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Glimpses of Progress in West Africa

By A. F. TARR

THE home countries of the Northern European Division have occasion to be justly proud of their foreign fields and of the devoted missionaries serving there. They also have occasion to rejoice over the faithful lives—and service—of their African brethren and sisters, many of whom are so newly won from heathenism. I am the more impressed with this having just concluded a brief but most inspiring visit to the West African Union Mission. I only wish it were possible for every member, and especially those most generous in their support of missions, to see and hear some of the things that I have seen and heard the past few weeks.

Never has it been my privilege to listen to such consistently encouraging reports as those presented by field and institutional leaders, and departmental secretaries at the

union meeting held in Accra in January. Baptisms totalling 3,011 for the year, a present church membership of 14,268, a Sabbath-school membership 21,000 in excess of this, colporteur sales 300 per cent above those for 1950, over 13,000 pupils in our schools, nearly 80,000 patients treated in our hospitals and clinics, 646 converts made by the lay-membership of a single local field—these and many more achievements dominated the reports presented at this long-to-be-remembered meeting.

Heartening stories of individual conversions were told by those reporting. Listen to these from D. L. Chappell, Union Publishing secretary:

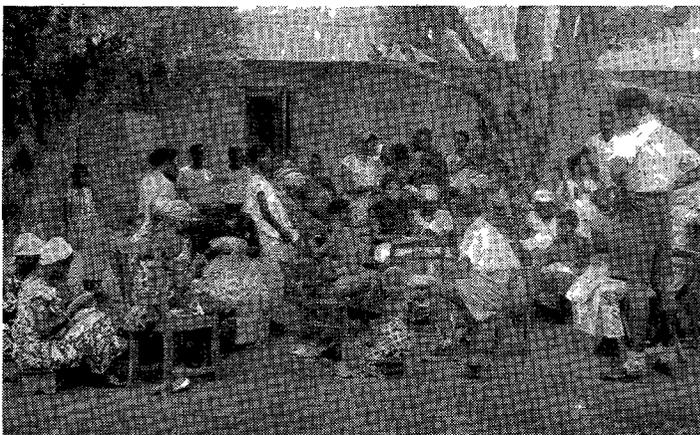
“An African, J. K. Ampofo, purchased a book, *Hope of the Race*, from Brother Davidson in 1950. He read himself into this

message and became a colporteur last year. Now he tells this story of two of his customers, both with the same name Nyako. Someone told Colporteur Ampofo about a Mr. Nyako, and he went to find him, but was directed to the home of another Mr. Nyako, to whom he sold a book. Later he found the right Mr. Nyako, who also purchased books. Both the Mr. Nyakos are now keeping the Sabbath and attending our church.

“A man in Port Harcourt who was courting an Adventist girl, but who refused to attend church with her on Sabbath, purchased *Days of Destiny* from Colporteur Unuiri. The man became interested in the message of the book and is now keeping Sabbath and attending church with his young lady.

“Colporteur N. K. Abbey sold a book to an African clerk in a Syrian shop. The Syrian came in later and asked the clerk where he got that book. When the clerk answered, ‘From a man who goes from shop to shop selling them,’ the Syrian sent his driver through the town looking for the colporteur. When Mr. Abbey was finally contacted the man ordered the book, paying cash for it. He then asked, ‘Do you have any more such books?’ Mr. Abbey showed him one, and the man asked for more. This continued until Mr. Abbey had sold the man £15 (\$45) worth of our literature.”

Dr. John Hyde of Jengre Hospital, Northern Nigeria, already heavily loaded with his medical programme, conducted an



“Mass Education”
campaign in operation
in West Africa.

intensive evangelistic campaign in a village where he was operating a weekly clinic. Seventy-eight of those who attended were converted and have joined the Hearers' Class.

A strong spiritual programme accompanies the medical work at the Ile-Ife Hospital where, in Dr. Nagel's absence, Dr. Wagner has led out the last eight months. Here are some of the activities:

1. Worship in the clinic five days weekly.
2. Daily worship in each of the hospital wards.
3. Daily Bible study with the non-professional workers.
4. Daily studies with interested patients.
5. *Signs of the Times* mailing club.
6. Literature distributed to ward and clinic patients.
7. Literature sales.
8. Evening Bible studies on the compound.
9. Public meetings in town.
10. Harvest Ingathering.

Dr. Wagner added these remarks regarding Sister Rose, one of the overseas nurses:

"Sister Rose has faithfully conducted two compound meetings each week, in the town. The attendance at one has grown until they have had to leave the compound and hold their weekly meeting in the local Methodist church. At one of the meetings last week the Mayor of Lagos was present. He remarked later how fine he thought the meeting had been."

And in this hospital and clinic where Sister Rose works, there were treated last year nearly 55,000 patients. Twenty-six beds are constantly occupied on the porches, there being no room for them inside the buildings. And on the last clinic day before Dr. Wagner prepared his report, 417 patients were treated in a single day!

Our training schools are beehives of activity, not only educationally, but also evangelistically. Bekwai reports nine evangelistic efforts in 1952, the students in one instance erecting with their own hands a meeting house for the village. During the past school year every non-Adventist student took his stand for our message.

Reporting on the increased demand of the African for education, Pastor Welch, principal of Bekwai, said: "The tremendous number of applicants to be screened (for admission) has on the one hand made much work for the staff, and on the other given opportunity for a very discriminating selection of students. For an entering



A panoramic view of Ile-Ife Hospital, in West Africa, where a strong, spiritual programme accompanies the medical work.

class in Teacher-Training of thirty students, nearly 400 made application, and around 300 took the entrance examination."

The Ihie training school in Nigeria, through Principal Downing, reports 233 converts baptized in consequence of their evangelistic activity. Each Sabbath their thirty training-school students follow a systematic programme of giving Bible studies in the various compounds surrounding the school. In consequence many new Sabbath-school members have been added to the Ihie Sabbath school. Copies of *The Signs of the Times* are mailed to the leading people in the villages from which the students come, and letters received from the recipients have been most encouraging.

In May last the new African Minister of Education and his secretary visited Ihie. They spent an hour or more in Principal Downing's home plying him with questions on our beliefs and educational standards. Later the Minister addressed the students, and in that address he asked that there be conveyed to the West African Union Committee the thanks of the Nigerian people for the wonderful school provided for their youth. He charged the students to look well about them and learn the lesson that what Nigeria needs is a group of young people who are self-reliant, not depending on government hand-outs; and to learn from the sacrifice of Adventists around the world who had made this institution possible, and who maintain it, that true service is in sacrifice and giving; and that if Nigeria is to be-

come strong, that same spirit of giving must be found in the leaders of to-morrow. He also pointed out that here in this institution the students had an opportunity to practise a united, democratic way of life, symbolic of a united, democratic Nigeria in which all tribes could live together in peace and understanding.

From the East Nigerian Mission, Pastor W. J. Newman told an interesting camp-meeting experience:

"Rain came on the Sabbath and again on Sunday morning, so we were forced to hold the meetings in the church. Just as I was about to preach the closing sermon, Pastor Meze touched me on the shoulder and remarked that there was a witch doctor in the audience. I lifted up a silent prayer and directed my appeal to her, for the doctor was a lady. When the appeal was made she was the first to raise her hand. After the meeting I spoke to her asking when she would take off her charms and ornaments. Her husband chimed in, 'That will be done gradually, for we have already tried and the devil throws her on the ground.' After some further words of encouragement, we went back into the church and silently prayed. There was a hushed silence as a number expected to see a struggle take place. Indeed there was a struggle, but I am happy to say that the Lord won, and the priestess took off all her ornaments and charms. These things were burnt as we sang hymns around the fire. I have since learnt that they were driven from their home and are now staying with the pastor. The members are helping to build a new house. This was a wonderful

victory in this superstitious and idol-worshipping area."

It made Brother Newman's story even more interesting when he said that on the night previous to this experience the woman had a dream in which she saw Christ coming in the heavens. She said she was not ready for eternal life, and there came to her the impression that she must go to the Seventh-day Adventist church and get ready. And now she had done that very thing. She had arrived just in time to share in the blessings of the last service. Brother Newman concluded: "We praise the Lord for this manifestation of His power to save to the uttermost."

A very practical adjunct to soul-winning service, and a safeguard against apostasy in Sierra Leone, is a literacy programme launched in 1951 and now gaining momentum. Already a total of 200 adult members can read to-day who could not read two years ago.

From Liberia, C. D. Henri reported that their broadcasts of the Voice of Prophecy and Bible Hour were being well received. Recently the President's Social secretary told him personally of the Government's appreciation of both programmes and their hope that we would remain permanently on the air.

It was an interesting experience on the night of my arrival to address the Bible Class conducted twice each week, in the Community Centre, Accra, by Pastor J. O. Gibson. Despite his many responsibilities as union president, Brother Gibson makes time when at headquarters to conduct these meetings. With English as a medium they are attended by some of the better class people of the city. All know it to be an Adventist meeting, and all enter enthusiastically into a study of the Bible. A number have already been baptized. Others have begun to attend our church.

A very happy week-end at Bekwai coincided with the students' welcome programme to a new year of school. The grand, harmonious blending of hundreds of African voices at the week-end gatherings gave a pleasure that will not soon be forgotten, and so did the farewell singing of the boys as, in the early morning hours, they lined the route of my departure from the school.

With these and so many other experiences which for lack of space cannot now be told, is it any wonder that I leave West Africa with a new awareness of its ripened harvest, and of the joy that would fill all Adventist hearts could they see for themselves what is being enacted in this twentieth-century theatre of God's abounding grace.

MISSIONARY ACTIVITY

By A. B. Dankwa
African Evangelist, Gold Coast

WE GREATLY thank the Lord for His manifold blessings upon the church at Patriensa during 1952.

Patriensa is only three miles away from Konongo and is the only town in the whole of Ashanti-Akim where we have a good church, although there are two other smaller companies.

My wife, our two little children, Marcy and William, and I arrived here early in the year to take up the dual appointment of evangelist-in-charge of the local church and teacher in the Patriensa middle school. Life in the church was dull; people were interested in the MV movement, yet they had no definite plans to follow. The whole machinery of the organization had to be reshuffled and consequently a committee of seven was set up to discover ways and means of bringing about some improvement. This worked well. We reorganized and started the Progressive Classes right away. Friday MV programmes were well-planned and varied, catering for all ages. So much interest was now aroused that members suggested our advertising our activities.

Plans for open-air services were laid, and for four consecutive weeks we held outdoor meetings with special programmes which received the approbation of our audiences that averaged three hundred a week. At one of these meetings we were privileged by a visit from Pastor S. Appiah-Dankwa, the Kumasi District leader, and Brother S. M. Adusei, the assistant Sabbath-school and MV secretary. Their presence brought much blessing to us. The next day twenty-two of our members were invested as Friends. What an encouragement this was to the entire church!

The thirteenth Sabbath of that quarter was given special attention. A unique programme, such as had never been given before, was presented. Our little church was so crammed with people that some of us had to remain standing throughout the service.

In June, a new MV project was put into operation. Members were divided into four groups, each with an able leader, and were enjoined with the following duties respectively: Giving Bible readings in the homes; singing and praying for the poor; giving practical hygiene; giving free services such as supplying firewood, water, etc., to the weak, poor, and the needy.

Rotation of work came at the end of each week. Volunteers moved smartly and happily as they went about their daily assignments. This project stimulated to action those who felt that the Gospel must reach all. They went out on Sabbath afternoons, sharing their faith with the people in the town and in the neighbouring villages. The result of our project cannot be over-emphasized. I think the angels in heaven must have rejoiced as the old ladies came to me time after time, thanking me and my God for the kindness shown them. The townsmen and members of other churches have been given food for thought. They realize we are now no more slumbering; the members are wide awake and revived.

During the year, the Mass Education Team launched a literacy campaign here and a night school for illiterates was opened. We discovered danger in this in connection with our being Seventh-day Adventists. Members were not attending evening services because they had to be punctual at school, and more than that, many activities contrary to our principles were conducted. The decision was made to run our own Literacy Class. The church elder, an experienced man, advised us to make our plans official. Accordingly I

The chief and native authority at Agona, Gold Coast, the seat of a paramount chieftain, have for many years been favourably disposed toward our mission programme.



sent an application through the Education Department to the Mass Education Officer asking for a two-day course starting on Tuesday, June 10th.

On the morning of Tuesday we were busy making plans for the course when I was summoned to the chief's council to answer the question why I was establishing a separate school. At once I recalled the experiences of Paul when charged with "sedition, introduction of strange doctrines, and stirring and upsetting the town."

The elder and I seized that good opportunity to preach our message and explain the underlying biblical reasons why we as a church could never be united with other churches.

About nine o'clock the officers arrived—four men and one lady. The course started right away. In all sixteen took the course; of these four came from the surrounding villages. God is behind all our movements and activities. While the course was in session, Mr. Quano, the Regional Mass Education Officer for Ashanti, arrived in his car. What a joy it was! We knew all difficulties would be removed. He addressed the gathering, and went further and addressed the chief and his people. I quote from a part of his speech:

"I am glad you have invited us to run this course for you. This is a thing no other church or mission has ever done. I know the Seventh-day Adventists as hard workers. Around Bekwai the students who have taken our course go out voluntarily promoting the 'literacy drive.' Here in Ashanti-Akim you have come forward again. I back you up. Go forward!"

This was a real source of encouragement to us. Things are working well now. Our average attendance at the school is between sixty and seventy, including a few non-Adventists. In addition, our women are getting lessons in Housecraft twice a week from a lady, arranged by the same Department. This is of great advantage to the whole town.

On June 11th, our MV members took part in a "bonfire" service when all, including those invested, appeared in their official MV outfits. Over 800 people gathered around the fire. The Volunteers sang joyfully, "Go marching in," as they marched around the fire seven times, and the spectators sitting around were reminded of that blissful day when the saints will go marching into the city. "The time is short, Jesus is coming soon; what is to be done, must be done quickly."



Pastors A. J. Mustard and P. Stearman with Paul Aidoo.

PORTRAITS OF LAY-EVANGELISTS IN THE GOLD COAST

By A. J. Mustard
President, Gold Coast

PAUL AIDOO, a layman in the Gold Coast Mission, recently attended a Layman's Institute at Koforidua. He came dressed in a robe very like that worn by a priest of Rome, but with a conspicuous MV badge sewn on the chest. Though, at first glance, he might seem to be an inhabitant of Babylon, he soon made it very clear that he is indeed a warrior of Zion. He gave a lengthy demonstration of how he preaches the message in the villages of the Koforidua District. Speaking in Twi, he used no notes, and repeatedly called for the reading of texts of Scripture by the interpreter. There was no doubt of his ability to handle the Scriptures. It was after hearing him speak that the astonishing part of his story was revealed. He is an illiterate, and neither reads nor writes even his native tongue. I asked how he come to know his Bible so well that he could refer to text after text so accurately. He claimed to have "visions" from God in which the Scriptures are brought to his memory. Further questions revealed that he is not yet a baptized member of the church, but is now in the baptismal class, and he has a consuming passion to preach the message which has so richly blessed him.

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2. Brother Kisi, who lives in Nkawkaw, is a talented and consecrated layman. He was recently invited to take up work in the mission office, but preferred his work as a lay evangelist, supporting his wife and family by work in a store. When he first came to Nkawkaw two or three years ago, he found only three or four Sabbath-keepers in the town. Rather naturally, he took the leadership of this small group and began to train them to work for their neighbours. He leads them in house-to-house work, giving out literature, and holding Bible studies wherever there is an opening. To-day there are over forty in the Sabbath school in Nkawkaw, and at no time have we had a conference worker in the town.

Oh, that we had a hundred laymen like Brother Kisi, able to work for souls and willing to take the time and trouble to train others to do soul-winning work!

ORDAINED TO THE GOSPEL MINISTRY

By Jesse O. Gibson, *President*
West African Union Mission

I AM sure that the NORTHERN LIGHT readers will be interested to know that the Africans in West Africa are pushing forward with greater rapidity into more responsible positions. We are sure this is as it should be. These men understand their own people better than we do, and as they take over heavier responsibilities I am sure that the work will be greatly benefited.

During 1952 we are happy to report that eight African workers together with three overseas workers have been ordained to the Gospel ministry.

At the West Nigerian Constituency Meeting, one African and two overseas brethren were ordained. Brother D. B. Alabi is a faithful African evangelist who has served in West Nigeria for many years. Dr. S. A. Nagel, Medical Director of the Ife Hospital, has done an excellent work in promoting evangelism in and around the hospital. H. S. Pearce, manager of our union publishing house, has taken a very keen interest in the evangelistic end of our work, and for the past six months had been the acting president of the West Nigerian field.

At the East Nigerian Constituency Meeting early in the year, we had the privilege of ordaining six of our African brethren from that field. All of these men

have spent a number of years in evangelistic work in East Nigeria and the Lord has blessed them with many souls. Pastors W. J. Newman, A. J. Dickay, D. Onyedo, P. Onwere, and several other African pastors joined the writer in the ordination service.

At the Gold Coast Constituency Meeting, another African, Owusu Ansah, and J. C. Vetter, the Educational and MV secretary of the Gold Coast Mission, were ordained. Owusu Ansah has laboured faithfully for God and has spent three years in the Ivory Coast helping to open up the work there. During this time he suffered considerable hardship, but he endured these hardships as a good soldier. J. C. Vetter has taken a keen interest in evangelism during the several years he has been in West Africa.

We thank God for our rapidly advancing programme and that we have men who can push forward and take more responsibility in mission leadership.

ILORIN AROUSED

By A. E. Farrow

Awtun, Nigeria, West Africa

THE Ilorin District is one of our oldest mission districts, now an outpost of the West Nigerian Mission. I well remember the first time I went to Shao. At the time of my first visit, I naturally asked to see the site where the oldest mission station had once stood. It was all in ruins, and I was depressed to think of the opportunity which had been that of the people there, but was not grasped at the time.

How different my last visit, when I had the joy of baptizing thirty souls! Ruined buildings—living souls, what a contrast! A spiritual house is being built, with lively stones, so much more precious than bricks and mortar, with eternal value.

The Ilorin District is being aroused. Shao, the mother church, is not yet organized, but has now increased to the place where this is possible. What encouragement to the early missionaries! They cast their bread upon the waters, and it is now returning in a rich harvest of souls. Truly every man's work shall be made manifest. "If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward." 1 Cor. 3:14.

Let us lift up our hearts in thankfulness to God that His servants' work has not been in vain. Thirteen of the thirty souls baptized were from Olugbija. They had come into the church by the faithful

labours of the two or three previously baptized members, over a period of many years. Our prayers should be that God will continue to bless Brother L. Bolarin and his teacher co-workers as they labour in this district of promise.

WORTH - WHILE PUBLICITY

By G. D. King

Press Relations and Radio Sec.

DURING recent weeks a very considerable number of press cuttings have been coming to our Press Relations office here at Edgware. We subscribe to an International Press Clipping Service covering the name "Seventh-day Adventist," and it has been with considerable interest that we have noticed the wide range of publicity given to many interests sponsored by Seventh-day Adventists in so many parts of the world.

One of the most outstanding pieces of press publicity appeared in the well-known and widely circulated weekly magazine *Time* of January 26th. This is of such interest that we quote it in full. The article carried also an excellent photograph of Evangelist H. M. S. Richards.

JUST WAIT, BROTHER

Twenty-three years ago this month, a youthful-looking Seventh-day Adventist preacher stood up before his small and struggling congregation in South Los Angeles to appeal for funds. "Now, brethren," he said, "I've been telling you for some time that God wants me on radio. . . . I want you to prove that I'm not lying and that I do know what God wants." A collection of rings, watches, and old jewellery netted just enough to put the Rev. Harold M. S. Richards on the air the next week. He has been broadcasting steadily ever since.

By now, Evangelist Richards' *Voice of Prophecy* programme has become an international production, broadcast in eleven languages over 845 stations. There is a 110-man staff at work in the Voice's Glendale headquarters, and one of Richards' weekly sermons draws an average of 14,000 letters from his world audience. After the *Lutheran Hour* (carried by more than 1,000 stations), the Adventist's programme is the most widely heard religious broadcast in the world.

"MAN ALIVE. . ." Broadcaster Richards, 58, is a friendly, hard-working man with a habit of calling everybody "brother." His father was also an Adventist evangelist, and Harold got his start at seventeen, preaching at Adventist "campaigns," i.e., revival meetings, in the U.S. and Canada. His first parish was a tiny, tar-papered church in Ottawa, where he boosted the congregation from 8 to 120.

Back in the U.S., he took his wife on the road with him, through long preaching campaigns, mostly in California. In 1928, at Fresno, he campaigned for nine months straight. He preached for 45 minutes seven nights a week, for the whole time. ("Man alive, we had a number of big baptisms out of that one.")

Adventist authorities took a dim view of Richards' radio programme at first. But by 1937 it was going so well that Pacific Coast officials of the church urged him to put the Voice on a coast network. In 1942, with the whole church behind him, Richards began preaching on a national hookup (Mutual), and the next year began to line up foreign stations.

NOAH WAS WARNED. Through the years, the formula for *Voice of Prophecy* has changed very little. Evangelist Richards steers clear of specific Adventist dogma, concentrates instead on basic talks about the Bible, interspersed with oldtime hymns sung by the King's Heralds, a male quartet. He knows his Bible well—he has read it cover to cover thirty-one times—and his sermons are highly concrete discussions of the Bible's application to daily life. Says he: "We believe that there are things in the Bible that prophesy what is happening to-day and that tell of the coming of the kingdom of God. . . . God doesn't let the world get caught napping, brother. Look how He warned Noah. He has warned us, and it's in the Bible."

To encourage Bible study by his listeners, Richards runs three free correspondence courses in religion, one for children and two for adults. Students take a test at the end of each lesson, which is then sent in for grading.

The Bible course is now printed in forty-six languages, and the number of students offers some testimony to the size of Richards' radio audience. Currently, 1,500,000 are enrolled—500,000 more than the Adventists' total world membership. Still, Evangelist Richards and his staff are not content. He and the King's Heralds plan a round-the-world campaign this summer, with the emphasis on Africa. A fortnight ago, the Voice hooked up with seven radio stations in Japan. Says Adventist Richards, who cheerfully runs his \$1,000,000 operation on a salary of \$65 a week: "Brother, you just wait. We'll keep on growing and growing until we've reached everyone."

Incidentally, these excellent publicity paragraphs indicate how widely our radio programme has developed since its meagre beginning just over twenty years ago.

Here in our own Division the Lord is greatly blessing our Radio and Bible Correspondence Schools, but there are vast potentialities of development before us in all our fields. More and more we must harness the opportunities the Lord has given us for finishing the work throughout our territory. In the great work of Evangelism—press publicity, radio programmes, the Bible Correspondence Schools will play an increasingly important and fruitful part.



© International News

FELLOWSHIP IN SUFFERING

THROUGHOUT our whole Division and beyond our territory, inquiries have been reaching the Division office as to the extent of damage and suffering experienced by our membership in England and the Netherlands as a result of the great flood disasters of the week-end of January 31st.

We are happy to report that, great as the disaster has been, our own people and prop-

erty have not suffered as terribly as was at first feared. The union presidents of Britain and the Netherlands report that there has been no loss of life among our members. In Britain several families were seriously affected by the floods and had to evacuate their homes and, of course, suffered severe damage to property.

Pastor Tilstra, president of the Nether-

lands Union, writes: "I am happy to report that we did not lose any members on account of the floods, but there are about fifteen to twenty who lost all their belongings and several who had great damage done to what they have. Most of our members live in Middelburg, Flushing, and Goes. These places have not been badly damaged except Flushing; there again it is providential that our members live on higher levels in the city, and some on the second floors, so that they did not suffer any damage except for one sister, who barely escaped with her two children."

One great factor has emerged in the midst of this calamity. It is the great factor of "fellowship in suffering." Our brethren have been greatly affected by the response to their need from all parts of the Division and indeed the world field. From the General Conference came a cable of immediate assistance from Relief Funds and telephone calls from all parts of our territory offered immediate assistance.

We praise and thank God that no Adventist lives have been lost, no denominational property has been destroyed, and that in the midst of suffering our fellowship has been strengthened.

In the stricken areas our people are responding nobly both by generous contributions to Relief Funds and by practical service.

G. D. KING.

News From Iceland

By Julius Gudmundsson

LAST summer marked the first occasion on which a General Conference representation has ever visited Iceland. Pastor Cossentine of the Educational Department stayed with us for a week. While travelling through the country he remarked, "Iceland is unlike any other country I have ever seen." And it truly is in many respects.

It has been said that the nature of a country makes the mentality of the people. And so it is with the Icelanders, for like the lava fields and the icebergs, they may seem cold and rugged on the surface, but once you get to know them, you will find that beneath that surface they have warmth like the geysers and the volcanoes.

Rocks and ice are not easy to overcome. They can be neither forced nor bent. But there is a way to overcome them—you just need to know how. On the whole, the Icelanders do not claim to be religious, and to religious preaching they may seem as impervious as the ice and lava itself,

but if you can do something which they consider to be for the benefit of the people in general, they will turn their warm side towards you and respond as well as anybody. For instance, when the message first came to the Westmann Islands, our people were ridiculed and shouted at in the streets. This situation, however, has now completely changed and for two reasons: The first is that we opened a treatment room under the supervision of a Danish Skodsborg nurse and it was greatly appreciated by the people. A little later we established a church school which admitted non-Adventist children. Thus we had two institutions in this small community. Hundreds of their children have passed through our school and thousands of people have been treated in the clinic, and now everybody respects our people there and likes them.

In order to give you an idea of the attitude of the public towards our newest undertaking—the mission school—I quote from an article which appeared last year in the Icelandic *Times*:

"The Seventh-day Adventists and their

congregation here in Iceland have with unusual energy established a boarding-school at Vindheimar in Olfus. The *Times* feels it not only right but its duty to inform its readers of this unusual accomplishment which is evident in this forward step by the comparatively few Adventists here. . . . Much of the labour required for the completion of this neat-looking building was done voluntarily by the Adventists. Many well disposed friends worked often by the week without remuneration just to help complete the task. This at first visionary enterprise received liberal support from Adventists in other countries. Especially has the Northern European Division of Seventh-day Adventists helped liberally with funds to buy materials that had to be imported.

"The cost of grounds, construction, furnishing, and equipment to date has amounted to 1,500,000 kroner, and it may be said that the people of Iceland have come into possession of a presentable seat of education through the exceptionally unselfish and generous work of the Adventists.

"As the Adventists number less than 600 people here, the successful completion of this very fine boarding-school is a sequel to an actual fairy tale of a few people who had vision, will-power, and energy. The above shows plainly what can be accomplished by co-operation, courage, and perseverance."—*Timinn*, Oct. 11, 1951.

Our membership at present is 369. There are seven churches, two church schools with forty pupils and a mission school with thirty students. Five teachers are employed. There are six conference workers, two ordained ministers, two licensed ministers, a treasurer, and one office worker.

We are fully aware that Iceland needs to be evangelized. Something more has to be done in the future, but the question is how to do it when the country is so com-

paratively large, the people so scattered, and the workers so few.

A couple of weeks ago a man came into our office in Reykjavik. In his hand was a bank note which he wished to donate to the cause. We had never seen him before, for he lived far out in the east of Iceland. This is what he said: "I firmly believe your message and have done so for many years, although I am not a member of your church." He went on to tell how he had learned of the truth from his brother who lived in the same district. Experiences like this take place frequently, and yet we have been able to do so little for these people. We must look to our youth to go out as real missionaries and shepherd these scattered souls who are longing to know more about the truth, and bring their sons and daughters to our

school, where they may train for service.

Next summer the first graduating class will be going out from our mission school. There are twelve in this class, most of them fine young people who are eager to prepare themselves for the Lord's work. At present a book containing our message is on the new printing press, and when the school closes it will be ready and the young people will have the opportunity to start working right-away. The colporteur work in Iceland is even more important than it is in the more populous countries.

You who labour in lands where the work has been long established will surely think that we are still very young in the way, but we are of good courage. We feel that the Lord is with us, and we feel sure that He will do great things for us in the future.

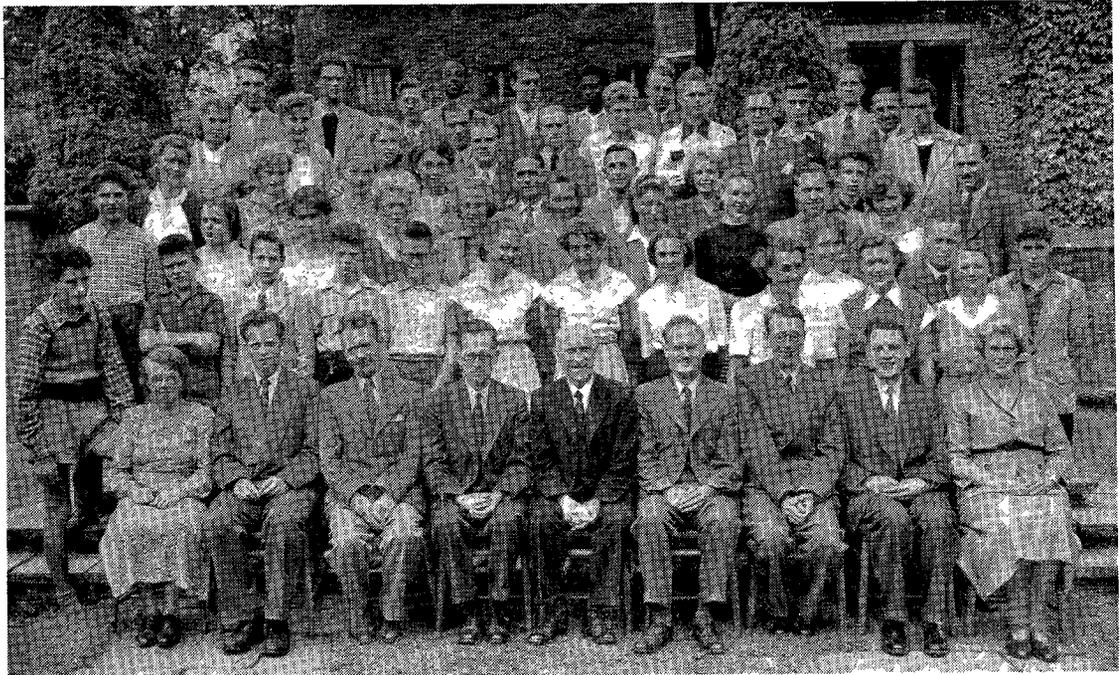
Newbold Missionary College

*Record Summer
Session in 1952*

By W. R. A.
Madgwick,

Principal

The Newbold College faculty with the fine group of young people from the Continent who attended the Summer School Session.



SUMMER brings no lull in the activities of Newbold Missionary College. As soon as most of our regular students had left for colporteur and other vacation work, preparation began for the arrival of our summer students. In one brief month our buildings had once again to be made ready by a small number of hard-working students for the expected record number of Continentals. In addition, contractors had to lay a terrazo floor in the entrance hall of Moor Close and begin the reroofing of Binfield Hall.

We were happy to welcome to our summer session, which lasted for eight weeks from July 8th to September 2nd, no less

than sixty-four students from fifteen countries. They came to us from universities, colleges, and schools, some to begin to learn and others to improve their knowledge of English. Twenty-four came from Northern Europe (Iceland 3, Norway 2, Sweden 7, Finland 8, Denmark 3, Netherlands 1), five from Central Europe (Germany 5), thirty-two from Southern Europe (Belgium 2, France 13, Switzerland 13, Spain 1, Italy 2, Austria 1), and three from Africa (Algeria, 1, Ethiopia 2).

The session followed its usual course with tuition principally in the English language varied by classes in English litera-

ture, history, and songs. D. J. Dunnett, E. B. Phillips, J. D. Brailsford, and R. W. Scarr were the teachers. Twenty-seven students sat for Pitman's Foreigners' English examination. They all passed, twenty-one of them obtaining first-class certificates.

The weekly coach trips to places of educational and general interest proved as attractive and enjoyable as ever.

Our summer students have appreciatively assured us by word and letter of the very happy memories they have taken back with them of their stay with us. Their visit has increased the many ties which bind Newbold in affection and esteem to numerous parts of the world.

NEWS FLASH

THE West African Union Mission has concluded the work of 1952 on a note of victory in evangelism. The membership for 1952 shows a gain of 2,570, bringing the total membership in this most interesting field to 14,269.

The London mission continues to hold the interest of a fine body of people who each Sunday evening are associated with a large group of our churchmembers. On a recent Sunday, Pastor Vandeman called upon those under conviction to observe the Sabbath to sign a covenant of obedience card; 372 men and women responded to this call. On Sunday, February 1st, almost 700 people remained to an after-meeting as an indication that they were either interested in the observance of the Sabbath or were facing some perplexity in connection with their employment as prospective Sabbath-keepers. These few facts indicate that ultimately a good number of men and women will follow their Lord in baptism and will receive membership with the Advent Church. Let us join with the mission family in praying that the great majority of these interested people may find fullness of joy in the Advent faith.

The Voice of Prophecy Correspondence School is playing a strong part in stabilizing the interest of a large number of people who are in regular attendance at the Coliseum Theatre mission. An average of 300 persons exchange their Bible lessons each week at the theatre.

Our Division president, Pastor A. F. Tarr, has recently concluded a most interesting visit to West Africa and Ethiopia, where he attended the annual meeting of the Ethiopian Union Mission. He returned to Edgware during the last week of February.

Pastor G. A. Lindsay, the Division treasurer, is on an extended visit to West Africa, where he expects to make contact with all sections of our work and hopes to return to the Division headquarters during the first week in March.

In the interests of the hundreds of young people attending our mission schools in Ethiopia, Pastor E. L. Minchin has proceeded to that field for a six-weeks' visit.

Following upon a successful colporteurs' institute in Oslo, Norway, Pastor G. D. King has returned to the office and is now busily engaged in formulating plans for the Division Publishing Council which is to convene at the Stanborough Park church, Watford, from March 16th to 22nd. At this Council we expect to have in attendance the secretary of the Publishing Department of the General Conference, Pastor G. A. Huse; Brethren F. Charpiot and M. Dupluy of the Southern European Division; and Brethren S. Christoffers and A. Wicklein of the Central European Division, together with the publishing representatives of our own Division fields.

The Division is being represented at the annual Audit Meetings of the Netherlands Union, and the East and West Nordic Unions by E. B. Rudge, the Division secretary.

Plans are steadily developing for the opening of strong evangelistic campaigns in the north of England. Pastor T. J. Bradley, Ministerial Association secretary of the Division, has been allocated to the North England Conference for a campaign in the city of Birmingham to commence in early September of this year.

We are happy to report that in several of the cities in the British Union highly successful evangelistic campaigns are in operation. Pastor G. Hyde, who is carrying on a campaign at Ipswich for the second year in succession, has been greatly encouraged by attendances that have almost reached a thousand on Sunday nights. Pastor L. Murdoch, in the city of Darlington, had audiences in excess of one thousand when he began his campaign. In the city of Glasgow, Pastor I. McGougan and his associates have been greeted by audiences in excess of one thousand on successive Sunday evenings. The interest continues to be good. Dr. G. Brown of Scotland has been giving valuable help also in connection with the series of meetings in Glasgow which have brought so much encouragement to our people in that difficult field.

At the annual meeting of the West African Union committee, held at Accra from January 12th to 21st, the following appointments were made:

E. E. Hulbert of the Voice of Prophecy Bible School to editorial duties at the Advent Press, Accra.

Roger W. Coon to be principal of the Voice of Prophecy Bible School and union Radio secretary.

Wilfred Fletcher, Educational secretary of the East Nigerian Mission, to be headmaster of the Ihie Secondary School, East Nigeria.

C. A. Bartlett of the Ihie Secondary School to be Educational secretary, East Nigerian Mission.

Action was also taken recommending for ordination to the Gospel ministry, Brethren E. E. Hulbert and A. E. Moyer, together with five of the national workers.

Our readers will be interested to know that the reputation of Seventh-day Adventists among other churches, as liberal contributors to foreign missions, is being well sustained. The National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America has recently published its findings for 1952 regarding gifts made for missions by fourteen religious bodies in the United States. Seventh-day Adventists lead all churches with an average per capita of gifts to missions of £46. 15s.-9d. The next on the list is the Evangelistic Menonite Church with the per capita total of gifts to missions of £25. 1s. 4d. May we, as followers of Christ, long remember: "Freely ye have received, freely give." E. B. RUDGE.

DIVISION DIRECTORY

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E. B. Rudge	Secretary
G. A. Lindsay	Treasurer
Alf Karlman ...	Auditor and Asst. Treasurer
O. J. Olsen	Field Secretary

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.....	Home Missionary
T. J. Bradley	Ministerial Association
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E. L. Minchin ...	Sabbath-School, Missionary Volunteer, and Temperance
EDITOR	MRS. A. F. TARR

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