

Fourth Biennial Session of the African Division Held at Johannesburg, May 17 to 23, 1927

THE verses as found on this page are taken from the president's report rendered at the opening meeting of the fourth biennial council of this Division. Extracts from Brother Branson's report are given on the next page. Jesus was not willing that any should perish, and the same burning desire should be in the heart of every worker in this Cause.

Missionaries from Angola, Nyasaland, Rhodesia, the Congo and South Africa met together in Johannesburg to renew their consecration and to receive strength from our Great Leader to go forth and complete the work committed to them, for the day is far spent and soon probation must close.

It was in January, 1921, in Johannesburg, that the first session of the African Division was held, and at which time the field was re-organised. At that time, the South African Union Conference and the Zambesi Union were putting forth their best efforts to tell the story of the soon-coming Saviour. During the past six years, God has led His children forward, increasing their responsibilities as new fields have been entered. At this last Council meeting, reports were given of the progress of the Message from such far-away fields as Angola, the Congo and Nyasaland, and today the many calls for schools and for the help of the evangelist re-

veal the opening providences of God, and spur the missionary on to more zealous and faithful service.

There were sixty-two delegates present at this last Council meeting, and after a stay together of six days, we left with a clearer vision of the shortness of the time and with stronger determination under God to reach every honest soul with the message of salvation.

During the past few years, God has abundantly blessed His work in Africa in the giving of means for the carrying forward of His work. A large number of additional workers have been sent to this field, and though this work today still needs more men and additional funds, yet our greatest need is a complete surrender to Jesus and a life fully consecrated to His service.

This issue of our paper is devoted to a full report of the Council, and also of a special session of the South African Union Conference, which immediately followed the Division meeting. As many of our readers could not be present, we trust that the report we give of the proceedings will be of interest. Space does not permit of the publishing of the entire reports from the various parts of the field, and we are able to give only some of the actions passed by the Council.

W. B. COMMINS.

HE WAS NOT WILLING

"He was not willing that any should perish."
Jesus enthroned in the glory above
Saw our poor fallen world, pitied our sorrows,
Pour'd out His life for us,—wonderful love!
Perishing, perishing thronging our pathway,
Hearts break with burdens too heavy to bear;
Jesus would save, but there's no one to tell them,
No one to lift them from sin and despair.

"He was not willing that any should perish."
Clothed in our flesh, with its sorrow and pain,
Came He to seek the lost, comfort the mourners,
Heal the heart broken by sorrow and shame.
Perishing, perishing! harvest is passing,
Reapers are few, and the night draweth near;
Jesus is calling thee, haste to the reaping,
Thou shalt have souls, precious souls for thy hire."

Extracts From President's Report

"INTENSE earnestness should now take possession of us. Our slumbering energies should be aroused to untiring effort. Consecrated workers should go forth into the field clearing the King's highway, and gaining victories in new places. My brother, my sister, is it nothing to you to know that every day souls are going down into the grave unwarned and unsaved, ignorant of their need of eternal life and of the atonement made for them by the Saviour? Is it nothing to you that soon the world is to meet Jehovah over His broken law? Heavenly angels marvel that those who for so many years have had the light, have not carried the torch of truth into the dark places of the earth."—*"Testimonies," Vol. IX, p. 44.*

As we meet together again in Division Council, we are greatly encouraged over the fact that this prophetic utterance has had a remarkable fulfilment in the African field during the past two years. We have experienced something of the vitalising power of this new life, as it has taken possession of our labourers and people, and we rejoice over the hundreds of souls who, as a result, are today rejoicing in the blessed hope of salvation, but who two years ago were still numbered with the multitudes who are without God and without hope.

To some degree, at least, we have seen this "intense earnestness" taking hold of our workers, and they seem to have been daunted by nothing in their determination to carry the gospel truth into the darkest places of the field.

PROGRESS

Truly, the biennial period has been one of progress. Our ministers and evangelists have baptised 2,901 persons, which represents by far the largest ingathering ever witnessed in this field. Our membership has increased from 5,905 to 7,760, a net gain after allowing for all losses, of 1,855. Besides these, there are 5,503 unbaptised believers, who are preparing for church membership, making a grand total of 13,263 believers, as reported by our fields December 31, 1926.

By way of comparison, we might state that this is an increase over ten years ago, (1917), of 11,144, at which time our membership stood at 1,955, and the total number of believers at 2,119. Thus today, we have about six and a half times as many believers as we had only a decade ago. The baptisms for the biennial period are in excess by 782 of the total number of believers, baptised and unbaptised who were reported in 1917, some thirty years since our work began in Africa. Thus God is now giving us in two years the fruitage of thirty years. Surely, this is an indication of new life from above, and we give God the glory for this splendid growth.

We are glad to be able to report that small beginnings have been made in carrying the torch of truth into some of the sections of our field hitherto untouched, and for the first time representatives of this Division have penetrated the hitherto unentered regions beyond the Equator, and have laid definite plans for the permanent establishment of our work in the great Sudan country, thus closing up one of the gaps existing between our work and that carried on by the European Division, operating in North Africa. Our union representatives will tell us of other new sections

opened, new stations established, and of victory after victory that has been won for God since we last met together in this capacity. In fact, "Jehovah hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad."

During the past biennial period, our believers in the African Division gave in tithes the sum of £28,193, which represents a gain of £2,288 over the former biennial period. In mission and special offerings £18,582 was given, making a grand total of tithe and offerings of £46,775. This is a splendid evidence of the loyal devotion of our constituency to this Cause, and we wish to express our sincere appreciation for the way it has sacrificed and given to make possible the advance moves we have made all over the field.

DEPARTMENTAL

All our departmental leaders will tell of progress and new attainments in their work. The Sabbath schools now have an enrolment of 15,889, a gain of 1,679 for the biennial period. The Home Missionary Department has made wonderful gains in its campaign work, as well as in other missionary activities it has promoted in our churches.

Our literature sales show a slight decrease from £24,812 to £24,603, but the Publishing House is in a much healthier position than two years ago because of the fact that it has been working off some of its surplus stock, and for the first time in many years, a profit in operating was shown for 1926.

A forward step has been taken in the development of the educational work among our European constituency by the purchase of a large fruit farm near Somerset West, Cape, and the erection of two splendid dormitories, and two teacher's homes in preparation for the moving of our training college to this new location at the close of the present school year. The dormitories are now finished on the outside, but the inside plastering and finish work is still to be done. This should, if possible, be completed before school opens next February.

Students enrolled in our schools of all grades at December 31, 1926, were as follows:

Spion Kop College	70
Native Training Schools	350
Church Schools (European)	83
Mission Day Schools	1330
Mission Out-schools	10004
Total	11837

This shows a gain of 800 for the biennial period.

The Plumstead Nursing Home, which is the successor of the Cape Sanitarium, has been doing a splendid work under the efficient management of Miss Thomason, and it has operated practically without financial loss.

Our mission field dispensaries have been greatly blessed in their work of healing, and have wielded a powerful influence for the Truth in the communities where they are located. We are pleased to report that two new medical units are to be opened this year, one in the Congo, and one in North East Rhodesia, and we trust that in the near future other fields will be able to begin work of this nature. Wherever our doctors and nurses begin work, we see a demonstration of the fact that the medical work is truly the right arm of the Message, which opens the door for the entrance of the entire Truth.

NEW RECRUITS

We are happy indeed to be able to welcome to this conference many workers who have come to our field since our last session, and some who have just arrived to unite with us in this great work. During the period under consideration, fifty-two recruits have entered the field and joined our forces, thirty coming from America and twenty-two from the South African field. This number, of course, includes the wives of missionaries.

These new recruits have been distributed among the fields as follows:

African Division	5
Spion Kop and African Missionary Colleges	10
South African Union Conference ...	16
Zambesi Union Mission	9
South East African Union	2
Congo Union	6
Equatorial Union	4
Total	52

This number does not include the splendid company which has just arrived, those who arrived since January 1, 1927, those in Europe taking preparatory work, nor those on the way to the field. These would add some twenty more to the list. We extend to all these new missionaries the right hand of fellowship, and thank God that He has given them hearts willing to respond to His call to this needy field.

But while there is evidence of progress all along the line, let none fall into the error of thinking that our task is nearly done.

A glance at our large map will reveal great stretches of blackness which the Advent messenger has never penetrated. Millions upon millions around us are still in the densest heathen darkness. In eight hundred languages and dialects in Africa, the Message has never yet been given, and yet, thickening all about us are the tokens of the rapid approach of the King of Glory.

"May God help His people to arouse and walk and work as men and women on the borders of the eternal world. Soon an awful surprise is coming upon the inhabitants of the world. Suddenly with power and great glory, Christ will come." . . . "We who know the Truth should be preparing for what is soon to break upon the world as an overwhelming surprise."—"Testimonies," Vol. VIII, pp. 37, 28.

"The sunset burns across the sky;
Upon the air the warning cry
Of watchmen calling from tower to tower,
'O Israel, 'tis the last, last hour!'"

Brethren, let us contemplate what it means to a hundred million people, who speak 800 tongues, to be still in ignorance of God's great salvation at a time when "the angel of mercy is folding her wings ready to depart" from the earth. Shall they perish unwarned? Shall their blood stains be found upon us when we are called to render up our account? Under God, we are responsible for giving them the light before the sweet voice of mercy dies away from the earth. Jesus loves them no less than others, and He has commissioned us to save them.

W. H. BRANSON.

Extracts From Minutes Taken at the Johannesburg Council

THE following delegates were seated at the morning meeting on May 18:

General Conference, B. E. Beddoe, H. H. Hall.

Division, W. H. Branson, J. I. Robison, E. D. Dick, F. E. Thompson, J. G. Slate, J. W. MacNeil, O. R. Shreve, G. S. Joseph, W. B. Commin, D. F. Tarr, W. C. Walston, J. C. Rogers.

South African Union Conference, J. F. Wright, A. F. Tarr, E. M. Howard, L. L. Moffitt, B. M. Heald, S. G. Hiten, J. N. de Beer, J. J. Birkenstock, J. R. Campbell, B. E. Schaffner.

Others in attendance invited to sit with us:

P. W. Willmore, A. E. Nelson, T. L. Bulgin, R. C. Sharman, A. P. Tarr, J. M. Vorster, P. A. Venter, A. V. Edwards, M. W. Carey, W. H. Hurlow, B. P. de Beer.

Zambesi Union Mission, E. C. Boger, N. C. Wilson, Dr. Kretchmar, Dr. Erickson, C. W. Bozarth, L. Dalton, R. G. Morton, F. B. Jewell, F. M. Robinson, S. Marx, D. E. Robinson.

Congo Union Mission, C. W. Curtis, O. U. Giddings, J. V. Wilson, R. P. Robinson, Dr. Sturges, D. A. Webster.

South East African Union, Dr. C. Birkenstock, Mrs. Ellingworth, Dr. and Mrs. Marcus, J. L. and Mrs. Grisham.

Equatorial Union Mission, J. D. Baker, Dr. Tonge, Mrs. Anderson, Miss I. Moore.

Following a report made by Elder Branson on the work throughout the Division for the past term, standing committees were appointed.

EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE

In recognition of the blessings of God throughout our Division during the past two years in His protecting care over the homes and lives of our workers and people, and His blessings on the endeavours of our labours in every part of the field in the winning of souls, and the expansion and strengthening of our work, we humbly record our heartfelt appreciation for all these manifestations of His love, and we do so all the more as we remember that He has not dealt with us according to our just deserts, but according to His loving kindness.

In view of these mercies, and the conditions of the world at the present hour, we re-dedicate our lives to His service, and by God's grace determine to push on the triumphs of the cross with the utmost speed during the coming biennial term.

MESSAGES OF SYMPATHY

Resolved, That a message of love and good cheer be forwarded from this Council to Elder I. B. Burton, and that we assure him of our deep sympathy in his hour of suffering.

Further Resolved, That an expression of sympathy be forwarded to Elder M. C. Sturdevant at his being prevented through failing health from meeting with us at this time.

GREETINGS TO ABSENT MEMBERS

In view of circumstances making it impossible for certain of our leading brethren to be present at this Council it was,

Voted to telegraph to Elders Anderson and Elling-

worth and Stockil our greetings, and to express regret that it is not possible for them to be with us at this time.

ZAMBESI UNION

The superintendent of the Zambesi Union next reported. Brother Boger told of a population of two million in the territory of the Zambesi Union, and the workers have adopted as their slogan, "Onward, ever onward." The report showed a gain in membership during the past two years of 552 members. Tithe receipts amounted to £2,745, and contributions to missions £2,427.

WAGE SCALE

THE Wage Commission appointed by the Division committee some little time back presented its report regarding the present wage scale and bonuses allowed to the various fields. Careful study was given to the report rendered by the Wage Commission. This committee reported that the cost of living in the Union of South Africa as at January, 1927, had been considered in comparison with 1922, at which time our present wage scale was placed in operation and which scale is the American wage scale, plus 15 per cent. It was found from an examination of the figures from the Government that a decrease of approximately 6 per cent had taken place in the actual cost of living throughout the cities in the Union of South Africa. Taking as a base 1,000 points to represent the cost of living in January of 1914, the cost of light, food, fuel and sundries in 1922 represented 1,477 points. In 1927, this has fallen to 1,420 points, or a decrease of approximately 6 per cent. It was

Voted (1) That there be a reduction in the advance on the American wage scale from 15 per cent to 10 per cent.

(2) That the bonus granted on the wage scale to workers in the Equatorial Union be reduced from 20 per cent to 15 per cent and in the South East African Union from 12½ per cent to 10 per cent.

(3) That the bonuses granted to workers in the other fields to the north be continued, namely to

Congo Union 15 per cent, North Rhodesia 10 per cent, South Rhodesia 5 per cent.

It is recommended that the workers of the Bechuanaland Protectorate be placed on the same bonus basis as workers in South Rhodesia.

Motion was made and carried that the new wage scale go into effect as from July 1, 1927, and that the recommendation to reduce bonuses to the workers in the Equatorial Union and in the South East African Union be referred for further investigation at the time of the constituency meetings of these unions, which will be held later in this year with Division representatives present, and if confirmed that the plan go into effect on the 1st January, 1928.

SOUTH AFRICAN UNION CONFERENCE

Elder Wright reported on the work of the South African Union Conference for the past term. This union has a population within its territory of over eight millions. Its present church membership is a little over 3,000. 502 members were added during the past two years. One feature about Brother Wright's report that was especially interesting was that, while the union received about £28,000 in appropriations, it was able to turn back in mission offerings almost £15,000.

HOME MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, The church of Christ on earth was organised for missionary purposes, and the Lord desires to see the entire church devising ways and means whereby high and low, rich and poor, may hear the message of truth; and

WHEREAS, If every member in our denomination were a living missionary, the Message for this time would speedily be proclaimed in all countries, to every people and nation and tongue; and

WHEREAS, The soul-winning success achieved by the mighty army of active church members around the world demonstrates the effectiveness of the divine plan; therefore

We recommend, That every believer be urged to respond to the call to consecration of life and service to the finishing of the work, and that every worker give careful study to the best methods of enlisting and training the laity for soul-winning work.

SOUTH EAST AFRICAN UNION

Dr. C. Birkenstock read the report of the South East African Union as prepared by the superintendent, Brother G. A. Ellingworth. This report shows that our work in Nyasaland is making good headway and by the addition of more workers the prospects are most encouraging. The number of persons in the Bible classes today assure us of a big increase in church membership in that field the next few years.

Following the report, the doctor told us about the medical work at Malamulo Hospital. This mission has always endeavoured to do strong work along medical lines, but these efforts have been greatly strengthened during the past two years. We were glad to know from the doctor's remarks that while the Medical Department does strive to relieve the suffering of those who come to them, it is their earnest purpose also to help these people along spiritual lines.

CALL TO EVANGELISM

That we have recently reached a new era in evangelistic opportunity, is evident from the unparalleled interest and response of truth seekers to God's message for the hour. The evidence is clear that the Holy Spirit is being "poured out upon all flesh" in this last remnant of time. It is, therefore, the solemn and unanimous conviction of this Council that God would have us sound the rally call to a more intensive and universal evangelism to continue until our task is done.

We believe the issues of the hour constitute a compelling challenge to recruit all the resources of this movement to the one object of the church on earth—the saving of souls. Holding our heaven-indited organisation intact, we are convinced that the hour has come to make evangelism the dominant note in all, surveying both workers and laity to the end of utilising the full power of this movement. We recognise, moreover, that we are living in the time of the latter rain and the Holy Spirit is the source of all power in evangelism. This call is a summons for us to humbly give ourselves anew to God for cleansing and enduement.

As suggestive ways and means by which this greater evangelism can be carried into effect, we earnestly recommend the following:

1. That we encourage every worker to engage each year in some form of evangelism, wherever possible, holding or assisting in public efforts.

2. That pastors be urged to constantly combine aggressive evangelism with the shepherding of the flock.

3. That most earnest help be given to non-productive labourers, to turn them into successful producers through bringing to them a new vision and inspiration, and helping them to seek and receive a new power from on high.

4. That our workers be urged to gather the full fruitage of their efforts by direct personal appeals in sermon and in personal interview, thus to bring hesitant individuals to an actual decision.

5. That greater emphasis be placed by our workers upon personal work along with discourses from the desk, that we not only warn but bring men and women to an acceptance of the gospel provision for the hour.

6. That conferences and union fields undertake the development of more young men for the ministry, and that greater care be taken in training these recruits, and that associated with older ministers, they be given actual speaking experience and responsibility whenever possible; where practicable, be sent out two and two into smaller places to raise up new churches.

7. That our training college so strengthen its ministerial training as to give increased opportunities for practical field training through its seminar and other means, thus giving oncoming ministers and Bible workers experience in preaching to the public, holding cottage meetings and Bible studies for those not of our faith.

8. That renewed recognition be given the Bible work, and that greater encouragement be given to developing volunteer Bible workers from among the laity to assist both in special efforts and in constant searching for souls.

9. That we throw the full weight of every institution and department, and the workers therein, into militant evangelism, using these heaven appointed agencies as means to this end.

10. That our ministers and other conference workers, together with local elders, be urged to organise, train, and lead into soul-winning the great latent forces of our lay members.

11. That we utilise our excellent and inexpensive literature both to pioneer the way to new interests and also as a faithful follow-up, recognising its stabilising influence upon those who largely read themselves into the Truth.

12. Believing that acceptable obedience to the will of God can come only from hearts experiencing true conviction and consecration, and that there is a danger in the acceptance of our Message from a purely legalistic standpoint, giving intellectual assent rather than yielding to heartfelt conviction,

We recommend, That our evangelists endeavour to introduce into their public efforts a more definite revivalistic mould to be maintained throughout the campaign.

CONGO UNION

Our work in the vast stretch of country in the Belgian Congo may be considered as new, but during the past term, the workers in that field have unitedly put forth their best efforts to sow the seeds of truth and

today they see evidences of God's spirit going before them and His angels are attending their labours. Brother Curtis told of a new church of sixteen members which has recently been organised at the Kongola mission. The calls for out-schools are in excess of the number of teachers available in the Congo.

EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, The African Division has received from the General Conference and the Review and Herald Publishing Association, such liberal help in appropriations from the Extension Fund toward our new college enterprise, and also toward the upbuilding of our publishing work in the Division, therefore

Resolved, That votes of thanks be forwarded to the General Conference and also to the Review and Herald, conveying to them our sincere appreciation for this liberal help, and assuring them of our prayers for the success of their great missionary programme in the extension work throughout the world.

WHEREAS, The General Conference has so liberally supported the work of the Lord in the African Division, for the spreading of the Third Angel's Message, and for its advancement into new fields; and

WHEREAS, The General Conference has so willingly sent us the help of Elder Beddoe and Brother Hall, to assist in the general meetings in this Division this year; therefore

Resolved, That a message of appreciation be sent to the General Conference expressing our sincere thanks for their liberal financial support in the large annual appropriations voted to this field, and also for the splendid help that has been given in the faithful services of Elder Beddoe and Brother Hall in their assistance this year in our Division Council and in the camp-meetings.

WHEREAS, The Johannesburg church has so kindly granted this Council the use of their church and hall for the fourth biennial session of the African Division; therefore

We recommend, That a vote of thanks be forwarded to the president of the Natal-Transvaal Conference and to the pastor of the Johannesburg church expressing our sincere appreciation for the use of these buildings.

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF DIVISION COMMITTEE

Dr. C. F. Birkenstock, O. R. Shreve, M. P. Robison, and J. G. Slate.

AUDITOR FOR THE DIVISION 1926 AND 1927

A. F. Tarr.

MEDICAL SECRETARY FOR DIVISION

It was recommended to ask the General Conference to appoint Miss H. J. Davies as secretary of the Medical Department of the Division.

UNION SUPERINTENDENTS AND OFFICERS

ZAMBESI UNION:

E. C. Boger, Superintendent.

C. W. Bozarth, Secretary-Treasurer-Auditor.

Dr. H. A. Erickson, Medical Secretary.

Miss Lenora Dalton, Missionary Volunteer, Educational, and Assistant Medical Secretary.

C. W. Bozarth, Home Missionary Secretary.

Cyril Sparrow, Field Missionary Secretary.

SOUTH EAST AFRICAN UNION :

G. A. Ellingworth, Superintendent.
 T. L. Bulgin, Secy.-Treasurer-Auditor.
 Dr. C. F. Birkenstock, Medical Secretary.
 Mrs. G. A. Ellingworth, Missionary Volunteer and Sabbath School Secretary.
 E. M. Cadwallader, Educational Secretary.

CONGO UNION :

C. W. Curtis, Superintendent.
 D. A. Webster, Secy.-Treasurer-Auditor.
 D. A. Webster, Sabbath School and Missionary Volunteer Secretary.
 Dr. J. H. Sturges, Medical Secretary.
 C. W. Curtis, Educational Secretary.

EQUATORIAL UNION :

W. H. Anderson, Superintendent.
 Miss Ina L. Moore, Secy.-Treasurer.
 Dr. A. N. Tonge, Medical Secretary.
 Miss Ina L. Moore, Missionary Volunteer Secretary.
 Mrs. W. H. Anderson, Sabbath School Secretary.
 W. H. Anderson, Educational Secretary.

DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES OF THE DIVISION

Educational, E. D. Dick, M. P. Robison, J. I. Robison, head of the Normal Department of the College, Union Educational Secretaries, S. W. Palmer.

Sabbath School, J. I. Robison, E. D. Dick, Mrs. E. C. Boger, Mrs. A. P. Tarr, J. G. Slate, Mrs. G. A. Ellingworth, Mrs. A. F. Tarr.

Missionary Volunteer, J. I. Robison, E. D. Hanson, E. D. Dick, Miss Lenora Dalton, F. E. Thompson, L. A. Vixie, M. P. Robison, Mrs. G. A. Ellingworth, Miss Ina Moore.

Home Missionary, L. A. Vixie, J. I. Robison, L. L. Moffitt, E. C. Boger, J. F. Wright, J. G. Slate, and E. D. Dick.

Publishing, W. H. Branson, L. A. Vixie, J. G. Slate, J. I. Robison, E. D. Dick, W. B. Commin, L. L. Moffitt, J. F. Wright, E. C. Boger, C. W. Curtis, G. A. Ellingworth, W. H. Anderson, the editor *African Signs of the Times*, and D. E. Robinson.

Division Building Committee, W. H. Branson, O. R. Shreve, J. I. Robison, E. D. Dick, W. B. Commin, J. F. Wright, and E. C. Boger.

MEMBERS OF DIVISION INSTITUTION BOARDS

Spion Kop College and the new training college, W. H. Branson, M. P. Robison, E. D. Dick, E. C. Boger, E. D. Hanson, C. W. Curtis, W. H. Anderson, G. A. Ellingworth, W. B. Commin, J. J. Birkenstock, L. L. Moffitt, T. M. French, J. F. Wright, O. O. Fortner, G. W. S. Marais, Dr. E. Birkenstock, F. E. Thompson, and the business manager of the college.

Sentinel Publishing Company, W. H. Branson, E. D. Dick, L. A. Vixie, J. G. Slate, J. J. Birkenstock, J. F. Wright, E. C. Boger, W. B. Commin, and S. G. Hiten.

Plumstead Nursing Home, W. H. Branson, W. B. Commin, Miss I. Thomason, E. D. Dick, J. G. Slate, and J. I. Robison.

DISTRIBUTION OF LABOUR

The following transfers of workers were voted upon :
 T. L. Bulgin, of the Orange River Conference, to the South East African Union Mission, for office work.

Elder G. S. Joseph, of the Division, to the Zambesi Union Mission, as director of the Rusangu mission.

E. D. Hanson, of the Spion Kop College, to the South African Union Conference, as Educational and Missionary Volunteer secretary.

Dr. A. H. Kretchmar, of the Zambesi Union Mission, for medical work in East Griqualand.

Miss A. Fleming, of the Zambesi Union Mission, to the South African Union Conference.

Cyril Sparrow, of the Transvaal, to the Zambesi Union Mission, as Field Missionary Secretary.

Further Resolved, To pass on to the South East African Union an appeal from the Congo Union Mission for release to them of one native evangelist and one native teacher.

NEW APPOINTMENTS WITHIN THE FIELD

J. W. Wessels, of the Orange River Conference, to the Sentinel Publishing Company, for translation and general work.

Dr. and Mrs. H. A. Erickson, of Walla Walla Sanitarium, to the Zambesi Union, as director of the Kanye medical mission.

Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Sturges, of Idaho, to the Congo Union, for medical mission work.

Dr. and Mrs. E. G. Marcus, from Loma Linda Sanitarium, to the South East African Union, for medical mission work.

Brother and Sister J. L. Grisham, from Melrose Sanitarium, to the South East African Union, for mission work.

Miss Ina Moore, of Walla Walla Sanitarium, to the Equatorial Union as treasurer and secretary.

Brother and Sister F. R. Huxtable, of Mountain View, California, to the Equatorial Union for mission work in Angola.

Brother and Sister Robert Jones, of Washington Sanitarium, to the Equatorial Union, to open mission work in the Cameroons.

Brother and Sister James Belvail, of California, to the new training college, as farm manager.

Brother and Sister G. R. Nash, of Emmanuel Missionary College, to the South East African Union, for mission station work.

Miss Cossentine, of Atlantic Union College, to the South East African Union, for mission station work.

Brother and Sister H. M. Sparrow, of Emmanuel Missionary College, to the Zambesi Union, as superintendent of the South Rhodesian Mission Field.

Brother and Sister Gaston Nassonge, of Belgium, to the Congo Union, for mission and evangelistic work.

NAME OF SCHOOL

The sub-committee appointed to bring in a suggestive name for our new training school recommended that the school be called "Helderberg College."

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

We recommend, That in the organisation of a medical department for this Division we adopt the following plan :

1. That the general plan of organisation as applied to other departments of our work apply also to the Medical Department.

2. That we appoint a medical department board for the following two years. This board will consist of seven members : Miss H. J. Davies, C. F. Birken-

stock, H. A. Erickson, J. H. Sturges, E. G. Marcus, A Tonge and W. H. Branson. This board may be increased from time to time as the development of the work may make it necessary.

3. In harmony with the special light given in the Spirit of Prophecy regarding the great value of doing medical work in connection with our other missionary activities,

We recommend, That as quickly as possible we plan to place fully qualified doctors in each of our large mission fields.

4. That we plan to build up and equip small hospitals for use of these physicians, and which will be the centre of the medical work for that section.

(a) That around this centre shall be established a system of small dispensaries, each of which shall be under the charge of a nurse or trained native worker.

(b) That these dispensaries shall be established, when this can satisfactorily be arranged, in connection with our mission stations and out-schools.

(c) That as far as possible the doctor and the missionary plan to make their visits together.

(d) That all ordinary cases shall be treated in the small dispensaries. The severe cases to be selected and sent to the main hospital for special care and operation when necessary.

5. That as soon as possible a medical secretary be appointed in each conference.

6. That the medical work shall be under the direction of the local conference committee where it is located.

7. That all our medical workers connected with the organisation be regarded as regular missionary workers, and that they be under the direction of the respective local field committee on the same basis as labourers in all other departments, and that wherever possible the medical work be given representation on the local and union committees.

We further recommend, That wherever possible native nurses and orderlies be given a practical training for not longer than two years, to train them for first aid and simple treatments among their own people.

We recommend, That a native evangelist be employed by the mission hospital,

(a) To teach dispensary patients.

(b) To hold prayer services with ward patients.

(c) To follow up, as far as possible, interested patients who have been discharged from the hospital.

(d) That, the doctor hold frequent meetings with his patients.

(e) That, when on itinerary with an evangelist, the doctor hold clinics and meetings in villages which he visits.

8. *We recommend*, That the doctor visit all the mission stations twice a year. At that time, he is required

(a) To give a physical examination to all missionaries and their families, servants and students in the school.

(b) To inspect the hygiene and sanitation of the mission, and to make a written report of the conditions existing.

(c) At the same time it is desirable, if at all possible, that he visit all the out-schools, holding clinics at each, and giving health instruction to the teachers and students.

9. *We recommend*, (a) That at all workers' institutes instruction be given along medical lines.

(b) That the diet of patients in our hospitals and dispensaries be governed largely by local conditions.

(c) That the medical work on the station be a part of the mission work, and all medical work should be referred to either the physician, the nurse, or one that has been appointed to take charge of this work.

10. WHEREAS, The good health of the missionary is of primary importance in the discharging of his duties, and of great economy to the Cause,

We recommend, That (a) All missionaries be required to boil all drinking water except such water as be exempted by the medical inspector.

(b) All missionaries are strongly urged to take the Typhoid Prophylaxis yearly, or as recommended by the medical superintendent.

(c) All missions be rendered mosquito free by carrying out the following procedures:

1. Clearing off the ground around the house for at least 50 yards.

2. All branches of trees should be trimmed at least ten feet from the ground.

3. All screens should be 16 to 20 mesh to the inch, and of copper wire near the coast, or galvanised or bronze near the interior.

4. All missionaries should sleep under nets.

5. All missionaries residing in malaria districts should take 5 grs. of quinine daily from the time they enter until from three to six months after they leave.

HARVEST INGATHERING

WHEREAS, The Harvest Ingathering plan is becoming an important factor in raising mission funds, and in bringing our Message before the people of South Africa, and is also proving a blessing to those engaged in it, therefore,

We recommend, 1. That our workers and church leaders thoroughly organise our membership for a strong effort in behalf of this 1927 missionary campaign, and

2. That special consideration be given to the instruction of native believers in the best methods and plans to be followed in order that they may intelligently and effectively co-operate in this endeavour to raise funds and spread a knowledge of the Truth, and

3. That a goal of £3,200 be accepted for the Division.



Treasurer's Report

SPACE will not permit of our giving a complete financial statement for the Division. The treasurer's report as rendered to the Council gave the assets of the Division at £13,153-14-0 at date of January 31, 1927. This value of assets consists chiefly of monies advanced to the mission fields on future appropriations, as also cash in hand and at bank. The liabilities of the Division consist mainly of advances made by the General Conference on the 1928 appropriation and trust funds at date of statement, amounting to £4,038-19-3. The Division has a Working Capital Account of £435-2-7 and a Capital Investment Fund of £451-0-0.

During the biennial term, we received £12,178-6-8 as appropriations from the General Conference, and from special funds raised within the field. This total amount, with the exception of £386-2-7, was appropriated to the fields for the carrying forward of their work the past two years.

W. B. COMMINS.

**Report of Tithe and Mission Offerings for 1925 and 1926 as compared
with receipts for the previous two years.**

T i t h e

	1925-1926	1923-1924	INCREASE
Received from European Members	25221 17 2	23044 16 9	2177 0 5
Received from Native Members	2971 8 11	2875 2 9	96 6 2
Totals	£28193 6 1	25919 19 6	2273 6 7

Mission Offerings

Received from European Members	16784 17 5	16866 17 1	*81 19 8
Received from Native Members	1797 12 3	1663 14 11	133 17 4
Totals	£18582 9 8	18530 12 0	51 17 8

*Decrease

NOTE.—For the two years 1925-1926, gifts to missions from European members as compared with tithe equalled 64%, and from the natives 59%.

Mission offerings per week per member, 1925, 2/2 Mission offerings per week per member, 1926, 2/3

Results of Special Campaigns and Offerings

NAME	1925	1926	INCREASE
Harvest Ingathering	3050 5 11	3386 9 4	336 3 5
Big Week	288 0 6	422 0 3	133 19 9
Camp Meeting Pledges	852 5 5	1337 10 9	485 5 4
Annual Offerings	321 4 3	392 2 4	70 18 1
Sabbath School Offerings	2750 12 9	3178 10 5	427 17 8
Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings	769 6 11	795 3 1	25 16 2
Week of Sacrifice	475 19 11	322 14 7	*153 5 0

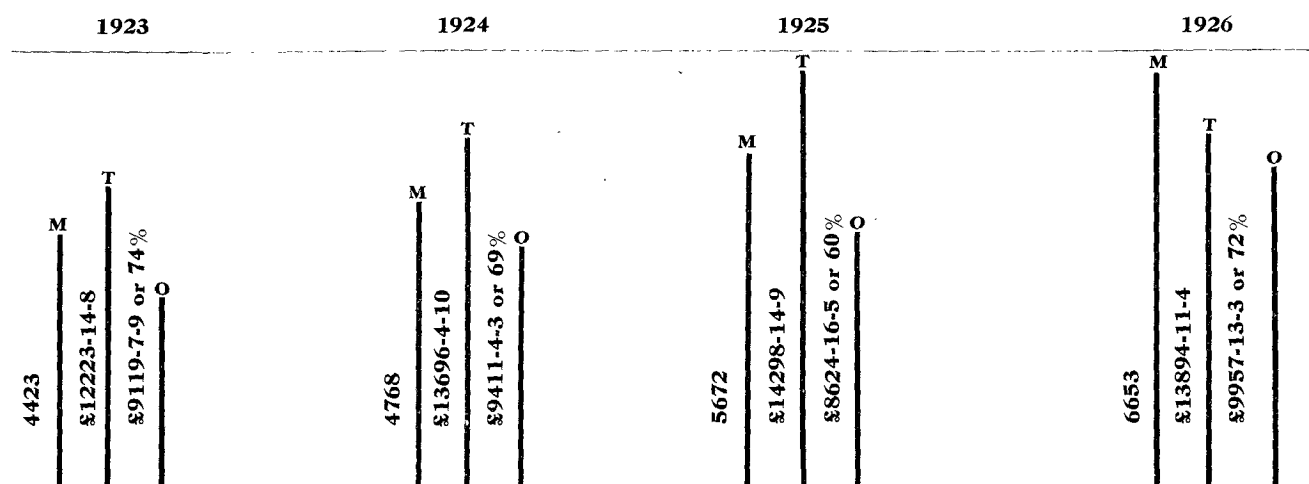
*Decrease

Statistics for the years 1923-1926

	1923	1924	1925	1926
No. of Church Organisations	71	88	94	107
Church Membership	5018	5922	6903	7760
No. of Baptisms	1019	1101	1525	1126
Net Increase in Membership	578	904	981	857
No. in Baptismal Classes	4477	4939	4627	5544
Total Number Keeping the Sabbath	9245	10611	11280	13263
No. of Sabbath Schools	274	298	302	308
Membership Sabbath Schools	12058	14210	14443	15889
Students in Mission Station Schools	731	1332	2281	1331
No. of Out-schools	160	177	202	201
Students in Out-schools	5695	9305	9808	10004
Total School Enrolment	6437	10699	12281	11838
Total No. of Workers (White)	93	110	161	166
Total No. of Workers (Native)	201	345	364	413

Chart Indicating Results 1923 to 1926

Membership, Tithe, and Offerings



Report of the Sentinel Publishing Company

THE last biennial period has been one of progress in many respects for our Publishing House. We have not been free from perplexing problems, but as our problems are solved, we trust that they will become stepping stones to further progress in scattering the printed pages of truth.

First, we will mention the matter of our sales. During the past two years we have sold books, pamphlets and tracts to the value of £13,398 in the European Department and £2,188 in the Native Department, making a total of £15,587. Comparing this with the previous biennial period, we find that there has been a reduction of sales in the European Department of £1,961, and in the Native Department of £389, or a decrease of £2,349.

In spite of the fact that our sales show a falling off, we are happy to report that the Book Department shows a financial gain of £33 for 1925, and £95 for 1926, or a total for the two years of £128.

We are sorry to report that there has been a loss in our Magazine Department. In 1925, there was a gain of £33, but for 1926 there has been a loss of £65. The *Signs of the Times* is the only magazine we issue now. The total circulation of this paper has averaged about 10,000 copies per month during the past two years. Of this number, 1,000 are being sent to single subscribers, while the remaining 9,000 are sent out in clubs to our churches and individuals throughout the Division. We know of individuals who use several hundred copies of this paper each month. The largest club, which is taken by the Johannesburg church, is for 2,250 papers. We wish to compliment and congratulate the wide-awake officers and members of this church in their missionary activities in spreading this large number of silent messengers each month.

We have made a good showing in our factory during the past two years. The total amount of work done during this period has amounted to £5,040, and value of materials used has been £1,466. The net profits were £224.

We are glad to report that for the year 1926 we made a gain financially in every department, excepting on our magazine. Our gains for the year amounted to £280-8-11.

At the close of 1925, we were owing on loan accounts £4,600. At the close of 1926, these had been reduced to £4,250. At the close of 1925, we were owing to oversea publishers £2,296. During the past year, these accounts have been reduced by £1391, or from £2,296 to £905. In making this comparison, it is only fair to mention that our accounts receivable, cash in hand and in bank were £346 more at December 31, 1925, than at December 31, 1926.

While it does not properly belong in this report, yet there is one item that we cannot refrain from mentioning, and that is that through the generosity of the Review and Herald Publishing Association and the African Division we hope to receive a sufficient sum of money to pay off our total indebtedness by the end of next year.

During the past two years, we have issued one new book, "God's Answers to Man's Questions," in the

Sesuto language. We have issued a revised edition of 2,000 copies of this book in the Kafir language.

Our regular publications are: *Signs of the Times*, (monthly); *African Division Outlook*, (semi-monthly); *Sabbath School Quarterlies* in Zulu, Sesuto, Kafir, and more recently in the Chibemba. We also publish our own Harvest Ingathering paper annually, in both English and Afrikaans.

J. G. SLATE.



Report of the Spion Kop College

THE daily pages of another two years have quietly been turned since last I reported the work of Spion Kop College to a Division Council. During these last two years, much has transpired affecting the work and future history of our training school in this country.

At our Division Council held in Bulawayo in June, 1925, it was voted that our training school should be transferred from its present location.

Immediately upon the purchase of a farm at Somerset West, two teachers' cottages were erected, as well as labourers' cottages, machine sheds and stables. Preparation was also made for the erection of the main buildings early in 1927. Several hundred thousand bricks were burned and roads constructed so as to facilitate the work when once started.

At the opening of 1927, the work of erecting the dormitories was pushed forward rapidly, so that even now both dormitories are closed in and are being plastered on the outside. It is expected that the plant will be sufficiently completed, therefore, to transfer the operation of the college from Spion Kop to its new location immediately upon the close of the present school year. We, of course, expect to have to operate under difficulties, but will hope that the good spirit of liberality towards our endeavour may continue until proper facilities are provided in our new location to allow us to carry on our work in a strong way without needless and serious handicap.

As a part of the moving programme, as outlined at our former Division Council, 1,700 acres of the school farm at Spion Kop were sold for £2,725. The remaining fixed assets belonging to the school were sold to the South African Union Conference for £5,392-6-4. A part of our livestock was also sold and realised £464, which together with the afore-mentioned amounts, makes a total in all of £8,581-6-4, which amount was transferred to the new school. This amount has been of very material assistance in meeting the heavy expenses in connection with re-establishing.

In the meantime, our school work at Spion Kop has been going forward in a strong way. Each year has seen an increasingly higher standard of scholarship prevail, until it is only fair to say that our work compares very favourably with the work done in a like standard in any of the schools of this country or our schools in other lands. The severe and disappointing handicap which we are experiencing in the task of operating our school lies in our having to operate a school without students; of having less than eighty students while we have machinery in operation which might easily provide for twice the enrolment, without added expenses.

Surely, the solemn words of Joel to the church of

God in these days should stir this Division Council: "Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly; gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children." Yes, gather the children as never before. Of the hundreds of youth in our ranks, scores are going straight to the service of the world without scarcely a protest. And, finally, not only does the world obtain their service, but their soul's affection. Shall we not, therefore, rally to the support of this important phase of our heaven-ordained programme for the training of our youth by:

1. As ministers of the people making a thorough investigation of the instruction of God concerning the placing of our young people under the influence of Christian teachers.

2. By reviewing the counsel of God to disabuse our minds if there be a need, of the idea of the plan of Christian education as being a foreign organisation, fostering foreign ideals which are unsuitable for the youth of this field.

3. By honest investigation of the work now being done by the school, rather than basing our opinions on conditions prevailing in years past, when the school administrations were labouring under severe and perhaps unappreciated handicaps.

4. By making honest inquiries from reliable sources of information concerning unfavourable reports or conditions prevailing, rather than resting our judgment upon some unfounded rumour which was calculated to produce evil by the instigation.

5. By realising that the work of the school is not to be judged by a single student, or even by a number who have never yielded to the influences of the school, despite the repeated and untiring efforts of the school administration for their good.

6. By workers continually directing the minds of the youth in our ranks to the lofty ideals of service in the cause of God, and the privileges of such service rather than the service of the world and its transitory remunerations.

7. By our workers urging that the solemn truths for this, the very time of the end, be guides in the training of our youth as well as ideals worthy of following by the older and mature members.

PRESENT WORK

Our school work this year is going forward with remarkable smoothness. The health of our students has been very good indeed, so that we have had practically no interruptions. The school is well organised and the staff is the strongest we have ever carried since my connection with the school. A high standard of scholarship is being maintained in every department, so that I consider the work of this year superior to that of any year heretofore.

The spiritual tone of our school has in past years been generally strong; this is also true of our present school year. It was our privilege to have Elder Moffitt with us for a week of special spiritual revival soon after the opening of this school year. Much good was accomplished as the result and its effects are, no doubt, yet influencing the spiritual tone. Already this year, we have baptised five students and a further baptismal class is to be formed a little later. Altogether, we feel that while we have not yet fully at-

tained all we should like, either for ourselves or our students, we are striving for the largest possible spiritual accomplishments in the days to come.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I should like to state that the prospects for the up-building of a strong training school are indeed encouraging, providing that we as workers and responsible leaders are able to catch the vision of God's plan for this part of our work and are able to roll this burden upon our parents and youth. It would seem that hitherto we have not fully sensed our failings in this important line, for He has multiplied counsel for us to bestir ourselves in such statements as: "The church is *asleep* and does not realise the magnitude of this matter of educating the children and youth." "God has appointed the church as a watchman to have a jealous care over the youth and children, but the church does not realise the situation. She is sleeping on guard." "It is a grievous offence to God that there has been so great neglect in this line when Providence has so abundantly supplied us with facilities with which to work.

Shall we not take an interest in the educating of our youth as never before and thus, apart from the benefits accrued to the school, set an influence at work in these lines which may not only be the means of their salvation, but also many others for whom they may labour? May the instruction of God, together with the possibilities of the results, stir us to labour for the training of our children as never before.

E. D. DICK.



Report of Literature Sales for Two Years Ending December 31, 1926

DURING the past two years, a steady stream of truth-filled literature has gone out from the Publishing House and our book depositories to all parts of the field. "Behold, I will send for many fishers, saith the Lord, and they shall fish them; and after will I send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks." Jer. 16: 16.

The following is a summary of the sales made of subscription books, helps, native literature and periodicals:

SALES MADE IN THE AFRICAN DIVISION

FOR TWO YEARS ENDING DEC. 31, 1926

	1925			1926			TOTAL		
Sub. Books and Helps	8409	17	10	8229	1	9	16638	19	7
Periodicals	1329	5	9	1037	17	6	2367	3	3
Office Sales	1052	17	8	1365	14	5	2418	12	1
Miscellaneous	247	17	7	319	6	8	567	4	3
Native Sales	1524	3	2	1087	9	8	2611	12	10
Totals	£12564	2	0	12039	10	0	24603	12	0

COMPARATIVE SALES (FOUR YEARS)

	1923-24			1925-26			TOTALS		
Sub. Books and Helps	18417	15	4	16638	19	7	35056	14	11
Periodicals	1141	3	11	2367	3	3	3508	7	2
Office Sales	289	0	4	2418	12	1	3707	12	5
Miscellaneous	1837	18	11	567	4	3	2405	3	2
Native Sales	3126	17	11	2611	12	10	5738	10	9
Totals	£24812	16	5	24603	12	0	49416	8	5

The total sales made in the territory of the African Division for the two years ending December 31, 1926,

amounted to £24,603-12-0 as compared with £24,812-16-5 for the previous two years.

WHERE THE SALES WERE MADE

Approximately 48% of the total sales in the Division were made in the Natal-Transvaal Conference, 33% in the Cape Conference, 14% in the Orange River Conference and 5% in the Zambesi Union.

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTION BOOKS SOLD

	1923-24	1925 26
Our Day in the Light of Prophecy	5223	4250
Bible Readings for the Home Circle	3415	3132
Practical Guide to Health	2,230	3013
Daniel and Revelation	1836	556
Great Controversy	1668	811
Ladies' Handbook	1578	1521
Past, Present and Future	303	318
God's Answers to Man's Questions	1140	3309
Miscellaneous (Big Week sets, etc.)	7284	15436
Christ's Object Lessons	235	
Heralds of the Morning	41	
Desire of Ages	30	
Christ Our Saviour	30	
Patriarchs and Prophets	28	
Totals	25041	32346

"Our Day in the Light of Prophecy," "Bible Readings for the Home Circle" and "Practical Guide to Health" have been our best sellers for the past four years. "The Ladies' Handbook" has also had a very good sale. Of the 32,346 books sold, 27,812 were religious books, and 4,534 were medical works. Religious books thus constitute 86% of the total sales, and health books about 14%. We are glad that the colporteurs have worked off a fair quantity of old stock, and in this way have brought some relief to the Publishing House.

There has been a large increase in the number of Crisis books sold in the last three years. This increase has been made up very largely by Big Week sales.

COLPORTEURS

During the period under consideration, there has been an average of twenty-two European colporteurs and twenty-eight native colporteurs, in the field. The average time spent in actual canvassing was sixty-eight hours per month per agent, and the sales per agent have been about £35 per month. Of course, some have done very much better than others, but the less successful ones have reduced the average. We are glad to report that a few have worked to, and reached, the goal of forty hours per week.

The deliveries on the whole have been fairly successful. A few of the less experienced colporteurs have not been able to deliver as large a percentage of their orders as could be desired. However, it is estimated that approximately 80% of the orders secured have been delivered. Our student colporteurs have taken orders for more than £2,500 worth of books each summer. Several have been successful in earning full scholarships annually.

NATIVE LITERATURE WORK

The major portion of our native literature work is being carried on in the Natal-Transvaal Conference. The native believers in this section of the field have demonstrated that this line of work can be done successfully. Brother Blennerhassett has kept a strong corps of workers in the field continually. The results

obtained from this department have been most encouraging as these brethren have not only sold books, but have won souls to the Truth. There is a great field open before us for this line of work, and with several new books in view in the leading vernaculars, we have confidence to believe that considerable growth will be made in all of the fields in the near future.

CONCLUSION

At the present time, we have 25 European colporteurs in the field and the sales for the first three months of 1927 have been very satisfactory in all of the conferences. We thank God for the consecrated men and women who have responded to the call, and have gone out with the literature to all parts of the field. Their faithfulness has made possible this good report to you today. In addition to the thousands of pages of literature distributed, the colporteurs have been instrumental in bringing a number of people into the Truth. So in this way they are doing "missionary work of the highest order," and not until the great day when God gathers in His jewels from all parts of the earth, will we know the full results of the work done by these "hunters" and "fishers" of men.

G. S. JOSEPH.



Sabbath School Department

As this is the first Division Council that I have attended in Africa as the representative of the Sabbath School Department, I wish to extend to all a word of greeting, and an expression of thanks to my Heavenly Father for the privilege of again taking up work for the Lord in this great but needy field.

Before rendering my report I feel it a privilege to express to our sister, Mrs. A. P. Tarr, a word of appreciation for her long years of service in the Sabbath School Department in this Division, and for her constant and faithful efforts in building up our Sabbath schools in all parts of this field. Sister Tarr took over the Sabbath school secretary's work in South Africa in 1909, and for eighteen years carried the leading responsibility in this department. Sister Plummer, the General Conference Sabbath school secretary, asked me personally to convey to Sister Tarr, and to the brethren in this field, her sincere appreciation of Sister Tarr's long and faithful service in the Sabbath School Department. She has been on Sister Plummer's mailing list longer than any other secretary in the world, and I feel that I can not hope to do more than to build along the same lines of endeavour which were so faithfully started by Sister Tarr in her long years of service.

HISTORICAL

The Sabbath school follows the Message, or rather is a part of it, and so wherever the Third Angel's Message has been proclaimed, Sabbath schools have been organised to help to carry it on. Here in Africa when the early pioneers brought the Message, Sabbath schools began to spring up in various places. Sabbath schools have grown from 36 to 328 in the last nineteen years, or an increase of 911%. Our membership shows even a better growth, from 807 in 1908 to 16,074 in 1926, or nearly 2,000% increase. Our total offering in 1908 was only £108-13-0, while last year we gave £3,668-8-3, or an increase of 2,031%, or, at the end of nineteen years, the Sabbath School Depart-

ment is twenty times as large and is still growing. The plan of the Thirteenth Sabbath offering was not started until 1912 and that year we gave £33-12-6, while last year we reached £805-12-1. The best year for the Thirteenth Sabbath offering was 1924, however, when £821-2-0 was given.

PRESENT ORGANISATION

The Sabbath school as at present organised in the African Division, has thirteen fields reporting each quarter to the Division Sabbath school secretary.

We give a brief report from each of the union fields:

SOUTH AFRICAN UNION CONFERENCE

EUROPEAN AND COLOURED DEPARTMENTS

	1925	1926	GAIN
Av. No. of Schools	56	53	3 (loss)
Av. Membership	1629	1952	323
Av. Attendance	1491	1665	174
Bookmarks	182	209	27
Baptisms	92	140	48
Investment Fund		40 16 1	40 16 1
Birthday Offerings	60 16 2	105 19 7	45 3 5
12 Sab. Offerings	1802 6 3	1991 2 4	188 16 1
13th Sab. Offering	648 1 0	716 4 10	68 3 10

NATIVE DEPARTMENT

	1925	1926	GAIN
Av. No. of Schools	46	44	2 (loss)
Av. Membership	747	1184	437
Av. Attendance	1029	1069	40
Bookmarks	50	53	3
Baptisms	118	95	21 (loss)
Investment Fund		1 3 8	1 3 8
12 Sab. Offerings	120 11 8	123 11 4	2 19 8
13th Sab. Offering	29 8 7	33 14 9	4 6 2

ZAMBESI UNION

	1925	1926	GAIN
Av. No. of Schools	114	130	16
Av. Membership	4927	5433	506
Av. Attendance	4862	5389	527
Bookmarks	4	9	5
Baptisms	137	284	147
Investment Fund		1 6	1 6
Birthday Offerings	6 14 7	3 15 0	*2 19 7
12 Sab. Offerings	332 18 4	421 4 2	88 5 10
13th Sab. Offerings	65 8 8	60 8 10	*4 19 10

SOUTHEAST AFRICAN UNION MISSION

	1925	1926	GAIN
Av. No. of Schools	64	65	1
Av. Membership	5272	6144	872
Av. Attendance	4841	5880	1039
Baptisms	276	550	274
12 Sab. Offerings	92 18 10	104 7 2	11 8 4
13th Sab. Offerings	13 15 0	12 8 7	*1 6 5

CONGO UNION MISSION

	1925	1926	GAIN
No. of Schools	11	10	1 (loss)
Av. Membership	382	449	67
Av. Attendance	339	421	82
Bookmarks		6	6
12 Sab. Offerings	80 18 2	87 16 0	6 17 10
13th Sab. Offerings	15 7 8	12 5 7	*3 2 1

EQUATORIAL UNION MISSION

	1925	1926	GAIN
Av. No of Schools	3	7	4
Av. Membership	81	316	235
Av. Attendance	74	489	415
Baptisms		11	11
12 Sab. Offerings	58 7 8	45 19 6	*12 8 2
13th Sab. Offerings	12 14 0	15 5 2	2 11 2

GENERAL SUMMARY—AFRICAN DIVISION

	1925-26	1923-24	GAIN
Av. No of Schools	300	270	30
Av. Membership	14258	12149	2107
Av. Attendance	13273	11633	1640
Bookmarks	513	247	266
Baptisms	1773	1447	326
Investment Fund	42 1 3		42 1 3
Birthday Offerings	177 5 4	153 15 10	23 9 6
12 Sab. Offerings	5262 1 5	4802 14 2	459 7 3
13th Sab. Offerings	1645 2 8	1559 12 8	85 10 0

In presenting this summary for the Division in comparison with the record for 1923-24, we are glad to report a gain in every item, showing a healthy growth in the Sabbath School Department. However, in looking to the future, we should forget those things behind, and press toward the mark of the finishing of the work in this field, that we may all soon gather in the great Sabbath school rally in a better land.

CONCLUSION

Before closing this report, I wish to speak of some of the Sabbath school opportunities that are ours in pushing forward the work during the next two years in this Division.

First, I believe we should endeavour to place the Sabbath school lessons in the hands of as many of our native people as possible. The Division has made provision for the publication of the Sabbath school lessons for all the field, if, after counsel with the union committees, a request is placed with the Sabbath School Department, when the lessons provided for the translation into the vernacular will be sent forward.

Also, I believe we should give serious consideration to the translation of the Sabbath School Quarterly into the Afrikaans, for the use of our Afrikaans speaking people in the South African Union Conference.

I think the time is ripe in this Division for a definite forward movement in all our churches and in our mission fields for an advance step in the matter of giving to missions, especially through our Sabbath schools. Too many of our conferences and mission fields are behind in their missions goals. I hope that this Council will take up this matter and strike a note of advance all through the field.

I am looking forward to a much greater development of the Investment Plan, which has so recently been adopted by the Sabbath School Department. I believe that this plan, if rightly understood and followed, affords great possibilities for raising our mission funds among both our European and native believers.

I would suggest the planning for more promotion material to be used among the native Sabbath schools; and also that study be given to the honour cards, and plans for issuing the same among our native believers.

And now as we face another biennial period, my prayer is that the Lord may richly bless all our Sabbath schools in soul-winning, and in giving, that the Message may soon be finished in the African Division.

J. I. ROBISON.

Owing to lack of space, reports presented at the Division Council from the Educational and Missionary Volunteer secretaries must be held over for publication in the next issue of our paper.

Special Session of the South African Union Conference

A SPECIAL session of the South African Union Conference was held in Johannesburg, May 24 to 26. In the past, the South African Union has held its biennial sessions in the odd years as compared with the other unions and the Division, and it was felt that a special session should be called at this time in order that the future regular sessions would come during the same year as those of the other unions, and in order also that the special help given by the General Conference at the time of these meetings might also be received by this Union.

We give some of the interesting features from the reports of the president and the secretary-treasurer for 1926. Three hundred and eighty-five persons were received into church fellowship by baptism during the year. After deducting the transfers and losses by death and apostasy, there was a net increase in our membership of 173. There is at present a membership in the South African Union of 3,038 made up as follows:

Europeans	1634
Cape Coloured	120
Native	1284
Total	3038

The tithe receipts for 1926 amounted to £11,717-10-6 as compared with £12,479-17-4 for 1925, or a decrease of £762-6-10. Mission offerings, however, show a gain over the year 1925 of about £1,328, the total mission offerings received for 1926 being £8,247-17-5. The Big Week and Harvest Ingathering Campaigns were particularly successful. In each case, the union went considerably over its goal, and in the case of the Harvest Ingathering Campaign, the entire goal for the Division was more than raised within this Union. It is to be regretted, however, that only 85% of our total mission offerings goal was raised for the year.

By a standing vote, the following resolution of gratitude was unanimously passed at the conference session:

"Recognising that during the past year the Lord has mercifully spared the lives of our workers and has crowned our soul-winning efforts with success, we humbly record our heart-felt gratitude for these many evidences of God's care and love, and unreservedly rededicate our lives to Him in the proclamation of this last message to the world."

Inasmuch as our session followed immediately after the Division Council, the greater part of the resolutions passed had come as recommendations to us from the Division.

The following report of the committee on nominations was adopted unanimously by the conference:

UNION

President, J. F. Wright.
Secretary-Treasurer and Auditor, A. F. Tarr.
Field Missionary Secretary, L. A. Vixie.
Young People's M. V. and Educational Secretary, E. D. Hanson.
Field Secretary for Dutch work, S. G. Hiten.
Religious Liberty Secretary, J. F. Wright.
Home Missionary Secretary, J. F. Wright.

Medical Secretary, Dr. A. H. Kretchmar.

Executive Committee, J. F. Wright, A. F. Tarr, E. D. Hanson, L. A. Vixie, S. G. Hiten, J. J. Birkenstock, L. L. Moffitt, M. Robison, J. R. Campbell, B. E. Schaffner, E. M. Howard, T. M. French.

KAFIRLAND MISSION FIELD

Superintendent, E. M. Howard.

Secretary-Treasurer, A. P. Tarr.

Sabbath School Secretary, Mrs. A. P. Tarr.

Missionary Volunteer Secretary, E. M. Howard.

Executive Committee, E. M. Howard, A. P. Tarr, Chas. Sparrow, J. N. de Beer, and the medical superintendent of East Griqualand mission.

BASUTO-BECHUANA MISSION FIELD

Superintendent, B. E. Schaffner.

Secretary-Treasurer, A. F. Tarr.

Sabbath School Secretary, Mrs. B. E. Schaffner.

Missionary Volunteer Secretary, B. E. Schaffner.

Executive Committee, B. E. Schaffner, A. F. Tarr, W. L. Davy, R. C. Sharman, A. E. Shone.

TRANSVAAL-DELAGOA MISSION FIELD

Superintendent, J. R. Campbell.

Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. J. R. Campbell.

Sabbath School Secretary, Mrs. J. R. Campbell.

Missionary Volunteer Secretary, J. R. Campbell.

Executive Committee, J. R. Campbell, J. E. Symons, Wm. Hodgson, W. C. Walston, A. A. Pitt, A. FLOYD TARR.

SABBATH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

J. I. ROBISON, Secy., Grove Ave., Claremont, C. P.

Inter-America's Call

It will be the privilege of our Sabbath schools on the last Sabbath in June to remember the Macedonian call of Inter-America for help in pushing this last saving Message on into the unentered regions of that great land. We have been studying from Sabbath to Sabbath the advancing work among the scattered Indian tribes of Central and South America, and now it is our privilege to give on this thirteenth Sabbath an offering that will help to push the Message on to answer these calls about which we have been hearing from week to week.

Shall we not make this the largest thirteenth Sabbath offering yet raised in the African Division? It is our privilege now to help another needy field, and ere long the whole world will be giving to help Africa extend the work into the great unentered fields to the north. Remember the 25th of June is "Inter-America" day, and the great need calls for a liberal offering.

J. I. ROBISON.



Oranje Rivier Konferensie

DIE Diwiesie Raadsitting te Johannesburg is verby, en die verskillende arbeiders is terug na hulle werksvelde. Hierdie samekoms in die Goudstad was ons almal tot groot seen gewees. Soos u wellig weet hou die Diwiesie elke twee jaar sy sitting, wanneer nuwe beamptes aangestel word en tegelykertyd planne ge-

maak word om die werk in die Afrikaanse Afdeling beter te behartig. Daar bestaan nou vier groot sendingsvelde ten noorde van die Unie waar ons in woon. Hierdie velde sluit die twee Rhodesias, Portugees Oos en Wes Afrika, Niasaland, Belgies Kongo, en Frans Sentraal Afrika in. Die berigte uit hierdie velde was besonder aanmoedigend. Dit is wonderlik hoe God die werk seen en hoe die waarheid sig versprei. In ons Afrikaanse Afdeling, wat die hierbo genoemde velde insluit is daar vandag sestien duisend siele wat elke Sabbat tesame kom in gehoorsaamheid tot die laaste boodskap van genade. Dit het my hart goed gedoen om te luister na die sendelinge hoe dat die Here die arbeid seen.

Sedert die goeie byeenkoms te Johannesburg is ons aandag gevestig op ons veld in die Oranje Rivier Konferensie. Die arbeid onder ons beskaafde blankes gaan ongetwyfeld stadiger as onder die heidene. Baie witmense is Godsdienst, terwyl die kaffer dit maklik aanneem. Nogtans sien ons geseende vrugte onder die Europeers, en daar is eerlike siele wat verlang om die waarheid te ken soos ons dit verstaan. Ons plig is om getroue getuie te wees in ons omgewing. Ons moet aan wit en swart die boodskap geef. Ons saak is ernstig, die taak yslik groot, en die tyd om te werk is kort. (Ps. 39: 1-5.)

Laaste week het ek 'n paar genoeglike dae te Aliwal deurgebring. Dit was aangenaam die belangstelling daar te sien. Br. A. W. Staples is druk besig om die belang in die dorp op te volg. Daar is 'n heel aantal siele wat hinkende is op twee gedagtes. Die oortuig is wel daar maar die kinderlik geloof ontbreek. Geliewe hierdie saak te gedenk in u gebede. Die gebed des geloofs vermag veel. Br. P. A. Venter bepaal sy aandag besonders aan die belangstellendes op die plase. Sr. Minnie Dixie het haar hande vol met die besoeking van die waarheid-lievende vroue, waarvan daar 'n goeie aantal is. Br. S. Swanepoel, wat onlangs bygekom het, gaan dadelik begin om 'n poging te hou vir die Kaapse Bruinmense. Daar is reeds 'n belowende belangstelling en ons vertrou dat siele sal uitstaan vir die waarheid. Die arbeiders en die werk te Aliwal Noord verlang dat ons hulle daeliks sal opdra in ons gebede tot God. Vergeet hierdie versoek tog nie.

Die plaaslike herder van Bloemfontein, Br. S. J. Stevenson, is op besoek uit na Taungs, Vryburg en Mafeking, met die doel om later sig in daardie geweste te gaan vestig. Bro. G. W. Shone is op weg na Kimberley om die werk daar oor te neem van Br. Hiten, wat van plan is om die Kaapkolonie te besoek. Br. S. J. Fourie is reeds twee weke weg om boeke te gaan aflewer in die Oostelike deel van ons veld. Ons verwag om aanstaande maand 'n paar nuwe kolporteurs in die veld te sien. Die vooruitsigte in hierdie opsig is dus beter.

Sabbat die 18de Junie word gewy aan Gesondheid. 'n Program word beskikbaar gestel vir die morediens, en ons vertrou dat almal die opnemings daarvan sal geniet. Br. J. N. de Beer, ons vorige president, is laaste week met sy gesin vertrek na Pondoland om die arbeid daar op te neem. Geliewe vry te voel om ons te aller tyd te skryf. Gaarne hoor ons van u. Met broedergroete,
J. J. BIRKENSTOCK.

News Notes from the Natal Transvaal Conference

ELDER FRENCH spoke on Sabbath, May 28, in Johannesburg. His spiritual sermon was much appreciated.

WE were loathe to lose Brother and Sister F. E. Potter from our ranks of faithful colporteurs, but our loss is the gain of the Cape Conference. Brother Potter is now associated with the Cape Conference as field missionary secretary. We all wish these faithful workers much of God's blessing in their new endeavours.

THE Missionary Volunteer reading courses for this year are as follows:

SENIOR: "Story of the Advent Message," "Travel Talks on China," and "The Measure of a Man." The price is 22/-, post paid.

JUNIOR: "Wilfred Grenfell," "The Sprite," and "The Pilgrim's Progress." Price is 18/-, post paid.

PRIMARY: "Peter the Fisherman" costs 6/-, post paid.

Each Missionary Volunteer society should have a set to circulate. Plan now to secure a set for your society.

BROTHER LE BUTT is conducting revival services in the Krugersdorp church.

ELDER HURLOW is endeavouring to locate a hall in which to conduct his winter effort. Let us unite in prayer for the success of the evangelistic campaign, that God will richly bless these workers and that many will accept the message of God.

At a recent meeting of the conference committee, plans were laid for the advancement of the work during the next few months. We are pleased to give some of the items:

Elder W. H. Hurlow will conduct an evangelistic effort in Johannesburg as soon as he is able to secure a hall. Brother and Sister A. C. le Butt will associate with him in this effort.

Elder B. P. de Beer will follow up the interest created by the recent tent effort at Lichtenburg diggings.

Miss Leonie de Beer is requested to locate at Krugersdorp to do Bible work and labour in the general interest of the church work there.

Elder B. M. Heald is invited to continue work which has been started in Pretoria and carry out the plans for the erection of a church building in this place.

We are pleased to have the benefit of Miss Fleming's services during the remainder of this year. She will associate with our evangelistic corps of workers. We welcome her to our faithful band of soul-winners.

ELDER T. M. FRENCH, our conference president, has made a short visit to the office. We all welcome Elder French to his new duties, and believe God will richly bless his labours in our conference. He has just completed a successful trip to the north country, locating new mission sites. Since he has been in this malaria stricken region about five months, it is evident that he needs a rest, and consequently Elder French will take a month's holiday before taking up active work in our field.
A. E. NELSON.

THE AFRICAN DIVISION OUTLOOK

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W. B. COMMINS, Editor
MISS P. E. WILLMORE, Asst. Editor
Grove Avenue, Claremont, Cape

General News Notes

IMMEDIATELY following the Division Council at Johannesburg, several of the brethren proceeded to Bulawayo to attend the constituency meeting of the Zambesi Union. During this meeting, encouraging reports were made of the progress of the work within the territory of that union, and plans were laid to more successfully carry on the work in the immediate future.

After visiting some of the missions in Rhodesia, Brethren Beddoe and Branson proceeded to Nyasaland.

BROTHER J. I. ROBISON is attending camp-meetings in the Zambesi Union, and a little later will join Brother Dick on a visit to the Congo.

FROM Johannesburg, Brother H. H. Hall visited the Kanye mission hospital, and sailed from Cape Town for Australia, on Sunday, the 5th inst.

ON Monday morning, June 6, Brother J. Belvail, wife and two children arrived by the "Arundel Castle." This family proceeded immediately to Somerset West, and Brother Belvail has already taken over the work of farm manager at our new school site.



News Notes From Spion Kop College

THE mid-year holidays will extend from June 22-28. Some are expecting to go home for a few days while others are planning a trip to the Drakensberg for three or four days.

THE students were entertained at the homes of the various faculty members on Tuesday evening, June 7. This is one form of social activity which has a special appeal to the heart of a young person. The names of each party were chosen by lot, so as to avoid any appearance of favouritism.

THE business-like attitude with which the students approach their work this year is worthy of comment. Those who fell below an average of 70% at the end of the first quarter were asked to sit under supervision in the evening study hour. Since then a large number have voluntarily placed themselves under supervision. This is rather a healthy indication.

A BOUNTIFUL crop of about 500 bags of mealies is being harvested at present.

SISTER RACINE, of Johannesburg, is visiting friends in the community for a short time.

As time passes, conversation about the new school waxes more and more enthusiastic. Any information concerning the developments at Somerset West takes precedence over every other consideration. Students of Spion Kop are supporting Helderberg College one hundred per cent.

THE latest student to enrol is Johanna Dahl, of Johannesburg. There are more students in school at present than at the corresponding period last year.

G. E. SHANKEL.

Wanted

By a sister of this conference, volumes 1 and 5 of the "Testimonies," in the nine volumes edition, flexible leather binding preferred.

Anyone having these books and being willing to dispose of them, please communicate with

Religious Book Depository, P. O. Box 378, Port Elizabeth.



Situation Wanted

YOUNG man, married, Seventh-day Adventist, seeks situation. Has had ten years' clerical experience, holds junior book-keeping certificate. Reply to N. P. Burne, 108 Botanic Garden Road, Durban.

Obituaries

PRATT.—We regret to announce the passing into sleep, at the age of fifty-nine of Sister G. T. Pratt, fondly known as "Mother Pratt," on Sunday, May 29, at her home at Johannesburg.

For several months, she had suffered considerable pain which the doctors finally diagnosed as being the result of a gastric cancer. An operation, however, failed to reveal a cancer and we had hopes of a recovery. Sister Pratt returned to her home on the morning of May 29, and passed away in the early afternoon.

Sister Pratt became acquainted with the Message about thirty years ago, through the labours of Elder Edmed. Since that time, she has been faithful through many tribulations, and we feel we can indeed say that a "mother in Israel" has passed away. She was perfectly resigned to the will of her Father, and died suddenly in her husband's arms, while they both were re-consecrating themselves to the Master. Her husband and two sons remain to mourn their loss, but not as those who have no hope.

Words of comfort were spoken at the graveside by the writer, assisted by Elder D. F. Tarr. W. H. HURLOW.

SMILES.—On Sunday, May 29, at the Johannesburg hospital, Sister P. Smailes, aged twenty-nine, fell asleep in Jesus. She was the victim of pulmonary tuberculosis, which for something over a year had confined her to her bed. She had suffered considerably from pain and the discomforts consequent to her disease, but throughout she kept her faith in God and exhibited a wonderful fortitude.

As a young girl, Sister Smailes found the truth of the Sabbath through private study of the Bible. Later, she was led into the knowledge of the Threefold Message, the blessed hope of which sustained her in her last hours. She leaves her husband, Elder Smailes, to mourn his loss. Words of comfort were spoken at the graveside by the writer, assisted by Elder D. F. Tarr. W. H. HURLOW.

FISHER.—John F. Fisher was born September, 1855, and died in Claremont, Cape, May 15, 1927, after an illness lasting several weeks. The last few weeks before death came, he suffered intensely, but through it all, his Master was very near, and gave him grace to bear it.

Brother Fisher is greatly missed from his accustomed place in the Salt River church, as he was an ever present member and worker, for several years holding the offices of deacon and elder.

He united with this people, under the labours of Elder Theunissen, about twenty-nine years ago, and was a faithful and loyal member to the day of his death.

Six children, three boys and three girls, are left to mourn the loss of their father.

Elder F. G. Clifford conducted the funeral service, and our brother now rests in the Woltemade No. 3 Cemetery, waiting the call of the Life-giver, when He shall come to call His sleeping saints from their dusty beds.

ALARD.—Arthur, the infant son of Brother and Sister A. Alard, of the Salt River church, was born May 12, 1927, and died May 15, 1927.

Words of comfort were spoken by Elder F. G. Clifford.

A. V. EDWARDS.