

"It Is Marvellous In Our Eyes"

By J. Mahon

WE are now in the eleventh week of our campaign in Birmingham and last week for the first time the Birmingham press became aware that something big is happening in the city. If that sober daily, the Birmingham Post, can compare our meetings with the impact made on the city half a century and more ago by Moody's preaching, and if, as we most certainly believe, there is joy among heavenly angels over many repentant sinners, and a new page is being written in the Lamb's book of life, then should we not rejoice to tell you, and will you not rejoice to read, what your prayers are accomplishing?

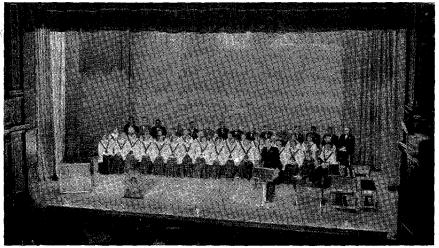
We are glad to be able to report that large

audiences continue to attend; to be specific, in excess of 1,200 each Sunday. We confess that we are human enough to be encouraged by this, but if you ask what really thrills our souls and causes us to thank God without ceasing, it is that we look into the same faces week by week, and, oh, how many have told us of the miraculous change that has come into their lives! You, of course, can only read these words, but we hear the ring in the voice, we feel the warmth in the handclasp, we see the full heart in the moist eye. Sinners have been converted, agnostics have come to love Him "whom to know is life eternal," homes about to be broken have been re-established on the only firm foundation.

In that word "foundation" you have the real reason for our rejoicing. In ten weeks of evangelism the true foundation has been laid in hundreds of hearts for the whole edifice of truth. "Other foundation can no man lay," and it is the basic truth of Jesus our Redeemer and soon-coming King that is causing many hearts to rejoice in Birmingham. Soon Jesus will be revealed as our Example in Sabbath-keeping, in stewardship, in dress, humility, and



A typical Sunday evening congregation in the Theatre Royal, Birmingham.



Pastor T. J. Bradley preaching in the Theatre Royal. Behind him is the fine campaign choir.

baptism. Again we appeal to our MESSENGER friends to join their prayers with ours that the work begun with such promise may be finished in triumph. Look at the pictures in this issue and plead with God for this great congregation.

Since our last MESSENGER bulletin, we have had some very happy and inspiring services. It is our conviction that every message has been preached in the power of the Holy Spirit, for human talent and technique alone could not so move hearts. None the less, there has been much in the method of presentation that has held the attention of the large crowds. The precision and prompt timing of the items, the appealing musical contributions, and the use of the theatre stage to produce illustrative effects which in themselves are neither elaborate nor costly, are factors which continue to enhance the effective preaching. A current example of the simple power of these object lessons was in the service entitled "Smouldering Palestine." The thrilling and moving story of God's dealings with the children of Abraham was developed. Doom was pronounced upon them in Jeremiah's parable of the potter's vessel. Indeed its modern counterpart crashed to hopeless

disintegration on the stage! Then as the speaker teached the climax of his story in Paul's simile of the olive tree, the purpose of a quite substantial tree which had taken up much of the stage area, was seen to be not entirely decoration. There appeared on the scene two "husbandmen" who,

setting busily to work, snipped off the unbelieving Jewish branches and grafted in their place other alien branches. Whenever the onlookers recall this bit of evangelistic horticulture, they will no doubt remember Pastor Bradley's ringing words: "Every promise that God ever made to Abraham and the Jewish nation is yours and mine tonight in Jesus Christ."

The people were deeply stirred on that memorable night and many rose to affirm their confidence in God's promises. A large number stood for the first time to confess their faith in Jesus as their Saviour. What better time to inaugurate a series of short devotional "after-meetings" which from the subject matter presented might well be called, "Secrets of Victorious Living." The service proper had concluded with benediction and choral response, but only about thirty people made a move; the rest remained in their places quietly waiting for the "secret of effective prayer" to be revealed to them. An identical response has been made to each subsequent after-meeting—that is a most heartening thing.

The large audience numbers few Adventists. The

A BIGGER AND BETTER "MESSENGER" NEXT YEAR!

WITH the close of the present year the World Review, which has been issued monthly by the Review and Herald Publishing Association, is to be discontinued.

While this will be regretted by those who have found the regular Review and Herald too costly in view of the unfavourable rate of exchange, we are happy to report that an alternative plan has been devised to keep our membership informed of the progress of the message throughout the world field.

The editorial department of the Review has agreed to establish a special world news service and will send out regularly by air mail to all our publishing houses up-to-date items of news and other matters of general interest, and our church papers throughout the world

are being asked to increase their size as far as possible to carry this additional material.

At present the British Advent Messenger is an eight-page paper issued fortnightly, with an eight-page Light Bearer supplement once a month for the youth. The British Union Committee has now decided that beginning with the first issue of 1954 the Messenger will have sixteen pages in every issue. This will make available 112 extra pages of world news through the year.

We much appreciate the valuable service which is being extended to us by our "big sister" publishing house and we know that our members will enjoy their enlarged—and still free—church paper with its news of the progress of the message in our field and in lands across the sea.

W. L. EMMERSON.

reason is simple: the great majority are supporting the campaign in the choir and other important duties. A great deal of encouraging comment has come to us about our choir, not only for their much appreciated interpretation of so many favourite melodies, or their very dignified and smart appearance. Remarks like this one are typical: "How lovely to see so many coloured folk in the choir; it makes me realize every time I see them that there is no room in true Christianity for race discrimination."

The opening providences of God keep us continually marvelling. A bleak prospect was before us on December 13th. That date underlined in the evangelist's diary bore the terse comment, "Theatre Royal not available." Neither was any other theatre, nor any hall sufficiently large or conveniently central. Prayer over the last fortnight, however, has brightened the picture and the evangelist has duly noted in his diary, "Alexandra Theatre (1,600 seats), adjacent to Theatre Royal, available for this date." A sum of money sufficient to cover the presentation of this matchless message in the first-class manner at present employed has been made available by the combined liberality of the Northern European Division, the British Union, and the North England Conference. Others, too, have invested generous sums in the campaign, looking for no other interest than souls saved for eternity. Is there any other security which offers such rich and lasting dividends? Gifts of money for the purpose, have made it possible for us, by arrangement with our publishing house, to offer a copy of our latest publication, God's Answers, to everyone who attends twelve Sunday evening services. This offer has been enthusiastically received and week by week a special "privilege ticket" is stamped. There is vision in this "casting of our bread upon the waters." Hundreds will hear a connected presentation of our message, and cherish one of our message-filled volumes as a helpful souvenir.

As you read of the "great door and effectual that is opened for us" in Britain's Second City do not conclude that we are without adversaries. We have heard the rumblings of distant thunder from one or two prominent pulpits and have evidence that the purveyors of a certain anti-Adventist pamphlet have had a sudden increase in the sales. We are thankful, however, that we have so far avoided public controversy and those who sent copies of the above-mentioned document to our interested folk would not be encouraged if they knew that their actions had exactly the opposite effect to the one intended. Whatever hostility or opposition may have been aroused, it has made not one whit of difference to our audience who come, as of old they came, to have the Bread of Life broken to them. "If God be for us, who can be against us?'

Wednesday evening meetings continue to flourish. How else can one describe a state of affairs in which people know that if they do not come a full half-hour before the meeting is due to begin, they run the risk of having to stand the full ninety minutes? Yet every week they take the risk cheerfully, and as cheerfully stand if they have to. And invariably a

large number do have to, for we cannot get a larger hall. The doctor's talks get progressively more interesting and helpful and the evening is rounded off with a thrilling Bible study which never fails to reach hearts.

Our thanks are due to many leading brethren who have visited us, not just as spectators but to be one with us in the meetings and to bring us a message of encouragement in our Monday workers' meeting.

Every worker here is confident, under God, that the climax of this inspiring campaign has not been reached and there are yet great things in store. Brethren, pray for us; remember especially the crying need of a representative central building in this city. We have shared the good news with you, MESSENGER friend, and we know that you will rejoice with us. Now that the harvest is nearer, we hope soon to have even more joyful tidings and thus complete the apostle's exhortation, "And again I say, Rejoice!"

South England Conference

President: Pastor J. A. McMillan

Office Address: 25 St. Johns Road, Watford

Telephone: Gadebrook 2728

Dorcas Welfare Federation

THE first fellowship meeting of the Federation of London Dorcas Societies was held at the New Gallery on Sunday afternoon, December 6th.

Some two hundred and fifty people were present, including the leaders from six of the thirteen London churches comprising the Federation.

The actual programme of talks and music was held in the beautiful main auditorium, but in addition, an Exhibition of Work was given in the reading room nearby.

Mrs. A. F. Tarr, the Federation leader, welcomed the congregation, and spoke encouragingly of the welfare work already accomplished by so young a group of societies, citing instances of practical Dorcas help from the two small girls, who entirely on their own, had collected clothes for Dorcas work from their own friends, to an MV group who asked for and received permission to collect fallen apples from an orchard, and who were able to share one thousand pounds weight of apples between fifty poor families. These efforts meant time given and a will to help others.

That thought was carried further by the first speaker, Pastor A. F. Tarr, president of the Northern European Division, who spoke of the Dorcas Welfare work throughout the world field as practical religion—the harnessing in God's service of talents often left unused, which made them wonderful.

Pastor E. R. Warland, the British Union Home Missionary leader, gave us the challenge for our work in the city of London, where, he estimated for each of the twelve member societies of our Federation, there are 10,000 homes with want and hardship, or where there are elderly people needing care and assistance. He gave practical advice on how to tackle this problem, emphasizing that seeking the needy and supplying those needs must go hand in hand, and ended on an ethical note of warning that our work should be confidential, sparing details of poverty or suffering from any curious or disinterested parties.

Pastor A. C. Vine, Home Missionary secretary of the South England Conference, was the last speaker of the afternoon, and he gave practical instruction for the building up of solid Dorças work in the individual churches. He spoke of the necessity of keeping the main object always in view; that of reaching people's hearts. As he spoke, one became aware of the large and varied scope now being given to Dorcas Welfare work. In closing, the speaker referred to a quotation from Sister White: "Christ, by His kindly deeds, interpreted the Gospel to the people."

Music, both vocal and instrumental, added beauty and pleasure to an hour of profitable discourse, after which the whole congregation adjourned to the reading room, to view and purchase if they wished, the lovely articles prepared by the various societies. What hours of loving service must have been put into the fashioning of these offerings to Dorcas! Some were warm and soft, some dainty as gossamer; toys, plants, household articles, practical and yet with a touch of embroidery here and there, showing that effort had not been grudgingly given.

Each society which had a table at the Exhibition was able to retain any funds raised by sales of articles, for the purchase of material or clothes for their own Dorcas work.

On the Federation tables, gifts were received of clothes or tinned goods for Christmas parcels for the needy, and our hearts were made light as we viewed the generosity poured out "for others."

G. M. KING, Secretary.

Wimbledon Church Concert

On Saturday evening, November 14th, at the Marlborough Hall, Compton Road, S.W.19, a musical entertainment was presented to the public by the Wimbledon S.D.A church. The object was to meet some of the expense entailed in reconstruction.

With the exception of Mrs. E. Lacy and Mr. D. Elliott, who ably rendered two piano duets, we had to rely upon the talented performances of the Stanborough Male Voice Choir, conducted by Mr. Idris Owen, Mr. Dennis Heywood a violinist of repute, and Mr. John Fetters, the pleasing Watford tenor.
One of his solos, "The Holy City," was typical

of the high quality of both the artistry and material.

The whole programme was applauded and much enjoyed by the fair number present. We desire to express our very deep appreciation to all the musicians who generously gave their services, to those brethren and sisters at Watford and elsewhere who kindly gave financial support, to all who contributed to the organization and operation, and particularly to the chief promoter, Mrs. S. C. Rose. G. ELLIOTT.

Baptism in Lowestoft

A BAPTISMAL service was held at the Lowestoft Advent church on October 31st. Three of our young people took their stand for Jesus, and one lady from Gorleston was accepted into church fellowship for Yarmouth. Pastor A. C. Vine, who officiated at the service, spoke of the baptism of Jesus and the wonderful words that were spoken of Him by His Father: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Christ has identified Himself with us, and it is for us to identify ourselves with Him, and follow Jesus in everything. Brother J. Frost, our resident minister, welcomed the three young people into the fellowship of the Lowestoft church and each candidate was presented with a copy of that lovely book, God's Answers, as a gift from the young people's society at Lowestoft. Mrs. D. Crowe, Church Clerk.

North England Conference

" President: Pastor J. H. Bayliss

22 Zulla Road, Mapperley Park, Nottingham Telephone: Nottingham 66312

Hull MV Society Activities

MEMBERS of the MESSENGER family will be interested to learn that a youth club was launched here a month ago, Pastor and Mrs. Gillett, with the writer and the youth executive committee, being present.

After an explanation of its various activities, the eleven members present were grouped into classes to study the Progressive Courses. Four new members were present last week and we hope more will follow.

In connection with our church effort, the members give out bills and V.O.P. cards, averaging over 1,000 per week.

Last month, too, a basket of "harvest produce" opened the doors to an "Eventide Home." Here the MV members sang hymns and Pastor Gillett offered

From thence we visited the birthplace of the great philanthropist and emancipator of the African slaves, William Wilberforce. Here we saw many interesting relics of slavery of that age, as well as a life-sized effigy of Wilberforce as an old man seated at his study table with a large open Bible before him.

Our society is trying to do its bit to help free the slaves of sin in this great city. Pray for us.

> E. LIMBACK, MV Leader.

Welsh Mission

President: Pastor J. M. Howard

3 Dryburgh Avenue, Whitchurch, Cardiff Telephone: Rhiwbina 693

Cardiff Church Campaign

As the hands of the clock slowly indicated the passing of the few remaining hours of Sunday afternoon, four weeks ago, our joy and enthusiasm was mixed with quite a large amount of apprehension. After all there have been very few successful church campaigns in the past. Was it too much to hope that the one in Cardiff would be an exception? Although St. Pauls Seventh-Day Adventist church building has only been acquired by us as recently as three years ago, the fact that it is a Seventh-Day Adventist church, is known by most "Cardiffians." We were worried lest prejudice would prevent the people of Cardiff from coming. Despite these facts, our hopes were kept bright by the knowledge that God was guiding us in choosing to hold the campaign in the church.

It was a very great thrill to see a large queue forming outside the church at least an hour before the service. When the doors were opened the pavement on the main road was practically blocked for about 200 yards by the queue that had gathered. Surely this superseded even our most optimistic evangelistic hopes. The pews of the largest church building in the British Union Conference were rapidly filled, but still a long queue remained. The empty places on the platform and in the choir stalls were filled and benches and chairs were placed in the aisles and adjacent rooms, until finally the large doors had to be closed in the faces of many disappointed people who were still trying to get in. Even after the 'service had commenced the queue remained, hoping that some place would be found for them inside. Pastor J. M. Howard, our president, who arrived just before the service commenced had to be taken to a seat in the yestry through the side door. The more persistent of the people outside clamoured at the windows shouting, "Let us in! Let us in!" How we longed to, but we couldn't.

Before this first very successful meeting, we were all given much encouragement by letters that were received by Pastor G. R. Bell. Some contained money and all expressed deep gratitude for the fact the campaign was being launched. One man, commenting on the first handbill that was given out wrote: "Your invitation to worship has fallen on a fruitful corner of the Lord's vineyard."

So often the large crowds that attend our campaigns up and down the country rapidly decrease in size after the first night, but this has not proved so in the Principality of Wales. Last Sunday was the fourth meeting, and still people had to be turned away, despite the fact that 700 people were packed into the church. So tightly packed were they, even on the pulpit platform, that the people had to rise to allow Pastor Bell to squeeze his way to the pulpit.

On Thursday of this week, Miss Clements, who is in charge of the campaign office work, informed me that all but sixty-seven of the seats for next week's meeting had been reserved. She also asked me to request Pastor Bell-to have a notice put up informing the public that admission would be by ticket only. Mr. C. W. Knowlson who is supervising the campaign advertising is wondering whether the handbill advertising next Sunday's topic should be given out.

The evangelistic team is greatly indebted to the splendid help that has been given by the enthusiastic membership in this campaign, and we are all especially grateful to our loving God who has singularly blessed the fellowship meetings.

IVOR R. KINNERSLEY.

Scottish Mission

President: Pastor B. F. Kinman

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Telephone: Edinburgh 86413

Kirkcaldy Campaign

On Sunday, November 8th, 400 people were present at the first of a series of evangelistic services held by Pastor Denys Baildam in the Adam Smith Hall at Kirkcaldy. This attendance shows that in Kirkcaldy, with a population of only 50,000, the ancient faith of Scotland is still very much alive. Many remarks of appreciation were overheard and some expressed the regret that these services had not been begun in the town before.

Apart from the address given by Pastor Baildam, there was also a showing of the film, "Jairus' Daughter," and the Maranatha Male Quartette rendered two vocal items.

In the public announcements, Pastor Baildam said that the following week Dr. G. M. Brown would also take part in the service, her theme being, "Why Suffering?" K. SMITH.

In Mission Lands

A Tribute to Our New Guinea Believers

RETURNING recently to Sidney from a visit to the extensive and primitive territory of New Guinea, I found myself seated in the plane beside an Australian army officer. A severe attack of scrub typhus picked up in the jungle had made it necessary for him to return to a temperate climate to convalesce.

Noting my choice of diet and my declining a cigarette, he quickly asked if I were a Seventh-

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THIS THIRTEENTH SABBATH

Day Adventist. Not surprised at my reply, he assured me that he had considerable respect for our church and for the results of our mission work in New Guinea. "I have several S.D.A. mission boys-natives of New Guinea-serving in my unit," he continued. "All of them have been educated in your training schools, and are staunch adherents to the principles of your church. In the army, and especially when we are on patrol, it is so difficult to provide the kind of diet they insist upon. But because of the willing and loyal service they give, we consider it well worth a little trouble on our part to help them live up to their principles. As for smoking, not one of them will touch tobacco, in spite of all the tempting approaches that have been made to them."

He told me of a recent patrol he had made with these boys, across the towering ridges of the Owen Stanley Range by way of the famous wartime Kokoda Trail. The going had been hard. The weather had been against them as they struggled up and down those heights through dripping jungle. Tropical vegetation had overgrown the trail. As a result they had wandered off the trail many times and become lost. "But invariably," he said, "we would come to a village of Seventh-Day Adventist natives away up in those remote parts of the Owen Stanley Range and they would give us food and shelter, and lead us back to the trail." "Are there any places in New Guinea where your missionaries have not penetrated?" he asked.

How I wished I could have answered "No" to that question; but that was impossible. In my ears were ringing still the calls to which I had been listening during the two previous weeks, calls for funds to consolidate our work and train these nationals of New Guinea. Large numbers of eager young people are asking to be trained for service in the many still-unentered parts of that great territory.

We shall all have an opportunity through our next Thirteenth Sabbath-school Offering to help in developing our expanding educational work in the territory of New Guinea. W. L. PASCOE,

Treasurer, Australasian Division.

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Till the Day Dawn

KIMMINGS.—The Southend church lost another of its early members, when Sister A. Kimmings fell asleep on October 24, 1953, at the great age of eighty-nine years. This sister was baptized in 1920 and, until ill health prevented her, was very faithful in her church attendance. We look forward to a grand reunion with our sister at that time when our Lord shall come to call all His faithful ones to he with Him. all His faithful ones to be with Him.
L. WILBY,
Church Clerk.

MIDDLETON.—Many of our people in the British Union Conference will be sad to hear of the death of Sister Annabella Middleton. Our sister was one of the pioneer workers in the British Union, having been connected with our educational work in the Union from its inception. She was the first teacher at our Stanborough Park school and evidence of the good foundation that she laid is seen in the growth of that school to an enrolment of 300. Sister Middleton taught in many of our schools and served some years also in the mission fields. She had a great interest in poetry and our people have interest in poetry and our people have

enjoyed her poems through the years. Books of her poems have also been published and enjoyed by many not of our faith. She spent her last few weeks of life at our own Rest Home. She died after a life of faithful service for the Master on Saturday, November 7, 1953. The service was conducted by the writer in the Lowestoft church on Tuesday, November 10th. Our sister fell asleep in Jesus with the sure and certain hope of the glorious resurrection morn held dear in her heart. Truly it can be said that her works do tion morn held dear in her heart. Truly it can be said that her works do follow her. Around the world today there are men and women who have had the honour to sit at her feet in preparation for their life work.

J. G. Frost.

Maslin.—It is with sincere regret that we announce the death at the age of eighty-two years of Thomas Edward of eighty-two years of Thomas Edward Maslin on November 9, 1953. Our dear brother accepted the truth three years ago during the ministry of Pastor J. G. Bevan. Although of advanced age, he worked with the enthusiasm of a youth to spread abroad the message of the soon coming of our Saviour. He and his wife spent many happy hours in the local park telling all with whom they came into contact of the love of God, and seeking to turn the hearts of the people toward the Saviour who meant so much to them. He was greatly be-

loved by all, especially the members of the Wembley church, with whom he worshipped each Sabbath. Pastor A. C. Vine conducted the service in the Vine conducted the service in the Willesden Cemetery chapel and at the graveside, after which our brother was laid to rest to await the call of Jesus on the resurrection morning. We extend our loving sympathy to his widow, who bravely faces the future with the sure hope of being reunited with Brother Maslin in God's good time.

CHURCH CLERK.

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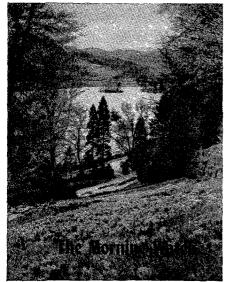
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"In the Morning Came the Word of the Lord unto Me." Ezek. 12:8.



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To those of us who were born into the Advent message, some of childhood's most precious memories surround the family altar. There it was that morning and evening we would gather in the drawing room—or sometimes on cold, wintry nights, in the large, old-fashioned kitchen—to read from the good old Book and to ask for God's guidance and blessing on our home.

On Friday evenings it was with unusual anticipation that we gathered together. Always with fresh, clean Sabbath clothes, with baths taken, shoes polished, and with the aroma of the best supper of the week streaming from the kitchen, we would meet for a special blessing. The singing of Sabbath hymns ushered in its sacred hours. The reciting of favourite Bible verses would often take the place of the Scripture reading, and every member, beginning with the eldest and ending with the youngest, would offer his own petition to the throne of grace. They were simple prayers, those childhood prayers of ours, but so very intimate and full of implicit faith. They covered not only our own singular needs, but those of our relatives and friends and others who touched our daily lives, not even excluding our pets. They always concluded with the finishing of the work in all the world and being ready to meet Jesus when

Those occasions drew the family very close together, and perhaps more than any other single influence, shielded us growing children from the subtle appeal of worldly interests and friends.

But not all churchmembers were privileged in youth to surround a family altar. Many have joined the Advent family in their later years. To them this new-found institution has brought daily into their very homes the blessings they formerly sought weekly in their Sunday worship. It has brought God much nearer than He could ever have been in church. It has made Him in very truth the unseen Guest of the family, the One to whom they can go in every time of need.

It is in this daily contact with God that the

spiritual strength of the family is found. And surely we have come to a day when advantage should be taken of every sanctifying influence that God has offered. The demands of the world seem so much more insistent and subtle than they used to be. And yet in this very time when prayer is so greatly needed, it is so easy for everything else to be given priority, and for prayer to be the first to suffer neglect.

To those who face this climactic hour, God's gracious invitation comes ringing down the ages: "Come, My people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. For behold, the Lord cometh out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity." Isa. 26:20.

In these days when God's indignation against the mounting tide of evil is about to be unleashed, how imperative it is that the blessing of the family altar be felt in the homes of all His people and that they share the presence of One who "shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers" "before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord." Mal. 4:6, 5.

From the pen of the Lord's servant we read: "Like the patriarchs of old, those who profess to love God should erect an altar to the Lord wherever they pitch their tent. If ever there was a time when every house should be a house of prayer it is now. . . . From every Christian home a holy light should shine forth."—Patriarchs and Prophets, page 144.

Brethren and sisters, ought there not to be such a light shining in every Seventh-Day Adventist home in the Northern European Division? If it has grown dim in your own home, or if perchance it has never been lighted, determine to light it on Family Altar Day, January 2nd, and allow its sanctifying influence from that day on to flood the lives of all who worship there.

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Acknowledgment

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''CHRIST'S THREE COMINGS''

SUNSET CALENDAR

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BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

Vol. 58. No. 26 December 25, 1953

Published fortnightly on Fridays for the British Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists by The Stanborough Press Ltd., Watford, Herts.

Copy for next issue—December 30th

EDITOR: W. L. EMMERSON