The Story of the Day

Sunday, June 9
By CARLYLE B. HAYNES

THE report of the Australasian Division Saturday night reached a new high in interest and impressiveness. It set a pattern for such reporting, a pattern which could be followed with real profit—at any rate with real appreciation by those who listen. It was varied—interspersed with music and anecdote and pictures in most effective proportion. Perhaps its most noticeable—and most welcome—feature was the absence of statistics. It did not need them. It was better without them. That is a result worth noting.

The outstanding features of the report were the human interest accounts of E. B. Rudge and R. E. Hare, president and vice-president of the division. It was pleasing to have Elder Rudge say at the beginning of his report that “the coming of so many Seventh-day Adventist American servicemen brought to our people (in Australia) a sense of nearness during the critical days of the war. They came among us, sat in our churches, visited our homes, and generally engaged in the social life with us in such a way as to make us feel that we were truly members of that great and good family to which Brother Spicer through the years has made reference.”

Elder Rudge also pointed out that one of the things taught native believers in the Australasian Division was the principle and practice of non-combatancy. While this brought perplexity in some cases, it also was used by God to spread the knowledge of the truth.

Ragoso Delivered From Death

It moved our hearts to learn that Kata Ragoso was beaten and put in jail for Christ’s sake. This was due to an impression that he was helping the enemy because he was not willing to kill anybody and was determined to obey God rather than man. Kata Ragoso was severely punished. He was assaulted, beaten, and his nose broken. He has scars upon his back to this day where he was flogged. He was in prison and threatened with death by shooting. It moved our hearts to hear this report regarding the one who so greatly impressed us ten years ago when he attended the 1936 General Conference. It made us rejoice to learn that notwithstanding this punishment he was providentially delivered.

Elder Rudge deeply interested us all by the thrilling account regarding the officer who ordered his firing squad to shoot Kata Ragoso. He told the squad, “When I count ‘three’ you fire.” He counted, “one, two,” but was unable to say “three.” He began again and counted “one, two,” and was again silent. He tried the third time but could not say “three” and so walked away. God’s power prevented him from giving the order to fire, and Kata Ragoso was delivered.

Brother Rudge assured us that as a result of the wonderfully efficient piece of organization effected by Kata Ragoso more than two hundred American aviators were saved from death by burning, drowning, flogging, and other torture.

We were told of a trial by torture. This was the experience of one of the native boys not over eighteen years of age and not more than a year removed from barbarism. Four of our native believers were chosen by commandos to bring supplies of tinned meat from the coast. As they returned, boys of another mission station informed the Japanese, “Him seven-day boy, him savvy place where white man he stop along mountain.” The four boys were arrested, but three of them escaped. Sinavina was caught and questioned. He might have said, “Me no savvy.” He wasn’t prepared to lie, however. He said, “Me no speak.” The Japanese flogged him. He still said, “Me no speak.” They pulled out his fingernails and his toenails. He still said, “Me no speak.” They tied him up and flogged him, beat him with rifle butts, ran a bayonet through his throat, left him to drop exhausted, and presumably dead, into a hole they had made him help dig. He revived and was able to escape.

One of the commandos in relating this experience said: “Your people make their natives true and loyal to king and country, as well as to God and their wives. This is something other missions do not do. I am anxious to meet the missionary who taught these boys. He taught them loyalty and honesty. They saved the lives of my men and my life many times.”

Pastor Rudge related a story of faithfulness to the Sabbath on the part of our native believers. Some of them were in labor corps. They refused to work on the Sabbath. The white man tried coercion, but our native believers maintained their stand. Stronger and stronger pressure was brought to bear upon them. They did not yield. They had heard the words of God, not only with their ears but with their heart, and they obeyed Him.
The Message of Hebrews

A Morning Devotional Study

By M. L. ANDREASEN

SHALL call your attention this morning to a statement from Early Writings, page 63:

"There are many precious truths contained in the Word of God, but it is 'present truth' that the flock needs now. I have seen the danger of the messengers running off from the important points of present truth, this will dwell upon subjects that are not calculated to unite the flock and sanctify the soul. Satan will here take every possible advantage to injure the cause. But such subjects as the sanctuary, in connection with the 2300 days, the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, are perfectly calculated to explain the past advent movement and show what our present position is, establish the faith of the doubting, and give certainty to the glorious future. These, I have frequently seen, were the principal subjects on which the messengers should dwell."

Two subjects have been mentioned which are the principal topics on which the ministers should dwell. They are: (1) the sanctuary, in connection with the 2300 days; (2) the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. This morning I wish to dwell particularly on the subject of the sanctuary as given in the book of Hebrews.

One reason the subject of the sanctuary has come into disuse and is not considered of practical value in Christian life is found in the fact that we have mostly concerned ourselves with the subject as recorded in the Old Testament, and neglected the sanctuary question as outlined in the book of Hebrews, which makes a practical New Testament application of the subject.
The importance of the epistle to the Hebrews to Seventh-day Adventists can hardly be overestimated. It is the only book that discusses Christ as Apostle and High Priest, comparing His priesthood with that of the Levitical system. It is the only book that interprets the sufferings and death of Christ as vital and necessary in His preparation for the priesthood, declaring that only thus could He become a merciful and faithful High Priest. It is the only book which portrays Christ's entrance into the holies by a new and living way, sanctifying Christ and those who approach Him through that way. It is the only book in the New Testament which portrays Christ's entrance into the greater and more perfect tabernacle. It is the only book which discusses the heavenly sanctuary language throughout, such as: the first and second tabernacle; the holy and the most holy; sin offerings, etc. It is the only book which discusses the sprinkling of the altar with blood, and the offering of the sin offering without the camp.

**Sabbath Discussed**

Hebrews is the only book in the New Testament which discusses the seventh-day Sabbath in the light of God's rest at creation, informing us that there remains the keeping of a Sabbath to the children of God. It is the only book which connects the rest of the soul with the rest which God instituted in the Garden of Eden, thus emphasizing the Sabbath as the true sign of sanctification. It is the only book which informs us that the God who once shook the earth will once more shake not the earth only but also the heaven. It is the only book that presents Christ's second coming in the setting of the seventh-day Sabbath, informing us that "unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation." It is the only book that presents the saints entering with Christ into the holies by a new and living way, thus holding before them the possibility of the high honor and inexpressible glory of someday standing in the unveiled presence of God.

The second chapter of Hebrews begins with the name of God, Israel, and concludes with the names of Christ, the Holy Priest, and King. If you will turn to the first chapter you will there find Christ introduced as Son, Heir, Creator, Redeemer, High Priest, King, and God's Son in the highest sense. Through Him God made the worlds, He was appointed Heir, He is the express image of the person of God, and He upholds all things by the word of His power, and He purged us from our sins.

At the time of the book of Hebrews was written, more than thirty years had passed since the ascension, and the time was nearing when Jerusalem would be destroyed and the Jews scattered to the ends of the earth. The Jewish believers, particularly in Jerusalem, were still worshiping in the temple, believing in and practicing circumcision, and observing the whole Mosaic law. When Paul had appeared in Jerusalem, as recorded in the twenty-first chapter of Acts, he was asked by the apostles to perform certain purifications according to the Levitical law. The reason for this is stated in these words:

"Thou seest, brother, how many thousands of Jews there are which believe not, and they are all zealous of the law: and they are informed of thee, that thou teachest all the Jews which are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, saying that they ought not to circumcise their children, neither to make any sacrifice on the sabbath; what is it? Therefore the multitude must needs come together: for they will hear that thou art come. Do therefore this that we say to thee: We have four men which have a vow on them; them take, and purify thyself with them, and be at charges with them, that they may have their heads: and all may know that those things, whereof they were informed concerning thee, are nothing; but that thou thyself also walkest orderly, and keepest the law." Paul did as he was asked, and this resulted in his arrest. He was kept in prison several years, and was probably never liberated. Meanwhile the day was drawing near when Jerusalem should be destroyed, and the Christians would have to flee. As these Christians should join the churches established by Paul, they would bring with them the aspirations and practices of the ceremonial law. This would immediately raise the question of the ceremonial observances which was the point of issue between Paul and the Jews, and which came near dividing the church, as recorded in Acts 15. The only hope of avoiding a like catastrophe now would be to acquaint them with the work which Christ was doing in the sanctuary in heaven. If they were to continue with the observances on earth that were no longer of avail, that Christ in heaven had taken the place of the earthly high priest, and was now ministering in the sanctuary above, they would not be discouraged or perplexed when the temple should be in ruins. They would be prepared to change their allegiance from the sanctuary on earth to the sanctuary in heaven.

**Paul Prepares Believers for Changes**

The Jewish believers, especially those in Jerusalem, were strongly wedded to the ceremonial observances, as evidenced by Paul's experience. They held Moses in high esteem. When Paul therefore taught that Christ had abolished the sacrificial services and the complete ritual which Moses had introduced, it was incumbent upon him to show that Christ was greater than Moses. Not only this, but as God was the One who had commanded Moses to institute the sacrificial system, it would be necessary for Paul to show that Christ is God essentially and in the highest sense. Only as God would He have the right to change the Mosaic law and abolish the ordinances. For this reason Hebrews begins with the most emphatic statements concerning Christ's Godhood. He is Creator and Heir. He is King and High Priest. He is God Himself. The supreme evidence which Paul presents is found in the eighth verse, where the Father, in addressing the Son, calls Him God: "Thy throne, 0 God, is for ever." In verse ten He says, speaking of Christ, "Thou, Lord, in the beginning didst lay the foundation of the earth."

**Christ's Deity Set Forth**

These two testimonies of the Father to the essential Godhood of the Son, taken from the Old Testament, should be considered. If God the Father addresses the Son as God and Lord, they must do the same. If Christ indeed is both God and Lord, He would have the right to take over the priestly and mediator, thus abolishing the old priesthood. By quoting God's command to the angels to worship Christ, Paul shows Him to be greater than the angels, to be God Himself. His next task is to show for Christ that He is to be a merciful and faithful High Priest, He must take His place as a man among men, live and suffer with them, if He is to be able to help those in need.

In the second chapter Paul therefore shows that while Christ is God, He is also man, and that this behooved Him. I call your particular attention to verses ten, seventeen, and eighteen, where the author shows that Christ was not only supposed to become man, so that He might be able to know by experience man's temptations, and be able to succor them that are tempted. Chapters three and four present Christ as greater than Moses and Joshua. Moses was counted great among the Jews. He was lawgiver and prophet. He was the one who had given them the law which they revered, and the high priest, and practiced the sacrifices when the heart was drawn near to God. The Lord's house, Christ is Lord in the house. Moses did not bring Israel into the Land of Canaan; and although Joshua did bring them in, he did not bring them into the rest. This rest Paul identifies with the seventh-day Sabbath, and thus in a remarkable way connects Sabbath keeping with the true rest of the soul—sanctification.

In chapters five, six, and seven the author shows Christ to be greater than Levi and Melchizedek. Melchizedek as a type of Christ was greater than Abra- ham, Levi, and Aaron, and hence, if Christ is greater than Melchizedek, He is also greater than Abraham, Levi, and Aaron. Having thus introduced Christ as our great High Priest, the author now invites us to leave the doctrine of the first principles, and press on unto perfect- ion. These doctrines which we are to leave he enumerates as repenance from dead works, faith toward God, baptism, laying on of hands, the resurrection from the dead, eternal judgment (Heb. 6:1, 2). He does not mean by this that we are to discard these doctrines, but as man lays a foundation and then builds on it, so
We Follow Christ

These verses are in harmony with what I have read from Early Writings. Christ wants us to follow Him by faith into the most holy of the sanctuary in heaven. He is the Forgiver, the Captain, and we are to follow. To go with Him into the most holy means more than to stand in a room. It means complete sanctification. If we are to enter before the face of God, it must necessarily mean the complete eradication of sin, appearing before a holy God without a mediator. The High Priest made elaborate and thorough preparation before He entered the sanctuary. Therefore if we are to enter we must likewise make preparation. The real sanctuary question involves sanctification, holiness, without which no man shall see God. This part we have left out too often, yet it is the one real thing in the tabernacle, the one transcendent thing. God intended it should have.

As we consider this subject, the question naturally arises, How can we ever reach the holy of holies? Has places to stand before us? How can we ever stand before a holy God? The writer of Hebrews understands this problem, and gives us a word of cheer and courage in the eleventh chapter. If anyone is inclined to think the standard is placed so high that he cannot reach it, let him read this chapter. The reader, whoever, despite their faults and weaknesses, at last obtained a good report.

It was my opinion that the men and women mentioned in Hebrews eleven were all perfect; but as I read the record I find they were not. In fact, some names seem to have been placed there for the specific purpose of showing what God can do with imperfect material. Abraham is called the father of the faithful; yet in some vital respects he was very weak. He told that which was not entirely true, and also laughed at God's promise of an heir. Jacob, who obtained a good report, was not all he should have been. Neither were his sons. What shall we say then of Gideon, of David, Samson, Rahab, and the others who were far below God's standard of perfection, but whom God nevertheless helped, and who at last were victorious? This list is given that we may know that God can take poor human beings, and make them to-day and make saints out of sinners. The chapter is a preview of the saints of God entering the kingdom, and closes with the comforting words that "apart from us they should not be made perfect." That is, the list in Hebrews is not complete. They are not to be made perfect without us. God is waiting to add our names to the list.

I am thankful for it; I am so thankful for this view of Jesus in the sanctuary as the great High Priest. And, dear fellow workers, I believe that we have that constant conviction that we should have that constant conviction that what it means to abide in that Presence. Suppose that as a company of ministers today, we should all be invited by our great High Priest to go into the holy of holies. Would we feel like rushing in thoughtlessly, carelessly? Or would we think of what it would mean to be prepared to come into the presence of God?

Response

J. L. McElhany: I feel very thankful this morning that Brother Andreasen in his study has led us, shall I say into the divine Presence. I am glad indeed that the Lord has led His servant this morning to bring us to this point. I hope that everyone here at this moment has that same view, that same conviction. How wonderful it is that we as mortals with our great High Priest can divide those curtains and enter into the divine Presence. And really, my dear brethren and sisters, my dear fellow workers, I believe that we should have that constant conviction that what it means to abide in that Presence.

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In chapter 12 the author contrasts the inaugurated covenant, with the inauguration of the second. We are placed upon Mount Zion in the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. There we see the innumerable hosts of angels, the general assembly and church of the first born, the Judge of all the earth, and the spirits of just men made perfect. There in the presence of the assembled multitudes of earth and heaven Christian is Christ, and we are enrolled as members of the church of God.

We are encouraged in the thirteenth chapter to go with Christ without the camp, bearing His reproach, that we may have a part in the glory to come. This, then, is the message of the book of Hebrews, a divine New Testament commentary on the sanctuary. Christ has gone before us. The way to God is clear. We can see the way of sacrifice, of suffering, of blood: but the story ends with the triumphant procession of all the saints mentioned in the eleventh chapter, to which are to be added the saints now living, without what the former shall not be made perfect. The sanctuary is a call to holiness, to sanctification.

JUNE 10, 1946

The Advent Review

J. L. McElhany: I feel very thankful this morning that Brother Andreasen in his study has led us, shall I say into the divine Presence. I am glad indeed that the Lord has led His servant this morning to bring us to this point. I hope that everyone here at this moment has that same view, that same conviction. How wonderful it is that we as mortals with our great High Priest can divide those curtains and enter into the divine Presence. And really, my dear brethren and sisters, my dear fellow workers, I believe that we should have that constant conviction that what it means to abide in that Presence. Suppose that as a company of ministers today, we should all be invited by our great High Priest to go into the holy of holies. Would we feel like rushing in thoughtlessly, carelessly? Or would we think of what it would mean to be prepared to come into the presence of God?

I respond in my own heart to this appeal that has come to us in this study. I am thankful for it; I am so thankful for this view of Jesus in the sanctuary as the great High Priest. And, dear fellow workers, may I say and impress this upon my friends, these are great outstanding truths of this message.

I thought last night, as I saw on the screen the evidence of what God can do among savages and among cannibals in transforming their lives and winning them from the evils of their ways—that is the thing that we ought to emphasize everywhere.

How many here this morning will by the grace of God so examine their ministry so examine the quality and effect of their preaching as to lead them to consecrate themselves as ministers of this movement today to go with Christ without the camp, bearing His reproach, that we may have a part in the glory to come?
of preaching that makes no direct contribution to the establishing of the basic principles of truth. Re-emphasis of these principles is what we need today, brethren. It is the antidote to fanaticism. I know the brethren are perplexed and distressed in many places in regard to fanatic movements. Brethren, the antidote for it all is the preaching of the plain, straightforward teaching of the fundamentals of this message.

How can I join this morning in a recollection to this type of ministry in endeavoring to present Christ as the complete answer to all our needs, and to put the emphasis on the great teaching of the sanctuary truths?

[All arose, upon which Elder McElhaney prayed.]

Memorial Service
For Prominent Workers Who Have Passed to Their Rest

June 9, 1946, 10 A.M.

QUARTET: “Rock of Ages.”

W. H. Branson read the following texts: Rev. 14:13; Isa. 57:1, 2; John 5:25; 1 Cor. 15:51-55; 1 Thess. 4:13-18.

It has been difficult to make a selection, and perhaps I should say that those whose names are read are merely representative of the strong workers whose names might have been worthy of a place in this list. Then I wish also to say that the wives are not generally listed. There are a few who have rendered outstanding service in their home and family, and their names will be listed, as I think they are listed. I believe you will understand the position.

General Conference


Wright, J. F.—July 21, 1944, Takoma Park, D.C. Vice-president of General Conference, and president of the Provisional Northern Division.


Evans, I. H.—Nov. 24, 1945, Takoma Park, D.C. Vice-president of General Conference, and president of the former Far Eastern Division.


Australia


NORTH AMERICA


Northern Europe


Provisional Division


South Africa


Burei, Lincoln.—Oct. 34, 1892, Belgian Congo, Congo Free State, and South Africa; Rwaneki Mission, Belgian Congo, East Africa.


South America

Baez, Roscoe T.—Jan. 15, 1942, Colorado. Donor of funds, including $250,000 gift.

Bollier, Jacob.—1943, Zurich, Switzerland.

Burgess, L. J.—May 4, 1946, Paradise, Calif.

Pages, Augustus.—April 3, 1946, Sao Paulo, Brazil. Insurance broker.

Southern Asia

Kiloway, Thomas.—Dec. 31, 1941, Bangkok, Thailand. Secretary-treasurer, South India Union.

Po Shwe.—1942 (exact date unknown), Burma. Adventist minister murdered in Burma.

Lipke, John.—June 18, 1943, Sao Paulo, Brazil. Pioneer worker in South America.

Hermanson, Mario.—Dec. 3, 1942, Sao Paulo, Brazil. Pioneer worker in South America.

Southern Europe

Konderth, Thad.—1941 or 1942, in Germany. Secretary-treasurer, England.

Bojler, Jacob.—1945, Zurich, Switzerland. Missionary, in Zürich, German, Department of special correspondence.

Borde, L. E.—March 25, 1945, Berne, Switzerland. Secretary-treasurer, Switzerland.

Meyer, Paul.—Jan. 3, 1943, Lake Worth, Fla. One of first nurses in India.

Moyer, Paul.—Jan. 25, 1945, Sanitarium, Calif. Early worker in India.

Bollier, Jacob.—1943, Zurich, Switzerland.

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Kiloway, Thomas.—Dec. 31, 1941, Bangkok, Thailand. Secretary-treasurer, South India Union.

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An Evening With the Australasian Division

June 8, 1946, 7:30 P.M.

CHAIRMAN: W. G. Turner.

H. G. Moulds announced the opening hymn, No. 448, "Far and Near the Fields Are Teeming." J. L. McEwen delivered prayer.

E. B. Rudge, president of the Australasian field, showed some slides on Australia.

E. B. Hare and Allan Anderson played a cornet and trumpet duet, "In the Dawn of the Sabbath Day."

E. B. RUDGE: It is surely a great privilege to stand before you here tonight, in the presence of so many of the Australian friends and workers who through the years have contributed so much toward the development of our work in Australia. I feel I should make special reference here tonight to the work done by Doctor D. H. Kress and his wife, Doctor Lauretta, and the work done by the late Prof. C. B. Hughes and his wife, and Miss Hattie Andre. I want to make mention, too, of the sterling service rendered our field by Doctor C. W. Harrison and Mrs. Shamon, workers who have given the very best years of their long life of devoted service to our field. I would like you to know that this has been very deeply appreciated, and that these old workers, now back, some of them, in the home field, are very warmly remembered by the Australian people.

I feel, too, I would be remiss in my duty if I failed to make reference once again to Australia's appreciation of the marvelous help that came to us during the critical days of the Pacific war. In addition to that, I must say that the coming of so many Seventh-day Adventist American servicemen brought to our people a sense of nearness during that time of crisis. They came among us, sat in our churches, visited our homes, and generally engaged in social life with us in such a way that it made us feel we were truly members of that great advent family to which Brother Spicer through the years so many times has made reference.

I cannot begin my remarks here tonight without a text. I am in the presence of my old teacher, Miss Hattie Andre. I was in her Bible class for several years, and one thing I remember her telling us was that no preacher worth this salt ever stood up and spoke without a text. So I have a text, Miss Andre. This is it: [Numbers 10:29-32, was then read.]

"Moses' invitation, 'Come thou with us, and we will do thee good on every occasion and we will shew thee the land,' as well as in the book of Revelation. There we have the invitation so many times given to come out, to be with the Lord's people. This text I have read many times through the years, and I never read it without thinking of the day in June, 1936, when a company of five men began to present this message in the city of Melbourne. They worked with skill. They were well-trained men. They were men with a very fine purpose, a purpose of self-sacrifice. They were three preachers, one printer, and one colporteur, and they laid a foundation that has been built up through the years, so that today all the branches of the work for which this message stands are to be found there, each one strongly functioning in its special sphere.

Those men did a great deal more than simply set up an organization. They imparted to the Australian community the spirit of the message. They were filled with that desire to share the things of God. And so they said to our people, "Come thou with us, and we will do thee good." And they made it abundantly clear that every one of us was to accept the invitation to come and have the blessings that the invitation promised, must also accept the obligations that the goodness of God invited these men to share in the doing of God's great work. And so if those pioneers did nothing else, in doing this they rendered a tremendously effective service to the cause of God. And that spirit reached the hearts of our Australian people.

(Continued on page 95)
The Sabbath School Department

By J. A. STEVENS, Secretary

The first Sabbath school was held in Eden. The Creator was the teacher. "The morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy." Job 38:7.

What a wonderfully unifying influence the Sabbath school has been in all the history of our work! What a builder of faith from the cradle roll years to old age! Let us thank God for this greatest of all the auxiliary agencies in the church that, in its activities, includes all the members of the church and their children.

Sabbath School Evangelism

For many years the Sabbath school has been called a "soul-winning Sabbath school." This is a proper designation, because three out of every four persons baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church are Sabbath school members. The Sabbath schools offer one of our greatest opportunities for evangelism, because in North America and in more than 50 other Sabbath school members not yet members of the church. The Sabbath schools carry on a great soul-winning endeavor through branch schools, and every Sabbath our members "bring one" or more individuals to Sabbath school. "The Sabbath school, if rightly conducted, is one of God's greatest instrumentalities to bring souls to a knowledge of the truth." —Counsels on Sabbath School Work, p. 123.

In addition to specific lines of instructional work already noted, there has been a well-planned educational endeavor throughout these five war years, not only in North America, but in all divisions where the war did not make such conventions and institutes impossible. In North America councils of secretaries have been held in union conferences yearly, and two most helpful councils were held for all the union Sabbath school secretaries of the division. Also Sabbath school officers have been called together, either in conference-wide or regional conventions. These local conventions continue to be somewhat continuous in our planning because of the many changes in both official and teaching staffs. Sabbath school associations, well organized and successfully conducted before the war, are now being reorganized to become a source of strength in building up every phase of Sabbath school work.

The following table shows the number of Sabbath schools at the close of each of the last two five-year periods:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Number of Sabbath Schools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1936-40</td>
<td>14,411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941-45</td>
<td>14,568</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The war years have made havoc with statistics from many parts of the world. We regret that this report cannot be but fragmentary from several great world divisions. But, notwithstanding the disruptions incident to the war, the figures show a cheering gain in the number of Sabbath schools. We feel sure the gains will prove to be even greater when the Sabbath school progress can be reported from all lands.

The Sabbath School Department

The following comparative table shows the Sabbath school membership at the close of the preceding five-year period ending in 1940, and the membership at the close of the five years ending December 31, 1945:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Membership (thousands)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1936-40</td>
<td>618,291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941-45</td>
<td>688,079</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is a matter for rejoicing that the statistics reveal a gain of 10.14 per cent during the war years. It is not so large as the gains of the previous five-year period, and possibly it would have even exceeded those good figures had we been able to secure complete reports from all the world. But even global war has not stopped the church's interest in the Sabbath school, for it is cheering to note that the average gain per day for the five-year period would make a Sabbath school of thirty-eight members. In all divisions of the official field the Sabbath school membership exceeds church membership, except the North American Division, where the Sabbath school membership is 98 per cent of the church membership. But our Sabbath school work in North America has successfully weathered the stormy war years, with their disturbing shifts of population incident to war work, and reports show a rapid return to normal membership growth.

During the last five years the Sabbath schools of the world field have continued to be the denomination's greatest single source of mission offerings. During 1945 an average of more than $70,000 for every Sabbath school of the year flowed into the missions treasury through the humble offering envelope, and during the fourth quarter of 1945 the offerings averaged more than $12,000 for every day of the quarter. Since the Sabbath school began its contributions to our world-wide work in 1877, a grand total of $352,700,000 had been given to our foreign mission work by December 31, 1945, and during the last five-year period ending in 1945 and the close of the current period:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Amount (dollars)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1936-40</td>
<td>$8,270,552.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941-45</td>
<td>$14,241,979.77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These totals for the last five-year period show a gain of 72.1 per cent.

Thirteenth Sabbath Offerings and "Overflows"

The five-year period since the latest General Conference session has recorded a grand total of $3,305,011.02 from Thirteenth Sabbath offerings and "overflows." The "overflow" of offerings devoted to foreign mission work have brought courage to the hearts of our brethren throughout the world, and added strength has come to the work where these enterprises are located. We give the following tabula-
tion to show the division whose "overflow" was given, and the amount of the offering:

1941

Inter-American $11,559.74
Southern Asia 9,980.02
Missions of Northern Europe 10,909.56
South African 13,009.94 $45,239.16

1942

Southern African 18,009.94 $45,239.16
Southern European 12,709.93
China 13,052.07 Tanganikya 20,018.81 $60,734.36

1943

Inter-American $15,037.01
South American $2,565.04
South African 23,609.25
General Conference Mission $2,998.13 $99,045.44

1944

Southern African $25,558.28
Free China 27,596.55
Southern European 26,726.03
General Conference Mission 35,855.59 $120,292.42

1945

Inter-American $28,412.81
Missions of Northern Europe 36,390.52
Extension Mission 32,939.58
Southern Asia 29,399.56
South American 2,626.84 $152,289.15

Grand Total $450,577.53

The Investment Fund

The youngest of the Sabbath school's offering family, Sabbath school investment has made a marvelous growth since it was launched in 1926. Already it has contributed $2,268,713.35 to our foreign mission enterprise. The interest of our membership in this mission-offering plan is reflected in the comparative figures of the last two five-year periods:

1939-40 $438,528.84
1941-46 $1,246,063.30

These figures show a gain for the latest five-year period of 184 per cent.

The birthday offering plan is the second youngest in the Sabbath school offering family, and it is a husky, fast-growing member of the family. Wherever the Sabbath school is conducted, the membership has manifested an insatiable liberality in this contribution to "new work and new workers." Starting with $4,019.76 in 1919 the annual total has grown to $88,935.85 in 1945. The comparative table shows the totals for the last five-year periods:

1936-40 $104,307.62
1941-46 $50,887.50

The comparison reveals a gain of 70 per cent. The grand total of birthday offerings since the plan was inaugurated in 1919 is $396,934.14.

Branch Sabbath Schools

The branch Sabbath school idea has become a well-established plan of evangelism in a large part of the world field. Very simple in its operation, this plan has resulted in the organization of hundreds of churches. Sponsored, by the officers of a Sabbath school, a branch school is started by some Sabbath school member, usually a minister, who enlists the help of other members, and soon there is a growing interest as the school is conducted from week to week. It is a normal experience for the interest to become so widespread as to require the labor of a minister in a series of meetings to bind it off. Further, the South American Division leads in the number of branch Sabbath schools with 259. The Southern African Division comes next, with 249. Then follows Inter-America, North America, in order, with a grand total of 970 in all divisions. We are assured that far greater achievements are possible as this work is further developed in all divisions of the world.

The Extension Division

For many years the General Conference Sabbath School Department has earnestly promoted home division membership for all those who were unable to attend Sabbath school regularly because of invalidism, distance from the meeting place, acute illness, or such insurmountable circumstances. Thus many thousands who could not attend Sabbath school have been taken to them. Since the latest General Conference session, the title of this division of the Sabbath school has been changed to the "extension division." Its scope has been broadened to include our workers who must travel extensively, men and women in military service, as well as the ones enrolled formerly in the home division. The membership of this extension division varies between 27,000 and 30,000, and their offerings approximate $50,000 a quarter.

The Sabbath School Worker has always been one of the greatest aids in building efficiency in Sabbath school leadership, whether in Sabbath school teaching in all divisions. The circulation at the close of the comparative period, 1940, stood at 12,254. As of December 31, 1945, the subscription list stood at 24,613. A companion publication is issued in China, South America, Denmark, and Southern Europe. For many years there was an insistent demand for a lesson medium adapting the lesson to the understand- ing of our younger children under six years of age. This need has been met in the publication at the Pacific Press of a little paper entitled My Bible Story. Introduced into the Sabbath schools of North America at the beginning of the third quarter of 1945, this lesson paper has met with an enthusiastic reception, and already has a circulation of more than 12,800 copies weekly. A series of leaflet-size sets of junior lessons are prepared; the membership of the General Conference Committee on Publication of Sabbath school Lessons, does work in foreign fields, accepted the call to help in the preparation and publication of Sabbath school lessons. Each quarter several different sets of lessons must be prepared to meet the needs of the Sabbath schools in all the world. These are for the senior, youth's, junior, primary, kindergar- ten, and cradle roll divisions. Two sets of senior lessons are prepared; one of these is worked over to serve as senior lessons in some mission fields. In addition, the Christian Record Publishing Company prepares senior lessons in Braille for the blind.

Staff of the General Department

The secretarial staff and office workers have shared with our secretaries in the field, in the labors that have, under the rich blessings of God, brought the progress indicated in this report. We have had some changes and head count, but are optimistic for the latest General Conference session. In 1942 V. T. Armstrong became one of our associate secretaries and gave valuable help in the office and in the field until he connected with the work in the North Pacific Union. In 1945 L. L. Moffit, with many years of successful administrative and departmental experience in the homeland and in foreign fields, accepted the call of the General Conference. We connect with the department, and is bearing a full share in this work. In 1944 Miss Dorothy Ford of the department's editorial staff was asked to assume responsibilities in the sec- retarial department's editorial staff. We were fortunate to secure recently Miss Mary Ogle, to fill this vacancy.

The secretaries of the department are always confronted with a heavy field program, and much time has been spent attending Child Evangelism Institutes, conventions, secretarial coun- cils, and other meetings where Sabbath school work has been considered. The secretary of the department visited the Middle East Union and Ethi- opia the last half of 1945, and S. A. Wellman spent some time in the Inter- American Division.

This brief report forbids proper recognition of the earnest labor of Sabbath school secretaries throughout the world. We gratefully acknowledge the large contribution they have made to the steady advance in Sabbath school work. The conditions, with churches destroyed, congregations scattered, families scattered. Money values have varied, disrupted mail service has hindered regularly of reports, but still the work of the faithful and hard-pressed workers has not been halted. We thank God for such consecrated leadership, and feel confident that the Sabbath school will fulfill God's purpose for it in the finishing of the work.
The Department of Education

By H. A. MORRISON, Secretary

A S we survey the educational work of Seventh-day Adventists in all the world field in order to report to the General Conference in session, we are reminded of the fourth and fifth verses of the 145th psalm.

"One generation shall praise Thy works to another, and shall declare Thy mighty acts. I will speak of the glorious honour of Thy majesty, and of Thy wondrous works."

During these days and years of stress the Lord has performed wonders in connection with our educational work; however, we believe that if we were more meticulous in following His teaching, a much greater power would be manifest.

The five-year period just passed has been full of difficulties and perplexities. A nation at war cannot carry on all of its customary program. The work of education is one of the very first things to be affected. Hundreds, yes, thousands, of our youth who otherwise would have been in school have not been able to be there. The enrollments in many secular institutions have been less than half the normal amount. It will be noted that Adventist schools have been affected in a minimum degree, in fact, have even been able to expand through this trying period.

During the past five years many educational institutes and conventions have been held in the various fields. Representatives from this department have made frequent visits to the Inter-American Division and one visit to the South American field. The series of conventions and institutes thus held have been a great inspiration to those fields, as will be seen by the more detailed report of the divisions. Because of the war and transportation difficulties, the foreign visits have been greatly minimized.

Wherever we go we find our educational workers a sincere, loyal, devoted group. They are putting forth every effort so to train the youth that they may make full contribution to the spread of the gospel and the finishing of our task in the world.

North American Division

For years it has been recognized that our elementary schools do not have the recognition in our plans and in financial backing that their importance merits. This has been one of our difficult problems. During the past ten years we have given almost annual study to this condition, and each year have been able to make substantial improvement. During the past five years the improvement has been sufficiently rapid that now the elementary teacher's salary is comparable with that of other workers of similar requirement.

During these years the school plants and equipment have also been changed for the better. The teachers' environment, the schools' equipment, have done much to improve the atmosphere of these schools and to make the work of the teacher more inspirational and successful.

One of the most inspiring parts of this report is that concerning the number of baptisms in the elementary schools. One thousand five hundred and eighty-two of the children in school last year gave their hearts to God and were baptized, thus offering themselves for His service. This, together with those previously baptized, would indicate that almost the entire pupil group of understanding age have yielded their hearts to the Master.

The secondary school in the North American Division has made a marvelous advancement. The enrollment has almost doubled in the last ten years. During the five-year period it has gone from 7,656 to 9,380. Five hundred and eighty-eight of these students were baptized during the past year. The valuation of the secondary school plants has changed from $3,470,310 to $4,314,549.

Since the time of our last General Conference session we have changed three of our junior colleges to senior colleges so that we now have nine senior colleges and three junior colleges in North America. These colleges during this war period have had a strenuous time. It was anticipated that the draft would almost ruin our enrollment, as it did that of many schools, but in contrast to this we were able to keep the level of our enrollment, and, now that many of the veterans are returning, our enrollment is climbing. Last year there were 3,828 students in our North American colleges. Students in all institutions of college grade, including medical and nursing, now number more than six thousand.

The number of volumes in the college libraries has increased by forty thousand. The valuation of the college plants has increased from $4,631,900 to $7,024,434. The operating costs of the colleges and secondary schools for one year total more than $5,000,000. Of this amount, $46,100 is provided as subsidy. Each year during the period the institutions as a group have made gains varying from $210,000 to $450,000. This is a new experience for our educational work. Ten years ago these colleges carried a note indebtedness of $155,000. Today all are out of debt except three or four academies having obligations that cannot be paid immediately without violating some agreements, and these amounts total less than $25,000.

The Home Study Institute, the College of Medical Evangelists, and the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary participate in, and are a part of, our educational program. Each of these will give a special report of its work.

Seventh-day Adventists do not operate a dental college, but have for more than ten years maintained a favorable affiliation with the Atlanta-Southern Dental College, from which 71 of our young men have been graduated and are now successful dentists. Most of these are only loyal to the truth but are strong supporters of the church and are becoming real pillars in our organization.

Each year we are graduating more than 1,300 from our secondary schools and more than 300 from our colleges.
Nearly 400 students from the colleges enter upon denominational work annually. Of the students in the secondary schools and colleges about 700 are added annually to the church through baptism. During the last five-year period, nearly 10,000 have been baptized as a result of school work in North America.

We have about 700 students in our schools of nursing preparing for that profession. About 200 complete their course each year. The educational features of these training schools have been greatly enlarged and improved during the past few years.

Parent and Home Education

At the time of the 1941 General Conference session, the scope of the Department of Education was enlarged to include Parent and Home Education. The progress made during these five years has not been all that was desired, but it is gratifying to note a growing consciousness of the vital relationship between education in the home and education in the school.

More than ever during the war years it is evident that parents and homes contribute very definitely to the education of youth. Failure to attain desired standards has indicated failure somewhere along the line of education; and if in connection with attenant youth problems, is definitely charged to failure of the home. It would seem, then, that the time has come for the Elijah message to be given "with a certain sound" to "turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers." "The Christian home is to be an object lesson, illustrating the excellence of the true principles of life. God's instruction will be a power for good in the world. Far more could be said than any sermon that can be preached is the influence of a true home upon human hearts and lives."—Ministry of Healing, p. 352. (Italics mine.)

As ministers and leaders recognize the soul-saving possibilities in the influence of Seventh-day Adventist homes, much more will be done to make these the true Christian homes they should be. We are told that "if more attention were given to teaching parents how to form the habits and character of their children, a hundred-fold more good would result."—Ibid. Far more help than most of us realize has been given in the writings of the Scriptures and also in the teachings given us by parents in their work. This material forms the basis of the Home Education courses sponsored by the Department of Education and distributed to the field through the Home Study Institute.

The new courses of study were ready for distribution in January, 1942, and a number of conferences made a good beginning in this work, but some have grown "dry in the well doing." In the last four years 10,573 Home Education lesson sets have been distributed in North America, and 381 have gone to overseas divisions, a total of 10,904. However, for this number of lessons only 625 certificates have been issued. The Pacific Union Conference has ordered the largest number of Home Education lesson-sets—2,615; but the Central Union has the best percentage of completion—101 certificates having been issued for the 769 lesson sets used, or a 13 per cent completion record for the union. Special mention should be made of the work done in the Wyoming, where 151 lesson sets were used and 51 certificates issued, practically a 34 per cent completion record.

And now a brief word concerning the work of Parent and Home Education. During the war years it was impossible to supply materials to many of the fields, but with the opening of communications calls are now coming for this material to help establish and maintain the program. Early in 1945 Australia cabled that they were reviving the work for Christian homes and requested supplies. Some lesson material has been prepared and translated for the South African Division. The Southern African Division is preparing to launch a strong campaign in the South Africa Union, with translations to be made into the Afrikaans. Inquiries have come from the China Division and from the Middle East asking the material could be carried forward. The work started years ago by the Home Commission. A need is felt for this Home Education material in Spanish, and while the South American and Inter-American divisions have been giving their best efforts to this task, the work has not yet been accomplished, although a beginning has been made in South America. Word came through from France that during the war years there were no programs for parents to prepare their own material. And early in 1946 a letter arrived from Dnemark, stating that translation had been made from lesson materials sent over in late 1945, and that all our certificates were being urged to undertake this parent study. So the work has started.

Before we pass from this phase of our educational work, it is only fair to state that those parents who have earnestly and conscientiously pursued the study given them in the Home Education courses have been deeply impressed by the specific directions given in the Spirit of prophecy regarding the parents and their work, and they are eager to continue with further courses and to pass on to others the inspiration and the practical help they have received.

Australasian Division

In the Australasian Division Education has been materially affected by the war, as it has been in most other sections of the world. The enrollment in the elementary schools has increased about 50 per cent since our report at the last session. The higher schools have just about maintained their attendance during this critical period. There are now 10 schools. There are now 10 schools. The elementary schools about 1,600 pupils and about 500 in the higher schools. About 250 have gone from the schools into the organized work during this period. It is manifest here as in all our divisions that the school is taking a large part in the development of the work.

European Countries

Our educational work in the European countries has been greatly hindered and in places well-nigh ruined by the impact of the war. In many places no schoolwork of any kind has been going on. We are not able to get any full report from these various countries, and even with such a report we would not be able to make adequate comparisons. We are glad to know that a few schools have been able to continue all through the war and that several hundred Adventist youth have had the advantages of Christian education and preparation for His service.

China Division

The China Division has been plagued with war for nine years. This territory is large, the connection of its people is strong; these characteristics, together with the terrain, have made it possible for them to move some of our schools to the more peaceful spots and to carry on. It is marvelous to see how richly God has blessed their efforts. Their rich accomplishments under tremendous handicaps are a real evidence of divine help. Our records are not complete as to the work of these schools; however, we do know that young people have been prepared for service and are now doing valiant work for God in spite of the many difficulties.

Far Eastern Division

The Far Eastern Division educational work has also been interrupted by the international disturbances. This condition has existed during almost the entire five-year General Conference period. The work has been so broken up that we do not have definite reports covering this field. However, we do know that the smoke of battle had hardly cleared away before our people were assembling the children and青年 started their schools wherever possible. It is manifest here as in all our divisions that the nationals have had to carry on the work alone. The training they have received has enabled them to rise to the situation and carry on in a strong way.

South American Division

The South American Division is developing a good system of schools. Since state regulations are made to fit the Catholic system, we find that there are many problems that must be solved. The number in our elementary schools has increased from 11,000 to 14,900, and those attending the higher schools, from 400 to 1,000. We have established a new training school in Uruguay on a fine farm near Montevideo. Our training school in Peru is being rebuilt in a better environment, and much is expected of this institution. Nearly every training school has greatly improved its equipment and added new and better building.

(Continued on page 96)
Australasian Union Conference
By E. B. Rudge, President

ABOUT seventy-two years ago, while in Battle Creek, Mrs. E. G. White was given a very impressive vision. At this time a number of countries were presented to her as prospective missionary fields, and the name, Australia, was indelibly impressed upon her mind.

In the home field section of our work today we have one senior college and two junior colleges, with a total teaching staff of 50, and an enrollment of 500. From these colleges there have been graduated and sent out approximately 1,000 young people to serve in many divisions of the world-wide work, including positions of responsibility in the General Conference.

The total number of teachers in the Australasian Division is now over 300. In the home base about 3,000 students are enrolled. In the mission fields there are 260 district and village schools, with a staff of nearly 300 teachers, and an enrollment of approximately 6,000 pupils.

Medical Work
About fifty years ago our medical work was commenced in a very humble way in one of the suburbs of Sydney. With the coming of Mrs. White to this field plans were laid for medical work extension, and a very desirable site on the North Shore line in Sydney was selected. This site, chosen in those early days for the expansion of the Sydney Sanitarium, is still the subject of most favorable comment by visitors and patients. It certainly complies with the counsel of God to His church as found in writings of the Spirit of prophecy: "It is the Lord's will that these institutions shall be established outside the city. They should be situated in the country, in the midst of surroundings as attractive as possible."—Testimonies, vol. 7, p. 80.

The sanitarium at Wahroonga is our training school for medical missionaries, and there is enrolled each year a class of about 30 young people for this purpose. During the past forty years and more about 400 graduates have passed through its doors to minister to our needy world. A smaller sanitarium was commenced at Warburton, Victoria, about forty years ago, but as the Wahroonga Site. This is located about forty-five miles from Melbourne, in the midst of beautiful mountain scenery. Six qualified doctors are employed in these two institutions, with accommodation for about 200 patients.

For years urgent calls have been coming to us from New Zealand and West Australia to open a sanitarium in each of these territories, but so far we have only been able to encourage them to keep on hoping that their wishes may someday be realized.

Sabbath School Department
The first organization to be effected in this field was the Sabbath school. Soon after their arrival in Melbourne, the pioneer workers organized a Sabbath School with an enrollment of 11 members. It was not long before the late Brother Stockton and his children (Minnie and Harry), so well known to many in this division, were enrolled. From that small beginning Sabbath schools have increased and sprung up all over this vast territory until at close of the year 1946 we had 739 schools, with an enrollment of 19,750.

Offerings received last year amounted to $39,540.12.4. There is no more

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Educational Work
This division of the world field was greatly blessed in having as its president for a period of years such a vigorous leader and organizer as A. G. Daniels. He early made a definite impression on the work by building up a strong educational and medical work, and this when the membership was still small and the financial prospects very meager. Nevertheless, the Avondale School for Christian Workers and the Sydney Sanitarium stand as monuments to the memory of this and other earnest and courageous pioneers.

It was during these early stages of the work in Australasia that Mrs. E. G. White brought her inspired and valuable counsel to this field, where she spent nine busy years. Her public addresses at camp meetings, and her wise guidance concerning the establishment of the educational work, were of great help, and Avondale stands as a divine achievement in Christian education. A virgin forest was soon turned into a Christian center of training, with wonderful facilities for the development of the physical as well as the mental qualities. Later on, other advanced schools were developed in West Australia and New Zealand, also in the islands of the South Pacific.

In the home field section of our work today we have one senior college and

Publishing Work
The pioneer workers in Australia were not slow in recognizing the value of the printing work, and soon commenced publishing a sixteen-page paper, known as The Bible Echo and Signs of the Times, the first number of which was partly set up in Brother Scott's bedroom in Richmond. The printing was done by an outside firm.

It was in the year 1941 there was an average of 90 colporteurs in the field, while during the peak year under review the average was 251. It is a conservative statement to say that 100 souls are annually being led into the light of God's truth as the result of the literature ministry in this field.

The summary of sales for the last five years have seen a wonderful expansion of literature in this field. The deliveries in the native languages.

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JUNE 10, 1946

fruitful source of supply to our mission field than the Sabbath school offerings, which have constantly been devoted to this purpose over almost the entire history of our work in Australasia.

The Sabbath school has proved to be our greatest evangelizing agency in the mission field, where the work is begun in a very primitive way. A Sabbath school Picture Roll is suspended from a branch of a tree or a native hut, and then the simple lessons of creation or of God's love are told to a few heathen people seated on the ground or on logs.

When singing is introduced, whether in simple English or in the vernacular, the tunes are at first strange to these people, but it is surprising how soon they pick them up, and in a few weeks the bush or the beach is resounding to the lusty strains of many of our grand old advent hymns. In the South Sea Islands today over 60 different languages and dialects are being used in our numerous mission Sabbath schools.

Missionary Volunteer Department

The Australasian field has willingly carried her share of responsibility in training the youth of this movement. The young people's department in this field has a membership of 33,027 of whom 9,984 are youth and 4,873 are Juniors. During the thirty years since the message first came to Australasia, thousands of consecrated youth have been trained in 346 societies and in our colleges and sanitariums to act their part in the finishing of the work in their homeland, and in our large and fascinating mission field.

In the home field the Missionary Volunteer Societies are scattered over all of the six states of Australia, and in both islands of New Zealand. More than 1,000 of our young men served in the forces of their country during the recent dark years of war. Many of these lads have borne a remarkable witness for the truth and have given evidence of an integrity of character which has brought high commendation from a number of their superior officers.

The Missionary Volunteer department has sought to promote all the features and objectives of the movement. The senior youth contributed 3,022,610 items of missionary work, while those small "bundles of energy," the J. M. V.'s., accounted for 1,487,390 items of missionary work. The Missionary Volunteer Crusader movement is now being launched among our societies, and 1946 promises to be a year of accomplishment in evangelistic effort by our youth.

Our young people have always inspired the church by their loyal assistance in the annual Appeal for Missions campaign, and indeed all of the missionary activities of the church. The Australasian youth contributed £11,275 to our needy. South Pacific Missionary Volunteer work among our native young people in the Pacific Islands must be taken up with new strength and vision. Australasia's Missionary Volunteers will not fail the church in this moment of opportunity, and gladly join hands with their fellow youth around the world in completing their common task, "The Advent Message to All the World in This Generation."

There is no department that carries such a varied list of activities as the Home Missions Department. The following is a brief résumé of some of the major features of missionary and soul-winning service of the church during the period under review.

Australia entered into the Appeal for Missions campaign in the year 1918, and that year raised £4,681. Each year since, the returns have been greater, until in 1945 the amount reached was £32,369.

During the past five years 248,516 pieces of literature were sold. This is an increase of 97,795 pieces over the record for the previous five years. The total receipts for Big Week effort for this period were £12,725.

There is another feature of our work that is bringing joy to the hearts of our people, and that is the Bible Correspondence Course. From its inception good reports have been coming to us. There have been 14,328 enrollees, and 96 have been added to church membership as a direct or indirect result of this course.

The Signs of the Times reached the peak of its sales circulation when, in 1945, 34,172 copies were sold weekly. This is an increase of 7,565 over 1941. One of our sisters in North Pitzroy, Victoria, eighty-four years old, circulates ninety-six Signs each week.

The Island Mission Field

"The isles shall wait for His law." Notwithstanding the invasion of the South Sea Islands by our national enemy in recent years, resulting in
these primitive people's being thrust into a state of warfare in which thousands were recruited as army helpers, etc., new work is being done. Some of these islands have given us ample opportunity to see how firmly the gospel root has taken hold, and that the inherent faith of these newly converted people in the power of the gospel cannot be denied. Never since Jesus Christ gave the great commission to His disciples has the light of the gospel shone with greater luster than in the lives of these South Sea Island natives during the terrible years of war. Surely, the tongue of the scoffer or the skeptic has been entirely silenced as he has seen these earnest native Christians beat their native drums, summoning all available soldiers, on the order of the government, to attend evening worship, even when European army officers have endeavored to prevent them lest the enemy should be attracted by such sounds. There under the friendly tents of their coconut groves, the natives sang swinging with the rhythm of the song, "Where With Jesus I Can Safely Go," and kneeling in prayer, petitioned their heavenly Father's protection on the Allied forces and the casting out of the enemy.

Where churches were destroyed they are being built; gardens are again in full operation; schools have been kept open, and new converts won. In other places where the European doctor or nurse had to leave, partly trained native medical assistants filled the breach, keeping the hospitals open, attending to the sick, and receiving supplies from the army. Army, navy, and air force personnel unite in bearing grateful testimonies to the faithful, loyal, and self-sacrificing efforts of thousands of these recently Christianized people under the great ordeal through which they have passed. They have been tested and have proved true.

Secretary Summarizes Situation

Our division secretary summarizes the situation in the following lines: "1945 was a dark chapter in the history of our island missions. That year saw the Japanese invasion of the Southwest Pacific and the consequent evacuation, on the order of the government, of our white missionaries from Papua, New Guinea, and the Solomons—first of the women and children, and later of the men. It was a year of bitter disappointment and disquiet regarding the welfare of our missionaries under the great ordeal of war. In the Southwest Pacific and the consequent evacuation, on the order of the government, there were over 300,000 natives in these parts, we now learn that there are actually about 750,000 natives in that area, and of a particularly fine type."

Writing of what awaits us in our work of rehabilitation, our island vice-president says:

"Now that the tide of invasion has been rolled back, there is revealed a scene of devastation that beggars description. What were once beautiful well-laid-out mission stations are now overgrown with the jungle; if not destroyed, they have been partially destroyed by the canker of neglect, coupled with the depredations of white ants; hospitals and dispensaries have been stripped of all equipment, and totally or partially destroyed. Roofs and leaking gutters have rusted through, and water tanks have gone to pieces and collapsed. In Papua and New Guinea both training schools have been totally destroyed. The work must go on, but just start again from the beginning, and the task is a stupendous one, made greater because of the fact already stated—the lack of shipping to carry mission supplies here, with need for recreation of their posts. The task facing us today is the greatest in our history."

"A careful survey has recently been taken of the immediate needs of Papua, New Guinea, and the Solomons, and the most conservative figures are staggering. To restore our mission stations in Papua and New Guinea only to their prewar status will mean an expenditure of more than £16,000. In the Solomons the lowest estimate is a figure at £11,000. It is hard to realize how suddenly that which has been built up by patient perseverance through the years can be destroyed. But there it is; and no mention has yet been made of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea. Up to the time of writing no one has been able to visit the area and estimate the cost. R. A. R. Thrift, the superintendent that field, is the only one able to assess the damage. For a start he will find three mission homes in Rabaul gone, and the training school, houses, and hospital at Put Put all gone. So the list will surely grow."

"All these figures leave out any provision for our most vital need—boats to replace our fleet of mission schooners lost due to the war. In the Solomons, our fleet of nine before the war, but four remain, and one of these, the Marguerite, is worth more than twice her original price to refit and return after the Navy has finished with her. Of the four vessels in the Mandated Territory of New Guinea, all are gone—though the enemy close to Rabaul, and one destroyed on the north coast of New Guinea."

We must recognize that the immediate present gives to us an unusual opportunity to extend our work in this field. As never before, doors are wide open, the governments in control are encouraging us to extend our work. Many native people are calling for our help. Truly "the fields are wide already to harvest." Let us do our utmost, and do it quickly.
FOR YOUR PERMANENT RECORD

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Proceedings of the General Conference, as they appear in these special issues of the REVIEW, will be of great interest and value for reference purposes. Only in these special issues of the REVIEW will there be preserved for you the actions of this General Conference session, with the daily story, mission reports, and other features which taken together reflect the spirit of this important meeting in such a way as to renew for you many times over the inspiration of this important gathering of God’s people.

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Now, here is the very thing that we want to understand, that it is not our work but God’s work, and we are only instruments in His hands to accomplish it. We want to seek the Lord with all our hearts, and the Lord will work for us.—Review and Herald, May 10, 1887.

An Evening With the Australasian Division

(Continued from page 87)

believers, and today we have a membership of about 24,000. And that 24,000 membership supports an army of 1,300 workers, 550 of whom are in the mission field. And day by day and week by week they are going on with the task, sounding out the message to the people of Australia and the adjacent island groups in 90 different tongues.

Tonight I find very special pleasure in coming to you with some information concerning our native people brought into this message by the children of the pioneers of our movement in Australia who, following the test of war, stand wonderfully strong in their conviction that the message is true, and that the God of heaven is able to do all that He has pledged to do for those who believe in Him. I will relate some stories of the tests that came to our native people.

[Several stories were told. These and similar ones, describing war experiences in the island field, will appear later as a series of articles in the REVIEW.]

May God help us to go on with the work, calling upon men to come with us that we may share with them the eternal things of God’s kingdom.

W. G. TURNER: While Brother Rudge was speaking tonight my mind went back to a visit to the Solomon Islands and elsewhere, and I could not help but feel again impressed as I remembered that every one of the men of whom testimony was given tonight came directly from heathenism. Wonderful indeed, my friends, is the transforming power of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We are now going to be favored with a double quartet sung by eight members of our group. Mrs. Howard will be at the piano, if there is a piano accompaniment, which there is. The title of this is “Answer the Call, Ye Brave Men.”

We should state that all who are taking part in this program tonight, with the exception of Brother McElhany, who led us in prayer, are Australian born.

[Here the musical number was rendered.]

W. G. TURNER: R. E. Haro, vice president of the Australasian field, who has
particular oversight of our work in the South Sea Islands, will now present to us some moving pictures of the island life.

R. E. Hare: I am sure I voice the sentiments of all my co-workers when I tell you how happy we are that we can join in the chorus that has been sung around this platform in the last few days and that will continue to be sung during the rest of this great gathering. I have done with the wonderful work that God is doing in the earth. We feel very happy tonight that we can add our chorus to what has already been sung and to what is going to come to you.

We are sorry that we cannot bring to you a demonstration of native material. It was suggested that some of us should dress up as natives, but we thought perhaps that wouldn’t do; we had better just stay as is. And so I have done the next best thing—we have brought to you some film that has been taken within the last few months. We are going to take you for a little walk around the Solomon Islands, and I want to show you, in film, exactly what we found when we went there a few months ago. We are sorry that the film is not professionally taken, and so I trust you will excuse any blemishes that your critical eyes may see. In the pictures of New Guinea and Bellona, these were taken only in March of this year, and so we have brought it to you as late as we possibly could.

[Here the pictures were shown.]

-Benediction by E. E. Roenfelt, president of the West Australia Conference.

Department of Education
(Continued from page 91)

ings during this period. About 250 are graduated annually from the higher schools each year, some fifty of them are from organized work. All our schools in this territory serve as opening wedges and break down prejudice, as well as train the youth. Many of the outside community send their children to our schools.

Inter-American Division
The school work in the Inter-American Division has grown with rapidity and has been greatly stabilized. The elementary enrollment has doubled, and the attendance at the training schools has almost trebled. A new training school has been established in Mexico. In other territories plants are being rebuilt and buildings and equipment added. The valuation of the school properties has been doubled. About seventy-five students graduate each year from these training schools, and about 25 each year enter denominational employ. The schools in this territory are responsible for much of the interest that is manifest for the truth. As we look at all these fields combined and see the great possibilities of the future through the work of 6,000 teachers and 137,000 students, our hearts are stirred with courage and we are led to thank God for His leading in this work.

Southern Africa Division
The Southern African Division has its impediments to carrying on the work during this critical period. Thirty schools in Burmas have been closed, including the training school. Goins in the other sections have just closed their doors. Spires College has been re-established on a fine piece of land near Poona and is doing excellent work. There are more than 500 attending the higher schools, and about 25 each year enter denominational employ. The schools in this territory are responsible for much of the interest that is manifest for the truth. As we look at all these fields combined and see the great possibilities of the future through the work of 6,000 teachers and 137,000 students, our hearts are stirred with courage and we are led to thank God for His leading in this work.

Largely Personal
By A. W. Spalding

EVERYBODY, of course, wanted to come to General Conference. It is the great feast, the modern Passover, with the additional lure of scarcity, since it comes not every year, as did for the first quarter century of our organized denominational life, but now every four years, unless wars intervene. Why, a man in his young maturity can scarcey number five General Conferences in all his years of accountability. As in ancient Israel, the leaders must come for counsel and prayer and plans, and the people yearn to hear the glorious tidings from the farthest corners of the earth.

But this General Conference was restricted. None but delegates and their wives—almost none! A child occasionally. And a few special veterans perhaps, who have earned more than a delegate’s credentials. Like that group who sat for their picture today, every one of them with more than fifty years of service—but somebody else is celebrating them. Would that all God’s people might be here! But where would they lodge? For though America is blessed with escape from the destruction of the war, it is scarce of housing. And Washington could not receive the tens of thousands who would gladly have attended. For though America is blessed with escape from the destruction of the war, it is scarce of housing. And Washington could not receive the tens of thousands who would gladly have attended. For though America is blessed with escape from the destruction of the war, it is scarce of housing. And Washington could not receive the tens of thousands who would gladly have attended.

Brother Ray Hanna has charge of the feeding of this multitude. There are three of our cafeterias here which co-operate with him: The Review and Herald, which will care for some 300; the Sanitarium, about 220; and the College, which feeds 600. The College, bless it! students being gone, gave us its two dormitories, and so 400 more were housed. Two families brought tents, one from Kansas; three or four came in trailers. A very few, alas, trusting to something besides Providence, blindly came without provision or credentials despite warning; and we wish them a happy outcome.

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A little girl, eleven years old, stood in the line behind Dr. Steen and me. Dr. Thomas Steen, just returned from South America, to become president of Madison), while we were all in waiting column for dinner. Like the kindly gentleman he is, Dr. Steen began a conversation with her. "Ah yes, born in China! Could she speak Chinese? Well, she was only four when she left of it. But she could say, "How bu..." which is very much what it looks like, "How are you?" And if you were well, you would say, "How?" And if you were not so very well you would say, "Bu how." Very good, my dear little Verle Eriich! I shall try always to say, "How!"