

And those elements are three : a recognized need ; a sufficient supply ; a touch bridging the space between the two.

It is like an electrified body and a non-electrified body. Lay a steel bar between the two, and what happens ?

It is like a dry lake-basin and the ocean. Dig a canal between the two, and what happens ?

It is like a cold room and a room with a fire in it. Open the door between, and what happens ?

Never for one moment think that your God has to be importuned to give you anything that is for your good. If it is what you need, and you ask it, however falteringly, He cannot—I say it reverently—He cannot help giving.—Amos R. Wells, in *Bible Miniatures*.

A Day in the Dispensary

By Dr. John A. McDonald

To-day the doors were opened at the usual hour, and the preacher spoke for about three-quarters of an hour to those who were gathered in the waiting-room.

The patients were taken in order, and the same difficulties as usual were encountered in finding out the duration of the illness. In one case the question, "How long have you had that sore on your leg ?" was asked six times before a definite answer could be obtained. Often a definite answer cannot be obtained. In the case just mentioned the trouble had been going on for six months. Chinese doctors had been called and, instead of helping, had made the leg worse, and, as a final resort, the poor man had decided to try the foreign doctor. The leg was covered with a very favorite native ointment resembling tar in consistency, and which took several precious minutes to clean off. The washing done, the ulcer was dressed and the patient given strict orders not to undo it, until he should return. The next patient had a boil on his finger. His treatment previous to coming was a poultice of manure. He was told to clean this off outside. Then his finger was washed and dressed.

Closely following on these, were several cases where malaria, untreated for years, had

left its mark. Medicine was put up for these, and a few words spoken as to the necessity of mosquito nets, etc.

Amongst the most difficult and unsatisfactory cases to treat are those of tubercular hip. To-day there were two. One of them was from Chin Lin and was able to walk, but the other was carried on his mother's back for a distance of three miles. The parents were told of the necessity of long, persistent treatment to which they readily assented, but I fear they will tire ere long and stop coming. The next patient was a small boy whose father had carried him over the hills in a basket. He had a sore leg which required opening, to which the father readily agreed, for, not long since, a slight operation had given immediate relief to the little fellow's brother. After the leg had been carefully washed, I made a small opening which at the time caused considerable pain, and tears flowed as freely as the pus. Before leaving, however, there was a smile on the patient's face.

With twenty-seven patients to put up medicine for or dress, I did not have much opportunity to drop a personal message. Still it was done as far as possible, and as I closed the door, I was thankful that I had been of some service, and that some few had heard the message of salvation.

Kongmoon, South China

"The Birds Came"

"The birds came." The birds always follow the sower, and when a seed lies within sight they pick it up. The wicked one "snatcheth away that which hath been sown". So nothing comes of the seed which falls on the trodden road. The lesson at this point is very practical. It teaches our responsibility for the receiving of the truth which touches our life, in whatever way it is brought to us. When we read or listen we should let the word into our heart. We should give attention to it. We should see that it is fixed in our memory. "Thy word have I laid up in my heart," said an old psalm writer. "Give God a chance . . . His seed gets no fair opportunity in a life which is like a trafficking highroad."—Selected