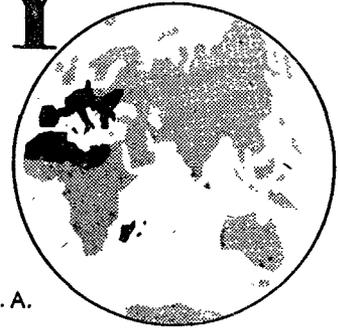


QUARTERLY REVIEW

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



VOL. 15

SEPTEMBER 1948

NUMBER 2

First Impressions of the Work in Southern Europe

By C. G. Cross

En route to Berne, we stopped in Lisbon, Portugal, for six hours. We phoned our conference office, and were very pleased that Brother Leal, the pastor, could come to the dock and visit. We had never met or seen pictures of each other. But soon we saw a friendly man hurrying toward us. It was Brother Leal. He was the first European worker we saw upon arriving in our territory. The same earnest longing for souls to which we had been accustomed was very evident in this first contact with our fellow worker in Portugal. He told us the Lisbon church is beautiful, that the seating capacity is 500, and there are 320 members. Last year thirty-five were baptized. During the first five months of this year, another twenty-five were baptized. I was very eager to learn about the status of the literature ministry. He told me there were about fourteen regular and twenty student colporteur evangelists in Portugal. For this we are thankful. Brother Leal was modest in stating that he could speak hardly any English. I wish I could speak some languages as well as he speaks English! We were amazed that he speaks Portuguese, French, Spanish, and Italian.

Our next stop was on August 13, when we docked in Genoa, Italy. Elder Beach, our Division president, had written us while we were in New York city that he would arrange for Brother G. Ferraro, Italian Union publishing secretary, to meet us at the ship and help us through the customs. We had just left the boat and were inspecting our baggage when a tall, friendly man asked me if I were Brother Cross. He proved to be Brother Ferraro. During most of the day we were at the

dock and also arranging for shipping our household goods on to Berne. From just how much trouble our brother saved us, I do not know; however, on several occasions we were in tight spots. He spoke the language and saved us much. I was often amused; when we had difficulty with the customs officers, Brother Ferraro would chuckle. In a moment he would turn to me with a big smile, and another problem was solved. Whenever he chuckled, I knew he was at grips with a difficulty with those men. He chuckled much!

In Genoa we were happy to make the acquaintance of Brother Nazareno Marzocchini, pastor of the church.

We spent the Sabbath with Brother and Sister Ferraro and family and two hospitable uncles at Montaldo. I understand that this was the only church property we owned in all of Italy before the war. We arrived a few minutes before Sabbath school was to begin. This being our first Sabbath in Europe, we wondered how the meetings would be conducted. There was good order at Montaldo. There was no musical instrument. When the first song was announced, a few members began singing softly; others joined, and in only a moment all of the forty to fifty voices were singing lustily. «When human beings sing with the spirit and the understanding, heavenly musicians take up the strain, and join in the song of thanksgiving.» *Gospel Workers*, page 357. Brother Ferraro's eldest son, who begins his third year of the medical course this fall, interpreted for me during the preaching service. Then Brother Ferraro

Please turn to page 11

Our Missions in the Indian Ocean

By A. Meyer

The territory of the Southern European Division extends over two hemispheres, and in order to visit our missions in the Indian Ocean one must cross the Equator, thus obtaining a view of the beautiful constellation called the Southern Cross.

Madagascar, Reunion, Mauritius, Rodriguez, and the Seychelles comprise the Indian Ocean Union Mission, with headquarters at Tananarive, the capital of Madagascar.

During a journey of three and a half months, I was able to visit these different missions in the company of H. Pichot, superintendent of the union. However, for lack of time, we were forced to forgo visiting Rodriguez and the Seychelles Islands. In many places, the airplane is now the best, if not the only, means of transportation.

It was on the island of Mauritius that our work began in 1913, as a result of rather peculiar circumstances: A native of the island, Miss R. Le Mème, an earnest Christian but in delicate health, traveled to France and to Switzerland. At Lausanne, she happened to receive a program of meetings being held in that city by H. H. Dexter. This was in 1912.

Deeply interested by these lectures, Miss Le Mème was baptized, and a little later returned to Mauritius. Our brave and courageous sister distributed books, tracts, and periodicals, and it was not long before she had created an interest among her family, in spite of the bitter opposition of the population; she was even excluded from the Presbyterian church because of her convictions.

However, such a fine missionary spirit could not go unrewarded, and Paul Badaut was sent by the European Division committee, to the island of Mauritius. He did the work of a pioneer; so much so that, even today, the Adventists on Mauritius are commonly called «Badauts.»

Even though the island has been an English colony since 1810, the French language is still generally used, as it was when Mauritius was still the «Ile de France.» Catholicism is the religion of the 200,000 Creoles of the island, while the Chinese and Hindus, who number about 300,000, have kept their customs and beliefs; the Mohammedans are quite numerous.

Mauritius Island has been fittingly called «the pearl of the Indian Ocean.» Its luxuriant tropical vegetation makes it a little paradise. The island is of limited dimensions — about 230 kilometers in circumference — but it is remarkably well governed, and its public services function with regularity.

Our work is firmly established on Mauritius, where we hold third place, exceeded only by the Catholic and Anglican churches. The Adventist chapels and meeting halls, about ten in all, are spacious, comfortable, and generally well situated. A fine property has just been purchased at Phoenix; the buildings, entirely renovated, are to serve as a school, where the many Mauritian young people can be instructed and trained for service. H. Evard, former director of

the Collonges seminary, will serve as director. He is now en route to Mauritius.

Charles Monnier, mission director, and J. Belloy, who have come from Switzerland and Belgium respectively, are carrying on valiantly, with the help of Mauritian evangelists, trained by their predecessors. An extremely interesting work has been undertaken among the Hindus by means of open-air meetings, using picture rolls.

The report presented by the mission director at the annual meeting in May was most encouraging. There are now 850 baptized members in Mauritius. A wonderful missionary spirit animates the church. The Lord blessed in a remarkable manner during the annual meeting, and the days spent together have left their impress.

The «Adventist Diocese» of Mauritius extends to Rodriguez, a tiny island of some few thousands of inhabitants, thirty hours by boat from Port Louis. We have there about thirty members and two chapels; it was through a Mauritian that the message penetrated to Rodriguez and to the Seychelles.

In this latter group of islands, Missionary K. Sturzenegger and his family remained isolated for ten years without receiving a single visit, in consequence of the war; even yet, the communications are rather precarious and several months are required for a trip to and from the islands. We were happy to meet H. Salzmänn, the new director of the Seychelles Mission, at the meeting of the union committee held at Tananarive. By the grace of God, the work is advancing in this isolated field, in spite of the bitter opposition of the Roman Catholic clergy, who are all-powerful in these regions.

From Mauritius, the message was passed on to Madagascar, whose area equals that of France, Belgium, and Holland combined; Madagascar is called the «red island» because of the peculiar color of the soil. The principal crops cultivated are rice, corn, cassava, coffee, and vanilla; the subsoil is extremely fertile. However, the island is as yet rather undeveloped, and its population is only 4,500,000, of Malaysian and African origin. There are also some from the Comoro Islands, some Musulman Indians, and a few Chinese. The Europeans hardly exceed 20,000.

The battle for the cross has been hard-fought in Madagascar; the island has had its martyrs for the faith under the reign of the cruel Queen Ranavaloa, who had resolved to eradicate Christianity from her kingdom. The Protestant missions from England, from Norway, and later from France, translated the Bible into Malagasy. The Scriptures were widely scattered throughout the country, and a great many of the people accepted the gospel. Today in most of the villages one finds a Protestant chapel and a Catholic church. At Tananarive, the capital, religious edifices and mission schools are numerous. The Malagasy people are religiously inclined, although they have often kept some of their former heathen practices.

The foundations of the Adventist work in this great French colony were laid about twenty-five years ago. Its progress was quite rapid from the beginning; Brother Bureaud, and later Brother Bénézech, built chapels and schools at Tananarive and its surroundings, then in the coastal towns, such as Tamatave, Majunga, and Diégo-Suarez, not to mention those in the interior of the country. There are 700 baptized members. However, twice that number attend the church services on Sabbath.

In this country, the children are numerous. Our schools, meagerly furnished, are rendering excellent service in preparing the ground for future work. Teacher-evangelists are in demand everywhere at the moment; it is difficult to answer all the calls, however much we should like to do so.

Our training school, situated in a fine property about six kilometers from the capital, is directed by Jean Zurcher. There are about forty Malagasy students, young men and young women. The scholastic program includes, in addition to manual work, several years of study with a view toward obtaining a teacher's certificate or the diploma of evangelist. For the moment, it is a question of filling the gaps.

Our large primary and secondary school in Tananarive has 700 pupils; if we had the space, we could easily have 2,000. The institution enjoys an excellent reputation and is favorably known throughout the island; at the examinations, our students take the highest marks. The Malagasy parents, non-Adventists for the most part, are happy to entrust their children to us. The influence exerted and the results obtained have made our school one of the best educational institutions in Tananarive. Founded by Roger Guenin, it is now supervised devotedly by A. Lams, a former teacher at Collonges.

The religious broadcasts over Radio Tananarive, given by J. Zurcher each Sabbath at 1:45 p. m., are highly appreciated by the listeners, who number about 20,000 in the island. These broadcasts are free of charge, and we hope soon to have a similar program in the Malagasy language.

The prospects are bright in Madagascar. The most pressing need, aside from that of schools, is the immediate opening of one or more dispensaries, for the lack of medical help is keenly felt.

From the heathen and half-savage tribe of the Vazimbas, a call has reached us. A chief, tormented by demons, went to the Catholic Mission for help. They sent him to the Protestants, where he stayed for some time; finally, the latter counseled him to go to the Adventists at Tananarive. He begged us to send help to his tribe, inhabiting a region which up to the present has hardly been explored. Then again, a whole

population, that of the Sakalaves, has, so to speak, not been touched by the gospel; definite plans have been laid to begin work among them, and that means that new missionaries will be needed.

However, at the present time, the most urgent matter is the establishing of a print shop, modest though it may be, in order to have some books, tracts, and periodicals in the Malagasy language, of which there is an almost total lack at the moment.

The island of Reunion, located 1,000 kilometers east of Madagascar and 200 kilometers west of Mauritius, is the most recently entered mission field in the union. It was in 1936 that P. Girard, coming from North Africa, settled in the island and served as a pioneer. He was followed three years later by R. Devins.

Reunion, with its mountains and its verdure, is truly a jewel in the setting of the Indian Ocean. The cultivation of sugar cane is at the same time the wealth and the poverty of the island, for the rum which is manufactured from it is a curse to the native population. The island, more picturesque than Mauritius, is still quite undeveloped.

Several times Protestant missions have tried to enter Reunion, but all their efforts have failed before the determined opposition of the Catholic Church, whose influence is paramount. Our message has overcome these obstacles, by the grace of God. After persevering efforts, the first Adventist church was organized at

ATTENTION

Union presidents and superintendents,
conference presidents and mission directors,
secretary-treasurers, department secretaries,
evangelists, missionaries, pastors
of the Southern European Division!

Your article, your report, if it had appeared on these pages, would have interested a large number of readers in the world-wide field who, at this moment, need to be informed about the progress of the work in your territory and of the experiences you are having with God in your field. Don't wait for a special invitation — send in a few notes for the next issue to

M. Fridlin, editor,

17 Höhweg, Berne, Switzerland.

St. Denis, the capital, where a beautiful chapel was erected. Later a second chapel was built at St. Pierre, at the south of the island. A third is needed at Ravine, a village ten kilometers from St. Pierre. It is in this locality that the recent cyclone, the most violent in the history of the island, completely destroyed the Catholic church, an imposing stone edifice, while the modest wooden cabin in which our members meet remained absolutely untouched! Our brethren have told us of this cyclone, and its ravages are still visible; but God watched over His children, and not one lost his life.

The Adventist mission, which has 125 members, is the only non-Catholic mission on the island. The work is in full swing, and the prospects are most encouraging. The two workers, Sylvain Meyer and Roland Vertallier, as well as the church members, true Missionary Volunteers, are working with all their might to « lengthen the cords and strengthen the stakes. »

Everywhere we went, in Madagascar, Mauritius, Reunion, we had the conviction that the Spirit of God was mightily at work. In the public meetings, the church services, the Bible studies, and in our conversations with the missionaries, we have found the same spirit of total consecration to the Lord.

These far-off mission fields give us a fine example of unity and of the missionary spirit, in labor and in devotion to the present truth. In their turn, our members there are joyfully practicing Christian liberality, in order to sustain financially the work in their respective fields as well as in other places.

It was with a heart full of gratitude to God for His protection during this long journey, and of confidence in the future of the work, that I took leave of our brethren in Tananarive. I carried with me the vision of an immense mission field, exacting of all its workers a spirit of self-sacrifice and of persevering effort, but with a glorious future.

Let us remember Madagascar, Mauritius, the Seychelles, Reunion, Rodriguez, in our prayers. The

missionaries, united under the direction of their leader, H. Pichot, depend on our spiritual support. They are confident that we, with them and with our brethren throughout the world, are working with all our might to hasten the Saviour's return.

In closing, I should like to quote a passage from Mrs. E.G. White: «In heathen Africa, in the Catholic lands of Europe and of South America, in China, in India, in the islands of the sea, and in all the dark corners of the earth, God has in reserve a firmament of chosen ones that will yet shine forth amidst the darkness, revealing clearly to an apostate world the transforming power of obedience to His law.» *Evangelism*, pp. 706, 707.

Inside Hungary

By G. Haberey

We arrived in Budapest on Monday evening, June 27. The next day was the Catholic festival of St. Peter and St. Paul, celebrated in Hungary in memory of these two «princes of the church,» and also marking the beginning of the harvest.

On Tuesday morning a large audience crowded into the «Budapest A» chapel, the headquarters of the Hungarian Union, not for the purpose of celebrating the opening of the grain harvest, but to witness a baptismal ceremony at which 92 persons were to be received into church membership, in public testimony to their faith in the third angel's message and their resolution to live henceforth for the glory of God. From the eighteen-year-olds to the still courageous old man of eighty-eight, all ages were represented. Several of these people had waited a long time for permission to be baptized; they were all the more joyful for the victory that God had given them and the deliverance He had wrought in their behalf.

When we entered the chapel, many were already standing for lack of seats. The candidates for baptism, dressed in white, occupied the front rows. It was an impressive sight.

«We have already had several similar occasions,» the minister who officiated at the ceremony told us the next day. «They happen so often that they are becoming a tradition.» We thought of St. Peter and St. Paul and reflected that they too had seen believers presenting themselves for baptism in large numbers. But the experience of the primitive church at that time is to be witnessed on an even larger scale by the remnant church before the return of Christ. We are now seeing the beginnings of this revival. The harvest is great; the reapers are at work.

«To what do you attribute the success now attending the preaching of the advent message in Hungary?» we asked this minister. Here is his answer: «First, to the religious liberty which we now enjoy in this country, and which did not exist in former times, when the preaching of present truth encountered a systematic opposition everywhere. Then, we have found that the troubles of the war have created a hunger and thirst for eternal truths, for a more than human certainty,

that the advent message alone can fully assuage and satisfy.»

This was our first contact with the work in Hungary. Arriving just a few days after the close of the union session (the first since 1939), we heard everywhere expressions of gratitude for the rich blessings which this gathering had brought to the churches and to the workers.

The Hungarian Union now consists of the Central, East, and West Hungarian Conferences, with a total of more than 5,200 members. More than 900 members have been added to the church by baptism since the beginning of this year. The city of Budapest in itself will next year constitute a conference of 2,000 members, distributed among a dozen churches.

Four days after the baptismal service at Budapest, we had the privilege of presiding over the dedication of a large building at Székesfehérvár, which is to house the offices of the West Hungarian Conference, a large meeting hall, and an apartment for the treasurer. The city of Székesfehérvár is considered the stronghold of Roman Catholicism in Hungary. The advent movement has met with strong opposition in this city, and has taken root only by means of prodigious efforts.

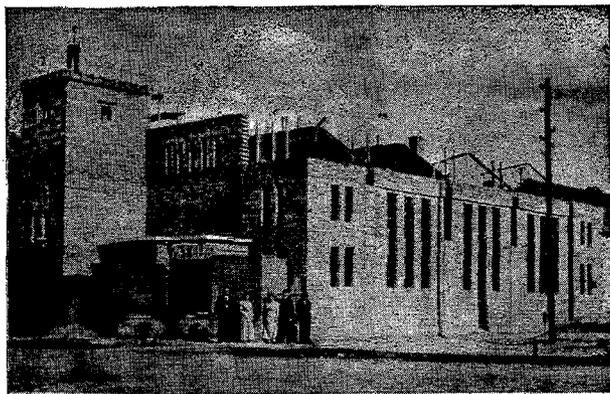
Some thirty-one years ago, a young woman of about twenty was sent by the leaders of the work to this city to begin work there. In the midst of war, it was impossible for her to obtain a pass, since Budapest, the capital, was occupied by the Rumanian army. This young sister crossed on foot the 70 kilometers which separated her new field of labor from the metropolis. She stopped at each village on the way, letting slip no occasion to render testimony to the truth and to draw the attention of the people to the signs of the times. She returned to Budapest, and yet again to her district, always on foot, surrounded by dangers and facing an increasing hostility. Two years later, when she was invited to spend some time at the mission school, the four members she had found on her arrival in the city had multiplied and now formed four companies of commandment keepers. It was with emotion that our sister now attended the dedication of the new

building which, besides constituting a powerful support for future work, is also a witness to the victories won with God's help and to the many blessings bestowed upon His faithful servants.

The meeting hall, which seats about 250, was filled with brethren and sisters who had gathered from the neighboring districts for this dedication ceremony. «God with us» must be the message of this house of worship. As in olden times before the tabernacle in the wilderness and the temple at Jerusalem, so it is here that the people of God assemble in the presence of the Almighty. It is here also that, according to His promise, God will be in the midst of them. God is with us now in this dark world, which He makes bright for us with His love; ere long, we shall be with Him in that heavenly country, where He has gone to prepare a place for us, and upon which our hopes are centered.

As the Arlberg Express leaves Budapest in the direction of Bucharest, it passes through the country town of Bekesczaba, about twenty kilometers from the Rumanian frontier, with a population of 65,000. For twenty-seven years the Adventist church in this place has been meeting in the same building, which long ago became too small and is today altogether inadequate when the 150 members gather on Sabbath morning. In the surrounding country are scattered twenty-one companies and churches, with a total of one thousand members, forming a district directed by one of our ministers who is carrying on a fruitful work with the assistance of the members, especially the young people. At the end of June the number of baptisms in this district had already reached 150. The goal for the year is 250 souls, and our brethren are confident of exceeding that number.

«We are taking great pains,» our brother told us, «to instruct our members thoroughly in the message. In view of the large number of interested people, we can see the danger of a hasty preparation, and we are anxious to prevent future apostasies by a careful instruction of all persons before their baptism.»



Our new rehabilitation chapel in Bekesczaba, three months before completion. Seating capacity : 600.

The new chapel, now being built, should be finished by October of this year. It will hold 600 people and will greatly help in the preaching of the everlasting gospel in this district. Situated just opposite to the former meeting place, on a quiet street, it will be a real ornament to the city of Bekesczaba.

It seems to us worthy of mention that the construction work on this chapel, as well as the one at Székesfehérvár, was done entirely by Adventist contractors, masons, carpenters, painters, etc.

We have as yet no school where workers can be trained for the great Hungarian field. Most of the younger workers have come from the ranks of the colporteurs, and have developed and improved their knowledge in their field of labor. A first course in Bible is to be offered this fall, in which, under the direction of competent and experienced workers, a dozen young men will for a few months receive, through practical as well as theoretical instruction, the rudiments of missionary and pastoral training.

For more than a year the advent message has been broadcast regularly over the Hungarian radio. Besides a weekly broadcast on Thursday, the «Adventist half hour» is scheduled for one Sunday each month. The Bible Correspondence Course, a valuable and indispensable adjunct to radio work, is now under consideration.

The first impression one receives of life in Hungary is favorable. The show windows are full of attractive and desirable merchandise. Food and clothing shelves seem particularly well stocked. Unfortunately, this abundance is not within the means of all. It is apparent that the consequences of an inflation such as was seen in Hungary in 1946 are not felt until some time later in the economic life of a country.

The economic situation has made it necessary for each citizen to make a fresh start, beginning with nothing. After the close of hostilities, the old pengoe decreased in value little by little, and finally lost practically all its value. The ordinary worker's salary, which amounted in normal times to some hundreds of millions, soon mounted to thousands, climbed to millions, and ended in the quadrillions. Poor secretary-treasurers! The ingenuity with which they succeeded in handling these astronomical sums must be seen to be appreciated. In those times, the transportation charges alone on a package of books, sent C. O. D. by the publishing house, might amount to twice as much as the price of the books themselves would have been a few weeks before, so greatly had the currency deteriorated in the meantime. A single street car fare, the last day of inflation, had reached the sum of 29 quadrillion pengoes. The forint has thus become the national monetary unit.

In spite of difficulties of all kinds, the work of reconstruction is now seen throughout the country. The beautiful city of Budapest, so cruelly put to the test by a ruthless siege, is rising, slowly but perceptibly, from its ruins.

We have been encouraged, in our contacts with our Hungarian brethren, by their zeal and their confidence. May God preserve the liberty which they now enjoy, so favorable to the preaching of the gospel.

Response of Youth to the Master's Call

By J. J. Aitken

Today is a great day of challenge and opportunity for the youth of the advent movement. The Missionary Volunteer Department of the Southern European Division has the tremendous responsibility of leading some twenty thousand young people into greater soul-winning service for the Master. The youth of the church and their leaders in this Division are this year launching an all-out effort to enlist every young person in a soul-winning program, commonly known as a «Share Your Faith» effort. The great heritage of truth is like a torch in the hands of youth, and it is being carried forward to the millions who sit in darkness.

During the month of July we have had two youth's congresses and three youth rallies, in the countries of Portugal, Spain, France, Austria, and Czechoslovakia.

On July 1, Elder E. W. Dunbar, the world leader of our Missionary Volunteers, met me in Lisbon, Portugal, and together we immediately started the cross-section visit of our Division.

From July 1-6 we had our first youth's congress in the history of Portugal. More than three hundred of our Portuguese youth took part in the daily program. For the first time in their lives, many of them found the great joy and inspiration of association with hundreds of youth of like faith. The congress was held on the grounds of our beautiful school site at Portalegre. Here, on a mountain top overlooking the Portuguese countryside, our young people caught a new vision of greater service in evangelistic endeavor.

We are happy to report the great success of our young people who are going out into the villages of Portugal to preach the gospel. Their preaching is not without results. Recently a doctor from the city of Lisbon returned to his home village near the Spanish frontier. In talking with the village folk, he noticed they were particularly intelligent on present day world happenings. They spoke earnestly of Bible prophecy, atomic energy, and the end of the world. In fact, one farmer boy without any education told this distinguished doctor all about the rise and fall of the great kingdoms of the earth, as outlined in Daniel 2. The doctor, who was not an Adventist, was astonished at this boy's understanding of world events, past, present, and future, and he questioned him as to where he got all this information. The boy told him that Adventist young people were preaching these things in a little abandoned Catholic chapel down the road. The doctor was so impressed that when he returned to Lisbon he immediately looked up our headquarters and personally thanked Brother Gomes, our union mission director and Missionary Volunteer secretary, for the work of the Missionary Volunteers who were educating his people and bringing them hope and happiness in Jesus. This doctor felt that Seventh-day Adventist youth were making a great contribution to the education of the people of his home town. This is a great testimony to the work which Missionary Volunteers are doing in all of Portugal.

In the city of Setubal we have today a church of 50 members with an active Missionary Volunteer society of 85 members. This means that the youth of this church and their leaders have caught a vision of winning the youth of the world for Christ. The church membership is steadily rising through its reservoir of young people being converted to the truth.

On Sabbath morning, 33 Portuguese young people decided to take steps toward baptism and church membership. This was a great day of decision for them, involving a real change in their lives. They had come from far and near, on foot, by muleback, and by train. The youth of Portugal are today the hope of the church.

On July 6, Brother Dunbar and I had the privilege of meeting with our Spanish youth in the city of Madrid. Here we saw real evidences of the power of God in using our youth to convert their comrades to Christ. As we met together in our small meeting hall, we found that our youth of the city of Madrid had brought many young people not of our faith to the meeting.

The spread of the gospel is not easy in Spain, and we have little to work with as regards literature. But our great reservoir of truth in Spain is the love of Jesus Christ in the hearts of our young people. Through the efforts of these young people, we have seen definite results, the church membership being increased by 10 per cent.

From Madrid, Spain, we traveled on to Paris, France, where again we caught a glimpse of the work of our French young people in soul-winning activity. The forty-two million people of France are a great challenge to the handful of youth which we have in that great nation today. But our youth of France are as never before devising ways and means of sharing their faith with others. They are going out to the fairs and establishing Bible exhibits which have attracted youth milling through the fair grounds. As a result of some of these exhibits, young people have been attracted to the work of our Missionary Volunteers. They have come to the prayer meeting, and are today being won to the truth as a direct result of the efforts of our Missionary Volunteers.

The youth of Paris are seeking to organize their efforts in a real evangelistic way, that they might stir the youth of that great city. We pray that Brother Tièche and Brother Henriot and all the other leaders of France may be richly blessed of God in their efforts to organize the youth to go out and share their faith with the millions of France.

From July 13-18, our first Austrian youth's congress was held in the beautiful Mozarteum, a music hall in the city of Salzburg, Austria. More than six hundred Austrian and Swiss youth delegates assembled to study more effective means of enlisting their lives in a great soul-winning endeavor for Christ. They

came from all sections of Austria, as well as northern Switzerland. More than one hundred Swiss delegates were able to secure two special rail coaches for their trip to Salzburg, and as these coaches rolled from Zurich to Salzburg, the songs of a singing advent youth rang out through the countryside.

Newspapers picked up the story of this congress of Adventist youth. It was new to the people of these cities. They had thought of Adventists as only an insignificant sect, but, before their eyes, they saw the living hope and joy within the hearts of these young people streaming into their city. City authorities were awakened and impressed by the behaviour of more than 650 nonsmoking and nondrinking youth who had come together for their congress.

F. Pieringer, the union Missionary Volunteer leader of Austria, and H. Schnötzingler, the local conference Missionary Volunteer leader, in cooperation with O. Uebersax, Missionary Volunteer leader for the German-Swiss Conference, did all in their power to make this youth gathering a success. The city of Salzburg put at the disposition of Adventist youth its prized landmark, the mighty old fortress located high above the city proper. This old fortress, rich with history dating back to the Roman era, is still intact. It served as a lodging for all our youth during their stay at the congress. It was indeed thrilling to see Missionary Volunteers patrolling the walls of this old fortress, like watchmen on the walls of Zion, heralding a message of hope to those outside the walls of safety.

Many of our youth, feeling a deep burden to help their neighbors and comrades outside the truth, brought them to the congress. On Sabbath morning, as Brother Dunbar of the General Conference gave the appeal for special decisions for baptism, 140 gave their hearts to Christ and signified their desire to be baptized. This is perhaps the greatest single demonstration of the power of God in speaking to young hearts that we have seen in the Southern European Division.

From Salzburg, Brother Dunbar and I hastened on to our appointment with our youth of Czechoslovakia. On Sabbath, July 24, we found 1,500 assembled in one of the largest meeting halls in the city of Teschen. Our Czechoslovakian youth love the truth and are showing this love in active service. Their greatest joy in testifying for the Master was telling of how God had helped them to win a young comrade who was present at this rally. There is no greater joy in all the world than that of winning a soul to Christ. The work of our youth leaders is to show young people the hidden joys that lie before them in their service for Christ.

At the Sabbath morning appeal 75 made their special decision for baptism. One young man and his wife, who had come only as visitors upon the invitation of a young Missionary Volunteer, gave their hearts to the Master; and this young man, standing by the side of his wife, emptied his pockets of cigarettes and laid them on the pulpit, declaring his acceptance of Jesus Christ and his desire to be freed from the slavery of sin through the power of a living Saviour within his heart.

On the following Sunday, another historic meeting of our Polish and Czechoslovakian youth took place, on the summit of Mount Cantoria, which marks the

boundary line between the countries of Poland and Czechoslovakia. It had been ten years since such a meeting of the younger members of the family of God had taken place. Early in the morning, the two groups started on their separate trails up the long 4,000-foot climb which would bring them together at the summit. At 10:00 a. m. the great reunion took place, with the help of a Missionary Volunteer brass band which accompanied the singing of the 2,000 Adventist youth who had gathered in a large mountain meadow between lofty pines. The great theme of this reunion was that, though divided by boundaries, we as children of God are fully united through the love of Jesus Christ which constraineth us.

Not far from this mountain is another testimony for the work of our youth. A church is being built by young Missionary Volunteers. Due to the scarcity of materials and also labor, it was impossible to hire laborers to build the church which our brethren and sisters wished to erect. Our Missionary Volunteers came to the rescue, and today, with only the occasional direction and help of a contractor, they themselves are building a fine church in Teschen which will seat two to three hundred members.

And so the work of the Missionary Volunteer Department, in challenging young hearts to action for the Master, goes on. In most of the countries of the Division, summer training camps are now being held. The results of these camps are very encouraging. As our young people are brought out into God's great nature world, and as they study the Morning Watch together each morning, they are discovering a new relationship with their Master. They are discovering how to be workers together with God. We should be thankful to God that He has called youth not only to be workers for Him, but to be workers with Him. The humblest instrument here on this earth becomes a mighty power for God when he places himself within the hand of God. Through our camps, congresses, and youth rallies in this Division, our youth are catching a new vision of the shortness of time in which a world must be won. Let us pray earnestly that God may today give His young servants power to finish the task lying before them.

« Daily beset by temptation, constantly opposed by the leaders of the people, Christ knew that He must strengthen His humanity by prayer. In order to be a blessing to men, He must commune with God, pleading for energy, perseverance, and steadfastness. Thus He showed His disciples where His strength lay. Without this daily communion with God, no human being can gain power for service. Christ alone can direct the thoughts aright. He alone can give noble aspirations, and fashion after the divine similitude. If we draw near to Him in earnest prayer, He will fill our hearts with high and holy purposes, and with deep longings for purity and righteousness. The dangers thickening around us demand from those who have an experience in the things of God, a watchful supervision. Those who walk humbly before God, distrustful of their own wisdom, will realize their danger, and will know God's keeping care.»
 — *Counsels to Teachers*, pp. 323, 324.

Statistical Report of the Southern European Division of S. D. A. for the Quarter Ending June 30, 1948

| Name of Conference or Mission | Number of Churches | Previous Membership | Baptism | Vote | Letter | Total Gains | Apostasy | Death | Letter | Total Losses | Net Gain | Present Membership | Ord. Ministers | Lic. Ministers | Credentialed Missionaries | Licensed Missionaries | Bible Instr. Elem. School Teachers | Canvassers | Total Laborers | Number of Sab. Schools | Sab. School Membership | Average Attendance | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------|------|--------|-------------|----------|-------|--------|--------------|----------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|------------|----------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 1. SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIV. | | | | | | | | | | | | | 14 | 2 | 5 | 25 | | | 46 | | | | |
| 2. AUSTRIAN UNION CONF. | | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 | | 3 | 1 | | | 6 | | | | |
| 3. Danube Conference | 17 | 1188 | 63 | 3 | 137 | 203 | 3 | 2 | 136 | 141 | 62 | 1250 | 4 | 3 | | 1 | 1 | | 9 | 16 | 1277 | 100 | |
| 4. Alpine » | 16 | 1021 | 35 | 1 | 7 | 43 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 10 | 33 | 1054 | 7 | 2 | | 2 | 1 | | 12 | 15 | 1135 | 88 | |
| | 33 | 2209 | 98 | 4 | 144 | 246 | 5 | 5 | 141 | 151 | 95 | 2304 | 11 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 2 | | 27 | 31 | 2412 | 188 | |
| 5. CZECHOSLOVAKIAN U. C. | | | | | | | | | | | | | 4 | | | 1 | 2 | | 7 | | | | |
| 6. Bohemian Conference | 32 | 1141 | 51 | 21 | 27 | 99 | | 2 | 22 | 24 | 75 | 1216 | 7 | 4 | | 4 | | | 15 | 48 | 1600 | 139 | |
| 7. Moravian » | 48 | 2174 | 103 | 14 | 46 | 163 | 8 | 8 | 43 | 59 | 104 | 2278 | 10 | 3 | | 4 | 2 | | 19 | 69 | 2614 | 206 | |
| 8. Slovakian » | 34 | 952 | 55 | | 32 | 87 | 2 | | 5 | 7 | 80 | 1032 | 5 | 4 | | | | | 9 | 34 | 1175 | 109 | |
| | 114 | 4267 | 209 | 35 | 105 | 349 | 10 | 10 | 70 | 90 | 259 | 4526 | 26 | 11 | | 9 | 4 | | 50 | 151 | 5389 | 445 | |
| 9. FRANCO-BELGIAN U. C. | | | | | | | | | | | | | 5 | 1 | | 3 | | | 9 | | | | |
| 10. Belgian Conference | 13 | 808 | | | | | | | | | | 808 | 6 | 2 | | 10 | | | 2 | 20 | 13 | 834 | 70 |
| 11. East France » | 15 | 406 | | 5 | | 5 | | | | | 5 | 411 | 2 | 5 | | 3 | | | 11 | 21 | 16 | 405 | 31 |
| 12. North France » | 14 | 960 | 35 | 3 | 1 | 39 | | | 3 | 3 | 36 | 996 | 9 | 4 | | 17 | | | 6 | 36 | 14 | 396 | 37 |
| 13. South France » | 27 | 952 | | | | | | | | | | 952 | 11 | 7 | | 9 | | | 54 | 81 | 27 | 745 | 56 |
| | 69 | 3126 | 35 | 8 | 1 | 44 | | | 3 | 3 | 41 | 3167 | 33 | 19 | | 42 | | | 73 | 167 | 70 | 2380 | 195 |
| 14. HUNGARIAN U. C. | | | | | | | | | | | | | 5 | | 1 | 7 | | | 13 | | | | |
| 15. Central Hung. Conference | 48 | 1943 | 138 | 7 | 1 | 146 | 11 | 1 | 10 | 22 | 124 | 2067 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 14 | | 28 | 53 | 48 | 2394 | 193 |
| 16. East Hung. » | 60 | 2259 | 209 | 4 | 12 | 225 | 27 | 8 | 14 | 49 | 176 | 2435 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 12 | | 30 | 57 | 60 | 2493 | 232 |
| 17. West Hung. » | 29 | 716 | 42 | 3 | 4 | 49 | | 5 | | 5 | 44 | 760 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | | 28 | 41 | 29 | 761 | 57 |
| | 137 | 4918 | 389 | 14 | 17 | 420 | 38 | 14 | 24 | 76 | 344 | 5262 | 23 | 9 | 4 | 12 | 30 | | 86 | 164 | 137 | 5648 | 483 |
| 18. JUGOSLAVIAN U. C. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 19. Danube Conference | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20. Sava » | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 21. Morava » | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 157 | 5279 | | | | | | | | | | 5279 | 12 | 5 | | 13 | | | 30 | 177 | 6000 | 400 | |
| 22. RUMANIAN UNION CONF. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 23. Muntenian Conference | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 24. Oltenia » | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 25. North Transylvanian » | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 26. South Transylvanian » | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 27. Moldavian » | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 28. Danube » | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 551 | 21616 | | | | | | | | | | 21616 | 78 | 11 | | 47 | | | 136 | 560 | 27720 | 25000 | |
| 29. SWISS UNION CONFERENCE | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 30. German Swiss Conference | 32 | 1777 | 56 | | 16 | 72 | 10 | 5 | 18 | 33 | 39 | 1816 | 12 | 3 | 1 | 11 | | | 20 | 47 | 31 | 1633 | 90 |
| 31. Leman » | 24 | 1198 | 14 | | 7 | 21 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 18 | 3 | 1201 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 16 | 39 | 23 | 925 | 76 |
| | 56 | 2975 | 70 | | 23 | 93 | 18 | 9 | 24 | 51 | 42 | 3017 | 22 | 9 | 3 | 14 | 1 | 4 | 36 | 89 | 54 | 2558 | 166 |
| 32. INDIAN OCEAN UNION MISS. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 33. Madagascar Mission | 25 | 569 | 10 | | | 10 | 3 | 1 | | 4 | 6 | 575 | 6 | | 8 | 24 | 5 | 2 | 45 | 25 | 1769 | 137 | |
| 34. Mauritius » | 13 | 825 | 22 | | | 22 | 2 | 3 | | 5 | 17 | 842 | 2 | 3 | | 8 | | 3 | 16 | 20 | 775 | 54 | |
| 35. Reunion » | 4 | 128 | 6 | 1 | | 7 | | 1 | | 1 | 6 | 134 | 2 | | | | | 1 | 3 | 6 | 152 | 109 | |
| 36. Seychelles » | 2 | 78 | | | | | | | | | | 78 | 1 | | | 2 | | | 3 | 3 | 98 | 66 | |
| | 44 | 1600 | 38 | 1 | | 39 | 5 | 5 | | 10 | 29 | 1629 | 12 | 4 | 3 | 21 | 24 | 5 | 6 | 75 | 54 | 2794 | 209 |
| 37. ITALIAN UNION MISS. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 38. Central Italian Mission | 8 | 357 | 12 | 2 | 6 | 20 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 11 | 368 | 4 | | 1 | 3 | | 3 | 12 | | | | |
| 39. North Italian » | 11 | 441 | 16 | | 12 | 28 | 2 | 2 | 10 | 14 | 14 | 455 | 5 | | 6 | | | 13 | 24 | 24 | 489 | 39 | |
| 40. South Italian » | 22 | 593 | 26 | | 9 | 35 | 4 | | 10 | 14 | 21 | 614 | 5 | | 7 | | | 21 | 33 | 22 | 836 | 75 | |
| | 41 | 1391 | 54 | 2 | 27 | 83 | 10 | 3 | 24 | 37 | 46 | 1437 | 19 | | 1 | 22 | | 3 | 43 | 88 | 54 | 1833 | 148 |
| 41. NORTH AFRICAN UN. MISS. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 42. Algerian Mission | 10 | 377 | 34 | | 4 | 38 | 3 | | | 3 | 35 | 412 | 2 | 1 | 3 | | 4 | 2 | 9 | 21 | 10 | 350 | 29 |
| 43. Moroccan » | 4 | 107 | 8 | | | 8 | | 1 | | 1 | 7 | 114 | 2 | | 5 | | | | 5 | 12 | 4 | 143 | 8 |
| 44. Tunisian » | 3 | 62 | 4 | | 2 | 6 | 2 | 2 | | 4 | 2 | 62 | 1 | | | 3 | | 3 | | 7 | 3 | 66 | 5 |
| | 17 | 546 | 46 | | 6 | 52 | 5 | 3 | | 8 | 44 | 588 | 8 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 14 | 46 | 17 | 559 | 43 |
| 45. PORTUGUESE UNION MISS. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 46. Portuguese Conference | 14 | 782 | 39 | 2 | 8 | 49 | 1 | 4 | 10 | 15 | 34 | 816 | 6 | 10 | | 1 | | 6 | 16 | 39 | 14 | 767 | 68 |
| 47. Madeira Mission | 1 | 103 | 3 | | 1 | 4 | | | 2 | 2 | 2 | 105 | 1 | | | 1 | | | 3 | 1 | 151 | 10 | |
| 48. Azores » | 3 | 73 | | | | | | | | | | 73 | 1 | 2 | | | | | 1 | 4 | 3 | 77 | 7 |
| 49. Cape Verde » | 3 | 84 | | | | | | | | | | 84 | | 3 | | | | | 1 | 4 | 3 | | |
| 50. St. Thomas » | 1 | 117 | 9 | | 9 | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 123 | 1 | | | | | | 2 | 6 | 142 | 15 | |
| | 22 | 1159 | 51 | 2 | 9 | 62 | 1 | 5 | 14 | 20 | 42 | 1201 | 12 | 16 | | 3 | | 9 | 17 | 57 | 27 | 1137 | 101 |
| 51. Albanian Miss. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 52. Bulgarian Conf. | 39 | 1751 | | | | | | | | | | 1751 | 7 | 4 | | 9 | | | 20 | | | | |
| 53. Grecian Miss. | 5 | 146 | | | | | | | | | | 146 | 2 | 2 | 2 | | | | 6 | 5 | 130 | 14 | |
| 54. Spanish Miss. | 10 | 571 | 25 | 3 | | 28 | | 1 | | | 27 | 598 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 16 | 13 | 666 | 62 |

RECAPITULATION

| Name of Conference or Mission | Number of Churches | Previous Membership | Baptism | Vote | Letter | Total Gains | Apostasy | Death | Letter | Total Losses | Net Gain | Present Membership | Ord. Ministers | Lic. Ministers | Credentialed Missionaries | Licensed Missionaries | Bible Instr. | Elem. School Teachers | Canvassers | Total Laborers | Number of Sab. Schools | Sab. School Membership | Average Attendance | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------|------|--------|-------------|----------|-------|--------|--------------|----------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|------------|----------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | |
| 1. Southern European Div. | | | | | | | | | | | | 14 | 2 | 5 | 25 | — | — | — | — | 46 | | | | |
| 2. Austrian Union Conference | 33 | 2209 | 98 | 4 | 144 | 246 | 5 | 5 | 141 | 151 | 95 | 23 | 04 | 13 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 2 | — | 27 | 31 | 2412 | 1889 | |
| 3. Czechoslovakian » » | 114 | 4267 | 209 | 35 | 105 | 349 | 10 | 10 | 70 | 90 | 259 | 45 | 26 | 26 | 11 | — | 9 | 4 | — | 50 | 151 | 5389 | 4458 | |
| 4. Franco-Belgian » » | 69 | 3126 | 35 | 8 | 1 | 44 | — | — | 3 | 3 | 41 | 31 | 67 | 33 | 19 | — | 42 | — | 73 | 167 | 70 | 2380 | 1954 | |
| 5. Hungarian » » | 137 | 4918 | 389 | 14 | 17 | 420 | 38 | 14 | 24 | 76 | 344 | 52 | 62 | 23 | 9 | 4 | 12 | 30 | — | 86 | 164 | 137 | 5648 | 4831 |
| 6. Yugoslavian » » | 157 | 5279 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 52 | 79 | 12 | 5 | — | — | 13 | — | — | 30 | 177 | 6000 | 4000 | |
| 7. Rumanian » » | 551 | 21616 | 4384 | — | — | 4384 | 700 | 300 | — | 1000 | 3384 | 250 | 00 | 78 | 11 | — | 47 | — | — | 136 | 560 | 27720 | 25000 | |
| 8. Swiss » » | 56 | 2975 | 70 | — | 23 | 93 | 18 | 9 | 24 | 51 | 42 | 30 | 17 | 22 | 9 | 3 | 14 | 1 | 4 | 36 | 89 | 54 | 2558 | 1668 |
| 9. Indian Ocean Union Mission | 44 | 1600 | 38 | 1 | — | 39 | 5 | 5 | — | 10 | 29 | 16 | 29 | 12 | 4 | 3 | 21 | 24 | 5 | 6 | 75 | 54 | 2794 | 2099 |
| 10. Italian » » | 41 | 1391 | 54 | 2 | 27 | 83 | 10 | 3 | 24 | 37 | 46 | 14 | 37 | 19 | — | 1 | 22 | — | 3 | 43 | 88 | 54 | 1833 | 1489 |
| 11. North African » » | 17 | 546 | 46 | — | 6 | 52 | 5 | 3 | — | 8 | 44 | 5 | 90 | 8 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 14 | 46 | 17 | 559 | 432 |
| 12. Portuguese » » | 22 | 1159 | 51 | 2 | 9 | 62 | 1 | 5 | 14 | 20 | 42 | 12 | 01 | 12 | 16 | — | 3 | — | 9 | 17 | 57 | 27 | 1137 | 1018 |
| 13. Bulgarian Conference | 39 | 1751 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 17 | 51 | 7 | 4 | — | — | 9 | — | — | 20 | — | — | — | — |
| 14. Grecian Mission | 5 | 146 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 46 | 2 | 2 | 2 | — | — | — | — | 6 | 5 | 130 | 140 | |
| 15. Spanish » » | 10 | 571 | 25 | 3 | — | 28 | — | — | — | 1 | 27 | 5 | 98 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 16 | 13 | 666 | 622 |
| 16. Albanian Miss. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 29 | 901 | 718 | |
| TOTALS FOR 2nd QUARTER 1948 | 1295 | 51554 | 5399 | 69 | 332 | 5800 | 792 | 355 | 300 | 1447 | 4353 | 55907 | 285 | 100 | 31 | 231 | 66 | 27 | 277 | 1017 | 1379 | 60127 | 50818 | |
| TOTALS FOR 2nd QUARTER 1947 | 1255 | 46461 | 1040 | 88 | 245 | 1373 | 106 | 103 | 227 | 436 | 937 | 47398 | 157 | 63 | 7 | 151 | 36 | 11 | 277 | 702 | 559 | 21033 | | |

Educational Work in Our Division

When we speak of our educational work, we usually refer only to our schools, elementary as well as secondary and advanced. This is really not correct. The most important part of our educational endeavor should be to foster proper education and training of our children in the home. We are therefore very happy to be able to report that at least some work along that line is being carried on in our Division. Maurice Tièche, educational secretary of the Franco-Belgian Union, is especially interested in that line, and he is organizing throughout his field parent groups who meet regularly to study the matter of home education. As these groups are open also to non-Adventists, many contacts have been made, besides the good work of encouraging our parents in their educational endeavors for their children. We are hoping to do more in this respect also in other fields of the Division. Just at present we are planning a special course for parents in the Berne church. W. R. Beach, who is very much interested in this phase of the educational work, has promised to give a series of lectures on the subject.

Next to home education are our church schools. At present three church schools are being conducted in Switzerland, as well as one in Strasbourg, one in Collonges-sous-Salève, and one in Lisbon, Portugal. There are, of course, a number of other elementary schools in the various mission fields of our Division. But they should perhaps not be classified with our regular church schools in the homeland. It is especially difficult to conduct church schools in these European countries where public education is strictly regulated.

In speaking of our secondary and advanced schools, the Séminaire Adventiste du Salève at Collonges should be mentioned first. It is our Division school

and prepares for various lines of work. A general course is offered to those who desire to prepare for the French bachelor's degree. The commercial department offers various courses in office training. The strong ministerial course — about equivalent to a senior ministerial course in our American colleges — prepares the youth of this Division for service in the homeland as well as for the mission fields.

Our school in Italy is developing nicely. Last year we were able to secure a fine property near Florence. With the new boys' dormitory, it will be one of the largest schools in the Division. We are happy each time we visit this school because of the spirit of industry and discipline that seems to pervade every corner of the institution.

The school in Portugal is still conducted in rented quarters, an old monastery near Portalegre. The location is beautiful, and the buildings are adequate to house about fifty students. During the past year the enrollment was 28 boys and 23 girls.

We have a small school in Czechoslovakia, with 47 students. They also have to carry on their work in rented buildings.

From Rumania comes the report that 150 students were enrolled in our college there during the past year.

In Madrid we are conducting a small training school, with twelve students in attendance.

There are several schools in the mission fields. In Algiers we have a small intermediate school with 35 pupils. The Portuguese Union reports four schools in its mission fields.

In the Indian Ocean Union Mission we have our union training school near Tananarive, Madagascar. It was established in 1938. The present enrollment is

60. At Tananarive we are also conducting an elementary and secondary school. Twenty-two native teachers assist Brother Lams, the director. It is considered by the government to be the best private school in Madagascar. The enrollment is 850 pupils from the ages of six to eighteen years. Financially, the school is doing very well. It is one of the few schools which are earning money instead of needing financial help.

Recently it was decided to lay plans for the establishing of a school in Austria and another for German Switzerland. We hope that these two fields will also soon have their own training centers.

We should also have a school for Hungary, but the way does not seem to be open yet to go forward in that field.

Otto Schuberth.

Austrian-Swiss Youth's Congress in Salzburg

« Since the cross, there is nothing lovelier to behold on earth than a young man or a young woman who has given his or her heart to the Lord, » said E. W. Dunbar, Young People's secretary of the General Conference, as he surveyed the crowd of young people filling the magnificent hall of the Mozarteum in Salzburg.

It was in this beautiful and picturesque city, the birthplace of Mozart, that the advent young people from all parts of Austria, as well as more than a hundred young people from German Switzerland, gathered for the first Austrian-Swiss youth's congress, from July 13 to 18.

During the five days of the congress, the more than 550 young people occupied part of the old, impressive fortress which overlooks the city and in former days served the bishop as a place of refuge. Here it was that our young soldiers of Christ slept and had their meals.

The meetings were held in the Mozarteum, a large hall which the city authorities had graciously put at our disposal for the whole week.



Austrian and Swiss young people assembled at Salzburg, July 13-18.

E. W. Dunbar of the General Conference, J. J. Aitken, Young People's secretary of the Division, O. Schuberth, Division educational secretary, as well as L. Schneebauer, president of the Austrian Union, F. Pieringer, Young People's secretary of the Austrian Union, E. H. Knauft, president of the Alpine Conference, H. Schnötzing, Young People's secretary of the Alpine Conference, and O. Uebersax, Young People's secretary of the German-Swiss Conference, led out in the meetings. The main thought of the congress was youth evangelism — « Share your faith with others. » This thought reechoed from the depths of the hearts of the Austrian and Swiss young people.

Elder Dunbar, who has the special gift of not talking too long himself but of letting the young people themselves speak, led them to tell of their personal experiences regarding the world motto, « Share your faith with others. » And how wonderful were the experiences which were told! The young people of both countries are at work. This was made manifest in a stirring way when, after the Sabbath sermon, Elder Dunbar made a call, asking those who were resolved to join the ranks of the advent people, to come forward. One hundred and forty young people not yet baptized, many of whom had been interested in the truth by their young Adventist friends, stepped forward to the platform. It was a touching sight. The names and addresses of these young people were given to the respective workers, and we are glad to say that several have already been baptized.

The special program on Sabbath evening filled the beautiful hall to its capacity. There were about 750 persons present. The Swiss and Austrian young people, in their national costumes, offered a most colorful picture. In song and poetry, the young people represented the various sections of their homelands here on earth, and in beautiful choruses they expressed their longing for the heavenly home.

Bystanders at the Salzburg station at midnight on Sunday, July 18, may have wondered what this parting meant. Through the open windows of two special cars, the Swiss young people were shaking hands once more with their Austrian friends. It had certainly been an inspiration for them to be with these war-stricken youth, who in all their hardships and trials had remained so faithful to their God; and the Austrians were happy to have met the youth of the country from which they had received help during their hardest times, and they hope to see them again in beautiful Switzerland during the congress scheduled for 1949.

The train left. One more waving of the flags. One more goodbye, and those leaving, as well as those remaining, firmly resolved to do great things for their Lord, Jesus.

Gretly Krebs.

« For many years I have read the Bible twice a year. It is a tree, large, tall, and bushy, and all its words are so many branches and boughs. There is not one of these boughs, not one of these twigs, which I have not shaken to see if anything was to be found there; and I have always discovered, even on the most tender branch, three or four apples, three or four pears, fall into my hands. » — Martin Luther.

CONTENTS

September, 1948

First Impressions of the Work in Southern Europe 1
 Our Missions in the Indian Ocean 2
 Inside Hungary 4
 Response of Youth to the Master's Call 6
 Statistical Report 8
 Educational Work in Our Division 9
 Austrian-Swiss Youth's Congress in Salzburg . . 10
 Books of Interest 11
 Here and There 12

First Impressions

Continued from page 1

conducted a beautiful service celebrating the ordinance of humility and the Lord's supper. It was two years since the latest previous meeting of this nature. The church responded earnestly.

The colporteur work in the Italian Union is onward. With the Lord's constant and necessary blessings, this interesting field will have a large gain in colporteur deliveries this year. We were glad to meet Brother Riccardo Bongini, president of the North Italian Mission. We were surprised to see the imposing chapel and office in Milano. Judging from the attitude of those contacted on this short visit in Italy, and from the knowledge of some of the many important projects for advancement in that field, it appears that there are wonderful days ahead for the work there. Progress, of course, is due to God's blessings. Then progress comes from thinking right, planning right, and working to reach worthy objectives.

We crossed the border at Como and proceeded directly to Berne via Lucerne. What a beautiful, beautiful country is Switzerland!

This morning I enjoyed meeting many members of the Division committee. They seem so eager about the work of God in each of the many fields. The office personnel seems like a happy, hard-working family.

We have been deeply impressed by the kindness of workers and members, by the ability of the workers to speak several languages, by the noticeable earnestness on the part of all to proclaim the truth and hasten Jesus' coming. May the Lord bless each of you. Jesus said, «Ye shall be witnesses unto Me.»

Greetings to you and your families from Mrs. Cross and me and our two boys, Bruce and Steven.

Books of Interest

A Word to Writers, by Mable Hinkhouse-Towery. This little manual on writing is a new and greatly expanded edition of a former booklet by the same author, which has been out of print for over ten years. Since it is the only book of its kind in our denominational literature, it should be of definite interest to those who write for our periodicals. It is primarily designed for the inexperienced writer, but many of the more experienced could also profit from a perusal of its pages.

The ten chapters deal briefly, yet comprehensively, with such matters as Writing Apprenticeship, The Mechanics of a Manuscript, Some Elements of Style, Common Mistakes to Avoid, References and Quotations, The Outline and Its Structure, and Dealing with Editors. The book was written by one who has had years of experience in proofreading, copy-editing, writing, and editing.

This 64-page book was published in 1947 by the Review and Herald Publishing Association. Price, 50 cents.

*
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« There is no frigate like a book
 To take us lands away. »

Emily Dickinson

Letters from Far Lands, by Francis D. Nichol, will bring to many of us pleasant memories of Elder Nichol's visit to the Southern European Division during the summer of 1947. This little book is a compilation of his letters to the *Review*, accompanied by pictures he took on the journey from Helsinki to Addis Ababa and from Tunis to Teheran.

« We are one people over the whole earth, » Elder Nichol concludes, « and I have felt at home with our people in twenty-four countries. » This record of Elder Nichol's day-by-day impressions reveals an insight into the character of the peoples and the problems of the message in these twenty-four countries which is truly amazing when one recalls how short was the time he had at his disposal.

Many of our readers will undoubtedly want this book, published by the Review and Herald Publishing Association. Price, \$ 1.00.

SOUTHERN EUROPEAN

QUARTERLY REVIEW

Organ of the Southern European Division
 of Seventh-day Adventists published every quarter

Subscription prices :

France 50 French francs
 Other countries 100 French francs

Address of Editor (to whom all manuscripts should be sent)
 Hüheweg 17, Berne, Switzerland.

M. Fridlin Editor
 Esther Benton Editorial Secretary

* * * H E R E A N D T H E R E * * *

The 1948 Annual Council of the Southern European Division will be held in Brussels, Belgium, December 15-22. This will be a most important session. The leaders of God's cause in Southern Europe are faced with trying situations and serious problems. Let us unite in prayer that a rich measure of wisdom may be given them as they assemble for renewed consecration in the interest of the victory of the advent message in our territory.

The Southern European Division was happy to have the assistance of E. W. Dunbar, secretary of the General Conference Young People's Department of Missionary Volunteers, during the month of July, when a number of young people's conventions and rallies were organized in the different fields of the Division. For an account of these meetings and of Elder Dunbar's itinerary in the Division, see J. J. Aitken's account on page 6. Judging from the echoes that have come to us from the field, Elder Dunbar's ministry in behalf of the youth has been blessed in a marked way.

On July 23, Elder and Mrs. H. Evard and three children sailed from Marseille on the S. S. **Eridan** for Mauritius Island. Elder Evard was for a long time connected with our seminary at Collonges-sous-Salève. Besides teaching in the science department, he was for several years the director of the school. He is now being asked to start a new educational enterprise on Mauritius Island. His experience will be especially valuable in building up our educational work in this beautiful island, where approximately a hundred children and young people, full of life and enthusiasm for the advent message, await a school of their own. Elder and Mrs. Evard's oldest son, René, did not accompany them, as he plans in the near future to go to the United States to continue his studies.

On the same boat, Brother and Sister H. L. Henriksen left for Madagascar in response to the call passed on to them by the Division and accepted by them as mentioned in the last number of the **Quarterly Review**. This valiant and faithful missionary couple leave behind them their three

children, whom they will not see again for six years. Only a father and a mother can truly sense the measure of sacrifice made by these fine missionary families. May God place His protecting hand over children and parents until furlough time!

During July and the first part of August, the conferences of the Franco-Belgian Union held their annual meetings, the North France Conference at Paris, the Belgian Conference at Brussels, and the South France Conference at Callanges-sous-Salève. All these meetings were attended by a large number of brethren and sisters from the different parts of the field, and the finest Christian spirit prevailed throughout the meetings. No change in leadership was made in North France and Belgium, but P. Lanarès, former pastor and evangelist at Angers, was elected president of the South France Conference, to succeed L. A. Mathy, who has been called to serve as chief editor of the French Publishing House, replacing R. Meyer, called to the leadership of the Tunis Mission. We wish all these brethren who face new and important responsibilities God's richest blessing and the best of success.

The East France Conference, which held no administrative meeting this year, gathered its members over the week end of July 31 in Strasbourg, where spiritual and devotional meetings were held. H. G. Stoehr, of the Voice of Prophecy in California, whom we are glad to have with us for two months for the preparation of a German radio program, gave much-appreciated help at the Strasbourg meeting.

We were glad to have the visit of Paul Wickman, secretary of the International Radio Commission of the General Conference, who, during about two months, visited the most important parts of our territory in the interest of the radio and Bible Correspondence School work. M. Fridlin, Division radio secretary, accompanied him during the greater part of his trips, and important contacts were made in various fields. We hope soon to begin broadcasts in Portugal and Greece, as well as to extend our radio work in Italy. The contract has already been signed for a German radio program to be broadcast over Radio Luxembourg

beginning in October. This is to be a fifteen-minute program each Wednesday forenoon from 11:45 to 12:00. We also appreciated Elder Wickman's help in visiting some of our most important churches and institutions and in attending annual meetings.

A selection of evangelistic workers from Portugal, Spain, France, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, and Austria, met with workers of the Northern European Division and the British Union in a well-organized Seminary Field School, held on the campus of Newbold Missionary College at Bracknell, England, June 9 to July 22. Courses were given by J. L. Shuler and H. Lindsjo of the Theological Seminary, and L. E. Froam of the General Conference Ministerial Association. All our workers returned enthusiastic over the six-week course, which will undoubtedly help them to do more effective work in the future.

C. G. Crass, the recently elected publishing secretary of the Division, arrived in Berne with his family on the evening of August 15. It is a real pleasure to welcome these newcomers to our Division family, and we are sure that Elder Crass will have the cooperation of all our workers and members in carrying forward the work of the Publishing Department.

We were happy to welcome back to the Division office A. Meyer, who spent two months in the islands of the Indian Ocean Union Mission. He returned with a fine report, convinced that the brightest days of the work in these mission fields are just ahead. Unfortunately, during Elder Meyer's stay in Madagascar, one of our best missionaries, H. Drouault, had to return with his family to the United States because of his little daughter's health. Brother Drouault, as well as his devoted wife, has shown a fine missionary spirit, and it was he who acted as director during the interim between the departure of E. Bénézech and the arrival of the new union mission director, H. Pichot. We thank Brother and Sister Drouault for the service-given during their three years in Madagascar, and we pray that the health of the little girl will soon improve so that they can return to the mission field.