgrim Service." We trust that this may prove a means of blessing and furtherance of the work during the year just begun.

#### OUR CORRESPONDENCE DEPARTMENT

With literature in thirty different languages, distributed in large quantities, it is not surprising that we have a large correspondence. Our Brooklyn office keeps thirty typewriters busy, besides our multigraph machines.

Total letters received during the year . . . . . 184,825

Total number of letters dispatched during the year . . . . . 481,521

These figures do not represent the correspondence of the various branches. More and more the dear friends are learn-