

QUARTERLY REVIEW

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



Our Blessed Hope

By **A. V. Olson**, Vice President, General Conference

[Pastor A. V. Olson, a former president of this Division, has spent several weeks this summer in Southern Europe. We are presenting here the substance of a sermon he preached at the La-Chaux-de-Fonds church on Sabbath, July 13, and which we know will be greatly appreciated by our workers and members. — Editorial note.]

I want to speak this morning about our Blessed Hope. We are living in a world of despair. There is so little hope left in human hearts. Men are living in fear and trembling for what is coming upon the earth. But I am glad that we need not be without hope. The Bible is filled with expressions of hope : the door of hope (Hosea 2 : 15) ; the hope of Israel (Acts 28 : 20) ; the hope of our calling (Eph. 1 : 18) ; the hope of glory (Col. 1 : 27) ; the hope of salvation (1 Thess. 5 : 8) ; the hope of eternal life (Titus 3 : 7) ; the hope set before us (Heb. 6 : 18) ; a living hope (1 Peter. 1 : 13) ; the hope we have as an anchor of the soul (Heb. 6 : 19) ; and then my text : "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ" (Titus 2 : 13). What is this Blessed Hope? The text makes it clear : "The glorious appearing of . . . our Saviour Jesus Christ."

This was the Blessed Hope that filled the heart of Paul. It was the hope that filled the hearts of

all the apostles. These men had been with Jesus for some time. They had followed Him from village to village — from city to city. They had heard Him preach. They had seen Him heal the sick. They had seen Him raise the dead. They had found in Him a Friend, a Brother : One Who understood them ; One Who sympathized with them ; One to Whom they could go with all their problems, and always find a solution. In associating with Jesus they had learned to love Him, and His presence was very dear to them. Then one day their hearts were made sad, because He said to them, "I am going away, and where I go ye cannot come." But as He saw the sorrow and anxiety on their faces, He added, "Let not your hearts be troubled : . . . I will come again, and receive you unto myself ; that where I am, there ye may be also." How the hearts of those disciples must have thrilled with joy ! The separation was not to be eternal. Jesus would come again, to receive them unto Himself — to take them home nevermore to part.

It is natural for us to want to be with those we love. I cannot understand Christians who say they love Jesus, but are not interested in His com-

ing. More, some are very much opposed to His coming. I think of one woman who said to me, "Please don't talk about it. I am not interested in it. You frighten me. I hope He will not come in my day." . . . My brethren and sisters, if we love Jesus we shall be intensely interested in His coming. We shall long for it. We shall pray for it; for the realization of all our hopes center in His coming.

When Jesus comes the dead will be raised (1 Thess. 4 : 16). All who now sleep in the dust of the earth — all who have gone down with the Blessed Hope in their hearts — shall then come forth. If Jesus does not come, then the dead will never rise. But, thank God, Jesus is coming, and the dead shall rise. They shall come forth glorified.

When Jesus comes eternal life will be bestowed. "Behold, I show you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed" (1 Cor. 15 : 51). When? When Jesus comes. We do not have eternal life now. We are all subject to death, and if Jesus does not come soon we must all go down into the dust. But thank God Jesus is coming, and then will He give eternal life to all those that love Him. Do you understand why I long for Jesus to come? I love life. I have no interest in death. I have no interest in the grave. Oh, no, I am interested in life — that life that will know no end, that will measure with the life of God. When shall we receive it? When Jesus comes.

When Jesus comes the rewards will be given. "And, behold I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be" (Rev. 22 : 12). That will be a rich reward.

Here in this world most of us do not possess much. I do not know, but I suppose the greater number sitting before me this morning are living in rented houses. We do not have even a house that we can call our own. Yes, we have so little in this world, and what we do have one day we must leave and go down into the grave empty-handed. But when Jesus comes He will bring us a title clear to a mansion in the sky. We are going to have more than a house. We shall have land also; and my Bible says we are going to plant vineyards and eat the fruit of them. We shall not build and another inhabit. We shall not plant and another eat. Abraham, Moses and some of the other patriarchs looked forward to that eternal reward. I am looking forward to it too. But when shall I receive that reward? When Jesus comes. . . .

2 Tim. 4 : 7. "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." The apostle Paul is speaking. He wrote these words from Rome — from a prison cell. I was down in Rome the other day and visited that prison cell. There are no doors, no windows. It is an underground cell. They had to let Paul down through the ceiling, and once he was there, there

was no way of escape. He was condemned to die. He knew some soldiers would take him out of that cell to the place of execution, and that he would be beheaded. Notice what he wrote to Timothy just before he died: "I have fought a good fight. I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." So many lose their faith. Some of the brethren and sisters in this La-Chaux-de-Fonds church have lost their faith. They have gone out into the world. I am sorry for that. And some of the faces I used to see in this church I see no more this morning. They are resting in their graves — men and women that I highly respected. But they went to their rest firm in the faith. We shall see them again. May God help us to keep the faith.

But notice the next verse: "Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." Yes, it is when Jesus comes, if you have been faithful, that you will receive from the Saviour's hands that crown. I want to receive one of those crowns — a crown of righteousness, a crown of life, a crown of glory; and I want to see one of those crowns on each one of your heads. Oh, yes, I am interested in the coming of Jesus. It is then I shall see His face. I know Him. I love Him. I talk with Him, but I have never seen His face. But then I shall see it. What a moment when we shall catch the first glimpse of our dear Saviour's face! . . .

Some people believe this is a new doctrine — that it is an Adventist doctrine. But, no, it is a very old doctrine — as old as the Bible itself. The coming of Jesus is referred to in the Old Testament 1,200 times. That is a large number. Why those Old Testament characters were Adventists. They were looking for the coming of Jesus. And they were Seventh-day Adventists, for they kept the seventh day Sabbath. So you notice the Seventh-day Adventist church is a very old church. . . . I like to read my Bible and see how the hearts of those men of old thrilled with the thought of the coming of Jesus. Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about His coming (Jude 14). Job, that old patriarch who was so sorely tried — in one day all his children died, all his flocks and herds were taken away, he himself sitting in a heap of ashes covered with boils from head to foot; and the friends, who came to comfort him instead turned around and criticized him; even his own wife said, "Job, why don't you curse God and die?" — said, "I know that my Redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand the latter day upon the earth." Job was an Adventist. He died in the Blessed Hope. David, the sweet singer of Israel sang about the coming of Jesus. Isaiah, the Old Testament gospel prophet prophesied about it: "Behold he comes. . . to save us."

The Saviour's coming is spoken of more than 300 times in the New Testament. Jesus talked about it again and again (Matt. 24, Mark 13, Luke 21, John 14). In his epistles Paul thrills you with the promise of the coming of the Lord. And the Bible closes on that note: "Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

The coming of Jesus has been the hope of the Advent Movement from the very beginning. I happen to be old enough to have known some of the pioneers: Sister White, Elder Loughborough, Brother Haskell, Elder Butler and a number of others; and some of their immediate successors: Brother Daniells, Brother Spicer, and many others whom I could mention. Well do I remember how those early pioneers talked about the coming of Jesus. They preached it with such fervor; and when they sang about it, prayed about it, their faces just shone with joy. I was born and grew up in an Adventist family. The first recollection of my childhood is that of standing by my mother's knee and hearing her tell about the coming of Jesus. It was her hope. It is my hope this morning.

I travel all over the world. There is hardly a land that I have not been in, and out on scores of islands. Wherever I have met Seventh-day Adventists — it makes no difference whether their skin is white or black or yellow, whether they speak one language or another, whether I understand it or not — there is one thing we have in common: together we are looking for the coming of Jesus.

I was sitting in a little hotel far back in the bush over in Australia. The radio was turned on. I was not interested in the music for it was anything but inspiring. Suddenly there was a change, and I heard, "Lift up the trumpet and loud let it ring, Jesus is coming again." It was the Voice of Prophecy coming over the air. You may go up into the Himalayas and there in the village square at a certain hour of the day you hear that same message coming over the air: "Jesus is coming again." I am glad that the message of Jesus' coming is sounding today. It is what is giving courage and strength to our persecuted brethren.

In Poland after the War I attended a union session. There I met a Russian doctor who was taking care of Russian soldiers. He came to our meetings and I became acquainted with him. As we visited together he told me about the sufferings our people had gone through: about our leaders who died in concentration camps; about many of their young preachers who had been sent to Siberia and had never been heard of afterwards. Then he turned to me and said, "Brother Olson, how is it? Do our people in Europe and America still believe that Jesus is coming? Are they still preaching that He is coming soon?" I said, "Yes, my brother. That is our hope; that is our message." Then, with tears trickling down his cheeks, he continued: "Do you know, Brother Olson, in all our suffering this

hope of Jesus' coming has been what has buoyed us up, what has given us courage." Yes, brethren and sisters, it is *The Blessed Hope*. It is the hope that gives courage. It is the hope that gives us strength even to suffer persecution: for we know that even though we may be called upon to die as martyrs, it will be for a little while only, for Jesus is coming and we shall rise again. What a wonderful hope. May God help us to give it to the world. The only thing that stands between us and the coming of Jesus is the finishing of His work, — the finishing of it in our own hearts, and the finishing of carrying it to all the world.

But we know that before Jesus comes there is to be a time of trouble such as never has been (Dan. 1:12). We have seen some troublous times. These last two World Wars were times of anxiety, times of bloodshed, of destruction of millions of homes, of famine, of pestilence. But there will be a time of distress greater than that.

Revelation 16 tells us that Satan will go forth to create a spirit of universal war, and that he will gather the armies of the world for the greatest battle ever fought in all earth's history. In this same chapter we read about the seven last plagues that will be poured out at that time. What is pictured is almost too horrible to believe, and yet it is coming upon the world. But not upon God's children. They will have hardships, Yes; but they will be spared from those plagues themselves.

In the 13th chapter of Revelation we learn that just before Jesus comes there will be great persecution of the people of God. Laws will be issued that those who do not have the mark of the beast shall neither be able to buy nor sell; when they will be cast into prison, and the hour will be fixed when the enemy will be permitted to destroy Sabbath-keepers. In the last chapters of *Great Controversy* the messenger of the Lord gives us a true picture of these closing scenes: of how Sabbath-keepers will have to flee to the rocks and mountains — anywhere where they can find a little refuge — pursued by the enemy sharpening their swords for the very hour when the decree will go into effect to kill every one.

Then just as the enemy is about to strike, something happens. The heavens are covered with dense darkness. Great black clouds clash against each other. The earth sways to and fro. Mountains disappear and great cities crumble. The whole earth reels. The enemy have cast away their swords. They cry to God, but their cries are too late.

Through a rift in the clouds they see a small cloud the size of a man's hand. Black to begin with, but as it comes nearer it grows larger. It changes color, and becomes bright, glorious, ten times brighter than the sun; and as it comes still nearer, Behold, it is a living cloud. It is a cloud of angels, and in the midst of the cloud, sitting upon His

"The Field is the World"

By **F. Charpiot**, Publishing Department Secretary, Southern European Division

"The field is the world." And Jesus invites us to lift up our eyes "and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." Not until this gospel of the kingdom has been proclaimed as a witness to every nation and tribe, will the blessed hope of our Saviour's return to reap the harvest of the world become a glorious reality.

It is difficult to find words to express both the inspiration and anguish of heart that a three months' trip through the African mission fields awakens in the depths of one's soul. Africa is indeed the dark continent. Not only because the majority of the population have a black skin, but infinitely more so because of the moral and spiritual darkness in which millions are born to live a wretched life of superstition, ignorance, poverty, want, and sufferings of which we who live in more favored lands have not the faintest comprehension.

I cannot forget many of the scenes I have witnessed. They often loom before my eyes. I see the teeming masses of people crowding the market-places to exchange their products. I see the countless numbers of babies, children and youth, fearful but friendly, with the imprint of sickness and hunger on their emaciated bodies and faces, afflicted with all sorts of diseases and purulent sores. I see them eating insects, mice, serpents, carcasses of dead animals, and many other things that are unclean and repulsive.

The natives who have come into contact with civilization and missions have learned to dress in part. But in many places they still go about, nude or with a rag or leaves for a loincloth. This is not because they choose to do so, but in most cases because they are poor and have no way to find the necessary clothing. At certain seasons of the year it is quite cold in Africa. I have wondered many times how these people can endure the cold nights with nothing to keep them warm. They light a fire to heat their huts. Frequently during the night a sleeping baby or young child will roll on to the smouldering wood, and not awaken until deep burns have eaten into its flesh. Many such cases are brought to our dispensaries. Where no help is available, the burned child may die of infected wounds or be disabled for life.

I see, too, some of these native women in front of their mud huts in North Cameroun and other places, wearing only a small piece of rag hanging on a string from their waist, holding out their naked babies to us, begging with imploring eyes and signs and words we could not understand, for a piece of cloth to cover their poor little children. The old rags that we throw away in our civilized

countries, would make many an African mother happy.

I see one case among a thousand: two old women we met along the track in Angola. One of them was carrying on her head in native fashion a piece of dry wood for the fire. The other was holding carefully in her two hands three precious ears of corn — all they had for a scanty meal.

It was our rare privilege to visit a pygmy encampment. These tiny children of nature, living in the forests, are usually shy and shun the white man. But Missionary Maurice Fayard was able to make friends with the chief of one of these groups of pygmies.

We found them in their forest retreat, where they gave us a hearty welcome. I see the little camp of some fifteen round huts made of branches and leaves. I shall never forget the sight of these dear, simple, dwarfish people, living really like wild animals: men, women, many babies and children, closely crowded around the camp centre, clapping their hands in rhythm with the two drums that were beating time for the men who were dancing for us. I see Missionary Fayard and the native worker treating and bandaging their sores. I see the group listening respectfully to the gospel story, then waving us goodbye with grateful and friendly gestures as we disappeared through the forest.

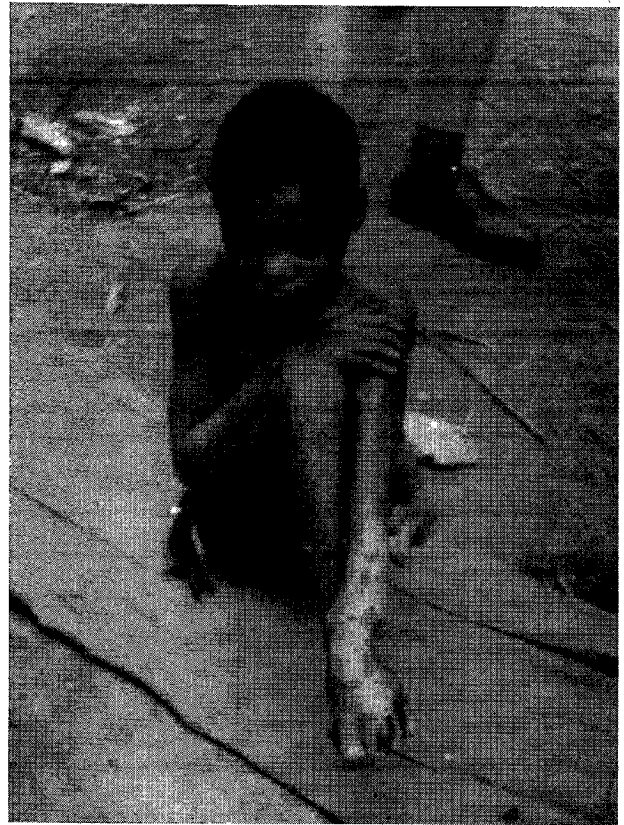
I see the heart-rending scene of the leper village near Nanga-Eboko: two old people lying on cot beds in a dark, ill-smelling hut — advanced cases of leprosy — dying slowly of the dread disease. I see men, women and children going about with their faces, hands and feet eaten away, some of them dragging themselves on their knees protected by old rags. Human words can give but a faint picture of needy, suffering Africa — an Africa that is dying for lack of the "old, old story."

But I see another picture: the wonderful results of the faithful and heroic labors of our valiant missionaries and a devoted army of native workers. I see well-organized central stations, chapels and dispensaries, and hundreds of outschools scattered over the areas of French Cameroun and Portuguese Angola that it was my privilege to visit.

The work started about twenty-seven years ago in French Cameroun. What a joy to see five thousand baptized members, four thousand young people in the schools, and thousands of interested natives attending the meetings! Angola was entered a little more than thirty years ago, and there we found ten thousand baptized members, many



Lepers at the Nanga-Eboko leper colony, French Cameroun.



Photos W. A. Wild
Young pygmy afflicted with ulcers.

thousands of young people in the schools. and crowds in the baptismal classes. Yes, the Lord has done great things in those mission fields, but we have scarcely begun the tremendous task.

In 1956 fifty-six calls came to open new schools in Angola. Only three of these could be answered. What about the vast, unentered territories with teeming millions who know nothing of this wonderful message? In the countries of West Africa that I visited it would be an easy matter to open without delay one hundred, yes, even one thousand, new schools. Africa is waiting, longing, calling for the gospel. The hour is late. Doors now wide open may be closed tomorrow, never to open again. Where are the consecrated, self-sacrificing men

and women needed for this work? Where is the money that would mean thousands of souls in the kingdom?

Where is the power of the Holy Ghost needed to launch a mighty, onward march in the entered and unentered territories of Africa, and bring the conquests and triumphs of the Advent Movement to a glorious victory at home and in the mission fields?

Then Jesus shall appear on the clouds of heaven, bringing crowns of everlasting joy to all those who through their prayers, their gifts, and their personal labors have helped to hasten the glad day of the harvest.

"Even, so, come, Lord Jesus!"



Native clinic, Bongo hospital, Lepi, Angola



K. Scheidegger treating young African.



F. Charpiot talking to a group of pygmies in French Cameroun.

SOMEBODY CARED FOR MY SOUL

The greatest longing of the human heart is to know that somebody cares. The baby that is not loved by someone won't live. The old person who is not wanted soon pines away. Love and sympathy are a part of life as important as the air we breathe. No medicine druggists can compound can ever take the place of a kind word, a warm handclasp, or an earnest prayer. Drugs can fight disease and help the body to regain control, but they cannot heal the sin-sick and weary soul.

A carpenter friend of mine was working with a man who did a lot of swearing. It wasn't very long before my friend said, "You are talking about a Friend of mine. Do you know Him?"

The other carpenter looked up, startled. "Who do you mean?" he asked.

"I mean Jesus Christ, the best Friend anybody ever had." Then he told him about the plan of salvation and how Jesus died for each one of us. He told me later that he never heard the man swear again. It made a difference when he knew that somebody cared.

When I was a boy I had the idea that God is a stern, hard judge, just watching to catch us doing something wrong. He was to my mind like a policeman trying to catch all the criminals. One day I got acquainted with a young man who was a Christian. He tried to tell me that God loved me. I didn't believe it.

"Why should He love me?" I asked. I am not a goody-goody."

I'll never forget the talk we had that day. In fact it lasted all night. With his Bible he explained to me that there are two great powers in the universe. On the one side there is God, the Creator of the heavens and the earth. He is the source of all good, truth, and beauty. From Him flow life, light, and love. His law is a law of righteousness, and obedience to it will bring happiness and peace and nobility. The other power is a created angel who turned against his Maker. His angelic name was Lucifer, but he became Satan, the devil. He rebelled against God and persuaded a third of the angels to join in his revolt.

I had read detective stories and mystery novels, but nothing I had ever read ever created the suspense I felt as I realized I was a part of this great drama of the ages.

Every day I dreamed about it, and every night I wanted to know more. I wondered why God did not destroy the devil and all the rebellious angels.

"Force never settles anything," my friend told me. "God is love, and He has chosen to use only love and truth as weapons in the conflict."

I couldn't quite see how love could win over force. I was like the general who asked, "How many airplanes does God have?" when someone said God was on the side of the allies.

My friend showed me how Satan by deceit had persuaded Adam and Eve to disobey God and join in the rebellion. He had set up his kingdom on earth and claimed it as his dominion. The world had then become the fortress of rebellion, the stronghold of the enemy. God could have taken it by force, but force would not make people love Him. And God wants only the obedience and service of love.

Every night we studied by the flickering light of a kerosene lamp, or talked in the darkness as we lay on our hunks. God the Father and God the Son had looked with pity and love on a lost, dark world. In the counsels of infinite wisdom, They found a remedy that would satisfy the justice of God and win the hearts of at least some of the people on earth. The Son of God would become a member of the human race and live among men. He would be subject to Satan's fiercest temptations. He would suffer all the trials through which men might pass that He might become their Spokesman and Advocate before the throne. He would give the human race an example of obedience and loyalty to the law of truth and righteousness.

I had seen men risk their lives to save other men, but to realize that the Son of God risked everything to save lost men, including me, broke my heart. I couldn't help thinking as I lay awake nights and the tears ran down my cheeks, that He did it all for me. When He endured temptation He did it that I might be strong to do right. When He suffered under the cruel whip He was taking the punishment I deserved. When He died upon the cross He was tasting death for me. My sins nailed Him to the cross. He was thinking of me. He cared for my soul.

I have never seen that young man since those few weeks we spent together, but his influence has

never left me. Always I am conscious that I am on either one side or the other of the great controversy between Christ and Satan.

The words of John 3: 16 became a treasured part of my thinking : "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

God so loved me. The whole human race had fallen from grace by disobedience to God's law of love. Even God could not change the law, for it was the very essence of His perfect character spelled out in relation to humanity. A just God could not change a perfect law, nor could He let rebellion go unpunished. Whether man sins ignorantly or willfully, all disobedience to God's perfect law is treason against the government of God.

Not alone this speck of a world, but all heaven was watching with intense interest the struggle between God and one of His angels. Upon the outcome would depend the peace and harmony of the universe. A perfect and loving God must find a perfect and loving solution. Harsh measures, thunderbolts of wrath, or fiats of death would have made God feared, but not loved.

Then the Son of God came down and lived among us. The Creator of the world became a member of the human race. He was born into the human family and lived a life of perfect obedience to the perfect law. His way was always the way of love and mercy, of kindness and pity. No hungry body or hungry heart ever left His presence unsatisfied. His life was a living example of what God would have our lives to be. He could not bear to see men suffering or in misery without doing all He could to relieve their hardship.

I know that God loves me, for He has taken the trouble to spell out in the Ten Commandments the great principles of His kingdom. He wants me to come into harmony with Him or He wouldn't have told me how. Those commandments are God's standard of righteousness for the human family.

I have had people tell me that the Ten Commandments have been done away, that we don't have to keep them. That is about as comforting to one who loves God as to tell a motorist in a strange state that all the highway markers and road signs have been taken down and the guard

rails removed from the dangerous mountain curves. I have asked several such people which commandment they found it necessary to break. None ever pointed out a single one. Those who love God want to do His will. Without the Ten Commandments they would not know what that will is.

Many times in my life I have gone into jails and prisons to visit men condemned for breaking the law of the state. The men always seemed to be thankful that I cared enough to come. Keeping the law could not justify or free them. The law spoke to them only of condemnation. They were under the law. It was to them a yoke of bondage.

The whole world was like that in the days of Adam after the Fall. Then God sent the promise of a Saviour. Genesis 3 : 15. Heaven's love reached out to a race in trouble, and people knew that Somebody cared. For four thousand years the promise of a Redeemer stirred the hopes of those who would listen. Then Jesus came. He was the law of love, the Ten Commandments lived out in human flesh.

But it was the death of Jesus Christ that touched my heart the deepest. How the great Creator could become a man and live and die for me was beyond my comprehension. It still is. I only know He did, and I am eternally grateful.

I once stood in a courtroom when a friend of mine was on trial. His father was the judge. The father fined his son \$20 for a traffic violation. Then he took the money out of his own pocket and paid his son's fine.

That is what God has done for us : He condemned us all to death for breaking His perfect law. He could not set aside the law nor pardon the guilty without meeting the requirements of the law. So He sent His Son to pay the terrible price and free us from the condemnation of the law.

What more could a loving God do ? Do you wonder that I love Jesus, who died for me ? Do you wonder that I love to keep His holy law now that He has freed me from its condemnation ?

I have new life and hope each day ; new joy and peace and purpose because Somebody cared for my soul.

By Leonard C. Lee in
Signs of the Times, July, 1957
pp. 10, 11, 31.

"The standard of the golden rule is the true standard of Christianity ; anything short of it is a deception. A religion that leads men to place a low estimate upon human beings, whom Christ has esteemed of such value as to give Himself for them ; a religion that would lead us to be careless of human needs, sufferings, or rights, is a spurious religion. In slighting the claims of the poor, the suffering, and the sinful, we are proving ourselves traitors to Christ. It is because men take upon themselves the name of Christ, while in life they deny His character, that Christianity has so little power in the world. The name of the Lord is blasphemed because of these things "

— Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing, p. 195.

THE LIGHT OF THE GOSPEL

By J. J.

Y. P. M. V. Secretary.

With M. Fridlin, the secretary of the Southern European Division, I have just returned from an itinerary in the mission fields of Madagascar, Reunion and Mauritius in the Indian Ocean. It was also my privilege on this trip to visit Mozambique in east Africa. It was most inspiring to me to see the hand of God in the rapid development of our vast mission program in these oft-forgotten areas of the world. As I have looked upon the work accomplished by our faithful missionaries, the promise of God through His servant Isaiah has often come to my mind: "He shall not fail nor be discouraged till he hath set judgment in the earth, and the isles shall wait for His law" (Isa. 42 : 4). Again, God speaks of the invitation of salvation which will be heard in all the world — even in the remotest corners of the world: "Thus saith the Lord God, Behold, I will lift up mine hand to the Gentiles, and set up my standard to the people: and they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders" (Isa. 49 : 22).

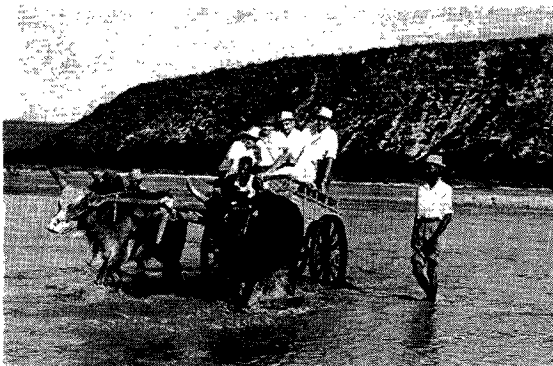
On Sabbath morning, at our mission station in northern Mozambique, I witnessed a literal fulfillment of this prophecy: some 450 natives, clean and neatly dressed, coming to God's house for worship. A least a hundred baby sons and baby daughters were being carried on their mothers' backs. Yes, God is lifting up His hand to the Gentiles — to the heathen nations of the world. He is setting up His standard before them, and they are accepting His invitation. They are bringing their sons and their daughters by the hundreds and even by the thousands.

With the vast network of air transportation today, the world has become small, and the mission fields of Southern Europe have come remarkably closer. Some years back it took our Division staff

members over two months to go to Madagascar and the islands of the Indian Ocean and return. Today one leaves Paris at six o'clock in the morning and arrives in Madagascar the next day at ten a. m. Thus the time spent formerly on shipboard may now be used for direct evangelistic work in the mission field.

Upon landing near Tananarive, we found that Brother Girard, the president of the union, had worked out a most interesting and profitable itinerary for us. Brother Fridlin and I were invited to hold public evangelistic meetings at all hours of the day and night for two full months.

Our first trip was to the southern part of the island where a great need has arisen for the founding of a new mission station. A young brother, Rabe Jerome, is working just outside the port city of Tuléar. On Sabbath morning we met in the church "building" which is only a bamboo hut, and entirely too small to accommodate the growing interest. It is encouraging, however, to note that the Malgash members are gathering funds for a new chapel which they hope to erect soon on the ground already purchased. The Adventists have been invited by the city authorities of Tuléar to put up their new church building in harmony with the city building plans for a model village. This project will take considerable money; but we believe that every model village, whether it be in Madagascar, in Africa, or in any other part of the world, should certainly have its Adventist house of worship. We hope that



Visiting outpost mission stations.



A converted witch doctor, Munguluni, Mozambique.



African children, Mozambique, to the gospel.

IN THE INDIAN OCEAN

en,
rn European Division

funds may soon be found to build a neat little chapel in Tuléar — one which will indeed be a monument to the glory of God.

After visiting with our people in Tuléar, we then struck out over roads which are the roughest I have ever seen, to visit the villages of southern Madagascar which have not yet heard the message of salvation in Christ Jesus. Here a vast mission work awaits us. These natives along the coast resemble those of Africa, and they, too, must hear the gospel. We travelled from village to village on foot, by ox-cart, by truck, and by every other available means. We found a great interest which we must follow up through the building of a new mission station in this part of the island. May funds soon be gathered to meet this urgent need.

Travelling north toward Tananarive, the capital city, we stopped over the week-end for a series of annual meetings in Fianarantsoa, where Brother and Sister Salzmann have built up a district of several churches. We were happy to be present for the dedicatory service of a fine new chapel in this city — a chapel that will seat up to 250 members.

Our next appointment was in Tananarive where we held our annual assembly. It was indeed a great spiritual feast with 1 500 members present. Due to a well-developed school program, under the capable direction of Dr. Jean Zürcher, many hundreds of young people were present at this meeting, testifying to the interest of the youth of Madagascar in

the finishing of God's work. The school at Soamanandrany, which is quite near Tananarive, is the training school for the Indian Ocean Union. The young people of Madagascar greatly appreciate the interest the world field has taken in their school. A Missionary Volunteer mission offering goal for North America, the Southern European Division, and other world divisions, will go to erect classroom buildings at this school. These classrooms are most sorely needed, and their erection will mean that we can continue the work which has been so well launched. If we do not have the proper facilities at Somanandrany, we face the risk of having the school closed because of not coming up to government regulations. The good influence of this training school, where over five hundred students are enrolled, has been felt throughout the entire Indian Ocean Union.

Just a few miles away, in the city of Tananarive, there is another school with 500 students present. Altogether in our schools in Madagascar and on the Island of Mauritius, we have an attendance of over 2,500 boys and girls, young men and women. A great percentage of these youth are not Adventists. Thus our educational program becomes an evangelistic one.

Brother Collin, the secretary-treasurer of the Indian Ocean Union, and who is also the Missionary Volunteer secretary, has encouraged hundreds of young people to come to our schools, and to take part in active village evangelism which is bearing wonderful fruitage for the kingdom of heaven.

The light of the gospel is spreading especially rapidly in Madagascar by means of radio and the Bible correspondence course. Thousands of people in hundreds of villages are being reached in this way.



e, eagerly listening



Children at Munguluni appealing for a new school building. The old one was burned by lightning.



The "light on the hill," Tamatave Mission, Madagascar.

Photos J. J. Aitken

As I was walking alone one Sabbath evening in the village of Marovay where we had just dedicated a chapel on Sabbath afternoon, I heard the voice of a young lady singing one of my favorite songs : The Old Rugged Cross. Even though she did not sing it in English, I immediately recognized the tune, and I also recognized the voice, which I had heard just a week before at our annual meeting near Tananarive. How could it be that here some 375 miles away I again heard the same voice. I soon discovered that the music and song were coming from a native home where they had turned on the radio to our Malagasy Voice of Hope program. This young lady, with her lovely voice, was singing her way into this humble home, bringing a message of hope and salvation.

Each week we have three Seventh-day Adventist radio programs. One is the Malagasy program, inviting people to join the Bible correspondence course. A second thirty minute program, The Voice of Youth, is the way the Missionary Volunteers in Madagascar have of carrying on youth evangelism. The third program is in the French language. As I looked at a large map of Madagascar, which had been pin-pointed to show where interests have been created through radio, I could not see a single section of the island which had not been reached. The radio is indeed a marvellous means which God has given us for rapidly finishing the work.

Some of our most isolated mission stations in Madagascar can be reached only by small plane when the rivers are flooded. Often these planes are very old, and I sometimes wondered whether the wings were going to hold on until we reached our destination, but we always arrived safely with no difficulties whatsoever. Most of our difficulties were on the ground where we tried to make our way with pick-up trucks along paths which at one time might have been roads.

Upon our arrival at Befandriana from Majunga, we were met at the entrance of our mission station by the village chiefs who had come from the surrounding territories. They were laden down with gifts : a large basket of rice, another of eggs, oranges, large bunches of bananas, and even some live chickens. These gifts were not presented to us because the chiefs loved us personally. It was an expression of their gratitude for the great work which is being done by the Adventist mission for their people.

These village chiefs appealed to us to send another missionary family just as soon as possible. They told us how grateful they are for the help of our school in educating their sons and daughters for a useful life of service. I shall never forget how one young man in our school stood up and thanked us most sincerely for the light of the gospel which he said had shone into his heart just four years previously, when he was in darkest heathenism in

a near-by village. These are words of thanks which come from the hearts of people who have been enlightened by the gospel ; and they send on their thanks to all those who have contributed to the development of our mission program.

On the east coast of Madagascar we have a wonderful new mission station which has just been built by Brother Henri Drouault. It is on top of a hill some eighteen miles from Tamatave. We are very grateful to the General Conference for the help they have given us to rebuild this mission station which was destroyed by a cyclone. It is most encouraging to see the tropical forest lighted up at night with the bright beams coming from our mission station. Not only is it lighted this way in symbol, but in reality because of our new 7,000 Watt generator which supplies electricity for all of the buildings on top of the hill. This mission station is becoming known as "the light on the hill." In fact government officials who have flown over it have remarked that the Adventist mission station has become a landmark on the eastern coast of Madagascar : "The light on the hill !" What a wonderful definition of an Adventist mission station.

Not only has Brother Drouault built this new station, but he has accomplished besides another gigantic work of construction in the city of Tamatave itself : a new chapel and a new school, built with generous gifts from the French government. We are, however, free to follow our Adventist school program in its entirety.

From Madagascar we arrived in two and a half hours in the volcanic island of Reunion. It is not a large island, and one can easily drive all around it in less than a day. Here the Spirit of God is gathering out those who are seeking for truth. We have only 300 members on Reunion, but over 500 persons attended our St. Denis annual meeting. Brother and Sister Paul Bénézech are the only European missionaries here, but they have willing helpers in our faithful native workers, and God has richly blessed them. Up to 2,000 people have been in regular attendance at some of the evangelistic meetings which Brother and Sister Bénézech have held in the villages. Since our annual meeting over there, 150 young people have asked to attend our M. V. Camp this year. These are not Seventh-day Adventist youth, but would like to learn more of the Adventist way of living. Here is a real program of youth evangelism which we must not neglect.

In a forty-five minute flight from Reunion one arrives on the island of Mauritius. On Sabbath we were happy to see again over 1,500 members gathered in our church building at Beau Bassin. Brother Buyck and his corps of workers have carried on an energetic evangelistic program in Mauritius, and there will be the greatest number of baptisms this year they have ever had. On Sabbath our hearts were cheered as we saw ninety-

seven young people take their stand to be baptized. Yes, as we read from the prophet Isaiah, "The isles are waiting for the justice and the law of God." Not only are they waiting, but they are hearing and accepting the good news of salvation.

After Mauritius we flew across the Indian Ocean to Mozambique. Here a splendid mission work has been developed. Just a few years ago we had no members in the city of Lorenzo Marques, but Brother Graça has created a promising interest, and we were happy to meet with some fifty-two believers and friends. In the north of Mozambique, Brother Lopes has been carrying on a fine mission program at Munguluni. We are very sorry that he has had to leave the work there because of his

wife's illness. It was at this station that I stood on top of the water tower and watched our native believers and friends coming from the four points of the compass to the Sabbath services. It was an unforgettable sight, and once again a fulfillment of the prophecy they shall come "from the four corners of the earth" to hear the Word of God.

And so the light of the gospel must shine on and on until the darkest corners of earth are enlightened with the glory of God and of His Christ. May God richly bless the faithful missionaries who are doing their part in fulfilling the great commission entrusted to us in this last hour of earth's history.

FIDO THE DOG THAT AWAITS HIS MASTER

By G. Cupertino

Strange as it may seem, man, that intelligent being created in the image of God and endowed with reasoning powers, is sometimes directed to animals, void of reason, to learn lessons he is in danger of forgetting along life's way.

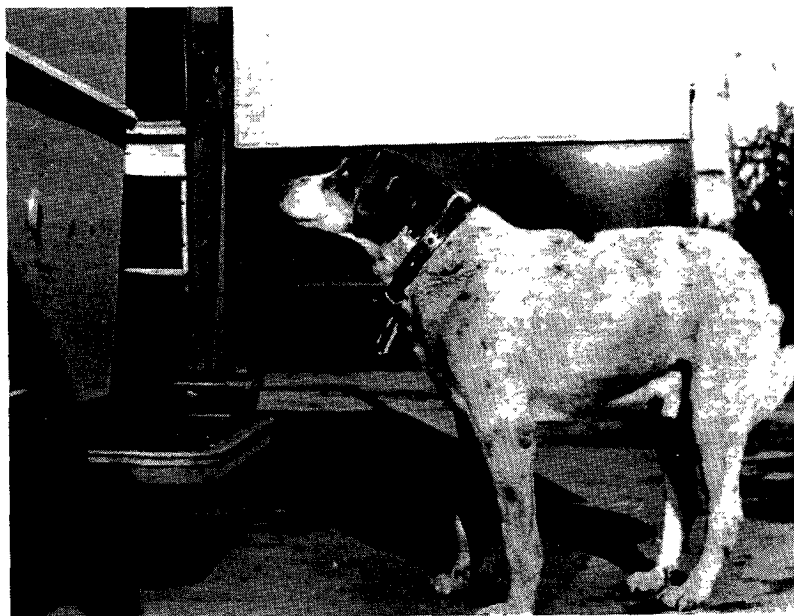
The men of Noah's time rejected and scoffed at his warning message, but beasts of every description silently made their way to the door of the ark.

Although overcome with affliction, Job does not forget: "But ask now the beasts, and they shall

teach thee" (Job 12 : 7). It was a dumb ass that was given miraculous power of speech to rebuke the false prophet Balaam and turn him aside from his "madness" (Numbers 22 : 28).

"Go to the ant, thou sluggard : and consider her ways and be wise," Solomon admonishes us (Prov. 6 : 6).

The prophet Isaiah reminds us of the devoted fidelity of animals as contrasted with the ingratitude and forgetfulness of man : "The ox knoweth his



Fido

(Continued on page 15)

STATISTICAL REPORT OF THE SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION OF S. D. A. FOR THE QUARTER ENDING MARS 31, 1957

Name of Conference or Mission	Number of Churches	Previous Membership	Baptism	Vote	Letter	Total Gains	Apostasy	Death	Letter	Missing Members	Total Losses	Net Gain	Present Membership	Ord. Ministers	Credentialed Missionaries	Lic. Ministers	Licensed Missionaries	Bible Instr.	Elem. School Teachers	Colporteurs	All other Regular workers	Total workers	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	25	26		
SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIV.																											
AUSTRIAN UNION CONF.																											
Alpine Conference	19	1193	8	—	4	12	2	5	7	—	14	- 2	1191	4	4	—	7	—	—	—	—	6	21	—	—	—	—
Danube " "	21	1501	28	1	12	41	12	3	13	—	28	13	1514	8	2	3	2	1	—	6	—	21	19	1329	918		
Total :	40	2694	36	1	16	53	14	8	20	—	42	11	2705	17	9	5	11	2	—	18	6	68	40	2989	1959		
CZECHOSLOVAKIAN U. C.																											
Total :	114	7124	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7124	33	2	3	3	19	—	8	—	68	160	6000	5400		
FRANCO-BELGIAN U. C.																											
Belgian Conference	15	954	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	954	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	14	—	—	—	—	
French " "	64	3107	73	3	43	119	5	13	35	—	53	66	3173	29	2	20	9	5	1	44	2	112	74	2956	2010		
Total :	79	4061	73	3	43	119	5	13	35	—	53	66	4127	42	3	23	10	5	1	48	11	143	90	4017	2693		
HUNGARIAN U. C.																											
Total :	257	6662	198	—	—	198	60	32	58	—	150	48	6710	27	—	25	25	—	—	—	—	77	175	7000	6500		
RUMANIAN U. C.																											
Total :	551	31045	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31045	78	—	11	47	—	—	—	—	136	500	35000	32000		
SWISS U. C.																											
French Swiss Conference	27	1419	13	5	9	27	—	7	8	—	15	12	1431	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—		
German Swiss " "	32	1920	35	—	33	68	5	8	30	—	43	25	1945	10	1	4	3	1	3	14	—	36	29	1308	1064		
Total :	59	3339	48	5	42	95	5	15	38	—	58	37	3376	22	2	7	10	4	3	20	—	47	32	1893	1308		
JUGOSLAVIAN U. C.																											
Total :	230	7838	256	13	—	269	47	40	37	—	124	145	7983	47	2	11	8	23	—	—	—	91	300	9000	8500		
FRENCH EQ. AFR. U. M.																											
Batouri Mission	1	706	16	—	—	16	—	3	—	—	3	13	719	3	2	—	14	—	—	—	—	23	—	—	—		
Bertoua " "	3	452	16	2	—	18	3	2	—	—	5	13	465	2	1	—	—	16	10	—	—	29	21	1834	1607		
Kribi " "	5	358	9	—	—	9	3	2	—	—	5	4	362	3	1	—	—	6	18	—	—	25	14	1110	897		
Nanga-Eboko " "	5	1749	250	—	—	250	—	—	—	—	—	250	1999	2	3	—	—	27	31	—	—	63	50	3966	2801		
North Cameroun " "	2	361	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	361	2	—	—	—	16	2	—	—	20	14	826	782		
Sangmelima " "	2	349	44	—	—	44	15	14	—	—	29	15	364	3	1	—	—	9	16	—	—	29	11	999	596		
Yaoundé " "	6	764	46	—	—	46	4	3	—	—	7	39	803	1	3	—	—	14	29	2	—	49	20	1973	1662		
Total :	24	4739	331	2	—	383	25	24	—	—	49	334	5073	17	13	—	14	99	121	2	—	266	151	11745	8890		
INDIAN OCEAN U. MISSION																											
Diego-Suarez Mission	1	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	3	2	2	5	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—		
Fianarantsoa " "	10	388	10	—	1	11	1	1	—	—	2	9	397	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	3	4	163	120		
Majunga " "	9	220	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	220	3	—	4	3	—	1	1	—	12	25	430	320		
Mauritius " "	13	1040	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1040	2	—	1	3	—	8	2	—	16	13	468	490		
Réunion " "	8	344	22	—	—	22	16	2	1	—	19	3	347	6	—	—	11	—	11	4	—	32	16	985	870		
Seychelles " "	1	79	15	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	94	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	9	390	300		
Tamatave " "	1	125	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	125	2	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	6	7	300	290		
Tananarive " "	25	1202	41	—	—	41	—	1	—	—	1	40	1242	6	—	—	7	—	4	5	—	22	37	3393	2050		
Total :	68	3422	88	—	1	89	17	4	1	—	22	67	3489	25	2	10	32	—	27	15	—	111	112	6226	4520		
ITALIAN UNION MISSION																											
Italian Mission	55	2286	70	2	23	95	5	3	17	—	25	70	2356	9	1	2	12	3	—	—	—	27	—	—	—		
Sardinia Mission Station	2	44	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	45	12	—	—	16	13	—	49	—	90	88	2630	2480		
Total :	57	2330	71	2	23	96	5	3	17	—	25	71	2401	21	1	19	26	3	—	50	—	120	90	2690	2530		

AFTER MANY DAYS

By H. Pichot, President North African Union Mission

Forty or some years ago, three vine-dressers were at work in a vineyard in Oranie, North-Africa. For their provisions they were obliged to go to the town of Oran. One day when they had finished their errands, and were making ready to take the road back to their vineyard, a placard in a narrow street attracted their attention. It was over the door of an Adventist meeting-place, and the pastor was holding a public lecture at that very moment. As glad for a chance to rest as they were interested in the speaker, the three workmen entered and sat down. Before leaving they bought a Bible and a copy of *Great Controversy* in Spanish. In the evenings they would study those two books. They soon discovered that their religion did not harmonize with the teachings of the gospel. After a short time they returned to the meeting-place, purposed in their hearts to follow the instructions of the Word of God; but they found the doors closed, and the pastor — they were told — had left for Portugal. Our friends were greatly perplexed, for all three of them had decided to ask the pastor to baptize them by immersion, which they now believed was the true baptism. Sorely disappointed, they returned to their vineyard. What were they to do? Finally they decided to baptize one another in the sea which was not far away from where they were working. They were convinced that the Lord would understand the sincerity of their hearts, and their willingness to obey Him.

One of these workmen returned to his family at Beni-Saf, and labored in the iron mines in that region. For fifteen years he observed the Sabbath, when an Adventist minister met him and instructed

him more fully in the truth. He was baptized with his entire family. Today this brother is about eighty years of age. He and his family continue to be living witnesses for the Lord Jesus. When Brother Guirado meets Brother Abella (this latter brother died many years ago) in the kingdom of God, he will thank him for those public meetings he held in that little, narrow street in the city of Oran.

In the town of Rabat, North Africa, a young couple on leave were walking down Republic Street where a preacher was holding a lecture. A lady invited them to enter the hall, which they did. They listened with great interest. When the lecture was over they bought a Bible. Some time afterward twins were born in that home, but neither of them lived. The poor mother was heartbroken. Nothing could console her in her great sorrow. Finally, in tears, she said to her husband, "If only I could go and see that preacher in Rabat, I believe he could comfort me." But they lived far away from Rabat, and did not even know the minister's address. They only knew he was a Seventh-day Adventist.

One day the husband was returning home from his office by a street which he was not in the habit of taking. What did he notice? A Seventh-day Adventist place of worship. He noted the days and hours of the services, and hurried home to tell his wife about them. The very next Sabbath she was at Sabbath school. Later both she and her husband were baptized and became faithful members of our church. These dear friends will ever be grateful to Brother Reynaud, who was that preacher at Rabat, for having held those public meetings.

OUR BLESSED HOPE

(Continued from page 3)

throne, is Jesus the King of kings and Lord of lords, coming to gather His own. His voice like a trumpet rolls throughout the earth; and as you look you see no more crutches, no more hearing aids, no more glasses. They will be gone. You see no more gray hair, no more bald heads, no more wrinkles, no more stooped shoulders. Everyone will be strong with the bloom of youth. What a wonderful experience!

But something more has happened. That voice of Jesus, that voice that called Lazarus out of his

grave, penetrates the ears of the dead; the graves are opened and the saints come forth. . . . Do you blame me for wanting Jesus to come? What a gathering! — Of all the saints from Adam to the end of time.

Then gravity loses its power. We begin to rise, higher and still higher, to meet the Lord in the air. With Jesus at our head we shall ascend, past the stars up through Orion, until finally we shall see the glory streaming from the gates of the city of God — the New Jerusalem. What a moment

when Jesus swings wide open those pearly gates and says to us, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, enter in." I want to be in that procession. And you? Somehow I would like to stand at the gate when the La Chaux-de-Fonds church marches in. Oh, what a day! When all the saints, with all their sorrows and trials behind them, shall stream through those gates. Then Jesus will take us all right up to His Father's throne and introduce us to the Father. Oh, I am waiting for that day! I love God. He gave His Son for me. I have never seen my heavenly Father, but then I shall see Him.

Sister White describes one other scene — when the two Adams meet. Jesus will go down to the river of life, will stand under the tree of life "with outstretched arms to receive the father of our race" — the one who lost the tree of life. An angel brings him to Jesus. "As Adam discerns the prints of the cruel nails, he does not fall upon the bosom of his

Lord, but in humiliation casts himself at His feet, crying, "Worthy, worthy is the Lamb that was slain!" Tenderly Jesus lifts him up, replaces the crown, reaches up and plucks the fruit from the tree of life and says to Adam, "Take, eat, and die no more." I want to be there, brethren and sisters. And you? How many want to be there?

This may be the last time I shall ever speak here in this church. I do not know. But I want to make an appointment with you today — an appointment to meet under the tree of life on the banks of that crystal stream. By the grace of God I plan to be there. Oh, I know I can't do it of myself. But I have given my heart to God, and I am trusting Him to keep me faithful unto the end. How many of you will promise to meet me there by the grace of God? God bless you. May this Blessed Hope fill your hearts and give you joy and strength to be faithful even unto death is my prayer. Amen!



FIDO THE DOG THAT AWAITS HIS MASTER

(Continued from page 11)

owner, and the ass his master's crib : but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider" (Isaiah I : 3).

And did not the divine Master Himself exhort us to daily confidence in His solicitude? : "Behold the fowls of the air : for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns ; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?" (Matt. 6 : 26).

In these last days, when faith in the return of Jesus wanes ; when, as pictured in the parable of the ten virgins, we may become weary in our waiting and fall asleep, the *true* story of a dog — a story that has touched the heart of millions — sets forth a timely lesson of persevering watchfulness.

Like all dogs, Fido was greatly attached to his master who owned a small business in Tuscany, Italy. Fido followed his master as he went about his daily rounds, and would accompany him to the autobus which his master often took to visit the neighboring towns. One day, during a ruthless bombardment of World War II, Fido's master was killed by a bomb. That evening when the autobus returned to the little town of Lucca, it brought back only a few terrified passengers. Fido's master was not among them. He would never return.

The war ended, and again the autobus stopped every evening in the public square with its passengers, among whom Fido, inconsolable, sought in vain for his master. Days have grown into years, but you will still find Fido there every evening when the autobus arrives — waiting for his master who

will never return. How strange he does not return ! He always *did* return ! But Fido does not grow weary in waiting, Every day new hope is renewed in the heart of that dog ; and every evening he must return home sad and forlorn — always to meet the autobus the next day. He seems to say, "My master *will* return."

Poor, faithful Fido ! How we pity you ! The reason for your constancy cannot be founded upon elaborate arguments. You are only a dog ! — only a dog ! But you can teach us a great lesson — the lesson that *we* must not grow weary in *our* waiting for the heavenly Master, even though the time may seem long — so long — apparently endless. "For yet a little while, and He that shall come, will come, and will not tarry" (Heb. 10 : 37). If, according to human reasoning, His return seems imaginary, the prophet assures us : "For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie : though it tarry, wait for it ; *because it will surely come*, (italics supplied) it will not tarry. . . But the just shall live by faith" (Heb. 3 : 3, 4).

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SOUTHERN EUROPEAN
QUARTERLY REVIEW

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M. Fridlin Editor
..... Editorial Secretary

Here and There

Three missionary families arrived recently in Europe on furlough: A. Cosendai, president of the French Equatorial African Union Mission, who has spent twenty continuous years of faithful service in that field; S. Meyer, president of the Nanga-Eboko Mission and head of the Cameroun training school; and Maurice Fayard who is in charge of the Batouri Mission. We wish these devoted workers and their families a happy period of rest in the homeland.



The work in the Cameroun is continuing to advance encouragingly. During the second quarter of 1957, 381 people were baptized. The membership of this fast-growing union has now passed the five thousand mark, bringing it on June 30 to 5,073.



Miss Huguette Tierce, a missionary nurse at our Koza Hospital in North Cameroun, has spent more than a year in her homeland, France; and in Switzerland where she has taken supplementary training in surgical nursing. Miss Tierce returned to her post for a second term of service on August 15 of this year.



E. Villeneuve, senior missionary in the Indian Ocean Union Mission, is also on furlough in Switzerland with his family. Elder Villeneuve has worked twenty-two years in this far-away island field. The last twelve years he was in charge of the Majunga Mission on the northwest coast of Madagascar. After his furlough he will take over the leadership of our Tananarive Mission which is the most important on the island.



A Richli, former principal of the Phoenix school, and who had to return permanently from Mauritius because of Mrs. Richli's poor health, has accepted to connect with the Collonges Seminary as a teacher.



One of our young workers in East France, Michel Grisier, has accepted a call to serve in general mission work in Madagascar. He will leave with his family during September of this year for his new field of labor. We wish Brother Grisier God's rich blessing in his new work

According to the recent report of Pastor J. Pechtol, 198 baptisms took place in Hungary during the first half of 1957. Our church in Hungary is now officially recognized, and this makes possible the organization of a workers' training school. A Union workers' meeting will take place in Hungary in September. F. Charpiot, R. Gerber, and M. Fridlin will attend this important gathering.



Building on the chapel in Casablanca, Morocco, is progressing rapidly. It is expected that it will be ready for dedication at the end of the year.

Pastor Charles Cornaz writes that baptisms are planned for in this mission in the cities of Casablanca, Oujda, Meknès, and Rabat. Twenty converts will be baptized shortly, and as many more before the end of this year.



Pastor Henri Drouault left Madagascar a few weeks ago for his furlough in the United States where his wife and children preceded him last March.



P. Steiner, president of the Bogenhofen Seminary in Austria, has been granted a leave of absence to prepare his doctor's degree in Switzerland. Dr. H. Stoeger, a teacher in the same school, has been elected president of this seminary.



At present negotiations are being completed for the purchase of a favorably-situated lot located in the central part of the city of Innsbruck, Austria, as a site for a new chapel. We hope that soon a good church building can be erected on this ground, since in recent years the Innsbruck church has had to meet for Sabbath services in a hall in a tavern on the border of the city.



F. Lavanchy, president of the Franco-Belgian Union and the French Conference, reports that seventy-three people were baptized in the French Conference during the second quarter of 1957, and three members were added to the church by profession of faith. The net gain for the quarter is sixty-six, and at the end of June 1957 the membership for France stood at 3,173.

The new chapel of the Indian Ocean Union training school at Soamanandriny near Tananarive, Madagascar, was dedicated on July 6, 1957. Some 1500 people were present and filled this new building which will be used not only by the training school, but also for evangelistic purposes. The day following the dedicatory services, 300 diplomas were distributed to persons who had successfully completed the Bible correspondence school courses in French and Malagasy



The Golden Anniversary commemorative service held August 16 to 19 at Geneva, Switzerland, paid tribute to those who met 50 years earlier at near-by Gland in a council of the General Conference, which authorized a department to be known as the Young People's Department of the General Conference.

The week-end Youth Congress, with a maximum attendance of 1500, held most of its meetings in Geneva's famous Victoria Hall, where on Sabbath, August 17 more than 50 young people made their decision for baptism.

Among the special features of the congress were testimonies of five pioneer leaders who were present at the 1907 council in Gland; stirring appeals to service from four missionaries on furlough, and the impressive twelve giant descriptive pictures. But the climax of the entire week-end event came with the mass demonstration of youth before the Reformation Monument where Ch. Monnier and J. J. Aitken, M. V. secretaries, respectively for the Swiss Union and the Southern European Division, reaffirmed on behalf of today's 450,000 Adventist youth their faith in the gospel of Christ and the principles of the Protestant Reformation.

At the close of the Congress the young delegates, coming from numerous countries of Europe, met at La Lignière near Gland, Switzerland, to unveil a small monument. In dedication, T. E. Lucas, world leader of Missionary Volunteers, said: "We have come here to honor the ideals which were represented in the lives of our founding fathers. The men who met here fifty years ago with a small idea did not realize to what it would come. For fifty years we have built upon their faith. We now dedicate this monument to the finishing of the work through the Advent youth."