

The Advent **REVIEW** AND Sabbath **HERALD**

»»»»» GENERAL CHURCH PAPER OF THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS «««««



W. H. Branson Elected President of the General Conference at the Evening Meeting of the Session, July 11, 1950 (See Brief Life Sketch and Statement by Elder Branson on Last Page)

The Story of the Day

Tuesday, July 11

By CARLYLE B. HAYNES

THERE will be a change of leadership at this session of the General Conference. This was made plain in the opening session in the address of Elder McElhany. After fourteen years of leadership as president he announced that he was stepping aside for another to take his place.

The opening day of the forty-sixth session has been filled with varied and striking events, ranging from streamer headlines in the daily press of the resumption of the man-power draft for war, the sixty-sixth wedding anniversary of a couple we all deeply love and admire, the appointment of the important nominating committee for the session, the opening address of the president, the call from home and foreign officers that the first day of the session be devoted to fasting and prayer, the address of the governor of the State of California, Earl Warren, to the more customary reports of secretary, treasurer, and departmental secretaries.

Messages of greeting came from pioneers and veterans who have found it impossible to be in attendance at the session, as well as from many widely scattered fields, such as Pitcairn Island, the believers in Berlin, South Africa, the Zambesi Union, the East African group, the Natal-Transvaal Conference, the believers in Germany, the Philippines, and the Caribbean area.

The president's report, given at the opening session of the conference, was a solemn and impressive presentation of blessings and needs. It was made doubly impressive by the fact that Elder McElhany could not give it in person, although he was present. Dr. George T. Harding, president of the College of Medical Evangelists, announced before the address commenced that Elder McElhany, convalescing from an exhausting illness, had reluctantly accepted the counsel of his medical advisers, and would not risk the strain of presenting his address himself. This task was turned over to his secretary, A. W. Cormack. The closing paragraphs of the address, however, were made in the midst of a hush that spread over the six thousand people present as Brother McElhany arose and said he had a personal word to add to his formal address.

This personal word was the announcement of his considered decision that he could not go on as president, that he was "joyfully" stepping aside that the way might be cleared for the nominating committee to name his successor. The message from the home and foreign officers' council preceding the forty-sixth session was welcomed by all the delegates. It called attention to the statement

of the messenger of the Lord that we might have been in the kingdom long ago. It called for the first day of the session to be made a day of fasting and prayer. The specific objectives for prayer were set forth as follows:

For God to point out individual sin; for the reception of the Holy Spirit; for our people in certain lands where now it is impossible to freely work for God; for the discovery of ways and means to take advantage of the opportunities for expanding the work now opening before other lands; for God to hold the winds of threatening war until the work of God may be closed in all lands of the earth.

Address by Governor of California

Governor Earl Warren, in his address of welcome to California, very warmly greeted the conference and expressed deep appreciation of the work which Seventh-day Adventists have done in and for the State. He was heartily applauded by the delegates.

Governor Warren notably enhanced the esteem in which he is held by all who know him by remaining with us for two hours following his address of greeting, sitting on the platform by the side of Elder McElhany, and listening with obvious interest to the reports of both the secretary and the treasurer. As the meeting broke up at the noon hour, he mingled genially and with good fellowship with hundreds who crowded about him. He endeared himself to us all.

Two intriguing and charming young people well and favorably known throughout the world, with the glow of noble purpose on their faces, celebrated their sixty-sixth anniversary of their wedding as the conference opened. Daniel, 88, and Lauretta, 87, the Doctors Kress, honored guests of the General Conference, were discovered by the management of the Whitcomb Hotel, which is the General Conference staff headquarters, to have an important anniversary coinciding with the opening date of the General Conference. The management of the hotel went into action, ordered an enormous anniversary cake, decorated it, among other things with sixty-six candles, threw open their ornate Corinthian room, made the Kresses the hotel's special guests of honor, along with the Tafts (Judge M. C. Taft, General Conference legal counselor and his wife, Marian), married thirty-five years the same day, and invited all their friends to greet them.

The management did not know that their friends were innumerable. They came from earth's far places as well as

from all parts of the North American Conference. They arrived by all kinds of transportation—plane, boats, trains, automobiles, busses—and have somehow managed to find places to stay in this congested city. They came into the auditorium with eager faces, having looked forward to and prayed for this important session for a long time. It is wholly clear that they expect great things. It was good to hear them sing the opening song of the conference, "Onward Christian Soldiers," under the leadership of Charles Keymer. How they sang the words "Like a mighty army"!

To this reporter the memories of former conferences stretching as far back as 1905 flooded before the mind. Some of the giants of the old days are gone, but their names linger, and all are held in honor: Daniells, Knox, Prescott, Spicer, Shaw, Watson. I was suddenly reminded that it was thirty-seven years ago, at the 1913 General Conference session held in Takoma Park under canvas, that I began reporting General sessions and that the reporting dates back even beyond that to the 1910 Autumn Council. So my memory ranges over forty years of reporting these gatherings of the people of God. It brings a profound thrill to realize the progress which has been made in this great cause in that length of time.

It was an impressive moment when ministers came in and took their places on the platform. Included in the number were men from the far places of the earth, leaders of divisions, vice-presidents, officers, men of experience, men who have suffered, men who have led their people in and through difficult and trying experiences, men who have been true to their trust.

With them came Elder McElhany, just recovering, and still weak, from an attack of illness, but here nevertheless.

Prof. Frederick Griggs, through the avenue of prayer, led the session into the audience chamber of the heavenly Leader of this movement, offering our gratitude for the blessings of the days that are past and expressing continuation of divine guidance for the days ahead.

One of the important actions passed by the General Conference Committee a few hours before the opening of the session, taken to meet the grave developments of the war situation, was the authorization of a camp in Colorado, from August 14 to 28, to train Medical Cadet officers, who will be expected to put similar training into effect in colleges and academies in the United States this coming school year. In this way it is hoped to place our draft-age men in the United States on vantage ground if and when they are called to the service of their country. The gravity of the swift development of the war about us has created here a sense of intense urgency in all the work of the conference.

San Francisco is as friendly as ever. In the windows of the stores and shops on Market Street, regardless of what is sold, there are welcoming signs to Seventh-day Adventists. One of these, under the words "Steaks, chops, and

(Continued on page 35)

The Hour Has Struck for a Mighty Conviction to Grip the Advent People

FIRST MORNING DEVOTIONAL STUDY

By A. V. OLSON

IN THE second chapter of the Gospel of John we learn that when the disciples of Christ saw Him in action they remembered that it was written of Him, "The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up." It was because of this unflagging zeal that Jesus made such a profound impression upon the world.

For any movement to succeed, the rank and file of its members must be thoroughly convinced of the importance and of the necessity of its mission. Their souls must be gripped and stirred with a consuming passion for the cause they have embraced.

Madame Chiang-Kai-shek once said, "Many a great movement has slowed down because it has failed to grip the imagination and to enlist the enthusiasm of the rank and file."

History testifies to the truthfulness of this statement. Not only have movements slowed down, but they have actually died for lack of conviction. No one can fight wholeheartedly and successfully for a cause in which he does not believe. He cannot give it his undivided attention. He is not ready to toil, to sacrifice, and to suffer for it.

But when a man's soul is on fire for a cause he will throw all his energies into it. Night and day he will live and work for it. Joyfully he will give to it the strength of his mind and of his body. He will gladly sacrifice and suffer for it. And, if necessary, he will even die for it.

A social, political, or religious movement sponsored by men and women possessed of such a spirit usually succeeds.

Take the antislavery movement here in America. Many felt that slavery was unjust and wrong. They believed it was a wicked system. Some began to speak and to write against it. Men arose whose souls were on fire against this infamous system. By voice and by pen they agitated against it. At the risk of their lives they aroused the nation and swept the system out of existence.

Think what women like Florence Nightingale, Clara Barton, and others, whose hearts were moved by human suffering, have done for mankind. We might also speak of what has been accomplished by great statesmen and mighty warriors who have espoused the cause of human rights and liberties.

Stirred to Action

All great reforms have been led by persons whose hearts and lives were moved by strong convictions. This has also been true in the Christian church. It was so with the apostles. When they caught the vision of a perishing world, and heard the command of their Lord,

conviction gripped their hearts and stirred them to action. Nothing could stop them. When commanded by the authorities "not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus," they cried out, "We cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." Acts 4:18-20. Threats of imprisonment and death could not silence them. No wonder they stirred old Jerusalem and all Judea with their preaching.

Think also of Paul. When he met Jesus on the way to Damascus his physical eyes were dimmed to the things of this world, but his spiritual eyes were opened to behold the glories of the world to come and also to see the pitiful need of millions of souls enslaved and perishing in sin. The scene of the lost groping in darkness and dying without Christ gripped his heart. It set his soul on fire. Without hesitation he forsook his lucrative and honorable position, his home, and his loved ones, to spend his life in toil and sacrifice on foreign shores. His was not an easy lot. Hear his own description of it.

"In labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; in journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; in weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness." 2 Cor. 11:23-27.

All this and much more he willingly endured. A consuming passion for souls urged him on. "Woe is unto me," he declared, "if I preach not the gospel!" 1 Cor. 9:16. When implored by his friends not to continue his journey because of dangers involved, he answered, "What mean ye to weep and to break mine heart? for I am ready not to be bound only, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." Acts 21:13. Paul was driven by such a consuming spirit, and it is no wonder that it was said of him and his associates that they had turned the world upside down.

It was this same compelling power that centuries later made the great Reformers invincible. The dungeon, fire, and sword could not stop them. They "endured, as seeing him who is invisible." With the new-found message of salvation burning as a fire in their bones, they moved forward with an irresistible power.

Behold Luther on his way to Worms. When entreated by his friends not to proceed to the Imperial Council where they felt his life would be in peril, he answered, "Though they should kindle a fire all the way from Worms to Wittenberg, the flames of which reached heaven, I would walk through it in the name of the Lord; I would appear before them; I would enter the jaws of this behemoth, and break his teeth, confessing the Lord Jesus Christ."—*The Great Controversy*, p. 153. When further pressed by his friends not to go he cried, "Even should there be as many devils in Worms as tiles on the housetops, still I would enter it."—*Ibid.*

Little wonder that this Wittenberg monk, his soul aflame with a holy zeal, was able to set all Europe on fire.

Men of Conviction

The Advent Movement also was launched by men and women possessed of strong convictions and holy enthusiasm. Though poor, hated, and despised, with no organization to support, direct, and encourage them, they went forth to warn the world of its coming doom. In their innermost souls they knew that God had called them to carry His last message of mercy to the inhabitants of earth. With this mighty conviction clutching their hearts and stirring their souls they started a movement that has swept over land and sea so that today it encircles the globe.

Marvelous indeed have been the results of the Advent Movement. Today it is firmly established in nearly every land on earth and on scores of islands in the seven seas. One glance at the vast audience gathered in this auditorium this morning gives us convincing evidence of what God has done through and for His remnant church. Here are delegates of different races, colors, and tongues who have come from the ends of the earth to attend this world conference. Many and great are our reasons for the most profound gratitude to God for what has been accomplished during the brief century of our existence.

However, while thus rejoicing over past achievements, we must not forget that our divinely appointed task is not yet finished. By far the larger share still remains to be done. God said to Joshua, "There remaineth yet very much land to be possessed." Joshua 13:1. The sobering fact is that there are more unwarned souls in the world today than there were when our pioneers began to preach the message. There were only a little over one billion people in the world then. There are more than two and a quarter billion now. The vast majority of this milling mass of humanity has not yet heard the glad tidings of a soon-coming Saviour.

Our task grows bigger with each passing year. Its size is staggering. It may seem to be greater than we can accomplish. Certain it is that no group or association of men since the dawn of time have encompassed a task of such magnitude.

Added to our problem is the fact that this herculean task will have to be accomplished in the darkest hour of earth's history. It will have to be done at a time when men's hearts are failing them for fear and for looking after the things that are coming upon the earth. Satan hates the remnant church. He will do everything in his power to defeat her efforts. He will seek to create such confusion in the world as to make it impossible for her to finish her task. We are told:

"The passage from place to place to spread the truth will be hedged with dangers on the right hand and on the left. Everything will be placed to obstruct the way of the Lord's messengers. . . . From the light given me of God I know that the powers of darkness are working with intense energy from beneath. . . . Soon it will be more difficult than we can imagine."—*Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 22.

Already Satan is marshaling his forces for the final conflict. Bitter indeed will be the warfare against the remnant church.

Finishing the Work

When we pause to consider the magnitude of our task and the conditions under which it will have to be accomplished, it must become apparent to us all that if we are ever to finish the work committed into our hands, something must happen to quicken our pace. Confronted as we are with the problem of a constantly changing and an ever growing population, there is no hope of reaching our goal unless we do quicken our pace. And God is waiting for us to do so.

The Lord has given us a wonderful message to carry to the world. He has blessed us with a marvelous organization. He has given us facilities such as schools, publishing houses, sanitariums, hospitals, and dispensaries. He has placed

at our disposal the public press, the radio, television, and the correspondence school. He has established a financial system that supplies the organization with a steady flow of funds for the expansion of its work. He has provided us with an ever growing army of well-trained workers to proclaim the message. All this constitutes a mighty instrument to be used for the one and only purpose of carrying God's last message of mercy to a judgment-bound world. It is an instrument possessing great potentialities.

With such an instrument at our disposal are we making the impact upon the world that God expects of us? Are we using its latent powers to the full? If not, should we not seek to discover the reason, and that without delay?

In a large factory equipped with the very best modern machines it sometimes happens that the amount of goods produced is far short of what it should be. There may be different reasons for this. Perhaps there is unnecessary duplication of effort. There may be a loss of energy through false motion. Or it may be due to a lack of proper coordination of effort.

It is possible for these same defects to creep into a religious organization. We must make sure that they do not exist in ours. In this crucial hour we cannot afford to permit the existence of any such defect to retard the progress of God's work.

A Lack of Power

But even though equipment is perfect and organization flawless, it is possible for an establishment or a movement to fail to produce the desired results. One night several months ago I was standing with some brethren on the campus of our college at Medellín, Colombia. From our elevation in the foothills of the mountain range behind us

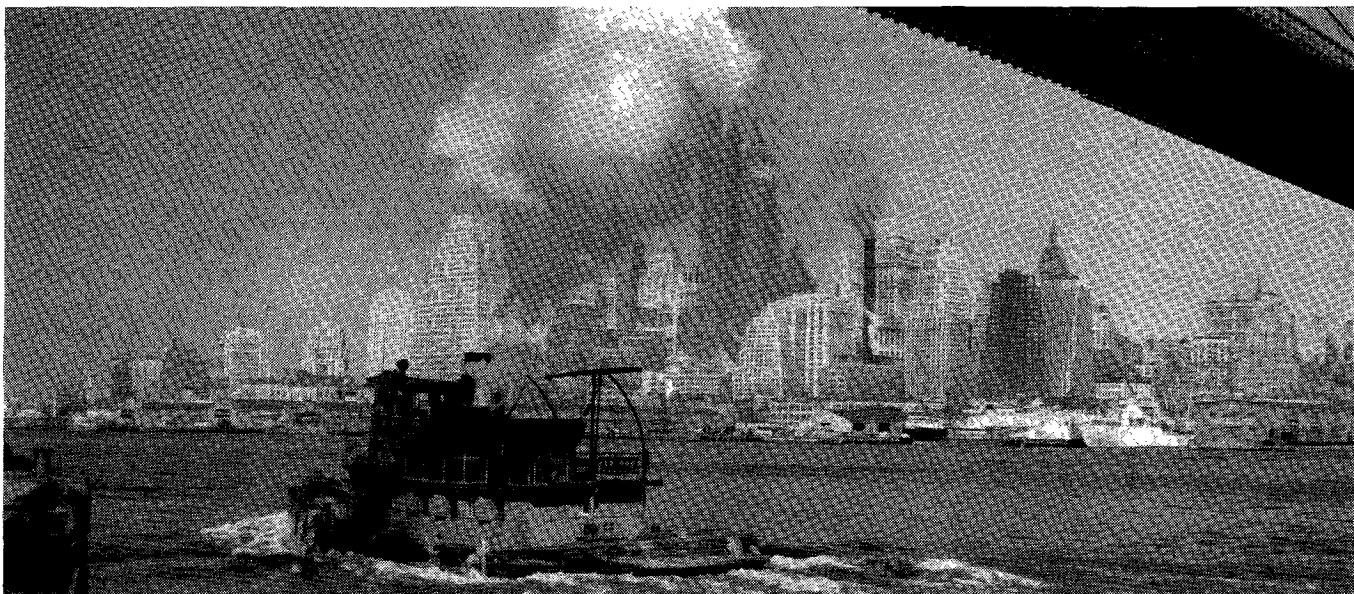
we looked out upon a gorgeous panorama. Covering the valley below us and running up the opposite mountainside lay the city of Medellín bathed in light that glittered from myriads of windows and street lamps, and flashed in various colors and shades from numberless commercial signs. Factories were humming, and traffic was moving through the streets in all directions. The whole city seemed to pulsate with life and energy.

Suddenly there was a great flash above the power station. Immediately most of the lights throughout the city went out. Traffic and other activities slowed down or stopped altogether. Something had happened to interfere with the free flow of electric current into the city. The result was a lack of power to maintain its lights and its industries in full operation.

If the Advent Movement is not making the impact upon the world that God expects of it, if it is not advancing as fast as it should, may not the fundamental reason for this be that there is a lack of power? Are we not all convinced that this is the case? Do not all of us sense this morning our need of more of the Spirit and power of God in our midst?

By this I do not mean to imply that we have been without divine power hitherto. Perish the thought! God has been with us. With the psalmist we can say, "The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad." Ps. 126:3. We must never forget the way the Lord has led us. We must not fail to recognize the way He has brought us forward from victory to victory. Though His people have been feeble and imperfect God has wrought wondrously through them.

But, though cognizant of all that God has done for us in the past, we must not overlook the important fact that had the church been more earnest, more



A. DEVANEY

This Sky Line of New York Was Taken Within Sight of the Statue of Liberty. The Evangelistic Call of This Great Metropolis and Other Great Cities of the World Should Challenge Our Best Effort

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devoted, more Christlike, more zealous, and more active, God could and would have bestowed upon His people a more abundant measure of His Spirit and power. It is this more abundant measure that we need and must have if we are to accomplish our task.

A new experience must come to the Advent Movement. We must catch a new and enlarged vision of the fields already white unto harvest. There must come to us a keener sense of the tremendous responsibility that rests upon us for a perishing world. Our hearts must be gripped and stirred as never before with a mighty conviction that we have been called of God to carry His last message of warning and salvation to the blood-bought millions of every land and clime. Our hearts must be moved with compassion as was the heart of Jesus when He beheld the multitudes as sheep without a shepherd. Something must lay hold of us, stir us into action, and galvanize our efforts into a mighty crusade for Christ. Our souls must be set on fire. Now, as in the experience of Jeremiah, the message must become a burning fire shut up in our bones so that we cannot keep still.

Influence of the Spirit Needed

Brethren and sisters, what we need and must have is the outpouring of the promised latter rain. Through His messenger the Lord has admonished us, "We can not depend upon form or external machinery. What we need is the quickening influence of the Holy Spirit of God." —*Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 512. Without it we can never finish our task.

This precious gift, which "brings all other blessings in its train," the Lord has promised again and again to His people, and He has assured them that it "awaits their demand and reception." —*The Desire of Ages*, p. 672. Jesus said, "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?" Luke 11:13.

The realization of this promise, the same as of all divine promises, is contingent upon our compliance with certain conditions. In that wonderful book *The Desire of Ages* we read:

"Christ has promised the gift of the Holy Spirit to His church, and the promise belongs to us as much as to the first disciples. But like every other promise, it is given on conditions. There are many who believe and profess to claim the Lord's promise; they talk about Christ and about the Holy Spirit, yet receive no benefit. They do not surrender the soul to be guided and controlled by the divine agencies. . . . They want to manage themselves. This is why they do not receive the heavenly gift. Only to those who wait humbly upon God, who watch for His guidance and grace, is the Spirit given."—Page 672.

This citation from the inspired pen reveals the reason why God cannot bestow a larger measure of the Holy

Spirit's power upon His remnant church. Too many of us are unwilling to "surrender the soul to be guided and controlled by divine agencies." Too many "want to manage themselves." Too many want to cling to the world, to indulge in its pleasures, and to conform to its standards. Many are so absorbed with the affairs of this life that they have little time or thought for God and the life to come. The family altar is neglected, and secret prayer is forgotten. Many are growing cold and indifferent. The world is creeping into the church. There is a lack of zeal and enthusiasm.

Before we can hope for the outpouring of the latter rain in all its fullness, a

Greetings From Australia

"To Delegates Assembled at the 1950 General Conference Session San Francisco

"BELOVED BRETHREN:

"We are nearing the end of the journey,

And lights of the Gloryland
Flash in prophetic splendor now.

The time has come to stand
Stronger for Heaven's message,
That carries life and love,
Calling the sons of earth to serve
The God who rules above.

"The wings of time grow weary
In moving through the years,
And scenes of earth grow darker
still,

Shadowed by sorrow tears.
God help you lift the standard
That calls for signal life,
And fits each heart to struggle on
Through closing scenes of strife.

"The message sent of Heaven
Must reach to every land
By faithful service given below
To God's supreme command.
Tell of the coming kingdom,
With courage from on high.
Remember, love is waiting now;
Eternity is nigh!

"With all kind wishes for
your success in this great
meeting,

"(Signed) ROBERT HARE."

change must take place. We must experience a revival in our midst. Through His messenger the Lord has told us:

"We need a thorough reformation in all our churches. The converting power of God must come into the church. Seek the Lord most earnestly, put away your sins, and tarry in Jerusalem till ye be endowed with power from on high. Let God set you apart to the work. Purify your souls by obeying the truth. Faith without works is dead. Put not off the day of preparation."—*Testimonies to Ministers*, p. 443.

Speaking to His remnant church through the prophet Joel, God calls for such a reformation. Hear His appeal:

"Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and

sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the Lord cometh, for it is nigh at hand." "Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning. . . . Sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach." Joel 2:1, 12-17.

This is a clarion call from Christ our Captain for His remnant people to move into line. It is an urgent appeal for us to cut loose from the world and to take our places under the blood-stained banner of Prince Emmanuel, our Lord and King. It is the trumpet call of Heaven for us to arise and finish our task.

When we heed this call the Lord will do wonders for us. Listen to His promise:

"Then will the Lord be jealous for his land, and pity his people. . . . Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice: for the Lord will do great things. . . . Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month." "And ye shall know I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the Lord your God and none else." "And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord hath said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call." Verses 18-23, 27, 32.

In visions of the night Sister White saw such a revival among us. Here are her words:

"I have been deeply impressed by scenes that have recently passed before me in the night season. There seemed to be a great movement—a work of revival—going forward in many places. Our people were moving into line, responding to God's call."—*Ibid.*, p. 515.

Brethren and sisters, is it not time for this revival to begin? Is it not time for us to move into line? God grant that such a revival may begin at this Mid-century General Conference session, and that from here it may spread to our churches around the world. Oh, that a new conviction may grip our hearts, that a holy enthusiasm may stir our souls, and that a rich and abundant measure of the Spirit and power of God may come upon us for the rapid consummation of our glorious task!

O remnant church of the living God, awake. "Awake, awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem." "Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." Isa. 52:1; 60:1.

Proceedings of the General Conference

Second Meeting

Forty-sixth Session, July 10-22, 1950

July 11, 1950, 10:00 A.M.

CHAIRMAN: L. K. Dickson.

HYMN: No. 137, "To God Be the Glory."

PRAYER: Taylor G. Bunch.

SPECIAL MUSIC: W. W. Fordham of Southwestern Union Conference sang "Keep Looking Up."

CHAIRMAN: I shall now call on the Secretary to read further messages to the session from our believers in other lands:

H. T. ELLIOTT: The first of these messages comes from one of our members, John Thompson, Chief Educational and Cultural Relations Officer of the U.S. High Commission in Berlin, who sent personal greetings.

From the Southern African Division, signed by Milton Robison:

"Southern African Division members and workers send greetings. May Holy Spirit guide, giving strength, wisdom, for perilous times just ahead."

Other messages from overseas were read as follows:

From the Zambesi Union:

"Zambesi Union Mission Executive Committee in session together with workers in field join in seeking richest blessing and spiritual outpouring upon all assembled in General Conference session."

The East African Union Mission:

"East African Union Mission prays God's richest blessing on the General Conference session and outpouring of His Spirit on all present."

The Natal-Transvaal Conference:

"We pray that the Lord will abundantly bless during the time of the forthcoming session to be held in San Francisco."

From Chaplain W. H. Bergherm and his family in Germany:

"On the eve of these important conferences we here in Germany are praying for divine guidance."

The Philippine Union Executive Committee:

"The prayers of the 32,000 faithful members in the Philippine Union are with our brethren at the opening of this 46th Session of the General Conference."

From Ceylon:

"Ceylon workers praying blessings upon conference assembled; Middle East Voice of Prophecy school inaugurated July 6" (a bit of progress for us). "Accept brotherly love, Christian greetings, as plans for quick finishing of God's work."

One of our veteran workers, E. E. Andross, is asking to be remembered in the following word of greeting:

"Greetings. Deeply regret being absent from this important session. Praying God guide all deliberations and

grant you divine wisdom and power for the unfinished task."

J. E. Rogers, who has been in Africa over fifty-six years, with only two furloughs, wants to be remembered, and prays for the success of the conference. He writes:

"I hope and fully believe God's leading hand will be in all your deliberations there. The world of Seventh-day Adventists will be praying for that great gathering."

Voted to send appropriate greetings in response.

CHAIRMAN: We are glad to hear from so many parts of the world, those whose eyes are turned here for the advance plans that shall be laid here for God's work.

Now we shall ask the secretary to bring to us the names of the Nominating Committee that were chosen last night by the different division delegations, and also the Committees on Distribution of Labor, Constitution and By-laws, Plans, Finance, Credentials and Licenses, and Seating of Additional Delegates.

E. D. DICK: The secretaries from the respective divisions have placed in my hands their appointments for the Committee on Nominations, as follows:

Nominating Committee

Australasia

W. E. Battye, G. Branster.

Central Europe

M. Budnick, A. Bürger, O. Gmehling, G. Seng.

China

Dr. Paul Lee, N. F. Brewer.

Far East

E. M. Adams, F. R. Millard, J. M. Nerness, R. S. Watts.

Inter-America

Vernon Berry, H. B. Lundquist, G. C. Nickle, R. W. Numbers, R. H. Pierson, H. J. Westphal.

North America

V. G. Anderson, C. L. Bauer, L. E. Biggs, L. H. Bland, M. V. Campbell, P. W. Christian, H. J. Detwiler, Geo. T. Harding, M.D., G. E. Hutches, L. E. Lenheim, R. H. Nightingale, D. A. Ochs, Don R. Rees, M. L. Rice, H. L. Rudy, C. A. Scriven, J. D. Smith, J. D. Snider, C. L. Torrey, J. W. Turner.

Northern Europe

P. G. Nelson, Aarne Rintala.

South America

A. Aeschlimann, R. Belz, L. H. Olson, Dr. C. C. Schneider.

Southern Africa

Dr. Donald Abbott, K. F. Ambs, E. D.

Hanson, H. W. Stevenson, P. Stevenson, W. R. Vail.

Southern Asia

R. L. Kimble, O. A. Skau.

Southern Europe

L. Beer, F. Charpiot, A. D. Gomes, J. C. Guenin, L. Schneebeauer.

Unattached Unions

British Union—E. B. Rudge.

Middle East Union—R. H. Hartwell.

South China Island Union—C. H. Davis.

West African Union—Wm. McClements.

E. D. DICK: Before the lists of the other committees are placed in your hands, I wish to make a statement regarding the Committee on Constitution and By-laws. Prior to the General Conference session, the officers of the General Conference and the officers of all the overseas divisions met in council for some days. At this time they gave rather critical study to the Constitution and By-laws of the General Conference. Not that there were any drastic changes involved, but rather to bring it into line with itself. Now, the study of a Constitution is a rather technical matter, and as I said, the brethren gave very careful and extensive study to this. As the result of that study they are making bold to bring to you a suggestion; that is, that the officers of the General Conference and the officers of all our overseas divisions should constitute the Committee on Constitution and By-laws, and I so move.

Motion duly voted.

Following is the list of the committees chosen by unanimous vote:

Seating of Additional Delegates

W. P. BRADLEY, *Chairman*
O. A. Blake, E. J. Johanson.

Credentials and Licenses

A. V. OLSON, *Chairman*.
N. W. DUNN, *Secretary*.

V. G. Anderson, F. R. Millard, M. L. Rice, E. B. Rudge, C. A. Scriven, A. F. Tarr, J. W. Turner.

Distribution of Labor

W. B. OCHS, *Chairman*
H. T. ELLIOTT, *Secretary*

E. M. Adams, Roger Altman, R. A. Anderson, V. G. Anderson, V. T. Armstrong, C. L. Bauer, W. R. Beach, O. A. Blake, C. W. Bozarth, W. P. Bradley, W. H. Branson, N. F. Brewer, W. A. Butler, M. V. Campbell, F. G. Clifford, H. H. Cobban, A. W. Cormack, E. S. Cubley, J. F. Cummins, C. H. Davis, E. D. Dick, L. K. Dickson, N. W. Dunn, R. R. Figuhr, E. E. Franklin, M. Fridlin, E. F. Hackman, L. B. Halliwell, A. L. Ham, Hsu Hwa, E. J. Johanson, Alf Karlman, G. D. King, L. E. Lenheim, David Lin, G. A. Lindsay, Wm. McClements, J. L. McElhany, Adolf Minck, L. L. Moffitt, F. A. Mote, Wm. Mueller, W. E. Murray, W. E. Nelson, J. J. Nethery, D. A. Ochs, A. V. Olson, G. E. Peters, K. J. Reynolds, M. L. Rice, J. I. Robison, E. E. Roenfelt, H. L. Rudy, Otto Schildbauer, C. A. Scriven, L. A. Skinner, J. D. Smith, C. P. Sorensen,

REVIEW AND HERALD

A. F. Tarr, J. W. Turner, Paul Wickman, R. A. Wilcox, W. H. Williams, N. C. Wilson, F. H. Yost.

Finance

W. E. NELSON, *Chairman*

ROGER ALTMAN, *Secretary*

G. E. Adair, R. H. Adair, A. Aeschlimann, I. Aguilar, C. V. Anderson, V. G. Anderson, K. F. Ambs, V. T. Armstrong, R. C. Baker, H. W. Barrows, W. E. Battye, C. L. Bauer, W. R. Beach, L. Beer, R. Belz, E. E. Bietz, L. E. Biggs, O. A. Blake, F. L. Bland, H. P. Bloum, H. M. Blunden, L. F. Bohner, R. Bongini, G. W. Bowers, C. B. Bozarth, W. P. Bradley, E. L. Branson, W. H. Branson, G. Brander, F. Brennwald, N. F. Brewer, R. D. Brion, S. Broberg, M. Budnick, C. M. Bunker, J. M. Bureaud, B. G. Butherus, D. C. Butherus, R. Butler, Glenn Calkins, M. V. Campbell, D. Carlson, H. G. Childs, T. C. Chin, C. D. Christensen, P. W. Christian, H. H. Cobban, A. W. Cormack, E. E. Cossentine, J. H. Craven, E. S. Cubley, J. F. Cummins, C. H. Davis, H. Davis, W. A. Dessain, E. D. Dick, L. K. Dickson, P. A. Donaldson, E. W. Dunbar, A. L. Edeburn, H. T. Elliott, W. P. Elliott, J. O. Emmerson, K. H. Emmerson, I. M. Evans, L. C. Evans, R. R. Figuhr, T. R. Flaiz, M.D., Stanley Folkenberg, C. O. Franz, P. Frivold, L. E. Froom, T. R. Gardner, O. T. Garner, R. Gerber, J. O. Gibson, P. Girard, O. Gmehling, E. L. Green, Frederick Griggs, J. C. Guenin, Gil de Guzman, E. F. Hackman, Leighton Hall, A. L. Ham, E. D. Hanson, R. H. Hartwell, H. D. Henriksen, L. N. Holm, Hsu Hwa, G. A. Huse, G. E. Hutches, F. Jochmans, B. O. Johanson, E. J. Johanson, A. W. Johnson, Werber Johnson, Alf Karlman, C. H. Kelly, H. C. Kephart, R. L. Kimble, G. D. King, N. Klein, H. C. Klement, E. H. Knauff, J. C. Kozel, J. Lankhorst, A. C. Larson, E. H. Larsson, C. H. Lauda, F. Lavanchy, L. E. Lenheim, S. J. Lee, D. Stockler de Lima, G. A. Lindsay, B. W. Loh, M.D., B. C. Marshall, Wm. McClements, J. L. McElhany, C. A. Miller, A. E. Millner, Adolf Minck, W. B. Mohr, E. A. Moon, H. A. Morrison, H. C. Morton, H. R. Murphy, C. J. Nagele, G. B. Nelson, H. S. Nelson, R. W. Nelson, W. A. Nelson, J. M. Nerness, J. J. Nethery, W. J. Newman, J. H. Nies, M. Nigri, D. A. Ochs, W. B. Ochs, A. V. Olson, L. H. Olson, T. L. Oswald, W. L. Pascoe, G. E. Peters, J. V. Peters, N. C. Petersen, F. L. Peterson, W. E. Phillips, E. L. Place, D. E. Rebok, Don R. Rees, J. J. Reiswig, Francisco Reyes, H. E. Rice, M. L. Rice, Andres Riffel, E. B. Rudge, H. L. Rudy, George Rue, M.D., G. Sablier, F. O. Sanders, O. Schildhauer, L. Schneebauer, H. E. Schneider, F. W. Schnepfer, B. Schunemann, C. A. Scriven, Toivo Seljavaara, G. Seng, H. A. Shepard, W. H. Shephard, J. C. Shull, O. A. Skau, J. D. Smith, A. R. Smouse, J. A. Stevens, P. Stevenson, W. Streithorst, K. Sturzenegger, R. Swenson, A. F. Tarr, W. H. Teesdale, F. S. Thompson, K. Tilstra, P. Tissot, J. W. Turner, Pak Chang Uk, T. E. Unruh, W. R. Vail, J. Van de Merwe, P. Van Oossanen, Max Voigt,

C. L. von Pohle, H. H. Votaw, J. Wagner, F. Y. Wang, M. M. Webster, P. L. Williams, W. H. Williams, N. C. Wilson, Neal Wilson, R. W. Woods, K. A. Wright.

Plans Committee

D. E. REBOK, *Chairman*

M. L. NEFF, *Secretary*

D. H. Abbott, M.D., R. A. Achata, J. J. Aitken, E. Almonte, Roger Altman, Wesley Amundsen, M. G. Anderson, R. A. Anderson, V. G. Anderson, M. L. Andreasen, G. J. Appel, J. Araujo, Fulton Archbold, V. T. Armstrong, W. W. Armstrong, N. S. Ashton, C. L. Bauer, W. R. Beach, Carl Becker, W. A. Bergherm, R. R. Bietz, L. H. Bland, C. L. Bond, J. W. Bothe, C. A. Boykin, C. W. Bozarth, W. H. Branson, R. R. Breitigam, N. F. Brewer, H. F. Brown, O. Brozio, J. A. Buckwalter, T. G. Bunch, R. G. Burchfield, A. Bürger, Lois Burnett, H. M. Burwell, F. F. Bush, W. A. Butler, G. A. Campbell, M. V. Campbell, H. J. Capman, E. A. Capobres, T. Carcich, G. Cavalcante, F. Charpiot, T. C. Chin, Caleb Chu, M.D., F. G. Clifford, H. H. Cobban, H. D. Colburn, J. B. Cooks, C. J. Coon, A. W. Cormack, C. M. Crawford, R. R. Cronk, C. G. Cross, J. C. Culpepper, J. F. Cummins, R. Dettmar, H. J. Detwiler, A. J. Dickey, L. K. Dickson, O. M. Dorland, N. R. Dower, N. W. Dunn, M. K. Eckenroth, A. V. Edwards, C. A. Edwards, J. E. Edwards, W. L. Emmerson, A. A. Esteb, L. E. Esteb, H. P. Evens, W. A. Fagal, G. R. Fattic, A. C. Fearing, E. Ferreira, R. R. Figuhr, R. E. Finney, Jr., R. D. Fleitas, A. H. Forbes, W. W. Fordham, T. M. Fountain, L. E. A. Fox, E. E. Franklin, Gertrude Geraty, P. G. Gerrard, J. G. Gjording, A. D. Gomes, C. E. Guenther, E. F. Hackman, E. E. Hagen, Louis Halswick, A. L. Ham, J. O. Hanson, F. E. J. Harder, Eric B. Hare, L. H. Hare, R. A. Hayden, J. D. Henriksen, M.D., A. Henriot, W. A. Higgins, W. B. Hill, Elizabeth Hiscox, M.D., S. S. Hiten, Alberta Hodde, W. A. Howe, B. E. Hurst, Hsu Hwa, Paul Hwang, M.D., J. J. Hyde, G. Isaiah, W. K. Ising, J. M. Jackson, E. J. Johanson, G. Eric Jones, C. S. Joyce, M. E. Kern, A. L. Kiesz, D. S. Kime, Louise Kleuser, J. S. Kootsey, M.D., Clarence C. Kott, H. E. Kotz, J. C. Kozel, Th. J. Kristensen, P. Lanares, J. H. Laurence, A. C. LeButt, Paul Lee, M.D., A. A. Leiske, L. E. Lenheim, P. L. Lewis, O. S. Lie, L. H. Lindbeck, G. A. Lindsay, M. E. Loewen, Alf Lohne, C. S. Longacre, E. J. Lorntz, W. C. Loveless, H. W. Lowe, T. E. Lucas, Meade MacGuire, G. A. S. Madgwick, M.D., A. Mamora, G. M. Mathews, D. A. McAdams, A. V. McClure, J. W. McFarland, M.D., J. L. McElhany, L. L. McKinley, A. Meyer, R. M. Milne, Adolf Minck, W. C. Mofett, B. J. Mondics, R. W. Moore, C. C. Morris, G. R. Nash, A. C. Nelson, H. R. Nelson, W. E. Nelson, R. A. Nesmith, J. J. Nethery, R. H. Nightingale, D. A. Ochs, W. B. Ochs, O. J. Olsen, A. V. Olson, E. R. Osmunson, G. E. Peters, H. Peverini, F. Pieringer, J. T. Porter, R. M. Rabello, A. M. Ragsdale, L. R. Rasmussen, W. E. Read, H. V. Reed,

L. L. Reile, M. L. Rice, R. E. Rice, W. J. Richards, W. R. Riston, J. I. Robison, E. E. Roenfelt, Sasa Rore, A. H. Roth, H. L. Rudy, R. Ruhling, A. Sachsenmeyer, G. H. Rustad, Myrtle Sather, S. Schmidt, C. C. Schneider, M.D., H. E. Schneider, Otto Schuberth, C. A. Scriven, E. Toral Seat, Ratu Semi, B. M. Senecal, T. R. Shen, D. K. Short, R. S. Shorter, H. L. Shull, M. W. Sickler, D. B. Simons, H. D. Singleton, L. A. Skinner, L. E. Smart, J. D. Smith, R. A. Smithwick, C. P. Sorensen, Don H. Spillman, G. S. Stevenson, Alvin Stewart, A. C. Stockhausen, J. J. Strahle, S. V. Stratford, W. E. Strickland, L. M. Stump, Carl Sundin, C. B. Sutton, F. E. Thompson, C. L. Torrey, O. A. Troy, A. K. Tulloch, M.D., J. W. Turner, T. S. Valen, George Vandeman, A. Varmer, A. Vaucher, D. E. Venden, F. J. Voorthuis, B. A. Walton, R. S. Watts, Samuel Weiss, R. H. Wentland, N. Wensell, R. M. Whitsett, Paul Wickman, R. J. Wieland, W. A. Wild, W. H. Williams, N. C. Wilson, O. D. Wright, T. Yamagata.

CHAIRMAN: Now we are very happy at this time to present E. D. Dick, our secretary, with his report for the quadrennial period. I am sure this will be a most interesting report.

[E. D. Dick then read his report, which appears on page 24.]

CHAIRMAN: We wish that it were possible to express ourselves regarding this fine report that we have just listened to from our secretary. We have a great deal to be thankful for in terms of what we have just heard. We rejoice because of the marked advance of God's work in our hands out over the earth, and I am sure that I am voicing your sentiments this morning when I say that Seventh-day Adventists are not satisfied with anything that has happened in the past. We take courage from the advancement which has been made and the evident omens that God's hand is upon the work, but we are looking forward. We are thinking in terms of final triumphs, and we are not measuring our achievements for the future with anything in the past. We are conscious that we have come to a time that demands something greater than we have yet seen anywhere in the church.

Now we are to be favored with a report from our treasurer, W. E. Nelson. [The treasurer then presented his report, which appears on page 28.]

CHAIRMAN: We shall now hear the auditor's statement.

[H. W. Barrows read the auditor's statement, which appears on page 34.]

The treasurer's report was then duly accepted by vote.

W. E. NELSON: Perhaps one statement should be made, and that is that all the required funds, such as operating and surplus and reserves, as provided by the Constitution, are on hand in funds in accordance with the constitutional requirements.

Meeting adjourned.

BENEDICTION: W. B. Ochs.

L. K. DICKSON, *Chairman.*

E. D. DICK, H. T. ELLIOTT, *Secretaries.*

The Secretary's Report

By E. D. DICK

"The Lord is coming! let this be
The herald note of jubilee;
And when we meet, and when we part,
The salutation from the heart."

THIS mid-century session of the General Conference finds the remnant church still pressing forward with her heaven-born task, in labors yet more abundant as she watches for her Lord's return.

A report of these four postwar years, in order to present the progress of the church, must also take notice of those world conditions which have formed the setting in which the work has been done. Never before have they been so significant.

Scarcely could the conditions which have prevailed be better described than in the opening paragraphs of *Testimonies*, vol. 9, which were addressed to the church by the messenger of the Lord many years ago. Every sentence seems designed to fit the hour to which we have come. I quote:

"We are living in the time of the end. The fast-fulfilling signs of the times declare that the coming of Christ is near at hand. The days in which we live are solemn and important. The Spirit of God is gradually but surely being withdrawn from the earth. Plagues and judgments are already falling upon the despisers of the grace of God's love. The calamities by land and sea, the unsettled state of society, the alarms of war, are portentous. They forecast approaching events of the greatest magnitude.

"The agencies of evil are combining their forces, and consolidating. They are strengthening for the last great crisis. Great changes are soon to take place in our world, and the final movements will be rapid ones.

"The condition of things in the world shows that troublous times are right upon us. The daily papers are full of indications of a terrible conflict in the near future. Bold robberies are of frequent occurrence. Strikes are common. Thefts and murders are committed on every hand. Men possessed of demons are taking the lives of men, women, and little children. Men have become infatuated with vice, and every species of evil prevails.

"The enemy has succeeded in perverting justice and in filling men's hearts with the desire for selfish gain. Justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity can not enter." Isa. 59:14."—Pages 11, 12.

The Tragedy of War and Hunger

The years of war and those which followed have brought catastrophes and terrors little dreamed of as possible in civilized lands—mass exterminations in which millions have gone to their death in gas chambers; executions in other forms; mass evacuations in which the

population of whole nations have been ejected from their homes to wander helpless and unwanted in strange lands, seeking shelter without primary elements of life; mass starvation in which it is estimated from forty to sixty million in one country alone have perished for the sheer lack of food.

These desperate conditions mark the past. The future offers no promise of improvement. International tensions due to conflicting ideologies again threaten to plunge the world into another catastrophic struggle which, because of new discoveries and developments of more destructive instruments and methods of



E. D. Dick

warfare, bid fair to blot civilization from the earth.

Against these alarms of war and the rising tides of evil, seen in the political, economic, and social world, no human power is able to stand. The world is being swept on to its final destruction.

The message of the second coming of Christ, of salvation through acceptance of Jesus, provides the only shelter from the storm soon to break with increased fury upon the earth. To bring this message to the world is the work of the church. This is our work. It is for this cause that we have been called out and sent forth. The opposing forces of evil, which seek to retard and thwart us, should but bring new courage, for we have long been told, "The street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times" (Dan. 9:25); and that there was coming upon the earth a "time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation" (Dan. 12:1). We are in these times now, and yet, although the four years covered in this

report brought us a full quota of problems, they have also been marked by substantial progress and rich blessings.

In Memoriam

Before entering upon the details of this report I feel we should pause to honor the memory of some who have been called to their rest since our last session—some from their post of active duty; others in the eventide of life after many years of rich, full service in the Master's vineyard. I cannot in this brief report recall all who deserve mention. I select only a few.

From the ranks of our General Conference workers: L. H. Christian, general field secretary, long-time leader of our work in the European and Northern European divisions, and our beloved office worker of the General Conference, Chester Rogers, were called to lay down their lives.

We likewise sustained losses of missionaries while in active service on the field: Dr. H. T. Pitman, physician in charge of Chulumani Hospital, Bolivia; E. N. Lugenbeal, superintendent of the Inca Union Mission, South America; M. F. Seitz, manager of the Dar el Salaam Hospital, Baghdad, Iraq; C. W. Robbins, departmental secretary of the West Pakistan Union; C. A. Schutt, educational and Missionary Volunteer secretary of the Southern Asia Division; Mr. and Mrs. Rye Andersen, leader of our relief work in Poland; G. A. Lewis, missionary in East and South Africa; and Norris L. Manous, teacher, Chile college.

During the same period many of our veteran workers who helped lay the foundations of our work in the homeland of the message and in fields abroad have been called to their rest. Again we can select only a few from among the many equally deserving mention. The names with the countries and areas of service in which they made an effective contribution are given:

A. W. Anderson	Australia
A. C. Christensen	Denmark
J. Wintzen	Holland
W. T. Bartlett	England and East Africa
Philip Giddings	British Guiana, Haiti
H. A. Oberg	Korea
H. F. Benson	Japan
R. B. Thurber	Burma, India
F. A. Allum	China, Australia
A. R. Ogden	Inter-America
D. E. Delhove	Central America
C. E. Wood	Mexico
D. U. Hale	South America, West Africa
J. H. Krum	Palestine
A. T. Robinson	South Africa
D. F. Tarr	South Africa
G. F. Watson	America
J. W. Westphal	South America
H. D. Casebeer	South America
T. M. French	Africa
J. B. Johnson	Publishing work, South America
Arthur Warren	South America, England
M. E. Cady	Educator, America
F. M. Burg	Bible teacher, America
O. O. Farnsworth	England, Ireland
H. F. Graf	Brazil
A. G. Minchin	New Zealand, Australia
G. W. Wells	America
W. B. White	South Africa
D. D. Rees	Work for the blind, America
A. J. Haysmer	Jamaica
G. S. Fischer	Australia
F. C. Gilbert	Work for the Jews, America
W. H. Wakeham	Egypt, England
W. J. Westerman	Australia
N. P. Nielsen	South America
P. E. Berthelsen	Denmark
K. Kaltenhauser	East Africa, Brazil
J. H. Schilling	Germany
Doctors	
P. T. Magan	George Thomason
H. A. Green	J. D. Shiveley
Ida Nelson	R. L. Runk
Alfred Shryock	

These all have made broad and abiding contributions to our work in many parts of the world field. They have laid well the foundations upon which others have built. Indeed their works do follow them. We cherish their memory.

Rehabilitation

During the war years our work suffered much in many countries. Our foreign missionary personnel was withdrawn from the lands scourged by war, church buildings were destroyed or requisitioned for military purposes, and our members were widely scattered. Schools and medical institutions were taken over and badly damaged by abusive use. Publishing houses were destroyed, and the equipment was carried away.

The postwar years were years of recovery, restoration, reconstruction, rehabilitation, and advance. As the way opened after the war our leaders were sent back to their fields. It was their first duty to find the members, recover the church buildings, and reorganize the churches. They likewise set out to reconstruct and rehabilitate our institutions and restaff the fields. This required a vast outlay of money.

Fortunately during the war years, in anticipation of the time to come when we might return to our mission plants, substantial sums of money were raised in rehabilitation offerings and held for the time when we could rebuild our work.

This proved to be an unmeasured blessing. In most places, except for yet-needed church buildings, our institutions and mission personnel have been rehabilitated, and the work is moving forward with increasing success.

Because of the extent of the destruction, the continuing difficult economic conditions, and the rapid increase in membership we yet have great need of meeting places in Central Europe. That division is to be commended, however, for the fact that since the close of the war it has made great strides in providing suitable places of worship. By December 30, 1949, they had repaired 82 church buildings, reconstructed 35, and erected 8 barracks for places of worship. Thus a total of 125 meeting places have been provided in Germany alone since the war. Besides these they have reconstructed and repaired 23 office and administrative buildings.

In China, because of changed political conditions after rehabilitating our institutions and general work, it has been necessary to withdraw our foreign personnel. This has been a disappointment, but the work has been left in the hands of strong, trusted national leaders, who will, we believe, push forward the work just as fast as conditions will permit. Although the future of our work in this area from a human viewpoint is difficult and uncertain, we can but trust the overruling hand of God to care for His people and prosper His work even in these most difficult conditions.

For many years, and particularly during the postwar years, we have been interested to learn more about our work in Russia. We have had no official post-

war contacts with our brethren there. We have sought, however, to piece together reports which have come to us through Adventist soldiers who were in Russia during the war and from prisoners of war who have been in Russia since the war. Their reports are naturally fragmentary, for they, as soldiers or prisoners, had little opportunity for contacts with the populace. From these, however, we have reason to believe that though religious activity may be suppressed, yet there are perhaps many, many thousands who know of this message and cherish in their hearts the hope of the second coming of Christ.

Remembering the purpose of God as revealed in the dispersal of His people in the destruction of Jerusalem as stated in the *Acts of the Apostles*, page 105, "To scatter His representatives abroad, where they could work for others, God permitted persecution to come upon them," we believe there are many who have held aloft the light of truth in that land.

It is true now, as in ages past, that "the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church." Through past decades a large number of our faithful leaders were banished to Siberia. During the war many of our believers from the Baltic states were taken away to the East. In the postwar years many, many others have been removed from their homes in the Baltic states and have been carried away to unknown areas in Russia. We believe that many, if not all, of our believers have remained true—that they have not hidden their light under a bushel or surrendered the faith once delivered to the saints.

Adventist Activities Reported

Our reason for this rests in the fact that not infrequent interviews with returning soldiers and prisoners of war and contacts with the occupying forces of eastern Germany tell us of Adventist believers and groups over a wide area in Russia. One reports: "In my village at least 75 per cent of the population are Adventists, and in many villages up to 50 per cent. Many are being baptized. They are loosely organized. It is practically impossible to effect any kind of organization." Truly God yet "moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform." And we believe that God is yet working on the hearts of men and women even behind the iron curtain to a degree which we do well to consider when we think of the unfinished task and the promise of His coming in an hour when we think not.

And now to the work in the favored lands—lands not touched by oppression and war. God has richly blessed His work. Marvelous indeed are the strides of this message, as will be revealed by the reports which shall be brought to us at this meeting by the division leaders and departmental secretaries. I must not encroach upon these reports, but trust I may be pardoned for listing a few of the high lights.

The report from the Sabbath School Department, whose primary interest is the promotion of our Sabbath schools—

which truly belt the globe—leads off with this thrilling statement, "The Sabbath school work made the greatest advancement in all its history during the past quadrennial period," and then proceeds to support this comprehensive statement by telling us that during this time they have had a gain of 1,608 Sabbath schools. This represents a gain in membership of 201,392. This means that a new Sabbath school of 138 members was organized each and every day of the 1,461 days of the quadrennial period. Truly this is marvelous, is it not?

Our Publishing Department leadership will tell us that in the first 90 years of the denomination's history; that is, from 1846 to 1935, our literature sales amounted to \$104,156,000. In the fourteen years since 1935 our literature sales were well-nigh double the sales of the first 90 years. These amounted to \$205,368,206. During the past quadrennium our literature sales have reached the astounding figure of \$45,040,276, or just over \$11,000,000 a year.

These figures are rivaled if not exceeded by those which the Home Missionary Department will bring to us such as—Every week in the past quadrennium the church through its missionary agencies distributed a million copies of literature. Yes, a million a week! And, too, that the Ingathering effort since its beginning has brought into the treasury \$49,572,022. During the past four years under review \$14,572,022 have been received. What a mighty tide of blessings in financial returns alone have accrued through this simple plan which was begun in faith so many years ago.

Our Radio Department will bring a stirring report. In the few short years of broadcasting the message we have extended our coverage until now we are broadcasting weekly on 800 stations throughout the world field, while the handmaiden of radio, the Bible correspondence schools of the world field, enjoy current enrollment estimated at approximately 800,000 students.

The relief program carried on for the purpose of supplying food and clothing for the members and friends of the church in lands devastated by war has resulted in bringing succor and comfort to thousands. This will be reported in full in a meeting dedicated to relief. Besides bringing material blessings to those in need, it has brought spiritual blessings and courage and cheer to the hearts of many who were on the brink of despair.

Advance Moves in Reorganization

During the years covered by this report advance moves in reorganization and promotion have taken shape. Our work in Australasia has been reorganized after the order of a regular division. It now operates under the name of the Australasian Inter-Union Conference. Two union conferences and two union missions administer the work in that far-flung area.

Our Northern European Division has

been reconstituted on a provisional basis. Its home field includes the territory of the former Northern European Division except the Baltic states and the British Isles. Ethiopia and Eritrea have been assigned to this division.

The horizons of service by the youth are being broadened by the Missionary Volunteer Department. The nationwide Youth's Congress held in this auditorium in 1947 inspired in the hearts of thousands of youth throughout the land a desire to witness more positively for Christ. The spirit of this congress as crystallized in their slogan, "Share Your Faith," through personal, public, and colporteur evangelism, has been caught up by the youth of other lands. Since that inspiring meeting held here similar congresses have been held in each union conference in North America, and many of the local conferences, as well as in Australasia, the Far East, Inter-America, South America, Southern Africa, Southern Europe, Northern Europe, and the British Union, where thousands of youth have caught the vision of the place they may fill in the finishing of the work.

The service of the Theological Seminary has been extended to our overseas divisions. A field school of evangelism was conducted for the workers of Great Britain in the summer of 1948, and a similar extension school for the workers of our South American Division in Argentina during the past summer. This service is meeting a real need and is greatly appreciated.

The American and International Temperance associations have been greatly strengthened, and their service and activity have been extended. Their new publication, *Listen*, a well-edited and illustrated magazine strongly supporting the objectives of the association, the outstanding publication in the field of temperance, has been well received by our own people as well as by non-Adventist temperance organizations.

As we close this quadrennium we find our lines have gone out to the far ends of the earth. We are now carrying on work in 228 of the 282 populated land areas of the world, printing our literature in 195 languages, and working in 511 other languages. Surely this well fulfills the prophecy, "It shall come to pass, that in the place where it was said unto them, Ye are not my people; there shall they be called the children of the living God." Rom. 9:26. More direct evidence of the fulfillment of this cheering prophecy will be brought to us in the days of this great conference.

The supreme purpose of all our denominational activity is the winning of souls. The success, therefore, of our total effort is reflected by the number of baptisms and by our gain in church members. Let us turn first to our baptisms. During this quadrennium 233,166 persons were baptized throughout the world field. This is truly a large number. The figures show increasingly larger results with each succeeding year.

1946	49,337
1947	54,715
1948	63,014

1949	66,100
Total	233,166

The results by divisions and our unattached unions are shown in the accompanying table, and are worthy of careful consideration.

BAPTISMS BY DIVISIONS AND UNATTACHED UNIONS, 1946-1949

Division	1946	1947	1948	1949	Total for Quadrennium
Australasian Division	804	1,915	1,905	2,137	6,761
Central European Division	2,330	4,638	5,175	2,848	14,991
China Division	1,590	1,544	2,472	2,415	8,021
Far Eastern Division	3,739	4,204	5,870	6,370	20,183
Inter-American Division	6,927	6,585	6,729	8,046	28,307
North American Division	14,125	14,455	14,821	14,807	58,208
Northern European Division	1,284	1,239	1,404	1,341	5,328
South American Division	3,069	3,844	5,000	5,117	17,030
Southern African Division	5,379	6,602	8,585	11,732	32,498
Southern Asia Division	959	940	1,189	793	3,881
Southern European Division	7,319	7,661	8,532	8,936	32,448
Unattached Unions:					
Middle East Union Mission	123	138	152	168	581
West African Union Mission	793	1,120	836	1,050	3,819
British Union Conference	276	170	324	340	1,110
Total	49,337	54,715	63,014	66,100	233,166

Though the number baptized is a source of interest and encouragement, the record of church membership is of even greater significance and satisfaction. The world membership at the close of 1945 as reported at the last General Conference session stood at 576,378. Our membership at the close of 1949 was 716,538. This is a gain of 140,160, or a 24.3 per cent gain for the four years.

This gain of 140,160 is approximately equal to the entire membership of the church at the close of 1916, or after the first 62 years of our history.

I also submit a further exhibit showing the net gain in membership and percentage gains during the past four years by divisions and unattached unions.

Let me call your attention to the growth in membership by 100,000. The record stands as follows:

1st 100,000	65 years
2d 100,000	13 years
3d 100,000	7 years
4th 100,000	5 years
5th 100,000	6 years
6th 100,000	6 years
7th 100,000	3 years

During the past four years adherents were received into church membership at the rate of 100,000 in two years and forty-four weeks. Surely this is reason for deep gratitude. We recognize, however, that numbers do not constitute the full measuring rod of success in

MEMBERSHIP BY DIVISIONS AND UNATTACHED UNIONS, 1945 AND 1949, WITH PERCENTAGE INCREASES SHOWN

Division	Close 1945	Close 1949	Increase	Per Cent Increase
Australasian Division	22,930	26,983	4,053	17.7
Central European Division	38,039	43,570	5,531	14.5
China Division	22,940	23,415	475	2.1
Far Eastern Division	36,052	47,515	11,463	31.8
Inter-American Division	54,503	71,784	17,281	31.7
North American Division	212,514	243,193	30,679	14.4
Northern European Division	25,422	21,764*	(3,658*)	(14.4*)
South American Division	41,284	52,982	11,698	28.3
Southern African Division	46,460	70,190	23,730	51.1
Southern Asia Division	8,133	10,373	2,240	27.5
Southern European Division	38,005	66,873	28,868	76.0
Unattached Unions	8,485	16,285	7,800†	92.0†
Baltic Union Conference	5,098	5,098	-----	-----
U.S.S.R. (estimated)	16,513	16,513	-----	-----

* Total 576,378 716,538 140,160 24.3%
* Decrease due to transfer of territory (British Union)

† Increase largely due to transfer of territory (British Union)

Not desiring to weary you with too many figures, I present but one more exhibit. This compares the growth in membership during the past quadrennium with previous quadrenniums in the home fields, the overseas fields, and the world field during the past twenty years.

MEMBERSHIP BY FOUR-YEAR PERIODS, 1929-1949

Year	NORTH AMERICA Total	Gain in Membership	Per Cent Gain	OVER-SEAS Total	Gain in Membership	Per Cent Gain	WORLD SHIP	Gain in Membership	Per Cent Gain
1929	117,771			181,784			299,555		
1933	143,777	26,006	22.1	240,374	58,590	32.2	384,151	84,596	28.2
1937	164,490	20,713	14.4	288,268	47,894	19.9	452,758	68,607	17.9
1941	191,333	26,843	16.3	329,311	41,043	14.2	520,644	67,886	15.0
1945	212,514	21,181	11.1	363,864	34,553	10.5	576,378	55,734	10.7
1949	243,193	30,679	14.4	473,345	109,481	30.1	716,538	140,160	24.3

This reveals a number of cheering features. The growth in membership during the past four years in North

ress in spiritual experience. He looks for the principles of love and goodness. Not all the beauty of art can bear

comparison with the beauty of temper and character to be revealed in those who are Christ's representatives.

"A congregation may be the poorest in the land. It may be without the attractions of any outward show; but if the members possess the principles of the character of Christ, angels will unite with them in their worship. The praise and thanksgiving from grateful hearts will ascend to God as a sweet oblation."—*Prophets and Kings*, pp. 565, 566.

This is the true measure of development and progress.

During the years of war, owing to hazards and restrictions in travel, only a few visits were made by our headquarters staff to our overseas divisions except to the South American and Inter-American divisions. With the return of more normal conditions and the improved facilities of travel by air, and because of the need of counsel from the General Conference on the many problems of rehabilitation of the work as well as the upbuilding of the spiritual interests of our believers, heavy demands have been made by our overseas divisions for visitation by the General Conference workers. Probably these are somewhat abnormal, though it is in the interests of the fields and reflects the desire of the General Conference to help the outlying divisions in every way possible. During the past quadrennium not less than 285 visits have been made by our General Conference workers to our overseas fields.

Because of war conditions many of our missionaries were withdrawn from their fields. The work of rehabilitation includes the restaffing of the fields with workers as well as replacing destroyed buildings.

New Missionary Appointees

The number of new missionary appointees sent out during the past four years has exceeded by far the number sent out in any like period.

The total number of new appointees for this period from all sending fields is 1,235 (husband and wife counted separately). The number for each year is as follows:

1946	370
1947	359
1948	267
1949	239
Total	1,235

It will be of interest to note that of the six highest years of missionary sailings (new appointees) in our history, four of these fall within this quadrennium. The six years of our largest missionary sailings rank as follows:

1946	370
1947	359
1920	310
1948	267
1949	239
1926	216

The significance of these figures will best be seen when compared with the number of new appointees sent out in previous quadrenniums:

1918-21	718
1922-25	562
1926-29	714
1930-33	413
1934-37	463
1938-41	443
1942-45	441
1946-49	1,235

Whence come this group of stalwarts who left their homelands and like Abraham of old went forth "not knowing whither" he went? They hail from the following homelands:

	1946	1947	1948	1949	Total
Australasia	48	22	30	40	140
British Union	....	17	5	18	66
Central Europe	....	....	....	2	2
Northern Europe	10	16	7	6	39
South America	9	5	7	1	22
Southern Africa	14	16	25	16	71
Southern Europe	14	21	15	33	83
North America	249	262	178	123	813
Total	370	359	267	239	1,235

Workers Need Our Prayers

Many of these workers have laid down heavy responsibilities in the homelands to go out to the ends of the earth to face difficult climates, isolation, and meager facilities of labor. Others are young workers with little experience. They face conditions which try the souls of seasoned workers. They need our prayers and continued moral and financial support. We cannot fail them, and we will not.

Before leaving the thought of this fine group who are our representatives in the far places of the earth, I should like to thank the leadership of the home fields for opening the way for calls for foreign service to be placed with their workers, and also for helping to place workers who for one reason or another have not been able to continue in foreign service and have been compelled to return home. This close cooperation is sincerely appreciated.

It is regretted that on account of political disturbances it has been necessary to withdraw most of our missionaries from China. Some of these have been reassigned to other divisions, and others have had to return home.

As I close this summary of our work of the past four years there comes to me a renewed and deepened, heaven-born conviction that God has been with His people; that enfeebled and defective as the church may be, it is the only object on earth on which He bestows His supreme regard. It is His agency for the salvation of men, and through us the gospel is to be carried to the world.

Through us shall be reflected to the world His fullness and His sufficiency. Through His mercy and by His grace we have accomplished much. Our lines have gone out to the ends of the earth. In humility and gratitude we thank Him for His manifold blessings.

We are made conscious, however, that there lies before us a great, unfinished task. This calls for the unre-served dedication of our lives, our talents, our treasures, and our all. Viewed from a purely human viewpoint, the prospect is not cheering. But we are not called upon to do the work alone. In His strength and by His might will the work be finished. He

"will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness," we are assured. Rom. 9:28. Of the closing work it is written: "The work will be similar to that of the day of Pentecost. . . . Servants of God, with their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, will hasten from place to place to proclaim the message from heaven. By thousands of voices, all over the earth, the warning will be given."—*The Great Controversy*, pp. 611, 612.

"Surely I come quickly" was the final message given the aging apostle John on Patmos as the vision of heavenly glory faded from his enraptured eyes. Centuries have gone since he laid down the pen, but today this word of assurance holds a more vital meaning than ever before. Far from Jerusalem, Judea, and Asia Minor the church of God, like a mighty army, has moved to every nation. The mighty angel standing on land and sea has sworn with uplifted hand that time shall be no longer.

"The signs foretold in the sun and moon,

In earth and sea and sky,

Aloud proclaim to all mankind,

The coming of the Master draweth nigh."

Finishing the Work Quickly

Surely and swiftly will the work be done. "The bright light going among the living creatures with the swiftness of lightning," we are told, "represents the speed with which this work will finally go forward to completion."—*Testimonies*, vol. 5, p. 754.

Thank God for the opportunities and privileges of this hour. Let us not be dismayed by the magnitude of the task remaining. The threshold of heaven is flooded with the glory proceeding from the throne of God, and this light will fall directly on every faithful messenger of the cross until the good tidings of a soon-coming Lord have sounded in every ear.

"Sweet promise,—'I will come again;

Go preach this gospel to all men;'

'Come quickly, Lord,' my soul doth say,

'And bring that happy day.'"

It is a threefold promise which cheers our hearts and urges us on, the promise of power for witnessing unto the uttermost part of the earth, the promise that the gospel shall be preached in all the world, and that last promise of all, "Surely I come quickly."

As we contemplate the motto of this grand conference, may the prayer and determination of our hearts be as expressed in the hymn of Samuel F. Smith:

"Blest river of salvation,

Pursue thy onward way;

Flow thou to every nation,

Nor in thy richness stay—

Stay not till all the lowly,

Triumphant reach their home;

Stay not till all the holy

Proclaim, 'The Lord is come!'"

The Treasurer's Report

By W. E. NELSON

GOD'S care for the financial needs of His work has ever been very apparent; as the work has expanded the funds have increased. The liberality of God's people has met the demands of the expanding work. Whenever new adherents have joined the Advent believers there has been born in them a love for extending the influence of the message of salvation. This love is manifested in having a part in the support of God's cause. Giving to God is an act of worship. All true disciples of Christ will always endeavor to do their part in bringing the gospel to those in darkness.

God's plan for the support of His kingdom on earth is plain and simple. The paying of tithe and the giving of offerings have been a part of the Advent Movement since the early days of its rise. The vitality of the Advent Movement is in a large measure due to the following of this plan for the support of the gospel.

The past quadrennium has been filled with many problems. During the war it was not possible to keep up the normal program of building and improvements and the expanding of our physical plants. After the war a survey of our medical, educational, and publishing institutions, with their equipment, has shown the need of renewal, enlargement, and improvement.

Problem of School Housing

Our educational institutions including secondary schools and colleges were in need of major repairs. The enrollment in our colleges has increased 130 per cent. This presented a serious problem to the college boards. Housing for students had to be more than doubled, additional classrooms provided, and available housing for teachers secured. Library and laboratory facilities for maintaining accrediting with associations also needed to be increased.

Strict building codes in cities and States have been adopted. Buildings thought to be proper thirty to sixty years ago are not permitted to be constructed; in fact, experience has proved that many of these buildings are unsafe for school purposes. Building costs have increased from two to four times. It was thus found necessary to increase the physical plants of our colleges by more than 100 per cent. The same situation prevailed in our secondary schools.

With all these factors facing the school board, a great expansion and building program has been necessary, involving an investment of several million dollars. Several new academies have been erected in the United States and in a number of our overseas divisions. The providing of these facilities has surely been a world task. Our school enrollment in all grades throughout the world has risen to 180,121, an increase of 70 per cent.

In some of our overseas divisions the Rehabilitation Fund has been able to provide some of the money needed to reconstruct buildings and replace equipment that was destroyed during the war. The major part of the Rehabilitation Fund has now been expended. The blessings that have come to our world work are hard to visualize. Publishing houses, hospitals, churches, and schools have been rebuilt. The total funds raised for this rehabilitation work amount to \$7,535,505.78.

Our three major publishing houses in the United States have been improved



W. E. Nelson

and enlarged to meet the gigantic increase in the demands for our literature. At one of these publishing houses it has been necessary to practically rebuild the entire plant. In addition to financing their own improvements and enlargements, these publishing houses have provided funds for the rebuilding of our publishing houses in Shanghai, Manila, and Singapore, and have contributed substantially to publishing houses in other divisions. The total amount contributed by these publishing houses for these purposes amounted to \$531,266.79.

The College of Medical Evangelists has been improving and enlarging its facilities at Loma Linda, and has endeavored to keep the buildings of the Los Angeles division in repair. But most of these buildings are inadequate. It has also been found necessary to increase the teaching facilities of the college.

The board of directors of the medical college gave careful study to meeting the situation at the Los Angeles division, and a number of plans were presented.

Two plans developed that received serious consideration. One was the development of the needed facilities at the present location at Boyle Heights; and second, a tract of land of about one hundred acres was for sale, which is known as the Ramona property in Alhambra, California.

This is a desirable piece of land about three miles from the Los Angeles County Hospital, whose facilities are used in the clinical years of the medical college. After a careful survey it was found that it would cost almost as much to develop the old plant at Boyle Heights to meet the demands of the present standards as it would to construct a new plant on the Ramona site.

College and Medical School Development

At the last Autumn Council final approval was given to the development of the Los Angeles Division of the College of Medical Evangelists on the Ramona site, the total estimated cost being \$5,606,113.00; and the present five-year financial plan, of which four years are now in the past, was expanded to include four additional years.

In order to bring this about the conferences and the alumni of the medical college will need to cooperate fully in the raising of these funds. On December 31, 1949, the General Conference had in trust \$845,192.70, contributed by the General, union, and local conferences and the sanitariums in North America. Plans are being perfected for the new buildings and campus to be constructed.

Sanitarium Rebuilding

Most of the existing sanitariums were built from forty to seventy years ago. By today's required standards many buildings of these institutions are considered unsafe for medical patients. Above five years ago a careful survey was made of these institutions, and all except the Glendale and Porter institutions were found to be in absolute need of remodeling or rebuilding. When this program is completed it will cost somewhere between five and six million dollars. A number of the medical institutions have already begun this work.

The Florida Sanitarium has been largely completed. The Portland, Saint Helena, and Washington sanitariums are nearing completion. The other institutions are seeking to provide additional funds before proceeding with their rebuilding.

Our denomination with its strong health program is required to conduct schools of nursing, and the requirement standards for these schools have also increased. I shall deal with only one, and that is the size of the medical institution. There must be one hundred or more beds with an average of one hundred patients; and even with this size hospital some of the teaching services cannot be provided, and the student nurses have to be sent to other institutions. It is very desirable from our standpoint that our student nurses be kept under Christian influences in our schools as much as possible, and the affiliation

with other institutions be held at a minimum. The total cost of reconstruction of these institutions will be very large.

Problem of Church Housing

Another requirement that has been facing this denomination during the past ten years is our church housing. With an increased membership in less than ten years of 230,000, and with our churches well filled ten years ago, there needs to be provided church housing for 230,000 additional members. This shortage of churches is not confined to one division but obtains all over the world. In the large cities it is quite impossible for the church membership to provide land and buildings. Help must be secured from the conferences. The cost of church buildings in Europe and in the larger cities of other countries is very great indeed.

The cost of church building sites is extremely high. In the United States the cost of church buildings of more than two hundred capacity is between \$225 and \$325 a seat where adequate Sabbath school rooms are also provided. I would recommend that some added provision beyond our present church extension plan be provided.

Mission Funds

The faithfulness of our members in all the world has been very encouraging. During the past four years our funds for mission work have been the largest in our history. The total receipts in mission offerings in North America are \$7,316,598.31; per cent of tithe (varying 1 to 20 per cent according to conference), \$5,784,614.14; miscellaneous income, \$321,996.59; overseas mission offerings, \$3,028,617.20; and overseas one per cent tithe, \$67,068.96.

Our Famine Relief offerings have been very liberal; a total of \$2,805,370.96 has been received from 1946 to 1949 from the whole world field. This does not include the many thousands of packages of food and clothing that have been sent by our members to our needy brethren and sisters in all parts of the world.

The Sabbath schools have been a large factor in the gathering of money for our mission program. The total receipts for the past four years amounted to \$17,729,805.96. The second greatest source of our mission funds has been the Ingathering. The past four-year record is \$14,572,022.09. Of this amount more than half has been used for our foreign mission program; the other half has been used in home work, such as relief work, schools, hospitals, and church buildings. Our second Sabbath offerings to missions totaled \$52,130.75.

The total of all mission offerings amounted to \$38,398,283.46; miscellaneous income was \$1,482,282.59; the tithe receipts of the General Conference amounted to \$15,337,180.00. These give a grand total of receipts of the General Conference for our mission work of \$55,217,746.05.

The Sustentation Fund

The Sustentation Fund is continuing to prove a great blessing to our workers

who have become incapacitated by age or disease. At the beginning of the quadrennium there were 1,324 beneficiaries of the fund, and by the end of 1949 the number had increased to 1,562, an increase of 238. For the year 1945 our disbursements to beneficiaries totaled \$1,081,845.04; and for the year 1949, \$1,801,973.82, an increase of \$720,128.78.

The increase in disbursements has been caused not only by the fact that we have a larger number of beneficiaries but also by the fact that we have increased the allowances of beneficiaries. In 1946 the maximum rate for beneficiaries with 40 or more years of service was \$103.50. This has now been increased to \$133.75, with corresponding increases for those with less than the maximum period of service. Child allowances have been increased from \$10 to \$15 a month, and the maximum monthly medical allowance has been increased from \$15 to \$20. The allowance on funeral expense has been increased from \$175 to \$250.

The Insurance Company

The International Insurance Company of Takoma Park, Maryland, and its General Conference Insurance Agency were both organized under resolutions adopted at the 1935 General Conference Autumn Council session. The insurance company and agency have been rendering fire and kindred kinds of insurance service to the North American field for a period of 14 years, and the success of the Insurance Service and the cooperation and support of the North American field are reflected in its very fine growth.

The company started at the outset with \$25,000 in assets and surplus and had as of January 1, 1950, total admitted assets of \$726,371 and a net surplus of \$658,722. The premium income now exceeds \$500,000 each year. During the life of this company of 14 years there has been saved upwards of \$400,000 in insurance costs on denominational properties in the North American field. The insurance company is managed by a board of directors chosen at the Autumn Council sessions of the General Conference Committee.

We give you a graphic picture of the source of our income and expense, also the financial statement for the year 1949. The statements for the years 1946, 1947, and 1948 were rendered to the Spring Council in their respective years.

At the close of World War II our publishing houses, sanitariums, and educational institutions were free from debt, and most of these institutions had a fairly good working capital. The heavy demands for increased facilities caused some of the academies and colleges to slip back into debt. The same was also true of some of the sanitariums.

We sincerely urge that the organizations that now find themselves in debt may wholeheartedly devote themselves to paying off all such obligations. Our medical institutions should be able to do much toward the liquidation of their indebtedness and be able to clear the entire indebtedness off in about a four-

year period. Our schools will have to have help in order to do this. Each organization that finds itself in debt should at once adopt a definite program for debt reduction.

The work of financing our world work is a big task, and requires the united effort and support of the entire church all over the earth.

In closing this report I wish to express appreciation for the loyal financial support of the great Advent Movement rendered by union and local conferences and missions throughout the world. I also want to express appreciation to our loyal believers everywhere for their devotion to the cause of gospel missions through the Sabbath school, Ingathering, Missions Extension, Week of Sacrifice, and the many other offerings. Large sums of money for God's work are received into the treasury of the Lord. This good work must of necessity continue, for "there remaineth yet very much land to be possessed."

Abiding Presence

Ps. 37:1-11; 139:1-12

"Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity. For they shall soon be cut down like the grass, and wither as the green herb. Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

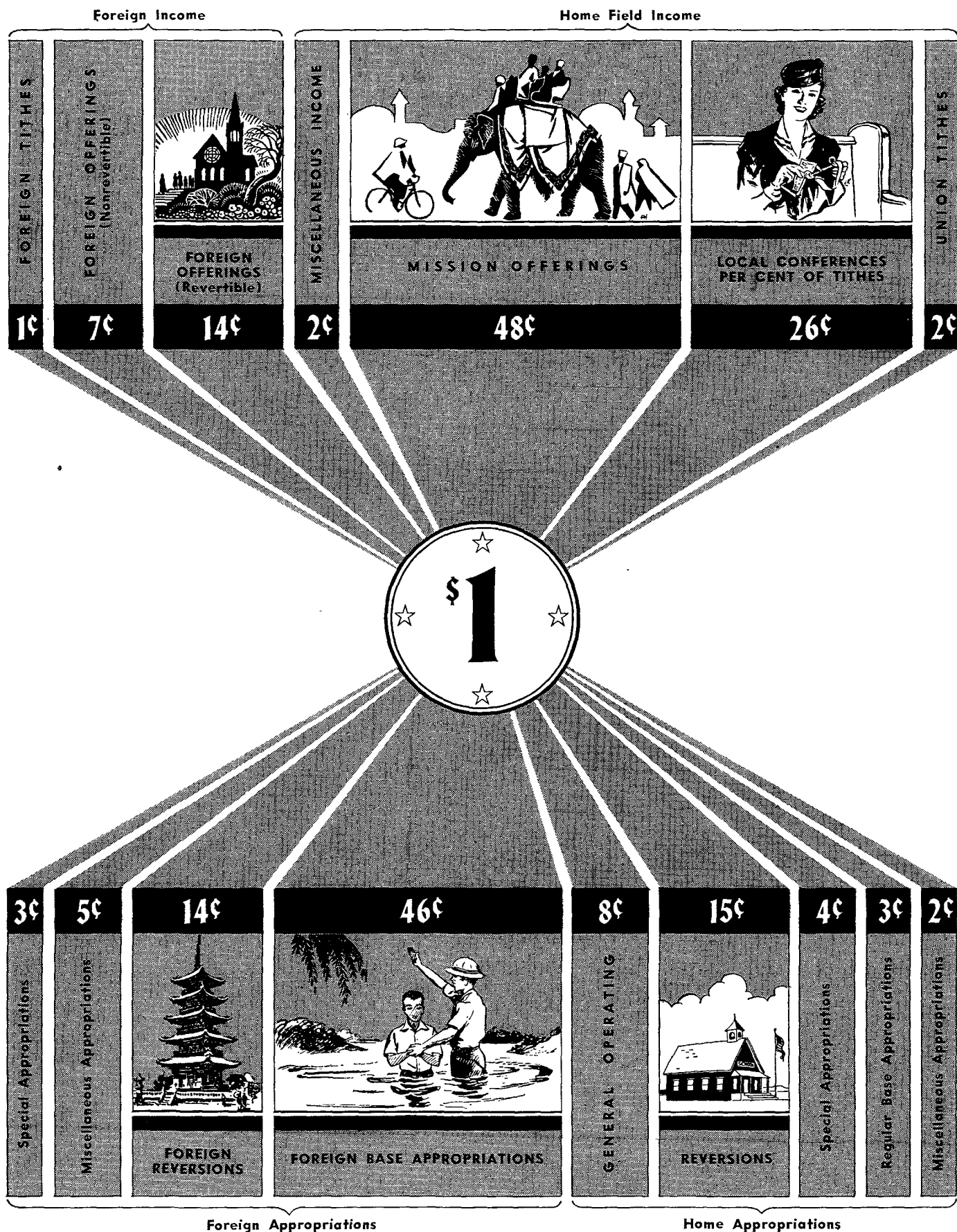
"Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass. And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday. . . .

"Cease from anger, and forsake wrath: fret not thyself in any wise to do evil. For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth. For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be. But the meek shall inherit the earth; and shall delight themselves in the abundance of peace."

"O Lord, thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off. Thou compassest my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O Lord, thou knowest it altogether. Thou hast beset me behind and before, and laid thine hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it.

Whither shall I go from thy Spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee."

WHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM



AND WHERE IT WENT
REVIEW AND HERALD

GENERAL CONFERENCE FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Balance Sheet—December 31, 1949

Assets

CURRENT:

Cash on Hand and in Banks	\$ 4,075,688.25	
Securities	7,489,332.97	
	<u>\$11,565,021.22</u>	
Amount required to cover Accounts Payable, Trust Funds, and Restricted Reserves out- lined below	\$ 7,706,486.08	
Portion of cash and securities remaining for Operating Capital and General Reserve	3,858,535.14	
	<u>\$11,565,021.22</u>	
Accounts Receivable	1,405,473.83	
Accrued Interest Securities	24,905.20	
Supplies and Prepaid Expense	581,479.74	
	<u></u>	
Total Current Assets		\$13,576,879.99

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	800,669.96	
Trust Funds	3,942,048.81	
Deferred Income (Unexpired Subscriptions)	6,853.44	
	<u>\$4,749,572.21</u>	
Total Liabilities		<u>\$4,749,572.21</u>
NET WORTH, DECEMBER 31, 1949		\$8,827,307.78

Analysis of Net Worth

RESTRICTED RESERVES:

Rehabilitation Funds	\$ 1,841,908.51	
Reserve for 1950 Special Appropriations	586,181.65	
Securities Fluctuation Reserve	319,930.13	
Purchase and Supply Dept. Earned Surplus	36,873.22	
Foreign Exchange Reserve	142,049.51	
Home Foreign Bureau Surplus	8,308.76	
Medical Missions Fund	28,515.53	
	<u></u>	
Total Restricted Reserves	\$ 2,963,767.31	
Operating Capital and General Reserve	5,863,540.47	
(See detail next page)	<u></u>	
		\$ 8,827,307.78
TOTAL NET WORTH, DECEMBER 31, 1949		

Operating Capital, January 1, 1949		\$ 4,838,756.16
Add: Transfers authorized by 1948 Autumn Council toward 1949 special appropriations:		
From Special Institutional Relief for Medical Insti- tutions in North America	\$ 155,000.00	
From Sustentation Surplus for Senior and Junior Colleges in North America	195,000.00	
Reserve set aside for 1949 special appropriations returned to Capital account	706,000.00	
Operating Gain for year 1949	374,900.46	\$ 1,430,900.46
	<u></u>	
		\$ 6,269,656.62

Less: Southern Publishing Association 1945 and 1947 title of earnings transferred to Publishing House Rehabilitation Fund	\$ 23,124.36 1,849.95	
Less return from Sust. Fund of 8% of this item		
	<hr/>	\$21,274.41
Transfer to Security Fluctuation Reserve the amount of 1949 Security Earnings in excess of 2%	48,660.09	
Transfer to Special Reserve for 1950 special appro- priations as voted by 1949 Autumn Council	336,181.65	\$ 406,116.15
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Operating Capital, December 31, 1949		\$ 5,863,540.47
RESTRICTED RESERVES:		
On Hand January 1, 1949	\$ 4,447,050.23	
Net Decrease during 1949	1,483,282.92	
	<hr/>	
Total Restricted Reserves, December 31, 1949		2,963,767.31
		<hr/>
NET WORTH, DECEMBER 31, 1949		\$ 8,827,307.78

Condensed Operating Statement

For Year Ended December 31, 1949

Income

TITHE:		
Per cent of Tithes, Regular	\$ 3,879,255.52	
Per cent of Tithes, Special	1,690,466.93	
Unions and Miscellaneous	214,891.69	
Overseas Divisions	67,068.96	
	<hr/>	\$ 5,851,683.10
MISSION OFFERINGS:		
Home Fields (Inc. Reverted Funds)	\$ 7,316,598.31	
Overseas Divisions (Inc. Reverted Funds)	3,028,617.20	
	<hr/>	\$10,345,215.51
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME:		
Interest and Dividends	\$ 193,903.11	
Legacies and Matured Annuities	81,091.61	
Miscellaneous	21,257.52	
Royalties	25,744.35	
	<hr/>	\$ 321,996.59
	<hr/>	
TOTAL INCOME, YEAR 1949		\$16,518,895.20

Expenses

APPROPRIATIONS:		
Overseas Divisions:		
Regular	\$ 6,696,700.00	
Reverted Funds	1,966,410.60	
Specials—Autumn Council	500,000.00	
Miscellaneous	681,329.32	
	<hr/>	
TOTAL FOREIGN APPROPRIATIONS ..		\$ 9,844,439.92
North America:		
Specials—Autumn Council	\$ 556,000.00	
Regular	428,890.00	
Reverted Funds	1,738,044.71	
Ingathering Overflow	1,189,972.44	
Institutional Relief	966,352.54	
Miscellaneous	167,199.86	
To Sustentation Fund	75,086.72	
	<hr/>	
TOTAL HOME APPROPRIATIONS		\$ 5,121,546.27
	<hr/>	
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS, 1949		\$14,965,986.19

GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSE:

Administrative and Departmental	\$ 817,858.67
General Operating Expense	108,411.15
Missions and Ingathering Promotion	188,266.18
Miscellaneous Operating Expenses	63,472.55

TOTAL GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSE	\$ 1,178,008.55
---------------------------------	-----------------

TOTAL EXPENSE, 1949	\$16,143,994.74
---------------------------	-----------------

NET OPERATING GAIN, YEAR 1949	\$ 374,900.46
-------------------------------	---------------

Comparative Condensed Balance Sheet, 1946-1949

Assets

	1946	1947	1948	1949
Cash and Banks	\$ 3,530,298.37	\$ 2,234,733.59	\$ 2,871,136.34	\$ 4,075,688.25
Securities	10,376,453.00	9,581,017.50	7,676,882.35	7,489,332.97
Accounts Receivable	1,974,102.74	1,894,525.45	1,506,468.51	1,405,473.83
Accrued Interest	28,443.52	20,505.43	32,750.16	24,905.20
Supplies and Prepaid Expenses	102,472.78	147,024.32	597,931.13	581,479.74
Total Assets	\$16,011,770.41	\$13,877,806.29	\$12,685,168.49	\$13,576,879.99

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$ 383,827.75	\$ 262,364.22	\$ 316,781.27	\$ 800,669.96
Trust Funds	2,398,085.10	2,086,154.21	3,069,793.80	3,942,048.81
Deferred Income			12,787.03	6,853.44
Total Liabilities	\$ 2,781,912.85	\$ 2,348,518.43	\$ 3,399,362.10	\$ 4,749,572.21
NET WORTH December 31	\$13,229,857.56	\$11,529,287.86	\$ 9,285,806.39	\$ 8,827,307.78

Comparative Condensed Operating Statement, 1946-1949

Income

TITHES:	1946	1947	1948	1949
Home Field	\$ 4,804,109.78	\$ 5,181,831.34	\$ 5,782,731.81	\$ 5,784,614.14
Overseas	119,088.47	69,505.64	75,669.04	67,068.96
	4,923,198.25	5,251,336.98	5,858,400.85	5,851,683.10
MISSION OFFERINGS:				
Home Field	6,789,270.67	6,607,667.84	7,007,268.06	7,316,598.31
Overseas	2,636,687.16	2,201,793.85	2,810,380.37	3,028,617.20
	9,425,957.83	8,809,461.69	9,817,648.43	10,345,215.51
Miscellaneous Income	489,078.32	312,971.31	358,236.37	321,996.59
TOTAL INCOME	\$14,838,234.40	\$14,373,769.98	\$16,034,285.65	\$16,518,895.20

Expenses

APPROPRIATIONS:				
Overseas	\$ 8,069,464.54	\$ 8,857,176.50	\$10,380,416.27	\$ 9,844,439.92
Home Fields	5,042,946.30	5,209,675.88	5,323,553.38	5,121,546.27
Total Appropriations	13,112,410.84	14,066,852.38	15,703,969.65	14,965,986.19
GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSE:				
Administrative & Departmental	544,641.94	788,897.14	810,263.76	817,858.67
General Operating	217,174.00	269,702.05	302,825.08	296,677.33
Miscellaneous Operating	122,392.57	230,828.48	43,283.08	63,472.55
	884,208.51	1,289,427.67	1,156,371.92	1,178,008.55
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$13,996,619.35	\$15,356,280.05	\$16,860,341.57	\$16,143,994.74
NET (Loss*) GAIN FOR YEAR \$	841,615.05	(\$ 982,510.07)*	(\$ 826,055.92)*	\$ 374,900.46

AUDITORS' STATEMENT

TO THE CONSTITUENCY OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE
OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS:

We have examined the accounting records of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists for the year ended December 31, 1949, and in connection therewith have checked vouchers covering the receipt and disbursement of cash together with supporting evidence and authorization for payment and other records to the extent deemed advisable. The regular, special, and emergency appropriations have been disbursed as authorized by the Executive Committee.

Cash was on hand as called for by the records, and bank accounts were in reconciliation with statements from the respective banks. The securities called for by the records have been verified by actual inspection or by confirmation from brokers holding them for sale or delivery and are valued in the Balance Sheet at cost or market rates December 31, 1949, whichever was lower.

In our opinion, based upon the examination made, the accompanying Balance Sheet, showing a total Net Worth of \$8,827,307.78, and the related Operating Statement present fairly the financial position of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists as of December 31, 1949, and the results of operating during the year then ended.

The General Conference accounting records were also audited for the years 1946, 1947, and 1948, and the financial statements with certificates of audit were presented to the annual spring meeting of the General Conference Executive Committee. The accompanying comparative condensed Balance Sheet and Operating Statement are true summaries of the annual financial reports covering the four-year period 1946-49, and, we believe, present fairly the financial position of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists at the close of each of these years, and the operating results for each year of the quadrennial period ended December 31, 1949.

H. W. BARROWS,
F. BRENNWALD,
Auditors for the General Conference
of Seventh-day Adventists.

*Takoma Park, D.C.
March 30, 1950.*

To the End of Time

A TITHE of all our increase is the Lord's. He has reserved it to Himself, to be employed for religious purposes. It is holy. Nothing less than this has He accepted in any dispensation. A neglect or postponement of this duty, will provoke the divine displeasure. If all professed Christians would faithfully bring their tithes to God, His treasury would be full.

The special system of tithing was founded upon a principle which is as enduring as the law of God. This system of tithing was a blessing to the Jews, else God would not have given it them. So also will it be a blessing to those who carry it out to the end of time. Our heavenly Father did not originate the plan of systematic benevolence to enrich Himself, but to be a great blessing to man. He saw that this system of beneficence was just what man needed.

Many have pitied the lot of the Israel of God in being compelled to give systematically, besides making liberal offerings yearly. An all-wise God knew best what system of benevolence would be in accordance with His providence, and has given His people directions in regard to it. It has ever proved that nine tenths are worth more to them than ten tenths.

Of all our income we should make the

first appropriation to God. In the system of beneficence enjoined upon the Jews, they were required either to bring to the Lord the first fruits of all His gifts, whether in the increase of their flocks or herds, or in the produce of their fields, orchards, or vineyards, or they were to redeem it by substituting an equivalent. How changed the order of things in our day! The Lord's requirements and claims, if they receive any attention, are left till the last. Yet our work needs tenfold more means now than was needed by the Jews.

Responsibility in Our Day

The great commission given to the apostles was to go throughout the world and preach the gospel. This shows the extension of the work, and the increased responsibility resting upon the followers of Christ in our day. If the law required tithes and offerings thousands of years ago, how much more essential are they now! If the rich and poor were to give a sum proportionate to their property in the Jewish economy, it is doubly essential now.—*Counsels on Stewardship*, pp. 67, 68.

In the great work of warning the world, those who have the truth in the heart, and are sanctified through the

truth, will act their assigned part. They will be faithful in the payment of tithes and offerings. Every church member is bound by covenant relation with God to deny himself of every extravagant outlay of means. Let not the want of economy in the home life render us unable to act our part in strengthening the work already established, and in entering new territory.

God's Covenant With Us

I entreat my brethren and sisters throughout the world to awaken to the responsibility that rests upon them to pay a faithful tithe. . . . Keep a faithful account with your Creator. Realize fully the importance of being just with Him who has divine foreknowledge. Let everyone search His heart diligently. Let him look up his accounts, and find out how he stands as related to God.

He who gave His only-begotten Son to die for you, has made a covenant with you. He gives you His blessings, and in return He requires you to bring Him your tithes and offerings. No one will ever dare to say that there was no way in which he could understand in regard to this matter. God's plan regarding tithes and offerings is definitely stated in the third chapter of Malachi. God calls upon His human agents to be true to the contract He has made with them. "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse," He says, "that there may be meat in Mine house."—*Ibid.*, pp. 74, 75.

REVIEW AND HERALD

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YOUTH'S INSTRUCTOR

WASHINGTON 12, D.C.

The Story of the Day

(Continued from page 18)

chickens," in a restaurant called the Charcoal Broiler, immediately opposite the Whitcomb Hotel, caused many smiles. Even the tobacconists' windows welcomed Seventh-day Adventists. It is difficult to understand why, unless it was out of pure friendliness. Certainly nothing else could be hoped for.

The first day's proceedings were featured not only by the official addresses of the president, and the secretary, E. D. Dick, but also by those of the treasurer, W. E. Nelson; the secretary of the Home Missionary Department, T. L. Oswald; the secretary of the Educational Department, E. E. Cossentine; and the secretary of the Missionary Volunteer Department, E. W. Dunbar.

Those who read this who are reaching out for information about the character, the achievement, the plans connected with personal lay evangelism, field adventure days, lay literature distribution, Ingathering endeavors, or Dorcas Welfare work, and the Bible correspondence schools, will do well to examine carefully the report of T. L. Oswald, of the Home Missionary Department.

If, however, the particular interest is the educational field, including primary, secondary, and college work, and covering the preparation of manuals, the development, establishment, and maintenance of church schools, home and parent education, the development of mission schools, and the training of church workers, then careful examination should be given the report of E. E. Cossentine of the Educational Department.

In like manner, if the particular interest is along the line of young people's work, including the missionary endeavors of training youth and children, their spiritual and devotional culture, their Progressive Class work, their camps, their Weeks of Prayer, their "Share Your Faith," and youth's congress endeavors, together with the youth census, care should be taken to look over the report of E. W. Dunbar of the Missionary Volunteer Department.

In the morning prayer and testimony service, those who testified moved to the platform to stand before the platform microphone to give their testimonies. In the afternoon service of a similar nature, the microphones were brought to the floor and there used where the delegates had no need to move out of their places to witness for their Lord. Every word could be heard distinctly by every person in the vast auditorium. There were present in both services an impressive air of deep seriousness and a sense of the urgency of these days and the developments facing us in the world.

As one looks back over the swiftly moving developments of this first day of the conference, he is bound to be impressed with the deeply devotional and spiritual basis which has been laid for its important work. It augurs well for the days ahead and the character of the over-all achievement which will constitute the final report of this forty-sixth session.

Home Missionary Department

By T. L. OSWALD, Secretary

THE secretaries of the Home Missionary Department throughout the world field unite with the staff of the General Conference Home Missionary Department in extending greetings to the delegates assembled in the forty-sixth session of the General Conference.

"Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Eben-ezer, saying, Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." 1 Sam. 7:12.

With Samuel of old we can say that God has led in the Home Missionary Department in a very definite way. We are pleased for this privilege to present to the delegates of the forty-sixth General Conference session some facts and figures showing the cheering progress made by the laymen's movement during the past four years. We are placing in your hands a few comparative statistics that will enable you to evaluate more correctly the wonderful work that has been carried on by the laity in all parts of the world field.

The last quadrennial period has been marked by steady growth in the army of lay workers, and also an encouraging development in soul-winning efficiency. In all our division fields our lay members have united their efforts with those of the workers in carrying on a successful program in evangelism. Thousands of souls have been led to the feet of our blessed Master by the laity of the remnant church. The soul-winning efforts by our church members have not been spasmodic, but are continuing year by year with ever increasing earnestness and greater efficiency, often in the face of bitter opposition from foes of our work.

Personal Lay Ministry

The plan of sending our people forth two by two in house-to-house visitation, if possible to have prayer in the homes and enroll them in the Bible correspondence school, is meeting with a wonderful response on the part of our people. This is true not only in North America but throughout the world. It has brought into our churches a new spiritual power. We believe that we are seeing today a fulfillment of that statement made by the messenger of the Lord many years ago: "Hundreds and thousands were seen visiting families and opening before them the word of God."—*Testimonies*, vol. 9, p. 126.

Thousands of our people are having a new experience as they engage in visiting their neighbors and friends. More and more we, as a denomination, are coming to see more clearly the place our laity must occupy in the finishing of God's work upon earth. The gospel commission is to the church as a whole and not to any one class of believers or workers, either paid or unpaid.

That there is a great awakening among the laity to give the message to their unwarned neighbors is attested by the

fact that during the past four-year period 11,875,643 Bible studies were conducted, and that at the present moment 12,000 lay preachers are giving more or less of their spare time to proclaiming the soon coming of our Lord.

Field Adventure Days

On the two Sabbaths, March 4 and June 3 of 1950, designated as the first and second Field Adventure days, millions of homes here and abroad were visited by gospel teams who made friendly calls, presented special tracts, distributed Bible correspondence school enrollment cards, and offered prayer for the family. This Mid-century Home Evangelism program for the entire church is planned in harmony with the



T. L. Oswald

blueprint given in *Christian Service*, pages 119, 114, and 12:

"Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people." "Our Saviour went from house to house." "Wherever a church is established, all the members should engage actively in missionary work. They should visit every family in the neighborhood, and know their spiritual condition."

Glowing reports of success in reaching hearts and making friends and reclaiming former members—in forming neighborhood Bible study classes, in helping the needy, in bringing uplift to the disconsolate, in enrolling thousands in the Bible correspondence school, and in organizing branch Sabbath schools—climaxed these two adventure Sabbaths. Many on the verge of the kingdom, looking wistfully toward heaven, have been directed to Christ.

Eight world divisions are now sponsoring the field adventure program: South American, Inter-American, Northern,

Southern, and Central European, North American, Far Eastern, Southern African, and Australasian divisions. They have designated certain Sabbaths for this every-home visitation crusade, and are preparing special literature for their use.

We read:

"The Saviour's commission to the disciples included all the believers. It includes all believers in Christ to the end of time. It is a fatal mistake to suppose that the work of saving souls depends alone on the ordained minister. All to whom the heavenly inspiration has come, are put in trust with the gospel. All who receive the life of Christ are ordained to work for the salvation of their fellow men. For this work the church was established, and all who take upon themselves its sacred vows are thereby pledged to be co-workers with Christ."—*The Desire of Ages*, p. 822.

Lest we should lose sight of this fundamental principle of evangelism, let us notice this familiar yet startling statement from *Testimonies*, volume 9, page 117: "The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church-membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers."

The great head of the church, Christ Himself, unites minister and laity in carrying the gospel message into all the world.

Literature

The deep-seated conviction that literature is a mighty evangelizing agency has motivated workers and members around the world to participate in wider literature distribution each successive year. Our hearts are inspired by the assurance given through Sister White in the *REVIEW AND HERALD*, November 10, 1885: "More than one thousand will soon be converted in one day, most of whom will trace their first convictions to the reading of our publications."

We are gratified as we recall that, under God's blessing, every week during the past four years a million pieces of literature have been distributed throughout the world. Think of it—each week from 1946 through 1949 more than a million pieces of literature were used in making impressions for Bible truth! We praise God for His leading in this phenomenal achievement.

Every method of literature coverage has been utilized: systematic distribution from house to house, the mailing program to sow gospel seed in unentered counties and regions, the enlarged circulation of our message-filled magazines to reach all classes, the wider use of literature in evangelistic efforts and the Bible correspondence school, the thorough follow-up of the Ingathering campaign, and the maintenance of tract racks.

During the four-year period, 1946-1949 inclusive, literature distributed throughout the world totaled 239,800,730 pieces, as compared with 147,109,760 for the five-year period, 1941-1945. This report does not include the figures from the overseas divisions for the fourth quarter of 1949. The yearly average of literature

REVIEW AND HERALD

distributed during this last quadrennial period was 59,950,182, as compared with 29,421,952 for the previous five-year period. This represents a gain of 104 per cent.

Ingathering a Missionary Campaign

The Home Missionary Department of the General Conference is responsible for the promotion of the Ingathering campaign. The four years covered by this report have been spiritually as well as financially profitable. God's prospering hand has led us in the way of victory year after year. We greatly rejoice that we can report a grand total of Ingathering for the quadrennial period of \$14,572,022.09. This may be compared with the previous four-year period which totals \$9,882,780.95, a gain of \$4,649,241.95 for the past four years over the previous four-year period. Surely God has greatly prospered our workers and members in their Ingathering participation.

The year 1908 marked the first year of the Ingathering. In that year a total of \$14,136.77 was brought into the General Conference treasury through this channel. From the first Ingathering campaign in 1908 to the close of 1949 inclusive, we have raised a grand total of \$49,572,022.09. This is equivalent to \$3,312.09 for every day that has passed since 1908, \$138.00 for every hour, and \$2.30 for every minute. Truly this is a remarkable record, and we do thank God for His prospering hand.

Since 1934 we have promoted the Minute Man worker who pledges to raise sufficient funds to support our foreign missions for one minute. The Minute Man army has grown from year to year until today we have literally thousands of our people who bring in enough to support our worldwide mission program for one minute each year. Yes, even entire conferences have become Minute Man conferences. Every year the number is growing.

Although we do thank God for what

has been accomplished in the Ingathering through the faithfulness of our people, we should not rest content with past achievements but should strive earnestly to attain greater heights in service.

The very essence of the gospel is doing good to others. In the story of the good Samaritan, Jesus places before His disciples the purpose of Christianity—living unselfishly to bless others. Jesus exemplified this selflessness in His own life as He "went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed." Acts 10:38. And we are told in *The Desire of Ages*, page 350: "The followers of Christ are to labor as He did."

Dorcas and Welfare Work

Through the years there has been a tendency on the part of the church to leave this larger work of benevolence to a small group, but the insistent warning comes to us:

"I cannot too strongly urge all our church-members, all who are true missionaries, all who believe the third angel's message, . . . to consider the message of the fifty-eighth chapter of Isaiah. The work of beneficence enjoined in this chapter is the work that God requires His people to do at this time. It is a work of His own appointment. . . . The nearer we approach the end, the more urgent this work becomes."—*Testimonies*, vol. 6, p. 265.

During the past four years we have done more in welfare work than has ever been attempted previously. The treasury has reported Famine Relief offerings from 1946 through 1949 to the amount of \$2,805,370. During the same period we shipped 2,962,234 pounds, or a little more than 1,481 tons of clothing from our warehouses to 41 countries and islands. We sent 1,732 tons of food during 1946 through 1948 to eight countries at the cost of \$980,782.22. Aside from this, countless thousands of CARE food packages, individual relief packages, and seed packages have been sent directly to Europe

by Dorcas Welfare Societies and individual members, for which no record has ever been kept.

During the years 1946 through the first three quarters of 1949, 14,229,645 persons were given needed help, 9,675,025 hours of Christian help work were donated by our members, and 7,542,201 articles of clothing were given away.

Though these figures represent the welfare work of the denomination, yet we realize that to a large degree they resulted from the activities of thousands of Dorcas Welfare Societies scattered over the land. These faithful women have toiled long hours, visited the sick, helped the needy, mended millions of garments, and in a score of ways have represented their Master. To these Dorcas sisters we give all honor.

Bible Correspondence Schools

At a recent meeting of the International Federation of Churches, held in Geneva, Switzerland, discussion was centered about the problem of winning the world back to Christianity. After consideration of the various means of evangelism this body went on record as recognizing that one of the best and most effective methods for winning people to Christ is teaching the Bible by means of correspondence schools. It is refreshing to know that this denomination is a pioneer in this form of direct evangelism by mail. Many other groups are attempting to do this at the present time.

At the Fall Council of 1947 it was voted: "We recommend, That the Home Missionary Department be requested to foster the organization and direction of the Conference Bible correspondence schools, and that a report of all these correspondence schools be compiled and submitted annually to the General Conference by the Home Missionary Department."

We therefore have a two-year report to give, which though incomplete still reveals marvelous results. During this two-year period 90,774 people enrolled in conference Bible correspondence schools; 21,598 (24 per cent) finished the course. Of those who have finished the course, 2,023 (more than 9 per cent) have been baptized. The expenses reported have been \$223,517.38. But from the students there has been received in tithes and offerings \$98,665.01, leaving a difference of \$124,852.37, thus making an investment of \$61.72 in each person baptized. We believe that this compares well with other forms of evangelism, and that the denomination has good reason to foster still more strongly this method of reaching the public with its message.

In closing this brief survey I am happy for the opportunity afforded to express to this delegation and to our workers and members everywhere the heartfelt appreciation of all the General Conference Home Missionary Department staff for their excellent cooperation during the past four years.



Division Home Missionary Secretaries. Top Row, Left to Right: Northern European, A. Varmer; Southern African, J. M. Hnatyshyn; South American, Santiago Schmidt; Southern Asia, E. D. Thomas; Southern European, F. Charpiot. Bottom Row, Left to Right: Australasian, George Butler; China, George J. Appel; Central European, M. Busch; Far Eastern, F. A. Pratt; Inter-American, Wesley Amundsen

The Department of Education

By E. E. COSSENTINE, Secretary

AS WE review the educational work of the denomination, and look ahead to the expanding needs of the remnant church, we are reminded of the words of Ellen G. White:

"Who can determine which one of a family will prove to be efficient in the work of God? There should be general education of all its members, and all our youth should be permitted to have the blessings and privileges of an education at our schools, that they may be inspired to become laborers together with God."—*Counsels to Parents, Teachers and Students*, p. 44.

We believe this is as true today as when these words were penned. It is a message calling us to a larger view of educating laymen as well as those to be denominationally employed, and of training for many lines of work, not for the ministry alone, though it will always be the most important responsibility of the schools.

The records of the past four years again prove that the Adventist people believe in Christian schools and are willing to sacrifice that their children may attend. In return they demand that the schools help their children find a personal Saviour, and then train them to serve Him. To meet this demand a devoted and competent army of teachers, school administrators, and educational executives, ever seeking divine guidance, are serving the cause of Christian education.

The past quadrennium has been a period of activity and growth in our educational work. After the war, communication had to be re-established with overseas fields. This necessitated more than the usual amount of travel by members of the Department of Education. Assistance has been given with problems of reconstruction, reorganization, and curriculum improvement. The dearth of basic guidance materials in education from the Spirit of prophecy, in languages other than English, has been met in part by the compilation of classified excerpts from the principal published writings of Mrs. White, sent to the overseas fields with the recommendation that they be translated and distributed.

Anticipating a postwar influx of overseas students to the North American colleges, these institutions have adopted uniform admission policies, uniform bursary and discount policies, and uniform evaluation of foreign school credits. To assist with the last, the department undertook to prepare reports on the educational systems of the principal nations in which Adventist schools are found.

Preparation of Manuals

Much time and effort in the department have gone into the preparation of manuals of policies and standards, particularly for the elementary and sec-

ondary schools. Numerous institutes for teachers and educational executives have served the double purpose of securing their assistance in the development of policies and of acquainting them with essential standards. The annual meetings of the Board of Regents, the accrediting body for academies and schools of nursing, have done much to foster and maintain high standards of organization, equipment, and instruction.

The same ends are served by the preparation or selection of final examinations for use in the secondary and elementary schools. During the quadren-



E. E. Cosentine

nium the department has distributed, checked scores, and tabulated the returns on 150,920 examinations for academies and 105,885 examinations for the church schools. On the college level the annual seminars of teaching department heads, in four-year rotations, and the biennial summer meetings of college presidents and deans have been very profitable.

A major activity of the department has been the preparation of textbooks and teaching syllabuses. On the college level work is under way on syllabuses for lower-division Bible courses. On the secondary level two Bible textbooks have been published and warmly received: *Life and Times of the Old Testament* and *Development of the Christian Church*, each with a teacher's manual. More Bible textbooks are to follow. In preparation is a biology textbook for the academies, written from the fundamentalist point of view. New syllabuses in nearly all fields of secondary instruction have been prepared by competent teachers. In the elementary field the department is continuing the prepara-

tion of Bible textbooks and readers. Textbooks for grades three and four, each with a workbook for the pupil and a manual for the teacher, have recently been completed. In process or projected are similar books for grades five to eight. A compilation of materials entitled *Source Book for Devotional Exercises* is being published for use in church schools. The department pays tribute to the many teachers and committees that have labored with competent devotion as writers and editors to make possible these greatly needed teaching materials.

Teacher supply continues to be a problem. On the elementary level there is an acute shortage of certificated teachers. The shortage would be even greater were it not for the temporary employment of many partially trained teachers with emergency permits. This most important educational level must have competent teachers. By encouraging schools to form Teachers of Tomorrow clubs and by providing program materials for these clubs, the department is assisting the recruitment of elementary school teachers.

By the development of a set of personnel files the department has enlarged its service to the schools needing teachers and to the teachers needing employment. The employed and unemployed secondary school and college teachers are classified by training and experience in files, so that qualified persons can quickly be found. These files now cover almost 100 per cent of the North American personnel, and can be extended to include overseas teachers as there is demand.

North American Division

The North American schools have kept religious aims in the forefront, recognizing that evangelism and the fostering of spiritual growth are among their most important functions. The elementary schools during the past four years have recorded 7,550 baptisms among their boys and girls. So effectively are spiritual values emphasized on this level that, of the entire number of children between the ages of seven and twenty-one from Adventist homes, 75.3 per cent are baptized before reaching academy age. The academies have recorded 1,453 baptisms, thus helping to raise the baptized to 95.5 per cent of the seven to twenty-one age group. Though this seems to leave little for the colleges to do, transfers from high schools and the enrollment of many college students above the age of twenty-one give the advance schools opportunity for campus evangelism. During the past four years the colleges have recorded 485 baptisms.

Although training for godly living and Christian citizenship is the function of the Adventist school on all three levels of education, the preparation of Christian workers is primarily the responsibility of the college. Besides the many who have become strong lay workers in their local communities, the incomplete reports show that between 1946 and 1949 the colleges sent at least 1,689 workers

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into denominational employ: 285 into the ministry; 14 into Bible work; 673 into teaching; into the health and medical work, 122 doctors of medicine, 13 dentists, and 303 nurses; 24 into the publishing work; 192 into business-secretarial-managerial work; the remaining 63, unclassified.

Increased Enrollments

Enrollments have increased during the quadrennium. In 1946 the colleges enrolled 7,283; in 1949 they enrolled 8,118, with an additional 2,220 in the summer sessions. The 1949 enrollments include 474 overseas students from 61 nations and dependencies. The academies enrolled 7,226 in 1946; 8,591 in 1949. The elementary school enrollment in 1946 was 22,335; four years later it was 26,534. A survey made in 1949 of the children from Adventist homes shows that in the United States 58.7 per cent of the children attending elementary schools are in church school. The corresponding figure for the secondary level is 61 per cent in the academy; and for the college-age group, ages nineteen to twenty-two, of those attending school, 79 per cent are in our colleges.

To care for the enlarged enrollments, the colleges added only 70 teachers to the 415 they had in 1946, preferring heavier teaching loads and larger classes to dropping a large number of teachers when and if enrollments begin to decline. In the academies the number of teachers increased from 519 to 610. In the church schools an addition of 211 teachers was required, above the 1,387 employed in 1946, to care for the increase of 4,199 pupils.

The manner in which the educational leaders, church laymen, and denominational executives have stood shoulder to shoulder in this "Battle of the Bulge" of enrollments is to be commended. They have cared for numbers far beyond the 1946 capacities of the schools. This has taken great effort, and has required the investment in Christian education of very large sums. On the church school level new school plants, the enlargement or improvement of old ones, and the purchase of essential equipment have necessitated the expenditure of a little more than \$3,500,000 during the quadrennium. For the academies the figure is almost \$7,500,000. Operating subsidies for the academies have added a little less than \$1,250,000.

For the one fiscal year ending in 1949 the operating costs of the eleven senior and two junior colleges amounted to \$11,134,164.83, of which amount the colleges earned \$10,888,796.31 from tuitions, fees, and the income from college-attached industries or auxiliary services. Operating subsidies from the denomination have made up the deficits. During the quadrennium the denomination has invested \$5,000,000 in capital improvements in the colleges to provide essential facilities and buildings.

With the utmost economy of operation and capital expansion, the responsibility of the church for the Christian education of its children is likely to continue to be costly in dollars. But it

must not be forgotten that sacrificing parents shoulder much of the financial burden of educating their own children, and the young people themselves also help. During the school year closing in 1949, for example, the denomination invested an average of \$44.71 in each college student, and the average student invested \$730.00 in his own education, of which amount \$204.00 was earned by working at employment provided by the college. Most important to remember, when costs are under consideration, is that Christian education in the denomination's own schools is the most economical and the most profitable form of evangelism practiced by the church. And it is the only known way adequately to discover and develop the leadership needed by the denomination.

Home and Parent Education

An important educational activity of the North American Division, and spreading throughout the world, is home and parent education. The numerous Home and School Associations foster better home-school relations and assist teachers and parents to work together for the salvation and training of the children. The department prepares monthly programs for these associations, also program materials for Christian Home Day and Christian Education Day. For camp meetings a series of lessons on home and parent education is prepared each year. New materials from the department include a "Self-Analysis Chart for Parents," and two leaflets, "Social Life of the Fifteen-year-old" and "Were They Ready for School?"

We are assisting the Ellen G. White Publications in the preparation of new books on the Christian home. The Home Education lessons prepared by the department eight years ago, and now distributed through the Home Study Institute, are still enjoying a good circula-

tion. During the past four years 5,550 lesson sets have been distributed and 497 certificates of completion have been issued.

The eleven schools of nursing, three of them attached to senior colleges for degree curriculums, have averaged 710 students a year for the quadrennium, and have graduated an average of 208 a year. In the recent national survey of training schools for nurses the majority of Adventist institutions placed in the upper quarter.

To complete the record of denominational educational institutions in the North American Division, mention must be made of the Theological Seminary, Washington, D.C.; the College of Medical Evangelists, Loma Linda and Los Angeles, California; and the Home Study Institute, Washington, D.C. The reports of these schools will be found elsewhere.

Australasia

This division's educational work is strong and expanding. There has been a small increase in the number of schools, and the work of the Australasian Missionary College has been strengthened. Additions have been made to the personnel of the department of education, and after careful analysis of the needs of the field important changes are under way in curriculums and organization. Four years ago in the regular school system the total enrollments on all levels was 1,712; in 1949 it was 2,020. In the unclassified mission schools for the same period the enrollment rose from 4,330 to 8,135.

Central Europe

That we have an educational program in Central Europe is a miracle of God's grace and a result of the faithfulness of His people. During the war and immediately afterward two of the seminaries sheltered refugees and the other was a military hospital. But after great difficulty and lengthy negotiations, Friedensau was reopened in 1947; and Neandertal and Marienhöhe, in 1948. The last-named at Darmstadt, has secured government recognition and is accredited as a *Realgymnasium Aufbauschule*, with the right to prepare students for the *Abitur*, which conveys the right to enter the university. The division also operates two nurses' training schools. During the last days of 1949 Central Europe held an educational council, the first in twenty-three years.

China

We have faced tremendous problems in our educational work in China. But the Lord has blessed. Four years ago there were 126 church schools in the division, with 4,649 pupils and 188 teachers; today there are 139 schools, 4,564 pupils, and 186 teachers. Four years ago there were 16 secondary schools, with 1,061 students and 105 teachers. Though the number of schools remains the same the enrollment has risen to 1,418, and the number of teachers to 135. In 1946 the one advanced school had 56 students and 14 teachers; today it has 65 students and 16 teachers.

Our Hope

By MARY E. WELCH

Over the hills the trumpet is sounding,
Sounding the beautiful song,
Jesus is coming, soon He is coming
Though He has tarried so long.
While we are hoping, watching and waiting,
He is preparing a place,
Yes, He is coming, soon to receive us,
In His dear loving embrace.

Wonders and signs all tell the glad story,
Jesus is coming again,
Coming to reign in honor and glory,
Our waiting will not be in vain.
Over the hills the trumpet is sounding,
Valleys re-echo the strain,
Watchmen in Zion proclaim the glad story,
Jesus is coming again.

Though He is pleading still with the Father,
Soon He is coming again;
Soon will His pleading cease and for ever,
For He is coming to reign.
Jesus come quickly, still we are crying,
While the time seemeth so long,
Trusting the promise, still we are waiting,
Singing the beautiful song.

The Far East

For this division the record reads: "For major repairs and new buildings at established schools, U.S. \$194,000.00. For relocating and rebuilding after war, and for establishing new schools, U.S. \$321,000.00." These are not requests for funds; these are reports of investments in Christian education. The division operates 19 secondary and advanced schools and 182 elementary schools. These schools are served by 285 teachers, and enroll in all grades a total of 11,704 students. In addition to the established schools of junior college and post-secondary rank, the Indonesian Seminary, the Malayan Union Seminary and the Korean Training School have been restored to worker-training status.

Inter-America

This division began the quadrennial period with 154 schools, 12 of which were of post-secondary and junior-college grade. Currently there are 204 schools in all, 16 of them doing advance worker training. Newest of the schools, and all developed during the four-year period, are the Dominican Junior Academy, in the Dominican Republic; the Haitian Seminary, around the bay from Port-au-Prince; and in Mexico, the Southeast Mexican Agricultural and Industrial School, for rural workers, and the Momostenango School, for the training of Indian workers. The Central American Vocational College in Costa Rica is being rebuilt at this time. There has been a steady growth in enrollment in the division's schools, from 6,859 in 1946 to a total of 8,023 in 1949.

Northern Europe

The years since the last General Conference session have seen a consistent growth in the educational work in Northern Europe. Then there were 18 church schools; now there are 28. There were six lower secondary schools; now there are nine. Two schools, in Denmark and Sweden, do advanced work, and are prepared to groom students for the state examinations. The number of students has more than doubled during the period, reaching 1,989 in 1949. Perhaps the most phenomenal development has been in Ethiopia, a mission field of the division. Elementary schools there increased in number from seven to 16, with double the number of students and teachers. Secondary enrollments increased from 60 to 102.

South America

One of the strongest phases of our work in the South American Division, and one which has been well organized, is the extensive school system. According to the latest available figures, there are 18,708 students enrolled on all levels, 1,500 of whom are in the secondary schools, and 152 in the more advanced schools. In this great division the total number of schools has increased during the past four years from 353 to 432. Fourteen of these are boarding schools, four of which are doing work on the college level. The number of teachers has increased from 536 to 693. Several

new boarding school plants are under construction at the present time.

South Africa

Four years ago this division had, in addition to Helderberg College, nine secondary schools and 1,141 elementary schools. Now there are 1,389 elementary schools, the secondary schools have increased to 12, and the college is continuing to do a strong work in preparing workers. During the period the secondary and college enrollments have grown from 566 to 714, and the elementary enrollment from 53,093 to 66,714. These are for the regular schools, and do not include the baptismal classes.

Southern Asia

The educational work of this division is characterized by a great opportunity for evangelism through education. Of the total of 3,375 students enrolled in its 70 schools in 1949, the non-Christians numbered 1,278, and the Christians from denominations other than the Adventist numbered 453. These students were served by 238 Adventist teachers, of which number 209 were nationals.

Southern Europe

This division operates seven elementary or intermediate-type schools, nine secondary and training schools, and one college. Recent additions include the beautiful *Villa Aurora* in the Tuscan hills above Florence, housing the Italian

secondary school; and the *Schloss Bogenhofen* near Braunau, in Austria, which houses a small but growing school. From the schools in Romania, Spain, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary we have no statistical reports, but we know that the teachers are carrying on with good courage. Good reports come from the division's mission fields. On Madagascar are five elementary schools, a secondary school with an enrollment of 650, and the training school with 375.

The Detached Union Missions

The British Union maintains two excellent higher schools, Newbold Missionary College and Stanborough Secondary and Church School, with 22 teachers and 215 students in the two schools. Five elementary schools with 202 pupils serve as feeders.

In the Middle East during the four-year period the number of elementary schools increased from 12 to 22, and secondary schools from three to six. From these the students go to the training college at Beirut. In all there are 99 teachers serving 1,181 students.

In West Africa progress is marked by the opening of a new training school in Nigeria, the enlargement of the Gold Coast Seminary, and the building of a new school at Grand Bassa, in Liberia. The first two prepare students to pass the government examinations. At Ile-Ife 50 student nurses are in training. And thus the work expands everywhere.

Proceedings of the General Conference

Forty-sixth Session, July 10-22, 1950

Third Meeting

July 11, 1950, 3:00 P.M.

CHAIRMAN: L. K. Dickson.

OPENING HYMN: "Lead On, O King Eternal," No. 162.

PRAYER: J. E. Edwards.

CHAIRMAN: This afternoon session will be devoted to hearing reports from three of our General Conference departments. We first will hear from the Home Missionary Department. The report will be given by T. L. Oswald, secretary of the Home Missionary Department of the General Conference. [This report appears on page 36.]

What a wonderful report we have just listened to. What marvelous achievements we see developing among the laity of this movement. I am sure it has cheered the hearts of all to see the wonderful growth of our Ingathering work. It seems almost incredible as we look at the figures. E. E. Cossentine will now give the report of the Department of Education. [This report appears on page 38.]

CHAIRMAN: What a marvelous thing it is for us to be told here in this meeting of an army of our youth in our schools numbering nearly 200,000 today. As I was sitting here listening to it I won-

dered what the pioneers of the Advent Movement would think if they could be with us and hear such a report as that. What potential might, particularly when God's Holy Spirit lays hold of this youthful army, will be seen in the finishing of God's work. Surely we need to pray earnestly for our teachers and our administrators of our schools, who really have to a very large degree the future of this whole movement in their hands. They need our prayers. They need our support and our sympathies.

Now we ask E. W. Dunbar, secretary of the Missionary Volunteer Department, to present his report. [This report appears on page 41.]

SONG: King's Heralds, "I'll Share My Faith."

CHAIRMAN: The formal report of the Southern European Division, prepared by W. R. Beach, will be published in a General Conference issue of the REVIEW AND HERALD and will be a part of this afternoon's proceedings. [See page 44.] This evening we will listen to a symposium presented by the delegates from Southern Europe.

Meeting adjourned.

Benediction: E. D. Dick.

L. K. DICKSON, *Chairman*.

E. D. DICK, W. P. BRADLEY,
Secretaries.

REVIEW AND HERALD

Young People's Department of Missionary Volunteers

By E. W. DUNBAR, Secretary

ON ITS upward march to the heavenly Canaan the church of God possesses a hope and confidence which grows ever brighter and brighter. This sustaining trust is of a double nature. It is basically the blessed hope in the appearing of Jesus Christ and the glorious triumph of the everlasting gospel in all the world. But likewise there is interlaced in this great expectation a vital hope and confidence in the important place in the great gospel plan being filled and to be filled by Adventist youth. The growing devotion and evangelistic fire in the lives of our boys and girls and young people are the new hope and joy of the church.

An illustration of the definite reaction upon the older members when they witness the evangelistic zeal and potential of the young people occurred at the British Union Youth's Congress. An older member who sat through the meetings in the beautiful Watford Town Hall heard the thrilling testimonies of the Missionary Volunteers, saw many of the trophies they had won to Christ, and said to our youth leader, E. L. Minchin, at the close of the congress, "I've been so inspired by what I've seen and heard that I must express my thanks in a tangible way. Here is an envelope with one hundred pounds as my expression of appreciation. Use it for the youth in any way you wish." And reaching into another pocket, he said, "I know you'll want to pay tithe on that, so here is another envelope with ten pounds tithe for you."

Looking to the youth, we see our guarantee of triumph today and our surety of success tomorrow. The Spirit of God confirms these conclusions with the inspired words: "Upon Christian youth depend in a great measure the preservation and perpetuity of the institutions which God has devised as a means by which to advance His work." —*Counsels to Parents, Teachers, and Students*, p. 99.

We in the Young People's Department of Missionary Volunteers appreciate the privilege of bringing to this world delegation, to the forty-sixth session of the General Conference, a vivid picture of the activities of Adventist youth in all the world.

The past four years have been good years and a token of even better things to come. In a sense it is unnecessary for us to speak of the new spirit and the mighty deeds of Adventist youth in soul winning, for they are already speaking for themselves. "To God be the glory" for the worldwide response of our youth to the challenge in the great "Share Your Faith" plan of action. The youth of the Advent Movement, a quarter million strong, are today rising and elevating Jesus Christ as never before.

C. W. Bozarth, president of the Southern African Division, speaking to the youth of the Southeast African Union, said: "I look upon this first youth's congress as the omen of a new day in Africa. This is the seed that will grow. We have come to a day when the young people are going to be heard and felt in this division. I believe there is no better way than in such meetings to usher in this new spirit among our youth." We share with you, the leaders in the cause of God, the sincere conviction



E. W. Dunbar

that the Lord is manifesting His appointment of the youth to be His helping hand.

Membership

During the years of World War II our young people's work necessarily suffered a statistical lapse. During the subsequent reconstruction years it has made inspiring gains. We regret that two complete world divisions and portions of two other divisions are isolated and silent in this world report of Adventist youth. It is paradoxical in this mid-century year of 1950, after nearly twenty centuries of heralding the gospel of love and brotherhood, that this small world is divided into two isolated camps with impregnable walls of silence and misunderstanding between. Though we have the utmost confidence in the faithfulness and loyalty of the Adventist youth in every land, we are saddened to be unable to include them all in this report. By the end of 1945 we had 7,803 Missionary Volunteer Societies, with a

membership of 191,599. At the close of 1949 we have 9,652 societies, with a world membership of 239,604.

A summary of division reports follows:

Summary of World Young People's Missionary Volunteer Reports

Country	Year	No. Soc.	Mem.
Australasia	1945	446	14,927
	1949	523	17,414
Central Europe	1940	307	3,408
	1949	434	11,631
China	1945	71	2,650
	1949		
Far East	1941	501	9,916
	1949	700	18,412
Inter-America	1945	1,059	22,111
	1949	1,139	26,561
North America	1945	2,386	50,237
	1949	2,771	67,743
Northern Europe	1942	277	5,266
	1949	213	4,524
Gen. Conf. Miss.	1945	181	6,528
	1949	240	6,642
South America	1945	796	22,267
	1949	875	24,266
Southern Africa	1945	1,234	42,373
	1949	1,969	39,412
Southern Asia	1944	80	2,959
	1949	62	2,934
Southern Europe	1945	465	8,957
	1949	726	20,065
Totals	1945*	7,803	191,599
	1949	9,652	239,604
World Gains		1,849	48,005

*Latest available figure between 1940 and 1945.

For the quadrennial period of 1942 to 1945 the report of young people baptized, although statistics were necessarily incomplete, was 35,218. The past four-year period reveals the magnificent total of 61,199 youth baptized. We thank God for this great army of Adventist youth. More of our members are baptized between the twelfth and the thirteenth year than at any other age. How important, then, are the soul-winning plans, the social plans, the world vision, the love, and the fellowship necessary in behalf of these boys and girls. Approximately ten thousand youth in Seventh-day Adventist families in North America alone reach the age of decision each year. They constitute not only the most fascinating and the most challenging but also the most fruitful field in the whole world.

Missionary Endeavor

Though it is difficult to portray in cold figures the values of missionary endeavor, it is evident that the 29,539,642 pieces of literature distributed and the 3,172,668 Bible readings and gospel meetings conducted during this period by our Missionary Volunteers resulted in the baptism of 13,886 souls.

The production of good literature for our young people in many areas of the world is a major problem. In America we are blessed with an abundance and variety of attractive youth literature. We are endeavoring through our large and efficient Reading Course Committee to provide a balanced, stimulating,

and inspiring course each year for our youth. In this past period the amazing total of 129,707 Reading Course Certificates were issued by the Missionary Volunteer Department.

Devotional Features

The call to prayer is sounding through the Morning Watch to Adventist youth everywhere. The Morning Watch Calendar is now printed in twenty-eight languages. Our overseas members feel that this is one way they can join the great prayer circle that knows no national boundaries but brings into unity all who look forward to the glorious return of Jesus Christ. More than 150,000 Morning Watch Calendars are now circulated yearly, and 84,725 report regular observance of this devotional feature.

The Morning Watch devotional plan has been strengthened during the past five years by the publishing of a book of daily commentary on the selected texts. This book has enjoyed a good circulation. In 1945 this commentary started with a distribution of 15,000 for *Mysteries Unveiled*, and the 1949 book, *My Lord and I*, enjoyed a 33,000 edition. Many testimonies are being received in favor of the current book, *With God at Dawn*, and are reporting blessings received from its use.

Bible study is the fuel that feeds the fire of "Share Your Faith." The possession of Bible knowledge needs strong emphasis in the ranks of Adventist youth. It is encouraging to report 54,148 Bible Year and Character Classics certificates issued during the past quadrennium. We are caused to contemplate the statement: "He who by faith receives the word is receiving the very life and character of God."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, p. 38.

Missionary Volunteer Classes

The Missionary Volunteer activity program for boys and girls includes graded classes for all ages from seven to fifteen. These plans have been offered since 1922. Four years ago it could be reported that in the 24 years 67,791 Junior youth had received Friend, Companion, and Comrade pins. This report records 56,632 boys and girls invested for the last four-year period alone. Parents are lavish in their praise of this church-centered activity program.

Missionary Volunteer Honor Tokens are presented when youth qualify for a certain rate of efficiency in any one of 107 different hobby interests, from animal husbandry to weaving and metalcraft. However, 189,768 were presented during this period compared to 91,735 for the former period.

Leadership in these fields of endeavor is most urgently needed. It is, however, a specialized field. To meet this imperative need, the department has established Master Comrade Training. In the fifteen years up to 1945, 5,136 Senior youth had qualified. During the last four years alone 6,359 leaders have been trained. But still there is a shortage, and the next four years should produce 12,000 trained counselors.

Camping

Missionary Volunteer Summer Training Camps are showing gratifying results in teaching self-reliance and Christian citizenship. In 1949 a total of 89 camps were conducted in North America. Of the 7,819 who attended 1,637 made a covenant to serve Christ and prepare for baptism. This evangelistic spirit marks our Missionary Volunteer camps and is one of the distinguishing advantages of Seventh-day Adventist camps.

These positive programs of outdoor fellowship are proving a great blessing in the overseas divisions. During the past quadrennium 178 camps were conducted outside of North America, with a total attendance of 18,404. In some countries these camps for Senior youth are attracting quite a number of non-Seventh-day Adventist friends who are won for Christ. There were 828 who joined baptismal classes during this period.

Every agency of the church must be mobilized to win and hold and train for service the youth God has given His people. Only in this way can the church be vigorous.

Week of Prayer

The Missionary Volunteer Week of Prayer, usually observed in March, is growing in esteem and popularity

Youth

By JESSIE W. MURTON

Bright is the path of promise,
Shining the gate of youth!
But rugged the path of duty,
And narrow the gate of truth.

Yet only by path of duty,
Only by gate of truth,
We come to the fulfilled promise
Glimpsed through the eyes of youth.

throughout our ranks. This last year 44 per cent of our ministers participated in the Missionary Volunteer Week of Prayer in holding revivals in 32 per cent of our churches in North America. During this intensive effort 2,342 youth joined baptismal classes, and countless others gave their lives in consecration to God's service.

Youth Census

There has been an urgent need for many years for an up-to-date Seventh-day Adventist census. Toward the close of 1949 the Missionary Volunteer and Educational departments took a sampling of the Seventh-day Adventist population of the United States. With the able assistance of the United States Bureau of Census, a question sheet was prepared and procedures were set up. With the cooperation of the union conference president and the Review and Herald Publishing Association, every eighth Adventist home was sampled with this question sheet. This brought significant facts from 5,000 homes representing

15,795 individuals. These materials, with tables and charts of vast importance to every church leader, are in the process of publication.

Your Young People's Department joins with thousands of youth and their parents and leaders the world around in thanking the General Conference Committee for the first North American Youth's Congress which was held on this very spot in September, 1947. This congress was a historical milestone in the work of God. Since the San Francisco Congress there has been a new light in the eye and a new melody in the heart of Adventist young people. The spirit of that great congress inspired the world field in a great "Share Your Faith" crusade. Since 1947 similar congresses have been held in all parts of the world. Our hearts thrill with these reports:

"Share Your Faith" Around the World

GERMANY.—"From Europe 11,631 Senior and Junior youth send their heartfelt thanks and greetings to you. These Missionary Volunteers gave 159,187 Bible readings. These young people were instrumental in seeing 1,935 come to a knowledge of God largely through their efforts. The revival among our young people contributes greatly to the inspiration of the churches."

CZECHOSLOVAKIA.—"Over half of our 115 churches have evangelistic services which are being conducted by the young people."

FINLAND.—"There is such a revival among our youth in missionary lines as we have never witnessed before."

CHINA DIVISION.—"The inspiration from the San Francisco Youth's Congress has reached China, and we would like to capitalize on the idea and get our youth together in China for a great inspirational gathering. We expect to set a date soon for an all-China youth's congress in the late summer of 1949." We are so sorry that these plans could not be realized.

INTER-AMERICAN DIVISION.—"This summer twelve 'Share Your Faith' congresses have ignited a new evangelistic flame in the hearts of our young people in Inter-America."

AUSTRALASIA.—"Our youth's congress last December was the largest Adventist meeting of any kind ever held in Australia. God greatly blessed. Our young people were inspired and challenged. They returned to their homes from all over this large field to share their faith with renewed courage."

SOUTH AMERICA.—"We have 25,000 youth. During the last four years they have held nearly a half million Bible studies and gospel meetings. 'Share Your Faith' is a reality here."

SOUTHERN AFRICA.—"Our 40,000 Missionary Volunteers demonstrated their love and devotion to this cause by reporting 894,000 Bible readings this period. In 1949 we held our first youth congresses for the natives in the Southeast African Union, the Europeans in the South African Union, and the colored in the Cape Conference. The

"Share Your Faith" is reaping big results."

FAR EAST.—"Missionary Volunteers here number 18,000. They truly love the Master. Through various means they helped in winning 1,637 souls during this quadrennium."

Departmental Staff

It is a genuine privilege to pay high tribute to my associates in the department. To work with them is a challenge and a joy. I salute the faithfulness and skillful ministry of my fellow workers, Theodore Lucas, Laurence Skinner, and Mrs. Marjorie Marsh. I sincerely thank all the field workers for youth for your faithful service. Your pleasure in the work here is but a foretaste of the rewards in heaven.

Plans ought to be laid at this General Conference session for a greatly enlarged "Share Your Faith" program. We are very thankful for the strong youth leadership in the division, union, and local levels. We court Missionary Volunteer leaders with strong evangelistic leanings and with love and understanding of modern youth. If the call of God to organize the youth of the church of fifty years ago was important, it is a hundred times more important now.

Our young people need to be inspired with a more permanent and established attitude toward Summer Training Camps. We must continue the large youth gatherings, and follow them up with a closer organization in our local societies. We expect quite a turn-

over in our conference Missionary Volunteer leadership because of their youth and adaptability to other lines of work; but we plead for the appointment of more permanent youth leaders with vision, love, and understanding, and with the spirit of commitment to the cause of youth in their hearts.

We believe the time is near for a world youth's congress. Such a meeting would strike the blow and sound the note among our youth that would herald the finishing of the work of the Advent message "in this generation." The three divisions in Europe, with the British Union, have voted to hold an all-European youth's congress in Paris, in July, 1951. The European leaders are anxious to see the spread of the "Share Your Faith" spirit among all their young people. Undoubtedly Europe has at present as much peace as it may ever enjoy again. In 1952 the world Olympics are scheduled for Finland. Traffic then would undoubtedly be too congested for a great youth meeting. Is this not the golden hour to join forces with all Europe and lay adequate plans for a mighty mobilization of all youth?

In the last war, when the nations finally clasped hands and undertook secret armistice appointment, there was a cloud lifted from the hearts of millions of men and women. From a million throats went a shout of joy. Today, as we see the young people of the remnant church on the march for Jesus Christ, the church has reason to rejoice and take new courage.

The Requirements of God

Micah 6:6-8; 7:18, 19; Hosea 14:1-6.

"Wherewith shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"

"Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy. He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea. . . ."

"O Israel return unto the Lord thy God; for thou hast fallen by thine iniquity. Take with you words, and turn to the Lord: say unto him, Take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously: so will we render the calves of our lips. . . ."

"I will heal their backsliding, I will love them freely: for mine anger is turned away from him. I will be as the dew unto Israel: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon. His branches shall spread, and his beauty shall be as the olive tree, and his smell as Lebanon."



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The Southern European Division

By W. R. BEACH, President

THIS great expanse of territory we call the Southern European Division stretches from the stormy banks of the Black Sea, in the east; across frontiers and through curtains of separation to the sun-drenched Azores, in mid-Atlantic; and from Belgium and Czechoslovakia, in the north, reaches down beyond the equator into the Indian Ocean, off the east coast of Africa, and into the dark recesses of the equatorial forests, in West Africa. Within this mighty circle live more than 250,000,000 people who speak twenty-eight basic languages. They form forty-three political units and profess all the major religious and philosophical systems of earth. The great civilizations, both ancient and modern, have seats of influence here. This imposing array of conditions constitutes, as we lay plans to encompass the earth, one of the outstanding evangelistic problems of the Advent Movement.

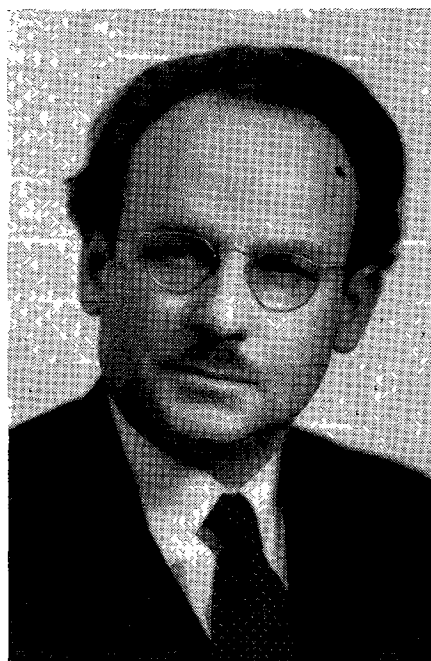
Two Major Sections

Looking at the map, we recognize two major sections of this field. There is the European territory with its eighteen great cities counting one to six million inhabitants. Then beyond Europe's shores we find large mission territories which group themselves into four areas. On the western rim are the Portuguese and Spanish islands of the Atlantic and the Gulf of Guinea. These, with Portugal and Spain, are organized as the Portuguese Union Mission and the Spanish detached mission. The North African Union Mission stretches from Tunisia along the North African rim to the southern borders of Morocco, over a distance of some fifteen hundred miles, and embraces more than fifteen million people of European, Arabic, and African extraction. To the south lie the territories of the French West and Equatorial African Union, with twenty-three million Moslems and animists dispersed in the forests, savannas, and deserts of Africa's heart. Then over in the Indian Ocean a spray of islands, including Madagascar, Mauritius, Réunion, and the Seychelles, form a union mission with approximately five million inhabitants.

In all these areas the forces of the Advent Movement are battling valiantly for truth. They are organized into 1,349 churches, seven union conferences, four union missions, and three detached missions. On December 31, 1949, 1,364 laborers, in addition to a goodly number of noncredentialed workers in the division's 25 institutions, were leading these forces in what we can consider to be one of the shining achievements of God's church.

For decades, for nearly three quarters of a century in some lands, the barren-

ness of Europe's fields chilled the hearts of workers. During the past quadrennial period this has changed. The untiring labors of pioneers—some of the finest men and women this denomination has produced—are coming to fruition. Incredible as it might sound to their ears, thousands now are meeting weekly in our European evangelistic centers to listen to the presentation of God's last warning messages. Across the Mediterranean light is piercing the encircling gloom of Moslem's night. Africa's fetishists by the hundreds are casting away their idols. Thousands of hearts are responding firmly to the requirements of our God. From the cities and countryside of Europe, from the islands of the seas, and from the deserts, savannas, and



W. R. Beach

forest stretches of Africa blood-bought souls are marching into the ranks of the Advent Movement.

During the past four years, 1946-49, 32,448 members were added to the church in Southern Europe through baptism. Another 603 were added on profession of faith, which brings the total to 33,051. Our church membership stood, on January 1, 1946, at 32,180. Thus the number of souls added during the four-year period was equal to the total membership built up during the first seventy-eight years of toil. A number of countries were added to the division territory during the quadrennial period, and these gains in membership have more than offset our losses to the east and to the north through the post-war shifting of national boundaries, as

well as those due to death and disaffection, so that Southern Europe's membership stood, on December 31, 1949, at 66,873. At the end of the second quarter, 1950, the figure is above 70,000. And thousands more, as foretold by the Spirit of prophecy, are standing "on the verge of the kingdom, waiting only to be gathered in."

This thrilling advance, achieved in the teeth of opposition and distress, stands unsurpassed, I believe, in the history of our work. In one of our lands a government official called it "a modern religious phenomenon." For us it is a demonstration of the unlimited possibilities bound up in the concerted efforts of a church fired by the "last love." We believe the Spirit of God is at work. Indeed, we have witnessed apostolic courage and prowess. We thank God for this.

We thank God too for the magnificent interest and material support of the General Conference. Funds have been granted us unstintingly. War-affected institutions have been rehabilitated and strengthened; new institutions have been organized. Evangelistic centers, conference headquarters, and youth facilities have been provided; mission stations have been built; new areas have been entered. The face of the work has been changed. This is the accomplishment of the entire denomination.

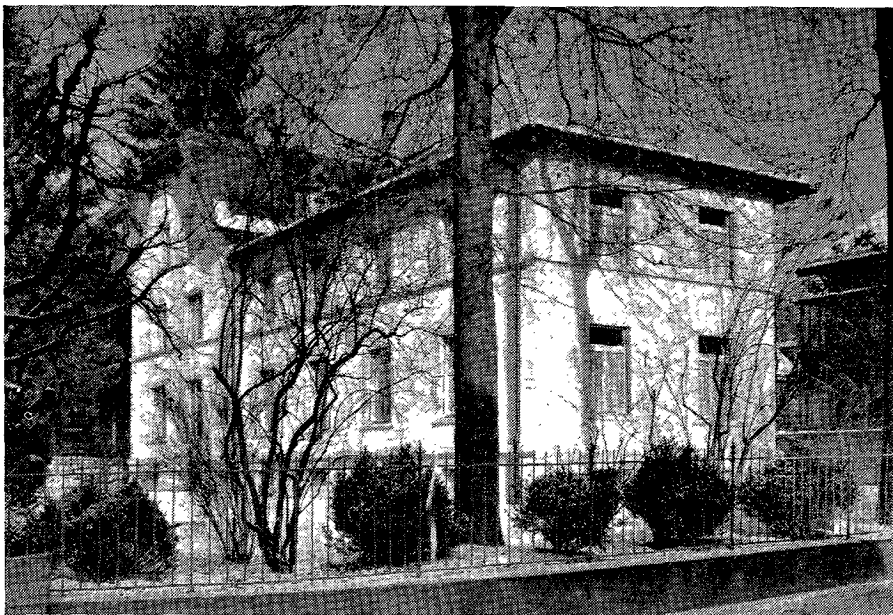
Forty-seven Building Projects

Think of it, brethren! Since the smoke of battle cleared away in 1945, forty-seven building projects have been carried through to completion. I am thinking only of major projects ranging from chapels and evangelistic centers to conference and church headquarters; educational, publishing, medical, and health food institutions; and radio production studios. The institutions will be mentioned in connection with the departments which foster and build them up, and I shall list only the church and conference facilities that have been provided in our larger cities.

At long last Switzerland, a mainstay of foreign missions, and the Bern church have been provided with headquarters and church facilities in keeping with the demands of the cause in this highly developed land. In addition to union headquarters, the building provides a church hall with a seating capacity of 550, a young people's hall with seats for nearly 200, a nice church school room, and space for Sabbath school and home missionary activities.

The same pattern—sometimes on a smaller, sometimes on a larger scale—has been followed for Rome, Algiers, Madrid, Naples, Milan, Vienna, and Athens. Church and youth facilities have been provided at Pôrto and Portalegre, Portugal; Barcelona, Spain; Liège, Brugge, and Gent, Belgium; Mulhouse, Angers, Rouen, Valence, Montpellier, Nice, and Paris-Neuilly, France; Banská Bystrica, Czechoslovakia; Békéscsaba, Szeged, and Székesfehérvár, Hungary; Ferryville, Tunisia; Biel, La Chaux-de-Fonds, and Chur, Switzerland; and Bo-

REVIEW AND HERALD



The Southern European Division Headquarters in Bern, Switzerland, as Expanded and Remodeled in 1948

logna and Trieste, Italy. Similar projects must remain unmentioned.

It would be difficult to exaggerate the importance of these edifices for present and future development and stability. I think they have been the foremost single human factor in promoting the church's advance. Many of them have come to us on the shining wings of rehabilitation. In other cases the local resources of the Southern European Division were able to match, dollar for dollar, funds that were placed at our disposal.

A Great Laymen's Movement

Needless to say, these material facilities must be put to good use. I think this is being done. A throb of energy and devotion has stirred the hearts of workers and actuated the planning of departments, institutions, and churches. The home missionary department has played and is playing an outstanding part. In many lands our church activity is, in point of fact, a great laymen's movement.

This laymen's movement has been both social and spiritual. The distress and ruin brought on by military operations and racial persecution afforded unprecedented opportunity for welfare activities. Our home missionary department joined the rest of the world in a vast effort to relieve suffering. War victims and refugees came first. In many places this relief work has attracted the attention of the press and has gained us favor. It was through the influence of our relief work in Austria that after two years of fruitless efforts we finally obtained permission to reopen and operate our publishing house. Only eternity can reveal the good done and the lives saved through the combined efforts of the denomination in the work of relief. Seventh-day Adventist solidarity revealed itself as a thing of beauty.

But the salvation of souls for eternity has remained the supreme objective. Our home missionary leadership has set

a splendid example of venturesome enterprise. Before the clouds of war had completely lifted, efforts were made in view of a revival and reorganization of all types of home missionary activity. Ingathering and Big Week immediately met with a success far exceeding prewar achievements. Special attention was given to the instruction of the church for her divine mission by the organization of Bible training courses, conventions, and lay preachers' institutes. The results have been inspiring.

The Romanian church has doubled its membership since the close of the war. This has been possible because our members, though harassed with perplexities, have worked unceasingly to win souls. In recent years 2,378 people were brought to baptism through laymen's efforts. A Romanian Government official, who recognizes the good the Advent Movement is doing in his country, said to us, "The achievements of the Seventh-day Adventist Church recall most singularly the sixteenth-century Reformation."

Hungary offers a similar picture. In this beautiful country we have some 150 well-trained lay preachers and lay Bible instructors. Some of them have raised up new groups and churches. Many have won five to twenty-five souls. The membership of the Hungarian Union has nearly doubled in the span of the postwar years.

This heavenly flame is burning in countless places. Our Italian churches adopted as their motto, "I Seek My Brethren." Four new churches were raised up in a short time in Sicily through the earnest work of church laymen. At La Spezia the fierce bombardment which brought the war to a close was so intense that one of our sisters had to flee for her life. She found refuge in a village, and there bore testimony to her faith in such a way that in the course of time thirteen persons were baptized. This group is now organized for active missionary

work. Our Italian believers are seeking their brethren still outside the fold. As a result, the church membership of Italy has trebled in the span of a few short years. Last year, 1949, was the best in the history of our work in Italy with 260 members baptized.

Threefold Youth Program

The Missionary Volunteer Department has joined in this great advance. At the close of hostilities a threefold program was adopted.

1. Bind up the ruins of war by contributing to the physical, moral, and spiritual reconstruction of youth.
2. Encourage, inspire, and organize our Missionary Volunteers for service.
3. Launch these youthful energies in a great "Share Your Faith" program.

With this program in hand our Missionary Volunteers set out to save the lost. Point three of their program has received special emphasis, and is gathering momentum. Young voices are sounding a clarion call of hope to disillusioned, bewildered youth. Since 1946 approximately five thousand young people have been added to the church through baptism. During this time many of our young men have witnessed to their faith under trying circumstances. Some have been beaten, others have been tortured and thrown naked into the snow, and yet others have even been sentenced to death. But in spite of this they have been true to the principles of their faith. God has delivered miraculously in times of test.

In Spain a young man belonging to the Catholic Action was sent by this organization to observe the youth activities of the Adventists. He sat in on the youth meetings, once, twice, three times. "I was thrilled," he told us, "by the program of these young people, and after attending the meetings a fourth time I decided to join them. I reported back to the Catholic Action, 'I am joining the Seventh-day Adventists. They have the truth.'" Today this young man is one more Missionary Volunteer, and one of more than five hundred faithful members added to the church in old Spain since the end of the civil war.

The "Shock Troops" of God's Cause

Our boys and girls are doing magnificently well. So are our colporteur evangelists, the "shock troops" of God's cause. They number 373 regularly credentialed workers and are supported in their efforts by twenty-two publishing houses, depositories, and tract societies.

The end of the war found our publishing work badly shaken. Some of our houses had been severely damaged, and others were closed because of military or governmental restrictions. The lack of paper and ink was a handicap in all of them. Thus the six hundred colporteur evangelists, who had served this cause so heroically and faithfully up to and during a part of the war, were deprived of their arms. But this apparent disaster was to be turned into victory. Our presses soon began to hum again. The printed page came forth

more abundantly than ever. Several publishing plants are now operating at capacity production, and a growing group of colporteur-evangelists—some of the finest in the world—are piling up record sales.

One of the most urgent problems facing the Southern European Division is the necessity of providing expanded publishing facilities. The French house at Melun, near Paris, despite postwar expansion, is unable to meet the requirements of our French territories. A large apartment house has been built for workers, an entirely new system of electrical power production has been installed, and other machinery has been acquired. In the immediate future more space for the print shop and the editorial staff will have to be provided. Plans have been laid for this, and the Publishing Department of the General Conference is giving much-appreciated support.

The Austrian Union has moved its publishing house out of cramped quarters into the spacious quarters provided by the new *Adventhaus* in Vienna. In the east our publishing houses are doing their best to keep up the "good fight." In several cases they are succeeding well. Printing plants are being installed in Italy and Madagascar. The publishing house in Italy was one of the early Missions Extension projects of the publishing department after World War I. After twenty years the machinery for a full-fledged print shop has been purchased through publishing rehabilitation.

The roof is on the new publishing plant in Tananarive, Madagascar. The printing machinery purchased in the United States by the General Conference Publishing Department has been shipped to the island. This house will have its own electrical production, and will be, I suppose, the best-equipped printing plant in Madagascar. Our publishing department's plans also call for the building of a print shop for French West and Equatorial Africa, near Yaoundé, French Cameroun. Other facilities must be provided. Meanwhile, field leadership and organization are being strengthened, and on every hand our colporteurs are marching through doors of opportunity in search of their brethren.

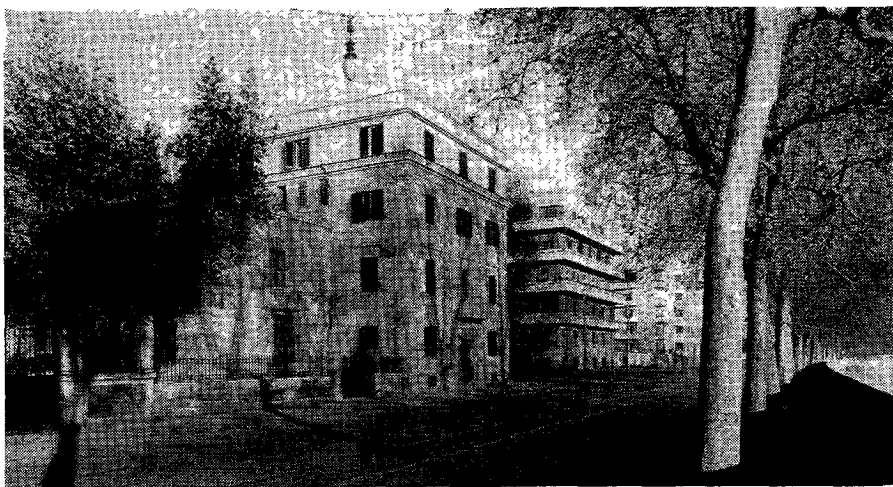
Schools in Southern Europe

Our educational institutions are an integral part of this search for the lost. The eleven training schools of Southern Europe are being built up as evangelistic centers. The youth entrusted to them are being formed as apostles of the Advent faith.

The program of the educational department during the past four years can be summed up in four points:

1. The restoration of normal operating conditions in institutions affected by the war.

The dire results of hostilities were legion. Buildings were damaged, school equipment was deteriorated, teachers were scattered, and instructional programs had to be adapted and sometimes reduced to a point of inefficiency. In



Recently Dedicated Italian Union Headquarters and Rome Church, on the Tiber, in the Eternal City

most cases the postwar task implied complete rehabilitation.

The division seminary and college at Collonges-sous-Salève, France, was a typical example. This institution never closed its doors, though on several occasions closure seemed imminent. Teachers and students stood by and carried on as best they could. This factor was important for the immediate resumption of our foreign mission program at the end of hostilities. There was no irreparable gap in our postwar working force. But the institution had to be rehabilitated. This has been done, and we believe that today the school is in better shape than on the eve of the war.

2. The establishment of three new training schools.

The youth of Italy now have access to one of the denomination's most beautiful and efficient schools. This property was bought immediately after the war. It consists of approximately fifty acres of good land in the immediate suburbs of Florence. Though near the city the school has all the advantages of the countryside. A number of buildings came with the property, including a large villa which serves for administration building and classrooms, while providing space for thirty girls. A second building was transformed and enlarged as a boys' dormitory. There are farm and lodging facilities, so that a fine group of teachers and students can now play their essential role in warning the forty-six million of Italy.

A smaller training school has been provided for Austria, at Bogenhofen. This institution opened its doors in the fall of 1949. There is dormitory space for thirty-five students. Classroom space is available for a larger number. This little institution will grow as conditions warrant and permit.

The third training school is the Phoenix college on the island of Mauritius. After one year's operation the school has more than two hundred students and offers encouraging prospects for the development of the work among the five hundred thousand inhabitants on this "pearl of the Indian Ocean." The island is small, and dormitory facilities are needed for only a limited number of students.

3. The adoption of a plan for systematic religious instruction.

The church school problem is yet unsolved in continental Southern Europe. We have a number of these essential institutions; but government restrictions, divided families, and lack of adequate financial support constitute a problem which responsible committees continue to view with alternating hope and despair. Meanwhile, the educational department has not remained unmindful of the spiritual needs of our children. In 1949 a plan of systematic religious instruction was adopted by the division committee for churches deprived of a church school. The plan is to gather our children on one free afternoon each week for regular Bible classwork. Special manuals are being prepared for this purpose. Study will be supervised by competent Bible instructors.

4. The very interesting feature of the educational program in Southern Europe of establishing centers for family education.

These organizations group Seventh-day Adventist parents and prospective parents, and at the same time are open to neighbors and friends. In certain large cities of France they are real evangelistic undertakings. The public press opens its columns to reports on the fine work they are doing. An outgrowth of this program has been the organization of weekly broadcasts on family education over the French national broadcasting system.

Laudable efforts have been put forth during the past four years to strengthen the right arm of the message. Through long decades the Lake Geneva Sanitarium was our one and only medical light. Its rays beamed brightly for the healing of soul and body. Its goodly influence has been felt among Europe's most prominent leaders. But how little for the millions of this vast field! In recent years small medical units were added in mission fields. In 1949 the *Vie et Santé* Institute at Algiers opened its doors with added facilities after postwar rehabilitation.

At the home base our division committee is struggling heroically to accumulate sufficient money to make possible, on a sound financial basis, the

establishment of a complete medical institution in France. Certainly a sanitarium in this land would exert influence to the far corners of the earth. Meanwhile, a new venture in medical evangelism has come to France. On April 15, 1950, the Bordeaux polyclinic opened its doors for service. A splendid property was acquired in the center of the city and has been transformed into a beautiful unit. In addition to a full-time doctor, the staff includes consultant doctors, visiting nurses, and Bible instructors. This project has created a stir of enthusiasm, and we have confidence that it announces the dawn of a new day in evangelizing France's millions. Money is also in hand for the establishment of a hospital unit in Equatorial Africa. The world Sabbath school contributed to this project on June 24, 1950.

In addition to this institutional activity, the medical department cooperates in producing health literature. Medical journals are published in several languages. The French *Vie et Santé* has a monthly edition of well over one hundred thousand. We are thankful for these achievements. We believe, however, that we must look forward to greater things in the medical ministry.

The Sabbath school department has a special place in the planning and the affections of our churches. The schools have a total membership of 76,685. In Southern Europe they are schools of sanctification and evangelism. In a number of fields the Sabbath school is the entering wedge, the "pre-church" as some call it.

The Sabbath school is also the fundamental institution in Southern Europe's foreign mission program. It is here that our members consider from week to week the stupendous task confronting the church. It is here that our youth are fired with foreign mission adventure. The direct contact with, and responsibility for, these mission territories is an unquestionable necessity for the stimulation of mission interest and prosperity.

Our Sabbath schools are happy and enthusiastic when they learn of the 428 baptisms in 1949 for French Equatorial Africa and of the 340 baptisms for the same year in the Indian Ocean.

This direct responsibility leads our fields to shoulder the burden of providing workers for overseas territories where nationals from the homeland are becoming indispensable. From 1946 to 1949, 105 missionaries were sent out under regular appointment by the Southern European Division.

The Voice of Hope

And so the Sabbath school marches on, and with it the rays of our message penetrate the darkness of mission lands. New brightness and strength are being added as the beams of radio flash out over land and sea. Radio is a new activity in Southern Europe. We call it the Voice of Hope. Radio and correspondence school work is now organized as a department of the division.

The chief center of this activity is our fully equipped radio studio in Paris. Programs are prepared and recorded there in a lengthening list of languages.

The Bible correspondence schools in connection with the radio work have been organized in a dozen languages for Southern Europe. To date, radio programs are broadcast in French, Italian, German, English, Spanish, Dutch, and Malagasy. Recently the entire French network was placed at our disposal for weekly Sunday morning broadcasts. A committee with a former Moslem as a member is preparing broadcasts and Bible correspondence lessons for the Mohammedan people. These programs will be recorded in the Paris studio and sent out over Radio Tangier.

Through the correspondence school work the postman is fast becoming the Advent Movement's outstanding Bible instructor. For 1949, the first year of an organized reporting system, 113 were baptized as a direct result of radio and Bible school activity. This report is for Western Europe, where we have some twenty-five thousand students.

Yet two important phases of activity must be mentioned in order to give a picture of the quadrennial period—the religious liberty department and the ministerial association. The chief objective of the first has been to keep our avenues of action open and to prepare better, more spacious highways into the future. The second aims at a constantly improved rolling stock and personnel. Both have done remarkably well during the past four years.

The religious liberty department has had to deal with a number of critical situations. In some instances a completely new working basis has had to be set up with governments. In other cases the department has had to find its way through mazes of restriction and state planning. Often it is difficult to find a legal basis for the purchase and possession of church properties. Then, when properties have been purchased and buildings constructed, permissions have to be obtained for the occupation and use of these facilities. Add to this the difficult situation in many lands as regards the conscientious accomplishment of military duties and the obligatory attendance of children and youth at public schools.

A number of striking victories can be recorded. In France the military authorities have consented to a satisfactory arrangement about military service. Our youth in good and regular church standing can fulfill their obligations in keeping with the dictates of their conscience. In other lands, such as Belgium, Italy, and Switzerland, a satisfactory status has been granted. Efforts to arrive at the same result elsewhere are being pursued wisely and persistently. Progress has also been made in several lands in obtaining freedom for parents to abstain, for religious motives, from sending their children to school on Sabbath. In others the battle is still being fought, and though auspicious tokens of success mark the horizon the battle has not been won.

New Journal in French

In support of these efforts the religious liberty department has developed a program of public education. In 1948 the first number of *Conscience et Liberté*

(Conscience and Liberty) was published in French. I consider this to be one of the finest journals we print in behalf of religious liberty. Some of Europe's most qualified spokesmen have contributed articles of first importance. A leading Swiss writer has presented in a most favorable light the problem of obligatory school attendance on Sabbath. These articles already are exerting a telling influence. Then, as a second means of public education, weekly broadcasts on religious liberty are organized over the Monte Carlo station. Free time is granted for this, and some of the world's outstanding leaders in religious and philosophical thought have come to the microphone, under the auspices of our religious liberty department, to make their contribution to a freer and more tolerant world.

Our ministerial association has followed the pattern set by the General Conference. Workers' institutes on a larger and more helpful scale have been organized in practically all linguistic areas. Workers' meetings have become a regular item on the conference calendar. Workers' reading courses are provided in a half dozen languages, and ministerial bulletins are now issued from the division office in French and German, calling attention to some high lights in the *Ministry* and providing a medium of exchange for workers in the languages of the field. The internship plan was organized in 1948 on a sound, workable financial basis. It operates under the supervision of the Ministerial Association.

In the realm of practical evangelism the association has encouraged the development of large city efforts. Three years

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ago the division council set up a special evangelistic fund from which, on the recommendation of the field and the association, funds are made available, on a percentage basis, for special efforts. Financial assistance is also provided workers for the purchase of evangelistic aids. Large efforts are held regularly in a number of our great cities. Several workers have become city evangelists of talent and success. However, the chief emphasis continues to be placed on the development of the smaller evangelistic teams. The plan is that every worker undertake at least one evangelistic campaign each year. Though the goal has not been reached 100 per cent, good results have been attained. During the past four years each worker in Southern Europe won, on an average, twenty-seven souls to the truth. This was approximately three times the average for the denomination.

Thus have all means and methods, old and new, been harnessed for the final assault. There is a determination on the part of our leaders to bring methods, institutions, and organizations into perfect focus in order to carry out rapidly and efficiently the program the denomination has set before the Southern European Division. Our churches have rallied magnificently to both the spiritual and the financial support of this program. In 1945 the funds raised within the bounds of this division represented approximately 57 per cent of its total regular and special budgets. By 1949, despite tumbling currencies, this part of our local resources had risen to 74 per cent. This was exclusive of rehabilitation.

Our people in Southern Europe long for action. They are happy when they can bear testimony to their faith. Then let us give them action. Let us pray for and with them, so that quickly and joyfully the large cities, the vast forests, and the unending savannas and deserts of our immense stretch of territory may in God's great hour be "lightened with his glory."

W. H. Branson Elected President

AT THE opening of the evening service, July 11, the nominating committee through its chairman, C. L. Bauer, and its secretary, M. V. Campbell, presented a partial report offering the name of W. H. Branson for president of the General Conference. The report was quickly moved and seconded and unanimously voted, the whole congregation standing. Elder Branson was warmly welcomed to his task by J. L. McElhany, who assured him of the prayers and the loyalty of all the membership.

Here are a few facts regarding our new president, as secured in a brief interview with him:

W. H. Branson was born August 16, 1887, in Wayne County, Illinois. His early schooling was secured in part at the church school in connection with the Adventist church in Keenville. Later he went to the Battle Creek Academy, and then to Emmanuel Missionary College, Berrien Springs, Michigan.

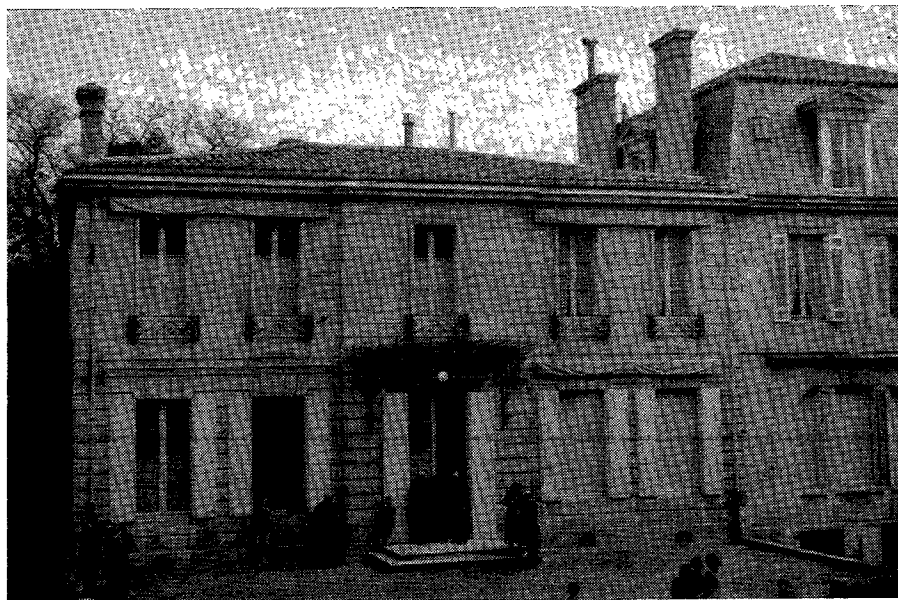
He became a tent master for Elder Luther Warren in 1903 at Omaha, Nebraska. A little later he entered colporteur work for a brief period of years. He entered the ministry in 1908, in the Florida Conference. He served as president of the South Carolina Conference about the year 1910, then as president of the Cumberland Conference. In 1915 he became president of the Southeastern Union Conference (now merged with the Southern Union) and held that office for four years. In 1919 he was asked to go to Africa to organize the African Division. He continued as president of that division until 1930. From then until 1946 he served as president of the North American Division and as a general vice-president of the General Conference. In that year he went to China as president of the China Division, which position he held until the recent realignment of that division as a result of the Communist victory in that land.

Immediately after being elected president, he made the following brief statement:

W. H. BRANSON: Ever since Elders C. L. Bauer and M. V. Campbell came to our room in our hotel about 6 P.M. today and told Mrs. Branson and me of the action of the nominating committee, we have been overwhelmed. I have always had very high ideals regarding the type of man who should stand as the leader of God's people, and especially in these last days of peril and of final preparation for our Lord's return. But I have never felt that I could personally measure up to that standard. I feel that I am the least of the apostles. I have no natural abilities to carry such a task as you have asked me to carry. I see so much of weakness and faultiness in my life that I shrink from undertaking this holy task. One thing is sure, I have no confidence in the flesh. Of mine own self I can do nothing. I have, however, always believed in our constituted committees and have felt that their calls should be heeded.

I have never felt free to say no when our denominational committees have asked me to undertake any task. I also believe that the General Conference in session constitutes the highest authority of God upon earth (when called upon to do so by God's people in general session). When the brethren left our hotel room, Mrs. Branson and I fell upon our knees and pleaded with God to forgive us our sins and make us what we ought to be and the kind of people God's church expects its leaders to be. Only God can be my sufficiency. My trust shall be in Him. I am fully persuaded that this is His people and that we have His truth and that He will lead us. It is because of my absolute confidence in His leadership of His church upon the earth that I find courage to undertake this great task. I plead for all of you to pray for me, for I shall always need your earnest prayers. I know that I shall have your cooperation, and this too gives me courage.

My chief burden shall be the winning of souls. This, I believe, should be our greatest of all goals. Our chief business as a church is to make ready a people prepared for the Lord. We must lose no time in accomplishing this solemn business for God. Everything else in the world is ready for the end. Heaven will be made up of people. The only possessions we can take with us to heaven are those whom we can save from the waves of sin, and this gathering of the people can be done only under the power and blessing of the Holy Spirit. We must now receive this pentecostal power, and lay plans throughout the whole world to get the people ready. The hour is growing late. The night is falling. There is not an hour or a day to lose. Every department in our work should be streamlined to accomplish this great task. May God lead us into this larger work. We must never forget that the goal of all goals is soul saving.



The New Polyclinic and Evangelistic Center at Bordeaux, France