

Evangelism—the Life of the Church—Part 1

GO PREACH

O. O. MATTISON

CONTHOU and preach the kingdom of God" (Luke 9:60) was the curt reply that Jesus gave to the young man whom He had called to follow Him and who requested that he be permitted to first go home and bury his father. Jesus was not being unsympathetic. He was endeavouring to impress upon the young man the importance of making first things first. This great lesson is one that I feel everyone of us should keep constantly before us as individuals. It is the great task that we as an organization should keep ever uppermost in the plans of our entire working force and every organized church and company in this Division field.

The very life of the church depends upon her zeal to live and to preach the kingdom of God. It was for this purpose a church was brought into existence; and the divine commission, "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations," which our Lord gave to the disciples just before His return to His Father, is just as binding on the church today as it was when the Lord walked with them two thousand years ago. It presents to us just as great a challenge as it presented to them and only as we keep that commission ever before us and put it into operation, can we expect the spirit of growth, of life and vitality to be within the church. It is only that spirit to which the Lord can add the power of the Holy Spirit and fulfil His promise—which was a conditional promise-"Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

The Lord has not promised to be with a static church. Neither has He promised to add the power of His Holy Spirit to a church which is working only for those within its own-small circle and has lost its vision of a world-wide mission.

Someone has truthfully said that "the church is not a club for saints, but a hospital for sinners." It is our business as members and workers to work in that hospital for sinners. It is our business as members and workers to go out into the highways and byways and compel them to come in, that they may be healed and spiritually fed. As Christ called his disciples one by one, His commission was, "Follow me." He immediately proceeded to organize them into working bands and then sent them out two by two with the commission, "Go, preach, saying The kingdom of God is at hand" (Matt. 10:7), and then to make it a little more specific he said, "What I tell you in. darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops." Matt. 10:27.

Then His last commission to the disciples was, "Go ye into all the

[&]quot;The Lord is coming. Let every one show his faith by his works." *Testimonies*, Vol. 5, p. 153.

Southern Asia Tidings

world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Mark 16:15.

It was by the foolishness of preaching that Paul was accused of turning the world upside down. It has been by the great programme of evangelism throughout the ages that the torch of truth has been kept burning from century to century. Persecution could not quench it, popularity could not snuff it out, wealth could not smother it, indifference could not hide it; but in every age and in every country there have been those who have risen up and preached the kingdom of God.

I thank God that we as a people, in the early days of this movement, adopted as our motto and challenge the great commission to go into all the world and preach the gospel. This has ever urged us on from the days of our very beginning until the present time and it has been one of the distinguishing features of this movement. May we never allow that torch to grow dim. May we recognize that our one great task in the world is to preach, evangelize, and warn men and women everywhere to turn from darkness unto light and to prepare to meet their God.

Evangelism is our keyword today. We are focusing all of our energies; organizing all of our manpower into a great united drive to take this gospel of the kingdom to the millions who as yet do not realize that they have a Saviour, and that He is coming again soon. We are living in momentous times, times of great urgency, times of unprecedented advance in science. We are living in a time which is called the "space age," but over and above all, in the revolutionary methods and ideas that we see floating about us, we see our Saviour beckoning us on into fields of evangelism and hear His voice in all of its clarity saying, "Go ye and preach." Let none of us be indifferent to that command. Let us not become so engrossed in the detail work of office, or classroom, or hospital ward that we do not hear that voice each day bidding us to go and tell others the good news of salvation. May it be the keynote in the planning of our committees, in the desk of every, church, and may our programme throughout this year be one united programme of evangelism, heeding His divine command to go and preach this gospel of the kingdom and claiming His promise, "Lo I am with you alway."

New Delhi Ministerial Institute

GEORGE R. JENSON.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK, Friday morning, February 12, marked the opening of the Ministerial Institute for the Northwestern India Union, when Pastors R. A. Anderson and J. F. Ashlock welcomed forty-two pastors, teachers, and other workers, plus a few laymen from the New Delhi Church who had assembled at our Union headquarters in New Delhi. A large shammiana had been erected on the lawn on the east side of the front bungalow for public evan-



Meal time at the Institute.

gelistic services, a dining tent was erected on the lawn between the two bungalows, and sleeping accommodations had been located on the various verandahs and, guest rooms on the compound. A feeling of expectancy was experienced as the workers filed into the chapel for the first song service. Brother and Sister Osmond had loaned us the use of their electric organ, and its lovely music was pervading the campus.

The instructional portions of the Institute were probably similar to those presented elsewhere. However the theory was greatly complemented by the practical demonstrations in public evangelism, for each night during the six days of the Institute, Pastor Anderson led out in public evangelistic services. In perhaps no more effective way could our assembled workers have learned the forcefulness of presenting the truth of the Atonement to the general public. For although the messages presented were Christ-centred throughout, it is a tribute to the speaker and the messages presented that the audience increased in number each night. Two public calls for consecration were effected. The first, presented on the fifth night called for those who sought a closer consecration to God to kneel right by their chairs. A marvellous response was witnessed. The sixth evening, a call was made for people to come forward to the altar, and before the call was concluded, practically every person in an audience of well over 200 persons had left his seat and gone forward.

Many factors contributed to the -success of our institute. Not the least was the abundance of good music provided for us by Pastor Gordon Jenson and his music committee. Another idea which brought comments of appreciation from all concerned was the food catering service. Rather than occupying the time of several workers in purchasing and preparing the food, we arranged with a local restaurant to prepare the food, bring it to our dining tent, and serve it. The food was well prepared, sufficient for all, and was served for Rs. 2.50 per day per person. They even washed all of the dishes!

On Sabbath, February 13, we all joined in a spiritual high day. Beside the thrilling sermon presented by Pastor Anderson, we witnessed the dedication of Pastor and Mrs. Gerald Christo's young son, the ordination of Brother Stanley Heldt as a local deacon, and



Pastors Jensen and Christo with those baptized during the Ministerial Institute,

the baptism of four individuals into the remnant church of God. Truly these additional rites served to enrich our institute. Our sincere wish is that Institutes such as was held by Pastors Anderson and Ashlock might be held often throughout the Southern Asia Division.

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Week of Prayer at Chuharkana

E. ROBERT REYNOLDS

THE school at Chuharkana, where from the primary grades up through the second year of college courses, Seventh-day Adventist young people from both wings of Pakistan are being trained and educated for life and for eternity, is a real blessing to the work in this Union territory.

Under the leadership of our principal, R. K. Hamilton, not only has the school plant made progress, but the trend in a greater spiritual emphasis has been upward, and we believe that we have some of the finest young people in all of Pakistan here with us. More and more we are noticing that a number of these are making some real spiritual growth, and it makes us happy.

Without any question, one of the contributing factors to this has been the emphasis of the different Weeks of Prayer that we have had here in recent years. I can speak only of those with which I have been associated. But we have had some good ones, conducted by the students themselves, and conducted by men who know young people, love them, and are young at heart themselves.

This morning brought the conclusion of another blessed Week of Prayer. It has been our privilege to have with us for this week Pastor C. A. Boykin from Vincent Hill School. The messages that he has brought to our student body have stirred their hearts, and brought some real victories, we are certain.

The theme of the week was one to challenge the imagination of old and young alike. It centred around two motioes or questions which hung at the front of the room, one in English, and one in Urdu. They read: "What Are YOUR Plans for the Future?" and (in Urdu), "Mustiqbil ke live AP KE Tajawiz Kya Hain?" And to kindle our fancy into flame Pastor Boykin continued throughout the week to talk about plans for space travel as conceived by the scientific world, and as the reality of it faces

(Continued on p. 7.)

Please Remember the "Tidings" Offering March 26

Itinerating in the Interest of the Voice of Prophecy

C. R. BONNEY

FOR SOME months before the arrival in Karachi of Elder J. E. Chase, associate secretary of the General Conference Radio-TV Department, plans were made for an extensive tour of the Southern Asia Division in the interests of the Voice of Prophecy.

It was a four-point plan, in that we were to meet the workers in council in the various unions, conduct a Division-wide council for the Union V.O.P. secretaries and Bible School principals, conduct rallies in order to secure enrolments and present diplomas to graduates who had finished one of our Bible courses during the previous two or three months, and visit our seventeen Bible schools.

Our councils with the workers in the field, held in all the Unions but one, were a source of inspiration to all concerned. We were able to study the working of the Voice of Prophecy from the administration and field view points, and much profit was gained as we learned from one another the best ways to solve some of the problems we have faced, especially in connection with the important follow-up programme.

After covering the greater part of the field we came back to Poona for the council with the Union Voice of Prophecy secretaries and Bible School principals. This fourday meeting was a great success as we all entered into the discussions on the various subjects presented by chosen speakers. Many new plans and methods of working were voted which, when put into action, will give the Voice of Prophecy work a new impetus that will carry it to even greater heights of achievement in taking the Everlasting Gospel to the millions of this Division and bringing souls into the church of God.

Elder Chase and I conducted rallies in Karachi, Peshawar, Rawalpindi, Lahore, Delhi, Bombay, Bangalore, Madras, Colombo, Kandy, Calcutta, Shillong, Rangoon and Mandalay. Space will not permit me to write about each one of these rallies where we had very fine attendance and interested listeners, most of whom were Voice of Prophecy students, past and present. At each one of these meetings Elder Chase spoke powerfully, and yet simply, on the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, under the title "Behold the Man." Enemies and critics of the Christian Church remained silent as the power of the living Christ was revealed in the sermon and felt by all who were in attendance. This was especially so in one rally where we had the privilege and responsibility of presenting this message to a large number of leaders of another religion, who were included in our audience. The power of God worked in a wonderful way, their interest grew as the sermon proceeded until before the



Voice of Prophecy graduates attending the rally in Calcutta.

close their misty eyes revealed that they had been deeply touched by the fact that we serve a risen Saviour and not the "remains" in a tomb. After the appeal the majority of these men signed application cards for our Bible Course. We cannot limit what God will do in this place through such a meeting and the lessons which will be studied.

After the series of rallies, where so many thousands of all religions were given the opportunity to "Behold the Man" we felt, more than ever, the great need there is for the new course of Bible lessons on the "Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ." There is a great longing for the peoples of Southern Asia to know more about the Christ of Christianity. This new course. which has been produced for our English school, is enjoying a great reception and filling a need. It was planned at our Voice of Prophecy Council at the year-end that this course be produced in Hindi, Tamil and Telugu in 1960 with other languages to follow as soon as possible.

The idea of presenting diplomas to our graduates at these rallies worked well. It was with a certain amount of pride that over 500 graduates came on to the various platforms to shake our hands and receive their diplomas. By this they were put in touch with one another, with us and the local minister. Already we know of some definite decisions as a result of these personal contacts.

As we made this extended tour and contacted our Voice of Prophecy secretaries. Bible Schools and workers in the field and thousands of our students we were made to realize, as never before, that God is using this work in a mighty way to help complete the taking of the Everlasting Gospel to the millions of this Division. We want you to pray and work with us so that the task that God has given to us will soon be finished.

VICTORY

O. W. LANGE.

JUST NOW I talked with my veteran friend Pastor Faqir Chand. He said, "I do not understand it, but God always gives success. In all my life I've never seen failure. Our God is great. He is so good to us."

Let us praise God for His goodness in giving us this Uplift victory.

Truly, fellow believers, our God is great. He opens doors before His people and He closes doors.

He has opened the hearts of men everywhere to give. The Uplift



Victory Totals

on the

GOAL

CHART

in the

next issue

Be sure your total is included.

work this year has been another great victory for the church. In less than six weeks more treasure from the Gentiles flowed in to help the great humanitarian work of Seventh-day Adventists than ever before in our history in Southern Asia.

5

Every union participated. This in itself was a great victory, because in past years some unions did not take part until later. This year the church went out united to victory. It is believed that every church shared in the work.

Leaders worked. Pastor Mattison, president of the Division, took time out of his very busy programme to take part in the Uplift campaign. Pastor D. S. Johnson, the secretary, used spare time between planes in East Pakistan to collect Rs. 5,000 for Uplift. Pastor Kemmerer, Division treasurer, did his bit.

Every leader had part in the Uplift programme. We believe that every true, willing-hearted layman co-operated to make the campaign a success. Some laymembers collected only a few annas, others, hundreds of rupees. One faithful member received Rs. 1,000 from one of his contacts. All did their bit.

God's people in Southern Asia united in the great Uplift effort thus making it possible for us to celebrate Uplift Victory Day in the churches on March 5. The rewards for this work will not be fully known until Jesus comes.

In appreciation for the wholehearted co-operation of all the brethren let me say Thank You.



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SPECIAL FEATURE

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A. F. JESSEN, Principal J. IVAN CRAWFORD, Department of Education, South India Union.

CHUHARKANA

(Continued from p. 3.)

the consecrated Christian, talking about the preparation that must go into each kind, the adjustment of life required, and of what life will be like at the other end of the journey. Every meeting was packed with interest and inspiration. And a number of students availed themselves of the opportunity to counsel with Pastor Boykin at the counselling periods that were arranged.

The Friday evening testimony meeting was one of the most beautiful that we have seen here at the school, and the testimonies given must have gladdened many an angel-heart—they certainly brought joy to those of us who are on the faculty. The Sabbath morning service was no less of an inspiration and blessing. Surely the Lord has been in this place this week, and we give Him thanks for all of His mercies and bounties. We also thank Pastor and Mrs. Boykin for their efforts to be used by God during this week. and will welcome them back whenever they can come again.

NEWS NOTES

• A report from A. W. Robinson, principal of the Lakpahana Training Institute, Ceylon, indicates the growing popularity of this beautifully situated "light on a hill top." This school year commenced with 200 students enrolled. Of this number only 45 are day students. When one considers that this school in its present location is only six years old and that our constituency in the island numbers only 595 one is made to realize that here is a powerful evangelistic agency. During the past quadrennium more than 40 students were baptized. With careful development of the coconut estate which surrounds the school, the management is able to contribute approximately Rs. 15,500.00 in cash toward the payment of teachers' salaries. It is hoped that this unit will one day become self-supporting.

The finishing class of the Kottarakara High School faced the problem of a compulsory subject of the Kerala S. S. C. examination falling in a Sabbath. Principal H. G. Josephs called a special meeting to consider the matter. When an appeal was made to the students to "choose death before dishonour or the transgression of God's law" all sixteen of these earnest Adventist youth stood to their feeting, declaring like the Hebrew vouth of old that while they realized that God "is able to deliver" yet if He did not see fit in this instance to do so they wanted it to be known that they would not take this examination on the holy Sabbath day. Southern Asia Tidings readers will rejoice to know that the determination of these valiant youth has been rewarded, for the way has been opened in Kerala for Adventist youth to sit for their examinations without violation of conscience.

THE TEN-MINUTE SERVICE

- Q. What is the purpose of the ten-minute service?
- A. It is the regular weekly meeting of the church for promoting missionary work.
- Q. What should be done during this time?
- A. Several things-
 - 1. Collect the report of work done during the past week.
 - 2. Inspire the church to greater effort by citing examples of work being done (a) by the members of the local church (b) by church members in other places.
- Q. How can accurate reports be taken?
- A. There are several good ways. The following is one of them. In most churches the ten minute service taks over directly from the Sabbath school. Those present are still arranged in the groups that were Sabbath school classes. Some Home Missionary leaders take advantage of this grouping of the believers to form the same groups into bands. One of the group is appointed by the church Home Missionary Council to be the leader. This leader is held responsible to lead the group into missionary activities and to collect the reports of work done from week to week. At the beginning of the ten minute service the band leaders are called upon to stand and collect the reports.
- Q. Must the stories suggested by the Home Missionary Department always be used?
- A. No. The experiences sent out by the department are to help make the service interesting. Many times local members have experiences even more interesting than those sent out by the department. Encourage the laymen in your church to tell their experiences. However, do not let one individual speak too often. Be sure the experiences that are told are edifying to the church.

O. W. LANGE.

HOW LAYMEN ARE USING "OUR TIMES"

- 1. Some are sending one year's gift subscriptions to relatives and interested persons.
- 2. Some are selling "Our Times" for Investment Fund.
- 3. Some are donating a club of "Our Times" for the Church Literature Distribution band.
- 4. Some are selling "Our Times" subscriptions to help pay school fees.
- 5. Some are selling single copies each month.

The "Our Times" magazine is Southern Asia's own wonderful agent for spreading the truth to the English-reading public. Let every layman join in the "Our Times" campaign, April 3-15, while the price is only Rs. 3/- per year.

---O. W. Lange.

NEWS NOTES

 Doctors Karl and Christa Heuck with their three children. Marion. Matthias, and Corn. arrived in Rangoon, on the first o. February. The Doccors Heuck come originally from East Germany and will both serve in the Rangoon Sev-Hospital, enth-day Adventist where their help is much needed. We have eagerly anticipated the arrival of these new recruits, and welcome them to Southern Asia. More than 400 evangelists and

other workers attended the eight ministerial institutes conducted by Pastors R. A. Anderson and J. F. Ashlock during December, January, and February.

A series of evangelistic meetings was held in each of the seven Unions at Karachi, Delhi, Bombay, Bangalore, Colombo, Calcutta and Rangoon by Pastor Anderson in connection with his tour of the Division. His stirring messages created many interests which are being followed up by the local workers. The evangelists who attended the evening services received much of practical benefit, and feel their soul-winning efficiency has been increased.

• 1959 was the Golden Jubilee year for the Publishing Department. In honour of this event the Department offered a trophy to each colporteur who delivered orders valued at Rs. 500.00 more than his deliveries in 1958. Pastor Nixon has had the privilege of presenting these trophies at the recent Institutes. The first trophy was presented to D. C. Karnal Singh of the Northeast Union. He re aved a set of *Testimony Treasures* for delivering Rs. 10,000.00 more than he did in 1958. J. D. Ebenezer of the South India Union received the second trophy, valued at Rs. 50.00, and a number of other colporteurs also received trophies for their good record during the year.

• Brother R. L. Watts of Madras was ordained to the Gospel Ministry on Sabbath, February 20 during the recent Ministerial Institute in Bangalore. Pastor J. F. Ashlock preached the ordination sermon, Elder Anderson gave the charge and Pastor S. Thomas welcomed Brother Watts to the ministry

•The 1959 yearend reports indicate that funds budgeted for charity by our medical institutions has increased from Rs. 657,566.00 in 1958 to Rs. 844,733.00 in 1959, and that outpatient visits increased from 180,023 in 1958 to 205,417 in 1959.

• The Simla Hospital shows a striking increase. The number of outpatients cared for, increased from 6,727 in 1957 to 10,814 in 1958 and 21,366 in 1959. During the same period the number of inpatients doubled and major surgeries performed increased 5 times.

• The work at the Surat Hospital has also shown a steady and en-

couraging increase with 11,070 outpatient visits in 1957 and 16,836 in 1959. 677 patients were cared for i. 1. 906 in 1959.

• E. A. Streeter, principal of the Raymond Memorial Training School writes, School started out well this year with an extra large enrolment—245 in the boarding and 35 day scholars. The dining room is running in two shifts and the boys' home is filled to overflowing. More than 300 are present for the Sabbath services.

• Spicer Memorial College will this year be able to comfortably accommodate the many guests at commencement time for the exercises will be held in the new auditorium which is designed to seat 700 people.

Southern Asia Tidings

Official Organ of the SOUTHERN ASIA DIVISION of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

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Published by D. S. Johnson for the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, S. A. Division, Poona, and printed by V. Raja at the Oriental Watchman Publishing House, Salisbury Park, Poona 1. 2,450-4621-60.