ARE WE GIVING TOO MUCH CREDENCE TO CHRISTMAS?

By THE EDITOR

With the approaching return of the festive season, so lavishly patronized and so highly commercialized in the world about us, Seventh-day Adventists would do well to ask themselves, Do we give too much credence to the universally celebrated festival of Christmas?

The messages of the Apocalypse which make us a separate and distinct people in the world constitute primarily a call out of Babylon—"Come out of her, My people." We are called upon to renounce entirely her pagan traditions and practices, several of which are deeply entrenched in the ritual of the so-called Christian churches of today.

The observance of Sunday as the Christian Sabbath is of pagan origin, branded with the imprint, "The wild solar holiday of all pagan times." Hence we discard it entirely as having no Biblical authority or sanction.

Likewise the observance of Good Friday and Easter Sunday, so tenaciously cherished by the great majority in Christendom today, yet without any scriptural authority. These so-called Christian festivals date back to the days of Nineveh and Babylon. Easter has been celebrated among the pagans as the festival of the queen of heaven, "the goddess with ten thousand names," to whom a great festival was made by burning incense, pouring libations, and offering cakes, etc., so strongly denounced by the prophet Jeremiah. (See chapters 7: 18; 44: 17.)

Concerning the observance of Christmas, we have an endless number of authorities who tell us of its pagan origin. The magazine Sunday states:

"So you think Christmas is a Christian holiday, ... and you fondly believe that the traditional holly, bells, yule-log, Christmas tree, cards, Santa Claus, and holiday festivities are symbolic relics of early Christian Christmas days. "You are largely mistaken. As a matter of fact, most of the modern Christmas celebration is of pagan origin or encumbered with non-Christian customs. Even December 25, supposedly the birthday of our Lord, is a debatable fact."—Sunday magazine, December, 1946, page 36.

Why do Christians wait until December 25 to sing about the nativity of the world's Redeemer, when any day of the year would be just as appropriate? Historians agree that Christ could not have been born on December 25:

"At the birth of Christ every woman and child was to go to be taxed at the city where to they belonged, whither some had long journeys; but the middle of winter was not fitting for such a business, especially for women with child, and children, to travel in. Therefore Christ could not be born in the depths of winter. Again, at the time of Christ's birth, the shepherds lay abroad watching with their flocks in the nighttime; but this was not likely to be in the middle of winter. And if any shall think the winter wind was not so extreme in these parts, let him remember the words of Christ in the gospel, 'Pray ye that your flight be not in the winter.' If the winter was so bad a time to flee in, it seems no fit time for shepherds to lie in the fields and women and children to travel in."—"The Two Babylons," Alexander Hislop, page 92.

It was the Roman Catholic Church that introduced this pagan festival into the Christian church. It is a relic of paganism, though baptized with a Christian name. "In the fifth century, the Western church ordered it [Christmas] to be celebrated for ever on the..."
day of the old Roman feast of the birth of Sol, as no certain knowledge of the birth of Christ existed."—Encyclopaedia Americana, Vol. VI, page 726.

In their writings, Roman Catholics chide Protestants, and rightly so, for recognizing this festival which is a creation of the Roman Catholic Church. We quote:—

"Non-Catholic Christians for the most part are celebrating the feast with the paraphernalia which the Catholic Church has provided. They do not hesitate to enshrine a madonna on their Christmas cards, although they will not have her in their churches."—"Our Sunday Visitor," December 24, 1944, article, "Christmas Is a Catholic Feast."

Some of the "paraphernalia" which they brought over was the burning of candles, as is published in "The Two Babylons." The candles, in some parts of England, lighted on Christmas eve and used so long as the festive season lasts, were equally lighted by the pagans on the eve of the festival of the Babylonian god, to do homage to their own god. This was one of the distinguishing peculiarities of his worship to have lighted wax candles on his altar."—"The Two Babylons," page 97.

It is with no intention of detracting from the Nazi-Fascist rule, that we speak of the advent movement, because Christ into this world, that we set forth these historical facts. The tidings of the birth of Christ were heralded by the angels, intoxicating the wonderful significance of His birth. The gift of heaven on our behalf should constantly be in our minds and daily be meditated upon.

Much of the writing of the servant of God, Mrs. E. G. White, is devoted to the theme, "Unto us a child is born." The theme is exhaustless and we need to think upon it much more than we do. But let us keep this thought uppermost in our minds or heathen significance. Let us worship Him in the beauty of holiness, and honour Him with our gifts.

Upon this subject Sister E. G. White wrote:—

"There is no divine sanctity resting upon the 25th of December, and it is not pleasing to God that anything so profane should be placed in the Lord's treasury. . . . Let every one remember the offerings. Let every one remember the services, and everyone, was talking eloquently on behalf of his testimony.

How could the brethren do otherwise than enjoy the meetings, which were so filled with spiritual power? If there was need for a diversity in the order of service, there was always music—glorious gospel music at hand to lift our spirits and inspire devotion to God. Charles Keymer and C. H. Lauts prepared most excellently the knowledge so that this music was effective and sweet to the hearers. The whole as a whole was as one. The meeting was the meeting of God Himself.

Tracing the work of the Holy Spirit in the human life from the moment when the soul first becomes convicted of sin and committed to the Lord, to the time when the soul is converted and transformed, it is the very best seemed to be saved to the last. L. K. Dickson's series of studies on "The Holy Spirit and the Latter Rain" and H. Branson's stirring messages on "The Lord's Work Is the Work of the Lord," have invited us into the presence of God Himself.

The delegates did not lose interest in the messages of the conference at any time. The meetings and had enjoyed them all. The president said that he had been to eighty meetings and had enjoyed them all. The president of a local conference in North America testified publicly that he had attended seventy-eight of the meetings and had enjoyed them all. The glowing comments were pleasing and edifying.

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ordinance of humility and the Lord's supper were a high mark of the conference. Then came an inspiring testimony meeting. These services lasted for three hours, from two in the afternoon until five. Then the delegates hurried to their rooms to prepare for the Sabbath—the last glorious day of all.

Friday night Pastor Branson spoke. At the conclusion of his revival sermon the workers seemed compelled by the power of God to dedicate themselves to the work of reaching the great truths of the Bible to our churches and to the world.

Sabbath morning at eleven o'clock the Sligo church was packed as J. L. McElhany, former General Conference president, offered his impressions of the conference. The attendance in the afternoon and in the evening service was likewise overflowing. When finally the inspiring Voice of Prophecy rally was ended, the workers left the building with the messages ringing in their ears and welling up in their hearts.

Bible or parts of it could be obtained in seven different languages. Today it is spoken in 70 different languages. India paper. I sent the full translation to London by air, in a sealed biscuit tin. It arrived safely in three days, costing $14.6d. per copy. There's a type for the first two, but butterflies don't pay. The Bible Society comes to you with the message, 'The Word of God is not bound.'

The second illustration comes from India. The 'trouble' there was not homelessness but helplessness. At Allahabad I stood on the banks of the Ganges, offering them free to all the Word of God. The man who drew it was sketching in London. It arrived safely in three days, costing $11.4s. for freight, which I thought well worth it, seeing how precious the manuscript was to the Bible workers and the Bible Society.

This must suffice for the context. Now by way of text let us look at 2 Tim. 2:2: 'I suffer trouble; but the Word of God is not bound.' If you have boarded trains and planes to return home to attend a conference, or to participate in one, you are well aware of the problem of finding time and money to do with the first two, but butterflies don't pay. The Bible Society comes to you

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A Light Amid Darkness
ALEC C. THOMSON

"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid." Was Jesus talking about the mission station at Port Stanley? No! But He could have been, for though we are not long established upon the hill, the light has been shining out and apparently has not been hid.

The medical work done on the mission has all but the servant of the Lord has performed, it should be: "the entering wedge." Until the district headquarters were moved to this location we had no work and no members in the area. It was another of those dark spots in this old world that had not heard the Gospel message for this time. When it became known that Mondays and Thursdays were "medicine days" the influx began. First from the villages in the immediate vicinity of Lite Litz and Small Water the lepers began to arrive from some of the small islands as far as Walla, twelve miles to the north, and Unawa about the same distance to the south. The very sick returned for medicine, but many came but once and were cleared of their sores. The average number weekly exceeded twenty. On one occasion a husband brought his wife in, I met the same obscurer on her forehead. Fearing that it would get to her brain, I gave instruction for her to go to hospital, and gave them some medicine. A few days later the man returned for more medicine, when I gave him, but instructed him in no uncertain tones that he must take his wife to the hospital. We then went to Australia for furlough. Upon our return I met the same couple and was surprised at the woman's complete recovery. To my question, "Did you go to the doctor at Santo?" I was told, with quite a deal of enthusiasm, that they had not, but had continued with the medicine we had given them. How thankful to God we are that He can use our limited knowl-

dge despite ourselves at times, for the relief of suffering among these people! From what we have witnessed we shall not be surprised to find this couple joining the mission in the near future.

The mission "set on a hill cannot be hid." In this place have crossed the island. Invariably we ask our patients, "Where do you come from?" To this question I was recently amazed to receive the reply "Lavaret." Realizing that Lavaret was over the mountains on the other side of the island in a south-westerly direction, I remarked that they could not have come so far that day. I was told they had slept a night on the way. Not only did they receive injections and buy medicine, but they also bought Bibles. May these people who are so destitute of physical help also find spiritual help and healing.

One day upon rising after having prayer with a few people who had come for injections, the man of the group, referring to a portion of the prayer, asked, "Is Jesus really coming again?" That was the opportune moment to unfold to him the promise and nearness of His return.

Whilst I was sitting in the office on Sunday morning, James, the teacher at the district school, came in with David, one of the students who came from a nearby village. "David wants to ask you something," James announced.

"Can we build a church in our village?" asked David.

I was silent awhile. It took me some time to realize that it was true. How soon the fruit was being made manifest! The light was not hid, and the people had "seen" and were about "to glorify your Father which is in heaven." Can you imagine the thrill of having a man come and ask the question, "Can we build a church in our village?" We soon got to business, and David is now home making arrangements and doing a work which he says we cannot do at present. We are waiting word from him to commence a branch Sabbath school. You see there are two factions, as everywhere, and David is working to bring unity for the one purpose, a Seventh-day Adventist church at Tautu.

We may say, "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid," He with His prophetic vision saw the mission headquarters on Malekula! May God help us so that the "light of the world" may "shine before men that they...may glorify your Father which is in heaven."
a smelly gash in his foot that had caused a wound in the organ. We had to operate to repair the damage. After the surgery, the patient and staff expressed their desire to follow their Lord fully. We have a large baptismal class at present, and bright eyes and alert ears testify to opening hearts.

In addition to these cases, we treat over 400 non-Hansenides each month. For their sakes particularly, I am glad that working conditions are improved.

Besides these, we treat 400 non-Hansenides each month, quite a number of them for minor ailments, as outpatients; but usually thirty men, women, and children stay here for treatments for pneumonia, malaria, injuries, and many other conditions. If we were not here to treat them, many would die. The other week we had a man, thirty years old, brought to us. She had been viciously attacked by a wild cassowary and stabbed ninety times. She was brought to us in a critical condition, with deep wounds in the abdomen.

There's always someone who needs a helping hand; there's always someplace where we can be helpful. For their sakes particularly, I am glad that working conditions are improved.

E. W. HOWSE
Secretary-Treasurer, Central Pacific Union Mission

A report from the treasurer of the Australasian Division advised that $31,071 had been received for the Fiji and New Hebrides Hurricane Relief appeal. We need more nurses, as our number of patients is increasing. We give thanks for the wonderful and practical assistance from you, dear folk in the homeland. The goal of $50,000 is still far from being reached, but we are making good progress. We are very grateful for your support.

In New Hebrides the work of rehabilitation is making good progress, and our believers who have suffered severely through the destruction of their gardens have been assisted by food rations. We are happy to report that these efforts are bearing fruit.

Thank you once again for rallying to our help.
Dedication of Grafton Church Hall, N.S.W.

C. H. RAPHAEL

September 13, 1952, will long be remembered by the children and youth of the Seventh-day Adventist community of the Clarence district. When, after patiently waiting for years for the realization of their hopes, they, with church members and friends, came together at 1.30 p.m. to witness the dedication of their Sabbath Assembly house, a few weeks before, the ground was cleared for all tents to be pitched.

In his opening remarks the speaker referred to the wonderful spirit of sacrifice by the majority of the members in making possible the fulfillment of their desire for a hall to meet the needs of the children and was of the church. Logs were donated, trucks made available, and with the hearty cooperation of many willing hands, the necessary material for the project was conveyed to the rear of the church in Bent Street, South Grafton.

The beginning of May saw the commencement, and with volunteer workers, mostly at week-ends, the building soon made rapid progress. Various projects, such as street stalls by the Ladies Guild, and post-splitting by the men, realized a goodly sum of money, and with donations and offerings swelled the amount to practically the required figure.

Many of the brethren stood wide-eyed about the site, and, intending to grow opposite our site, and, intending to grow, "Da water cheaper than da beer. You can have it da plenty." We were glad that there was water, seeing there was none laid on in the district? Here's the answer. No sooner had we purchased the power plant was coming in to concrete the road had to be moved. It was addressed "To Whom it May Concern." We were most surely "concerned!" The plumbing job would have to be held up for a while. Hundreds of feet of lin. pipe had been laid, but the plumbers were short by 18ft. of lin. piping to connect at the main end. They were about to quit, for it was late on Friday, and plumbers don't work on Saturdays. The big team with the power plant was coming in to concrete the road had to be moved. It was addressed "To Whom it May Concern." We were most surely "concerned!"

The beginning of May saw the commencement, and with volunteer workers, mostly at week-ends, the building soon made rapid progress. Various projects, such as street stalls by the Ladies' Guild, and post-splitting by the men, realized a goodly sum of money, and with donations and offerings swelled the amount to practically the required figure.

May the Lord bless this hall to the good of the children and youth of the Clarence district.

The Lismore Camp

D. SIBLEY
President, North New South Wales Conference

The Northern Rivers camp, 1952, will be one long remembered for two reasons. Firstly, it was one of sweet spiritual enjoyment when the love of God was shown in the hearty cooperation of many willing hands, the necessary material for the project was conveyed to the rear of the church in Bent Street, South Grafton.

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May the Lord bless this hall to the good of the children and youth of the Clarence district.

Next, conference workers joined the carpenters who began to erect necessary permanent buildings, and within a week or two the people of the district were asking, "How do these Adventists do it?" Yes, galvanized iron and piping, in such short supply of late, seemed plentiful enough up at Goonellabah. At one stage it looked as though an important concreting job would have to be held up for a while. Hundred of feet of lin. pipe had been laid, but the plumbers were short by 18ft. of lin. piping to connect at the main end. They were about to quit, for it was late on Friday, and plumbers don't work on Saturdays. The big team with the power plant was coming in to concrete the road had to be moved. It was addressed "To Whom it May Concern." We were most surely "concerned!"

The plumbing job was finished that afternoon, and the concreting on Sunday. But, you ask, Where did they get the water, seeing there was none laid on in the district? Here's the answer. No sooner had we purchased the land than an Italian took up the block opposite our site, and, intending to grow vegetables, he set about finding water. Two wells were sunk, large tanks placed on high stands, and two electric pumps did the rest. We made friends with him, and when we asked what he would charge to keep water supplied to us, he replied, "Da water cheaper than da beer. You can have it da plenty." We were glad that there was plenty, and that it was sweet water with no flavour of beer. We who were responsible for camp supplies thanked the great God for His kindly and gracious provision. Yes, it is wonderful the way the One who led Israel of old, giving them water in the wilderness, went before us in the Goonellabah wilderness to make the camp ready for what proved a spiritual convocation. God is indeed with this people. How we should love and serve Him, remembering at all times His benefits to us!

And was our effort worth while? Verily! The Master visited His people, bringing that promised living water.

We were all greatly refreshed. Pastors and the "Signs," were used, along with local ministers, to lead us to those fountains that God has opened for His people. The meetings were well attended, and the responses splendid. It was touching to see the way the juniors responded to appeals. One meeting in the junior tent ran far over the usual time as boys and girls forgot their meal and their play in order to testify and to give their young hearts to God.

On the last Sabbath the response was excellent. The Master was honoured in those meetings, and eternal good must result. However, there was something missing - something was truly conspicuous by its absence. How glad we all were! What, you ask, was that? The clatter of horses' feet and the almost continuous blaring of that loud-speaker as the announcer followed the horses at the "trots." Down on the showground, where we used to meet, our Sabbath afternoons were often greatly disturbed by race crowds and their clamour. All of that was replaced by a calm and peace that made worship more blessed. Thank God for our own ground. If our Lord should tarry a "little while" may that ground continue to prove the very "house of God, and the gate of heaven" to all who seek the One who led Israel of old, giving them water in the wilderness, went before us in the Goonellabah wilderness to make the camp ready for what proved a spiritual convocation. God is indeed with this people. How we should love and serve Him, remembering at all times His benefits to us!
HONNOR-CLEVERLY.—On August 21, 1952, the Whangarei church, North New Zealand, was made attractive with floral decorations for the marriage of Harold Maxwell Honnor, youngest son of Brother and Sister Honnor of Dargaville, to Merle Cleverly, youngest daughter of Sister Hall of Whangarei. After the ceremony a number of relatives and friends gathered at the home of the bride's parents to extend to the young couple their best wishes, and blessing for the future. V. Novely.

STEWART-GROSSER.—Beautiful flowers, inspiring music, and a crowded church greeted Bernice as she was escorted by her father down the aisle of the Millicent church (S.A.), to stand beside Milton, on the evening of October 5, 1952. After nuptial vows were exchanged, they became a very happy husband and wife. Bernice is the younger daughter of Brother and Sister Grosser, of Millicent, while Milton is the youngest son of Pastor and Mrs. G. G. Stewart, of Gosford, N.S.W. May God richly bless them both.

M. M. Stewart.

FAULKHEAD.—Louis C. Faulkhead, only son of the late pioneer N. D. Faulkhead, and of Mrs. Faulkhead, was one of the first— if not the first, child to be born into the advent faith in Australia some sixty-three years ago. Louis gave seven years’ service to the Signs Publishing Company, and from 1932 to 1944 was connected with the Sanitarium Health Food Company, and from 1944 to 1951 was associated with the Sanitarium Medical Centre. Louis was stricken with a cerebral hemorrhage and died September 14. After a service at the home and at the graveside we laid Louis to rest in the Avondale cemetery, there to await the call of the Life-giver. We extend our sincere sympathies to his wife Ethel, his children, and sister (Mrs. E. B. Rudge). May God's sustaining power and comforting presence be experienced by all those who mourn.

Ormond K. Anderson.

BROWN.—Just before the opening of the Sabbath, October 3, 1952, Brother Francis Thomas Brown of Auckland, N.Z., at the age of sixty-six years, closed his eyes in peaceful sleep. Brother Brown accepted this message thirty years ago and rejoiced in it ever since. He now rests in the Mangere cemetery awaiting the call to everlasting life when Jesus comes. The funeral and final service was conducted in the Royal Oak church, the president (Pastor R. J. Burns), Pastor L. D. Vince, and the writer each taking part. The large number who assembled to pay their last respects showed the high esteem in which Brother Brown was held. To Sister Brown and the family we extend our deepest sympathy, and pray that they may be comforted by the One who comforted their loved one during his last hours with us.

A. G. Judge.

SCHAFER.—Sister Mabel Schafer was called to rest on the Sabbath morning of October 4. During her long illness she was resigned and patient, manifesting a courageous faith and a joyous hope. Born in 1881, she lived most of her life in Queensland, where she accepted the message under the labours of Pastor Lester Newbold. Of her family of seven children, two daughters, the words of the wise man are true, they “arise up and call her blessed.” To these, and other sorrowing relatives we extend our deep sympathy, but we believe that soon this devoted mother will be called forth to reap the reward of the faithful. Pastor Freeman and the writer were associated in the funeral services.

G. S. Palmer.

NOTICE

Why not spend your next holiday at Avondale? We still have vacancies for those who would like to spend some time at the college as paying guests during the next vacation period—November 19 to February 8. Good accommodation, excellent food. Full tariff £5 6s. weekly. Children under 14 years and under, £3 4s. For reservations telephone Cooranbong 31, or write, Business Manager, A.M. College, Cooranbong, N.S.W.

JACARANDA, 1952

Avondale’s Graduation Souvenir
Orders can be placed with The Editor, Jacaranda, A.M. College, Cooranbong, N.S.W.

Price 3s. - Postage free.
**BREVITIES**

After having been in Queensland for the past three months visiting among the churches and holding meetings, Pastor A. W. Knight has had a short break to visit his home in Wahroonga. Pastor Knight has been enjoying this work with the church members in the northern state, and returns there for a further period.

Pastor N. W. Palmer, elder son of Pastor and Mrs. C. S. Palmer of Wahroonga, with his wife and daughter arrived in Sydney, October 13, after four and a half years of evangelical work in the Western Fiji Mission. Both Pastor and Sister Palmer are very keen on their work, which is mostly among the inland villages of Viti Levu.

It is with great sadness that our people throughout this Division and the whole world will learn of the death in Washington, D.C., of our venerable and much loved Pastor W. A. Spicer on October 17. "The grand family" to which he belonged, and which he so nobly served, will be the poorer for his passing. We had heard that Pastor Spicer had been far from well for some time, and it was feared that the end was near. He was laid to rest on Sunday, October 19, but as we go to press no further details have come to hand.

In August, our readers may remember, we reported the acceptance of the Marovo translation of the Bible by the British and Foreign Bible Society. Today a letter has come to us from the Rev. H. M. Arrowsmith, Commonwealth Secretary for the Society in Australia, in which he passes on the congratulations of the head office in London. We quote: "The publishing manager [London] has said that he has not had the opportunity of subscribing to any publishing experience, and asked that we congratulate your people on the production of such a splendid manuscript."

On Monday, October 20, we had the pleasure of welcoming two officers of the Far Eastern Division who were returning to their field after attending the General Conference Biennial Session. They were Pastor C. P. Sorensen, treasurer of that Division, and Pastor P. L. Williams, treasurer of that great division which has a population of 245,928,866, and an Adventist membership of 38,674. At our headquarters morning worship, Pastor Williams gave a cheersing picture of the progress of the work in the Far East, for despite the fact that there are five centres of grave trouble and unceasing struggle, we are making headway in the Philippines, and our work is forging ahead. During last year 459 souls were baptized in Korea alone. The total number of baptisms for the division was 6,373.

Life in Mission Field
ASHBURTON GIRL RETURNS AFTER LONG PERIOD

[The Press Relations Secretary, Pastor W. A. Townend of the South New Zealand Conference, has sent to this office many cuttings from local papers which have given prominence to the recent visit of our editor and his wife to New Zealand. We are giving a few extracts from one of them: The Ashburton Guardian, and are taking the liberty of putting them in their proper order.

Head-hunting natives, world travel, and a visit to the missions. It is a fact that Mrs. A. G. Stewart did not think of when, as young Miss Jean Stephen, she lived at Springburn, near Mount Somers, her birthplace and home during the 1880-90s. Jean Stephen has met the ideal missionary for twenty years a missionary to New Guinea. During the war years Salau was highly commended by the United States Government for his liaison work and his organizing rescue teams that sought out and rescued many American airmen and sailors who had been either shot down by the Japanese or shipwrecked. Mrs. Stewart met many important people while travelling overseas.

Today, in Ashburton, Mrs. Stewart spent some time with her sister, Mrs. J. Broker, who lives here, and her brother, Mr. Charles Stephen, of Runanga, whom she had not seen for twenty-five years. Mrs. Stewart has, however. For sixteen years he was supervisor of all Adventist mission stations, Mrs. Stewart said.

Describing her present visit to the Dominion as "a second honeymoon," Mrs. Stewart added that it was "essentially a working holiday," for, despite its seventy-one years, Pastor Stewart had addressed a public meeting almost every day for the last month. These speaking appointments had taken them from Kaihola, in the north, to Melbourne, in the south, and to Christchurch. Their visit to Ashburton was made especially for meeting Mrs. Stewart's relatives and again seeing the district.

Tomorrow Pastor and Mrs. Stewart leave by mail from Wellington for their home in Sydney.

SECRETARIAL COURSE, A.M.C.

(Continued from page 7)

While it is possible for a student to take two years over this course, it is definitely to his advantage to take it in one year, and this leads naturally to the financial angle, but from the viewpoint of the working atmosphere of a class that knows it has just so much time in which to reach its objective. The success of the students pursuing this course is in large measure due to this balanced interest in the mental equipment brought to the task, and it is most necessary that there be a good grounding in the intelligent use of the right tools for, after all, it is the finished product that matters, not just the ability to write a few shorthand characters, or tap out a few words on the typewriter.

The work of a secretary is a highly important one, which calls for the best possible equipment. Indeed, many executives today demand that their stenographers should be of Leaving Certificate standard.

While the Stewarts commenced their work in the New Hebrides in 1901, they had not one single mission station along the sixty miles of coast that bounded their parish. Today there are six large Adventist churches there and flourishing mission work throughout the South Pacific. Those were the years in our home in Sydney when I seemed always to be doing one of two things—saying good-bye to Andrew, or welcoming him home," observed Mrs. Stewart.

World travel came into her life when in 1930 she and Pastor Stewart were invited by the Mission Board to attend a world conference in San Francisco. Then, three years ago, the Stewarts made a seven months' world tour in company with Pastor Robert Salau, son of a savage, and for the first time ever to New Guinea. During the war years Salau was highly commended by the United States Government for his liaison work and his organizing rescue teams that sought out and rescued many American airmen and sailors who had been either shot down by the Japanese or shipwrecked. Mrs. Stewart met many important people while travelling overseas.

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SECRETARIAL COURSE, A.M.C.

(Continued from page 7)

While it is possible for a student to take two years over this course, it is definitely to his advantage to take it in one year, and this leads naturally to the financial angle, but from the viewpoint of the working atmosphere of a class that knows it has just so much time in which to reach its objective. The success of the students pursuing this course is in large measure due to this balanced interest in the mental equipment brought to the task, and it is most necessary that there be a good grounding in the intelligent use of the right tools for, after all, it is the finished product that matters, not just the ability to write a few shorthand characters, or tap out a few words on the typewriter.

The work of a secretary is a highly important one, which calls for the best possible equipment. Indeed, many executives today demand that their stenographers should be of Leaving Certificate standard.

Dr. Ian Fraser, son of Pastor A. M. Fraser, director of the Voice of Prophecy Bible School, Sydney, has accepted a call to be president of the College of Medical Evangelists, California. It will be remembered that this young man went to England a few years ago and received his degree at Cambridge. We wish Dr. and Mrs. Fraser much of the Lord's blessing as they go abroad in answer to this call.

On Sabbath, October 4, the Rev. H. M. Arrowsmith took the 11 o'clock service at the Australasian Missionary College, speaking on behalf of the work of the British and Foreign Bible Society. This was his first visit to Auckland, although he has been to Warburton and met our people there. He gave a very interesting and well presented address, which appears elsewhere in this number. The offering was for the Society which he represents, and amounted to £74 11s.

"unarmed and with a prayer in your heart for God's protection."

When the Stewarts commenced their work in the New Hebrides in 1901, they had not one single mission station along the sixty miles of coast that bounded their parish. Today there are six large Adventist churches there and flourishing mission work throughout the South Pacific. Those were the years in our home in Sydney when I seemed always to be doing one of two things—saying good-bye to Andrew, or welcoming him home," observed Mrs. Stewart.

World travel came into her life when in 1930 she and Pastor Stewart were invited by the Mission Board to attend a world conference in San Francisco. Then, three years ago, the Stewarts made a seven months' world tour in company with Pastor Robert Salau, son of a savage, and for the first time ever to New Guinea. During the war years Salau was highly commended by the United States Government for his liaison work and his organizing rescue teams that sought out and rescued many American airmen and sailors who had been either shot down by the Japanese or shipwrecked. Mrs. Stewart met many important people while travelling overseas.

Today, in Ashburton, Mrs. Stewart spent some time with her sister, Mrs. J. Broker, who lives here, and her brother, Mr. Charles Stephen, of Runanga, whom she had not seen for twenty-five years. Mrs. Stewart has, however. For sixteen years he was supervisor of all Adventist mission stations, Mrs. Stewart said.

Describing her present visit to the Dominion as "a second honeymoon," Mrs. Stewart added that it was "essentially a working holiday," for, despite its seventy-one years, Pastor Stewart had addressed a public meeting almost every day for the last month. These speaking appointments had taken them from Kaihola, in the north, to Melbourne, in the south, and to Christchurch. Their visit to Ashburton was made especially for meeting Mrs. Stewart's relatives and again seeing the district.

Tomorrow Pastor and Mrs. Stewart leave by mail from Wellington for their home in Sydney.
### Statistical Report of the Australasian Inter-Union Conference

**For the year ended December 31, 1951**

#### Table: Statistics of the Australasian Inter-Union Conference

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sanhedrin</th>
<th>New Zealand (Auckland)</th>
<th>Melbourne</th>
<th>Sydney</th>
<th>Western Australia</th>
<th>South Australia</th>
<th>Darwin</th>
<th>Queensland</th>
<th>Tasmania</th>
<th>Northern Australia</th>
<th>South Pacific</th>
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<td>669</td>
<td>636</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>4,964</td>
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<td>3,370</td>
<td>2,824</td>
<td>2,021</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>1,588</td>
<td>1,423</td>
<td>955</td>
<td>776</td>
<td>16,564</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Australasian Inter-Union Conference**

- **South Australian Conference**: 1,377
- **South New South Wales Conference**: 1,226
- **Tasmanian Conference**: 1,066
- **Victorian Conference**: 1,233
- **Northern Australia Conference**: 1,187

**Oral Sea Union Mission**

- **Tonga**: 11
- **West Fiji**: 17
- **Samoa**: 15
- **North-West New Guinea**: 16
- **South New Zealand Conference**: 15

**TOTALS**

- **122**
- **159**
- **122**
- **122**
- **122**

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**New Zealand Mission**

- **122**

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**Miscellaneous**

- **270**

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**Grand Total, 1951**

- **1,058,192**