



The North American

Informant

VOLUME I

WASHINGTON, D.C., JUNE-JULY, 1947

NUMBER 5

Greetings From the North American Division President

N. C. WILSON

THE spring meeting of the General Conference Committee, held in Los Angeles, California, April 16-23, was one characterized by a resolute determination to meet the challenge of the unfinished world task. Reports came to the delegates at the Los Angeles meeting from many parts of the world field. A number of General Conference officers had recently returned from visits to overseas fields—Europe, Asia, Africa, South America, and Inter-America. The story is the same wherever the field may be: doors are wide open everywhere, and calls for help are more frequent and urgent than ever before.

This is a great hour of need and opportunity for the Advent Church, and here in the homeland, where God has been so good to us in temporal matters, we must not become self-centered or expend our abilities and energies largely on ourselves, but rather keep in mind those lands which are so much less fortunate than we. There must be a divine reason why God has been so good to His people in this land—good to us both in spiritual and in temporal matters. When we know of the needs of God's work in the great world field, there is only one response we can possibly make, and



Elder Wilson is also Associate Editor of the Informant

that is to give liberally of our prayers and substance that soon the great world task may be completed and the hope of our Saviour's coming be made a reality.

The leaders of the church at the Los Angeles meeting were, however, conscious of a need even greater than funds or materials for the rebuilding and extension of the Advent Movement in home fields and overseas divisions, and that need is for more of God's blessing and pres-

ence in our hearts and lives. We have come to a very late and critical moment in the dark and sad history of the world. Time cannot continue much longer, and whatever God's people should do must be done soon. Our first need is to make sure that we know Jesus to be our Saviour from sin and our keeper and sustainer in the struggles of life. We must pray God to give us abundantly of the Holy Spirit, to help us in our own hearts and lives from day to day, and to give us power and ability in our witnessing to the world.

We send warm and sincere greetings to the readers of the INFORMANT. We know that God is blessing you in your homes and churches. You are carrying heavy responsibilities in connection with your church and conference activities. We hear of personal victories in the battle with sin, which assure us that God is with His people. Guard carefully those things which matter most—the sacredness of the home relationship, the study of the Word, the hour of prayer, faithfulness in church relationships, fellowship with Christ.

May 1947 be a good year in every church, in every home, and in the heart of every Advent believer.

DEADLINE FOR NEWS IN NEXT ISSUE, JULY 5, 1947

Address.—Editor, North American Informant, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Takoma Park, Washington 12, D.C.

ALLEGHENY

J. H. Wagner, Pres. F. L. Bland, Sec.-Treas.
P.O. Box 720, Pottstown, Pennsylvania
Pottstown 3844

Allegheny Progress

UNDER the leadership of Pastor T. L. Davis, Columbus, Ohio, raised its basic Ingathering goal of \$1,089 in one day!

Henderson Receives Degree

ON May 14, at the fifth commencement exercises of the S.D.A. Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C., George Andrew Henderson received the Master of Arts degree. One of eighteen graduates, Mr. Henderson's work was done in the department of Bible and systematic theology. He is at present head of the Bible department at Pine Forge Institute, Pennsylvania.

Note

FOUR new Sabbath schools have recently been organized: Huntington and Kimball, West Virginia;

I Shall Succeed

THOUGH everything looks dark and drear

I shall succeed.

Though failure's voice speaks in my ear

I shall succeed.

I do not fear misfortune's blow,
I tower with strength above each foe,
I stand erect because I know

I shall succeed.

Night swoops on me with blackest wings,

But I'll succeed.

I see the stars that darkness brings,
And I'll succeed.

No force on earth can make me cower,

Because, each moment and each hour,

I still affirm, with strength and power,

I shall succeed!

—EVELYN WHITELL.

Pine Forge, Pennsylvania; Whitesboro, New Jersey. The slogan of the Allegheny Conference is, "Prepare for Heaven in '47."

San Francisco Bound!

"IF we don't get better offerings than we've been getting so far, we will need more Sabbaths than there are in the year to get the money we need for sending our delegate to San Francisco!" The Missionary Volunteer secretary seemed a bit discouraged as he made the above statement at Sabbath school time one Sabbath morning. After all, the outlook was somewhat gloomy. With only a small attendance at the M.V. meetings, the prospect of raising \$80 before September appeared quite remote, even if all the society offerings were diverted to this worthy cause.

The minister was sympathetic as he heard the secretary's lament. After counseling with the church elder he decided on a plan to assist the young people in solving their problem. Later he faced the congregation.

"Our young people face a real problem in raising the \$80 they need to pay the transportation of their delegate to the North American Youth's Congress to be held at San Francisco, September 3 to 7," he said. "Doubtless you know that the attendance at their Missionary Volunteer meeting is small compared to the attendance we have here this morning. As a result, their offerings are small.

"Now, what I am about to suggest is going to cost you something, but I believe that your young people are worth it. Let us raise the \$80 they need this morning, and let them have their offering money for their missionary work."

As the minister scanned the audience, he noted that the suggestion had been favorably received.

"To show you that I am not asking you to do something I am not willing to do, I will give the last five dollars," he stated. "We need \$75. How many will give \$5?"

Hands rose in different parts of the church as the balance needed

dropped from \$75 to \$70 to \$65, until only \$35 was needed. Then number gave \$2.50, another gave \$5, and the goal was reached.

So the delegate from that society is San Francisco bound!

If your M.V. Society is having trouble in raising its \$80 quota, will you not try the plan that worked so well for the above society? Counsel with your pastor, or your church elder, or both, and get your problem solved once for all. The church members will be glad to help you, I'm sure.

G. W. CHAMBERS, M.V. Secretary, North Pacific Union
(Copied from North Pacific Union Gleaner).

Appreciation of the "Informant"

"We read the INFORMANT and enjoy it."

MR. AND MRS. OSCAR DUNN,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

"The INFORMANT is wonderful! The progress it has made from its inception bespeaks a growing organization under capable leadership. The students here are so happy to read of the advancement and development of our work. May success continue to accompany the INFORMANT; and ever remember that the students here at Union College are inspired by it.

ARTHELIA ALEXANDER, Union
College, Lincoln, Nebraska.

At West Point the students are instructed, "When you come to a mountain, go over it, under it, through it, or around it, but never stop in front of it."

The North American Informant

Representing the colored work of the
Seventh-day Adventist Denomination

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Printed bi-monthly for the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists by the Review and Herald Publishing Association, Takoma Park, Washington 12, D.C., U.S.A. Fifty cents a year 5 cents a copy; add 20 cents for yearly subscriptions to countries requiring extra postage.

NORTHEASTERN

L. H. Bland, Pres. L. O. Irons, Sec.-Treas.
560 W. 150th St., New York, N.Y.
MO. 2-9353

Treasurer's Report

WE have just completed the financial reports for the month of March and for the first quarter of 1947, for the Northeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. You can see from these reports that God is still blessing us in a very marked way even though we are surrounded by situations which are greatly unsettled.

As we compare the month of March, 1946, with that of 1947, we see an increase in our tithes of \$2,348.17. Our mission offerings are showing a loss because in 1946 we started our Ingathering a little earlier than this year. However, we are hoping that when the next report is given a great increase will be seen in our mission offerings.

Turning to the quarter's report, we find an increase in tithes of the first quarter of 1947 over the first quarter of 1946 amounting to \$4,544.47. Our mission offerings are showing a loss for the reason already mentioned.

Pray for us that we may go forward with success in our work.

L. O. IRONS, *Secretary-Treasurer.*

Tithe receipts of the Northeastern Conference for 1946 amounted to \$167,915.40; Missions Offerings totaled \$56,446.25. Present membership is 2, 525.

A New Day

THE Sabbath School Department of the General Conference reports that a new day has come to India. In one locality a thousand Moslems are now keeping the Sabbath through reading our literature. They have also stopped smoking and the use of intoxicating beverages.

Almost a thousand new believers were baptized in India, Burma, and Ceylon in 1946. A larger goal has been set for 1947.

LAKE REGION

J. G. Dasent, Pres. F. N. Crowe, Sec.-Treas.
619-621 Woodland Park, Chicago, Ill.
Boulevard 3331

Missionary Volunteers

THE young people of the Lake Region Conference are highly enthusiastic about the Youth's Congress to be held in San Francisco, September 3-7. They are making plans to send a number of delegates.

National Youth's Congress

IF YOU DESIRE—

Greater spiritual power in your Christian living;

Counsel on how to solve your personal problems;

A genuine, wholesome contact with the youth of the church;

To receive a new inspiration and build into your life more spiritual vigor;

To become personally acquainted with the youth leaders of the Advent Movement;

To know how you can fit your life into the great program of carrying the message to all the world in this generation;

A deeper experience in the things of God;

Up-to-the-minute information about what the youth of the church are doing from an educational, missionary, or social standpoint;

PLAN TO ATTEND THE FIRST NATIONAL YOUTH'S CONGRESS EVER TO BE CONDUCTED.

The Place—SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

The Time—SEPTEMBER 3-7, 1947.

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENT, GENERAL CONFERENCE OF S.D.A.

From the S.P.A. Notebook Jottings

FROM A BAPTIST.—“It takes 296 words in our Bible to record the Ten Commandments. Of these, 94 words—nearly one-third of the whole

—are required to give us the fourth commandment. Evidently God meant it when He said, ‘Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.’ *Holy* means ‘set apart.’ Here is a day which is set apart from other days. It is to have a different atmosphere. It is to be used for other purposes.”—RYLAND KNIGHT, pastor, Atlanta, Ga., “The Sabbath Day” in *Open Windows*, vol. 7, no. 4 (October, November, December, 1946). The Broadman Press (publishers of literature for the Southern Baptist Convention), Nashville, Tenn.

NO STATED DAY.—Judge Chester D. Adams, in presenting the Sunday School Lesson for December 8, 1946, said:

“The Scriptures fix no certain time when the Lord's Supper is to be observed. The Passover was celebrated once each year on the anniversary of the deliverance from bondage. The Jews were especially commanded to observe this feast annually. Some churches observe the supper every Sunday, others monthly, some quarterly, etc. Since no definite date is set for its observance, and no command is given as to how often it is to be observed, it would seem that the individual churches may each decide when it will be celebrated. There was a definite ritual for the observance of the Passover, but Jesus left no specific instructions as to how the Supper was to be observed.”—*Ashland Avenue Baptist*, Dec. 6, 1946, p. 3.

NOTE.—This paper, published in Lexington, Kentucky, under the editorial direction of Pastor Clarence Walker, frequently attacks the teachings of Seventh-day Adventists. This statement may prove helpful in meeting the argument for Sundaykeeping based on Acts 20:7.

C. O. FRANZ, former Secretary-Treasurer of the Southern Union Conference, has been recently appointed Vice-Chairman and Associate Auditor of Oakwood College and Riverside Sanitarium by the General Conference Committee.

SOUTH ATLANTIC

H. D. Singleton, Pres. L. S. Follette, Sec.-Treas.
Box 4027, Atlanta, Ga.

Recent News

THE South Atlantic Conference tried a somewhat different plan this year in the matter of its church officers' convention. Instead of one large convention, seven district conventions were held at Atlanta, Georgia; Jacksonville, Florida; Charlotte, North Carolina; Miami, Florida; Saint Petersburg, Florida; Sumter, South Carolina; and Raleigh, North Carolina. We believe that these proved more helpful than the one large convention would have.

Plans are now under way for the big camp meeting to be held just outside Jacksonville, Florida, June 5-14. This is the first camp meeting of the new conference. Since it will be a combination of what was formerly three camp meetings, we believe that it will be the largest camp meeting ever held by our group, especially in the South. Doubtless well over a thousand will attend. Arrangements are being made to use Moncrief Springs Park, near Jacksonville, as the site for the camp meeting.

Three tent efforts are now in progress in the South Atlantic Conference. They are being conducted by Elders F. S. Keitts, in Jacksonville, Florida; J. F. Street, in Miami, Florida; and P. H. Morgan, in Bainbridge, Georgia.

We are happy to report at this writing that the Ingathering is going well in the conference, with \$23,923.81 having been raised by the end of April.

Several churches in the South Atlantic Conference should be congratulated for their fine Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings for the first quarter. Among them are Atlanta, with \$1,011; and Miami, with \$802.

H. D. SINGLETON.

"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might." Eccl. 9:10.

"In all thy ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct thy paths." Prov. 3:6.

SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE HEADQUARTERS PERSONNEL



From Left to Right: B. H. Ewing, Associate Publishing Department Secretary; Miss K. Walker, Office Secretary; E. D. Brantley, Associate Publishing Department Secretary; W. E. Adams, Publishing Department Secretary; H. R. Murphy, President; V. Lindsay, Secretary-Treasurer; F. B. Slater, Young People's and Educational Department Secretary; Miss R. Willis, Office Secretary; P. C. Winley, Book and Bible House Manager

SOUTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE BOOK AND BIBLE HOUSE WORKERS



Elder F. B. Slater (Standing), M. V. and Educational Secretary; Miss Ruth E. Willis, Office Secretary, Book and Bible House; Mr. P. C. Winley, Book and Bible House Manager

Encouraging News

A VERY successful Week of Prayer was held in Greenville, Mississippi, by Pastor W. E. Arties. Seven precious souls are now ready for baptism as a result of the meetings. They are all young people—products of the church school. Christian education does pay!

Our Home Should Be A Model

By the Editor

"LET your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Matt. 5:16.

This text embraces quite a field. Our light should shine everywhere and always, but inasmuch as "charity begins at home," I am suggesting the thought of our light shining from the home. The home of a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, and especially that of a worker in the cause of God, should be a model in the community. The homes of those who profess to be commandment keepers and looking for the soon return of Jesus are very revealing, especially to those of our friends, neighbors, and even strangers who visit us.

Of course we must not think of a model home in terms only of the physical appearance of the house. 'Tis true this also is very important, for the child of God should by all means keep his abode clean and representative, but we have found in some instances that costly homes with expensive furnishings were far from being model homes. God established the first home in Eden. It was well kept, and there was peace and happiness. God's presence was there. It must be remembered that the ideal home not only is a center for service to those whom it shelters but extends its saving influence far and near. The homes of both minister and people, like the church, should be places of quietness "near to the heart of God."

The home of the Christian should

be entirely different from an ordinary home. The child of God should first set up his family altar. Think of the impression for good to those around us, who are cumbered with the cares of the world, to hear each morning a song of praise to God going up to heaven from that little paradise of the worker's home. It might be the song:

"Lord, in the morning
Thou shalt hear
My voice ascending high;
To Thee will I direct
my prayer,
To Thee lift up mine eye."

The home life of both workers and laity should testify that they have been with Jesus and learned of Him. There is nothing so vital to the church as the homes of our workers, and no greater opportunity is presented to the minister than to proclaim the sanctity of his home by precept and example. We all realize that the world has played havoc with homes. Tragedy is everywhere. Broken homes must be rebuilt. Edgar Guest stated a mighty truth when he wrote, "It takes a heap o' livin' in a house t' make it home."

People are so busy making a living that they have no time to make a life. Someone has recently stated that "to many in the world, home is only a filling station by day and a parking lot at night." This must not be the case with one who claims to be a child of God or a worker in His cause. As neighbors and friends visit your home, what kind of impression is made? Do they observe acts of kindness and courtesies on the part of husband and wife and on the part of parents and children?

The home of a Seventh-day Adventist worker, or a member of our church, ought to stand forth in a most revealing manner as a place where love and respect, prayer and praise, and mutual understanding combine to make it a little sanctuary in which all who enter its precinct can find the peace of God. Especially should the homes of our ministers set up a standard. The

noise of strife should never be heard in the preacher's home. We preserve peaches, pears, and plums in sugar, but men of God are "preserved in Jesus."

The man of God rules his home by love, remembering that he "is the head of the wife" (or of the home) "even as Christ is the head of the church." The man of God should be a conciliator and not a dictator. Peace fled when the dictators arose determined to dominate. Jesus Christ was an apostle of peace. In the successful home life there must be "giving and taking." The following words of the poet should be remembered:

"It is easy enough to be pleasant,
When life flows by like a song,
But the man worth while
is the one who will smile,
When everything goes dead
wrong."

I was told of a certain home which had a wall plaque which read, "Home—the place where we grumble the most and are treated the best." These things ought not so to be. If our homes are operated without Christ, the Prince of Peace, how can we preach the Elijah message? (Mal. 4:5, 6.) In order to impress our neighbors and friends and those who come in touch with us and win them to Christ and this message, they must see Christ in the home, Christ in the pew, and Christ in the pulpit. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

CAMP MEETINGS

South Atlantic Conference
Jacksonville, Florida
June 5-14

South Central Conference
Oakwood College Grounds
June 5-14

Allegheny Conference
Pine Forge, Penna.
July 3-13

NORTH AMERICAN COLORED DEPARTMENT

1946 STATISTICAL REPORT

Unions	Churches	Mem- bers	Bap- tisms	Tithe	Sabbath School	Ingather- ing	Other Off. to Missions	Total *Wkly Missions Per Offerings Cap.
Atlantic Union								
Northeastern	16	2,525	162	\$167,915.40	\$35,135.23	\$20,273.50	\$1,037.52	\$56,446.25 \$.46
Central Union								
Central States Mission	8	582	62	33,246.53	8,673.87	3,129.33	2,141.13	13,944.33 .46
Kansas	6	227	45	11,657.67	2,969.32	783.55	170.10	3,922.97 .33
Total	14	809	107	44,904.20	11,543.19	3,912.88	2,311.23	17,867.30 .43
Columbia Union								
Allegheny	44	4,201	370	231,789.99	53,924.67	27,659.59	2,693.10	84,277.36 .40
Lake Union								
Lake Region	23	2,732	298	158,206.33	33,819.90	14,000.00	1,388.00	49,207.90 .37
Northern Union								
Iowa	2	21	....	855.05	295.78	257.58	27.19	580.55 .53
Minnesota	1	40	4	1,295.19	578.58	226.10	.....	804.68 .42
Total	3	61	4	2,150.24	874.36	483.68	27.19	1,385.23 .47
North Pacific Union								
Oregon	1	44	15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Washington	1	19	.....	1,211.46	312.77	226.38	53.89	593.04 .63
Total	2	63	15	1,211.46	312.77	226.38	53.89	593.04 †.63
Pacific Union								
Arizona	2	89	20	5,113.56	1,124.14	434.26	237.50	1,795.90 .42
Central California	4	314	51	18,850.11	7,014.63	1,995.69	377.48	9,387.80 .93
Nevada-Utah	1	25	5	2,354.65	627.61	673.85	75.02	1,376.48 1.09
Northern California	1	219	23	14,414.29	4,355.56	1,483.73	677.49	6,516.78 .61
Southeastern California	3	289	21	18,075.78	5,769.35	1,638.14	875.73	8,283.22 .66
Southern California	6	1,150	141	89,991.59	19,679.28	5,960.94	2,177.43	27,817.65 .49
Total	17	2,086	261	148,799.98	38,570.57	12,186.61	4,420.65	55,177.83 .53
Southern Union								
South Atlantic	64	3,964	526	141,371.69	55,785.41	26,592.72	3,707.30	86,079.43 .48
South Central	42	2,458	236	88,798.01	29,560.70	19,773.69	4,222.10	53,556.49 .46
Total	106	6,422	762	230,169.70	85,346.11	46,366.41	7,923.40	139,635.92 .47
Southwestern Union								
Southwestern Mission	32	1,584	263	60,578.60	16,013.22	7,458.26	1,074.98	24,546.46 .33
Isolated		97	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Grand Total	257	20,580	2,242	1,045,725.90	275,640.02	132,567.31	20,929.96	429,137.29 .44

* Weekly Per Capita Based on General Conference Record of Membership.
† For Washington Conference Only.

SUMMARY

NORTH AMERICAN COLORED DEPARTMENT

1946 Statistical Report

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT

	1944	1945	1946	Increase of 1946 over 1945
Tithe	\$828,868.68	\$964,515.73	\$1,045,725.90	\$81,210.17
Sabbath School	212,048.64	243,571.25	275,640.02	32,068.77
Ingathering	91,318.87	109,722.61	132,567.31	22,844.70
Other Offerings to Missions	17,828.79	61,032.25	20,929.96	40,102.29**
Total Missions Offerings	321,196.30	407,988.71	464,680.01	56,691.30
Churches	235	239	257	18
Membership	17,891	19,008	20,580	1,572
Baptisms	1,515	1,884	2,242	358
Ordained Ministers	66	68	82	14
Licensed Ministers	50	61	66	5
Interns	10	15	17	2
Bible Instructors	28	29	34	5
Teachers: Church School	120	130	134	4
Colporteurs	399	411	427	16

** Decrease. Only Actual Foreign Mission Offerings Counted in 1946 Total.

CENTRAL STATES MISSION

T. M. Rowe, Supt. J. H. Jones, Sec.-Treas.
2528 Benton Blvd.
Kansas City, Missouri

New Headquarters

FOR four weeks workmen have been busy making the changes necessary to provide office space and living quarters for workers who are connected with the Central States Mission office force.

We feel grateful to the union conference committee and others who helped to make possible this fine building which is to serve as the headquarters of the work among the colored believers in the Central Union.

Please address all mail for the Central States Mission to 2528 Benton Boulevard, Kansas City, Missouri.

The Central States Book and Bible House, which was temporarily located at the Omaha branch of the Pacific Press, has been transferred to the mission headquarters.

Pray for us as we go on with this new work.

T. M. ROWE, *Superintendent.*

Recent Developments

THE readers of the INFORMANT will be glad to know that in spite of the fact that the Central States Mission is only three months old, we have already taken second place in the Central Union in the sale of subscription books.

ELDER BYRON R. SPEARS, pastor of the Kansas City, Kansas, church, conducted a baptismal service on Sabbath, April 19. Twelve believers were buried in the watery grave, making a total of thirty-three added to the church this year as a result of the evangelistic campaign being conducted by Brother Spears in the church building.

ELDER W. E. PENICK, former pastor of the Kansas City, Kansas, church, has recently been transferred to Wichita, Kansas, where both he and his wife are kept busy giving Bible studies and holding cottage



New Headquarters Office of the Recently Organized Central States Mission. Elder T. M. Rowe is the Superintendent of the Mission

meetings. We look forward to seeing, very soon, a fine group of new members added to the Wichita church as a result of the favorable contact that is being made by Brother Penick and his group of workers.

ELDER ROBERT L. WOODFORK, pastor of our church in Saint Joseph, Missouri, recently launched a rally to raise funds to build a much-needed new church home. Each rally thus far has been a huge success, and we are predicting that if they keep up the same tempo, 1948 will see them worshiping in a representative church edifice.

ON April 6 Pastor G. Herfin Taylor, assisted by Pastor Xavier Butler, of Pueblo, Colorado, opened an evangelistic campaign in the Denver church, that is electrifying the colored people of this city. Mrs. M. M. Fitch, the mission Bible instructor, is kept busy following up the interests from this meeting. She is being assisted by Sisters Arbuckle and Carr,

of the Denver church. The goal has been set for one hundred members to be added to the church by December 31.

ELDER H. J. MILLER, of Kansas City, Missouri, at a recent baptism, added five to the church list. Plans are now under way to launch, early in the month of July, the largest public effort ever held for our group here in the headquarters city of our mission. Pray that God may give wisdom in planning for this meeting.

THE largest church in our field is in Saint Louis, Missouri. Here Elder L. J. Pryor is holding forth in a strong way. New believers are being added, and we expect in the very near future to have a church here equal to some of the largest churches in the Colored Department.

THE most thrilling experience in this year's Ingathering campaign was had in the Omaha, Nebraska,

church when the church school faculty, under the leadership of Sisters Coley and Wiggins, took the Juniors out and in a few hours raised more than \$108. The pastor, Elder F. J. Bryant, is carrying on a strong program in this church and is also planning his first effort since coming to our field in Lincoln, Nebraska.

T. M. ROWE.

What Is the Secret of Success

- "PUSH," said the button.
- "Take pains," said the window.
- "Always keep cool," said the ice.
- "Be up to date," said the calendar.
- "Never lose your head," said the barrel.
- "Make light of everything," said the fire.
- "Do a driving business," said the hammer.
- "Aspire to great things," said the nutmeg.
- "Find a good thing and stick to it," said the glue.

—EMMA C. DRIER.

SOUTHWESTERN MISSION

W. W. Fordham, Supt. V. Roberts, Sec.-Treas.
P. O. Box 6289, Dallas, Texas

News Notes

THE Southwestern Mission has at last been able to purchase an office site. It is located at 3711 Oakland Avenue, Dallas, Texas. The quarters are spacious and are representative of the work and the denomination. At present the building is being repainted and overhauled in general for office use, preparatory to being occupied within a short time.

ANOTHER company has been organized in Nacogdoches, Texas, as a result of the labors of Elder A. B. Humphrey. Elder W. W. Fordham made a trip to Nacogdoches to organize the company on Sabbath, February 22, 1947. The membership is eighteen, and they are full of zeal to hasten the finishing of the work in that section of the vineyard. Let

us pray that they may ever keep the vision they now have, so they may soon grow into a large church.

Southwestern Mission

CHURCHES AND MEMBERSHIP: Beginning with January 1, 1947, our membership stood at 1,584, with 32 churches and 5 companies. I believe it will be enlightening to give a brief statistical view of our membership ending December 31, 1946. This report comprises the former colored departments of the Arkansas-Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, and Texico conferences combined:

On January 1, 1946, our membership stood at	1,423
Added by baptisms	263
By profession of faith	5
By letter	84
Total added for year 1946..	352
Our losses for the same period by death	16
Apostasy	33
Letter	121
Missing	21
Total deductions	191

Our total membership at the end of 1946 stood at 1,584, or a net gain of 161.

A little reflection in the way of a comparative report, I believe, will be helpful in checking our membership trend during the past five-year period:

1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
1,353	1,380	1,370	1,445	1,423	1,584
	gain	loss	gain	loss	gain
	27	10	75	22	161

The net gain for 1946 exceeds the combined net gains of the previous five years.

I could not leave this phase of our report without paying special tribute to our loyal band of workers, who were engaged in an almost constant warfare of evangelism during 1946. Every worker in the Southwestern Mission was engaged in some phase of evangelism during the past year.

Our most outstanding evangelistic crusade of 1946 was conducted

by Elder W. S. Lee, with a fine corps of consecrated workers in New Orleans. To date more than 100 have been baptized, and there are good prospects for future baptisms. This influx of new recruits has created a real housing problem and has necessitated the conducting of double session on Sabbaths in order to care for the overflow.

In Oklahoma City, during the past summer, a large effort was launched, and the Lord blessed with many souls. These meetings proved to be a real blessing to scores of individuals of both race groups, whose Christian experiences were greatly strengthened.

In Shreveport, Louisiana, Elder Douglas Batson, who has been just recently ordained, experienced a successful effort, baptizing over thirty. Down in Marshall, Texas, we have organized a company of nineteen as a result of the efforts of Elder A. B. Humphrey during the summer months. These and others have made it possible under God for us to reach the figure of 263 baptisms for the year.

TITHE AND OFFERINGS: It is also encouraging to witness the faithfulness of our people in tithes and offerings. Our total tithe for 1946 amounted to \$60,578.60; Sabbath school offerings, \$16,013.22; total offerings to missions, \$24,546.46.

Tithe: 1941, \$20,072.20; 1942, \$28,315.90; 1943, \$42,386.90; 1944, \$52,216.50; 1945, \$57,604.30; 1946, \$60,578.60.

Mission offerings: 1941, \$9,236.30; 1942, \$10,968.13; 1943, \$14,520.60; 1944, \$17,702.62; 1945, \$20,018.27; 1946, \$24,546.46.

Grand total for the six years, \$358,166.78.

I believe it is fitting to give honorable mention to the former Arkansas-Louisiana colored department, and particularly to the New Orleans church, for the increase they made in mission giving. The gain made in the New Orleans Sabbath school, in view of its large membership, is indeed phenomenal. The missionary spirit of that one church has had its influence throughout the Arkansas-

Louisiana Conference for good, and has set in motion throughout the Southwestern Mission a spirit of giving in our Sabbath schools such as we have never before witnessed.

PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT: Last year the colored colporteurs of the Southwest made the following report:

Sales	Deliveries
\$38,836.58	\$20,261.09
32,494.04	25,278.19
<hr/>	<hr/>
\$71,330.62	\$45,539.28

SCHOOLS AND TEACHERS: In the Southwestern Mission we have in operation 10 schools, with an enrollment of 167, supervised by 13 teachers. One new school is now in operation in Lubbock, Texas. We see much room for improvement along educational lines, and have already set in motion plans that will give us at least one senior academy for 1947-48. We also see prospects for at least two new schools for next year.

INGATHERING FOR 1947: I am happy to report that we have passed our basic goal and will, by all means, reach our supergoal of \$11,500, which is roughly \$5,000 more than was raised last year by the combined colored departments.

NEW BUILDINGS: In Houston, Texas, we are erecting a new church, which will add greatly to the prestige of our work in that city. A new school is going up in San Antonio, and plans are on foot for new church buildings in Dallas, New Orleans, Oklahoma City, Baton Rouge, and Alexandria.

CONCLUSION: In closing I would like to say that we, the workers of the Southwestern Mission, are conscious of the great responsibility that is now ours. Here in the confines of our territory, which encompasses the entire Southwest, are 3,500,000 colored people—judgment-bound people. To us this is the challenge of the unfinished task. When we think of the little time that is left, our hearts cry out to God for divine power to reach these millions ere

they die. Therefore, we are setting our stakes for the most vigorous evangelistic crusade for 1947—a crusade that will see men and women by the scores accept the third angel's message under the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. And so, to this end we have dedicated our all.

W. W. FORDHAM, *Superintendent.*

Wedding Bells

ON Sunday, February 9, 1947, Ella Mable Stewart and Riley Brown were united in holy matrimony by Elder D. E. Davis in Little Rock, Arkansas, at the home of the bride. The ceremony was a quiet one, and only the family and immediate friends of the bride and groom were in attendance. The Browns are both former students of Oakwood College, and are now at home in Chicago, Illinois, where Mr. Brown is furthering his studies in order to be of service in the medical field. We wish for them a very happy and successful future together.

PACIFIC UNION

Colored Department

Owen A. Troy, Sec.
735 Winona Ave., Pasadena, Calif.

Changes in Pastorates

ELDER HAROLD A. LINDSEY, former pastor of the Compton Avenue church, with oversight of the Santa Monica and Berean churches, has been called to pastor the Sunset Avenue church of Pasadena and direct the Sweet Chariot Hour broadcast.

ELDER WILLIAM C. WEBB, formerly of San Bernardino, is the pastor of the Compton Avenue church and has the oversight of the Watts district. An intern has been chosen to assist Elder Webb in his work.

ELDER J. W. ALLISON is looking after the work of the Sharon church in Monrovia, where they are preparing to erect a church building.

ELDER OWEN A. TROY, formerly in charge of the work in Pasadena and Monrovia, and who was the

originator of the Sweet Chariot Hour, is now secretary of the colored department of the Pacific Union Conference.

—*Pacific Union Recorder.*

Oakland, California

ON March 15 the Market Street church, in Oakland, went over the top, reaching a supergoal of \$1,533 in their Ingathering campaign. God be praised!

ON March 29 there were fourteen precious souls buried in the watery grave of baptism. This was the first such service of the year. At the present time there are twenty-four more persons in the baptismal class. Most of them will be baptized in a few short weeks. May God continue to add daily unto His church throughout the world such as should be saved. These critical times plainly indicate that the finishing work is gathering momentum.

R. WENDELL NELSON, *Pastor.*

New Work

JUST at press time a dispatch from Miss Justine Reed, Bible instructor in the Southeastern California Conference, brought us this word: "It has been my privilege to work with our Blythe company for several weeks. From twenty-five to thirty meet regularly each Sabbath. We are now rejoicing in the Lord that on May 17 a number of precious ones will be buried with Christ by baptism. An evangelistic effort is to be held in the city of Blythe this fall, which we hope will result in the establishing of a church."

Three Ways

CHARLES E. DICKERSON

(Mother Hendricks of Los Angeles said to me one evening, "Son, God has three ways to answer prayer: Yes, No, and Wait awhile." I smiled at the expression, but I liked it. It haunted me, until the next afternoon, lying on the grass, I wrote these lines.)

THREE ways God has to answer prayer:

Sometimes He sayeth Yes.
 Always 'tis joy for God to bless
 His children in the way
 That brings them happiness.
 And when He sendeth in accord
 We well may know it pleased the
 Lord
 To answer this request.

But often God says No.
 He sees ahead; and so
 He knows 'tis best that He deny
 The thing for which we plead.
 Not all we want—
 But what we need—
 He promised to supply.

And then, God sometimes speaketh
 low,
 Saying, "Wait awhile.
 I must be slow, My child,
 In answering thee this time.
 Have patience, and wait in faith sub-
 lime.

'Tis better that you learn to trust
 when I delay.
 See'st thou the stars that nightly
 burn?
 Know'st thou the seasons that re-
 turn?
 These come when they are due;
 And so, my child, I'll answer you
 Not now, but in a little while.
 And thou shalt see
 Thy Father sent when it was best for
 thee."

God answers prayer, I know!
 His way I cannot tell, nor always un-
 derstand.
 But if I wait, or if I am denied,
 God sends the best,
 And all my needs are well supplied.

"Blessed Are the Dead Which Die in the Lord"

DR. V. C. HAMILTON, physician and surgeon of Berkeley, California, after a period of illness which lasted several months, passed away at the University Hospital in San Francisco, April 15, 1947. Dr. Hamilton was a very devout Christian and an ardent church worker. For a number of years he served as elder of the Oakland church, frequently assisting the pastor in carrying the full program. He once considered

becoming a medical missionary, hav-
 ing taken the ministerial course at
 Pacific Union College before taking
 up the study of medicine. He was
 also a liberal supporter of God's
 cause and was always ready to re-
 spond to the needs of the church
 and the mission field, also to all
 calls for charity.

Everything humanly possible was
 done for the doctor in his illness,
 but the all-wise, loving Father saw
 fit to permit him to sleep. We com-
 mend his devoted and loyal com-
 panion, Sister Elody Hamilton, to
 the care of the Almighty, whose
 heart is touched with her grief. The
 writer was present and delivered the
 funeral eulogy. The text used was
 Psalms 116:15. Dr. Hamilton was
 laid to rest, Friday, April 18, to
 await the call of the Life-giver.

JUST before going to press we re-
 ceived a letter from F. A. Osterman,
 telling of the death of his wife, Sis-
 ter Hattie Osterman. He reports the
 following: "On Thursday morning,
 April 24, at 6:45, in a most quiet
 and peaceful manner, my wife
 passed away with her head upon my
 arm. That same morning we had
 our devotions, and she preceded me
 downstairs to attend to some home
 duties. I heard her fall to the floor
 and called her but received no reply.
 I rushed out to summon help and
 to call the doctor, but when he ar-
 rived and examined her he pro-
 nounced her dead."

Sister Osterman was a pious and
 earnest Christian, and we know her
 death is an irreparable loss to her
 husband, also to the church and her
 many friends. We sympathize deeply
 with Brother Osterman in his sorrow
 but remind him that we are near-
 ing the great reunion day when part-
 ing shall be no more.

G. E. PETERS.

"IF matters of difficulty between
 brethren were not laid open before
 others, but frankly spoken of be-
 tween themselves, in the spirit of
 Christian love, how much evil might
 be prevented!"—*The Mount of
 Blessing*, p. 92.

Our Missionaries in Liberia

By the Editor

ELDER W. E. READ, field secre-
 tary of the General Conference,
 while recently filling appointments
 in West Africa, visited Elders Bank
 Henri, and Giddings and their fam-
 lies. The following extracts are taken
 from Elder Read's letter to Elder
 E. D. Dick, secretary of the Gen-
 eral Conference. Elder Dick very
 thoughtfully shared the good news
 with me.

Concerning Elder Banks

"When I associated with him in
 Liberia, and saw him in harness,
 heard him speak to our African
 workers, when I saw all his con-
 tacts with his own colleagues, I be-
 came confirmed in my opinion that
 Brother Banks promises to be a good,
 strong leader in our mission pro-
 gram. I very much enjoyed my as-
 sociation with him, both at the coun-
 cil and when we traveled together
 in his field."

Regarding Liberia

"The three families get along well
 together. I visited them in their
 homes and saw them together. We
 ate together, we traveled together,
 we worshiped together, and the
 three families seemed to be working
 in harmony. They appeared to have
 a good, concerted plan in their mis-
 sion program. I was pleased with
 the attitude of the three wives.

"It was quite easy to see when we
 were at any public meetings, or at
 the workers' meetings, that our Af-
 rican workers and believers had
 taken the three families to their
 hearts. They respect them, and
 seemingly hold them in high esteem.
 I really believe that if these men
 keep consecrated to the Lord there
 is a bright future for the work under
 their guidance and direction."

I am sure we are all grateful for
 this good word concerning our work-
 ers in Liberia. Let us encourage them
 by our prayers and by faithfully
 "holding the ropes," also by liberal
 offerings to missions.

SEND IN YOUR NEWS

Riverside Sanitarium & Hospital

J. M. Cox, Med. Dir.
H. D. Dobbins, Mgr.
800 Youngs Lane
Nashville, Tennessee

Church Leaders Meet at Riverside

By recommendation of the General Conference Committee a number of our representative pastors were invited to be present at the recent board meeting of Riverside Sanitarium and Hospital, Nashville, Tennessee. The meeting convened May 7 at 9:30 A.M. Besides the regular board members—among whom were L. H. Bland, J. G. Dasent, H. R. Murphy, H. D. Singleton, J. H. Wagner, F. L. Peterson, T. M. Rowe, W. W. Fordham, L. E. Ford, J. M. Cox, M. D., H. D. Dobbins, and G. E. Peters—those present from various sections of the field were A. Wellington Clarke, F. L. Bland, Stanley Huddleston, E. Roy Jeffries, W. A. Thompson, W. L. Cheatham, E. S. Dilleat, T. M. Fountain, M. A. Burgess, J. H. Laurence, O. A. Troy, J. E. Johnson, F. N. Crowe, H. W. Kibble, J. W. Allison, Jr., R. F. Warnick, J. G. Thomas, D. B. Reid, B. W. Abney, L. B. Reynolds, W. E. Arties, R. T. Hudson, J. E. Cox, Jr., J. N. Richardson, W. M. Starks, W. E. Adams, C. A. Lynes, H. D. Warner, C. S. Myles, V. Lindsay, W. S. Lee, J. H. Miller, F. B. Slater, and N. G. Simons.

The new Sanitarium and Hospital building, now nearing completion, was inspected by all. The first-class quality of both workmanship and material caused much favorable comment.

It will be remembered that in 1946 the colored constituents in North America were requested to raise \$60,000 for furnishings and equipment of the new structure. It was thought at that time that this amount would be adequate, but because of greatly advanced prices, between \$30,000 and \$40,000 more will be needed. A report submitted by G. E. Peters revealed the amount paid on the \$60,000 goal by each

conference. The total amount remitted from the churches came to \$42,000 on May 1, 1947.

It was voted that the conferences that have not paid their full allotment on the \$60,000 goal complete this requirement by July 1 and that during the months from July to December a campaign be launched in our churches to raise an additional \$40,000 by December 31, 1947.

It was also voted to request the General Conference to provide an additional sum of \$31,000 needed for completion of the new structure.

Riverside Sanitarium and Hospital is now a registered hospital. It has been approved by the American Medical Association and by the American Hospital Association. It has obtained membership with the Blue Cross Affiliation of Hospitals for hospitalization. It was unanimously recognized that the General Conference has been most liberal in providing funds for the erection of this new building.

The day spent at Riverside was highly profitable, and each worker left with a determination to execute his leadership to the extent that the furnishings of the sanitarium will be provided, and that the opening of the institution for service will not be delayed.

G.E.P.

Appreciation of Work of Mrs. L. B. Cox

At the board meeting held May 7, it was learned that Mrs. L. B. Cox, mother of Dr. J. Mark Cox, medical superintendent of Riverside, had tackled and completed a major accomplishment in behalf of the sanitarium. Mrs. Cox had filed, cross-filed, arranged, and brought up to date ten years of medical records, or 3,000 charts. She attended the Association of Medical Record Librarians Institute at New Orleans and financed her own way. She has spent four or five hours a day in this capacity without charge. This accomplishment facilitated the approval of the Riverside Hospital by the American Hospital Association. A vote of thanks and appreciation was taken in behalf of Sister Cox.

Oakwood College

F. L. Peterson, Pres.
Huntsville, Ala.

Leaders Visit Oakwood

LEAVING Riverside, the large delegation mentioned in the Riverside column met at Oakwood College. We found the institution moving forward successfully. The spacious new dormitory is going up rapidly. It is hoped that this building will be ready for occupancy by the opening of school, September, 1947.

A feature of our visit was the one-hour musical program at the college. The college choir rendered several anthems, reaching a climax with the "Hallelujah Chorus." At the organ was Mrs. Booth, and at the grand pianos were Dr. Eva B. Dykes and Mrs. Anna Mae Galley. The choir was under the direction of Professor Harvey Huggins. The spirituals rendered by the male chorus under the direction of Professor C. E. Moseley, and those given by the Veterannaires brought overwhelming applause from board members and visiting ministers and, on the whole, proved to be a great attraction.

We were greatly impressed with the quality of students attending the college, many of whom, we trust, will soon join our ranks as workers. The time spent at Oakwood was enjoyable and inspiring. A most appetizing dinner was served to our board members and fifty workers present. Our visiting workers expressed appreciation for the most cordial welcome and very fine entertainment accorded.

We bid President Peterson and his faithful faculty Godspeed.

G.E.P.

An Age of Extravagance

A NEWARK manufacturer announced a hand-carved, gold-handled, genuine badger-haired shaving brush "for the best-kept man." Cost, \$3,350, tax included.

Reflections From the Spring Meeting

AMONG the presidents of local conferences attending the recent Spring Meeting of the General Conference in Los Angeles were the following: J. H. Wagner, Allegheny; J. Gershom Dasent, Lake Region; L. H. Bland, Northeastern; H. D. Singleton, South Atlantic; H. R. Murphy, South Central; W. W. Fordham, Southwestern Mission; Owen A. Troy, department secretary, Pacific Union; F. L. Peterson, president of Oakwood College.

Elder J. L. McElhany, president of the General Conference, in his opening address stressed the uncertainty and seriousness of our times. He also pointed out that we face a new day in connection with our cause around the world, and also a great crisis hour. Elder W. E. Nelson, treasurer of the General Conference, reported that during 1946 our people gave \$1,266,768.04 for the purchase of food and clothing for needy Seventh-day Adventist members in Europe.

A liberal Famine Relief Offering will be taken this year to continue relief work in Europe during 1947. Elder J. I. Robison, reporting on his recent visit to West Africa, brought greetings from 85 European and more than 300 native workers. He also stated that the work in West Africa gives cause for encouragement. Progress is being made in each department of the work. Elder E. E. Roenfelt brought greetings from Elders C. H. Watson and W. G. Turner, also from 22,930 baptized believers in the Australian Division.

The Sabbath services, April 19, were conducted in our various churches. Our delegates were distributed as follows: At Wadsworth, F. L. Peterson; Compton Avenue, L. H. Bland; Berea, J. H. Wagner; Beacon Light Church (Pasadena), J. G. Dasent; Santa Monica, W. W. Fordham.

Following a missions symposium which convened at 3 P.M. in the Shrine Temple, a union meeting of our colored churches in Southern California was held in a spacious

Baptist church secured for the occasion by Elder O. A. Troy, department secretary of the Pacific Union Conference, who had charge of the service. The regular weekly radio broadcast of the Sweet Chariot Hour was conducted from this church. Guest speakers on the broadcast were F. L. Peterson and G. E. Peters.

The presidents previously mentioned and each representative worker present were each given a limited time to report the progress of the work in his conference. A brief report of G. N. Banks, C. D. Henri, and P. E. Giddings, and their families located in Liberia, was given by G. E. Peters. All seemed greatly refreshed to learn of the success attending these workers.

After the close of the Sabbath a very fine social hour was spent in the basement of the church where several hundred members of our churches of the Southern California area were introduced to our delegates and visiting ministers. Refreshments were served to all.

On April 21 there was no evening session of the Spring Meeting. That evening a tempting dinner was served at the Los Angeles Academy by the Wadsworth Church in honor of the leaders already mentioned. Elder R. Hope Robertson, the pastor, acted as master of ceremonies for the splendid program which followed. He gave his guests a glowing welcome. All were greatly impressed with sunny Southern California and rated it among the garden spots of the world. G.E.P.

Awaken the Church

ROY FRANKLIN COTTRELL, author of *The Spade and the Book*, declares that 22 per cent of the criminals taken into custody by the U. S. Federal Bureau of Investigation were youth under twenty-one. Quoting from another author, he states further: "When fifteen million sex magazines are read every month by one third of the people of this nation; when there are more barmaids than college girls and three times as many criminals as college students; . . . when sixty suicides occur every

day, a murder every forty minutes and a major crime every twenty-two seconds; . . . when \$750 goes for sinful pleasures and amusements for every dollar for foreign missions—we know that if the church of Christ does not wake up and become once more the salt that has not lost power to stay the advance of corruption, this nation will all too soon become a wreck upon the pitiless shore of spiritual bankruptcy and moral degeneracy."—Voice of Prophecy News, April, 1947.

—The Message.

Consecrated Leadership

A LEADER loves his men and his people. Love teaches *how*.

A leader is not an hireling. He offers and gives *himself* for the men, the work—success.

A leader is not suspicious but shows confidence in his men.

A leader identifies himself with the men and people.

A leader will visit and stay with his men.

A true leader will bear the weak on his heart and shoulders.

Where adversity strikes, the leader will be there to take the blow.

A leader anticipates the need, and serves.

The self-centered is unworthy of leadership.

A leader believes in his work as a calling not a job.

A leader is unassuming, sincere, never pompous. He leads without the people knowing that he does.

A leader is full of courage, at his best when facing opposition.

He turns cold water into steam and goes ahead. He inspires his men and oozes enthusiasm.

A leader is proficient and keeps himself up to date. He keeps *ahead*.

A leader never passes the blame *down*.

No man who has not learned to follow can be qualified to lead.

A leader's greatness rests alone in his capacity to serve.

He must be friendly, glowing, zealous. He must pray and work!

—A. W. STAPLES.

The Message Magazine

L. B. Reynolds, Editor

Southern Publishing Association
2119-2125 24th Ave., N., Nashville 8, Tenn.

"They Fought Nobly"

RECENTLY there has appeared a Temperance Special number of *The Message*, published by the Southern Publishing Association at Nashville. Like the *Negro Digest*, this magazine is edited with signal ability and deserves the pride it excites within its constituency. This special issue has as a frontispiece the picture of a most attractive Negro girl, followed on the next page by the picture of a Negro man in drunken insensibility, lying slouchily on a public park bench, a cigarette dropping from his open mouth, a bottle of whisky held tightly in his left hand, and his whole appearance suggesting muscular and mental debauchery. Thus the Rembrandt principle of contrast made by light and shadow increases the vivid impression.

Then comes the first article, by Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, long the leader of his race and even now in his approaching old age continuing the repute that came when his book, *The Souls of Black Folk*, captured the literary world. What he writes is not dulcet, an attempt to carry water on one shoulder and a barrel of rum on the other. Of drinking itself he says: "I especially dislike the sight of young men and women . . . who are deliberately and regularly befuddling their senses, making silly spectacles of themselves, and shortening . . . lives by acquiring a habit that does not increase the joy of living." Of the saloon he says: "This modern bar, like the ancient saloon of my birthplace, is still a center of over-indulgence, of prostitution, gambling, and stories which are not funny, but simply dirty."

Another article, written by William J. Faulkner, brings forward the social and scientific guns and directs them against this modern fort of iniquity. What he writes about "Al-

cohol and the College Student," is enough to make any one who professes to follow the truth "wherever it may lead," feel that a sincere facing of confirmed facts will make any honest person a foe of the beverage bottle.

Next comes a terribly convincing discussion of "The High Cost of the Tavern Among the Negro Group," penned by the distinguished Chicago Negro, Frayser T. Lane. The article relates largely to the alcohol situation in Chicago and is, in effect, an indictment of the inconceivable civic looseness that allows the headquarters of dissipation and death to continue behind the gilded entrances and amid the alluring lights. He truly claims that "the people who were misled by the liquor interests and voted out prohibition, created a monster in its place that is more vicious." After showing that the figures indicate the uttermost ravages by rum on Chicago's South Side among the Negroes, Lane concludes that there is among the folks of his race, for drink, "the non-essential expenditure of \$1,320,000,000 a year, which is a lot of money to throw into a sewer." He would doubtless agree that it would be far better that the liquors should be emptied into the underground gutters and reservoirs of a city's refuse rather than poured into the channels of his race's blood as a destroying stream. Is it any wonder that this presentment of Frayser T. Lane is accompanied by the picture of a Negro man caught in the vast vice of the tavern, steaming with the sweat of his agony and shrieking with the madness of his alcoholic imbecility? Does all this represent the way in which a kindly people, rescued from one slavery, should be placed under a master more brutal than any Simon Legree that walks the pages of fiction?

In this issue of *The Message*, there are other remarkably revealing articles. One page gives "Torchlights," which illuminate all willing classrooms where sincere instruction is given. The late Dr. S. O. Cherry also discusses "Civilization in Reverse." The entire emphasis of the

issue shows the truth of Longfellow's little known lines:

"Now to rivulets from the mountains
Point the rods of fortune-tellers:
Youth perpetual dwells in fountains,
Not in casks, and flasks, and cellars."

The final article is found on the back cover, given in such a way as to make it seem a sad farewell to an unspeakably sad theme. The author is Arna Bontemps, a writer of note, and librarian at Fisk University. An admirer of Paul Laurence Dunbar reads the lines with poignant sorrow. Dunbar died before manhood's sun came to its meridian. Having contracted old-fashioned consumption, he fled to the bottle where liquor is labeled as medicine rather than poison. Thus he had two enemies to fight. In 1900 when he was twenty-eight years old, he was invited to give a recital of his own poems at Northwestern University. A distinguished audience paid him the tribute of attendance. He came late, delayed perhaps by decanter or tavern. Introduced, he stood on the platform shakily. A few suspected that he was drunk; but when he stumbled and repeated, and stared at the people through vacant eyes of intoxication, the superficial hearers laughed, while the highminded listeners left the room in indignation or in sorrow. It was a pitiful valedictory for such a graceful genius. Within two years he stumbled into his grave.

He was a distinguished representative of the victims of rum. When, therefore, able comrades in his racial group come into the contest against liquor, we feel like shouting a welcome to them as they join Arthur Howard, the Negro advocate of our own Board of Temperance, in his brave battle. The hope springs within our hearts that once again we may be able to send the message, once sent during the Revolutionary War: "The Negro Troops Fought Nobly."—BISHOP EDWIN HOLT HUGHES, *The Voice* (Board of Temperance, The Methodist Church).

NEWS BY JULY 5

An Indian Boy Preacher

SOME years ago I heard of a little Indian boy who was preaching the message up in the hills of the Chiriqui province of Panama. Pastor Ishmael Ellis, our missionary among the Indians of that country, told us of a visit he had made to see this boy and what he had heard him preach. We decided to make the trip together and in company with an Indian brother and Brother José Chavanz, our teacher among the Indians, we set out to find this little boy. Our road took us away up into the mountainous district of the Guaymie Indians. The heat was left behind in the valley below, and we actually shivered from the cool air of the high altitude. I could see the clouds below us as we climbed the dangerous and narrow roads with our mules. Finally, after hours of climbing, we arrived at a native hut with some naked children playing around it. One of these children was the boy preacher. At first he was quite shy and did not seem to trust us. But little by little we gained his confidence, and he consented to enter the hut with us.

Here is the message this little naked Indian boy, a heathen who had never seen a Bible in all his life, and could not read, told us:

"Soon God will destroy this earth and send plagues and sicknesses upon it. We must prepare ourselves for that day, and we must love one another. We should not go to dances or beer parties, nor to the devil dances. We must obey God. There is a great earthquake coming when all the wicked will die in one day. When God sends the plagues, there will be no rice and corn nor fruit on the trees. All the hills and the mountains will be leveled and the rivers will empty themselves. If we obey God He will give us a crown of gold. God will seem to come down upon this earth, but He will not touch it." When asked how he got this message, he replied, "God gave it to me in a dream. It was like a voice of thunder. God has given me this message to preach, and no one can prevent me."

I asked this little nine-year-old boy all kinds of questions to try to catch him in a contradiction, but he persisted with his story. I asked him and his mother if he had not heard our message, but both denied this. They are living quite a distance from our people, and none of them had ever been up there before. The Indians seemed to be stirred up because of this boy's preaching, and they believed it to be from God. It is not at all impossible that the Lord gave this little boy the message to preach so as to warn the people of his tribe. At any rate I cannot understand where this ignorant little heathen boy could get this message if it were not revealed to him by God. We are living close to the end, and the Lord will use means that we least expect to finish the last message.

"And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: and also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out My Spirit." Joel 2:28, 29.

E. J. LORNTZ.

Copied from *The Indian Missionary*, March, 1947.

Precious Seasons

"HAVE there not been some bright spots in your experience? Have you not had some precious seasons when your heart throbbed with joy in response to the Spirit of God? When you look back into the chapters of your life-experience, do you not find some pleasant pages? Are not God's promises, like the fragrant flowers, growing beside your path on every hand? Will you not let their beauty and sweetness fill your heart with joy?"

"The briers and thorns will only wound and grieve you; and if you gather only these things, and present them to others, are you not, besides slighting the goodness of God yourself, preventing those around you from walking in the path of life?" —*Steps to Christ*, pp. 121, 122.

A Generation Behind

"THE average length of a Negro life in the South at present is 35 years. It should be 50 years."

This modest hope was expressed 32 years ago by the late Booker T. Washington. As medicos this week marked the 33d annual observance of Booker T. Washington's National Negro Health Week, his wish had come true: today the life expectancy of United States Negroes (North and South) is 57 years.

But the U.S. Public Health Service, taking its annual inventory, found little reason for complacency. Negro health still lags a full generation behind that of United States whites (life expectancy: 66 years).

Items:

The death rate of Negroes is 33% higher than that of whites; the Negro infant death rate is 63% higher.

Most of the major killers—tuberculosis, kidney disease, pneumonia—are far more prevalent among Negroes. Heart disease and cancer are the killers that cause a higher percentage of deaths among whites; but the cancer rate among Negroes is rising.

Kept out of many hospitals, Negroes have only 124 hospitals of their own (many of them substandard), with a total of 20,800 beds (national total: 1,700,000 beds).

There are some 3,800 Negro physicians—one for every 3,377 Negroes, as against one doctor for every 750 persons in the general United States population. In the past decade, while the Negro population rose 8%, the number of Negro doctors dropped 5%.

—*Time*, April 7, 1947.

"Strive to enter in at the Strait Gate." Luke 13:24

THE belated traveler, hurrying to reach the city gate by the going down of the sun, could not turn aside for any attractions by the way. His whole mind was bent on the one purpose of entering the gate. The same intensity of purpose, said Jesus, is required in the Christian life.—*The Mount of Blessing*, p. 203.

Church Announcements

WHENEVER possible the larger churches should print or mimeograph neat and attractive bulletins. However, the public reading of a bulletin defeats its very purpose and virtually an insult to an intelligent audience able to read for themselves. The only occasion for special emphasis is when something new and unusual is being introduced such as a series of evangelistic services demanding the co-operation of the entire church. All bulletin announcements should be in the hands of the pastor by a designated time. Negligence in this respect should be penalized after one or two failures with a refusal to make an oral announcement.

In most churches bulletins are impractical and the announcements must be made orally by the pastor or elder, preferably the former. These should be handed in early enough so they can be properly arranged and when necessary condensed. It is better for them to be rewritten when possible on a typewriter, so they can be read quickly. Five minutes is time enough for all announcements even in a large church. They should never be repeated. The members will soon learn to hear the first time knowing that failure makes them the losers. It is a mistaken idea that repetition of announcements in a church service gives emphasis. It is rather monotony of the most disagreeable variety.

Next to long and rambling prayers, there is nothing more wearisome than long and repeated announcements sometimes regarding events that are already well known to the entire congregation. Why should it be any more necessary to call attention to the prayer meeting which is held regularly every Wednesday night than to the Sabbath school and church service the following Sabbath? For some reason the announcements seem unusually long when there is a guest speaker. Many a visiting minister has been introduced when it was almost time for the benediction. Seemingly endless

preliminaries and sermonette announcements consume the time. One is tempted to conclude that the prophetic statement, "he shall wear out the saints of the Most High," has more than one application.

It is strange that so many men lose all sense of time when they stand before an audience. They fail to realize what a serious thing it is to waste even a few minutes of a congregation's time. Multiply the minutes lost by the number of persons in the audience and the loss assumes great proportions. Begin the service exactly on time and carry it through with promptness and dispatch and you can close at the designated time so that the worshipers will depart feeling benefited and refreshed instead of with a weary sigh of relief that at last the agony has ended. In most of our churches there is need of a reformation in this respect. In these things the wise church leader will attempt to meet the demands of the modern age for promptness, regularity, and brevity.

T. G. BUNCH.

—*Lake Union Herald.*

Robbins Celebrates Formal Opening of New Church Home

ON Sabbath, April 5, several of us with the conference President Elder Dasent braved the high waters that had flooded many of the suburbs of Chicago. After fording several deep water streets we reached the little village of Robbins near Blue Island, Illinois. We had little difficulty locating the modest little brick church which seats 250 persons in new folding chairs. The church contains a modern gas circulating stove. It cost approximately \$5,000 to construct this edifice. This church building is a gift to the conference from the personal labors of Brother and Sister Alonzo Ratliff and Brother G. A. Oglesby. These lay brethren worked together. The former built a house for God and the latter the spiritual house by holding Bible readings, cot-

tage meetings, and Sabbath school.

Elder Dasent preached an appealing sermon, Elder Johnson extended the invitation to unite with this company and four adults joined including a public school teacher of Robbins. Elder F. N. Crowe, conference treasurer, called for the offering and a good sum was contributed to help complete the interior such as the plastering and plumbing, etc. When this is done the building will be dedicated—free of debt—to God. —F. N. C.

Greatest Crime Wave in Fifteen Years Sweeps U.S.

THE United States is in the midst of one of the greatest crime waves in fifteen years, with arrests for the postwar period increased 50 per cent in some areas.

The most marked increase, according to a country-wide survey, was in robberies, automobile thefts, and burglaries. Homicide and sex crimes showed sharp increases.

Sociologists and police authorities, comparing the crime wave with that which followed the first World War, attributed the rise to unemployment and plant shut-downs in the reconversion period, and "war-broken" homes, rather than the maladjusted returning servicemen.

Federal Bureau of Investigation statistics on all types of crime showed the upswing to be the greatest since the agency made a survey in 1930.

Reports from 2,000 cities with a 65,000,000 population showed these increases last year:

Robberies, 23.6%; auto thefts, 18.7%; burglaries, 17%; negligent manslaughters, 16.2%; murders, 10.1%; aggravated assaults, 8.7%; larcenies, 8.6%; and criminal attacks, 5.7%.

"The increases were more pronounced and widespread throughout the nation than have been recorded in many years," J. Edgar Hoover, FBI director, said.—*New York Times*, April 19, 1946.

Program Preview of the North American Youth's Congress

Morning Watch

JOIN the hundreds of Missionary Volunteers in the Morning Watch of the Congress. This will be your golden opportunity to unite your voice in song, prayer, and testimony with youth of like faith. Your denomination's outstanding speakers will offer challenging topics during the Morning Watch hour. This will be the daily beginning of the Youth's Congress.

Missions Symposium

One of the sparkling events of the Congress will be the missions symposium on Sabbath afternoon. Young people from other lands dressed in native costumes will present their stories of soul-winning experiences. This feature will have color, drama, excitement, and challenge.

Work Shop

Our first North American Youth's Congress is dedicated to a spiritual objective which is "to inspire our youth with a spirit of soul-winning evangelism and to help inaugurate a challenging program that will set the pace for a finished work." There will be opportunities for young people to receive instruction in the particular phase of soul-winning evangelism in which they are interested. Experts in the field of evangelism are being selected to conduct this "school of the Congress."

Voice of Adventist Youth

Here is one of the most thrilling features of the Congress program: The "Voice of Adventist Youth." This will be presented on Saturday night when the talents of our young people will pass in review. We are planning to broadcast this program of Christian youth in action.

Investiture Service

You have missed something if you never have witnessed an investiture service. There will be one at the Congress. Young people who have completed the requirements will be invested as Master Comrades. It will

be impressive to witness this exceptional part of the Youth's Congress program.

Master Comrade Dedication

Those who already have reached the highest round on the ladder of Progressive Classes will have opportunity to rededicate their lives as Master Comrades to the service of the Great Master Comrade. Denominational leaders will appear uniformed for this solemn occasion, and a special program is being prepared for this event. We are inviting all who can to present themselves uniformed for this unusual occasion.

40th Anniversary

One of the high spots on Sunday of the Youth's Congress will be the 40th Anniversary program. We will present to the young people of the Congress the leaders of the Missionary Volunteer movement, men and women who from the beginning have guided and molded the Young People's Department of Missionary Volunteers. See your pioneers on parade and hear their thrilling stories of forty years of M.V. progress.

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENT, GENERAL CONFERENCE.

Activities of Missionary Volunteers in Southeastern California

ON a recent Sabbath the young people in the choir of the Riverside Church met with the young people from the choir of the church in San Diego on the beautiful Sunset Cliffs of California. A program of singing was rendered before a large audience composed of members from both churches. The Riverside choir was under the leadership of Brother James Haughton, medical student at Loma Linda Medical College, while Brother Marion Stieger, former Oakwood student, directed the San Diego choir.

On Sunday the young people of the two churches spent the time enjoying the great out-of-doors and getting better acquainted. As evening fell, they parted feeling that a pleasant time had been spent and

that our young people everywhere would find much joy and spiritual benefit in such meetings.

W. E. GALBRETH,
Pastor Riverside Church.

Last Minute News From the South Central Conference

A MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION has been formed in the South Central Conference. These young people held a convention in Knoxville, Tennessee, beginning April 25. On Sabbath, April 26, Elder O. B. Edwards of Oakwood College delivered the sermon. Would that all could have heard the never-to-be-forgotten subject, "Youth in Connection With the Signs of the Times." No words can be called to command to express the demanding earnestness of the thought conveyed. Mrs. D. Custard, Miss Ruth N. Frazier, Mrs. M. Myles, and Elder F. B. Slater are to be commended for their excellent and careful planning for this meeting. Investiture service was held and three received Master Comrade pins.

Nashville, Tennessee has been referred to as the crossroads, where new acquaintances are made and old friends meet, a "Utopia." The Riverside Sanitarium board met May 7 with ministers from all sections of the country present by special invitation. Lots of old friends did meet and many new acquaintances were made. We were very happy for our many visitors.

The Riverside Sanitarium Hospital is launching a campaign to raise money for an adequate place of worship for the residents there. With students in the school of nursing and many added employees it will be necessary to provide a chapel in which to carry on the spiritual activities.

The Meharry Boulevard Church is working hard to build an academy and we are sure this will soon be a finished project. This church was first to go over the top in their Ingathering goal in the South Central Conference. Elder C. S. Myles is the pastor.

H. R. MURPHY, *President.*