# A Bifocal Vision of the Task

By W. R. Beach President, Southern European Division

The 1952 Council of the Southern European Division sounded a new call to the church for universal action. The millions on the brink of eternity in our cities and countrysides and across the expanses of lands afar, who still are without a knowledge of the advent message, seemed to march endlessly before the delegates as they laid plans to meet the requirements of the task.

The great objective of the Council was to marshal Southern Europe's forces with a view to an over-all program of integrated evangelism. The total strength of the ministry, the activities of every department, the resources of every institution, were focused on soul-winning fruitage. The church must be led in a spiritual trek to the ends of the earth.

It was remarkable how this program eliminated any distinction between a home and a foreign missions. On this point, too, the leaders of the Southern European Division purpose to keep in step with God's program. They believe that the work must be built up at home and afar on the basis of united, well-balanced efforts. The love of Christ will direct the church toward the man across the street and the man across the seas simultaneously. Ye shall be witnesses to Me... in Jerusalem... and unto the uttermost part of the earth. (Acts 1:8.) This was a bifocal utterance, and it requires bifocal vision. In 1952, yet more

than before, «the world is my parish» will be the watchword of workers and members in Southern Europe.

A vital statement from the Spirit of prophecy was recalled in this connection:

\*To show a liberal, self-denying spirit for the success of foreign missions is a sure way to advance home missionary work; for the prosperity of the home work depends largely, under God, upon the reflex influence of the evangelical work done in countries afar off. It is in working to supply the necessities of others that we bring our souls into touch with the Source of all power... That which is given to start the work in one field will result in strengthening the work in other places. \* Gospel Workers, pp. 465, 466.

This paragraph sets forth a close, interlocked relationship that we must recognize and which, when accepted, will bring strength and power to the achievements of the church. Indeed, we must not forget that the work will never be finished in our sector — be it church district, conference, or continent — or in any other sector, until it has been finished among all « them that dwell on the earth. »

Thus, in 1952, evangelism at home and afar will be the common denominator of all our activities. The resolution voted by our Council on this

point should be read carefully by every Seventh-day Adventist. It sets forth a program that will bring our efforts into proper focus and will insure success. I would like to suggest, therefore, that this resolution be the subject of personal study, and that it be laid prayerfully before responsible committees with a view to implementing quickly its provisions. It sets down some thirteen points. Let us not neglect a single one of them.

I believe, brethren of the advent movement,

that the time has come for more lucid planning and zealous action. Surely we are living in the shadow of last-day events. The day of the Lord hastens on apace. Let us be sure, therefore, that our lights are burning brightly at home and afar, and that every resource in men and means is being utilized to the very best advantage, so that a terrible as an army with banners, we can a be strong and do exploits with maximum efficiency and success.



Delegates present at Southern European Division Council, Paris, November 19-25, 1952.

# Notes from the Division Council

By M. Fridlin Secretary, Southern European Division

The nineteenth Annual Council of the Southern European Division was held November 19-25, 1952, in the Temple Adventiste at Paris. Eighty delegates from the Austrian, Franco-Belgian, Indian Ocean, Italian, North African, Portuguese, Swiss, and Yugoslavian Unions, from the Portuguese East African and Greek Missions and the Spanish Church, as well as from the Collonges, Florence, and Bogenhofen seminaries, were present for this important meeting.

The General Conference sent four representatives. We were particularly glad to have with us A.V. Olson, one of the vice-presidents of the General Conference, who is not unknown in our field, as he was the leader of this Division for eighteen years. R. H. Adair, R.M. Whitsett, and W. H. Bergherm were also present with their good counsel, and we appreciated particularly the inspiring morning devotional studies given by our General Conference brethren.

W. R. Beach delivered the keynote speech of the Council, stressing the need of coordinating all activities in a reform program of moral, spiritual, and physical regeneration which will end in the triumph

of the advent movement.

The report of the secretary disclosed the fact that 7,317 baptisms have taken place during the first three quarters of 1952, bringing the total membership for the Division to almost ninely thousand. Twenty-one missionary families and single workers left Southern Europe during 1952 for Africa or the islands of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans.

The treasurer also presented a good report, which was unanimously adopted.

Since evangelism holds first place in the Division, a great deal of time was spent on the problem of extending this activity. Encouraging reports were given. The evangelistic campaigns held throughout the field have been greatly blessed. Charles Winandy told of the success of the French evangelistic team in Algiers and of the meetings now being held in Brussels. The efforts now under way are well attended, and the prospects for baptisms are good.

Various evangelistic methods were discussed, and a resolution was adopted which we consider of sufficient importance to reprint here in full;

#### Call to Evangelism

In these troubled and uncertain times, many hesitate to follow Jesus and continue to live in the shadow of impending judgment. In the cities, across great expanses of countryside, and in lands afar, thousands have not yet heard clearly the message for our epoch.

« Now is the time, » declares the Spirit of prophecy, «for the last warning to be given. . . . The third angel is to go forth with great power. » Testimonies, Vol. VI, p. 16. « The cause of present truth is to make more rapid advancement than it has made. » Manuscript No. 162, 1905.

WHEREAS, This call to evangelism brings the advent movement face to face with God's last summons to universal action, and

WHEREAS, Every resource in men and means must be harnessed now and utilized to the very best advantage, so as to achieve maximum efficiency and success, and

WHEREAS, The best ministerial talent of the church must be encouraged to make public evangelism a lifework.

We recommend, 1. That Division, union, and mission committees proceed immediately to marshal their forces with a view to organizing an over-all program of integrated evangelism by which the total strength of the ministry, the activities of every department, and the resources of every institution shall be focused on soul-winning fruitage.

- 2. That local fields organize yearly institutes under the direction of the president and the departmental secretaries at which this program of integrated evangelism can be developed, soul-winning techniques presented, and church leaders trained more efficiently, thereby allowing ministers to devote their major time and interest to leadership of public evangelism and to rallying the church, the Sabbath school, and the youth in concerted action.
- 3. That we encourage union and local committees to occasionally invite experienced evangelists to meet with them in counsel.
- 4. That when and where practicable, executive committees and boards arrange the duties of all credentialed and licensed workers so that they can conduct, or be associated with, at least one public effort yearly.
- 5. That an ever-increasing evangelistic mold be placed on our colporteur work, and that colporteur evangelists be encouraged to cooperate with ministers in soul winning by preparing the field with literature prior to a public evangelistic campaign, by reporting the names and addresses of those who have purchased literature in the area, and by personally inviting to the meetings those who have manifested an interest in the message.
- 6. That every Seventh-day Adventist church be organized as an evangelistic center in which a year-round program of public evangelism is carried forward by either the conference worker or trained laymen, and that unless a major evangelistic effort is conducted in the vicinity, the lights be on in our churches each Sunday evening where an evangelistic program can be conducted.
- 7. That the responsible leaders in local, union, and Division fields keep this program of expanding

evangelism constantly before their committees, workers, and churches, informing them of progress made in achieving the objective.

- 8. That yearly workers' meetings be organized in such a way that a definite part of the program will be reserved for a planned consideration of public evangelism and its problems.
- 9. That study he given to the organization, on the local, union, or Division level, of special evangelistic teams, for larger city evangelism, in which evangelistic workers of experience can continue with unchanging service, and that the assignments of these teams be worked out on a long-range basis, thus making better and more satisfactory planning possible for this evangelistic personnel.
- 10. That the program of public evangelism be kept before the church as the essential activity to which all other activities must be contributory, care being taken lest it be overshadowed by other denominational undertakings or programs.
- 11. That recognition be given to experienced evangelists called to leadership of teams on a union or Division level that will classify them along with other workers who carry major responsibility in conference leadership.
- 12. That union and local fields give study to a plan for making regular financial provision to enable evangelistic workers to secure and protect essential evangelistic equipment.
- 13. That, as far as is practicable, each union be invited to send one evangelist of experience to the Division Council.

A few facts from the department reports are summarized below:

Department of Education. The great event during 1952, according to O. Schuberth, secretary of the Department, was the educational convention held at Bogenhofen seminary, July 18-26. School enrollments this year are breaking records, with 206 students at Collonges and 83 at Florence. In Portugal, government permission has been received for a secondary school. Our African mission fields count their enrollments by thousands.

Home Missionary Department. The figures presented by F. Charpiot, Department secretary, for the year 1951 showed a 60% increase over the previous year in the number of Bible readings given by lay members, a 33% increase in the number of missionary contacts, and 50% more literature distributed. More than half the fields reporting had doubled their Ingathering goals. A great deal of welfare work is also being done by the Dorcas societies.

Ministerial Association. The Association has been strengthened by the addition of G. Cupertino to assist A. Meyer, who spent six weeks of October and November in launching an evangelistic effort at Tangier. Elder Meyer stated that the ministerial internship plan is proving effective and that more and more workers are reading the *Ministry*.

Publishing Department. F. Charpiot had prepared a comparative report of colporteur hours and deliveries during 1950 and 1951. Even though no literature had been sold in Hungary during 1951, the total sales for the Division were slightly larger than in 1950. The figures for the first nine months of 1952 show delive-

eries amounting to \$358,281.32, representing a further substantial increase.

Radio Department. Expansion and development were evidenced by the long list of stations over which programs are broadcast in various languages. The most recent addition is Radio Brazzaville, which broadcasts the French educational program each Sunday evening.

Sabbath School Department. The statistics presented by A. D. Gomes showed an encouraging increase in Sabbath school membership and offerings during the past two years, as well as 4,553 baptisms from 1949 to 1951. Attention was again called to the goal of doubling the Sabbath school membership by 1954.

Y. P. M. V. Department. J. J. Aitken, secretary, reported an increase of 8,000 in Missionary Volunteer society membership over 1951. This year the results of the Paris Youth's Congress have been manifest in a larger number of baptisms among the young people. The medical cadet corps has been more fully developed. The young people have taken a keen interest in their mission project, the purchase of a mission ship for the Indian Ocean, and have already in some fields exceeded the assigned goal.

A number of resolutions relating to these department activities were adopted and will appear in the usual trilingual pamphlet.

One of the outstanding problems in the Division is that of coordinating the publication of German literature. A committee was appointed and has since met and laid plans which we feel sure will result in strengthening the colporteur work in the Germanspeaking areas of our field.

The opening of work in Senegal, French West Africa, made necessary a territorial adjustment, as it is not feasible to administer French West Africa from the union headquarters in the Cameroun. It was therefore voted that the West African Mission be considered a detached mission, and that the name of the French West and Equatorial African Union Mission be shortened to French Equatorial African Union Mission.

The 1953 Big Week was discussed, and it was voted that funds received be devoted to establishing a mission station, with school, among the pagan population of Madagascar.

The Sabbath services deserve special mention. The Paris church was packed, and no one who was present will forget Elder Olson's serious and timely sermon and his appeal for a new consecration. The Sabbath afternoon meeting was devoted to a missions symposium, during which several missionaries on furlough spoke of their activities in the mission field and the blessing of God in these heathen countries.

The evening meetings were assigned to the various field leaders, whose reports were enjoyed by all.

It was decided that the next Annual Council be held in Lausanne, Switzerland, December 9-16, 1953.

In closing this important meeting, our president made an appeal for unity. «Let us think first of others and then of ourselves, » he urged. «Thus there will be no dictatorship and no stubbornness. Let there be no jealousy among us. Let us try to bring new blood into the councils of the church so as to have a fresh approach to our problems.»

Please turn to page 11

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# Report of the Publishing Department of the Southern European Division

For the Year 1952

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# STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION OF S. D. A. FOR THE QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1952

Name of Conference or Mission	Number of Churches	Previous Membership	Baptism	Vote	Letter	Total Gains		Death	Letter	Total Losses	Net Gain	Present Membership	Ord. Ministers		Credentialed Missionaries	Licensed Missionaries	Bible Instr.	Elem. School Teachers	Canvassers	Total Laborers	Number of Sab. Schools	Sab. School Membership	Average Attendance
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# Report of the Missionary Volunteer Department of the Southern European Division

For the Year 1952

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	Austrian U. Conf,	Czechoslovaki≀ U. C.	Franco-Belgiar U. C.	Hungarian U. C.	Jugoslavian U. C.	Rumanian U. C.	Swiss U. C.	Angola U.M.	French West & Eq. African U. M.	Indian Ocean U. M.	Italian U.M.	North African U. M.	Portuguese U.M.	Bulgarian M.	Grecian M.	Portuguese Fast Afr. M.	Spanish Church	Yearly Average and Totals 1952
Number of Senior societies  Number of Junior societies  Number of societies reporting  Total membership (Seniors)  Total membership (Juniors)  Total of Senior and Junior young	19 8 15 324 421	75 — 2000	40 15 610 304	77  1600	120 — 7000	300 — 12000	20 19 16 376 295	74 42 107 2209 1907	13 — 4300	934	34 23 439 284	7 2 8 122 50	27 27 709 563	25  1000	4 <u>-</u> 50	2  300	10 3 7 250 94	891 74 218 34223 3918
people baptized, regardless of who labored for them  Number baptized whom young people had a part in winning  Number belonging to missionary bands	39 7 85	150	83 13 521	. 200	250	1600	66 13 90	625 99 3410	50 	90	45 6 399	18 2 50	68 36 281	60 —	12 	50 	20 6 140	3426 182 4976
REPORT OF MISSIONARY WORK: Number of Bible readings or gospel meetings held Number of missionary contacts Number of persons helped Literature distributed	1403 3067	3000	617 1683 367 48337	8866	350 <u>00</u> 500	35000	637 1170 216 16821	28395 34259 8393 6897	4696 7488 8442 936	2090 1888 1367 3166	4217 4791 1348 64669	694 1258 337 3355	19938 25987 8017 48674	2000	100		1297 936 814 797	63984 166493 30710 202988
DEVOTIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL:  Number observing the Morning Watch  Number completing Bible Year and Character Classics  Number taking Reading Course	228 47 73	_	377 10 15		 		187 37 52	2740 1246 215	986	370 84 48	311 162 85	61 51 1	486 158 79				242 141 68	5988 2004 636
FINANCIAL: Offerings local society work \$ Ingathering for Missions \$ Offerings special projects \$	300,96 1039,04 542,93		45,20 3626,85 345,37		<u> </u>	_ 	87,27 1305,77 507,05	149.—	31,65 180.—	21,72 349,87	68,70 1155.— 297.—	26.— 606,83	1575,56 408,17		3 <u>0.</u> —		114,34 156,79	695,84 9519,05 3256,18

# "The Isles Shall Wait for His Law"

By F. Charpiot

Secretary, Publishing and Home Missionary Departments

In God's great evangelistic program, all « them that dwell on the earth » are to have a chance to hear the last call of the everlasting gospel. Isaiah saw God's elect gathered from «the four corners of the earth » and from the islands of the sea. And he says: « Surely the isles shall wait for Me » (Isaiah 60:9). « The isles shall wait for His law. ... Sing unto the Lord a new song, and His praise from the end of the earth, ye that go down to the sea ... the isles, and the inhabitants thereof. ... Let them give glory unto the Lord, and declare His praise in the islands. » Isaiah 42: 4, 10, 12.

It was a great inspiration to spend six weeks in the mission fields of the Indian Ocean and to witness the fulfillment of these ancient prophecies. We have a well-established work in Madagascar, Mauritius, Rodriguez, Reunion, and the Seychelles. From these bases the advent message will no doubt reach the many small scattered islands.

It was my privilege to spend a week in Mauritius and another in Réunion, accompanied by H. Pichot, the union president, and H. L. Henriksen, the treasurer. Both these islands, beautiful with their coral reefs and tropical vegetation, are volcanic. The black lava rock washed by the blue sea adds color to the scenery.

Mauritius has a population of some half million people, about 300,000 of whom are Indians. What a pleasure to shake hands with Sister Le Même, who was among the charter members forty years ago when the message first reached that corner of the world! We now have nearly nine hundred members and fifteen fine workers, ably led by J. Belloy, our Belgian missionary. The school, organized four years ago by H. Evard, is bringing a blessing to many young people, both believers and non-Adventists, who are receiving a Christian education. At the workers' meeting we had the pleasure of seeing three young men who had finished their preparation and were ready to enter the great harvest field. In spite of the widespread poverty, a few colporteurs are doing a very fine work.

The annual meeting was attended by 1,000 to 1,200 members and friends from all parts of the island, eager to hear God's message and to consecrate their lives anew for service.

As everywhere in the world field, our people in Mauritius show a fine missionary zeal and a true spirit of liberality. The offering brought in 14,000 rupees, including a special gift of 7,000 rupees by a member who, with several other relatives, accepted the message many years ago at the time of the small beginnings. He and his family carry on a large business enterprise and have supported the work most generously over the years. This amount of 7,000 rupees was given for an evangelistic truck to take workers and lay members to different parts of the island for special missionary and evangelistic campaigns.

Our great problem on Mauritius is to reach the Indian population. We have a few baptized Indians and one fine lady Bible worker of Indian blood. But

this is only a small beginning. The great task is still to be done. One of the most important actions taken by the committee during our visit was the decision to open a school and mission center in the north of the island in an entirely Indian section.

Many of these Indians are Mohammedans. At the close of a public meeting, one evening, four bright-looking Indian young men came to me for a private interview. They wanted to know I what thought of the Moslem religion. We had a friendly and helpful conversation, at the close of which they all shook hands with me warmly. What a joy to find honest inquirers everywhere!

Réunion Island is a little larger than Mauritius, but has only 250,000 inhabitants, mostly of mixed French and African blood. It is very mountainous. with still active volcanoes and beautiful mountain scenery. The work there is about fifteen years old. The island is a stronghold of Roman Catholicism. No evangelical mission had been able to get a foothold there before the arrival of P. Girard, the first Adventist missionary. The beginning of the work is the story of David versus Goliath: a hard-fought battle against ignorance, fanaticism, slander, and often threats and violent persecution. But when the advent message reaches a new field, it has come to take root, grow, and branch out. This is taking place in Réunion. We now have seven churches, as well as several small companies, situated at strategic points on the island. Altogether there are 220 baplized members and five workers, including the French missionary, J. Surel. He has had many difficult moments with angry priests and fanatical mobs, but, facing each situation with undaunted courage, he has won out. Fortunately, the French authorities and police are keeping order and preserving religious liberty.

We had a fine annual meeting with an attendance of 300 in the pleasant St. Denis chapel. Ten were baptized on that occasion, five of whom had been won through the missionary efforts of a lay member.

On the eastern side of the island, not far from the mission headquarters at St. Pierre, an open-air meeting was held on a newly acquired property. Some forty members of a recently organized church gathered for a thanksgiving service, to dedicate the ground on which a chapel is now being built. Thus the story of the work in Réunion is also a story of victories for God and the advent message.

Madagascar is in reality almost a continent rather than an island, with definite geographical peculiarities. It covers an area larger than France and Belgium together. Yet while these two countries have fifty million people, Madagascar has only four million. It is often called the « red island » because of the reddish color of the soil in many sections. There is a marked difference in appearance, climate, and vegetation, between the high central plateau, 4,000 to 6,000 feet above sea level, and the low, damp, hot coastal regions.

The measures taken by the French government against malaria are obtaining good results, so that sanitary conditions are improving and this dreaded disease is becoming less prevalent. Wheat does not grow on the island; rice is the principal item in the native diet. Wherever there is water, one sees the rich rice fields. There are many undeveloped agricultural resources, and some European colonists are building up large modern farms which bring in fine returns. The subsoil is rich in many kinds of minerals, affording excellent possibilities for mining enterprises.

The gospel came to Madagascar early in the last century through the self-sacrificing efforts of Protestant missionaries. Then a terrible period of persecution broke out, during which many Christians died a martyr's death rather than renounce their faith.

The turning point came in 1870, when the queen accepted Christianity and Protestantism became the official religion. Many thousands followed their queen's example, and Protestant missions are well established in several sections of the island. The Roman Catholics have recently sent large numbers of missionaries to Madagascar. In an effort to counterbalance Protestant influences, they are building large churches and institutions, even where they have few members or none at all. By far the majority of the population, however, consisting of tribes living in the forest and along the coast, is still pagan, as yet untouched by the gospel.

The advent message came to this large island in a very interesting way. In 1919 a Catholic from Réunion, who had become acquainted with Adventism while visiting Mauritius, entered into conversation with a native Protestant minister while traveling on the train in Madagascar. This Catholic did a good piece of missionary work, talking about the advent message and handing his new-found friend one of our tracts, together with the address of P. Badaut, our pioneer missionary in Mauritius. The Protestant minister became deeply interested. He wrote to Brother Badaut and received more publications, including the English

army edition of Steps to Christ. This book made such an impression on him that he set about to translate it into Malagasy; it became our first publication for Madagascar. In 1924, M. Raspail, who had replaced Elder Badaut as missionary in Mauritius, came to Madagascar to visit the Protestant minister, M. Rasamoelina, who became our first member and worker. He is still actively engaged in the work, and it was a great pleasure to meet him in Tananarive. In this beautifully located capital city we have our Indian Ocean Union headquarters, as well as two schools and a new and growing printing plant.

It would be interesting to review the names of all the pioneer missionaries who served in various capacities during the past twenty-seven years, but time and space do not permit. Some, like H. L. Henriksen and Edgar Villeneuve, have been in the field for many years. With the help of a consecrated army of Malagasy workers, they have built up a strong work, keeping pace with our world-wide program of evangelistic, educational, publishing, Sabbath school, home missionary, and Missionary Volunteer activities. The territory of the island is divided into four local missions, each under the leadership of a European missionary. We have sixty churches and 2 250 members in Madagascar.

During my four weeks there, I had the privilege of meeting all the workers, nearly all the members, and a large number of young people, children, and friends of the message in attendance at the four annual meetings. Everywhere the meeting places are overcrowded. It is no small financial problem to provide chapels and halls for a growing membership and for evangelistic work.

In each place we were inspired by the ties of brotherly love uniting us to these devoted children of God, by the crowds of eager listeners, and by their spirit of sacrifice and devotion to the cause. Near Tananarive I visited a building site, the gift of a newly baptized member, on which a chapel was just

Report of the Home Missionary Department of the Southern European Division For the Year 1952

	Austrian U. C.	Franco-Belgiar U. C.	Swiss U. C.	Indian Ocean . U. M.	Italian U. M.	North African U. M.	Portuguese U. M.	Portuguese East Afr. Mission	Spanish Church	Totals
Number added to union membership since last report as a result of lay members' missionary		,	•		, ×				`	
work	124	52	163	. 32	363	12		66		812
Number of churches and companies reporting	41	94	58	83	61	19	16	10	13	395
Churches holding first Sabbath missionary				-	•					
service	37	38	<b>52</b>	26	44	13	11 -		9	230
Churches holding weekly missionary service	33	28	44 .	5	34	13	13	2	_	172
Churches conducting training classes	2	2	1		5			1		11
Churches with one or more service companies		^ =				•	10	-		010
in operation	36	27	54 15	30	31	. 9	12	. 0	8	212 31
Institutes, rallies, and conventions held	$\begin{array}{r} 14 \\ 3709 \end{array}$	1285	. 2041	7214	4832	<del></del>		4	599	196 80
Persons reporting missionary work Bible readings and gospel meetings conducted	13968	5718	5062	12581	34693	4771	56904	3566	3019	140282
Missionary contacts	29347	10409	13577	11776	26117	5106	29574	5781	5848	137535
Pieces missionary literature distributed		119225	129436	12032	108801	32628	85380	594	2313	559688
Persons helped	10471	2998	7053	9860	8966	2040	16035	7414	1208	66045
Enrollments in Bible Correspondence Schools.	990				2408			722		4120
								*	3 quart	ters

being erected. There I found some thirty men, women, and children, some busily carrying bricks on their heads, others transporting water in large metal containers to two workers who were building the walls. They had made the bricks themselves of sun-dried clay. Except for a few, these people are not yet baptized. But they are preparing for baptism and are eager to build a temple to the glory of God. Their brown faces and their dark, intelligent eyes were illumined by smiles of happiness as they hurried to and fro, carrying their loads under the blazing sun.

One of the most interesting parts of the trip was a visit to a number of village outschools, where faithful teachers are doing a fine work. Twenty miles north of Tamatave - the port city on the east coast — we found one of these schools, opened two years ago in a totally heathen village, with sixty children crowded together, eager to learn. There we baptized five candidates, four boys and a girl, the firstfruits of this remarkable work. These young people had stepped out in faith in spite of their parents' opposition. A baptismal class is preparing a dozen other pupils. Prejudice is breaking down among the older folk, who rejoice at the progress made by their children. This is really our first missionary undertaking in a totally heathen section of Madagascar, and the results are inspiring.

Here is our opportunity to do a great work for the Master. More than three million people remain in the gross darkness of heathenism on that island. Just now we could open dozens, hundreds of such schools. There are calls everywhere. The people are waiting. They are eager to learn a better way of life. But where are the workers, and where is the money?

Realizing this God-given opportunity, the union committee voted a plan to open three stations as soon as possible among three of the main heathen tribes.

One of these stations, in the northwest, is already being built, and there is an interesting story in connection with this growing project. Just as R. Villeneuve, our publishing house manager, was there last summer to supervise the construction of the first building, a heathen queen of a tribe heretofore hostile to Christianity came to a nearby village to preside at a great heathen festival. Through God's special providence, Brother Villeneuve was able to establish a friendly contact with this influential queen. She became interested in our efforts to help her people, and held a special gathering urging her assembled subjects to support the Adventist mission and send their children to school. As she talked she seemed to be really inspired by the Spirit of God. An Adventist preacher could not have done better and would not have had so much influence.

The day of Madagascar is dawning — a great day in which the Lord is opening the way for this last message of salvation to reach these neglected tribes long enslaved in the dark and cruel chains of Satan's bondage.

Let us pray for that needy field that the power of God's Spirit, promised for the last days, may rest upon God's workers and people in Madagascar and on these millions of souls waiting for the last message of hope.

## Notes from the Division Council

Continued from page 4

Thanking all his co-workers for their devotion, Elder Beach expressed particular appreciation to A. V. Olson, R. H. Adair, R. M. Whitsett, and W. H. Bergherm, who had come to lend their aid during the Council. Then came the final word: «Onward, soldiers! and success to all!»

We believe that the inspiration implanted in the hearts of all the delegates as a result of this Annual Council will be felt in every part of the Southern European Division. We are confident that with God's help much will be done to foster the work and to make 1953 a year of ingathering of thousands of souls.

## MISSIONARY SAILINGS 1952

January

Mr. and Mrs. A. Cosendai and two children, of Switzerland, to French Cameroun (returning).

Mr. and Mrs. R. Hirschy and three children, of France, to French Cameroun (returning).

Miss Irène Gerber, of Switzerland, to Angola.

February

Mr. and Mrs. Victor Martinez, of Portugal, to the Azores Islands.

#### March

Mr. and Mrs. Eliseu Miranda and two children, of Portugal, to St. Thomas Islands (returning).

Mr. and Mrs. H. Salzmann and three children, of Switzer-land, to Madagascar.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Meyer and two children, of Switzerland, to French Cameroun.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Sprout and one child, of the United States, to French Cameroun.

May

Mr. and Mrs. J. Belloy, of Belgium, to Mauritius (returning). R. Erdmann, of France, to Senegal.

July

Mrs. R. Erdmann and two children, of France, to Senegal. Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Reis and two children, of Portugal, to Azores Islands,

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Esperancinha and one child, of Portugal, to Cape Verde Islands.

Mr. and Mrs. Carlos A. Esteves and one child, of Portugal, to Angola.

Miss Fernanda Martins, of Portugal, to Angola.

August

Mr. and Mrs. Joaquim A. Morgado, of Portugal, to Angola. Mr. and Mrs. E. Fayard and three children, of France, to Madagascar (returning).

September

Mr. and Mrs. A. Matton and three children, of France, to French Cameroun (returning).

## November

Mr. and Mrs. K. Scheidegger and two children, of Switzerland to French Cameroun (returning).

## December

Mr. and Mrs. P. Bernard, of France, to French Cameroun (returning).

Mr. and Mrs. A. Lecoultre and two children, of France to Tunis.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Veuthey and one child, of Switzerland, to Haiti (returning).

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Esteves and two children, of Portugal, to Portuguese East Africa.

## HERE AND THERE

We are grieved to report the death of Mrs. J. C. Raft in Denmark last December. Sister Raft was the widow of Elder J. C. Raft, long connected with the Sauthern European Division, and the mother of Mrs. H. L. Henriksen, wife of the Indian Ocean Unian secretary-treasurer. We extend to the bereaved family our deep sympathy in their sorrow.

Mrs. R. Bergsfrom, wife of aur well-known pianeer missionary in the northern Cameraun, was stricken by illness in January of this year and left Africa by plane for the Skodsbarg Sanitarium. Here her case was diaanased as inaperable cancer. Elder Bergstrom reached her side only a few days befare she passed away on February 27. Sister Bergstram's life was one of cheerful sacrifice and self-effacing heraism. She leaves a large place empty in the hearts of the African people among whom she and her husband have worked. Elder Bergstrom is returning to the Cameroun in April.

The dactors **Aguilar**, who began medical work in Tangier two years ago, have unfaitunately had to leave this center because of Dr. I. Aguilar's health. They have been invited by the North African Union Mission to take up work in Meknes, French Marocco, and it is hoped that they can soon start work in this needy city.

Good news cames from our workers in the Cape Verde Islands A letter from F. Cordas states that 40 people were baptized recently at the four missian stations, and that new candidates are preparing for baptism. A new mission station has been opened in Mindela, and twelve converts have already been baptized in that city. Two primary schools are functioning, with an enrollment of about a hundred. Faur of the students have recently been baptized. Gregorio Rosa, our warker on the small island of Fago in the Cape Verde group, writes that he baptized 24 persons in 1952 and that the church there now has 84 members.

Ulysse Augsburger, a pianeer worker in Switzerland and other French-speaking countries, although 74 years of age and officially retired, is still a hard worker. During the last Ingathering campaign he collected 3,784 Swiss francs. Certainly aur brother has set an example for many of us. We pray that Gad will grant many more years of strength to Elder Augsburger.

W. Fuchs' president of the Moroccan Mission, writes that the Bible correspondence course just started has already enrolled mare than two hundred. He reports a group of twenty students in the Casablanca prison. Brother Fuchs has obtained permanent permission to visit these prisoners. It is gratifying to see the avidity with which these men listen to the ward of God.

R. Dällenbach, evangelistic worker and pastor af the Lausanne church, has accepted a call to cannect with the work in Israel, replacing E. Landa, who is to go to the Tohiti Mission. Brother Dällenbach and his family will arrive in their new field of labor during March. While they will be missed here, we are happy that they can serve the Lord in another territary, and we wish them the Lord's richest blessing in their new work.

Changes have taken place in the medical staff of the Gland sanitarium In Switzerland. Dr. H. Müller, who has faithfully served the institution as medical director for many years, has asked for and received a ane-year leave of absence for health reasons. Dr. A. Haenel, an experienced physician of Basel, Switzerland, will be the medical superintendent of the sanitarium, beginning in April. Dr. Aldo Vacca, a young physician of Italy, has been appointed to assist Dactor Haenel. After his leave of absence, Doctar Müller will continue his connection with the sanitarium. In the meantime we extend our thanks for the work he has done and our good wishes for improved health.

A. V. Olson, farmer Division president, after attending the Division Cauncil in Paris and same important meetings in Germany, spent a number of weeks in Southern Europe, visiting North Africa, Italy, Austria, Switzerland, France, Spain, and Portugal. The churches were glad to hear Elder Olson's earnest messages ance more.

A Bible doctrines textback in French for our church schools has been prepared during the past two years and is at present ready for printing. We feel sure that this textback will be much appreciated by the schools and will also meet an urgent need in cannection with the religious education of the young people in our churches.

Recently the Division committee voted to invite **H. Drouault** and his family to return to Madagascar for general mission work. Ever since the Drouaults were forced to leave Madagascar a few years ago because of the health of their little daughter, they have felt a desire to go back to this mission field. The family, now in the United States, will leave for Madagascar in July.

As various activities have developed and required increasing attention, a reassignment of responsibilities has became necessary at the Division affice. With the approval of the General Conference Committee, the departmental responsibilities on the Division staff have been fixed as fallows:

Educational; O. Schuberth.

Hame Missionary: F. Charpiat;
Assistant: A. D. Gomes.

Medical: M. Fridlin; Assistant for • Vie et Santé »: Dr. H. Müller.

Ministerial Association: A. Meyer; Assistant: G. Cupertino.

Press Relations: G. Cupertina. Publishing: F. Charpiot.

Radio : M. Fridlin.

Relief : O. Schuberth.

Religious Liberty: Dr. J. Nussbaum; Assistant: J. J. Aitken.

Sabbath School: A. D. Gomes. Y. P. M. V. and Medical Cadet: J. J. Aitken.