



A Christmas Message

BY THE EDITOR

EACH Christmas is like the passing of a milestone of life. This Christmas message is to remind us of the need of haste in doing the things we ought to do. "The night cometh when no man can work." We pass the years as an express train glides by telegraph poles. Each one, when passed, lies beyond recall. We must take hold of every opportunity to be representatives of Christ to the world. What we do must be done quickly.

It is quite noticeable that the Christmas season is marked by great generosity. Pleasant as it is to receive tokens of regard from others, and there is a blessedness in receiving, it is as nothing compared with the joy of giving. The act of giving, however, should not be confined only to friends and loved ones. We should think of those who are in need, many of whom are in far-off lands.

Giving is a most Godlike thing. It is the constant activity of God. The crowning manifestation of His giving is the gift of Jesus. God is love, and love is the constant outpouring of itself for others. The delight of our heavenly Father is to lavish His gifts upon us, and chiefest among them is the gift of Himself to us. This is the unspeakable gift. Let us remember that there are certain outward manifestations in consecration.

How much we love Him our actions will show. It is not our privilege, like the wise men from the East, to bring our gifts to Jesus and lay

them at His feet. But He tells us, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me." These brethren of Christ might be represented by the hungry, the thirsty, and the naked, not only in the homeland, but in various countries of the world. As children of God we learn that each man must be for his brother. The joy of our fellow man, the mitigation of his hardships, the alleviation of his sorrows, are not matters outside our interest. They are the very things for which we must have eyes and hearts. They are the very things for which we must learn to sacrifice our money, our ease, and our self-pleasure to promote. The birth of Christ brought to the world an exemplification of self-sacrifice, patience, and effort. By kind acts and kind words, by the sovereign power of simple and self-sacrificing love He lived and worked in the world. Men and women will be won for heaven, not by might, nor by power, but by the spirit which was the Master's.

May each of us during the holiday season be able to say with the patriarch Job, "I delivered the poor that cried, and the fatherless, and him that had none to help him. The blessing of him that was ready to perish came upon me: and I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy. . . . I was eyes to the blind, and feet was I to the lame. I was a father to the poor: and the cause which I knew not I searched out."

May Jesus see in you and in me that brotherhood of love of which He is the supreme master.

My gladdest thought for Christmastide
Is that the love of God so wide,
Taking the whole world in its thought
And giving all that Christ has brought,
Can enter, fill, and use each heart.
That wishes thus to have a part
In ministry of love to bring
The world to God through Christ our King.
—Selected.

Autumn Council Notes

THE 1947 Autumn Council was a highly spiritual occasion. The opening sermon by J. L. McElhany, our General Conference president, together with his Sabbath sermon, called our attention vividly to the times in which we live and the need of a closer walk with God.

Many forward steps were taken for the advancement of evangelism in the world field. A budget of \$14,497,564.45 was voted by the council to meet some of the pressing and urgent needs of our work now facing us both in North America and in the world field.

An advisory council meeting of the colored department was held preceding the regular session of the council. One of the important items discussed was the changing of the name *Department* to a name more suitable to the present form of conference organization. This matter was referred to the General Conference committee for study and action.

The Riverside Sanitarium is just about ready for occupancy. It will be opened just as soon as all furnishings and equipment are secured. Because of advanced prices, the amount now needed for these purchases is \$120,000. Our churches are required to finish the task of raising their allotment by February 14, 1948. It was voted to invite all of our Seventh-day Adventist churches in North America to join in this annual Riverside offering, which comes next year on the date previously stated.

Appropriations to the colored work in North America were included in the 1948 budget and voted as follows: Riverside Sanitarium including regular annual appropriations, \$72,800; Oakwood College including new library, \$93,500; colored conferences operating in the Southern, Southwestern, and Central unions, \$65,000.

G. E. Peters expressed to the council words of appreciation in behalf of the colored constituency. He stated that the liberal financial consideration was "seed sown on good ground."

ALLEGHENY

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

Ephesus in Columbus, Ohio

News Notes:

THE work in Columbus is progressing encouragingly. One can see the hand of God in every move. Several thousands of dollars have been spent in improvements for the church, including a new electric refrigerated Sun Roc water fountain.

FOR the first time in the history of the church the doors swung open September 8 for school. We operate grades one through eight. With all the added features that the church is so nobly supporting, on one Sabbath the members gave in cash and pledges an offering of \$1,300 for the school.

ON August 3 we began a tent effort known as the Bible Lyceum. In

order to arrest the attention of the people and interest them in our meetings, we featured, on the opening night, Miss Dorothy Warren, one of the members of the church who is a student of music at Ohio State University, in a twilight musicale. Each week thereafter the crowds grew from a capacity audience to that of overflowing proportions. The interest increased with the audience.

A personal word of thanks should go to Miss Emma De Shay, a student of Oakwood College, who gave her time so faithfully for the effort as a Bible worker because there was no worker available for Columbus. We will soon arrange for the third baptism. To God be the glory; great things He has done.

God is truly working for us here. As a result of the summer's effort we have already baptized forty and have a baptismal class of many others. Many of our recent believers have decided to follow the Master under adverse and trying conditions. One sister who had always known a happy married life said that her husband placed a gun in her back and threatened to kill her if she joined the church. She, by faith, is still walking with an interest to keep all of God's commandments.

TOUSSAINT DAVIS.

Gleanings From Youth's Congress

(Concluded)

A VERY impressive meeting of the congress was the call made by Elder J. L. McElhany for those who were willing to go into mission service when needed. In response to the call about 2,000 young people arose all over the assembly.

I must not omit referring to the closing meeting, when a commemorative service of the fortieth anniversary of the Missionary Volunteer work was held. The pioneers present were Elders M. E. Kern, Meade MacGuire, Frederick Griggs, C. M. Sorenson, and G. R. Fattic. It was very enlightening as they related some of the events associated with the begin-

ning of the Young People's Missionary Volunteer organization.

Sabbath morning service at the eleven o'clock hour was a meeting that will be long remembered. H. M. S. Richards, assisted by the King's Heralds, gave a stirring message which reminded us that we living in a world that is facing the final hour. Elder Richards emphasized the fact that Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. When the call was made for the youth to forsake all and follow the master, thousands filled the aisles of the great auditorium, pressing their way forward for prayer and new consecration. Some gave their hearts to God for the first time.

Then there was the Sabbath evening service with numerous musical selections. Among those numbers featured on the program were an a capella choir, a male chorus, and our own young people's choir of the Shiloh church in Chicago, ably directed by Mr. McKenzie. A number was rendered by Elder H. W. Kibble and his three young sons, forming a quartet.

A special feature of the musical program was the appearance of Joyce Slater, five-year-old daughter of Elder and Mrs. F. B. Slater. Joyce, in a very clear and distinct voice, answered questions telling her age, the name of her parents, and the name of the city where she lived, also the street and house number. She then rendered a very lovely solo, which drew the heartiest applause of the evening.

My prayer is that the inspiration

The North American Informant

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of this first North American Youth's Congress may live forever in the hearts of our youth, awakening a determination to render greater service.

G. E. P.

NORTHEASTERN

L. H. Bland, Pres. L. O. Irons, Sec.-Treas.
560 W. 150th St., New York, N.Y.
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Northeastern Conference Academy

WE are greatly pleased as we have watched the growth of the Northeastern Academy now comfortably housed in the newly acquired building in the Bronx.

We make the following observations: In the month of August, 1943, N. Osman Phipps was invited by the Ephesus school board and the Greater New York educational superintendent to the principalship of the Harlem Academy. Professor Phipps opened school in September of that year with an enrollment of one hundred and fourteen in ten grades. There were three associate teachers. Each year the enrollment increased until it reached a peak of two hundred and six last year, and at the same time the faculty increased from four to eight.

At the close of the school year 1945-46 the demands were such that the school board deemed it wise to add another grade with the projected plan of having a full academy in 1946-47. During this period the physical condition of the institution was greatly improved. Some equipment for teaching biology was secured, also several typewriters and a hectograph machine. One thousand dollars was spent for modern seats for all grades.

At the end of the school year of 1946 Professor Phipps resigned the responsibility of principal, but was requested to continue as assistant instructor in science as well as teacher of physics, algebra, and geometry.

Prof. Samuel Darby now serves as principal of the academy and Miss



Bethel Light Bearers

Julia Goss as principal of the elementary department.

We congratulate the Northeastern Conference president, the educational department secretary, and the pastors and churches of the conference, also the former and present principals for the successful operation of their educational program through these recent years.

EDITOR.

Bethel, Brooklyn, N.Y.

BY A. WELLINGTON CLARKE

WITH the issuance of the book *Training Light Bearers*, by the Home Missionary Department of the General Conference, a new advance has been made in the onward march of lay evangelism.

On Sunday evening, October 26, 1947, twenty-one persons at Bethel in Brooklyn, New York, received their certificates, having successfully completed the Layman's Bible Training Course. Elder James North, home missionary secretary of the Northeastern Conference, delivered a timely address on "The New Birth in Relation to Christian Service," which was well received by the congregation.

It was in the spring of 1947 when we organized this class of lay evangelists, using as the textbook *Training Light Bearers*. The practical as well as theoretical side of soul winning was stressed. The history of

the Advent Movement, the lives of the early pioneers, as well as the advance of this present truth in all the world, were thoroughly studied. Before the course was completed, each member of the class was given the opportunity of conducting at least one Bible study before his classmates, thus implementing by practice what had been received through theory.

For field work each member was assigned definite areas in the city of Brooklyn, where literature was systematically distributed for twelve weeks. Each layman becoming acquainted with the person receiving the literature from week to week made openings for Bible studies possible. The results here have been very gratifying. Up to this writing, numbers of the class are conducting cottage meetings, and I have baptized one person as the result of the follow-up work of one of the students of this class. It has been encouraging from the start to see the interest the members have taken in the course.

Properly instructed and encouraged, the consecrated laity comprising our church membership will be the organ for the finishing of God's work on earth, thus hastening the return of our Lord. The Lord's servant has rightly said, "The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church-membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers."—*Testimonies*, vol. 9, p. 117.

The Layman

LEAVE it to the ministers, and soon the church will die;
 Leave it to the women folk; the young will pass it by;
 For the church is all that lifts us from the coarse and selfish mob,
 And the church that is to prosper needs the layman on the job.

Now, a layman has his business, and a layman has his joys;
 But he also has the training of his little girls and boys;
 And I wonder how he'd take it if there were no churches here
 And he had to raise his children in a godless atmosphere.

It's the church's special function to uphold the finer things,
 To teach the way of living from which all that's noble springs;
 But the minister can't do it single-handed and alone,
 For the laymen of the country are the church's corner-stone.

When you see a church that's empty, though its doors are open wide,
 It is not the church that's dying; it's the laymen who have died;
 For it's not by song or sermon that the church's work is done;
 It's the laymen of the country who for God must carry on.

—EDGAR A. GUEST.

Education Work Shows Progress

SURELY the Lord is blessing His people throughout the Northeastern Conference. This blessing is manifested in every department. When this conference was organized three years ago, there was only one church school to which the boys and girls could go to receive an education which recognizes the Bible as its foundation. I am happy to report today, however, that there are four church schools and one academy to care for the educational needs of our children in this conference. Our enrollment has increased from 120 to 229 elementary students and some sixty academic students.

We are happy to welcome a new addition to our schools this year. For years the people of the Bethel church, Brooklyn, New York, have looked forward to the time when their children would receive the benefits of Christian education. Under the leadership of Elder A. W.

Clarke this wish is now a reality. In September the school was opened with a faculty of two and enrollment of more than thirty pupils.

Our faculty has not lingered behind our school development. Within the three-year period our staff has increased from five to seventeen. All our teachers are doing most creditable work in teaching the boys and girls to be good citizens in this world and to be citizens in the kingdom of God.

Academy Building Purchased

One of the major problems that confronted the conference was a suitable building in which to house our academic students. After many months of search we were finally directed to a school building formerly used by Jewish students in the Bronx. This building was purchased for some \$40,000 in which our academy, a day school, will be housed. Because of the rapid transportation system of New York City, it is advantageous for us to operate a day school for our several students throughout the five boroughs of New York City.

Surely, words of thanks must be expressed to L. H. Bland, our president, for his keen interest in Christian education and for all that he did to help build up the educational work here; also to Elders A. E. Webb, S. B. Huddleston, E. A. Lockett, R. T. Wilson, and A. W. Clarke.

JONATHAN E. ROACHE, *Superintendent, Department, of Education.*

Colporteur Evangelism

ERNEST HUGHES, one of our faithful colporteurs, who has recently been placed in Poughkeepsie, New York, has quite an interest there, and we are certain that under the blessing of God, this interest will grow. Samuel Barber, another successful and gallant soldier of Jesus Christ, is working hard in the city of Albany, New York, where we trust that with the help of the Lord

our work will be established in a more definite way.

We set our goal at the beginning of the year for \$85,000. Under the guiding hand of God and with the loyal support of our capable and faithful assistants, Sister M. L. Morrison and Brother Samuel James, and our new magazine leader, Sister M. L. Barber, plus the co-operation of our gallant colporteur force, we have delivered up to October 11, \$80,513.32 worth of heaven-approved literature. We firmly believe that with the continued blessings of the Lord we will reach the \$100,000 mark this year.

God is blessing in a very definite way. He will never forsake those who have dedicated themselves to His service. All who consecrate themselves to God to work as canvassers are assisting to give the last message of warning to the world.

C. M. WILLIS.

News From Liberia, Africa

G. N. BANKS recently sends words of encouragement and progress to the INFORMANT readers all over America. Our missionaries who left us over two years ago have accomplished miraculous things since going to the Liberian Mission. They have had many thrilling experiences in their work for God, and His all-seeing eye has constantly guided them through many dangerous encounters. Elder Banks reports:

"Jesse O. Gibson, our Sabbath school and Missionary Volunteer leader, was with us from the union for ten days. Transportation prevented C. D. Henri from joining us from the Bassa side, but Brother Giddings and I joined Elder Gibson on a tour of our hinterland stations for Missionary Volunteer and Sabbath school rallies. It was a great joy to see how our native workers and members were cheered by visits and counsel, and how happy they were to tell us their experiences as they went forth witnessing for the truth in their villages.

"We had many experiences on

our trip. We stared into the green eyes of two leopards while out walking one night at our Liiwa compound, and again, when on our return, we came across a large cassava snake in the road, which we hastily avoided of his life and then noticed his deadly poison fangs were only an inch long. He had horned hooks two inches long on his big triangle head. This does not happen to us every day out here, but these are just a few of the sidelights.

"We are planning baptisms at all five of our stations during the next two months, for which many are preparing. At the same time we are in the midst of school-closing programs as well as the Ingathering campaign and building schools. You can see we are still on the go.

"Furloughs were to begin last month, November; but Elder Henri is completing his school building in Bassa, Brother Giddings is in the midst of his at Konola, and I will not be able to leave until after the union session in January. The exact date is always fixed by the departing day of the available ship, and one is never certain of the moment of departure until he is actually on the ship; however, ships come in here much more often now, and this is not too much of a problem out here where we have to look at things far differently from what we did in efficient America. Brother Giddings plans to leave in January for his furlough and Brother Henri some months later.

"All the families are well and are looking forward to the time when we shall all unite once more in America."

If you have an idea, hustle around and get another. Don't let it die in solitary confinement."

* * * *

"If you want to be rich, give! If you want to be poor, grasp!

If you want abundance, scatter! If you want to be needy, hoard!"

Oakwood College

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

Oakwood Expands

OAKWOOD COLLEGE began its fifty-first year on September 29, 1947, with an enrollment of 407 students.

Our students come from 33 States and the District of Columbia. Twenty-two students registered from Canal Zone, Trinidad, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Barbados, Honduras, and the Virgin Islands.

New York ties with Alabama for first place, with an enrollment of 39 each. Florida follows with 31; Ohio, 27; Illinois, 26; Michigan, 22; North Carolina, 20; Pennsylvania, 19; New Jersey, 17; Georgia, 12; and South Carolina, 11. A much smaller number came from each of the other 25 States.

Of the total enrollment, 130 are veterans, the majority of whom are maturely intelligent and gratifyingly eager to secure a Christian education. The attitude of these men on our campus is proving a tonic force throughout the college. Forty house trailers have been secured from the Government for housing the married veterans and their families.

Oakwood College Academy has an enrollment of 124. Florida leads with 17, Alabama takes second place with 11. There are 12 students registered in the academy from the Bahamas, Barbados, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Jamaica, Panama, and Trinidad. This gives a total of 531 students on our campus.

A very extensive building program has been undertaken by the General Conference under the guidance of the college board. At the present time a well-equipped laundry has been built, costing \$15,000. Three cottages for teachers have been completed. A very beautiful modern residence hall for college women is now ready for occupancy. It will accommodate 150 women. The cafeteria and kitchen are also housed in this building.

Over \$200,000 has been spent in this structure. The chemistry department is now housed in a neatly constructed building, and we are looking forward hopefully to a new abode for our library and a few more cottages for the proper lodging of our staff.

In order to assure this institution the very best sanitary conditions, a sewage disposal plant at a cost of \$48,500 is being installed.

This increased enrollment and the extensive expansion program do not lessen our problems. What may have been a small expenditure in former years of the college now turns out to be a financial Frankenstein. We face the future, however, with courage and hope and the assurance of a good school year.

Departmental High Lights

THE total amount received from our churches on the Riverside Sanitarium offering up to November 24, 1947, is \$47,324.32.

BAPTISMS by our colored evangelists in 1946 numbered 2,200. From reports that have already come in it appears that there will be a larger report of baptisms for the year 1947.

PRESSING needs of our missions program required the advancement of the mission goal for North America from sixty cents to seventy cents per week per member. It was recommended that the mission goal for Sabbath School Offerings for 1948 be thirty-five cents per week per member.

THE colored conferences of the Southern and Southwestern unions were requested to raise sixty cents per week per member as their mission goal; thirty cents per week per member of this through the Sabbath school.

EVANGELIST J. H. LAURENCE reports eighty-five baptisms up to November 15. He expects to exceed one hundred by December 31. The total amount turned in to the treasury of the Cleveland church under Elder Laurence's labors exceeded \$13,000 for the quarter ending Sep-

tember 30, 1947. One thousand dollars was raised by the local church for the purchase of a tent for their summer effort.

PACIFIC UNION

Colored Department

Owen A. Troy, Sec.

735 Winona Ave., Pasadena, Calif.

Pacific News Notes

LOS ANGELES ACADEMY is now located in its new buildings at 846 East El Segundo Boulevard. The enrollment is 302 through grades 1 to 12. The school plant is considered one of the most modern in the denomination. To date the buildings have cost \$168,428.57. Land and improvements amounted to \$40,783.36, making a total of \$209,211.93. Equipment has been purchased to the amount of \$10,000. Funds to the amount of \$10,000 have been allocated to be spent this year to complete the buildings, making a total cost of \$229,211.93. Additional needs of this institution are a chapel and another elementary unit. The foundation of the chapel is already laid, and the forms for the elementary unit have been constructed.

DAVID VOTH, of the Southern California Conference, and his committee and the Pacific Union Conference have assisted in every way possible to make this academy the commodious and modern school that it is. Associated with Principal J. F. Dent is a staff of nineteen teachers and employees. Elder R. H. Robertson is serving as chairman of the Los Angeles Academy board.

WILLIAM G. MILLS, pastor-evangelist recently from St. Petersburg, Florida, arrived the first week in November to take up his work as pastor of the Phoenix church and to oversee the work in Arizona.

V. A. JOSEPH, who greatly strengthened the work in Fresno, California, during the time he was there, has gone to Bakersfield to build up the work. The believers have a well-located piece of prop-

erty, but they need a new building. At present Elder Joseph is getting ready to launch an effort there.

R. E. BERRY, who was loaned to the Nevada-Utah Conference for evangelistic work, is now stationed in Fresno as pastor-evangelist of that district.

THE Monrovia church has reached the point in its construction where it is ready to be plastered. The members are working faithfully under the leadership of Elder H. Lindsey, the pastor, and Elder J. W. Allison, who is associated with him. On Sabbath, November 22, the members brought in \$642 for the building fund. In October, Elder Lindsey baptized six at the Sunset Avenue church in Pasadena, two of this number being a direct result of the Sweet Chariot Hour radio work.

IN October, at the Phoenix church, Elder O. A. Troy baptized an Army corporal who had learned the message through the Voice of Prophecy. He was a regular attendant at the church and well instructed. He plans to study for the ministry at Oakwood College on being discharged from the Army.

R. W. NELSON, pastor of the Market Street church of Oakland, California, reports an addition of ninety-nine members to that church between September 20, 1946, and September 20, 1947. In addition there are thirty-one in the baptismal class. Seventy-eight of the ninety-nine members were added by baptism. From the effort held in near-by Richmond, he had baptized forty-two up to September 20. As a result of this successful effort held in Richmond, a church is to be organized there in the near future. Associated with Elder Nelson in his work have been Pastor A. T. Johnson, Sisters W. Gully and Veva Knox.

ELDER AND MRS. TROY and Brother and Sister J. W. Burnett, of Turlock recently visited the Alamo church located near Chowchilla, California. The little company meet in a neat, well-equipped church building lo-

cated in a rich farming area in the San Joaquin Valley. This group of believers return as much inspiration to visiting workers as the workers give to these lonely believers. R. S. Norman is the local elder.

IN 1948 there will be two openings for interns: one in Tucson, Arizona, and the other in Imperial Valley in southeastern California.

THE following unentered fields in California and Utah have sufficient colored American population to support churches: Southern California Conference—Long Beach-Wilmington area, Boyle Heights (East Los Angeles); Central California—San Maeto-Burlington-Palo Alto area, Merced, San Jose; Northern California—Sacramento, Vallejo, Stockton; Southeastern California—Imperial Valley (El Centro and Blythe); Nevada-Utah—Ogden.

Evangelism in the Pacific

LOS ANGELES

During the last two years some three hundred souls have been taken into the Wadsworth church in Los Angeles, and over two hundred and fifty of these have come directly from continuous evangelistic efforts held in this city. For the first time in the history of our evangelism, I believe, a tent has remained in one spot through all the seasons of the year for nearly two years, and moreover, this is beyond government restrictions. A tent is not permitted to remain up in the city of Los Angeles over a period of one hundred and twenty days, but after a year and eight months the government gave me notice to take it down immediately, and said they had overlooked the regulations of the law. There are things that I could explain concerning this, but it is sufficient to say the tent still remains and the meetings are going on a miracle of God. I am hoping that during 1948 I will be able, by God's help, to take in five hundred souls for the Master.

R. H. ROBERTSON.

SAN DIEGO

Beautifully situated in San Diego, California, on the corner of 31st Street and Franklin Avenue, the San Diego Community Church and Clinic, when completed, will be one

of the best arranged and equipped churches we have.

Dennis T. Black, who was sick for more than a year from an injured back, has had a remarkable recovery. On returning from the White Memorial Hospital, where he was operated upon in the fall of 1946, Elder Black took the oversight of the construction of the church the early part of 1947.

It is like seeing a man raised from the dead to watch Elder Black climb ladders, use the hammer, and give direction in the erection of this modern, two-story edifice. The church is being built so as to serve the spiritual, educational, medical and welfare needs of the community.

On the second floor of this stucco, California-style church is the sanctuary, with a seating capacity of five hundred, a nursery and mothers' room, as well as two large choir and auxiliary rooms. The glass-enclosed baptistry is located inconspicuously to the right of the large rostrum, yet it is visible to the entire audience. At the rear of the auditorium is a well-arranged balcony. On the balcony level at the side of the rostrum above the choir and auxiliary rooms are class and instruction rooms.

The basement of the church has been built so as to provide for a health clinic with doctor's examining room, a waiting room, and a physiotherapy and hydrotherapy treatment room. Also on this floor are a youth's chapel, a Dorcas and welfare room, a dietetic cooking room as well as rooms for the kindergarten and primary departments of the Sabbath school.

Apparently Elder Black and the conference committee left out no detail in drawing up the plans of this church. All phases of the Seventh-day Adventist program are adequately provided for; yet the church



San Diego Community Church and Clinic

is so arranged that the main auditorium is entirely apart from the other departments of the church. The cost of this building, which is just about half completed, has been estimated at between \$60,000 and \$100,000. It is impossible to estimate accurately the real cost of this church, because Elder Black is the contractor, thus saving that cost. Then, too, on Sundays the men and women of the church work on the building according to their various abilities. Approximately \$2,500 in labor has been contributed to date. An example of what is being done is the donated labor valued at \$159.45 given by Brother J. Griffin between July 6 and October 4. Elder and Mrs. Black in their work clothes have set an example for the membership. Sunday meals are furnished for the workers by those who cannot work otherwise.

Elder Black writes, "It is a joy to see the members behind the building program one hundred per cent. I don't know of one member who is not doing something to help."

One of the church members, Sister Houtmann, has raised and contributed \$1,448.78 up to October 18. The city has arranged to grade the grounds and bring in such soil as may be necessary without any cost to the church. The estimated value of this work is \$1,000.

No trouble has been encountered as a result of the labor unions. Neither has any opposition been raised because of Sunday work. In fact, some of the people in the community come in to help work on Sunday.

The medical missionary features

which are to be connected with the work of this church, as Sister White has pointed out, certainly have broken down prejudice against our work in San Diego.

RIVERSIDE

William E. Galbreth and J. E. Johnson are now conducting an effort in Riverside, California, and in spite of the difficulties encountered, the workers' hearts are cheered greatly as they see the crowds anxiously wending their way to the Community Bible Tent. They are confident of the blessings of the Lord, for they are resolved to follow the plan outlined by the pen of Inspiration, which states that they should first locate those whose interest can be aroused in learning truth, then teach them step by step, and finally let the Holy Spirit lead them to take their stand.

Elder and Mrs. J. E. Johnson, formerly of the Lake Region Conference, are now laboring in the Southeastern California Conference. Elder Johnson, district leader of the San Bernardino-Riverside area has had years of experience in evangelistic work and is a valuable source of information and help to the staff workers assisting Brother Galbreth in the effort.

Miss Justine R. Reed, Bible instructor, reports a growing interest in her house-to-house contacts. Miss Barbara Boyd, former student of La Sierra College, is pianist for the effort. The music director, Mr. James Elliston, comes to us from Los Angeles.

WILLOWBROOK

Our little candle is burning in the southern part of Los Angeles. Our courage is good, and the work is onward.

We are holding evangelistic services in the church on Sunday nights, and are having good interest. Nine received baptism in September as a result, and ten more are preparing for baptism, which will probably take place in December. We are holding four cottage meetings each week besides conducting a class in Training Light Bearers. Several of our laymen are conducting cottage meetings also. On Wednesday nights a series of Sanctuary studies is being held which has thus far proved to be a success. We are striving to prepare a people to meet Jesus in peace. Pray for us here in Willowbrook.

W. C. WEBB.

SAN FRANCISCO

Besides buying and paying for our church in the first seven months, we have installed a new furnace and ladies' and gentlemen's rest rooms, roofed half of the building, decorated the interior, rebuilt the organ, and erected a new chancel. These additions and improvements amounted to approximately \$20,000. This work has been accomplished with a membership, beginning August 8, 1944, of fifty-three. We are happy to pass on the good word that the Lord has increased our membership to 203 since that time. We give God all the glory. All expenses for improvements have been paid, and the church is free from all debt.

We are happy to have Miss Marian Warrington associated with us as Bible instructor here in San Francisco. She is doing an excellent work, and her services are indispensable.

We need the prayers of the entire field as we launch other strong programs.

J. E. Cox.

Western Hospitality

It was the privilege of Elder J. E. Cox and the San Francisco church to receive all of our group as guests who were in attendance at the

Youth's Congress. They were happy to see the smiling faces of those who came in from all parts of the North American Division. The congress proved a great blessing to all who attended, and the spirit of the meeting was carried back to all M.V. societies, and they have a new vision for the great task entrusted to our youth for this time.

They were also highly favored to be the host to their guests in serving over four hundred people Sabbath dinner during the meetings. On Saturday night the Oakland church

During 1948 the Informant will be published monthly. We are asking you to cooperate with our plan by sending your news before the 15th of the month preceding publication.

joined them in a grand reception. More than eleven hundred people gathered at the Philadelphian church to listen to a very fine program rendered by talented youth from the many fields represented at the congress. At the close of the program refreshments were served. All seemed happy to be in San Francisco, a city of great happenings and romance.

On Sunday evening Elder Willie Lee preached a very inspiring sermon, after which seventeen were baptized as a result of the evangelistic meetings that were being held at that time. The last Sunday night in December there will be another baptismal ceremony for the class that is now in the stage of preparation.

The Message Magazine

L. B. Reynolds, Editor

Southern Publishing Association

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

The Temperance Message

RECENTLY the *Message Magazine* has enjoyed extensive publicity through the initiative and foresight of its editor, L. B. Reynolds, and Miss Gwendolyn Burton, the editorial secretary.

A way to get the *Message* successfully into university libraries and also into the hands of students and faculty members of our leading Negro colleges was found through the September temperance special edition. Elder Reynolds and his secretary made successful contacts with the presidents of many colored institutions, and were recipients of astounding results. Leaders and promoters of our large universities are visualizing the need of health reform, especially in regard to the liquor habit, among their students.

The following are excerpts of letters from some of our leading educators of the country, which will show the remarkable strides that the temperance special has taken in walking into our leading college libraries and grasping the hands of hundreds of students and faculty members.

Dr. E. M. Jellinck, authority on Alcoholic Studies at Yale University, says, "We will abstract it [temperance special] in the *Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol*."

Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute, says, "We shall be glad to distribute as many copies of the *Message Magazine* to members of our student body as you care to make available to us. We will also see that the faculty and those at the Veterans Administration receive them."

North Carolina College at Durham responds to the inquiry of editor by saying, "We would be pleased to receive at least one thousand copies of the *Message Magazine* for distribution among students in co-operation with your very fine

Remember Riverside Drive

crusade to keep them alert to the disastrous effects of alcohol."—A. E. MANLEY, dean of Liberal Arts.

Dr. Seabrook, president of Fayetteville State Teachers College, responds, "Thank you for the temperance special of *Message*; it is full of helpful information. We would like to receive copies for our 625 students and faculty members combined, but do not know that you can spare that many. At any rate, send us as many as you can."

The dean of Cornell College writes, "I appreciate getting a copy of your temperance number again this year. I think you have certainly done a good job in putting it together; your whole magazine is an excellent job of printing. I hope someday that you can carry one of my articles."

The Christian Advocate, one of the most outstanding journals of its kind, ran an editorial in the November 27 edition which read:

"WELL DONE.—We doff our hats to *Message*, an all-Negro-edited magazine published in Nashville, Tennessee (Box 59, Nashville 2), for one of the most constructive and sensible temperance issues we have seen in many a moon. This kind of leadership among our Negro citizens will pay enormous dividends to the nation. No one can even guess what excellent results could be obtained if such a publication would have sufficient financial backing to enable it to get a wide circulation among colored people."

The promoters and well-wishers of our magazine, the *Message*, are enthusiastic about the response from the public in regard to the special issue of the periodical. Many other colleges have asked to be placed on the list for copies of the *Message* to supply their student groups, but to do this means that we must have strong financial backing from everyone. If either you or your church is approached for this worthy cause, you respond?

Remember Riverside Drive

SOUTHWESTERN MISSION

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

Workers' Meeting

THE Southwestern Mission workers' meeting was held October 14 and 15. This being the first meeting to convene since the evangelistic efforts this summer, all were eager to hear the reports given. At that time 276 baptisms were reported. This was only a partial report, but our hearts were greatly cheered. This is a phenomenal increase compared to 55 baptisms three years ago in the whole territory. As soon as definite word has come in from all over the field, we plan to print an itemized report.

Some of the personnel present at the meeting were Elder G. E. Peters, of the General Conference; Elders J. W. Turner, J. C. Kozel, H. M. Burwell, W. A. Howe, and E. Remsen, of the Southwestern Union. We also had Elder C. L. Paddock, of the Southern Publishing Association. All the workers in the field were present. Owing to some recent changes in workers, a few were gathered with the mission force for the first time, and others who had been in attendance at the workers' meetings for years were missing.

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome H. J. Fordham and his family to this field, also S. D. Meyers, a recent graduate of Emmanuel Missionary College. Pastor Meyers is about to be the medium through which we receive a welcome addition to the mission family in the person of Miss Gloria Vaughn, who, upon her arrival in this field, will be Mrs. S. D. Meyers.

The sales of the publishing department are on the increase. A very interesting report was given by J. H. Jones, the mission publishing secretary, supplemented by an inspiring challenge from the union publishing secretary, Elder Remsen.

A gain of \$3,388.71 in Sabbath School Offerings was reported. This gain was for the first nine months

that the mission has operated as such. The per capita for this period is 20.5 cents.

Items of Interest

SOUTH AFRICA

Each of our unions has set a goal for new converts and those to be baptized this year. At the present time it seems that we will baptize between seven and eight thousand souls during 1947. We have a goal set for the division of just over twenty thousand new converts. These twenty thousand, however, will become members of our Bible classes, where they will remain for a period of two years before they can be baptized. Our brethren throughout the division are really getting under the burden of a greater evangelistic program, and I am confident that we can look forward to a large number of souls who will be gathered in as a result of the efforts conducted this year.

C. W. BOZARTH.

* * * *

SOUTHERN PUBLISHING

The Southern Publishing Association has brought out two new Crisis books for use in missionary work among the colored people. The first is entitled *Thy Dead Shall Live*, by G. E. Peters, and the other is *Eating for Health*, by Marvene Jones, dietitian of Riverside Sanitarium and Hospital. We believe that these two fine books, one dealing with our message on the state of the dead and the other on healthful living, will have a wide circulation.

* * * *

"THERE are plenty of go-getters. What we need is more bring-it-backers."

* * * *

"Self-confidence is the first requisite to great undertakings."

CENTRAL STATES MISSION

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

Central States Mission News Notes

SIX precious souls were baptized in the Kansas City, Missouri, church, Sabbath, September 20. Several others have taken their stand and are awaiting baptism.

ELDER ROWE spoke to a well-filled church Sabbath morning, September 20, in Pueblo, Colorado. At the close of the sermon the doors of the church were opened and six came forward. In the afternoon four persons were baptized and five others were left awaiting baptism. The interest in Pueblo is growing, the best we have ever known in our work there.

MISS JUANITA DANLEY, a former student of Oakwood College, has come to us from St. Petersburg, Florida, to teach in the church school here in Kansas City, Missouri.

THE Bailey Funeral Home of Kansas City, Kansas, has donated its parlor to Elder B. R. Spears and company to hold evangelistic meetings. These meetings began Sunday, September 28, and will continue for several weeks. Elder Spears is being assisted by Mrs. Spears and Elders Baker and King. Mrs. E. Van Nockay Porter is Bible instructor, and Mr. J. Norman Porter, Central States Book and Bible House secretary, is advertising manager. May the Lord bless this effort as it continues.

THE last meeting of the evangelistic effort in Kansas City, Missouri, conducted by Elder T. M. Rowe, was held Sunday night, September 7. Several persons have been baptized as the result of this effort, and there are approximately one hundred on our list who are interested in our literature.

XAVIER BUTLER has recently become pastor of the church in Topeka, Kansas. Vashni Davis, who

has been assisting Pastor Butler in an effort in Pueblo, Colorado, will pastor the church in Pueblo.

PAULINE JONES.

Evangelism

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." Matt. 28:19.

Those of us who were with the Central States Missions at the date of its birth fully realize that its only hope of survival is in the fulfillment of the above text of Scripture. In making this brief report to the readers of the INFORMANT, I am glad to say that the workers in this field are taking this commission of our Lord very seriously, as the following report will indicate.

Beginning in the easternmost section of our territory, we have word from L. J. Pryor, who has charge of the work in St. Louis, that in spite of the fact that no special effort has been conducted, seventeen have been added by baptism.

Traveling westward, we stop next in Kansas City, Missouri, where H. J. Miller, through the house-to-house program carried on by him and his faithful wife, has seen ten precious souls put on Christ by baptism and unite with the remnant church.

Just across the river in Kansas City, Kansas, a loyal group of believers led by B. R. Spears are letting their light shine and making their presence felt in a very strong way in their city. Forty have been baptized, and others are on the waiting list. While conducting a funeral service at a very luxuriously furnished funeral parlor, Pastor Spears was struck with a new idea, namely, holding an effort in the funeral parlor. He was so strongly impressed with the idea that he went the next day to talk with the manager, who, after listening to the proposal, granted the use of his entire parlor, free of all cost. This is now the fourth week of this meeting, and in spite of the fact that it is well known that we are Seventh-day Adventists, the interest is the best this city has

known. More than twenty-five have indicated their willingness to keep all the commandments of God, and many more are in the valley of decision.

In Topeka the local elder, Frank Hale, and his loyal group of Bible instructors are constantly doing the job for the Master. The net increase thus far this year is six, five of whom were added by baptism.

Word has just come that W. E. Penick has buried five in the watery grave in the Wichita district, with others in the class who are to be baptized later.

F. J. Bryant sends the cheering news that fourteen have been added in the Omaha-Lincoln district, with others in the baptismal class.

Early in the spring of this year, G. Herfin Taylor and Xavier Butler conducted a six-week effort in the Denver church. As a result, we have seen fifteen accept Christ by baptism, and others will be added by the end of the year. These two brethren went next to Pueblo, where another six-week campaign was conducted. Thirteen have been added to the Pueblo church, which has brought great rejoicing to this small, but faithful company.

Last, but not least, a layman's effort was conducted by Brother Benjie Maxfield in the suburb of Kansas City, Missouri, known as Rosedale. As a result of this layman effort, nine souls were baptized and a Sabbath school of twenty-two organized, which brings great rejoicing to the Central States Mission.

Thus far, 132 have been added by baptism, and indications are that we shall close the year with a membership of well over one thousand. When you sing and pray, please remember the Central States Mission.

T. M. ROWE,
Superintendent.

THAT day is best wherein we give
A thought to others' sorrows;
Forgetting self, we learn to live,
And blessings born of kindly deeds
Make golden our tomorrows.

J. B. F.



Ground-Breaking Ceremony, St. Joseph, Missouri

Ground-Breaking Ceremony in St. Joseph, Missouri

A GROUND-BREAKING ceremony for the new St. Joseph Seventh-day Adventist church was held Sunday, October 12, at 2 P.M. A group of approximately forty members and friends gathered on the corner lot at Twenty-first and Sylvania streets to witness the first two shovels of earth overturned by Thomas M. Rowe, superintendent of the Central States Mission, and the writer. The group which witnessed the ceremony would have been greatly increased in size had it not been for the over-cast skies which had produced rain earlier in the day, and many who had planned to attend from near-by towns were not able to be present.

Elder Rowe, who was in charge of the service, spoke briefly on the importance of the occasion and our duty to preach the gospel to this city as well as to the rest of the world.

J. H. Jones, the secretary-treasurer of the Central States Mission, offered the invocation, and after further words by Elder Rowe, with shovels in the ground, a dedicatory prayer was offered by the writer.

This service was made possible by several years of hard work on the part of members of this church and through the liberality of our conferences. At present we are in the proc-

ess of wrecking the old church site, and the ground is being made ready for the foundation of a neat church building constructed of brick and native stone.

We solicit the prayers of all our believers, that the work begun here might be carried to a successful conclusion and that many souls might be won to the kingdom of God.

R. L. WOODFORK.

LAKE REGION

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

News Notes:

PASTOR JAMES MOSLEY has started evangelistic meetings in Fort Wayne, Indiana. A small hall has been rented, and, judging from the enthusiasm of the believers and the interest shown by the public in general, a rich harvest of souls will be gathered in. A baptismal service is planned for the near future, at which time the first fruits from the tent effort held there this summer will be added to the company. We are hoping that a new church will be organized in Fort Wayne next spring.

SISTER MARGARET JOHNSON, of Peoria, a new convert, has joined the

ranks of colporteur evangelists, and is working in that city. Brother Charles Moore, assistant publishing secretary, believes that Sister Johnson will develop into a good, strong worker.

NOT long ago Elder J. G. Dasent met with the East St. Louis church board and discussed the possibility of having a permanent place of worship.

BROTHER CHARLES HIGGS has reported three new converts since going to Inkster, Michigan. They are now in the baptismal class.

The Cross Was His Own

THEY borrowed a bed to lay His head,
When Christ the Lord came down;
They borrowed the ass in the mountain pass
For Him to ride to town;
But the crown that He wore
And the cross that He bore
Were His own—
The cross was His own.

He borrowed the bread when the crowd He fed
On the grassy mountain side,
He borrowed the dish of broken fish
With which He satisfied.
But the crown that He wore
And the cross that He bore
Were His own—
The cross was His own.

He borrowed the ship in which to sit
To teach the multitude;
He borrowed a nest in which to rest—
He had never a home so rude;
But the crown that He wore
And the cross that He bore
Were His own—
The cross was His own.

He borrowed a room on His way to the tomb
The Passover lamb to eat;
They borrowed a cave for Him a grave,
They borrowed a winding sheet.
But the crown that He wore
And the cross that He bore
Were His own—
The cross was His own.

The thorns on His head were worn in my stead;
For me the Saviour died;
For guilt of my sin the nails drove in
When Him they crucified.
Though the crown that He wore
And the cross that He bore
Were His own—
They rightly were mine.

—Selected.

Children Starving in America

MRS. FLORENCE K. REBOK

Assistant Secretary for Parent and Home Education, General Conference Department of Education

MANY parents today complacently assume that our schools *really* teach everything, but a closer look reveals that the child's education is not complete without the contribution which can come only from his home. Though great strides have been made in raising the standards of classroom teaching and technique, the prevailing lack in the educational system was recently stated by one writer in these words:

"With all their advantages, America's children are being starved as surely as were war victims, only in an area which shows it less at the moment. Our children are showing signs of spiritual rickets. They are starved for the food which will make strong their backbones of moral integrity and fill well their minds with principles of right and wrong, and develop in their hearts ideals shaped by love of Christ."—*Christian Home Life*, July, August, September, 1947.

How grateful every Seventh-day Adventist parent should be for our system of schools, which gives religion its proper place in the training program! The above statement should be a challenge to Christian parents to be alert to detect any symptoms of spiritual disease. Just as physical rickets are a sign of malnutrition, so spiritual rickets result from certain deficiencies.

In a world that is fast losing its appreciation for spiritual values, we have an added incentive to bring up our children in the way they should go. "Nothing can replace the training of the home." Yet we are made sad to see many parents neglecting or ignoring their part in the training program. Because of the unique position which parents occupy in the education of their children, the Home and School Association functions to combine the work of these two important institutions. "The teachers in the home and the teach-

ers in the school should have a sympathetic understanding of one another's work. They should labor together harmoniously, imbued with the same missionary spirit, striving together to benefit the children physically, mentally, and spiritually, and to develop characters that will stand the test of temptation."—*Counsels to Teachers*, p. 157.

As the school bells all over the



On Behalf of the North
American Colored De-
partment, We wish you

A JOYOUS
CHRISTMAS
and a
PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR



land call the children to return to their books, shall they not also call each parent to renewed effort in behalf of his children? Many parents feel inadequate for their task, but association in study and counsel with others having the same interests brings mutual strength. The Home and School Association is the medium for supplying this mutual help. Lay plans at once to begin the regular meetings with the opening of school. Suggestive topics for consideration at these meetings for the 1947-48 school year are to be found in the Department of Education section of the August issue of *The Church Officers' Gazette*. Thereafter program material on these topics will appear month by month in this same section of the *Gazette*. This magazine is a *must* for every

Home and School leader. If you are not already receiving it regularly order your copy now, and be prepared to conduct meetings that will be worth while.

Further, to meet the specific needs of parents, home education courses are available on several age levels for group or individual study. Your conference educational superintendent will be happy to explain this study plan, to fill your order for any of these courses, and give all possible assistance. Our heavenly Father has given us a definite plan for parents in their work. Do you know what it is? "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them."

Notes to the Editor

"THE INFORMANT, though a small paper, is not falling short of its name and is serving the purpose of holding the force of colored workers together in a very remarkable way. It is very interesting to read what our brethren are doing in various parts of the field. . . . May the INFORMANT prosper and grow."

R. H. ROBERTSON, *pastor,*
Wadsworth Church, Los Angeles.

"To be kept in touch with the progress of our work through the stimulating pages of the INFORMANT is a rare privilege. May the Lord bless the editor as he sends forth this silent, dignified messenger—lauding us for past achievements but always presenting the ever-increasing challenge of the great unfinished task. South Atlantic eagerly welcomes each issue."

MRS. F. H. JENKINS,
Atlanta, Georgia.

"The publishing of the INFORMANT is one of the great forward steps in the work for our people. It is a fine, high-class periodical."

HERBERT A. HOLNESS,
Medical Student, Loma Linda College

"We look for that paper like do the *Review*. It keeps us in touch with our own work and workers."

J. E. JOHNSON,
San Bernardino, Calif.