

The
Wargeli Booth
Collection

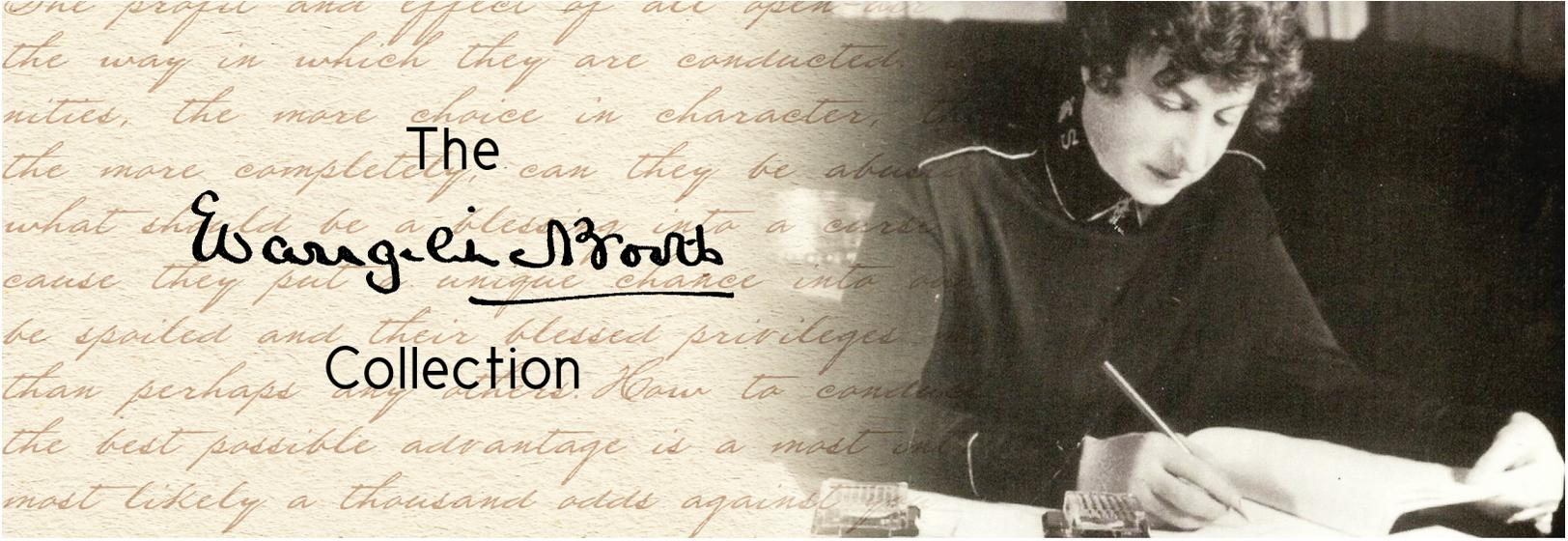
THE ANNIVERSARY OF MY FATHER'S DEATH

A Call to Prayer and Service

My Dear Comrades:

One year ago you wept with me and comforted me over the death of our beloved and glorified General. I thanked you at the time for this beautiful token of your love; and I thank you again from my very heart's depths on this, the first anniversary of his translation to Heaven after a life's battles so nobly fought and so wonderfully won. I thank you for the prayers you have continued to offer and for the messages you have sent, which have been, and are, a source of constant support amid the din of conflict, and will live to be in the distant years to come.

During these days in August my constant thought has been upon him, and my heart has been stormed with a thousand impulses toward the highest and noblest ideals that came to us – the people he founded – through his Christ-consecrated and God-crowned life, and I feel constrained at this, the first anniversary of the death of the father of our movement, to send forth a call for prayer - real, desperate, thorn-gripping prayer for ourselves, the deepening of our own spiritual life, for our more complete consecration to the purposes of God for the Salvation of the lost, for the stirring up of the real missionary spirit among us, that the "fields white unto harvest," both at home and abroad, may have a new accession of skilled reapers. Our noble and brave General is making herculean efforts to more adequately missionize and salvationize those in far-off lands who are still languishing in the superstition and spiritual deadness of heathendom. Various countries are contributing of their consecrated sons and daughters to this great object, and I cannot but feel that there is not any of our late operations so meeting his dying ambitions for both the world and The Army as the host of young men and women who have abandoned themselves to his sacred purpose. What is America going to do? No one realizes more keenly than I the ever-pressing claims of our own large field, but I cannot contemplate America taking no part in this, The Army's world-wide contribution for the further missioning of the heathen, and therefore ask for at least fifty volunteers for foreign service to be in readiness for dedication upon our General's visit in November.



The countries from which the cry sounds the loudest at the moment are Korea, India, Java, Japan and China.

Pray about it! Ask God on your knees, as our first General did, if you are serving where He can put your life to the very best possible advantage for eternity.

He himself does not need our prayers. For him the cross has been exchanged for the crown; life's battles have been fought and life's victories won. But his spirit remains with us as a priceless and precious asset in our arduous warfare. The memory of his wonderful life and the perpetual inspiration of his mighty accomplishments will over and over again infuse new nerve and courage into us when we are sorely pressed and likely to go down in the hard struggle. And surely every Salvationist will feel especially this month the urgings of his great example to break asunder all selfish ties and at the Cross learn their place in the battle for the helping and saving of the poor, the afflicted, the spiritually lame, and halt, and blind, whom he so specially loved, and to whose welfare he dedicated the unselfish and untiring zeal of his long life-time.

Again I say, pray about it! Pray for others whose weakness is making them to hold back, whose timidity is making them afraid, whose love of home is making them to feign blindness to the Holy Spirit's leadings, for God can give strength, courage, consolation, and, indeed, supply all our needs; but most of all pray for yourself, making sure you are where you ought to be!

(Aug. 16th, 1913)