

Fellow-workers and Advent believers throughout the Southern European Division

Greetings!

In the midst of this twelfth Winter Council, our thoughts turn to you. our 996 fellowworkers and 32,246 dear brethren and sisters of like faith scattered throughout the 21 countries and island groups composing the Southern European Division. We would share with you, who serve God night and day with faithfulness

in the churches, some of the encouragements and convictions that have been pressed home to our own hearts as we have surveyed the work of the past and have studied, in the light of transpiring events, plans for the aggressive pursual of our task to a triumphant completion.

The last months have brought stirring times upon us. After two hectic years, during which un-

precedented events, like iron doors, creaked and clanged up and down the corridors of the world, Mars' wardogs finally have broken their leashes and canons are roaring over battlescarred frontiers. Europe once again is on fire, and the fire bids fair to spread, ere long, to the entire continent, — if not to the whole world, — carrying in its wake destruction and sorrow which human language is at a loss to portray.

Already the state of war has brought untold suffering and distress to many lands; but, although God alone knows fully what the future has in store, we are happy to be able to say that His providence and care have been over our work and our people in a most remarkable way. From fields north and south, east and west, from homes and churches and army camps, have come to our Council inspiring reports of courage and loyalty, of faith and confidence. With the outbreak of hostilities, a large number of workers and members

Sound an alarm throughout the length and breadth of the earth. Tell the people that the day of the Lord is near, and hasteth greatly. Let none be left unwarned. We might have been in the place of the poor souls that are in the darkness of error. We might have been placed amid barbarism. According to the light we have received above others, we are debtors to impart the same to them. The daystar has risen upon us; let us flash the light upon the pathway of those in darkness. — Mrs. E.G. White. in practically all our fields were called to the colors for the service of their country, but in reply to prayers of faith, God has opened most marthe wav vellously before them, and so far has kept them as in the hallow of His Furthermore, hand. considerable while difficulty and embarrassment have been encountered in administering our farflung territory under war conditions, our

organization remains fully intact throughout the Division. The leaders in all fields, — at home and overseas, — again are standing at their posts of duty, ready to lead forward to new and greater attainments.

Indeed, whatever may be the result of the present conflict, — and we know the final decision does not rest with men but with the God of heaven who rules in the affairs of the world, — the crisis itself appeals to us as responsible leaders in Southern Europe as a definite signal to undertake greater things for God. It is a mandatory summons to bring our total forces into action. It is a stern call to (Please turn to page 6.) The 1939 Winter Council of the Southern European Division convened November 29 to December 5 in the sanitarium chapel at Gland. Switzerland. It had been definitely planned to hold this twelfth Council in Bucharest, Rumania; but, in consideration of the European war and unsettled conditions generally, it was deemed advisable to bring the Council to Switzerland, and once again to Gland, where s> many important European Councils had been held in the past.

This Council, - attended, in spite of the countless difficulties inherent to travel in Europe today, by 26 delegates, all from the European section of our Division, - was our first Division meeting with representatives present from the field since the outbreak of hostilities, and was just such a gathering as might be imagined in the present circumstances. At last the long expected crash had come, and the perplexing problems which arise from such an international crisis were to be met. The delegates brought with them a tense realization of the seriousness of the hour. In warm-hearted fellowship, they drew nigh unto God from day to day in order to learn from Him just what Israel ought to do; and after seeking wisdom from on high, they gave earnest study to their problems and faced the perplexities of the field with faith and courage.

It was, indeed, no simple matter to plan for the continuance of the work in Southern Europe in the midst of a far-reaching emergency. The mandatory summons of the hour was unquestionably for advance, for progress through difficulties; but how to ensure the conditions essential to progress and advance, was the important question A survey of the present situation left no doubt as to the uncertainty of the future. A large number of tried and valued workers, both in the fields and in the institutions, at home and overseas, are enrolled in the military service of their respective countries. Closed frontiers are making it increasingly difficult to maintain indispensable contacts and to accord our different activities the necessary counsel and supervision Most serious of all were the reports indicating that numerous churches are seriously handicapped in their activity due to the absence of local leadership, the key officers of the church having been called to the colors And it was apparent that the result inevitably of such emergency conditions would be a serious drop in conference and institutional income, consequential cuts in budget appropriations to the fields, and, ultimately, restricted plannning and less souls won for the Kingdom.

The financial problem was thoroughly examined by the Council in the light of our unfinished task. Our Division is still a long stretch of unentered territories. From the Black Sea in the East, to the Azores in the West, from the North Sea deep down into Equatorial Africa and the Indian Ocean, millions still wander in the deep, death shade of sin. As this fact was reviewed again, the thought was pressed home to all hearts that, living as we are in the twilight of borrowed time, our duty is to do now, and quickly, the work committed unto us before the night of chaos comes when no man can work. The present situation, in spite of its many distressing features, appealed to the Council as an imperious notification that the time has come when there is to be no letting down, when there is to be, on the contrary, larger planning and more fruitful endeavor. The leaders from all fields felt very definitely that, armed with faith and confidence, we should brave the future together on the basis of God's promises, and authorize a budget making full provision in 1940 for all class I-A work. Such a budget was adopted, after much prayerful consideration, by a unanimous vote of the Council.

The brethren all realize, of course, that field appropriations can only be sent out as the tithes and offerings are brought to the treasury. They have determined, moreover, to return to their field of labor with the firm decision to rally their forces in view of an unprecedented effort in behalf of God's cause. They believe that by sacrificial living and giving, by wise economy in all departments, the work of God need not be hampered by a lack of funds, but, on the contrary, can continue as heretofore its onward march. The hope was also expressed, in connection with the financial uncertainty of the future, that our brethren and sisters of like faith, who live in lands where the ravages of war are still unknown, would, at this time of need, come willingly to our help in meeting any emergency deficits resulting from the war situation. Yes, we are confident that Southern Europe, like the other war-stricken sections of the world field, will be able to count or the principle of solidarity which ever has governed relationships in the Advent cause.

Once the financial problem had been satisfactorily settled, the delegates addressed themselves to the study of innumerable other items in connection with the war situation. The work of each department received earnest consideration. Plans were carefully laid taking into account the present needs of the field.

(Turn to page 7.)

QUARTERLY REVIEW

Statistical Report of the Southern Europ. Division of S. D. A. for the Quarter Ending September 30, 1939

Name of Conference or Mission	ber of ches	Previous Membership	4 4			Total Gains	tasy			Losses	Gain	Present Membership.	Ord. Ministers	Ministers	Miss. Licentiates	Teacher Evangelists.	Canvassers	r Workers	Workers	ber of Schools	School bership	age núance
	Number of Churches	Previ Mem)		Vote	Letter	Total	A postasy	Death	Letter	Total	Net (Prese	Ord.	Lic.	Miss. Licer	Teac Evan	Canv	Other	Total	Number Sab. Scho	Sab. Meml	Ave
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2. FRANCO-BELGIAN U. C. 3. Belgian Conference 4. East France , 5. North , , , 6. South , , ,	$15 \\ 15 \\ 15 \\ 25 \\ 70 \\ 70 \\ 15 \\ 70 \\ 10 \\ 10 \\ 10 \\ 10 \\ 10 \\ 10 \\ 10$	575 431 768 683 2457	20 5 25		3 3 	23 	4	1 2	3 	8 6 	15 	590 431 770 683 2474	5 4 5 4 23	3 6 3 4 2 18	6 5 6 5 7 29		12 11 19 18 60		14 28 24 33 31 130	18 18 15 24 75	640 381 593 313 1927	524 317 441 257 1539
7. JUGOSLAVIAN UNION CONF. 8. Danube Conference 9. Sava • 10. Morava •	67 47 31 145	1987 982 985 3954	28 27 23 78	9 3 2 14	$\frac{7}{25}$ 12 44	44 55 37 136	4 8 1 13	1	26	12 37 17 56	32 18 20 70	2019 1000 1005 4024	4 6 4 4 18	1 2 1 4			26 27 22 75		9 37 36 29 111		2831 1376 1331 5538	1431 665 916 3012
11. RUMANIAN UNION CONF. 12. Bucegi-Marea Conf. 13. Suceava-Prut 14. Somes-Mures 15. Timis-Olt 16. Dunarea-Nistru	$164 \\ 110 \\ 140 \\ 79 \\ 56 \\ 49$	6734 4270 3958 2190 1657 18809	180 55 71 34	7	51 38 13 5	$238 \\ 122$	23 42 27 7	7 7 4 2	35 7 34	75 84	$158 \\ 163 \\ 38 \\ 53 \\ 3 \\ 3 \\ 15 \\ 415$			5 4 5 3 2 23	17 7 6 4 5 43		8 7 10		31 24 24	106 171 164	5610 2750	6145 1873 3668 3067 2256 17009
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 33. INDIAN OCEAN UNION MISS. * 34. Madagascar Mission 35. Mauritius » 36. Seychelles » 37. La Réunion » 	17 9 2 1 29	456 586 62 27 1131	$\frac{6}{22}$ 		2 2 4	6 24 10 40	$\frac{2}{2}$	4 3 7	$\frac{1}{-1}$	$7 \\ 5 \\ -1 \\ 13$	$-\frac{1}{19}$ $-\frac{19}{9}$ $-\frac{27}{27}$	455 605 52 36 1158	1 4 2 1 1 9	1 4 2 	4 6 7 1 2 20	2	6		6 22 11 2 3 	26 2 2 54	1216 787 86 64 2153	922 568 64 56 1610
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1. Southern European Division 2. Franco-Belgian Union Conference 3. Jugoslavian 4. Rumanian 5. Swiss 6. Iberian 8. North African Union 9. Indian Ocean 9. Indian Ocean 10. Equat. African 11. Cape Verde Islands 2. St. Thomas **)	70 145 549 56 20 37 14 29 3 1 1	2457 3954 18809 2392 965 1298 380 1131 271 26 -6	25 78 555 32 7 26 36 				4 13	2	8 46 175 7 5	14 66	17 70 415 15 -2 18 -2 27 -2 -1	$2474 \\ 4024 \\ 19224 \\ 2407 \\ 963 \\ 1316 \\ 380 \\ 1158 \\ 269 \\ 25 \\ 6$	6 23 18 76 18 9 15 7 9 3 1	$ \begin{array}{r} 6 \\ 18 \\ 4 \\ 23 \\ 5 \\ 4 \\ 3 \\ 5 \\ 7 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{array} $	8 29 14 43 8 14 17 11 20 14 1 1 1 1		60 75 50 34 16 28 6 6		20 130 111 192 65 43 63 29 44 52 2 3	61 42 49 19 54 33 1 1	5538 24151 2039 602 1214 407 2153 2675 32 18	1539 3012 17009 1507 540 1125 324 1610 3013 41 18
Totals for the 3rd quarter 1939:		3 1689 30394	759 844			1064 1297		59 77		507 605		32246 31086			180 168	37	275 205				40756 42101	29738 36796

*) Report for the 2nd quarter 1939.

Pinancial Report of the Southern European Division of S. D. A. for the Quarter Ending September 30, 1939

1 2 3 4 L SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION I PEANCO BELGIAN UNION CONF Section Conference F. Fr. 116,580		Name of Conference or Mission		Total Tithe	Total Offerings (incl. Specials)	Contributions for Home Miss. Work	Contributions for Local Church Work	Colporteur Book Sales
1. FFANCO-BELGIAN UNION CONF Beiging Conference F. Fr., 116.530		1					5	6
a. Beigtan Conference F. Fr. 116.530 40.915.90 7.176 Beigtan Conference F. Fr. 116.530 40.915.90 7.176 South * F. Fr. 107.191.50 107.191.50 1.092.64 South * F. Fr. 357.55 20.698.57 102.14.33 JUGOSLAVIAN UNION CONF. Dinar 148.660 63.731.50 Buscava * * 61.41.55 * 61.41.55 Buscava Prut * * 50.44.40 3.098.10 Buscava Prut * * 50.45.77 224.60 Buscava Prut * * 50.45.77 224.60 Succava Prut * * 50.45.77 224.60 Buscava Prut * * * 50.45.77 224.60 Buscava Prut * * * 50.45.70 20.41.40 1.40.97.38 Buscava Prut * * * 50.45.70 1.06.52.14	1.	SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION						
# 9999.60 5764.57 284.40 Bundle Conference Binar 86.945.50 67.785.25	5. 4. 5.	Belgian Conference East France Conference North >	> »` > n > » »	47,834 86,371 107,190.50	34,076.05 71,274.40 60,71 9.40	7,176.— 1,299.60 690.40 1,048.35 10.214.35	884.15 318 2,882.50 849.50 4,934.15	36,478.3 23,174.5 30,872 34,694.5 125,219,44
Sava " 66,951,50 37,852,25	7.	JUGOSLAVIAN UNION CONF.		9,969.60	5,764.57	284.46	137.42	3,487.3
I. RUMANIAN UNION CONFERENCE \$ 6,444.40 3.098.10 12. Buccgi-Marca Conference).	Sava »	»	86.954.50 64,105.—	37,855.25 42,510.63		_	83,136 108,380 69.637
13. Bucegi-Marea Conference Lei 1.336,826							—.— —.—	261,153 5,614.8
17. SWISS UNION CONFERENCE 22,960 $6,225,51$		Bucegi-Marea Conference Suceava-Prut Somes-Mures Timis-Olt	>> >> >> >> >>	562,543.50 581,165.— 335,601.— 245,198.—	145,458.50 116,126 87,282.50 70,082.10			72,320 30,143 36,500 34,985 48,012
14. German Swiss Conf. Sw. Pr. 34,0/0 18,191,20 1,807,40 19. Leman Conference n n 27,504,40 10,552,14 2,360,95 20. IBERIAN UNION MISSION. Sw. Fr. 62,174,40 28,743,34 4,168,35 20. Torguese Conference n 7,494,50 9,906,03 84,82 21. Spanish Mission n 2,200,80 611,57 56,27 22. Madelera Mission n 2,200,80 611,57 56,27 23. South n n 7,73,50 144,00 141,00 24. North Hallan Mission n 7,72,50 1,460,80 24. Tanls n 17,225,50 11,478,75 223,50 23,698,15 328,10 25. South n n n 7,075,50 1,600,30 25. South n n n 7,075,50 1,603,01 26. North AFRICAN UNION MISSION n n 7,075,50 1,603,01 27. Tanls n n n 1,99, 1,530,15			Lei				 	221,960 1,664.70
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Part Spanish Mission Percents							9,129.68 2,099.82	45,166.10 10,388.21
\$ 773:10 \$41.40 11.28 8. ITALIAN UNION MISSION		Spanish Mission Portuguese Conference Madeira Mission	» »	7,494.50 2,200.80	611.57	84.82 56.27	606.37 175.50	11,676.9
16. North Italian Mission Lire 33,392.10 17. South y 17,255,50 11,478.75 227,35 18. Ethiopian Mission y 17,255,50 11,478.75 227,35 18. Ethiopian Mission y 7,079,50 11,680.90 $$ 19. NORTH AFRICAN UNION MISSION y 2,931.90 1,940.38 29,770 10. Algerian Mission y y y y y y y 11. Moroccan y							781.87 62.54	11,676.93 934.16
9. NORTH AFRICAN UNION MISSION . \$ 2, $\frac{1}{931.30}$ 1,940.58 29.77 9. NORTH AFRICAN UNION MISSION .		North Italian Mission South » " ······	ນ 	17,255,50 7,079.50	11,478.75 1,680.80	237.35	1,465.65 	44,518.15 15 ,684.2 0 —.—
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1,109 216.27 2, Indian Ocean 1,199 2, Indian Ocean 2,228 780.12 1,61.70 104.37 1,61.70 22.63		Swiss » » Iberian » Mission Italian » »	• • • •	14, 300. 775,50 2,931.90	6.610.96 841.40 1,940.58	11.28 29.77	2,099.82 62.54 77.16	10,388.21 934.16 3,169.65
1. Cape Verde Island $*$ $*$ $*$ $*$ $*$ $*$ $*$ $*$ $*$ $*$	1	Indian Ocean » *	\$	1,199.— 2,228.—	786.12		12.53	196.84 256.05
2. St. Thomas » */ \$ 19.60 3.63	(Eq. African	\$ \$	161.70 27.—	22.63		20.70	, ,
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Specification of Mission Offerings (Column No.3)

		Specifica	ation of Mi	ssion Offe	erings	(Column N	0.3)		
							S	pecial Offer	·
	Sabbath School Offerings (exc. 13th Sabbath)	13th Sabbath Offering	Harvest Ingathering	Annual Offerings	Miscellaneous Offerings	Self Denial Offerings	Big Week	Young People's Collection	(Rellef Fund) Weekly Offerings
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6.	15,598 6,553.80 7,901.25 10,360 40,913.05	2,855.25 1,526.65 1,724.80 2,190.40 8,297.10	16,159.35 25,945.35 59,201.35 45,319.52 146,625.55		6,085 6,085	99.65 418 1,287.25 1,804.90	52.95 2.029 1.062.25 3.144.20	47.45 47.45	18.25 50.25 —.— 68.50
_ ~	1,139.44	231.07	4.083.52		169.47	50.27	87.57	1.32	1.91
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In the Indian Ocean Union PROGRESS AND OPPORTUNITIES

(Continued)

After the close of the annual meeting, time was taken to visit all the churches in the vicinity of the capital. These churches have all labored and sacrificed much to provide themselves with chapels. They have put up substantial brick buildings that are an honor to the cause they love. Two of these chapels are still without floors. If we had the funds, we ought to give them each five or six thousand French frances to help them complete these chapels.

While at the headquarters, considerable time was spent in committee work. In a large growing field such as Madagascar, there are many and often perplexing problems to solve One of the most difficult, as well as one of the most urgent problems, is to discover how to meet all the pressing calls for workers coming from new fields, without neglecting the work already established. As never before, God's people must cry to the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into the ripening fields. Madagascar needs more workers, both European and native.

Before boarding ship for Reunion and Mauritius, we spent three days with the church in Tamatave, where we held several meetings each day. Tamatave is one of the oldest and also one of the largest churches we have on the island. Faithfully they have been letting their light shine for many years in this busy seaport on the east coast. As long as time shall last, may this church continue to let its light shine as a mighty beacon over land and sea!

As our ship moved slowly up to the pier in the harbor of Pointe des Galets, we soon spied our dear Brother Girard on the quai waiting for us. It used to be that when our boat called here on its way to Mauritius there was not a familiar face to be seen. As recently as three years ago, there was not a single Seventh-day Adventist on the island of Reunion. What a happy change has taken place! Now we have two organized churches, and these sent a delegation to welcome us. When we saw these friends, we praised God, and took courage. During the five days we spent on the island, a number of meetings were held, both with the church at the port and with the one in Saint-Denis, the capital of the island. As we had a number of delegates with us from Madagascar to the Union assembly to be held in Mauritius, there was no shortage of preachers

Together with Brother Girard, we spent some time looking for a suitable building lot

in Saint-Denis on which to erect a much needed chapel. Before leaving, we bought a desirable lot only a few meters from the city park. A chapel must be built without delay, for the building where Brother Girard has been holding his meetings, both for the church and for the public, has been withdrawn from him, and there is no meeting hall to be rented in the city. After the lot was paid for, there remained about one hundred thousand French francs for the chapel, but they need at least fifty thousand more for completing and seating the building. They will soon begin constructing, and they will go as far as funds will permit, hoping that God will move upon generous hearts to provide the amount lacking in order that the chapel may soon be ready for occupancy.

Reunion is a hard field, but the Spirit of God is working upon human hearts, and interests are springing up in different places. Brother Girard has been pleading for someone to come down and help him. Our readers will be glad to know that since my return home Brother and Sister Devins, of North Africa, have been sent to answer this urgent call. This was made possible through the generosity of a loyal, self-sacrificing family in the Léman Conference. May God richly bless the donors as well as these new missionaries and their needy field.

(To be continued)

A. V. Olson.

Fellow-workers and Advent Believers (Continued from page 1)

put aside every secondary, diverting matter, and, with complete, irrevocable rededication of life in service, to harness all the energies at our disposal for the rescue of lost men and women who among our millions are still wandering in the wilderness of sin, before the final crash comes and our work will end. It is an imperious notification that we are living in the twilight of borrowed time, that we must do now, and quickly, before the night of chaos comes when no man can work. True, it is also an announcement that we may be forced to work under emergency conditions, with emergency tools; but gripped with a divine compulsion we will work, we will go forward!

As we lay plans in response to this call to full consecration and greater action, we are greatly comforted and encouraged as we think of your love and sacrifice for the cause during the past years. In spite of distress and depression, there has been no letting down.

Even during the last war months, mission offerings, with the exception of Harvest Ingathering receipts, have followed in most fields an upward trend. The churches are still rallying strongly in a final effort to reach, wherever possible, the Harvest Ingathering goals for 1939, and we feel sure that God will greatly bless in their eleventh-hour endeavor. The coming year, 1940, is, however, foreboding with financial uncertainty; but we are not the least anxious for the future. The Majesty of -Heaven still has His hand on the wheel, and the concerns of His church are still in His own charge. If we are faithful in doing our part our best - all will be well, and the angel of Revelation 14, unhampered by financial deficits, will continue through the coming months its rapid flight across land and sea.

No, our principal concern at this hour of crisis is not for the financial support of the cause; we are confident God's people will not forsake their commissioned task. Our real concern is for loyalty, on the part of each and every one of us, to God and to His truth for this time. We are amid the perils foretold for the last days. Insidious errors and attitudes are rampant in the world today which, if we are not constantly on our guard and in unbroken communion with the principles of God's word and the Spirit of prophecy, may lead one or the other of us astray and cause us to fall out by the way. Moreover, separated by the chasm of war and closed frontiers, these worldly influences and tendencies may possibly affect entire sections of the field and thus threaten the unity of the Advent Movement. We, as delegates to this Winter Council, are not unmindful of this danger; and we pledge ourselves before God, as your representatives, to remain true, loyal and faithful whatever may come. We have resolved to avoid all estrangements and entanglements which might compromise the characteristic witness of the Advent Movement, and not to be carried off by animosities or extreme racial feelings. Rooted and grounded spiritually in love, we are determined to be strong unto the salvation of all men.

This, then, dear fellow-workers and believers in the third angel's message, is our threefold appeal and admonition at this momentous hour in Southern Europe: Whole-hearted consecration in service, sacrificial giving in behalf of the cause, and unswerving loyalty. By carrying on these high purposes, we shall together be true to our God, to our task, and to our fellowmen.

> A. V. Olson, Chairman. W. R. Beach, Secretary.

Gland, Switzerland December 4, 1939.

Our First War Council (Continued from page 2)

The keynote of all our plans was that there is to be no spiritual paralysis in our ranks, no abatement of activity. The call is to be: Irrevocable rededication of life for the main object of soul-winning. All secondary, diverting matters are to be put aside in order that the total energies at the disposal of the Cause may be fully and properly harnessed for aggressive work. The plan, in spite of unsettled conditions, is to pursue our evangelistic endeavor and witness, to plan regularly for baptisms and the building up of churches as heretofore, but with greater earnestness as the day of the Lord hasteth greatly. True, the present situation is an announcement that we may be forced to work under emergency conditions, and with emergency tools. This was clearly understood by the delegates, and they departed from the Council determined to be, under God, resourceful leaders, leaders with sufficient initiative, should they be cut off from other parts of the field, to be able to find, though alone, a way over or around obstacles and to carry on nobly, courageously, and successfully, depending on God for guidance.

As the Winter Council came to a close and delegates prepared to separate, the the question uppermost in all minds was, When shall we be able to meet again for a like gathering? And, should years go by, what will the picture of the work in Southern Europe be when the war is over? Will we have developed different brands of Adventists in the different fields given to our care? This query of every heart was not left unanswered. By a standing vote the leaders of the Cause in Southern Europe, who were present at Gland, pledged themselves, at the moment of adjournment, to be true and faithful to God and to His cause whatever may be their lot. God helping them they shall be true, they shall be faithful: and when they can meet again in council, the smoke of battle having cleared away, they will find that they are still in step and marching resolutely toward the Kingdom of God.

W.R.Beach.

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SOUTHERN EUROPEAN QUARTERLY REVIEW

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W. R. Be	ach		-		•			•	•		•	•	1	Editor

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INTERESTING ITEMS

With the outbreak of hostilities last September, a considerable number of ministers, Bible workers, colporteurs, and church members were called to the colors in most all our fields. Some of our institutions were, for a time, almost entirely deprived of their working forces. A very serious situation had to be met in the far away mission fields due to the fact that the leaders were, in most cases, among the workers who had been mobilized. This caused us some anxiety, especially for Madagascar, where both the union superintendent, E. Bénézech, and the secretary-treasurer and Madagascar publishing house manager, R. Erdmann, were mobilized, and for the Cameroon, where the mission director, M. Fridlin, and two other missionaries. P. Bénézech and A. Nion, had to abandon their mission work. We are glad to be able to report. however, that the situation in all fields now is much improved. During the trying months of the last quarter God's protecting providence once more has been over His work in a remarkable way. Hundreds of our workers and church members are, of course, still in the service of their country, thus depriving many of our organizations, - and most of all the churches, - of tried and valued helpers; but both overseas and at home in fields and in institutions, the leaders all are again at their post of duty. Our general organization is everywhere intact, and we are able to plan for aggressive endeavorin all places and departments for the immediate future. Furthermore, our men who are still in military service have met in general with kindness and consideration. We greatly appreciate, in fact, the spirit of comprehension and co-operation which has actuated the governments in several of our countries, and especially in France.

*

In spite of the lack of security and comfort which has characterized travel on the high seas of late, two missionary families sailed from Southern Europe during the past quarter for labor in the mission fields: Brother I. Curmatureanu and wife, returning to the Ndoumbl station in the Camerbon for a second period of service, sailed from Marseilles October 24 on the s.s. "Hogar"; and Elder Willy Fuchs and family embarked for Mauritius October 29 at Trieste, Italy, on the s. s. "Palestina." Elder Fuchs, the past eleven years, has been a zealous worker for the cause in France. Both he and Mrs. Fuchs were trained for service in Collonges, and now, with their three children, are happy, in fulfillment of a college-born purpose, to engage in service beyond the waters. May Heaven's rich blessing rest upon their ministry in far-dway Mauritius.

The work in Spain is now the object of earnest study and consideration by the Southern European División committee. Such has been the case, in fact, since the close of the Spanish war. Immediately following the cessation of hostilities, last March, Division représentatives went to Spain to survey conditions, and, with the handful of workers which remained, took steps as quickly as possible, in view of a complete reorganization of the work. First of all, owing to the presence of certain special conditions and problems, it was found expedient to operate Spain in the future as a detached mission under the direct supervision of the Division. Furthermore, a mission director and committee were appointed, and definite plans were put on foot for a resumption of mission activity. Not very long afterwards, however, the newly appointed director, Elder J. Boix, disappeared at the time of a trip away from home. It was as though the earth had swallowed him up, for no trace could be found anywhere of his whereabouts. And it was not until many weeks later, after much anxiety for all concerned, that we received word informing us of Brother Boix's safe return to his home... The work has encountered in other ways a great deal of difficulty in Spain because of unsettled, unfavorable conditions obtaining generally. For instance, travel in the country is still subject to the issuance of a safe-conduct. This means that the

workers are not always free to move about as they should, causing considerable delay and embarrassment in the accomplishment of their task. We are trustful, nevertheless, that ere long all our churches and groups in Spain will be able to meet regularly as heretofore, and that the work of God will again be onward... Elder I. Aguilar, who was appointed director of the Spanish Mission after the disappearance of Brother Boix, was not able to secure permission in time to attend the Winter Council.

Sunday evening of the Council was occupied by a report from L. Beer, superintendent of the Italian Union. The report for Italy these last years always has been a thrilling story of progress amid obstacles. The year 1938 was marked by the signal blessings of God, especially in soul-winning, as 105 entered our ranks by baptism and vote. This was the largest number ever reached, and 1939 promises still better results. Quite a number of workers and lay brethren have been brought to trial this year for questions pertaining to the work of God, but the Lord has worked through all this for the success of His cause. The literature sales, due to the perseverance of the colporteurs, have increased in spite of unsettled conditions. While meeting increased hardships, they have not neglected the spiritual aspect of their work, inasmuch as they have won 12 souls to the truth so far in 1939, as against 8 for the first nine months of last year. A number of colporteur experiences were related showing forth the valiant spirit of our book evangelists in Italy. A like spirit is being shown in the Harvest Ingathering work. General mobilization disorganized this campaign, but in spite of this, 75% of the union goal already has been reached (end of October). But, most of all, the brethren in Italy are happy for the Florence chapel acquired this year with gifts from the General Conference and the Southern European Division, for this chapel gives promise of a brighter day for the evangelistic work in that large headquarters city

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