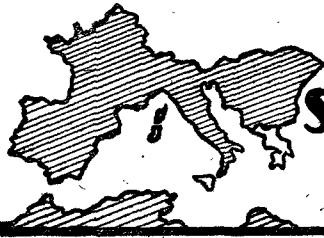


QUARTERLY REVIEW



ORGAN OF THE
SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION
of the General Conference of S.D.A.



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NUMBER 4

Facing 1942

By A. V. Olson

The silent rolling of the years has brought us to another milestone along the road to eternity. The old year with its joys and its sorrows, its failures and its accomplishments, has closed, and we have just crossed the threshold into a new year.

What this new year holds in store is hidden from our ken. The one which we have just left behind was one of the darkest and most trying years that mankind has experienced since the dawn of time, and the one which lies before us promises to be more turbulent and more distressing still. Fear and anguish grip the hearts of old and young as they contemplate the terrors and sorrows ahead. But whatever the three hundred and sixty-five days of the year 1942 may bring to this dark, sin-cursed earth, we need not despair. The same reassuring voice that brought comfort and cheer to the storm-tossed disciples on the Lake of Galilee in that dark, stormy night long ago can still be heard saying to us: "Be not afraid"... "Behold, I am with you always, even unto the end."

As we look back over the year 1941, we can see how wonderfully God has wrought for us. To His children in our Division, God has faithfully fulfilled the promise: "A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee." As individuals and as a people, we have constantly been the objects of God's tender care and solicitude. Time and again He has delivered us out of the hand of the enemy. When the evil one has sought to hedge up the way and to prevent the servants of God from going forward with their mission, the Lord has restrained the powers of darkness and has opened the way for His people to advance.

Lying before me as I write these lines are letters and reports from many parts of our vast Division field telling how the good hand of God has been

over His people and His work. Fields that have been swept by war and devastation, and where we feared nothing could be done, report encouraging progress. In many fields the sales by our colporteur-evangelists are larger than ever before; the Harvest Ingathering campaign has met with increased success; tithes and offerings are growing in most fields; and best of all, many precious souls are being won for Christ. One little field that was cut off from all contact with us for nearly a year now reports that

during that time of distress one thousand five hundred candidates were prepared for baptism.

When we consider all this, and much more that God has done for us, we have every reason to be strong and of good courage. Though the future looks dark and dangerous, we need not fear and tremble. The One who has led us thus far has promised never to leave us. If we will only in a spirit of trust and

confidence follow Him, He will lead us safely and triumphantly toward our eternal goal. No matter what the year 1942 may bring to the world in destruction, suffering and tears, if we will relate ourselves aright to God, He will grant us victory, both in our individual Christian experience and in our collective endeavors to advance His cause. At times we may be permitted to pass through experiences that to us will seem like great misfortunes, but if we will hold on by faith and press forward, we will find when the storm is over, as did the apostle of old, that "the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel."

While our heels are still touching the threshold of the New Year, shall we not, dear brethren and sisters, consecrate our hearts and lives anew to God? Then let us lift up our heads and go forward with courage and confidence!

Guidance

I said to the man who stood at the gate of the years: "Give me light that I may tread safely into the unknown."

He replied: "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you a better light and safer than the known way."

Selected

Evangelism in the Nice District

It was in July, 1938, following the Conference session in Marseilles which called Elder J.C. Guenin to the presidency of South France, that we were invited to take up in Nice the work laid down by the new president. A nice, large hall, well located, was at our disposal. In November the public work started again, with the lecturer of the preceding year dispensing the word of truth to begin with. The writer worked into the program, and all through the winter our doctrinal truths were presented simply and faithfully to Sunday and Wednesday audiences. The following October, a second series of lectures was undertaken, accompanied by regular Bible work, and this effort went forward without interruption until the end of July, 1941.

The declaration of war on France by Italy and the fateful events of June, 1940, found us at our post of duty. One Sabbath an air raid warning was sounded during church service. Immediately aircraft began to fly overhead; and while bursts of machine gun fire punctuated the thundering din of the ground defenses, the congregation, in prayer, asked God for His protection.

After Brother R. Meyer's departure for Saint-Etienne, the groups in Cannes and Grasse fell entirely to our care. Each Tuesday we held a lecture in Grasse. The little meeting hall, though located near the center of the city, was, unhappily, on a fifth floor. Then, too, the black-out measures were so strict during the entire winter that real courage was required on the part of our listeners to attend the meetings. Nevertheless, from September to June, 1940, the work went on. Sabbath afternoon a service was held regularly in either Cannes or Grasse, sometimes in both places. Thus the Lord's Day was entirely devoted to Him.

It was found difficult, however, to pursue strong work in three places at the same time without help (excepting for a short period in Cannes, where Sister Chevalérias gave assistance as Bible worker), and Grasse, the great perfumery center, had to be eliminated from our program. Henceforth we gave much more time to the work in Cannes. A public meeting was held in a small hall on a second floor each Thursday evening.

The public effort was followed by visits to the homes of the people, and many souls came into contact with the message. The church circulating libraries of Cannes and Nice placed their books at our disposal and a great amount of printed matter passed rapidly from house to house. At Nice, the sale of books and tracts amounted to several thousand francs. The Missionary Society scattered thousands of papers and pamphlets on the various subjects of present truth.

The war brought us the pleasure of meeting several of our Martinique brethren. They were sent to Corsica in the service of France, and not only did they remain faithful to principle, but they put forth commendable efforts to scatter the gospel

seed about them. We remained in touch with them and encouraged them in every way possible. Countless tracts of our *Hope of the World* series prepared by Elder Charles Gerber were sent to the addresses of interested people sent to us by them. May God bless His word as preached, in the true apostolic sense, by our fine colored brethren, whose Christian attitude in the army was fully in harmony with that adopted by Peter and John before the Sanhedrin in Jerusalem.

Now, you may ask, how many baptisms have you had? Not very many, alas! Results achieved to date are not in proportion with the efforts put forth. We humbly confess our insufficiency as instruments for the advancement of the Kingdom. And yet we are full of faith and confidence. In the field of our labor, promising grain are filling and ripening for harvest. A certain number of souls, like Nicodemus, are, it is our conviction, approaching the hour of decision. Nine members were received by baptism in 1940. Of these, two young people were won to their first knowledge of truth by Brother Gabriel Cornaz, when he was a laborer in France. How happy this brother would have been to be present for their baptism. Lately, when the call to consecration was made by Elder A.V. Olson at the Collonges annual meeting, two of our interested people made their decision for God. Others are preparing for church membership and we count sincerely that a nice baptismal group will soon be ready.

In addition to our regular evangelistic work, we have the care of a little church in the making. It is made up of the little ones of the church. My companion is giving her special attention to this group, and she expects, with God's help, to succeed in her task.

When can we hope to have another worker in this sector, with whom to share our work, our joys and our cares? Please do not fail to remember our needs in the "Côte d'Azur" district.

The purpose of these lines has been to bespeak our hope and courage in the Lord, our determination to carry on to success. After seed time will come, without doubt, an ample harvest. May God grant it and bless to this end.

W. Milhorat



Big Week 1942

Since the time the Big Week plan was first launched in our field there have been repeated requests from both leaders and members that a new book be provided for each succeeding campaign. It has not always been possible to satisfy this demand, but we are happy to inform our people that this year we will have a book fresh from the press; a book produced purposely for the Big Week. Its title in French is *Vers les*

(Turn to page 6)

Financial Report of the Southern European Division of S. D. A. for the Quarter Ending Sept. 30, 1941

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	2	3	4	5	6
1. SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION.					
2. FRANCO-BELGIAN UNION CONF.					
3. Belgian Conference	F. Fr. 369,697.80	53,407.21	—	—	—
4. East France Conference	" " —	—	—	—	—
5. North " "	" " 48,406.50	102,312.65	—	—	—
6. South " "	" " 117,526.—	53,471.30	—	—	40,181.—
	F. Fr. 535,630.30	209,191.16	—	—	40,181.—
	\$ 13,390.80	5,229.79	—	—	1,004.52
7. JUGOSLAVIAN UNION CONF.					
8. Danube Conference	Dinar	—	—	—	—
9. Sava " "	" "	—	—	—	—
10. Morava " "	" "	—	—	—	—
	Dinar 501,087.30	95,231.—	—	—	85,345.—
	\$ 10,773.40	2,047.47	—	—	1,834.90
11. RUMANIAN UNION CONFERENCE					
12. Muntenia Conference	Lei *	—	—	—	—
13. North Moldova " "	" "	—	—	—	—
14. Transylvanian " "	" "	—	—	—	—
15. Oltenia-Banat " "	" "	—	—	—	—
16. Dunarea " "	" "	—	—	—	—
	Lei 6,594,815.—	1,507,739.—	—	—	1,418,762.—
	\$ 49,461.10	11,308.06	—	—	10,640.69
17. SWISS UNION CONFERENCE					
18. German Swiss Conf.	Sw. Fr. 44,137.80	16,747.33	1,382.79	4,567.65	28,497.—
19. Léman Conference	" " 31,016.70	13,897.19	3,309.16	4,057.43	30,125.98
	Sw. Fr. 78,154.50	30,644.52	4,691.95	8,625.08	58,622.98
	\$ 17,975.60	7,048.24	1,079.14	1,983.76	13,483.26
20. HUNGARIAN UNION CONFERENCE					
21. Central Hungarian Conference	Pö	—	—	—	—
22. East Hungarian " "	" "	—	—	—	—
23. West Hungarian " "	" "	—	—	—	—
24. Transylvanian " "	" "	—	—	—	—
25. Batschka " "	" "	—	—	—	—
	169,501.—	25,954.11	—	—	38,370.50
	\$ 33,900.—	5,190.82	—	—	7,674.10
26. PORTUGUESE UNION MISSION					
27. Portuguese Conference	Es. 16,698.10	19,508.65	906.95	905.70	472.—
28. Madeira Mission	" 3,511.—	1,782.15	41.05	339.40	—
29. Azores Mission	" 580.—	226.50	—	—	—
30. Cape Verde Islands Mission	" 832.90	475.10	—	—	—
31. Saint Thomas Mission	" 879.40	285.20	—	—	—
	Es. 22,501.40	22,277.60	948.—	1,245.10	472.—
	\$ 900.—	891.10	37.92	49.80	18.88
32. ITALIAN UNION MISSION					
33. North Italian Mission	Lire 43,792.—	19,712.60	442.20	—	29,830.20
34. South " "	" 25,769.—	11,082.50	172.80	—	30,222.45
	Lire 69,561.—	30,795.10	615.—	—	60,052.65
	\$ 3,662.40	1,621.37	32.37	—	3,161.74
35. NORTH AFRICAN UNION MISSION					
36. Algerian Mission	F. Fr. 46,068.—	11,486.95	—	—	26,201.50
37. Moroccan " "	" " 22,423.—	2,750.85	—	—	6,209.—
38. Tunis " "	" " 3,714.—	178.35	—	—	4,735.25
	F. Fr. 72,205.—	14,416.15	—	—	37,145.75
	\$ 1,805.—	360.42	—	—	928.63
39. INDIAN OCEAN UNION MISSION					
40. Madagascar Mission	F. Fr.	—	—	—	—
41. Mauritius " "	" "	—	—	—	—
42. Seychelles " "	" "	—	—	—	—
43. Reunion " "	" "	—	—	—	—
	F. Fr. 30,350.—	19,102.40	—	—	—
	\$ 759.—	477.55	—	—	—
44. SPANISH MISSION					
	Pes. 15,737.50	4,163.65	—	—	—
	\$ 1,731.20	458.01	—	—	—
45. ETHIOPIAN MISSION					
46. EQ. AFRICAN MISSION					

RECAPITULATION

1. Southern European Division	\$	13,390.80	5,229.79	—	—	1,004.52
2. Franco-Belgian Union Conference	\$	10,773.40	2,047.47	—	—	1,834.90
3. Jugoslavian " "	\$	49,461.10	11,308.06	—	—	10,640.69
4. Rumanian " "	\$	17,975.60	7,048.24	1,079.14	1,983.76	13,483.26
5. Swiss " "	\$	33,900.—	5,190.82	—	—	7,674.10
6. Hungarian " "	\$	900.—	891.10	37.92	49.80	18.88
7. Portuguese Mission	\$	3,662.40	1,621.37	32.37	—	3,161.74
8. Italian " "	\$	1,805.—	360.42	—	—	928.63
9. North African " "	\$	759.—	477.55	—	—	—
10. Indian Ocean " "	\$	1,731.20	458.01	—	—	—
11. Spanish " "	\$	—	—	—	—	—
12. Ethiopian " "	\$	—	—	—	—	—
13. Eq. African " "	\$	—	—	—	—	—
Totals for the 3rd quarter 1941	\$	184,358.50	31,632.33	1,149.43	2,033.56	38,746.72
" " " " " " 19 0	\$	55,702.30	19,088.71	2,050.65	2,361.28	23,994.54

Specification of Mission Offerings (Column No.3)

	Special 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	(Relief Fund) Weekly Offerings
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1.									
2.									
3.	27,423.34	6,241.60	518.67	—	—	17,509.27	1,693.31	—	21.02
4.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	9,033.20	2,360.40	88,201.—	—	—	1,526.—	1,192.05	—	—
6.	10,627.35	2,877.25	36,689.90	179.95	—	1,400.—	1,086.85	610.—	—
	47,083.89	11,479.25	125,409.57	179.95	—	20,435.27	3,972.21	610.—	21.02
	1,177.10	286.98	3,135.24	4.50	—	510.88	99.31	15.25	—53
7.									
8.									
9.									
10.	48,271.05	15,449.75	1,670.75	311.50	—	9,001.05	15,487.75	2,441.15	2,594.—
	1,037.85	332.17	35.92	6.70	—	193.52	332.99	52.55	55.77
11.									
12.									
13.									
14.									
15.									
16.	576,446.—	103,118.—	66,884.20	10,560.30	—	556,798.—	111,174.—	21,308.—	61,450.50
	4,323.35	773.39	501.63	79.20	—	4,175.99	833.81	159.81	460.88
17.									
18.	4,560.23	1,114.45	10,040.30	—	187.50	—	547.15	148.—	49.70
19.	4,531.86	1,207.36	6,691.96	—	1,224.90	23.90	31.25	175.71	9.75
	9,492.09	2,322.31	16,732.26	—	1,412.40	23.90	578.40	323.71	59.45
	2,114.18	534.13	3,848.42	—	324.86	5.50	133.03	74.45	13.67
20.									
21.									
22.									
23.									
24.	11,568.77	2,184.52	289.40	—	1,046.55	7,294.43	3,570.44	—	—
	2,313.75	436.90	57.88	—	209.31	1,458.89	714.09	—	—
25.									
26.	2,804.80	887.20	14,720.20	—	—	571.70	190.50	334.25	—
27.	685.80	254.50	—	—	—	776.35	65.50	—	—
28.	155.75	70.75	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29.	117.65	29.60	—	—	—	—	253.40	74.45	—
30.	137.90	147.30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	3,901.90	1,389.35	14,720.20	—	—	1,348.05	509.40	403.70	—
	156.07	55.57	588.81	—	—	53.93	20.38	16.34	—
31.									
32.	5,214.20	1,942.50	8,817.55	—	—	713.10	2,890.85	106.80	27.60
33.	4,715.90	1,158.10	3,427.45	—	—	492.55	1,155.—	133.50	—
	9,930.10	3,100.60	12,245.—	—	—	1,205.65	4,045.85	240.30	27.60
	522.82	163.25	644.70	—	—	63.48	213.02	12.65	1.45
34.									
35.	4,817.50	1,130.50	3,250.—	—	195.—	1,321.—	772.95	—	—
36.	1,774.05	866.80	—	—	—	—	110.—	—	—
37.	163.35	—	—	—	—	15.—	—	—	—
	6,754.90	1,997.30	3,250.—	—	195.—	1,336.—	882.95	—	—
	168.87	49.94	81.25	—	4.88	33.40	22.08	—	—
38.									
39.									
40.									
41.									
42.	5,490.90	2,096.60	10,410.60	—	—	560.—	452.90	91.40	—
	137.27	52.42	260.26	—	—	14.—	11.32	2.28	—
43.	3,117.70	331.95	—	—	639.—	75.—	—	—	—
	342.95	36.52	—	—	70.29	8.25	—	—	—
44.									
45.									

NO REPORT

NO REPORT

RECAPITULATION

1.									
2.	1,177.10	286.98	3,135.24	4.50	—	510.88	99.31	15.25	—53
3.	1,037.85	332.17	35.92	6.70	—	193.52	332.99	52.55	55.77
4.	4,323.35	773.39	501.63	79.20	—	4,175.99	833.81	159.81	460.88
5.	2,114.18	534.13	3,848.42	—	324.86	5.50	133.03	74.45	13.67
6.	2,313.75	436.90	57.88	—	209.31	1,458.89	714.09	—	—
7.	156.07	55.57	588.81	—	—	53.93	20.38	16.34	—
8.	522.82	163.25	644.70	—	—	63.48	213.02	12.65	1.45
9.	168.87	49.94	81.25	—	4.88	33.40	22.08	—	—
10.	137.27	52.42	260.26	—	—	14.—	11.32	2.28	—
11.	342.95	36.52	—	—	70.29	8.25	—	—	—
12.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	12,294.21	2,721.27	9,154.11	90.40	609.34	6,517.84	2,380.03	333.33	532.30
	6,796.15	1,835.40	7,617.43	84.81	356.86	1,390.46	549.41	185.23	242.96

Big Week 1942

(Continued from page 2)

Clares Mascareignes. There is also to be a German edition. Most of it is about Madagascar, the very field which is to receive the proceeds of this year's Big Week efforts.

Vers les Claires Mascareignes has been written by Brother W. R. Beach, the secretary of our Southern European Division. In a most captivating way, the author describes his missionary visit to Madagascar and neighboring islands. So clear and vivid are the descriptions given of the voyage, of the ports of call along the way, and especially of the islands and their interesting peoples, that the reader almost has the sensation of making the trip with the writer. Of particular interest and value are the parts of the book telling what God has done on these charming islands of the Indian Ocean through the Christian missionary. It is really a fascinating story that our secretary tells, and we feel confident that old and young, both Adventists and non-Adventists, will read it with pleasure and profit.

We feel thankful to God for having made it possible for us to have such an appropriate book for this year's Big Week campaign. It will be a great aid in making the campaign a success. Every Adventist home will want a copy. Many of our people will wish to present copies of it as gifts to relatives and friends. And all who are interested in the work now being carried on by our missionaries on the islands of the Indian Ocean will be glad to do all they can with the help of God to sell as many copies as possible of this book, and to give the proceeds to the Big Week fund.

As already mentioned, all the proceeds from this year's Big Week efforts will be given to Madagascar. The money is not to be used for building purposes, but will go to pay the salaries of our dear missionaries down there.

These missionaries are nobly remaining at their posts of service. Nearly all of them should have come home on furlough before this, but, for fear of not being able to get back to their God-given tasks, they have chosen to stay in the field even though they are worn and in need of a rest in a more invigorating climate. Such missionaries are worthy of our prayers and of our support. We feel confident that our brethren and sisters here at home will count it a privilege to do their very best in this coming Big Week campaign to

raise the necessary funds to cover the salaries of our missionaries in Madagascar in order that they and their dear families shall not lack the necessities of life in these trying times. If all will loyally do their best, we can dispose of thousands of copies of *Vers les Claires Mascareignes*. All Conference and institutional workers are invited to contribute a day's salary to this fund. It is hoped that many of our members will gladly join the workers in giving the equivalent of a day's income. Those who are not able to give this much are invited to give according as God has prospered them. Be the offering great or small, God will bless the donor.

On behalf of the Division committee, I wish to thank all of our workers and members for the splendid cooperation that has been given us in the Big Week campaigns during the past years, and I thank you in advance for the cooperation that I feel confident you will give us this year.

A. V. Olson.



Indo-China

During the past year it seemed several times as though we would have to leave French Indo-China because of the uncertain conditions. But each time we felt that we could remain a little while longer, in order to strengthen our work as much as possible before the break had to be made. We are extremely thankful to our merciful heavenly Father that He permitted us to work for Him for four years in that Buddhist land of 25 million people, and that we were able to witness the graduation of one class of two-year theological students from our French Indo-China Training School in May, 1941. Out of the class of ten graduates, seven went directly into the work as evangelists or teachers. Also three of our first-year students were placed in the work. These three students had been former workers, and, in view of the pressing need we asked them to take up their work, although they had studied but one year in our training school.

In July, Brother Hammill, my family, and I went to Hanoi to look over our work there, hold some revival meetings, rent a new chapel which would be more representative of our work, and start one of our training school graduates in his new line of duties as evangelist in that university town. We arrived back in Saigon on July 21, only to find that within a week it would be necessary for us to leave Indo-China. Word was sent to Brother and Sister Hammill at Tourane to sell everything and proceed to Saigon immediately. We did the same, and on August 8 we boarded the French liner, *Maréchal Joffre*, for Manila. At first we had planned to send our families to Manila, and

Brother Hammill and I would go by air to Singapore, but the air line suspended operation before the end of July. The Thailand-Indo-China border was unopened; so the only possible way of leaving the country was by boat. We arrived in Manila on August 12, and since then we have been waiting for permission from the State Department to proceed to Singapore. Brother Hammill is helping the Philippine Union Mission in their Harvest Ingathering campaign, and I am helping the college to reach its goal.

Our work will continue in Indo-China. Our French pastor, Robert Bentz, who has been working for the Cambodian people, will now have the oversight of all the work. Brother Tran-goc-Te, our veteran Annamese worker, will look after the Annamese work. Brother Bentz is coming temporarily to Saigon for a five-month term in the training school beginning about the first of October. They now are building a new chapel at Duc My, about forty kilometers west of Tourane, and a new 120-student school at Longxuyen in Cochinchina. We ask earnestly that you offer fervent prayers for our Master's work in the great land of French Indo-China.

Rolland H. Howlett



Found in our Mailbag

In one of his recent letters, Elder J. de Caenel, superintendent of the North African Union Mission, speaks quite at length of the Algiers medical institution "Vie et Santé." He writes:

"We are very much encouraged by the results obtained up to date by our institution. The past year has been a particularly successful one. Not only does the balance sheet show a substantial gain, despite the high cost of living, but souls having a true hunger and thirst for truth have come to us. Several of our patients have read our literature and attended our meetings, and they promise to attend our public lectures just as soon as the winter campaign begins. One of the patients, a most distinguished lady, has accepted our truth with a readiness such as I rarely have encountered. I recently studied the word of God with her until eleven o'clock in the evening. The next morning she said to me:

"I had a dream, I who never have dreams. In the dream I found myself in a very dark and dirty room. There was so much dirt and litter about it that I barely could see a small light peeping through from the far end. I felt most depressed. But suddenly my eyes fell upon a broom, one of those big brooms the street sweepers use. I took it and began to sweep the room. As I succeeded in getting the rubbish out, the light became stronger. And once the place was fully cleaned, great joy and a deep peace flooded into my heart."

"The lady well realized that God had tried to show her the spiritual state in which she was living.

The broom, she understood, represented the message. The light was the truth contained in the word of God. And she expressed to us her great joy to have come to a knowledge of that truth at last. She attended church service last Sabbath, and she intends to continue to do so in the future. We are very glad for this decision, for the lady belongs to the best society. Her husband, who is a Christian, will join her ere long, no doubt, in the lighted way.

"In our last group of baptismal candidates were three people who had been won by "Vie et Santé." Soon three others will follow: one man and two ladies."



Elder de Caenel adds this little story on the subject of the institution's provisioning difficulties. It shows how these difficulties are often surmounted in a miraculous way.

"For a long time now provisioning has been difficult in Algeria, as elsewhere. Last summer we were without milk, cheese and butter, and in fact these articles still are lacking. Even vegetables and fruit have become very scarce and dear.

"One morning, about two weeks ago, we found ourselves with food reserves entirely depleted. We had neither vegetables nor fruit in the cellar. Rice, potatoes and macaroni had disappeared long before from the markets. What were we to do for the following days? We turned to God for help. During morning worship the sanitarium family spent considerable time in prayer and asked for food to supply the wants of the patients and all the needs of the institution.

"A little later our cook saw a donkey trotting down the road toward our institution, heavily loaded with fresh fruit and green vegetables. The donkey was not accompanied by his master, but he came straight to our kitchen door. He remembered that formerly his master came to sell us his goods, and that while the bargaining was going on, he had regularly enjoyed eating the potato peelings and other kitchen left-overs set before him by our good cook. When the donkey had been left standing on the public place a short distance away, the memory of those feasts came back to mind, and he forthwith took advantage of the opportunity to renew acquaintance with us.

"A few minutes later the peddler arrived in quest of his donkey. He had not intended to come to us, but seeing the joy of his donkey, who was quickly emptying a basket of peelings - about the last our cook could have offered, and also our joy at having received such a prompt reply from our God, he sold us his entire stock: 140 kilograms! This was sufficient for nearly a week."

And our brother concluded:

"God employs yet other means to enable us to operate our institution, which, after all, belongs to Him. Moreover, we are happy to labor for a Master who never forgets His own."

W.R. B.

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INTERESTING ITEMS

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****Collonges News**

The French College in Collonges opened its doors for the third time since the outbreak of the present European war on September 16. The opening day of school 53 students were enrolled. To date the total enrollment has reached 83, with 41 girls and 42 young men. Last year's enrollment was 61, while that of the school year 1935-36, as a point of comparison, was also 83. Of course this last figure was for the whole school year, while the present year has yet several months to go. This exceptional large number of students certainly must be taken as an indication of God's special blessing upon our French school. Many now speak of the "Collonges miracle," and they no doubt are right.

The chief problem of the school is that of heating. As already announced, the administration building must remain closed again this year for lack of coal. The classes are held in the boys' dormitory. Emergency measures have been taken to furnish as much warmth as possible for the young people, and the latest reports are that, despite the early frost, a happy, courageous spirit prevails.

The different activities of the church and the school are naturally in full swing. Prof. H. Evard is the superintendent of the Sabbath school, with Adi Zurcher and Jean Maës as assistants. Prof. M. Mathy is serving again this year as president of the Missionary Volunteer society; Roberto Bertalot and Paul Tièche are his seconds. The various missionary groups are doing a splendid work regardless of restrictions of all kinds. The Junior Missionary Volunteer society counts 41 members this year. This is a remarkable growth over last year.

The Collonges primary school has fifteen students, which is an increase of three over last year. Miss S. Calas, who is in charge of the department this year, is doing good work. Other departments of the school are doing well this year. The printshop is especially busy. The printing of a monthly edition of the *Revue Adventiste* has been added to its regular work. The

Week of Prayer readings in both French and German were printed in Collonges this year; and in addition to all this the printshop is bringing out an edition of Elder A. Vaucher's book on Lacunza.

As a last item, it can be mentioned that a musical program was organized recently by the College in behalf of the French national relief fund. The program brought a net profit of frs. 5,006.25 (French).

The Church's Role

A Norwegian church paper, the *Norsk Kirkeblad*, recently published a message addressed by the bishops of Norway to the clergy and to responsible laymen in the Lutheran church. Here is a résumé of this document:

"Eternal truth - and in particular the gospel of salvation in Christ - must be preached. This is clear. The preaching of the gospel aims to regenerate human life on earth by piercing the innermost parts of man's heart and by embracing all realms of his life. The eternal word is a light which lighteth our daily existence and that of all men. It is inevitable, in a sinful world, that this should imply the condemnation of certain acts of the individual and social life. An inoffensive preaching of the word would be a negation of the God who desires, precisely in these fields of controverted duty, to touch human conscience. The word of God treats all men on an equal footing and in like manner, without any particular consideration for national, political or social circumstances. The erection of water-tight walls between the different domains of life is irreconcilable with the exigencies of a God who claims the whole man. The appeal Christ made to His disciples inviting them to be the light of the world and the salt of the earth remains unchanged."

A Report from Belgium

Two paragraphs from a recent report on the work in Belgium will, I believe, be found of interest. Our correspondent writes:

"Just a few items of general import. On January 1, 1940, the membership of the Belgian Conference was 598; by December 31,

it had reached 624. We now have gone over the 600 mark. There were 44 baptisms in 1940. The Bruxelles French church held first place in the matter of baptisms; then came Ghent, Bruges and the Flemish church of Bruxelles. Prospects are better still for this year.

"The financial report is most encouraging as regards tithes (415,887.40 Belgian francs), quite good as regards Sabbath school offerings (38,804.65 francs), gifts for the thirteenth Sabbath (8,979.65 francs) and Big Week (8,915.95 francs); but not so good as regards Harvest Ingathering (4,838.65 francs). The financial situation of the Conference is good. The year 1940 closed with a gain in operations of 67,848.50 francs, which is excellent. This year (1941) no doubt will be better still inasmuch as the July balance sheet showed a gain in operations for the first seven months amounting to 72,189.39 francs. However, the tithe may drop a little as some business houses are closing down for lack of raw materials."

Two Daily Miracles

The fact that there is meted out to everyone of us, whether we deserve it or not, a daily allowance (amounting to twenty-four hours) of that precious commodity called time, has been called by a thoughtful writer "the daily miracle," and we may well agree with this view of the matter.

But there is another and greater miracle: To every child of God who asks for it in faith, divine grace is given with which to make wise use of the daily allowance of time. Eph. 4:7. Let us be thankful for both these gifts, and make full use of them.

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