

Missionary Volunteer Week

Missionary Volunteer Week in 1940 should be better than any of its predecessors.

For one thing, it is the first occasion of its kind since the Missionary Volunteer Congress at Vejlefjord, and so should be a firstfruits of the good plans laid at that gathering. We now have a number of Master Comrades, Comrades, and Companions among us, and the Missionary Volunteer Week should be stronger and more effective for their willing help. More and more Missionary Volunteer Week must become a time when the young people put forth their own best efforts to help and win other youth.

Also, our country is again at war, and many of our young men have been called to serve in one capacity or another. In such service, with its numerous contacts, is a wonderful opportunity to make a Christian influence felt far and wide. We hope that many of these young men will meet with us during the special week. At any rate we must support them ardently with our prayers. If there is any way we can help them to bear their witness more effectively, let us make use of it.

As Advent youth we have a world outlook. Our minds and our desires often turn to our comrades in other lands. Some of them are severely tested. What can we do to fortify them in their struggle?

Once again a time has come when God's people are summoned to united, earnest prayer. In Joel's

By W. T. BARTLETT

day the adults and the children, the bridegroom and the bride, even the babes, were to pray with one mind and one heart: "Spare Thy people, O. Lord, and give not Thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: why should they say among the people, Where is their God?"

Is it not time for God to be exalted in the earth? And if so, must He not first be exalted in Zion? Can we be indifferent so long as the enemy is holding one of our young people in captivity? Is it not possible, by earnest prayer and faithful labour, to roll away the reproach of disloyalty from our camp, from our homes?

In Joel's day the united prayer was heard. To the adults and the vouth who came together in prayer the promise was given that God would rebuke the enemy and break his power, that God would pour out His Spirit upon old and young, upon sons and daughters, upon servants and handmaidens. The heavenly blessing was to come down in overflowing abundance. Signs and wonders in heaven and earth would signalize the reformation. Neither blood nor fire would have power to quench it. There would be a great turning to the Lord for salvation, and in Mount Zion, in Jerusalem, and in the remnant called by God, deliverance would be manifested. (Toel 2:28-33,)

By this pouring out of His Spirit on all His children God wreaks a glorious revenge on His enemies. He stirs up the spirit of those who have gone into captivity for His sake, and through their witness He makes captives among heathen masters, turning their children into missionaries who become the bond-slaves of the Gospel, so that the Lord can send them also into far-off lands to work for the extension of His kingdom. (Joel 3:6-8.) In the final gathering-day the children of the New Terusalem ask in amazement how it is that multitudes are coming to the wedding feast from east and west, north and south, from lands where they never looked to find converts. The answer to their question is that God Himself has done great things among the heathen, through the most unlikely instruments and under the most embarrassing conditions; He has even made use of the kings and queens of the earth to carry out His gracious purposes. (Isa. 49: 21-23.)

Let the youth give themselves to the Lord, for He is waiting to do wonderful things through them. They will never know what life might be until He teaches them how to live. Let none delay, or promise themselves that some time, in a future that is not theirs to plan with, they will stand on the Lord's side.

Now, in 1940, during the Missionary Volunteer Week, is the golden opportunity to become the

Lord's, and to let Him work out for you a glorious share in His soon-coming triumph. What excuse could we offer Him for holding our place, a little longer, in the ranks of His enemies? If we hesitate now we may forfeit our part in the battle, and our crown of life. As workers for the youth, let us leave no step untaken during this Missionary Volunteer Week to rally our young people to the Missionary Volunteer standard, and to enrol any who have hitherto wavered, among the sons and daughters of the Lord Almighty.

Notes from the Union President

This is unquestionably the most trying winter that the evangelists in this Union have known for many a year. Transport was at one time seriously disorganized by heavy snow, and at least one of our preachers and his wife, who had to go from one town to another for an evangelistic campaign service, had to beg transportation on a coal cart! More than one went through two or three feet of snow. Quite a number have had the mortifying experience of speaking in almost empty halls. But in spite of everything our men have courageously kept on with their tasks, and we believe that there is a deep interest in many places, even with smaller numbers. One of the most encouraging campaigns is that at Scarborough, 520 people being present last Sunday night.

This brings us once more to mention our Evangelistic Box Fund. Now that many of our members are not able to get out so frequently it would be a great blessing if they would faithfully put one penny or more per week into this Little Brown Box for evangelism. Our churches should appoint someone to have special charge of this plan to see that each Adventist home is supplied with one of these boxes, which is collected at the end of every month or quarter. Conference treasurers have ample supplies of the boxes.

WAR-TORN EUROPE

It is confirmed that in Poland several of our workers have been shot, and that in Finland many have been compelled to leave their work and their homes. Rumours to the effect that hundreds have been shot in a central European country have not been confirmed.

Truly we need to have the church universal on our hearts in these days when evil spirits control the minds of many leaders.

TRIBUNAL EXPERIENCES

WE still have many inquiries indicating that some of our people have not noted the information we have published in the Messenger from time to time. In the Messenger of November 10, 1939, we published extracts from a War Office letter indicating clearly that no guarantee could be given to any Seventh-Day Adventist of freedom from duty on the Sabbath in any branch of the army. That letter stands to-day despite whatever any member of a tribunal, or whatever any person may tell our men. So, it must be clearly understood that in the non-combatant or other army corps the observance of the Sabbath will depend upon the attitude of the commanding officer.

In the main our men are being assigned to civilian work of national importance, and we feel that their witness for the Sabbath and their refusal to undertake work without a guarantee in this respect is perhaps a safeguard sent us by the Lord.

The authorities are showing great respect for the convictions of our men, and we are grateful for the principles of religious liberty that are still alive in this land of ours.

MAJOR MATTERS

WE read in the *Testimonies*, Vol. 8, page 36: "We have no time for dwelling on matters that are of no importance. Our time should be given to proclaiming the last message of mercy to a guilty world,"

It would be wise for us to keep that statement in mind in these days when it is so easy to allow our minds and our energies to be absorbed with the things that are of minor importance. Conference committees are asking workers for whom they do not have sufficient funds to grant evangelistic budgets, to spend the early months of the year in an intensive door-to-door literature evangelism. They will go to the same places week after week with literature which we shall provide and seek to find interested people in specific districts. These people who cannot, or will not, come out to meetings must be sought in their homes. We must carry the light to them. "As the rays of the sun penetrate to the remotest corners of the globe, so God designs that the light of the Gospel shall extend to every soul upon the earth. If the church of Christ were fulfilling the purpose of our Lord, light would be shed upon all that sit in darkness and in the region and shadow of death."—"Mount of Blessing," page 68.

We are prepared to receive gifts for the purchase of literature for this purpose, and also for the conduct of evangelistic campaigns where these are still possible. We urge ministry and laity alike to get back to this major matter of evangelism through door-to-door literature ministry, and through every other channel which the Lord will open before those who are determined to carry out His will.

H. W. Lowe.

An Urgent Request

A NUMBER of Adventist young people allocated to agricultural work as their contribution to national service, desire employment where they can receive Sabbath privileges. Will any Adventist able to offer such work or who knows of farmers willing to grant such consideration kindly communicate immediately with Pastor H. W. Lowe, British Union Conference Office, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.

3.

SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE

President: Pastor G. D. King Office Address: 780 St. Albans Road, Watford Telephone: Garston (Watford) 2213-4

Notes from the President

On every hand we hear the question discussed of a possible "Spring Offensive." Quite a number of people seem to be anticipating lively times before many days are passed. Even if that be so, why not turn our thoughts and actions to a "Spring Offensive" on the Adventist Home Front?

The recent Tract Campaign has met with a good response throughout the churches and companies of South England. Already reports indicate that last year's record figures will be reached. Consequently, Adventist "ammunition" in the form of excellent new tracts will be on hand in every district throughout the field. That ammuni-

tion must be put to effective use. Let there be no unused "ammunition dumps" in any church. Tracts are useless on the shelves of the Home Missionary society—indeed, they may be positively dangerous lying in the path of an incendiary bomb! The irony of a church being destroyed because of unused tracts would be too terrible to bear. Churches have actually died spiritually in the past because of a lack of missionary service, so that point may not be overdrawn. In any case it is wise to avoid both dangers.

The plan is definitely suggested that the months of March and

South England Conference FLASHES FROM THE HOME FRONT

No. 1.—"Called to Newtown"

"I say, look at this!" Evangelist called to his wife.

"Why it's a letter from the President, isn't it? Read it to me, please."

". . . the committee would like you to move to Newtown and open new work. The plan is that you start your effort as soon as possible. We are sorry not to be able to pass on any addresses of members. There are none. . "

They had been expecting a letter like this for several days. In fact its arrival was part of their yearly programme. They planned for it. And (let me whisper in your ear) they had not mowed the lawn in anticipation! And now it had come! It stirred them thoroughly.

That day they could not settle to any of the routine tasks. The town where they were took on a more homely atmosphere. Now that they had to leave they knew they had loved working for it and living in it. The house that had been their home for 365 days they sensed with a twinge was dear to them. Newtown seemed far away and cold and quite unknown. They would have to say good-bye to the new believers, for whom they had worked and prayed, to their neighbours, to the trades-people. They wondered what sort of people they would find in Newtown. It seemed hard for a moment to leave the

spot that had become encrusted with so many precious experiences,



PASTOR A. J. MUSTARD Ordained 1939 Annual Meeting District Leader, Kent District:
Folkestone, Margate, Herne Bay Last year added 31 new members.

Present campaign—Canterbury—new place to Advent message.

First Sabbath meeting—20 nonmembers attended.

Reports good, solid interest in spite of smaller attendances at Sunday meetings.

Has secured excellent hall in Friends' Meeting House for follow-up work.

Associate workers:
L. Shaw, Miss O. C. Davies (on leave of absence).

whose joys would remain with them through the years, and whose sorrows would enable them to help those who should in turn be in distress.

And with a catch at his heart, partly of fear at the unknown, and partly in anticipation of the job this simple letter presaged, Evangelist turned his attention to the task before him. There was no thought of doubt as to the rightness of his move to work in Newtown. There was no fear of ultimate success, but only a burning devotion to his evangel, and a questioning of his own ability to bear it.

The wonderful promise, aflame with challenge, kept running through his mind, "Let ministers and lay-members go forth into the ripening fields. They will find their harvest wherever [and that means Newtown] they proclaim the forgotten truth of the Bible. They will find those who will accept the the truth, and who will devote their lives to winning souls to Christ."—"Christian Service," page 67.

This promise is to me. O God, fulfil it in Newtown, please, for Jesus' sake" he repeated to himself, as the day for his first visit to prospect in Newtown drew near.

LESLIE HARDINGE.

Next time: No. 2.—"On Finding a Hall."

April be the time for a real attack on the Home Front with the special literature now available. Call it the "Literature Blitzkrieg" if you like-it lends adventure and daring to the task. It should enlist the enthusiastic young people, district leaders, pastors, church elders, home missionary leaders, and secretaries, young people's leaders along with literature band leaders. All should now make plans to organize the offensive by assigning territory and arranging for the systematic supply of ammunition week by week. This is a work in which most members can engage, and as a result hundreds will be enlightened with the message. Surely it is time, as indicated by the Spirit of prophecy:

"Among the members of our churches there should be more house-to-house labour, in giving Bible readings, and distributing literature."—
"Testimonies," Vol. 9, page 127.

We also read:

"Of equal importance with special public efforts is the house-to-house work in the homes of the people. In large cities there are certain classes that cannot be reached by public meetings. These must be searched out as the shepherd searches for the lost sheep. Diligent, personal effort must be put forth in their behalf. When personal work is neglected, many precious opportunities are lost which, were they improved, would advance the work decidedly."—Ibid., page 111.

Now is the time when we must put this counsel into immediate action. Our times demand of us special effort in this direction. Make March and April the months of your "Spring Offensive." Your pastor and church leaders will be glad to enlist your help.

PUBLIC EFFORTS

During recent weeks weather conditions have been very trying for our evangelists. Attendances have been adversely affected, just at the time when in some campaigns the Sabbath truth was being presented. Blackout conditions and war-time service affect visiting in the homes, but for all this, courage and confidence is the keynote in the correspondence from evangelistic workers. evangelistic programme throughout the field is being maintained. At least a dozen campaigns are now in progress and you are particularly asked to remember evangelists and Bible-workers in your prayers. Why not adopt the noon-time prayer habit as a special time for evangelistic needs in our own field? Scores of people are now making decisions and your prayers will weigh in the balance on the right side.

Have you given much thought to the support of the evangelistic work in our own field? Every year we give and collect literally thousands of pounds for mission work overseas but we are very modest about our own mission needs at home. South England never fails the mission cause in liberal offerings week by week in the Sabbathschool, special campaigns in Big Week and Harvest Ingathering, Week of Sacrifice, Annual Offering, etc. This is a work in which we must never fail, but should we leave the home field with little thought as to its special support?

Last year our Evangelistic Box Fund for the whole conference amounted to merely £160! every member would remember this fund and give just one penny each week as suggested, over £600 would be received for investment in home mission evangelism! This year in order to maintain our evangelistic programme in the home field we must ask for your loyal support to the Evangelistic Box Fund. You are specially asked to make a regular gift each week to the Brown Box. Any special gifts to evangelism will be gladly and thankfully received at the conference office.

Your attention is drawn to the special news item on Evangelism in South England, appearing in this issue of the Messenger. We hope to bring you something interesting each issue for the next several numbers. G. D. King.

NORTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE

President: Pastor R. S. Joyce
Office Address: 22 Zulla Road, Mapperley Park, Nottingham
Telephone: Nottingham 66312

Notes from the President

SINCE the last issue of the eagerly awaited Advent Messen-Ger, the following campaigns have commenced:

W. Maudsley assisted by Miss Mitchell in Stockton, a new town for the Advent message. The attendance was 320 and eightyseven names were handed in for literature.

K. Elias in Stoke with an attendance of sixty and thirty-four names for literature.

W. R. Madgwick began in the new district of Pendleton on February 25th, and A. F. Bird in Wellingborough, J. Lewis in Worcester, and F. Edwards in Darlington hope to increase existing church memberships. You will be happy to know that attendances have increased or held their first level in Scarborough, Rochdale, Dewsbury, and Morley.

GOALS

THE following is another goal that I am sure will be welcomed by all for 1940. It is that we en-

deavour to decrease our Sabbathschool missing membership by December 31st by fifty per cent. Will you help?

COLPORTEURS

THE first new colporteur for 1940 has joined the ranks. B. Belton has spent some time with him, and we ask your prayers for his success. Who will be the next?

Our evangelists who conduct public meetings and our colporteur-evangelists have been severely tested this year by the weather. The following is an extract from a letter I have just received from a colporteur:

"I certainly have had the worst winter driving and canvassing I ever remember. For ten days I was unable to leave home, and my children also were unable to get to their respective schools. We have had no postman or papers, tradesmen or coalmen for a week, and any food required was only obtained by walking to the main road about one and a half miles

away, to wait for some brave tradesman who might pass. We have had about five feet of snow in our district. It took a snow plough hauled by five horses two hours to cover a few hundred yards. My neighbour died. A path had to be cut through the snow, which was twelve feet deep, before we could reach the grave.

"Eventually I managed to get out to canvass. I am now trying to make up for the loss of time. There is one thing, during all this rather difficult time the Lord saw that we were provided for and we really lacked nothing essential."

Let us all pray for these workers as they endeavour to make up for lost time.

TRACTS

Judging by reports already received the first campaign of the year shows a good increase over 1939. The churches should be well stocked with tracts. We hope the home missionary department in each church will carefully plan with the church board so that the tracts will all be used to the best advantage. Now is the time for those who took the Bible Service Training Course to get busy. Your home missionary leader and conference worker will willingly go out with you if you are nervous about starting.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Ir you have been unable to attend church because of the severe weather, or for any other reason, please do not forget to see that the treasurer receives your tithes and offerings. God relies on our faithfulness. By the way, one of the best ways to help forward the work abroad is to give liberally for evangelism. Every new church is a constant source of revenue for foreign missions. Gifts for evangelism are a double investment—they help the work at home and abroad.

GIFTS

This conference was organized in 1902. Every year the British Union has given liberally to help to balance the operating budget. We must strive to become self-supporting, so that money sent here may be used in new fields and ventures for the advancement of God's work. This year we have

received three gifts to help forward the work in North England—from the British Union, Granose Foods Ltd., and The Stanborough Press Ltd. We appreciate this help. We wonder if there are a dozen or score of members who would like to give something for the same purpose, and ask that they will write and tell us what they could do for evangelism to help us toward the ideal of being a self-supporting field.

MEMBERSHIP

THERE are now 1,844 members living in the counties of North England. During the past seven years only three new churches have been organized and for the past two years there has been a decrease in membership. Let us

take this loss personally—have you, have I, done all we can to bring about an increase? It is your responsibility, it is mine, for Jesus has placed this responsibility on all who follow Him. In Matthew 13:51, 52 He says, that every disciple of His is to be as a bountiful householder or father, and scatter generously the truths that are as old as Eden but ever fresh and new. The conference workers are pressing forward in their districts but we cannot achieve what could be reached in an increased membership without the help of our churchmembers. We appeal to you who Paul would describe as "the saints, and faithful brethren in Christ" to help us in this wonderful work from the moment you read this. R. S. JOYCE.

SCOTTISH MISSION

Superintendent: Pastor J. A. McMillan. Address: 75 Durham Road, Portobello, Midlothian. Telephone: Portobello 82653

Notes from the Superintendent

The blessing of the Lord has attended the activities of the Scottish Mission during the past year. We have been gladdened to see the evidences of God's guidance. Assured of His continual grace we may face the future with confidence and courage.

MEMBERSHIP

Our small force of workers conducted four campaigns during 1939. There were baptisms from all these efforts. Altogether we had a gross membership increase of thirty-seven. This was diminished, however, by deaths, apostasies, and transfers to a net increase of sixteen. There were more transfers out than came into the Mission. Our present membership stands at 304.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OUR Scottish constituency continues to reveal fidelity to the cause of God. Our budgeted tithe figure for 1939 was £128 higher than for 1938. Yet we advanced beyond this by £71. We thank everyone concerned for this faithfulness, and feel sure that the promises of Malachi will be ex-

perienced by many. This good tithe increase enabled us to end the year with an operating gain of £143.

Our Harvest Ingathering reached the encouraging figure of £662. This represented a percapita of over £2. 4s. The difficulties confronting us this year must be used as incentives to greater efforts for the work beyond. Our Sabbath-school offerings were behind. Let us remember the needs overseas in this time of war and uncertainty.

PLANS AND PROSPECTS

Five campaigns are planned this spring. Some are already in operation. Remember these efforts in prayer. Our evangelists need unusual power and wisdom for these times. We suggest the following Evangelistic "Prayer List."

Aberdeen, Pastor D. Morrison. Dundee, Brother H. T. Johnson. Edinburgh, Pastor J. A. McMillan. Glasgow, Pastor L. D. Vince. Falkirk, Brother E. A. Butters.

Brother Johnson has just acquired a very pleasing property on the main road in Dundee. We believe that this will advance the

(Continued on page 8.)

Statement of Tithes and Offerings for British Union SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE

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Conference for the Quarter ended Dec. 31, 1939

WELSH MISSION

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NORTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE

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UNION TOTALS

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(Continued from page 5.) work in that "bonnie" city. Brother Johnson reports a good interest from his effort there.

We have paid a second visit to a new Sabbath-keeper in St. Andrews. This lady, the wife of an LL.D. is asking for baptism. She is training her two maids to keep the Sabbath. She is also discussing the truth with many friends. It was in St. Andrews that John Knox preached his first "Reformation" sermon, basing it on Daniel 7:25. The fuller light of that text should now be blazed abroad in this ancient university city.

Should we not all labour more to the end that jets of light may spring up throughout the field. "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good. Truly the light is sweet." Eccles. 11:6-7. We must spread the light while opportunity remains with us.

J. A. McMillan.

PRINTING.—C. Russell, Newton Street, Macclesfield.

GENERAL required immediately. Not under 18. Wages £30 a year clear. New town. References. Mrs. Hammond, Bevere Firs, Bevere, nr. Worcester.

Nurse-companion wanted, help with house duties for widow and son. Real home, liberal outings. Car kept. Apply for full particulars: 21 Osborne Road, Southsea.

WANTED—Work immediately, where Sabbath can be kept, by gardener with experience of fruit, tomato, and cucumber growing. Knowledge of landscape gardening. Willing to take any work offered, if necessary, as handyman, painter, etc. Lost job on account of war. Age 36 years. Married. Apply: S. H. Dewbery, "Omega," Crown Road, nr. Norwich, Norfolk.

BOARD and lodging for three. Single room for one. Large bed-sitting room for two sharing. Write: 22 Sheepcot Lane, Watford, Herts.

MARRIED man requires situation. Willing to do anything. Has been working for a children's mission for sixteen years. Write: W.H.W., 76 Carnarvon Avenue, Enfield, Middlesex.

Wanted immediately.—Domestic help for Stanboroughs Hospital. Age under thirty. Write, giving references, to A. H. Thompson, The Stanboroughs Hospital, Watford.

SUNSET CALENDAR

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Stationery Office.

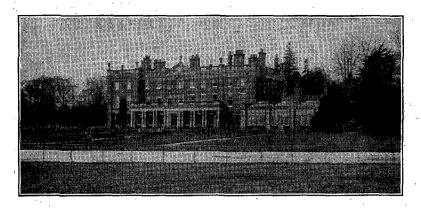
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BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

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Editor: . . . W. L. Emmerson



Visit Our College this Summer

DURING the months of June, July, and August, when Newbold students have their summer vacation, a number of students from overseas attend the Newbold Summer School for special instruction in English, etc. War conditions will prohibit such a course being conducted this year. The accommodation available at the College during these months will provide an excellent opportunity for many of our members to enjoy a peaceful holiday in surroundings of natural beauty.

Those who have visited Newbold College during the spring and summer months will recall the delightful lawns, the lake, the stately firs and evergreens, all contributing toward conditions which make the College an ideal place for a summer holiday.

Arrangements are being made to accommodate a limited number of visitors in the College building at the nominal rate of two guineas per week full board residence.

The long winter with its dark evenings, lack of sunshine, blackout, and war worries makes a peaceful holiday amid natural beauty and sunshine a real necessity. To store up energy and sunshine for next winter you are advised to spend a holiday in the country, far from the bustle and noise of any city. The College management extends to you a hearty invitation.

Provision will be made for boating on the lake, tennis, and other restful occupations. The surrounding countryside offers many attractions for hikers, as such interesting places as Lutterworth, Kenilworth, Warwick, and Stratford-on-Avon are easily accessible. The leafy lanes of Warwick are at our doors.

Rates for full board residence will be two guineas per week, and special concessions will be made for families and children. Now is the time to plan your holidays, so write to us for further details.

Please address inquiries to

THE BUSINESS MANAGER,

NEWBOLD COLLEGE,

STRETTON-UNDER-FOSSE, NR. RUGBY.

