

Adventist Review®

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A visit to the U.S.S.R.

Robert H. Pierson, General Conference president, in his article beginning on page 4, tells of his recent official visit to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. He was accompanied by Mrs. Pierson and Elder and Mrs. Alf Lohne, who were making a return trip, having traveled there on a tourists' visa in May of 1977. The recent trip of almost three weeks was filled with speaking appointments, meetings with workers, interviews with government officials and the press, and informal talks with members. Above, the Lohnes and Piersons, in the center of the front row, meet with Adventist workers in Sochi, by the Black Sea. Left, the cook for workers building a new church in Tula presents them with a decorated cake honoring their "once in a lifetime" trip. "Once in a lifetime" was written in Russian on the cake.

THIS WEEK

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After his history-making visit to the U.S.S.R., recounted in an article beginning on page 4 and concluding next week, General Conference president Robert H. Pierson spoke during a Monday-morning chapel program here at the Review and Herald, giving the highlights of his trip. Accompanying him on his trip had been his wife and Elder and Mrs. Alf Lohne. (Elder Lohne is a general vice-president of the General Conference.)

One thing he told the Review audience that he does not mention in his article was the generous way he and his party were dined in the U.S.S.R. For example, he said, "In Odessa we were served the following for breakfast: prunes stuffed with nuts and sour cream, deviled eggs with sauce, tomatoes, cucumbers, olives, pancakes with cottage cheese and sour cream, cauliflower, boiled eggs, lentils, fresh apples, pears, peaches, watermelon, mineral water, lemonade, bread and butter, a layer cake and an apple cake.

"The hostess prepared all this food in a small room and a kitchen that she shares with several other apartments. She apologized to us because she had planned four more courses, but the pastor had vetoed them."

It is no wonder that Elder Pierson went on to say that they ate only two meals a day during their journey.

Vickie Hyde Corey, author of our Young Adult article, "A 'For Sale' Sign" (p. 10), works at the college affairs office of Columbia Union College, Takoma Park, Maryland. A recent graduate of CUC, Mrs. Corey has a degree in English. In her article she makes a passing reference to her year as a student missionary at a school in Sierra Leone, Africa. While there she taught English, was girls' dean, and led the school choir. She has written a book, her first one, entitled *The Glad Game*, in which she describes her year in Africa. It is now in the publication process at the Review and Herald.

Mrs. Corey's Young Adult article tells of a more recent incident in her life in Maryland.

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LETTERS

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Good reading

The quotation by Uriah Smith (cover, Sept. 14) reminded me that my grandfather read himself into the Adventist faith through the REVIEW. The entire family accepted new light and trained for service at Graysville Training School with Elder Colcord, and then in Battle Creek, Michigan.

DOROTHY LOVELL CHARLAND
Soquel, California

Pathfinders

"Learning to Parent" (Sept. 7) was timely and outstanding. May I add that among the "legion" of activities that parents can employ is Pathfinder Vocational Honors. Gaining honors in nature study is one of the easiest and most productive areas for binding parents and children together in happy activities. I say easiest, because there are guides and a bibliography provided for each field of study.

A few weeks ago I helped the 10-year-old son of a family with whom I have been having Bible studies start earning a Flower

Honor. After a camping trip, the entire family has become wrapped up in flower study.

I first learned of this possible new dimension from our own children and from a young boy I had mothered. After receiving his flower honor, he remarked, "You think you helped me get a Flower Honor for Pathfinders. You did more than that. You opened a new world to me."

MYRTLE A. POHLE
Winkelman, Arizona

Church schools

There is some encouragement in learning that achievement test scores of children in Adventist schools are one month ahead of the national average ("Will My Child Suffer Scholastically if He Attends Church School?" Aug. 31).

Unfortunately, this also means that as national scores have plunged over the past decade and more ours have dropped almost as far.

Small multigrade schools have tended to emphasize educational basics, for which we can be thankful. Regrettably, some of our larger schools have fallen into traps such as the absurd "open classroom" and innumerable extracurriculars that only rarely leave a week's academic program intact.

ROBERT R. MORRISON
Collegedale, Tennessee

Complex issue

Re "The Right to Live" (For This Generation, Sept. 7).

The reason for the author's strong sentiments against abortion is clear and needs to be heard. However, her point is only one more factor to consider in the discussion of the complex issue of abortion.

A woman may have taken adequate contraceptive measures because she knows, from past experience, that a child would spell disaster for herself and the child. Yet this woman becomes part of the 1 percent who conceive. What then?

ROSALIA COFFEN
Nashville, Tennessee

Author thanked

Thank you, thank you, thank you, for publishing "When the Angel Sang" (Sept. 14). The story gave me renewed confidence in God's promises.

I am grateful that the author waited 50 years to write the article so I could benefit from it. I was not yet born in the 1920's, so I would have lost out had she penned her experience at that time.

The hymn "Redeemed" will have an even deeper meaning to me now each time I hear it or sing it.

BETTY KOSSICK
Bellbrook, Ohio

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Champions deny self

Friends of General Robert E. Lee once invited him to a christening service for their baby. At the close of the service the parents asked General Lee, "Do you have any counsel for us as to how we can be good parents and make sure this baby grows up to be a useful citizen?"

General Lee paused for a moment and then responded, "Teach him to deny himself."

Many years before General Lee made his statement, Jesus said, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me" (Luke 9:23). Self-denial is necessary for all who wish to live truly successful, productive lives.

Some people think that self-denial means that they are forbidden to eat food that tastes good, to go places that are fun, or to smile. E. Stanley Jones once met a person of this kind, a woman who had been the head of 65 charm schools. At one time she drew \$5,000 royalty each year on each of her charm schools, had a house with two swimming pools, and was on radio with "an hour of charm." But she had been completely dissatisfied with her life, so began searching for something better.

Hoping that by studying history she might find happiness, she got a book from the library that she assumed was a history of the Pilgrims of New England. It was entitled *Pilgrim's Progress*. She began to read this book, and as she read it the Holy Spirit reached her heart and she came to the place where she was willing to deny self.

But because of her particular religious background, she felt that self-denial meant the renunciation of everything fun and good. So she gave up her home and business. When Dr. Jones met her she had lost her charm, had reduced herself to ugliness, and was living in a trailer with her two children. Dr. Jones asked her, "Do you know what you are doing? You are running away from the world. You think Christianity demands world-surrender. Well, it doesn't. It demands something much deeper than world-surrender; it demands self-surrender. The moment you give yourself to Jesus, all things belong to you—the world, life, death, the present and the future—because you belong to Christ. When you surrender yourself, then the world comes back to you, but with a new face, new attitudes, new meanings."

Must people give up life when they accept Jesus? Do they lose that which is good in this world? No! Jesus said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). "No good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly" (Ps. 84:11). That which God removes from us is not good, but that which is good He returns to us for our blessing and the blessing of those around us.

What is self-denial? What is involved in the surrender of self? Here is one answer: "Man is required to love God supremely, that is, with all his might, mind, and strength, and his neighbor as himself. This he cannot possibly do unless he shall deny himself. . . . Self-denial means to rule the spirit when passion is seeking for the mastery; to resist the temptation to censure and to speak faultfinding words; to have patience with the child that is dull and whose conduct is grievous and trying; to stand at the post of duty when others may fail; to lift responsibilities whenever and wherever you can, not for the purpose of applause, not for policy, but for the sake of the Master, who has given you a work to be done with unwavering fidelity; when you might praise yourself, to keep silent and let other lips praise you. Self-denial is to do good to others where inclination would lead you to serve and please yourself."—*Testimonies*, vol. 4, p. 521.

Love demands self-denial

Why deny self? Because true love demands it. No one can love God with the whole heart and his neighbor as himself, and yet live a life of self-indulgence. Beside that, self-denial enables one to obtain benefits otherwise unobtainable, to achieve results otherwise impossible. After his recent heavyweight-title fight, Mohammed Ali reported that to prepare for the bout he had driven himself mercilessly. "I ran until my lungs burned and my tongue was swollen." Aides affirmed that he had done more than 8,000 sit-ups. "I hated every minute of it," said Ali, "but I said to myself, 'Suffer now, and live the rest of your life as a champion.'" He denied self to achieve a goal that he considered worthwhile.

When Jesus calls us to follow Him, He wants us to be champions. And champions must not indulge appetite and passion. They must not clog their systems with sugar. They must not violate the laws of health. God wants His people to hear Him, and He knows that they cannot if the sensitive nerve endings in the brain are numb from overeating or fatigue. So He urges, Deny yourself. And as we obey we receive numerous benefits. The whole life style that Jesus sets before us is designed as a blessing to help us reach our full potential—spiritually, intellectually, socially, professionally.

A point that we sometimes forget is this: Self-denial is the foundation of true benevolence. If we were to indulge our every whim, we would have no funds with which to help others. We would have no money with which to pay tithe. We would have no money with which to proclaim the gospel to the world, or help the unfortunate in this country and overseas.

In John 13:16 Jesus said: "The servant is not greater than his Lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him." Since Jesus, our Lord, lived a life of self-denial, should we not follow His example? He denied self because He loved us. Should we not deny self because we love Him and those for whom He died?

K. H. W.

A VISIT TO THE U.S.S.R.

By ROBERT H. PIERSON

Elder and Mrs. Alf Lohne, Mrs. Pierson, and I were the first General Conference official visitors invited by the Seventh-day Adventist churches in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in several decades. From August 17 through September 5 we spent 19 interest-filled days in four of the Soviet republics. We were able to visit the various centers we desired to visit, and our contacts with the government Council of Religion were friendly and helpful. We were free to speak to large congregations of our people and to meet with our workers in all of the centers we visited.

As soon as our Aeroflot plane touched down at Moscow's Sheremetyevo International Airport we felt the warmth of the love and fellowship of our Soviet Seventh-day Adventists. From our first meeting in the Moscow church, where we were greeted with the traditional huge loaves of Russian bread, and salt, until we said goodbye to our little group of leaders and believers in Leningrad the evening of September 5, we were fully occupied with speaking appointments, visits, fellowship breakfasts, lunches, and dinners.

Years ago the Lord used laymen to create the first interest in the Advent message in the U.S.S.R. German colonists who had emigrated to the United States, where they had become Seventh-day Adventists, sent books and tracts in the German language to friends in Russia. An interest on the part of both German settlers and native Russians soon developed. But in the latter part of the nineteenth century studying the Bible in Czarist Russia was treated as a crime punishable by banishment to the far corners of the empire.

Nevertheless, interest in the message grew, and the first converts appeared about 1882 in several areas of the Crimea, southern Russia. In 1886, 19 people were baptized and L. R. Conradi organized the first church in Berdebulat, near the Black Sea.

The fortunes of the church ebbed and flowed through the decades that followed. For some years the church was banned under the Czarist regime, with the organization dissolved and our churches closed. For many of our leaders and members these years meant suffering, harassment, imprisonment, or exile during a time of great persecution.

In more recent years many of our churches have been

Robert H. Pierson is president of the General Conference.



This charming girl gave a welcoming speech to the Piersons and Lohnes at a social in a private home in the city of Tula. "It was a blessed experience," says Elder Pierson of his association with Soviet SDA's.

opened, and Seventh-day Adventists have been permitted to worship in their sanctuaries on Sabbath and on other appointed midweek days. In some cities we have large, representative church buildings of our own. In other communities our people worship in Baptist church buildings. In still others the state has arranged for Baptists or Methodists to share our facilities. We visited two places where one church building has just been completed and another is under construction.

Many people in the West mistakenly think of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics as "Russia." Actually, the U.S.S.R. is composed of 15 union socialist republics, which in turn include 20 autonomous republics and other autonomous "regions and areas." Each Soviet republic has its own constitution, state emblem, anthem, flag, and state language. Time permitted us to travel in

only the Federal Republic of Russia, which is by far the largest—nearly as large as all of the other republics combined—and the Soviet republics of Ukraine, Latvia, and Estonia.

This great sprawling nation covers more than 14 million square kilometers (8.6 million square miles) part of which is in Europe, part in Asia. The U.S.S.R. spans eleven time zones. When it is five o'clock in the morning in Cape Dezhnev, the easternmost point on the mainland, it is midnight at Lake Baikal (in Siberia) and seven o'clock in the evening of the previous day in Moscow, the capital city. More than two hundred and sixty million people call this great heterogeneous complex "Mother Russia."

We found the peoples of the U.S.S.R. exceptionally health-conscious. More than 3,000 stadiums and 61,000 gymnasiums accommodate some 52 million people who engage in sports. An estimated 48 million visit the hundreds of sanitariums and health spas strategically located in the more salubrious areas of the nation. Every third doctor in the world lives in the U.S.S.R., and all medical services are free. We saw many evidences of temperance-conscious organizations discouraging the use of alcohol and tobacco.

Love for the message

Seventh-day Adventists in the U.S.S.R. have lost neither their love for the truth nor the warmth of their fellowship, although for long periods they have been somewhat isolated from the mainstream of worldwide Adventism. There are no serious divisions among them as far as basic Adventist doctrine is concerned. I would call them old-fashioned Seventh-day Adventists who love God's Word, who highly regard the Spirit of Prophecy, and who have sought to live up to this light through the years.

They love their church, and flock in large numbers to Sabbath and other services. Because of problems they encounter, they do not operate Sabbath schools; instead, the time is spent in singing and in the study of God's Word. They prepare their own study guides, usually studying the various books of the Bible in a careful, systematic manner. While we were in the U.S.S.R. some churches were studying Paul's Epistle to the Romans, while others were making a verse-by-verse study of the apostle's first letter to the believers in Corinth.

There are no Adventist church schools in the U.S.S.R. Nor do we operate Dorcas Welfare Societies, for the government cares for all educational and charitable work in their country. We have no seminary to train our ministers. Prospective ministers serve a period of in-service training with experienced workers before being assigned church pastorates on their own.

We were impressed with the Soviet cities we visited. Many modern buildings are either under construction or have been recently completed. On every hand one is impressed with the almost endless number of huge housing complexes that struggle to keep pace with the thousands of people migrating to the cities to work.

Sochi and Odessa, two delightful resorts on the Black Sea, both have thriving Seventh-day Adventist churches that we visited on our itinerary. Sochi is one of the most popular health resorts in the Soviet Union. It combines a mild, subtropical climate, a warm sea, and mineral springs that attract thousands of visitors every year.

To these two seaside cities our members traveled hundreds of kilometers to attend the meetings that had been scheduled. In Sochi we have a newly completed small church building with a seating capacity of 100, situated on a hill overlooking the city. The church was crowded with nearly 200 people, and with almost an equal number gathered around the outside of the building.

In Odessa, in the more commodious building shared with our Baptist friends, some 1,500 happy, joyous Seventh-day Adventists and their friends came to spend the weekend of fellowship over the Sabbath. Here the crowd overflowed into a large courtyard and even onto the roof of the building. Meetings here were held Friday night and "all day Sabbath."

Seventh-day Adventists in the Soviet Union are not time-conscious when they worship God on Sabbath or at other appointed times. "Preach two hours, or three hours, as the Lord directs," we were told repeatedly. "The people are not in a hurry. They have come to worship. They will be disappointed to be sent home too soon." I confess to preaching the longest sermon in my

Although for long periods

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ministry in Moscow—one hour and fifty minutes. Of course, this included translation into Russian.

Our contacts with government authorities, both on the Federal level and in the republics we visited, were both friendly and helpful. On one occasion the Minister for Religious Affairs spent much of the day with us. We discussed church/government relationships in his office. He accompanied us on a visit to a most impressive war memorial in his city built on the site of a wartime concentration camp established by enemy invaders, where some 100,000 Soviet citizens perished during their incarceration. He also spent two socially pleasant hours with us at a delightful banquet attended by church leaders, members, and friends.

We discussed with these authorities some of the problems we as a church face in our work in the U.S.S.R. For

some years our work was carried on in an unofficial manner. Some churches and some pastors had been recognized and certified; others had not.

Because of circumstances that have somewhat isolated the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the U.S.S.R. for many decades, some divisions exist among churches and leaders. Before many of our church problems can be settled and an organization effected, internal problems of unity must be settled. To accomplish this was one of the major goals we set for our visit. I will deal with this in my next article.

Our problem of training ministers in an appropriate seminary, sending at least a few workers abroad for further education in Adventist seminaries in other countries, was another item for exploration with the authorities. The publication of denominational literature, the possibility of qualified Soviet Adventist physicians serving in mission hospitals, attendance at the 1980 General Conference session in Dallas, Texas, and other church-related topics were discussed.

In exploring these matters we found authorities open and frank. While firm assurances have not been given, the doors have been opened for future and, we hope, fruitful discussions.

Visit to Leningrad

When we arrived in Leningrad for our last appointments in the Soviet Union, we were met by several members who had traveled more than 2,000 kilometers for the occasion. This was somewhat of a pattern followed in all of the centers where meetings were held. Members by the thousands traveled by plane, bus, train, and auto.

At least one car full of young adults followed us practically every place we went. They would drive day and night sometimes and appear smiling with their tape recorders, cameras, and notebooks near the front of every crowded service. One brother recorded our visit on movie film. When we took off by plane from Leningrad, one of the last persons we saw was our brother with his movie camera getting the last shots of our journey.

In one republic where we have more than 1,500 members, our church building, seating some 500 people, was rightly judged inadequate for the occasion. But Baptist friends graciously made available to us for the Sabbath a beautiful 700-year-old church edifice of Gothic design seating some 1,500 people. This huge structure still did not meet the needs of the occasion. Many worshipers were standing in the aisles.

The choirs and the orchestras in Soviet Seventh-day Adventist churches performed with great finesse and feeling, and though we could not understand the words of the vocal numbers, the spirit and the expression touched our hearts. Practically every Seventh-day Adventist church has a choir, and many have instrumental groups. It is evident that music contributes much to the worship of church members in the U.S.S.R.

At the close of each service we stood at the doors to greet the people. We repeated "dosvidanya," the tradi-

tional Russian "goodbye," thousands of times as we grasped eager hands and bade the people goodnight. On one or two occasions church leaders appealed for the believers to "shake hands" lightly and avoid hugging and kissing, common greetings in the Soviet Union. Frequently these admonitions were disregarded as loving Adventists displayed their affection for fellow believers from abroad.

In one center, where perhaps the largest meeting ever held by Seventh-day Adventists in the Soviet Union convened, the people began coming for the midweek service in the early afternoon. By four o'clock there was standing room only. By the time the meeting opened, the courtyard around the church was packed. People were everywhere, stretching and straining to get an occasional glimpse of what was taking place on the rostrum.

Perhaps the best explanation of the large crowds everywhere, with people traveling hundreds of miles to attend, is the love of God's truth, the desire to be part of the worldwide Advent family, and, as the wording (in Russian script) on a lovely cake presented to us on one occasion read, it was "Once in a lifetime." It was all very moving for us.

Lest REVIEW readers receive the impression that this journey was some sort of "vacation" I will tell you one incident that Elder Lohne shared with us. "We are so glad you came," they assured him. "We will greet you warmly, we will take good care of you, give you plenty to eat, and provide you good places to stay, but we will 'squeeze you like a lemon!'" We were squeezed like lemons, all right, as far as a heavy program was concerned. The long days were filled with preaching, visiting with workers and members, being interviewed by the press and radio, shaking thousands of hands and "fellowshipping with the brethren." It was a blessed experience. It was also the kind that leaves one drained at the



Elder Pierson, left, visited Dr. Fitsev in the office of the Council for Religious Affairs in Kiev. During the conversation Dr. Fitsev pulled out a copy of the July 14, 1977, *Review*, which features a report of Elder and Mrs. Alf Lohne's previous trip to the U.S.S.R., in May of 1977.

close of a long day. But it certainly was worth it all!

The interest and dialogue on righteousness by faith experienced at the present in some Western centers is noticeably missing in Soviet Adventist circles. As we spoke publicly and personally on the subject, we found a fertile field for this precious truth. In question-and-answer periods the people revealed an interest in some of the issues that occupied the attention of the Adventist Church some years ago.

One of the most common questions was about Sunday laws in the United States, and whether there were evidences that Bible prophecies concerning the mark of the beast were soon to be fulfilled. Another point of inquiry was regarding communion—should one cup be used or is it permissible to use individual glasses? We responded by explaining that it is not by the size of the cup nor the number of glasses used but rather by the condition of the individual heart that God judges the Christian.

Others wished to know whether the church should

practice “closed communion”—excluding from our communion services those not of our faith. Again we explained that we do not follow such a practice and that communion participation is an individual matter between the soul and God.

The members were interested in the 144,000, rebaptism, the battle of Armageddon, and the use of the *SDA Church Manual*. Divorce and remarriage also was a topic of earnest discussion on occasions. The role of women in the church had not become an issue in the Soviet Adventist churches, and a definitely negative response on the part of Soviet women members greeted the mention of the fact that in some countries this was being discussed.

In the next and last report on our Soviet itinerary I will explain one of the main purposes of our journey to the U.S.S.R. and how the Lord helped us to accomplish our mission—a ministry of reconciliation. □

Concluded next week

FOR THIS GENERATION By MIRIAM WOOD

Love and the kitchen—2

In our last column I reported that \$51,274 (at that date) had been contributed for a new kitchen to be built at Inca Union College, and I told you that, though we had had two or three large contributions, the majority had been small, which shows what can be accomplished when many people work together. Now I'd like to share some comments that came with the checks.

The thing that impressed me vividly was the often-repeated sentence, “Thank you for giving me the opportunity to help out with a project so needy as this.” I wouldn't have been surprised if some people had responded to the appeal with just a tiny bit of impatience, or at the least, saying, “Surely not another appeal for money!” But they didn't. Some people even asked that if not enough money came in I be sure to contact them and they would see whether they could dig a little deeper. That's beautiful.

“In comparison with the condition of the kitchen at the college, I am living in luxury. My gas stove does not clog, my sewer line is

open, I have an electric fan to make the 100-degree summer heat more bearable. And the Government has just raised my Social Security check to \$140 per month. I want to share my blessings with the students in Peru.” I really got a lump in my throat as I read that letter. The check seemed sacred.

Here's another. “Mother and I want to help. Please be assured that this will not detract from our regular systematic giving, neither will we go without food, even though we are living on our Social Security retirement. Thanks for letting us know of the need.” Be sure to notice that, on the small income mentioned in this letter, giving is careful and systematic, with willingness to go beyond what seems to me already more liberality than might be expected.

Infinitely touching is this letter from Florida. “Enclosed is a small check for the Inca Union College kitchen. Oh, how we wish it were more, but we are stretching a little beyond our means to send it. We would rather limit our daily rations

and give to these dear people.”

But there are humorous touches here and there, also. “Enclosed is my check for \$10. Wish it were more. My benefit will derive from skipping lunch for a week, which will help me to lose weight. Thank you for bringing this need to our attention.”

One interesting sidelight is that missionaries retain a lifelong interest in the fields where they served, even though circumstances and the aging process may necessitate their return to the homeland. Their children feel a loyalty for the mission field of their birth, as has been evidenced by several contributions from North American citizens who identify with South America.

One wrote: “Enclosed is a check for the Inca Union College kitchen. I'm giving the check in memory of my father, W. H. Williams, the first secretary-treasurer of the South American Division. He made many trips to the Inca Union.”

Whole church groups talked over the need and responded immediately. Said one leader, “Today I appealed to our Community Services group, and they responded with a generous donation (enclosed). We surely hope an overwhelming response will come from the women of America to this pressing need.” This

was from Loveland, Colorado.

Another common thread running through the letters is outrage and indignation. “How could such a condition be allowed to exist?” is the cry. That question is easy to answer. In fields where income is moderate or low, there are projects marked “Urgent,” there are projects marked “More Urgent,” and there are projects marked “Absolutely Must.” If you were able to visit those areas, you would spend a lot of time being indignant—not at the faithful leaders who are doing their best against overwhelming odds, but because life is so unfair and its gifts distributed so unequally throughout the world. But spending too much time in outrage is fruitless. One must do what he can; he must light even one little candle, and that's what we are doing with this kitchen project.

There is no statement of Ellen White's that I love more than this one: “We are all a part of the great web of humanity, all members of one family.”—*Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*, p. 105. Certainly this is more meaningful than ever in this project, in which your answer to the question “Am I my brother's keeper?” has been such an instant and loving Yes.

Love is not having to ask twice.

Education Year 1978: looking backward and forward—1

An Adventist educator looks at recent trends and developments in the church's schools.

By CHARLES B. HIRSCH

In the past decade there have been significant developments in the work and endeavor of the General Conference Department of Education continually to improve the quality of the various aspects of education in our schools.

In the mid-sixties, the General Conference Board of Regents was restructured so as to give greater emphasis to its accreditation functions on all levels of Seventh-day Adventist education. Presently, new evaluation instruments are being developed for elementary schools and conference systems of education.

Many of the Board of Regents evaluators serve with teams of regional accrediting bodies, and, conversely, evaluators from State departments of education and regional associations have participated on Seventh-day Adventist teams. An indication of the respect held for Seventh-day Adventist accreditation procedures is exemplified by the following unsolicited statements from a regional accrediting association and a State department of education:

"The administration order which calls for a revisit of Adventist schools in interim periods is a most commendable practice, which dictates continuing attention to evaluation and implementation of recommendations. I can heartily agree to the policy."

"One of the conditions of ——— Academy which makes our job a little easier is that the State and national educational standards and services provided by the educational officers of the Seventh-day Adventists are excellent. The fact that the church conference requires a self-evaluation and visiting committee review every five years is a most commendable practice."

In the early 1970's, the Department of Education directed its efforts toward the creation of a North American Division board of higher education. After the department presented the matter to three succeeding Annual

Charles B. Hirsch, Ph.D., is director of the North American Division office of education, and is associate director of the General Conference Department of Education.

Councils, the General Conference finally approved a plan, which was implemented through a newly appointed executive secretary. The result has been a closer coordination and cooperation among the higher education institutions.

With this new board on its way, the Department of Education proceeded to give full attention to the elementary and secondary school programs. Here again it found duplication of effort, lack of a unified certification program, inadequate financing, especially of the secondary schools, and a need to coordinate and consolidate the programs and offerings of these schools. In 1976 the General Conference approved a new board of education, K-12 (kindergarten to twelfth grade); and in the following year introduced a plan for enhancing the financial operation of the K-12 program.

During this same time, immediately following the General Conference session in Vienna, Austria, in 1975, the department established a North American Division Office of Education (NADOE), to give further attention to the needs of North America and to permit a more efficient approach toward serving the largest of our world divisions. The response of the field has been most positive to this innovation. Every school administrator knows there is one office through which his or her requests and questions may receive immediate response. The office of education has served the schools not only on horizontal levels but also on vertical levels in attempting to tie in the total program of K-16. This is being done in such areas as religion and education, and soon must be done in the language arts, literature, and social studies.

Operating deficits

Presently there are in the North American Division 40 day academies and 46 boarding academies, with a faculty and staff of approximately 1,500. There are also some 1,243 elementary schools and junior academies, with personnel numbering 3,469.

For 1976-1977 the operating deficits for the day academies before subsidies were \$3,245,955, and after subsidies \$97,201; and for the boarding academies before subsidies \$6,035,577, and after subsidies \$1,766,297.

According to the department's recent annual report for 1977, the cumulative K-12 enrollment increased from 78,889 to 80,075. These figures include an increase of almost 2,000 elementary pupils, but concurrently include a loss of more than 800 on the secondary level. During the past six years there has been a steady decline in K-12 enrollment when figured as a percentage of church membership, from 16.6 percent to 14.9 percent. School growth is falling behind church growth.

A recent study in one union conference gives strong evidence for this. In researching "Central States Adventist Membership and School Growth, 1900-1975," Billie Jean Peckham, at The University of Kansas, made some interesting observations. First, on the basis of her findings, she concluded that there can be increase or decrease in schools and students without a similar change in membership. There were periods, when schools, stu-

dents, and members all multiplied—1915-1920, 1945-1950, 1950-1955. In other periods schools or churches grew separately.

In the 75-year study they grew together 50 percent of the time, and apart 50 percent of the time. However, the gap between students and members is widening:

- 1930 One student to eight members
- 1975 One student to 13 members
- 1980 One student to 18 members (projected)

A similar trend appears throughout North America.

In this period in the Central States the population multiplied by 1.8, the membership by 3.4, and the students by 2.74.

These facts speak for themselves.

How other church schools are doing

During the 15-year period from 1960 to 1975, enrollment in Roman Catholic schools dropped from 5.1 million to 3.5 million; in Protestant schools enrollment increased from 336,000 to 535,000; and in Jewish schools it increased from 41,000 to 82,000.

The number of children in our K-12 schools for this period has increased about 30 percent, or 2 percent per year. This is equivalent to a 10,000 membership increase annually in the North American Division. Meanwhile, the American Lutheran Church announced that enrollments jumped 57 percent in their preschools and 22 percent in their elementary schools.

Are our new converts being taught before baptism that Seventh-day Adventist education is a practicing doctrine of the church? A comparison with Sabbath school attendance of children in the K-12 age-group indicates that only about half of the children in our Sabbath schools are attending our church schools from kindergarten to the twelfth grade.

Over the past six years some 172 new elementary schools have been added, making a total of 1,083. Although this is commendable and although it is impor-

tant that we continue to create new schools, more important is the need to increase the number of students in these schools. Five hundred and thirty of our schools have home and school associations, with an average of five meetings annually. This certainly should be increased to bring about a greater involvement of the church membership in support of the school operation. Parent-teacher associations in the public schools have taken on a strong role in educational affairs, and our Home and School Fellowships should be more than fund-raising clubs!

B. E. Leach, president of the Southwestern Union Conference, recently exposed those whom he called the big gamblers in the church. Speaking to his constituency, Elder Leach said, "You, in this church, who deliberately or indifferently send your children to the schools of the world, where 70 percent are lost to the church, are the big gamblers!" Would that more of the leaders were as outspoken and supportive for the cause of Seventh-day Adventist education as they are for other aspects of church endeavor!

In a recent graduation group of 4,434 students, 74 percent stated that they were planning to attend college. Yet, in the church's various colleges in the previous year there were some 5,632 freshmen in attendance. The tentative conclusion one can draw from these statistics is that about half of the freshmen enrolling in the church's colleges come from the public high schools. The latter should therefore be considered a fruitful area for recruitment; because one half of the church's youth are in public schools.

A look at the faculty and staff of Seventh-day Adventist schools shows that of some 3,500 teachers, 709 were teaching with provisional certificates, 161 were without degrees, and 409 were not meeting denominational certification standards. In one academy 75 percent of the staff were uncertified.

More than 99 percent of the personnel involved in our K-12 schools are members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. This is an area that must be closely guarded if the church is going to give substance to what is preached, and also because of the fact that its schools are church schools. In the institutions of higher learning, while the church is maintaining a similar percentage among their personnel, the fact that they have been involved in the acceptance of Government funds for research projects, capitation grants, et cetera, plus Government grants and loans to our students, has made more difficult their attempts to avoid the inroads of governmental agencies.

For the past decade or so there has been a dynamic development in the Government that has resulted in greater interference in the domain of the private school. Historically the United States has been anticartel and antimonopoly, but if current trends denote anything, it is that the greatest growing monopoly in this country will be that of public education. The tentacles are closing in from numerous directions, and private education could be easily absorbed if guards are let down. □

To be concluded

A child of God

By MYRTA DARNELL

Roaming
Unwanted here,
Rejected there;
Identity lost,
In utter despair I fell.

Then,
A hand reached down,
And in the extended palm
I saw my name engraved;
Identity found!
I am a child of God (Isaiah 49:16).

A "For Sale" sign

I thanked God for the two people He
let me know I had influenced.

By VICKIE COREY

The day was unusually hot for early March in Maryland, though patches of snow still nestled in shaded hollows. The wind blew in warm and dry as our red Toyota sped down quiet back roads. Tree buds were just beginning to pop, and a few crocuses showed saffron heads in the yards we passed. Our eyes noted them briefly, then continued to rove, constantly searching for "For Sale" signs.

It seemed that they were late in coming out that year. We saw a few in front of impossibly-battered frame houses with dirt yards; one or two promenaded before near-mansions.

We continued past funny porched houses, tiny dark cottages, and empty fields. "Let's go back to that road we didn't turn onto back there, OK? Then we might as well go home again. I haven't seen anything that even faintly resembles what we're looking for."

Making a sudden U-turn, Craig turned right onto the small road. It wound a bit, then sloped suddenly into a ravine. "Look at this, Craig! Trees and hills! I don't believe this!" I pulled my feet up under me and gazed around in elation. "Look, a stream! No; turn that way. Oh, Craig, can you believe it? A stream! It's just like Tennessee! Please, we have to live here!" An old, picturesque railroad bridge, more streams, and a river flashed by us. Then suddenly it was over, and the ordinary world returned.

"Turn around! Maybe we missed part of it." I was still bouncing in my seat.

"While you were shrieking back there we passed a realtor's sign. You want to go back?" Craig was laughing at me, but I detected excitement in his voice, too.

We drove back to the sign—"Mary B. Rodman, Inc." Turning, we began to churn up a steep hill. We made it to the top on the second try. The land leveled at the summit, revealing a beautiful, stately house. A small sign near the side door said, "Office."

That's how we became part of an ongoing story. It all

began for us with a road we missed the first time around on a Sunday's drive.

We met Mary and her husband, Bob, that afternoon. Because they were going out for an appointment, Craig chatted only briefly with them. I spent my time running from window to window.

Later in the week Mary called and asked whether we'd like to look at some houses Saturday. When Craig suggested that Sunday would be better, that date was set.

When we arrived on Sunday Mary was on the telephone. She motioned us to sit on the wrought-iron chairs. Soon she hung up the phone and searched for a folder.

"Now let's talk some, and then I want to show you a few houses. It sounds to me as though you need a house rather than land right now. First we need to decide what you can afford."

The talk was ebbing around me as Craig answered her questions about his job. Looking at the beautiful trees outside the tall windows and remembering Tennessee, I was unexpectedly drawn to the present by a question Mary had asked.

"Are you Seventh-day Adventists by any chance?"

Craig looked startled. "Yes. Why do you ask?"

"I have Adventist friends, and you seem to be like them somehow. Then when you didn't want to come yesterday—well, I thought maybe . . ."

Craig and I laughed. I knew he felt especially pleased, because he'd been an Adventist only a year.

Then she began the story.

"Yes, the man who gave me that break that got me started in real estate was a Seventh-day Adventist builder. That was 13 years ago. I became a vegetarian seven years ago because of him. I contribute to your church and have many of Ellen White's books that he gave me. He spent quite a bit of time talking to me. A wonderful man, he's retired in Virginia now."

We listened without stopping her. Her French silk blouse was back-lit by the early afternoon sun, and her hands threw shadows across the white floor as she wiped away the tears.

The story continued

"You know, he had never listed his places with a realtor before. I think I just seemed so naive when I talked to him the first time that he said he would let me list one of his new houses. He was the best builder and the most honest businessman I've ever known. He asked me never to do anything with his business on Saturday, and I agreed." She smiled a faraway smile, remembering. "Once I took a call on Friday night without thinking. I felt so bad that when I told him I started crying."

Then suddenly her faraway smile focused on us. "Well, you're not here to hear my old stories. Let's go look at houses." Standing up, she began stashing things into her leather attaché case.

Her story had made us friends. Our conversations between houses drifted from the foster teen-agers we'd both tried to take in to the guilt we felt at having so

Vickie Corey is a recent graduate from Columbia Union College now working in the college affairs office.

much. Finally, in the basement of one particularly unsuitable house she stopped and looked at us.

"You know, there are two churches I've been interested in. The people who go to those churches are different somehow." She leaned against a dryer that stood in the middle of the floor. "They let their churches affect their lives. One's the Adventist, the other is the Mormon. There's a new Mormon church being built just down the road from me, and I was thinking of asking for studies. But then the very day I was thinking of it I met you. I felt God was reminding me of something."

Exciting news

We didn't push Mary. She came to dinner one evening. We talked on the telephone sometimes, and went to see her about business once in a while. Mostly we lived our lives as usual. One day about two months after we first met Mary we were in her car again driving to look at a house. We had barely closed the doors when she shared her latest exciting news.

"I've decided to be an Adventist!"

We began exclaiming and asking questions.

"No, wait, I have to tell you the whole story. This is the strangest one yet!"

"I got a call the other day. A pleasant-voiced woman explained that her family and five others were wanting to buy land in the country. They all were professionals who needed to be able to commute to Washington, but they believed they should live outside the city. They were surprised when I asked them whether they were Seventh-day Adventists!"

Craig and I laughed, remembering.

"Well, I'll make this short, but we've been working together, and I think I can help them. I'm going with them to church this week. It just seems that every time I postpone making a decision, more Seventh-day Adventists show up! It's so odd, because one woman told me that my name was on a list of 20 realtors she had, but she called me first."

Sitting behind Mary in church that Sabbath, my mind thought of many other things. I thought of the SDA builder who had probably despaired after 13 years. I thought of the little road we'd almost missed. I thought of all the literature I'd left on doors as a child and how I'd never discovered any of it doing any good. Of the year I'd spent as a student missionary in Africa, when I felt I accomplished little. Of the year after I got back when Craig had wedged himself into my church almost in spite of me. It all made me think of what one of my choir directors told me once: It's our job to live in Christ, to do what we do excellently, and to leave the rest in God's hands.

The service was over. The deacons dismissed Mary's row, then ours. The sunshine was brilliant after the dark, quiet church. I stood a moment holding my husband's and Mary's hand. Two people God let me know I'd influenced. Two promises that my life had been worthwhile. □

FOR THE YOUNGER SET

Looking, or staring?

By DOROTHY SIMMS

"Don't stare, Trina."

"But, Mom! Look! He has only one leg. And look at his . . ."

"Trina," mother remonstrated. "Don't stare."

"Oh-h-h, ouch! Oh-h-h! My leg!" Trina wailed after sprawling on the sidewalk.

"Get up, Trina! If you hadn't been staring, you wouldn't have fallen."

"Oh-h-h, my leg! It hurts!"

When mother tried to help Trina to her feet, she cried even louder.

A passing pedestrian, who was a nurse, told mother that the leg appeared to be broken.

Hearing this, mother took Trina to the hospital.

X-rays confirmed that Trina had a broken leg. Mother told her she would have to wear a cast.

"A cast!" Trina fairly shouted. "I won't wear one!"

"Well, I'm afraid you'll have to. If you hadn't been staring, you . . ."

"I wasn't *staring*, I was just looking."

When Trina returned to school she asked for mother to walk with her.

"Look, Mom. Look at those people stare. It's so rude!"

"But, honey, they are only *looking*," mother returned.

The "staring" bothered Trina to the point of having mother escort her to school every day.

Many weeks later Trina had her cast removed.

"Oh, Mom, it feels so good to have that weight off my leg. Let's go for a walk."

During the walk, mother gestured to a disabled woman who was using a cane. "Look at that poor woman, Trina."

Trina was aghast. "Mom! Don't stare!"

Trina glanced at mother, then they smiled because they both knew Trina wouldn't do any more staring at unfortunate people.



READER TO READER

An exchange of views on a topic of current interest

THE QUESTION:

Our new neighbors' children frankly confess to our children (ages 4 and 6) that they have "no daddy," that the man living with their mother is a "roommate." What should we tell our children so as to preserve in their minds the sanctity of the seventh commandment, particularly in light of the fact that children often repeat everything told them?

■ Your chief concern seems to be "to preserve in their minds the sanctity of the seventh commandment." No child of 4 or 6 years can comprehend the "sanctity" of the seventh commandment, and to try to explain to him the meaning of the word adultery will only confuse his little mind.

Your children's concern was probably not with the knowledge that the mother had a roommate. Rather than being horrified at this choice bit of scandal, you should take a positive attitude and calmly say, "They don't have a daddy? Well, that is too bad. We love our daddy, and we have a lot of fun with him. How would you like to share him with your playmates sometimes?" You should ask the cooperation of your husband, and whenever it is possible you should include these unfortunate children in your own family fun, activities, and, yes, your family worship, also. Invite them to Sabbath school. There might even be an opportunity to start a home Sabbath school in your neighborhood.

Concerning the roommate situation, "Silence is golden." It definitely should not be discussed with the children. Above all, try to be a true friend to the mother. There is a promise in James 5:20 that could be of assurance to you.

EVA R. NATTERSTAD
Seimsfoss, Norway

■ It would seem to me that, considering the tender ages of your children, the less said about your new neighbor's way of life the better.

The example of your truly Christian home, with both a mother and a father in it, who lovingly care for and guide their family, will in the years to come be a strong factor in helping your children to decide in favor of the sanctity of the seventh commandment.

And in the meantime there might be the opportunity of doing as Jesus did when in a similar situation. One time He met a woman who was living with a roommate, the woman of Samaria (see John 4:18). As He talked to her at the well He carefully and prayerfully watched for an opening to awaken in her heart an interest in spiritual things. He was successful, and as a result the woman and many of her friends accepted God's plan of salvation and a better way of life.

HILDRETH MOSTERT
Hanford, California

■ Review the Bible story of Creation. Tell the children God started the first family in Eden. This was to be a pattern for all people to follow. Then continue explaining in somewhat this way:

"Adam must have been delighted when God gave him Eve, made from a part of his own body. Adam loved Eve dearly and wanted her to be his companion always. God planned that when a man and woman love each other they would marry and live together all their lives. He also planned it so they could have children and take care of them together.

"Sometimes fathers don't stay with their children. But that is not the way God planned it. He wants a mother and father to live happily with their children.

"When the man in a home is not the father, but a roommate, it may be because the family doesn't know God's plan or want to follow it. We should pray for them and try to help them understand how much better it is to follow God's plan."

A beautiful father-mother relationship in the home is the best way to help children understand and appreciate God's plan for family life.

MALINDA RODENBERG
Richmond, Indiana

■ You could just simply state, "That's too bad," and leave it at that.

Whatever you say, don't dwell on sin, but on the better way of life, God's way, by saying something like "God wants His created beings on this earth to be truly happy. As a result, He planned that a man and a woman be married if they want to live together."

Also, ask God to show you ways to be a blessing to these neighbors.

JUNE GOHL
Auburn, Washington

■ I don't think you need to try to explain to your children unless they ask. You might tell them that some daddies do not love their children as *their* daddy does.

I would suggest keeping your children away from these neighbor children as much as possible. A mother who lives in sin probably doesn't pay too much attention to her children, and they may have acquired bad moral habits. If they come to your home do all that you can to supervise their play. Tell them character-building stories, teach them songs, and do all you can to help improve their opportunities for upright training. You will be

helping your own children, as well as your neighbor's.

LUCILE DAILY JOHNSON
Hillsboro, Ohio

■ This matter must be handled with honesty and discretion. Explain it without undue emotion—as dispassionately as is possible—and it will not be exaggerated in their immature minds.

Your children are very young, but I believe that you can talk to them in such a way that they will understand. I would tell them that God planned for people to live in families, with a father and mother, boys and girls, and His way is always the best and happiest way for us to live. Then tell them that sometimes something happens that breaks up families. Tell them, too, that some people choose to live differently from God's plan, but *we do not judge them!*

This is a special opportunity to teach your children that God's way is best, as well as to help them early to know that a person should not judge lest he himself be judged. Happy indeed is the child who early learns the importance of both of these principles.

Your own marriage relationship will be the greatest factor in determining whether your children come to understand for themselves the sanctity of the seventh commandment.

DORIS JEAN PETERSON
Seattle, Washington

QUESTION FOR DECEMBER

Response deadline November 10

What are some things that my 12-year-old daughter can do on Friday evenings and Sabbath afternoons? She is losing interest in God; she dreads to see Sabbath arrive, and is happy as a lark to see it go. Afternoon walks have become somewhat dull for her. She does not care to read, since she says she does enough of that at school. I cannot think of anything along spiritual lines that would help her enjoy Sabbath. Any help others can give me, an Adventist of five years, will be deeply appreciated.

Send answers to Reader to Reader, ADVENTIST REVIEW, 6856 Eastern Avenue NW., Takoma Park, Washington, D.C. 20012. Letters must not exceed 300 words in length and should be received by the response deadline given above. Include complete return address. Three dollars will be paid for each answer published. Responses received after the deadline cannot be considered for publication.

Questions for discussion in Reader to Reader are welcome and should be directed to the address given above. Topics in the area of family life are preferred.

Lit by the Light

By TERI TURMAN

I had given out
all the light
and all the love
I could.
I felt drained,
empty.

I went back
to my Saviour
and told Him
what He already knew.
He said, "Yes, child.
The only way
is with Me
working
through you."

Guidelines for studying the nature of Christ

In our previous editorial (Oct. 5), we answered questions on perfection people asked during our summer's camp-meeting and preaching itinerary. This week we want to answer questions on the nature of Christ. This editorial is not a theological response to those questions, but rather an attempt to set out some guidelines for studying this subject. "The study of the incarnation of Christ is a fruitful field," Ellen White says, "which will repay the searcher who digs deep for hidden truth."—*Selected Messages*, book 1, p. 244.

While studying the life and nature of Christ from Scripture, such books as *Steps to Christ*, *The Desire of Ages*, and *Christ's Object Lessons* are indispensable. There are at least four boundary posts to be kept in view while studying this enriching subject.

The first such immovable guidepost is that Jesus is fully God and fully man. The Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy are replete with texts and statements to this effect. "In the beginning was the Word," the Scripture says, "and the Word was with God, and the Word was God"; "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth" (John 1:1, 14). This is the good news that was heralded by the angels to the shepherds when they said, "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:10, 11).

But the good news of the gospel is more than a historical happening. True, Christ came, lived, died, rose from the dead, and ascended into heaven. These facts about Jesus Christ are to the Christian church as the skeleton is to the body. And we praise God for this unspeakable gift of His Son for us sinners. But when Jesus came into this world as a man something happened that was more than merely history. He introduced into the human race an element of life and power and poured such a flood of healing grace upon the world as was never before witnessed.

Describing the condition of men and women at the time Jesus was born, Ellen White says, "Bewildered and deceived, they were moving on in gloomy procession toward eternal ruin—to death in which is no hope of life, toward night to which comes no morning. Satanic agencies were incorporated with men. The bodies of human beings, made for the dwelling place of God, had become the habitation of demons. The senses, the nerves, the passions, the organs of men, were worked by supernatu-

ral agencies in the indulgence of the vilest lust. The very stamp of demons was impressed upon the countenances of men. . . . It was demonstrated before the universe that, apart from God, humanity could not be uplifted. A new element of life and power must be imparted by Him who made the world. . . . At the very crisis, when Satan seemed about to triumph, the Son of God came with the embassy of divine grace. . . . The Deity was glorified by pouring upon the world a flood of healing grace that was never to be obstructed or withdrawn till the plan of salvation should be fulfilled."—*The Desire of Ages*, pp. 36, 37.

The acts of Jesus are more than history; they are fresh every morning. Through the Holy Spirit the events of His life are relived in the hearts and lives of men and women everywhere. They are born anew; the things they once hated they now love, and they experience the renewing power of the resurrection just when they need it most. A supernatural element of life and power was made available by the incarnation of Christ that could not have been available without it! Without Him there is no hope, no self-help. But in Him "we live, and move, and have our being" (Acts 17:28). His incarnation is more than history; it is humanity's lifeline to heaven.

He understands

A second eternal guidepost is found in Hebrews 4:15, 16, which says, "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." This text brings comfort and hope to all who have chosen to live the Christlike life. They know that Jesus understands. They know He knows what it is like to struggle against sin, what it means to be tempted. He comforts them in all their tribulations. He is a Friend "that sticketh closer than a brother" (Prov. 18:24).

While He was here on earth "all the energies of apostasy were rallied against the Son of God. Christ was made the mark of every weapon of hell. Many look on this conflict between Christ and Satan as having no special bearing on their own life; and for them it has little interest. But within the domain of every human heart this controversy is repeated."—*Ibid.*, p. 116. Jesus earned the right to become our advocate only after He had lived a holy life and overcome every possible weapon of hell that Satan could use against Him and died on Calvary's cross for our sins (*ibid.*, p. 745). His death alone would not have been sufficient to complete the plan of salvation. As Scripture says, we are also "saved by His life" (Rom. 5:10).

But the temptation victories of Jesus are more than part of the historical package necessary to carry out the plan of salvation. Jesus lived a righteous life and overcame where Adam failed; He obeyed as Adam was expected to obey, and, like Him, we must be willing to obey. He gave us an example of obedience and victory. No one

unwilling to obey can be part of God's kingdom. This is what the great controversy is all about. That is what temptation is all about. Anyone concluding from his study of the life of Christ that obedience is not important is preaching another gospel.

Third, Jesus did not live a life without the risk of failure and eternal loss. Many claim that it was impossible for Christ to be overcome by temptation. This is a false gospel. Jesus was always free to choose another master, as men and women are free to do today. "Into the world where Satan claimed dominion God permitted His Son to come, a helpless babe, subject to the weakness of humanity. He permitted Him to meet life's peril in common with every human soul, to fight the battle as every child of humanity must fight it, at the risk of failure and eternal loss."—*Ibid.*, p. 49.

Men and women who commit themselves to Christ still run the risk of being lost. The possibility of failure will exist as long as humankind is endowed with freedom of choice and Satan is alive and well on Planet Earth. Any preaching of the gospel that emphasizes the certainty of salvation in Christ out of proportion to the risk of being free to choose another master is communicating a false security. Freedom of choice is a gift from God to be exercised. As Scripture says, "Choose you this day whom ye will serve; . . . the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell; . . . [or] the Lord" (Joshua 24:15). Men and women need to consecrate themselves to God every morning. To neglect this for long only increases the risk of being overcome. And to teach anything contrary to this is not interpreting the life of Christ correctly.

The fourth and last guidepost in studying the life and nature of Christ is the fact that He has been appointed by the Father to separate the righteous from the wicked. Only He who knows all hearts is capable of deciding which men and women are risk-proof for heaven.

As Ellen White says, "God 'hath given him authority

to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man.' Because He has tasted the very dregs of human affliction and temptation, and understands the frailties and sins of men; because in our behalf He has victoriously withstood the temptations of Satan, and will deal justly and tenderly with the souls that His own blood has been poured out to save."—*Ibid.*, p. 210.

No man or woman can in heart stand before Jesus and excuse his sinning on the basis that God just doesn't understand what it's like to be a human being. No one can say that he or she had a more soul-trying experience than Jesus had. His name was Emmanuel. He was here with us. "Satan is jubilant when he hears the professed followers of Christ making excuses for their deformity of character. It is these excuses that lead to sin. There is no excuse for sinning."—*Ibid.*, p. 311. "Christ died to make it possible for you to cease to sin."—*Review and Herald*, Aug. 28, 1894. If sinning is excused, then chronic character defects are permissible and there is no sin.

Jesus is the keeper of the gates of heaven. Sin will not enter. He will keep out anything that will destroy the peace and serenity of His kingdom. With equity and the highest discrimination He will select those whose hearts have experienced the touch of His grace, who in total trust were willing to obey, and who lived unselfishly in accordance with the light He had given them. "For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved" (John 3:17).

After studying the life and nature of Christ we joyously say with the apostle John, "All praise to him who always loves us and who set us free from our sins by pouring out his life blood for us. He has gathered us into his kingdom and made us priests of God his Father. Give to him everlasting glory. He rules forever!" (Rev. 1:5, 6, T.L.B.).

J. J. B.

LETTERS Continued from page 2

program changed my life by introducing me to Christ and by their being true brothers to me while I was incarcerated.

Through a miracle I was paroled, and am now living in Pennsylvania. I plan to enter the medical missionary field eventually. This is just another example of how seeds of love sown through Christ can germinate into salvation for lost souls.

NAME WITHHELD

Children's quarterlies

While we in the mission field have little use for used adult lesson quarterlies, we can use children's quarterlies. I have cradle-roll-aged children and appreciate

the used cradle-roll quarterlies a friend sends me. The suggestions for worship time, for activity, and even the way the Bible story is retold, are helpful to parents like me who have had no experience teaching children.

I think the children's quarterlies could be collected regularly in U.S. churches at the end of the quarter and sent to the mission fields. Since the children's lessons are on a one-to-three-year cycle, even old lessons will be useful in the future. And the pictures could be used for scrapbooks or illustrations in Sabbath school.

MERCY LYNN J. SERALDE
Haad Yai, Southern Thailand

Editorial commended

Your recent editorial "Thoughts on a Tragedy" (Sept. 14) has to be the most logical and down-to-earth piece I have read in some time.

I hope we can benefit personally from what was written. In my estimation you are right on every point.

JANE SANDQUIST
Hamilton, Montana

Wriggly children

I wonder how long an adult could remain still if he were seated on a hard wooden pew, his legs sticking straight out in front of him the way a child must sit in church. As the child grows,

his legs tend to pull his body into an uncomfortable slouch on the pew. A 4-year-old is capable of listening to good music and an occasional illustration in a sermon, but again, imagine his inability to concentrate with a pew in front of him that is about 12 inches above his head and is blocking his view.

With a little thought and planning, couldn't we provide our little ones with a booster chair, designed to be safe (somehow attached to the pew, yet movable for convenience), comfortable (soft and shaped to the contours of little bodies), and quiet?

MRS. HOWARD SCOGGINS
Goodlettsville, Tennessee

IAD Departmental Advisory Council meets

By TULIO R. HAYLOCK

"Evangelism" and "unity" became twin brothers at a joint departmental advisory council of the Inter-American Division held in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, June 26 to July 3. This was the quadrennial meeting of four departments: Ministerial, health, temperance, and publishing.

The keynote address by B. L. Archbold, division president, emphasized the motto of the council: "United in Christ for service," saying that "a complete dedication to win souls for the kingdom of heaven is the prime objective of every department of the church," and calling upon the leaders to experience a closer and more intimate unity in Christ in order to fulfill that evangelistic task.

On a rotating basis, each department presented its plans and projects to the 75 delegates from the seven unions of the division. Accompanying the division departmental leaders on the platform were their colleagues from the General Conference, N. R. Dower, J. C. Kinder, E. H. J. Steed, Albert Whiting, and Ella May Stoneburner; from Loma Linda University, Richard Hart; and from the Pacific Press, F. L. Baer and L. J. Leiske.

The publishing department initiated the business of the council the first morning. Louis A. Ramirez, division publishing director, reported that "in recent years the faithful literature evangelists of Inter-America have been occupying first place among world divisions in soul winning, with more than 21,700 baptized from their efforts during the quadrennium." And he added, "Inter-America also has the largest number of literature evangel-

ists." The student colporteurs have also made their mark. According to the latest statistical report of the General Conference, Inter-American student colporteurs are leading the world field in deliveries, number of hours worked, and scholarships earned.

Considerable interest was aroused by the new ABC Franchise Plan, previously approved by the Inter-American Division Committee. Under the provisions of this plan, capable and financially solvent laymen with successful business experience may qualify to enter into franchise arrangements with the local conference/mission and Adventist Book Center to establish their own retail outlets to distribute Adventist trade

publications, Ellen G. White books, and other trade literature among church members and the general public.

Plans for the use of modern audio-visual equipment by the literature evangelists, as well as for training purposes, were also discussed. By the end of 1978 audio-visual materials should be available for *The Bible Story* and the *Modern Medical Encyclopedia* in both English and Spanish, and later in French.

The publishing department climaxed its sessions with a stirring appeal to distribute monthly by 1980 more than one million copies of *The Sentinel*. As Pastor Archbold spoke about the importance of combining the mass circulation of *The Sentinel* with Evangelism Explosion '79, young student colporteurs raised large clusters of brightly colored balloons imprinted with the message "Up With *The Sentinel*."

"Life-style diseases are the most serious threat to our society," declared Sievert Gus-

tavsson, division health director, "and it will be necessary to change our life style if we expect to improve our health." This message was impressed on everyone, not only to adopt for their personal benefit but to use as part of their outreach program aimed at the members of the church and the community.

"Weighty" matters

Few of those who attended the health advisory council will forget the early-morning appointments when approximately 50 administrators and departmental directors were seen running through the hallways on the eighth floor of the Holiday Inn where the council met. During the regular sessions they were constantly bombarded with "weighty" matters, hoping that as they returned to their posts of duty they would realize that overweight is a burden they do not need to carry along life's hallways or highways. The 20 percent who discovered that their blood-sugar level was too high and the 40 percent who were told that their triglyceride count was above normal returned with the doctor's advice to change their diet and improve their exercise program.

The plans presented at the council involved a definite expansion of previous programs, an added dimension that will result in a better outreach program. There will be continued emphasis on the service rendered by the health-care institutions and a new, vibrant program of health education and health evangelism.

One of the most far-reaching actions taken by the council was the invitation to the Loma Linda University School of Health to offer an off-campus course in public health for the English-, Spanish-, and French-language areas of the division. Beginning October, 1979, selected students will attend two-week sessions twice a year and will finish in 1982 with a Loma Linda University Master's degree (M.S.P.H. or M.S.C.) in public health. Within a few years this plan should provide



New music building in Brazil

Northeast Brazil College, in the state of Pernambuco, Brazil, recently inaugurated its new music facilities. Arthur Das-sow, college president, says that "this newly inaugurated building fulfills the dream of all the students who wish to study music and song, that they might better be able to praise God and to win souls for the heavenly kingdom."

ARTHUR S. VALLE
REVIEW Correspondent

Tulio Haylock is communication director of the Inter-American Division.

every union, local conference, and mission with adequately trained professionals for the leadership of the health department.

"We should present temperance positively instead of hammering away at intemperance," said Elder Steed, director of the General Conference Temperance Department. He emphasized that temperance is a vital part of the gospel commission.

Marcel Abel, division temperance director, reported that the Five-Day Plan to Stop Smoking has played and continues to play an important role in the evangelistic program of the church. Sometimes more than 3,000 persons are drawn into an evangelistic campaign through these programs.

For the first time in Inter-America a successful Five-Day Plan to Stop Smoking was presented on television, with the help of two men from Holland and a Surinamese doctor. As a result many called or visited the local mission office seeking help. Steps were taken to conduct at least 300 Five-Day

Plans in 1979 and to baptize more than 1,000 persons as a result. During the quadrennium more than 4,000 persons have been baptized.

At the Ministerial Association council the evangelistic momentum was given another boost when Carlos Aeschlimann, division Ministerial Association secretary, unveiled Evangelism Explosion '79. This is a program to win 65,000 persons to Christ in 1979, or 1,250 per week. Evangelists were assigned to various fields, dates were set for various campaigns, and peripheral activities were cleared from the church calendar. Every program will be geared to Evangelism Explosion '79, every activity will be aimed at lighting Inter-America with the message, and the motto of every member will be "United for final victory."

The agenda of the Ministerial sessions was made up of documents that were thoroughly discussed: the first, a definition and description of the responsibilities of the Ministerial secretaries, for both union and local fields;

the second, a fervent appeal for the reconsecration and rededication of the ministry; the third, the continual development of the ministry; the fourth, the preparation, consolidation, and preservation of the members. For lack of time, eight other documents were referred to the division committee for further study.

NEBRASKA

Adventists call first conference on philanthropy

Directors of development and public relations from across the United States assembled in Lincoln, Nebraska, recently for the first Adventist conference on philanthropy for institutions. Cochaired by Milton Murray, General Conference Institutional Consulting Service director, and D. A. Roth, General Conference associate secretary, this conference provided four days of fellowship and intense work.

Neal C. Wilson, General Conference vice-president for

North America, presented the opening address and also closed the final meeting with a commitment speech. Responses to Elder Wilson's opening address were given by three union presidents: Cree Sandefur, of Pacific; L. L. Bock, of Lake; and W. O. Coe, of Columbia.

There are several reasons, they affirmed, why Adventists should take advantage of philanthropy: it compels closer cooperation with the community, acquaints officials with Adventist principles and thoughts, makes the church more aware of opportunities, and reduces cost of operation.

During the conference, 16 case studies and "how-to" presentations were given. Mary Anton, director of Foundation Relations at the University of Chicago, shared her expertise on writing grant proposals; Robin E. MacStravic, associate professor of the graduate program in health service, administration, and planning at the University of Washington, discussed the concept of marketing hospital services; and Kevin Van Groesbeck,

ITA life membership is conferred on retirees

The General Conference Temperance Department recently conferred upon every retired denominational worker life membership in the International Temperance Association by sending each a gold membership card with an accompanying letter outlining the need of the church for their witness.

The idea came to Ernest H. J. Steed, temperance director, when he read this quotation: "The Lord desires His tried servants, as long as they live, to advocate temperance reform. Unfurl the temperance banner. Teach the people to practice strict temperance in all things, and be champions in favor of obedience to physical laws. Stand firmly for God's truth."—*Selected Messages*, book 2, p. 226.

The response from the retirees was exciting, reports Elder Steed. Workers who felt they had been forgotten called, wrote letters, sent checks, and told of their past and present devotion to the church and to temperance.

The Temperance Department now includes a newsletter with the retired worker's monthly check from the General Conference Treasury and invites the retired workers to join the temperance prayer circle each Monday morning at 8:30.

Shakeh Nalkranian responded by saying, "Thank you for the temperance life-membership card. I have always supported our temperance associations. I will certainly join you in prayer on Monday mornings."

Denton E. Rebok wrote, "I was six years old when the Women's Christian Temperance Union had us sign the temperance pledge. I signed it year after year for a long time. I'm sure it helped me to live a life of 80-plus years without ever tasting alcoholic beverages."

G. E. Hutches said, "Thank you so much for your kindness in remembering me with the honorary life-membership card. I signed my first temperance card in 1910 or 1911 when I was in church school. I still cherish that card and have it as a keepsake."

Ninety-eight-year-old Ernest Lloyd wrote reminding the Temperance Department that Thomas Edison, whom he met, was a temperate man. Mr. Lloyd, having served the church for 76 years, is still witnessing for temperance.

The temperance secretary of the Deer Lodge, Tennessee, church, Elsie Gerhart, wrote: "There are three high schools in our vicinity. To these we have sent complimentary copies of *Listen* for some years. Other temperance secretaries furnished temperance films to these schools. Two of these films were shown this spring, at which time we also distributed some of your leaflets. When school opens in the fall we plan to continue this type of ministry."

Elder Steed says that he and his colleagues in the Temperance Department are glad to have initiated this senior workers' temperance plan and are pleased to know that they are continuing to do their best for temperance.

account supervisor of Hunt-singer and Jeffer, Inc., discussed raising money through direct mail.

Two of the 16 presentations focused on selecting properly trained development personnel. Nancy Martin, of Chicago's Worthington, Hurst, and Associates, explained what characteristics her psychological testing firm found to be desirable in such personnel; and a panel discussed "The Bottom Line Is People. Where Are They?" and attempted to show what the church and its institutions are doing to increase the number of people available for public relations and developmental positions.

The newly initiated communication internship program was described to the conference by D. S. Williams, an associate director of the General Conference Communication Department. The plan, in operation since 1975, seeks to place six qualified graduating students in jobs where their knowledge can be blended with on-the-job training. Five of the interns were present at the meeting to comment on the value of the new program.

In an effort to attract more young people to professional careers centered in communication, development, and writing, church leaders have established a \$37,500 fund to support selected programs over a five-year period.

The funds are provided by the General Conference, the Review and Herald, the Pacific Press, the Southern Publishing Association, and a private source. Guidelines for awarding the funds give priority to scholarships, supplementary equipment, and special projects not otherwise feasible. The first awards of \$3,000 each were made to Andrews University and Pacific Union College. These were followed by grants to Union College (\$500), Walla Walla College (\$600), and Southern Missionary College (\$400).

Several college presidents attending the conference shared one successful fund-raising idea. At their colleges 100 alumni, "The Committee

of 100," are asked to donate \$500 each per year and to solicit funds from others interested in the institution. These funds are used for constructing buildings, purchasing equipment, and providing equity for larger loans.

Edgar D. Powell, chairman of the board of American City Bureau / Beaver Associates, challenged the group by asking, "Where is it written that diseases have alliterative denominational names such as 'Adventist asthma' or 'Catholic cancer' or 'Protestant

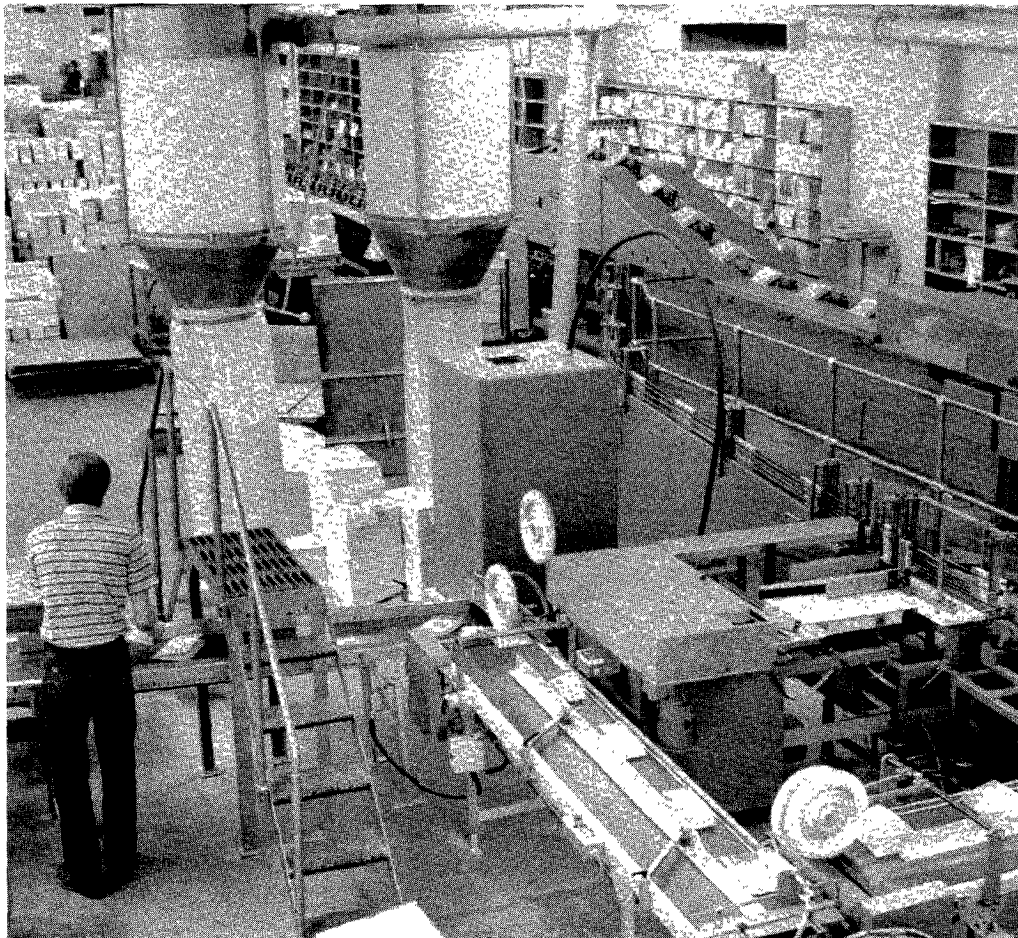
polio'? You know as well as I do that patient admissions to Adventist hospitals are not by race, creed, or color. If you include all people in the benefits stemming from the Seventh-day Adventist ministry of healing, why can't you open the way for such people to support a portion of the facility budget?"

As an example, he cited Kettering College, which since its initial campaign was begun in 1959 has received more than \$21 million in philanthropic gifts. Only 5

percent of this money can be traced to the church or to Adventist donors. "This is as it should be," said Dr. Powell.

Americans gave more than \$35.2 billion to philanthropic causes last year. Corporations donated 4.6 percent of that amount; foundations, 7.2 percent; bequests, 8.1 percent; and individuals, 80.1 percent. How to seek these dollars on a continual basis is the goal of those who attended this conference on philanthropy.

D. S. WILLIAMS



Pacific Press installs new bindery equipment

An Ehlermann Fanflex Binding Line, the third to be set up in North America, has been installed in the bindery of Pacific Press, Mountain View, California. Seven persons on the line can gather, bind, and trim paperbound books at the rate of 6,000 per hour. With the former equipment it took 11 persons to process 2,000 paperbound books per hour. The new machine also binds clothbound

books with a "fanflexing" process, which replaces the old sewing process.

Also installed at Pacific Press recently was a Kolbus Casemaker, which has the capability of turning out 36 cases for clothbound books per minute.

L. JUANITA TYSON-FLYN
Associate Book Editor
Pacific Press

COLORADO

MFI members attend second convention

More than 300 of the nearly 1,700 active members of Maranatha Flights International from the United States and Canada met at Campion Academy near Loveland, Colorado, August 11 through 13, for their second national convention.

MFI director John Freeman highlighted the meetings with his Sabbath-morning résumé of MFI's founding and accomplishments and his soul-stirring challenge to expand the work for Christ by implementing Phase II—Showing Love Through Personal Contact, which was the theme of the convention.

Mr. Freeman urged the assembled MFI members to go the second mile and reach out to those non-Adventists who would be within reach of a newly built Maranatha church. Some Phase II ideas have already been tested with satisfying results. He then outlined four major steps for implementing the Showing Love Through Personal Contact program.

1. The plan is to have a full-time minister working with MFI. While the new church is taking shape, the MFI minister will work with the local pastors in a home-visitation program designed to introduce others to the Seventh-day Adventist message.

2. MFI members will be encouraged to attend Sunday services in other churches when not working on the new church building. By this method, lasting friendships are often made, and others are introduced to the local Seventh-day Adventist work in the area.

3. After the new church is completed and dedicated, open-house activities for neighbors and friends will follow. This idea proved effective in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, and in Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada.

4. A series of special meetings will be planned

within a few weeks of the completion of each new church. While the miracle of the "instant church" is still fresh in the minds of the people, they will come and visit the church more easily.

One of the highlights of the convention was a candlelight dedicatory service for the new Estes Park church, nearly completed by an MFI group on the eve of the convention.

On Sunday afternoon, August 13, a large group of MFI members left for La Vida Indian Mission in New Mexico to erect yet another church.

R. R. ADKISSON
Penn Valley, California

KENYA

SDA students win others

Many of the more than 300 Adventist young people on three university campuses in Africa are converts to Adventism, having been led to Christ by their fellow students through branch Sabbath schools and individual Bible studies.

Returning from an inter-division lay evangelism council in Nairobi, Kenya, in late July, Harald Knott, Euro-Africa Division lay activities director, reported that M. J. Mutinga, who teaches at Nairobi University, told the council that a small group of Adventist students started their organization in Nairobi about seven years ago. Their objectives were to encourage one another by studying the Word of God together and to try to win others to Christ.

Now one of the regular features of their activities is the annual retreat, attended by students and graduates, which focuses on soul winning and witnessing, and overcoming particular problems.

The group is supported by laymen, several of whom were former students, who provide the students with magazines, books, and other Adventist literature for distribution among their fellow students.

EDWARD E. WHITE
*Education Director
Euro-Africa Division*

Inside Washington

By VICTOR COOPER

• **Adventist World Radio:** In recent weeks it has been learned that there are possibilities of establishing a denominationally owned radio station in Liberia or Gabon. A shortwave station in Liberia could cover seven of the world divisions.

• **326 Adventist lawyers:** Warren L. Johns, chief legal counsel for the General Conference, reports a list of 326 Adventist lawyers in North America. Commencing in 1978, an annual directory of Seventh-day Adventist lawyers, with the title "J. D.," is being published under the auspices of the Office of General Counsel to the General Conference.

• **Administrators and Bible teachers consult:** In recognition of the growing conviction of the need for closer and more continual consultation between the Bible teachers and the administrators of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, a small committee of representatives of these two categories of church leaders met for two days in Washington at the end of July. A series of recommendations was drawn up to be submitted to the General Conference President's Advisory Committee that could ensure regular and representative meetings of the two groups of leaders regarding matters of vital concern to the church in areas of Biblical and theological interest.

• **New Sabbath School teachers' training course:** In the Sabbath School Department the first training course for teachers of the children's divisions is in the planning stage. Scripts for the text and teaching manual have been coauthored by Dr. Donna Habenicht, of the Andrews University teaching staff, and Dr. Anne Bell, a professor at the University of Oklahoma. The materials are expected to be ready for use by the fall of 1979.

• **Camp Directors Manual:** The General Conference Youth Department has just completed a new nearly 400-page *Camp Directors Manual* in loose-leaf form. The manual (\$5.95) is a comprehensive guide for conference youth directors throughout the world.

• **AYT:** The Adventist Youth Taskforce program for the North American Division is now being administered by the General Conference Youth Department (Charles Martin is the man to contact), which receives official calls from the local conferences in a manner similar to the student missionary calls, which the department also coordinates. At the present time 80 official calls have been received. These include a wide spectrum of service opportunities, including teaching, deaning, health-related services, work for Indians and other ethnic groups, youth assistants to pastors and youth directors, industrial arts, evangelism in dark counties, and many others. The Adventist youth volunteer serves for from 15 weeks to one year and receives room, board, and a \$15-per-week stipend.

• **Youth seminars:** In conjunction with Andrews University, the General Conference Youth Department has completed two youth ministry seminars at Muhlenrahmede, West Germany, and Collonges, France. One hundred and ten youth directors from the Euro-Africa Division and the Northern Europe-West Africa Division were in attendance. The Youth Department has arranged for three youth ministry seminars in Africa and one in the Far East next year.

• **Seminars for clergymen:** The staff of *Ministry* magazine, members of the Ministerial Association, and the officers of the North American Division plan to hold 80 seminars as part of the follow-up of P.R.E.A.C.H. (Project for Reaching Every Active Clergyman at Home). The journal is now being sent to 240,000 clergymen as part of a two-year project. At seminars clergymen of various faiths fellowship with their SDA counterparts in a climate of professional growth and exchange.

Australasian

● Stanmore church in the Greater Sydney Conference has presented the first 4DK program for the Australasian Division. Running four consecutive nights, the program deals with the causes of alcoholism, presenting scientific findings and fundamental principles of the body's functions. Completing the program were eight problem drinkers, five of whom went on to the follow-up preventive program.

● Twelve women being trained as home-nutrition-instruction trainers took a three-week intensive course in nutrition and demonstrations following several months of correspondence work.

● Youth in the Central Pacific Union Mission held ten Voice of Youth crusades, supported by 118 Bible-study teams and 166 friendship teams, during the second quarter of 1978. Besides operating 66 branch Sabbath schools, they have participated in special projects.

● After 20 years of mission service, Olive Fisher, presently working in Sopas Adventist Hospital, Papua New Guinea, will return to her homeland to retire.

● The Appeal for Missions throughout the Australasian Division from July 1, 1977, to June 30, 1978, yielded a total of US\$1,181,050, the first time that the total has exceeded the million-dollar mark.

North American

Atlantic Union

● Young people of the Manchester, New Hampshire, church conducted meetings last spring that resulted in the baptism of ten people.

● As a result of private donations and many hours of fund-raising activities, Geer Memorial Home, a skilled-nursing facility in Canaan, Connecticut, now has a 1978 Plymouth van for the use of

the residents. The van is fully equipped to take care of the needs of the elderly and handicapped.

● Six persons from the Manchester-Nashua, New Hampshire, District were baptized recently as the result of the efforts of laymen, the Voice of Youth Organization, and literature evangelists.

● The new medical-education building on the campus of New England Memorial Hospital in Stoneham, Massachusetts, is ready for fall classes. The school of medical technology will occupy the first floor, where students will receive training in such areas as hematology, chemistry, serology-immunology, and blood-banking, culminating in a Bachelor of Science degree. The hospital's staff development department will use the second floor. Staff development trained 7,008 persons in 1977.

● Parkview Memorial Hospital, Brunswick, Maine, received a \$5,000 grant recently from the Southern Maine chapter of the March of Dimes for the purchase of a fetal-heart monitor.

Canadian Union

● After serving the Bridgeland district of Calgary, Alberta, for 50 years, the old Bridgeland church was demolished and a new structure was built and dedicated on the site.

● The Owen Sound company in Ontario was organized into a church with 35 members on Sabbath, June 25.

● Jack Friesen, a graduate of Canadian Union College, is assistant pastor of the West Toronto church and the Malton company in Ontario.

● Five young people were baptized recently in Kingston, Ontario, by Al Webb, as a result of an It Is Written viewer's request for a set of Bible study guides.

● On September 2, Adora de la Cruz was baptized by A. B. Reyes at the Henderson Highway church in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Central Union

● Four hundred Central Union Conference Pathfinders attended the union camporee, held near Togwatee Pass in Wyoming's Teton National Forest, August 16 to 20.

● Clifford Nestell has joined the Shawnee Mission Medical Center in the Kansas City area as medical librarian. Glenn Sackett also joined the staff as hospital chaplain.

● A new church school opened its doors in Arnold, Nebraska, with six children under the guidance of teacher Kathryn Prowant.

● H. L. Thompson, Central Union evangelist, and H. Pettway, pastor of the Park Avenue church in St. Louis, concluded meetings in St. Louis, with 60 persons baptized.

● Twenty-seven persons were baptized during the meetings held in Lincoln, Nebraska, by Les Fowler, Nebraska Conference evangelist, and Ivan Piercey, pastor of the Northside church.

● The Don Edwards evangelistic team from Missouri recently concluded meetings in Joplin, Missouri, with Ben Maxson, pastor, baptizing 69.

Columbia Union

● The Bladensburg, Maryland, church has broken ground in Seabrook for its new \$500,000 church. More than 80 percent of the funds are in hand.

● A. T. Westney, Columbia Union Conference associate education director, was the principal speaker at the dedication of the Lynchburg, Virginia, church, which he formerly pastored.

● Copies of *The Ministry of Healing* and a subscription to *Life & Health* magazine were given out as prizes during a recent cooking school in Weirton, West Virginia.

● Spanish Adventist camp meeting goes from 15 New Jersey churches saw 40 per-

sons baptized at the close of their seven-day session at Garden State Academy this year.

● Columbia Union College has enrolled a large freshman class, and more students are being housed in the dormitory this year than last. According to Joseph Gurubatham, director of admissions and records, the average student class load (excluding the external degree studies) is higher than last year, which means a higher percentage of "solid" on-campus enrollees.

● Four new half-page ads from the General Conference placed in the Columbus, Ohio, *Dispatch* to pretest the market, drew a total of 454 responses. The ads ran every Tuesday. Circulation of the *Dispatch* is 205,000 copies. The largest number of inquiries, 299, were in response to the ad on vegetarianism.

Lake Union

● The Hinsdale Hospital Fourth of July float won first prize and the Pick of the Parade award in the Hinsdale parade this year. The theme of the float was "Hinsdale Hospital Wishes You Well."

● Lester Carney, Indiana Conference Ministerial secretary, conducted a Revelation Seminar in the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Indianapolis on August 27. Ninety-five people attended.

● Indiana Conference staff members recently conducted a weekend training seminar for local church elders at Camp Timber Ridge.

● The fourth annual Shoe Giveaway was held recently at the Quincy, Illinois, Adventist Community Center. The giveaway received local media publicity, with 415 persons receiving 700 pairs of shoes. Approximately 300 pieces of literature also were distributed. The shoes are accumulated during the year from garage sales and donations.

● Physical therapists from throughout the United States attended a week-long Joint Mobilization Seminar in July

at Hinsdale Hospital, Hinsdale, Illinois. The seminar was conducted by Loma Linda University and directed by Bjorn Svendsen, registered therapist.

North Pacific Union

• A "baby shower" was held for the two Tacoma, Washington, South Side church Community Services leaders, Matthew and Vera Ferguson, to enlarge the supply of baby clothing on hand. The shower, suggested by Mary Kaser, resulted in more than 200 items of infant supplies being brought in for future use.

• Two new buildings, a nurses' dormitory and a school of nursing center, are the latest additions to the Portland Adventist Medical Center. The dormitory provides central accommodations for Portland nursing students, with a capacity of 146 persons in 73 rooms. With more men entering the nursing field, men's housing needs also are being cared for with a separate wing. The dormitory also includes a dean's residence. The school of nursing building, the second structure in the \$1.75 million project, has space for the administrative offices and the classrooms. Work on the facility is expected to be completed by the end of 1978.

• In addition to his duties as associate director of public affairs, Joseph C. Hansen has been named ASI director of the North Pacific Union. L. F. Rieley, formerly an associate in the data-processing center, will become treasurer of the union Trust Services.

Northern Union

• The Iowa Conference recently voted to divide the education and youth departments. Larry Kromann will continue as youth director, while Otis Graves, formerly in the Florida Conference, will direct the education department.

• The Iowa Adventist Book Center reports gross sales of

\$5,246 during their open house, September 10.

• The Northern Union *Signs* crusade brought in 36,563 subscriptions, the highest number ever in the union, an average of more than two per member. The North Dakota Conference turned in almost three subscriptions per member.

• Three evangelistic series are currently in progress in the Northern Union: Bob Boggess in Dubuque, Iowa; John Morrison in Wahpeton, North Dakota; and W. G. Zima in Des Moines, Iowa.

• John VanDenburgh, South Dakota evangelist, reports that 15 persons made decisions for baptism in Rapid City.

Pacific Union

• A reconditioned 32-foot semi truck and trailer are serving Southern California as a mobile Adventist Book Center.

• Central California Conference's friendship camp for underprivileged children drew 184 campers in August. Planned by inner-city director W. C. Webb, the camp was also served by John R. Ford, a physician from San Diego, and Ted T. Jones, camp pastor, from Stockton. Regular student and full-time employees under the direction of Ken Veal planned activities.

• The 175 members of the Hayward Spanish church have dedicated their sanctuary debt-free. Carlos Pidoux pastors this growing group.

• Sacramento Central church members manned a booth at the California State Fair under the theme "Color Your World Healthy." Joleane King organized the display.

• Robert Wong has been called from San Gabriel Academy in California to return to Hawaii to serve as the mission director of education, youth, and temperance.

• Hawaii's Governor George R. Ariyoshi led more than 100 persons in a ribbon-cutting-ceremony tour of the \$3.5 million expansion at

Castle Memorial Hospital. Slated to be completed and in operation this month, the expansion, which is five months ahead of schedule and under budget, includes a new emergency room and radiology area.

Southern Union

• Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Haswell were honored August 26 by the Madison, Tennessee, Boulevard church for their work at the Tennessee State Penitentiary. Since 1948, 315 persons have been baptized as a result of their ministry.

• Approximately 4,500 blood-pressure readings were given and 3,000 persons enrolled in a Bible correspondence course during the ten-day Kentucky State Fair in Louisville during August.

• On August 16 the Cleveland, Tennessee, church was organized, with 13 members. The church is the result of J. F. Milner's summer evangelism program.

• The Blandford-Pauley evangelistic team baptized 25 at the end of their series in Palatka, Florida.

• The South Atlantic Conference added 1,015 members during August by baptism or profession of faith, with baptisms during the first eight months of 1978 totaling 1,497.

Southwestern Union

• Mr. and Mrs. Fred Bruce will be the new Camp Ranger team at Camp Yorktown Bay, Arkansas. Mr. Bruce taught industrial arts at the Chisholm Trail Academy in Keene, Texas.

• A successful stewardship program has recently been completed in the Oklahoma Conference, according to Robert Rider, president. The funds will cover a large portion of the conference program, including evangelism. Four full-time evangelists will be working throughout the conference during the coming year.

• Jay Baker, Arkansas-Louisiana Conference evangelist,

is now pastor of the Shreveport First church.

• Hoping to stimulate new interest in Bible reading on the part of the students and the community, Southwestern Adventist College students will conduct a Bible-writing marathon. The goal is to copy the Scriptures from Genesis to Revelation in 100 hours.

• A Sabbath school has been started in Yellville, Arkansas, with some 30 members.

• Young people of the El Paso Spanish church held a Voice of Youth crusade resulting in eight persons baptized to date.

• Sandia View Academy began the school year with more than 100 students, while 16 church schools in the Texico Conference opened their doors for the new school year. Two of these are new, one in Big Spring, Texas, and the other in Clovis, New Mexico.

• Another church has been organized in the Texas Conference, this one in the city of Everman, a suburb of Fort Worth. Cecil May is the pastor. This is the second church in the Fort Worth area to be organized this year.

Andrews University

• Summer graduates brought Andrews University's senior class of 1978 to a record-breaking 676. Jacques Doukhan, of Collonges, France, became the first to receive the Doctor of Theology degree from Andrews' Seminary. The commencement speaker was Donald R. McAdams, president of Southwestern Adventist College. Honorary doctoral degrees were conferred on Herbert Blomstedt, European orchestra leader and Adventist layman, and Harold Clark, a naturalist and botanical writer.

• Enrollment in Andrews' special courses and workshops has more than doubled in the past year. Last year's attendance was about 700, compared with almost 1,600 this year, when approximately 90 courses were offered.

To New Posts

Worker transfers within union conferences are not listed here. Such transfers ordinarily are included in News Notes.

NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

Fred Lee, director of development and communications, Shawnee Mission Medical Center, Shawnee Mission, Kansas.

Clayton Peters, associate publishing director, Colorado Conference, formerly same position in the Wyoming Conference.

Edwin A. Ricketts, pastor, Mountain View congregation in Phoenix, formerly from West Virginia.

Ronald Stump, to serve as general bindery worker, College Press, Union College, Lincoln, Nebraska; formerly casemaker, Pacific Press, Mountain View, California.

Regular Missionary Service

James L. Anderson (AU '62), to serve as history-biology teacher, Maxwell Adventist School, Nairobi, Kenya, and **Patricia A. (Lafferty) Anderson**, of Cedar Lake, Michigan, left New York City, August 23, 1978.

Brent L. Balmer (UC '73), to serve as teacher, Maxwell Adventist School, Nairobi, Kenya, and **Wanda M. (Friesen) Balmer** of Cheyenne, Wyoming, left Chicago, August 18, 1978.

Robert W. Burchard (SMC '59), returning to serve as administrator, Hongkong Adventist Hospitals, Hong Kong, and **Ann I. (Maxwell) Burchard**, left Los Angeles, August 21, 1978.

Richard M. Cadavero (AU '73), returning to serve as Bible teacher, Far Eastern Academy, Singapore, **Barbara Ann (Farley) Cadavero**, and three children left New York City, August 14, 1978.

Florence Carrigan (Columbia U. '68), to serve as instructor, school of nursing, West Indies College, Mandeville, Jamaica, of College Place, Washington, left Miami, August 22, 1978.

William R. Cochran (PUC '71), returning to serve as pastor-evangelist, Southeast Asia Mission, Sarawak, Malaysia, **Joyce E. (Christensen) Cochran**, and two children left

New York City, August 21, 1978.

John M. Curnow, returning to serve as manager, national Home and Health Service, Southern Asia Division office, Poona, India, and **Joan (Gal-laher) Curnow**, of the Northern Europe-West Africa Division, left New York City, August 21, 1978.

Larry C. Engel (AU '66), returning to serve as SAWS director, South American Division, Brasilia, Brazil, **Shirley M. (Wheeler) Engel**, and two children left Miami, August 23, 1978.

Jerrell N. Fink (WWC '69), returning to serve as science teacher, Bethel College, Trans-kei, Africa, **Regina E. (Little) Fink** (CUC '63), and two children left New York City, August 23, 1978.

Donald F. Gilbert (UC '55), returning to serve as treasurer, Far Eastern Division, Singapore, **Irene E. (Julius) Gilbert** (UC '56), and one daughter left Los Angeles, August 14, 1978.

Glenn A. Gryte (LLU '52), returning to serve as OB-GYN specialist, Taiwan Adventist Hospital, Taipei, Taiwan, **Silva L. (Woolsey) Gryte**, and one child left San Francisco, August 8, 1978.

Elizabeth J. Hiscox (LLU '27), returning to serve as physician, Giffard Memorial Hospital, Andhra Pradesh, India, left New York City, July 31, 1978.

Randy C. Horning (AU '78), to serve as technical advisor-publishing coordinator, South China Island Union Mission, Taipei, Taiwan, of Berrien Springs, Michigan, left San Francisco, August 29, 1978.

Wesley G. Jensen (AU '59), returning to serve as dean, school of theology, Spicer Memorial College, Poona, India, left San Francisco, June 25, 1978. **Betty June (Amoroso) Jensen** left Los Angeles, August 2, 1978, to join her husband.

Olga Kaiser (WWC '77), to serve as dean of girls-PE instructor, Far Eastern Academy, Singapore, of Portland, Oregon, left Los Angeles, August 27, 1978.

Julius Korgan (U. of Nebr. '57), returning to serve as president, Adventist Seminary of West Africa, Ikeja, Lagos State, Nigeria, **V. Evelyn (Beebe) Korgan** (CUC '48), and one

child left New York City, August 22, 1978.

Edwin C. Kraft (LLU '53), returning to serve as medical director-physician, Kendu Mission Hospital, Kendu Bay, Kenya, and **Ruby M. (Spier) Kraft** left Seattle, August 26, 1978.

Dean E. Maddock (AU '71), returning to serve as principal, Far Eastern Academy, Singapore, **Gwendolyn R. (Hicks) Maddock**, and four children left New York City, August 9, 1978.

Mary P. Nygaard (U. of Md. '75), returning to serve as director of nursing service, Karachi Hospital, Karachi, Pakistan, left New York City, August 23, 1978.

Ernest S. Priddy, returning to serve as production manager and pressman, Antillian College Press, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico, and **Dorla J. (Roberts) Priddy** left Miami, August 23, 1978.

David W. Rios (U. of Md. '76), to serve as librarian, Montemorelos University, Montemorelos, Mexico, of Beltsville, Maryland, left San Antonio, Texas, August 21, 1978.

Halden E. Ritz (U. of Oreg. '75), to serve as administrator, Haiti Hospital, Port-au-Prince, Haiti, **Eleanor F. (Jones) Ritz** and two children, of Monument Valley, Utah, left Miami, July 28, 1978.

Robert L. Robinson (WWC '66), returning to serve as business manager, Malamulo Hospital, Makwasa, Malawi, **Brenda A. (Biegler) Robinson** (WWC '64), and three children left New York City, August 28, 1978.

W. Rayburn Smith, to serve as publishing secretary, Thailand Mission, Bangkok, Thailand, **Sharon M. (Honnoll) Smith**, and three children, of Mars, Pennsylvania, left Los Angeles, August 10, 1978.

Albert Earl Spaulding (U. of Colo. '66), to serve as business manager, Rusangu Secondary School, Monze, Zambia, and **Martha E. (Marshall) Spaulding**, of Holbrook, Arizona, left Washington, D.C., August 23, 1978.

Cameron E. Spaulding (PUC '75), to serve as maintenance supervisor, Kendu Mission Hospital, Kendu Bay, Kenya, **Julie A. (Hetterle) Spaulding**, and one child, of Mountain View, California, left New York City, August 24, 1978.

L. Russell Thomas (UC '74),

to serve as Adventist Book Center Manager, Tanzania Union, Arusha, Tanzania, **Beatrice E. (Warner) Thomas**, and one child, of Little Rock, Arkansas, left New York City, August 20, 1978.

Charles H. Tidwell (U. of Nebr. '59), returning to serve as president, South China Union College, Kowloon, Hong Kong, left San Francisco, August 16, 1978.

Notice

Legal Notice: Southwestern Union Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists

Notice is hereby given of a special constituency meeting of the Southwestern Union Conference Corporation of Seventh-day Adventists to be held in Hot Springs, Arkansas, October 29, 1978. The meeting is scheduled to convene at 9:00 P.M., October 29, at the Lake Hamilton Holiday Inn in Hot Springs. The constituency of this corporation is the Board of Trustees, the members of the Southwestern Union Conference Executive Committee, and the delegates who were accredited to the last regular session of the corporation at Oklahoma City, February 23, 1976. The purpose of this meeting is to amend the purpose clause of the Articles of Incorporation, make any needed changes in the bylaws, and to transact any other business as may properly come before this session.

B. E. LEACH, *President*
A. C. REED, *Secretary*

Deaths

CONKLIN, Dorothy B.—b. March 14, 1903, South Portland, Maine; d. Aug. 22, 1978, Harrison, Ark. For 25 years she served as a Bible instructor in Massachusetts, Texas, New York City, and at Faith for Today.

Survivors include two brothers, Kenneth and Kingdon Whitney.

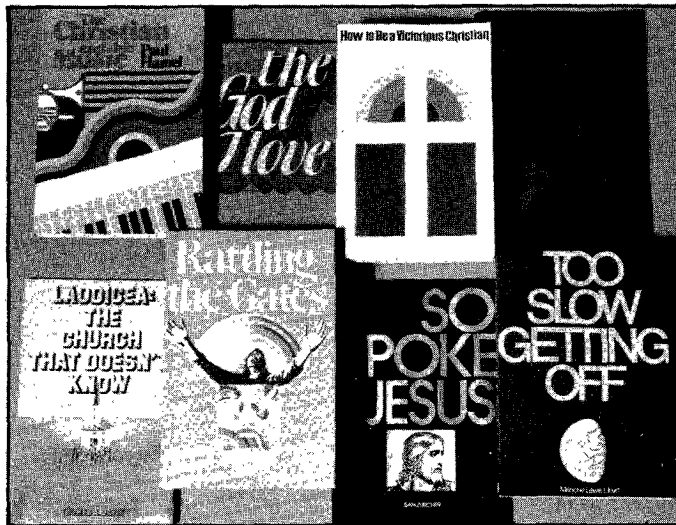
DAVIS, Clarence H.—b. March 16, 1895, New South Wales, Australia; d. Aug. 26, 1978, Loma Linda, Calif. In 1915 he went to China in response to a call from the *General Conference*, learned the Chinese language, and worked for the people of the Orient for 49 years in the following capacities: the publishing field, for eight years; president of the Hunan Mission and the Hupeh Mission; director of Sabbath school and lay activities for the Central China Union; president of the North Fukien Mission; president of the South China Union; president of the Korean Union Mission.

Survivors include his wife, Amy; two sons, Allwyn K. and Milton J.; two daughters, Violet M. Bates and Phyllis M. Edwards; 13 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

McGEE, John Lawrence—b. Nov. 19, 1870, Rockville, Mo.; d. June 8, 1978, Jay, Okla. After graduating from Battle Creek Sanitarium in 1897, he worked for the church as a literature evangelist for more than 40 years. Survivors include his wife, Pauline; one daughter, Mrs. Francis Robertson; one foster son, James Ferguson; two granddaughters; and five great-grandchildren.

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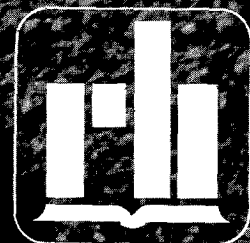
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review publications

Flexitime for U.S. Civil Service

In signing the Flexitime Bill into law on Friday, September 29, President Carter has approved a provision that is intended by the U.S. Congress to assist Federal Government Civil Service employees to obtain reasonable accommodations for Sabbath observance.

Title IV of Public Law 95-390 reads as follows: "(a) Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this section, the Civil Service Commission shall prescribe regulations providing for work schedules under which an employee whose personal religious beliefs require the abstention from work during certain periods of time, may elect to engage in overtime work for time lost for meeting those religious requirements. Any employee who so elects such overtime work shall be granted equal compensatory time off from his scheduled tour of duty (in lieu of over-

time pay) for such religious reasons, notwithstanding any other provision of law."

In paragraph (c) the law indicates that this exemption may not be able to be applied in all situations. It reads: "(c) Regulations under this section may provide for such exceptions as may be necessary to efficiently carry out the mission of the agency or agencies involved."

In approximately one month the Civil Service Commission is directed to publish guidelines, which will appear in the *Federal Register*. These guidelines will spell out in detail how the various Government agencies will put this provision into effect. After responses to the proposed rules are received, the Civil Service Commission will then make official its guidelines, which will also have the effect of law unless they are specifically overturned by an act of Congress.

All church members employed under the Federal Civil Service System should clip this item for future refer-

ence. If a problem arises with regard to obtaining Friday night or Sabbath accommodation, they should contact their conference religious liberty director immediately.

GORDON ENGEN

For the record

ASI is growing: According to a recent report, more than 500 independent Seventh-day Adventist lay persons and Christian professional and business groups are members of the Association of Privately Owned Seventh-day Adventist Services and Industries (ASI). They represent hospitals, clinics, and nursing homes, with a total of 14,000 beds, and businesses and professions, including self-supporting institutions, representing 20,000 workers. These church members will meet for their annual international convention in Galveston, Texas, October 25 to 29.

New position: Victor S. Griffiths, editor, *Journal of Adventist Education*, replacing Garland J. Millet.

Died: Hilda Rice, 78, on September 22 in Denver, Colorado. Her husband, Harley Rice, was associate secretary of the General Conference Health Department from 1958 to 1970.

Community Services Manual

The long-awaited new *Community Services Manual*, prepared by the General Conference Lay Activities Department and printed by the Review and Herald, is off the press. Eighteen chapters and eight appendixes deal with community needs and services, planning and operation of centers, disaster relief, international relief, health and temperance education, interviewing and referral, building a relationship between helper and client, spiritual ministry, and other aspects of Christian social ministry.

The approach to Community Services followed in the new manual is based on the life and teaching of Jesus.

The manual follows closely the basic blueprint outlined in the Scriptures and in the counsels of the Spirit of Prophecy. Adventist professional social workers contributed their expertise to writing and editing this new manual, edited by Carl E. Guenther.

Pastors, lay activities leaders, Dorcas and Adventist Men officers, and all Community Services workers will find aid here in planning and operating community outreach programs. A detailed index provides ready access to the information, and the binding permits use in loose-leaf form.

Available now from local conference lay activities departments, the new manual may soon be stocked also by Adventist Book Centers.

PERRY F. PEDERSEN

Leaf from a diary

Diaries are always interesting. Often they reveal the secret thoughts of the writer and the matters closest to his heart.

Thus I was thrilled recently to read the following excerpt from the diary of Ellen G. White, dated July 10, 1905:

"I am every day grateful to our heavenly Father that our printing plant is to send forth the church paper from Takoma Park to all parts of our world, and more than this I am instructed to say that its circulation should be greatly increased. The Lord would have this paper come to many more families in England, yes, in many places. It should go to Australia, where there are located large numbers of English-speaking people. And everything should be carefully written that light shall shine forth as a lamp

that burneth. Much more should be written upon actual experiences and much more given in *short articles*, right to the point, on Bible present truth. The reasons why we are the denominated people of God are to be repeated and repeated. Deut. 4:1-13; 5:1-33."

If God's servant were alive today, I am sure she would be pleased that the church paper is continuing to go "from Takoma Park to all parts of our world," and that it is going into more Adventist homes than ever in history. Moreover, it continues to set forth "the reasons why we are the denominated people of God," proclaiming a unique message to the world.

Exciting days lie ahead in 1979. Read about all of them in the REVIEW. Subscribe now to your church paper. K. H. W.

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