

QUARTERLY REVIEW

ORGAN OF THE SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF S.D.A.

Vol. XXVI

June 1959

Number 2

Revival among our young People in Paris

By Paul Steiner

On the Thursday evening of this year's Week of Prayer for the Youth I arrived in Paris. During the first days of that week I had been together with the Missionary Volunteers in Lisbon and Madrid, but this one evening I wanted to be with our young people in Paris. Contemplating in my mind the zeal and courage of the Spanish youth, whose faith is often tried, I went down the busy boulevard de l'Hôpital to the "Temple Adventiste". It was just before 8 o'clock and I was wondering how the Paris youth would be using the wonderful liberty which they still enjoy. I had no illusions whatsoever, because it was an evening in the middle of the week, in a big town which is no fertile soil for spiritual life. Furthermore I was not expected, because I had not been quite sure whether it would be possible for me to make the stop in Paris on my way to Ghent where the Belgian young people expected me for a rally on the Friday evening.

When I arrived at our church I found the entrance to the big hall bolted. This I had expected, but was sure I would find a few young people gathered in the smaller youth hall, but this also was cold and empty. I was bitterly disappointed, because I had hoped to find at least a few

young people gathered together there in prayer. I was just about to leave with a heavy heart when I suddenly heard the tune of a happy song which sounded like it came from a hundred young throats, and it came from the Voice of Prophecy studio. I ran up the stairs thinking that maybe it was only a record I was hearing, but when I opened the door to the large room I found it filled to the corners with young people. It was a beautiful sight to see these young men and women: factory workers and students gathered together, and among them even some black faces. They had come from all corners of the city, leaving their places of work without their supper to go directly to this place of worship, not seeking worldly pleasures, but deliverance and help to do the work which they felt was theirs. A young sister had just spoken on the subject: "What Is Our Biggest Problem?" and fervent prayers rose up asking for power to walk in the spirit. A wonderful peace rested over the room, and an inward happiness was shining from every young face, a happiness which is only found in those who have met Jesus.

"Wonderful experiences have been enjoyed here", said the young evangelist, Pierre Winandy, who is leading this group of young people. "Last Sunday we were only 47, Monday 51, Tuesday 54, Wednesday already 60, and tonight there are 75. It is just like a revival among the young people of Paris." I later learnt that the number of those present rose still more toward the end of the Week of Prayer.

Many years ago the servant of the Lord wrote: "The church is languishing for the help of young men who will bear a courageous testimony, who will with their ardent zeal stir up the sluggish energies of God's people, and so increase the power of the church in the world. Young men are wanted who will resist the tide of worldliness, and lift a voice of warning against taking the first steps in immorality and vice" (Review and Herald, June 16, 1891).

What a wonderful awakening will take place when the Advent Youth of all towns and countries will understand the problems facing us which will lead up to the final events of the world, and when hearing the voice of Jesus will answer: "Here am I, send me."

"Young men, press to the front, and identify yourselves as laborers together with Christ, taking up the work where He left it, to carry it on to its completion" (Messages to Young People, p. 25).

An unusual Gift

By E. Naenny

In one of the countries in our Division a colportuer was out doing his work, selling medical books. While working he on purpose passed by a shoemaker's shop, but when he had worked through the street he heard a voice inside him saying, "Visit the shoemaker!" He obeyed the voice and soon stood before a kind man. However, the man would not buy any books, but when the colporteur began to talk about the Voice of Prophecy he learned with great joy that the shoemaker and his wife had been listening regularly to our broadcasts and had also taken part in the Bible course. The colporteur was kindly invited to visit the couple that evening and the following days, and he gave Bible studies to the family. The minister of the Voice of Prophecy also came to the house,

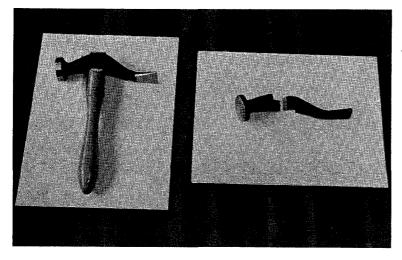


The presentation of the hammer to the newly baptized brother

and the couple was persuaded of the truth of the message, but not of the keeping of the Sabbath. On the next Sabbath the shoemaker could not find his hammer anywhere and so had to stop his work; the following Sabbath his hammer broke, and now he was convinced that God wanted him to keep His holy Day and not to do any work.

At our next colporteur institute we had the great joy, together with the colporteur and the minister of the Voice of Prophecy, of witnessing the baptism of the shoemaker and his wife. The minister spoke about the power of God's Word, which is like fire, "like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces" (Jer. 23:28). The writer has very rarely attended a baptism which was as moving as this one.

When the couple sat in the meeting hall in front of the congregation, waiting to be taken into the church, the minister told their wonderful experience to those present. Then he opened a package to give them a gift from the church. It was not a Bible, not a set of the Testimonies, but a brand-new hammer. The minister gave this present to the shoemaker and his wife with these words: "My brother, this hammer has never worked on a Sabbath, and I know that in your hands it will never work on a Sabbath." Then he welcomed the man into the church with a brotherly embrace. Most of the members of the church had tears in their eyes, but they were tears of joy and gladness in Jesus Christ.



The new and the old broken hammer

An Appeal from Mozambique

Mozambique is the name given to the Portuguese coastland washed by the waters of the Indian Ocean and the Mozambique Channel which separates it from the great French island of Madagascar. It is more than 1900 km in length from Tanganyika along the Rovuma river in the north to the frontiers of Natal in the south. The population is about 6 million among whom are 665,000 Roman Catholics, 200,000 Mohammedans, and about 50,000 belonging to different confessions of faith, but the greatest number of the population is still heathen.

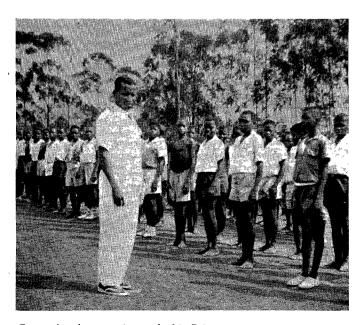
Our message has made its way through all these different confessions of faith, and we have a well established work in this country. At Munguluni, in the district of Zambezi, we have our mission station, which is one of the best in the whole territory. Here we have about 1200 members and a dozen organized churches. A new primary school with a three year course in Bible as well as a small hospital, which has just been opened in the presence of local authorities, both do credit to our work in that region.

In Lourenço Marques, the capital, we have our headquarters for Mozambique. A couple of years ago we started an effort in a nice hall in this beautiful city, and as a result we now have a little church with 25 members, and an ever increasing number of interested listeners are coming. But it is toward Beira, the second largest city of the country, that we are directing your eyes.

A short time ago we bought a small site about 7 km from the city, where we are planning to build a school and a chapel in order that we may be able to strenghten the work in this district. Earlier we had a chapel for the native believers, but it was demolished by the authorities under the pretext that the building did not comply with the building requirements of the district.

But now we have presented our project to the district authorities, and hope that they will give their approval to this new construction. It is for this project that we turn to our brethren and sisters who love the work for missions, asking that you all come to our rescue so that a strong mission station may be established in Beira to the glory of God.

"As new fields are entered and people accept the truth, houses of worship and schoolhouses are to be erected." Gospel Workers, p. 456



Group of students wanting a school in Beira

The Voice of Prophecy in Madagascar

The local supervisor of the Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence Course in Tananarive, Madagascar, Indian Ocean, sent his report for the first quarter, 1959, and added the following words:

"We want to thank God for His protection and watchcare, because in spite of the six cyclones which have struck Madagascar since the beginning of the year 1959, and in spite of all the terrible rains that produced floods the like of which we have never seen before in our country, we praise God that during those sad and troublesome hours the answers to the lessons came in as if there had been no disaster at all.

Personally I was impressed to see the answers coming in from those regions where the calamity had been severest. This has strengthened our conviction that this correspondence course is really appreciated by our students, and through it God wants to accomplish great things for His Name." Minason Rakotonirainy

The apostle Paul looked forward to going to Spain by way of Rome. Recently it was my privilege to make just this trip, including North Africa, and I returned home with a better understanding of the needs of these mission fields, as well as with a better appreciation of the work done by our brethren and sisters in furthering the gospel in those difficult places.

In Rome I attended a committee meeting organizing a great evangelistic effort to be held in Milan and Turin from September to December this year with the help of Elder Walter Schubert from the General Conference. The brethren in Italy need all our prayers that this campaign may help the last message to progress in these two big cities.

I also made a short visit to Palermo where I was shown the text of a pastoral letter from the Archbishop of Agrigente appearing on the first page of a paper. This letter spoke about the necessity of respecting the weekly resting day and accused the Adventists of persisting in observing the Sabbath.

From Palermo I took the plane to Tunis where I had the pleasure of seeing Brother Sofranac who met me with two brethren from the church. In Tunisia two gospel workers, Brother Sofranac in Tunis and Brother Garsia in Menzel-Bourgiba (the former Ferryville) carry the whole responsibility of our work there with devotion and enthusiasm. In Tunis and also in Bizerte I had the privilege of speaking several times to congregations that seemed to be thirsting for eternal truths. The recent events and disillusions in this old world cause many sincere souls to search for the things which remain when everything else collapses. The task is enormous in Tunisia, and we all know that only by the grace of God can it be accomplished.

Brother H. Pichot, president of the North African Union Mission, accompanied me not only in Tunisia, but also in Algeria and Morocco. He is a son of this land of sunshine, and his smile and handclasp testify to the optimism and confidence which help him to meet the difficulties which present themselves every day. In Bône, the first place where we stopped in Algeria, the hall was too

From Rome to Spain

By Guiseppe Cupertino

small to hold all the listeners. Fortunately, plans are being made for the construction of a place of worship adapted to present needs, and Brother Senty is looking forward to a quick realization of this project. How marvelous it was to sing the songs of Zion together in this humble place, and what stories of miraculous deliverance the members of this church could tell.

From Bône to Philippeville we traveled by air. At a small isolated station a brother came to greet us and gave us a small bag of beautiful oranges. He lives under very difficult conditions, but accepts all these sacrifices in order that his son may observe the Sabbath in his school. In Philippeville Brother Michel and his wife share the difficulties of a work which, besides the present dangers, also requires the great patience needed everywhere as new work is started. Taking the train once more we went to Constantine. It is not necessary here to mention what it means for our gospel workers to live in a region where faith must be exercised every hour of the day, but they are all of good courage, and the number of members who met in the beautiful hall used as a church showed their confidence in spite of the dangers surrounding them all the time. They seemed to be extremely happy to see us, as they very seldom receive visitors here. Their problems were studied at a workers' meeting attended by Brethren Pichot, Esposito, Senty, Michel, Santalo and myself.

Engine trouble on the plane obliged us to leave Constantine later than we had planned. When the plane at last left the ground it was exactly the beginning of the Sabbath, Friday evening. Over us the stars began to shine, and below we could see in the shadows of the night a few lights coming from isolated farms. It was easy for us to lift up our thoughts in prayer and homage to the One who has said: "Behold, I am with thee, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest ... " (Gen. 28:15). Thus sailing in the air as a particle of dust what a consolation to us was the text found in Deut. 33:26,27: "Who rideth upon the heaven in thy help, and in his excellency on the sky. The eternal God is thy refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms."



The 46 "Miracles" in Madrid

by Way of North Africa

In the evening of March 5 we landed in Algiers, and together with our members the workers all assembled in the beautiful church we have in that city. We were all very sorry that Brother and Sister Dudragne could not be with us. Our sister is suffering from a grave illness which kept them both at home. Our prayers ascended to God for her recovery.

Evangelization is going on with power in Algiers where Brother Colomar, helped by brethren Galdeano and Sanchez, is holding a series of lectures in a hall in the town. Other means of evangelization are used by Brother Bernard, Brother and Sister Bataille and our devout members. Our institution "Vie et Santé" is radiating a great influence under the able leadership of Sister D. Meyer.

Continuing our itinerary we arrived in Oran. Brethren Gilson from Sidi Bel-Abbes, Arnone and Pellicer from Mostaganem as well as Brethren Roullet and Kamm from Oran had come to attend the regional workers' meetings. Friday evening, March 12, I went to Mostaganem for a meeting in that city, but it was in Oran that the Sabbath services took place. Our joy of being together was shadowed by the death of Brother Kamm's son, whom we laid to rest the following day. We were impressed by the Christian submission showed by the parents in their great trial. They know that Jesus will soon come

From Oran we went to Oujda, our first stop in Marocco. In this place Brother and Sister Kempf work faithfully, and here we were told the encouraging story of a man's conversion to the present truth. He told us in his own words: "God has had much patience with me. My wife was an Adventist, but I was not. Then one day the Lord took my hand and when my wife prepared to go alone to the annual meeting in Casablanca I said to her that I would go with her. Of course she was very happy, and I have now decided to follow Jesus because I recognize that what he has done for me is something extraordinary." The following day, after a meeting attended by many friends and members, we were supposed to take the plane for Mehnès, but were told that the plane had been cancelled for military reasons. Therefore we had to make the 450 kilometers by car and arrived just in time for the meeting organized by Brother Haran. In this way our members try to meet now and again in those isolated towns in North Africa.

Our next stop was Rabat, the capital of Morocco, where Brother and Sister Quirici work so faithfully. From Rabat we went to Marrakech, perhaps the most picturesque town in that corner of Africa. Here we made the acquaintance of several isolated brethren and sisters whose zeal is not diminished by the difficulties they daily encounter, and we spent some blessed hours with them studying the Bible. On Friday, March 20, we had a workers' meeting directed by Brother Ch. Cornaz, who is the president of the Moroccan Mission. The beautiful church in Casablanca, which only recently was dedicated, is really a credit and an honor to our denomination. The meeting held here was also attended by Brother and Sister Rodriguez from Tangier. Good work is being done in this city, and the workers there enjoy the place they have in the Lord's vineyard.

The following day I left North Africa to go to Spain, where I met all the workers who had been called together during the Easter week for "spiritual exercises" in Madrid. We had some blessed meetings together under the able leadership of Brother D. G. Rose, the president of the field, and Brother A. Vaucher, who willingly gave his good counsel to the preachers assembled. Plans for the future were laid in the light of the Word and Spirit of prophecy. One brother showed me several packs of cigarettes which had been left behind in his church by people impressed by the truth. He also showed me a picture of 46 persons, most of them young people, which carried the inscription "Aleluya, 46 Milagros". It is indeed a miracle that 46 persons were won to the truth in one year in a single church.

Leaving this last country of my interesting trip I thanked the Lord that the power of the Gospel is still able to win souls in our generation, where faith is seemingly on the wane. Brethren and Sisters, let us pray that the harvest may always be more abundant, and that we may have a part in the triumph at last.



Statistical Report of the Southern European Division of S. D. A. for the Quarter Ending March 31, 19599

Name of Conference or Mission	Number of Churches	Previous Membership	Baptism	Vote	Letter	Total Gains	Apostasy	Death	Letter	Missing Members	Total Losses	Net Gains	Present Membership	Ord. Minist. Active	h Honorary		Lic. Minist. Active	Licensed Missionaries	Bible Instructors	Elementary School Teachers	Colporteurs	All Other Regular Workers	Total Workers	Number of Sabbath Schools	Sabbath School Membership	Average Attendance
AUSTRIAN U. C. Alpine Conference Danube Conference Total	19 22 41	1522_	12 16 28		4 48 52	16 68 84	8 19 27	9 6 15	3 63 66	20 88 108		- 4 -20 -24	1186 1502 2688	6 - 7 -	_ :	<u> </u>	1 - 2 - 3 -	11 1 1	1 4 2 7		2 18 20	4	24 16 31 71	19 22 41	1271 1629 2900	845 1046 1891
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HUNGARIAN U. C.* Total	166	6222	_	_						,			6222	43 -	_ {	.	11 —	12	6			2	79	175	7000	6500
RUMANIAN U. C.* Total	551	33989				_							33989	108 -			35 —	87	_			40	270	500	51986	45000
SWISS U. C. French Swiss Conference German Swiss Conference Total	27 31 58	1457 1965	8 20 28		8 24 32	16 45 61	3 7 10	6 16 22	4 18	5	13 46 59	3 - 1 2	1460 1964 3424	13 - 14 -	7 –		3 — 2 — 5 —	4 4 8		3 3	14 20 34		7 38 47 92	31 28 59	1837 1364 3201	1204 1074 2278
JUGOSLAVIAN U. C. Total	230	8312	197	12 2	E O	397	56	28	9A9	:		111	8423	33 -			11 —	5	11				61	300	9000	8500
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FRENCH EQ. AFR. U. M.* East Mission Kribi Mission	- 35 8 6					_							1429 376 2500 350	3 - 3 - 2 -			2 2 2 6	22 6 6 6	30 6 18	23 25 35		13 6 9	40 64 42 73	35 18 35 14	4267 1004 5056 725	3855 780 3062 1054

TALIAN U. M. Italian Mission	55 2523 2 45 57 2568	15 1 32 	48 9 48 9	10 36 — — 2 — 10 38 —	55 - 7 2 - 2 57 - 9	2516 43 2559	9 6 2 — 17 — — — 26 6 2 —	3 — 12 — 2 — 17 —	10 <u>1</u> 10 10 10 10	4 —	49 1 50	30 92 3 125	4	2780 50 2830	2615 45 2660
NORTH AFRICAN U. M. Algerian-Tunisian Mission Moroccan Mission Total	12 642 7 253 19 895	8 — 9 5 — 4 13 — 13	17 6 9 6 26 12	5 15 — 1 11 — 2 6 26 —	26 - 9 18 - 9 44 -18	633 244 877	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	1 — 4 — 2 — 7 —	5 - 6 -		2 3 5	$egin{array}{cccc} - & 7 \\ - & 15 \\ - & 10 \\ \hline - & 32 \\ \hline \end{array}$	11 9 20	498 234 732	387 177 56 4
PORTUGUESE U. M. Azores Mission Cape Verde Mission Madeira Mission Portuguese Conference St. Thomas Mission	3 135 4 286 1 144 18 1599 — 248	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	1 3 35 1	2 1 — 3 2 — — - 2 — 4 15 — - 248 —	$ \begin{array}{rrr} 3 & -3 \\ 5 & -4 \\ 2 & -2 \\ 20 & 15 \\ 248 & -248 \end{array} $	132 282 142 1614	4 2 — — 1 — — — 1 — — — 8 — — 1	1 — 1 — 1 — 5 — —	4 - 1 - 	1 2 = =	10	- 26 - 3 - 3 1 17	$\begin{array}{c} 3 \\ 4 \\ 2 \\ 20 \\ - \end{array}$	154 184 482 1946	125 180 264 1680
Total	26 2412	23 — 13	36 4	8 266 —	278 –242	2170	15 2 - 1	7 —	5	3 2	20	1 50	29	2766	2249
BULGARIAN* MISSION	39 3197					3197	9 — — —	4 —	10 -			<u> </u>	39	2672	2200
FRENCH WEST AFRICAN MISSION	1 19					19	1 — — —	1 —	1 -		1	4	1_	12	18
GREEK MISSION	5 191			2 — —	2 - 2	189	3 — — —	_2 —	2 -				6	228	175
ISRAEL* MISSION	1 38					38	1 1		1 -			1 4	1	28	24
MOZAMBIQUE MISSION	12 1215		2	2 1	3 - 3	1212	3 - 1 -	4 —	7 –	- 1 9	1	4 39		4073	3529
SPANISH CHURCH	16 1336	4 2 18	24 1	2 28 —	31 - 7	1329	9 1 1	9 —	3	2 —	13	4 42	21	1576	1475

RECAPITULATION

Totals 1st Quarter, 19	K9	1653	97306	466 4	5 566	1077	173	103	597	873	204	97510	468	 31		193 —	293	164	392	195	267	2003	2139	141695	117986
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Mozambique	Mission	12	1215				2	1		3	- 3	1212	3	- 1		4 —	7		19	1	4	39	28	4073	3539
Israel*	Mission	1	38									38	1	— 1			1				1	4	1	28	24
Greek	Mission	5	191					2		2	- 2	189	3		_	2 $-$	2	-			_	7	6	228	175
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Italian	Union Mission	57	2568	15	$1 \ \ 32$	48	9	10	38 —	• 57	- 9	2559	26	6 2		17	10	14		50	_	125	86	28 30	2660
Indian Ocean	Union Mission	69	3886	54 -	- 21	75	8	11	17 —	36	39	3925	28	2 2	-	15 —	32	1	61	13	22	176	113	7071	4560
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r ranco-beigian Hungarian*	Union Conference	166	6222	10		113			70	120	-10	6222	10	<u> </u>	_	11 —	12	6			2	79	175	7000	6500
Franco-Belgian	Union Conference	85	4352	16	 8 89	113	30	18	75 —	123	-10	4342	44	8 3	2	19 —	16	3	1	35	13	144	90	3840	2465
Austrian Czechoslovakian*	Union Conference	50	7505		4 52	04	41	10	00	100	-2-1	7505	43			26	2					71	160	6000	5400
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* No Report

Get Acquainted with your Division

São Tomé the Green Island

By Juvenal Gomes

The small island of São Tomé is located on the Gulf of Guinea on the Equator, and being always green and smiling it looks like an everblooming garden of infinite beauty. It is only 800 square kilometers in size and has about 61,000 inhabitants. The soil is rich, and much cocoa, coffee and copra is produced, but the natives are mostly poor as the great business enterprises are in the hands of the Europeans.

Many of the people are Roman Catholics, as these were the first missionaries to arrive on the island, but a great number are still living in superstition and fear. The first Adventists came to São Tomé about 20 years ago, and we have groups of believers spread over the island. Still, deep spiritual darkness is found in many places among the uncivilized part of the population, and idolatry and polygamy are practiced as in other places of Africa. There are several kinds of witchcraft in São Tomé of which the most important "Hálada". "Dondòló" "Jambi". These three resemble each other inasmuch as all three have as their focus point "the soul of the dead".

The "Dondòló" and the "Hálada" are practiced at night. A circle is made in the middle of the village campus, a stake is set up and also a table on which is a small lamp lit by oil. The wick of the lamp is swallowed by the medium after which he makes terrible noises and rolls on the ground. The patient, who is waiting to be healed through this ceremony, is lying on a mat on the ground and is exposed to all kinds of treatments, one of them consisting of him being beaten with a live chicken until the poor bird is dead.

The witch doctor in charge of the "Jambí" has at the entrance to his dwelling a pit which is called "Cóbóiangá". This is supposed to have great power to deliver the people from their enemies, but in order that



Workers at São Tomé Island

he may do that his believers must each new moon throw food into the pit. If this is not done death is certain, and the spirits must be appeased.

It is easy to understand that such strong adherence to witchcraft and polygamy has proved a great hindrance to the spread of the gospel. It has been found that many women on the island do not want to get married, as they have the saying that as soon as a woman is married she becomes a slave; so the young women prefer just to live with a man and have no responsibilities whatsoever in connection with him.

It has thus been very difficult to establish our work here. For several years after the arrival of our missionaries the natives avoided any contact with them, because they thought that this new religion was of the devil. Our first little school, modest in the beginning, was looked upon with disfavor by the authorities, but it has since been recognized and the Adventists are left almost in peace. Thousands of young natives of both sexes as well as some Europeans have passed through our school. The curriculum offered is not much different from that followed in Portugal in the primary department. This year 250 students have been registered, and we could have double

the number of students if we only had the teachers and the classrooms.

In spite of the many difficulties mentioned the Advent message is spreading, and activities have been started in many places; even on the small island of Prince, situated about 100 km from São Tomé, we have 20 faithful members. All these outlying places are visited once a week, or twice a month, except for the island of Prince, which is visited once a quarter. The two European teachers at our school and the three native evangelists are insufficient to cope with so much work, and much more which still has to be done. The difficulties we have encountered and the great amount of work still to be done lead us to the throne of God to get the help we need. Pray for the work at São Tomé and the island of Prince.

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