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Need of Holding Together in Our World-Wide Work

By W. E. READ

WHEN this work began many years ago, its activities were confined to a very small area; in fact, it began in one place, and then gradually reached out, taking in other cities, other countries, other continents, until it has spread into all parts of the world.

In the early days of the work the brethren met together for counsel, but they had not far to go, seeing they lived in one city. It meant a short walk, or at the most a short ride, to get to the place where the committee meeting was held. As the work developed, however, and interests sprang up in other cities, when it became necessary to have a committee the brethren had longer distances to travel to get to the place of meeting.

As the work developed still further and interests sprang up in other countries, in order that the work of God might be held together and not break up into off-shoots here and there, it was still necessary that the brethren should come together for counsel. They would come perhaps once a year, but it meant that some representatives had to travel much longer distances than in the days when the movement began.

To-day the work has spread out into all the earth. It is represented among every race of people, among almost every nation. The continents are separated by large stretches of water, and yet if the work of God is to be held together

and move in even lines in all parts of the earth, there must be times of counsel. Hence we have, in this great Advent movement, the General Conference session, which up to now has met every four years. There have also been the Autumn Councils, convening every October, when the world budget is considered, and when appropriations are made to different parts of the world field.

The Spirit of God during the years has given valuable counsel to this people concerning the study of our problems, and how we should relate ourselves to them and to each other in the work of God. Notice the following from *Testimonies to Ministers*, page 252:

“The greatest work is before us. The peril which threatens our usefulness, and which will prove our ruin, if not seen and overcome, is selfishness—placing a higher estimate upon our plans, our opinions, and our labours, and moving independently of our brethren. ‘Counsel together’ have been the words repeated by the angels again and again.

“Satan may move through one man’s mind to warp things out of their proper channel; he may succeed with two who view things in a similar light; but with several minds enlisted, there is greater safety against his wiles. Every

plan will be more liable to be viewed from all sides, every advance will be more carefully studied, so that no enterprise will be so likely to be entered upon which will bring confusion and perplexity and defeat to the work in which we are engaged. In union there is strength; in division there is weakness and defeat.”

Then again, observe this further expression in the same publication:

“But if we watch carefully and take counsel with our brethren, we shall be given an understanding of the Lord’s will; for the promise is, ‘The meek will He guide in judgment: and the meek will He teach His way.’”

How necessary it is in this time, when the spirit of division is in the very air we breathe, that as God’s Advent people we keep together in all our plans for the work of God. This great cause, in its doctrines and in its organization, is established upon biblical principles. There is no room for dictatorship in the Advent movement. God has called men to lead in His work. That has been His plan throughout the ages, and He calls His leaders to-day. But in this movement, the presidents of Conferences, of Unions, of Divisions, and of the General Conference, are surrounded by a group of men who are called to be counsellors in the service of God. These men meet to study the problems connected with the cause of God, and

all seek to move together in the work committed to their hands.

In the local church there is the church board. They should meet regularly for counsel. The cost of getting together, however, is negligible. Some walk to the place of meeting; others perhaps take a tram or bus; but living near at hand it means that very little if any expense is incurred in having such meetings.

In the local conferences, however, which cover a wider area, it means a little more expense for the conference committee to get together. They meet three or four times a year. In the Union conference, which covers a still wider area and has its representatives in all parts of its territory, when a Union committee meeting is planned, some of its members must travel longer distances. When we think of the Division committee, which takes in not one country, but many countries, then its representatives must travel still farther, and more expense is incurred. When we think of the General Conference session, then men must come from the ends of the earth. It is true the General Conference has been held but once in four years, and so the expense is incurred but once in a quadrennium. These expenses, however, are incident to a world-wide movement, and these periods of counsel are vitally necessary in order that the work may move in even lines in all parts.

Usually at our councils, we work on the basis of delegation. To the local conference annual meeting the churches send their delegates, one for every ten of their members; to the Union conference session the conferences send their delegates, one for every fifty of their membership. When the General Conference session is called, then the Unions in all parts of the world send their delegation, and this is made up on the basis of one for 500 of their members. In our Unions in this Division with their present membership, this would mean a fair-sized delegation. We have hardly ever taken full advantage of this provision, however, on account of the expense involved. We have sent but a few men, and this has been helpful from some standpoints, but not

from others. It would be far better if we could have our full delegation at all these councils, for leadership grows by the experience of contact with others, sharing in the problems of a world work, learning new methods and new plans, getting a new vision, and coming back with a new inspiration to press forward in the work of God.

Every year the General Conference has its Autumn Council. At that time it considers many large problems, and as mentioned before, the budget is considered, and appropriations made to mission lands. For a number of years, in America, all Union conference presidents and all local conference presidents have been called into these councils, and it has meant much to the work on the other side of the Atlantic that these men have been present on these occasions. Men have grown into strong leaders because of contacts with our world work, and the effects of such periods of counsel are seen to-day in the strong work which has been built up through the years.

During the past two or three years we have invited to our Winter Council in the Division most of our conference presidents and a

few other leaders in our work in the various conferences.

There is a danger facing us in many lands of Europe and other parts of the world, of isolation, due, perhaps to the geographical situation. We are bounded on all sides by stretches of water. We are separated from America by water, and when we make a journey to General Conferences, it seems as though we have to go such a long, long way.

More and more we must take counsel with our brethren in other lands. More and more must we meet with them as the days go by. We must study their plans and their methods, and then seek to adapt the best of what we find to the building up of our own work.

God has committed to us all a great responsibility. Around us there are the unwarned millions. They must hear the message, and it is our responsibility to proclaim it to them. A larger work must be done. We must catch a larger vision of what God has for us. We must enter into His plans.

May God bless all the great work with which we are associated. May the Lord give us a larger love in our hearts, a deeper passion for the lost, and a greater desire to reach out after souls for whom Christ died.

The Health Food Work in Britain

BY JOHN RIGBY

ALMOST forty years ago a few enthusiasts met in London to lay plans for producing food products which could be used in making known the benefits of healthful diet. The start was quite a small one. It had to be, for there was very little capital available. A new Company was formed to take over the business of the London Food Company, the total assets of which were less than a thousand pounds. Premises were acquired and loans obtained to get necessary equipment.

In spite of many difficulties the products had already reached a high standard early in 1900. Various workers engaged in lecturing up and down the country. At the Union conference that year

the responsibility for catering was undertaken by the Food Factory. The conference had hardly ended when a serious blow fell—the building was burned to the ground. The salvage was transferred to rented premises at Birmingham. The next year was very difficult, but under strong leadership in 1902 matters improved and a period of prosperity began.

Then in 1906 plans were made for new premises to be built here at Watford. During the next few years the Company enjoyed considerable freedom from competition, but as time went on newcomers entered the field, and each year has intensified our problems along these lines. The Lord has been exceedingly good to us. There—

have been no more fires or serious accidents and, whilst development has not been as rapid as some would like, progress has been quite consistent. There has been greatly increased output during the past five years. Retail prices have fallen considerably but the total value of sales is still slightly ahead each year, and for the first half of 1938 we have passed the highest six-months' total ever recorded.

Already we have forty-five different products, but they may be conveniently grouped into four main sections. Cereals—Starch Reduced Breads and Biscuits—Nut Foods and Soya Products—Sundries. These make up the following percentages of the total sales: 37, 24, 26, and 13 per cent. It is in the first two that the most severe competition is felt. There are no less than forty cereal breakfast foods on the British market—many of them imported duty free and sold at prices which are possible only to manufacturers who have behind them tremendous capital reserves.

The factory buildings are quite conveniently situated for our present needs, but before long we hope to make still further extensions. In 1928 the first building became too small, and the portion added that year made it possible to instal modern methods of manufacture. It might be of interest to our readers to follow the process

in the Cereal Department. We have two large silos (brick-built storage-bins for wheat) reaching to the fourth floor, to which the incoming grain, imported from Australia, is elevated mechanically. We are able to store about four months' supply and thus safeguard ourselves from market fluctuations. Each day the quantity required for manufacture is passed through a dry-cleaning plant to remove all waste material, and thence through a washing plant in which it is thoroughly cleansed in running water. We are thus certain of its being perfectly clean at the commencement of the process. In order to ensure exactness of control in cooking we use a type of plant in which the steam does not come into contact with the grain. We are thus able to use the proper amount of water suitable to the atmospheric conditions of the day.

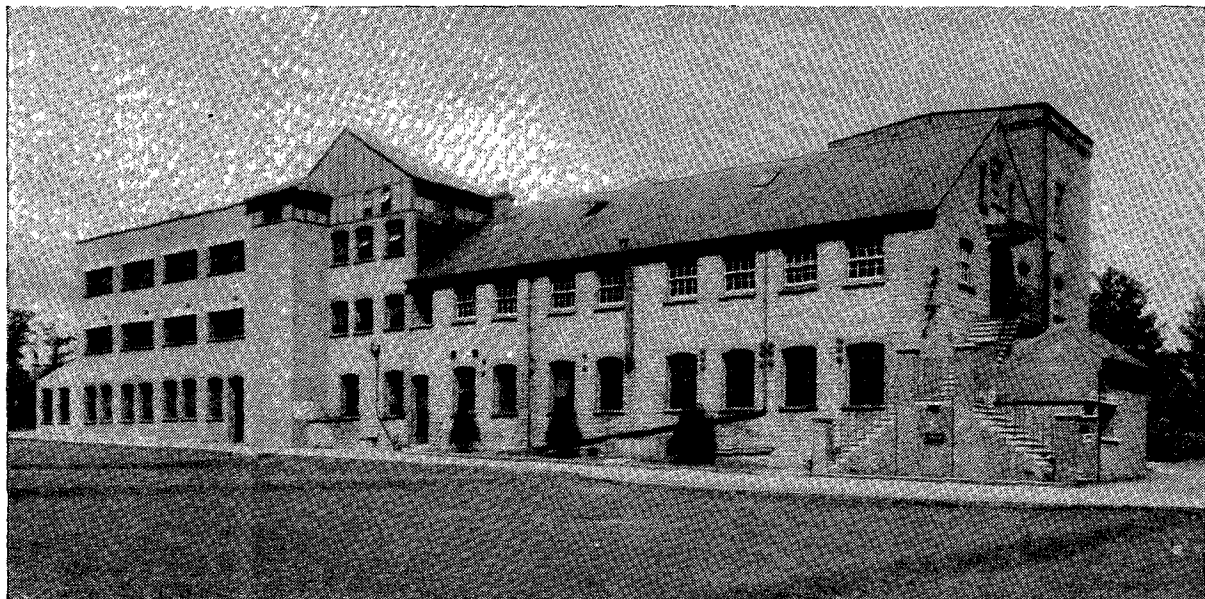
The cooked grain is now "conditioned"—that is, the surplus moisture is removed whilst the grain is passing over a heated conveyor and then it is once more elevated to permit of being "gravity fed" into the mills. These roll out each grain into a flake so fine that one wonders how it can go further without being broken up. But it carries on to a very useful machine. This was designed and built in our own workshop, and its efficiency in use during the

past four years is a testimony to the skill of our engineers. In this part of the process the loose flakes are distributed into the moulds, automatically pressed to the exact thickness required, ready to be fed on the same tray into the gas-heated oven where they are toasted to that golden brown shade which gives them such an attractive appearance.

So far everything has been mechanical. At one stage only is the product touched by hand. It has been found impracticable to obtain a machine for packing the biscuits into the cartons, so we utilize the services of young lady packers. There is still another process, however, for we wish the biscuits to get to the consumer as crisp as possible. This can be guaranteed by wrapping the carton itself in an outer waxed wrapper and a rather wonderful machine helps the operator to do this at the rate of about 350 an hour. All that now remains is to put the packets into the dispatch cases, ready to be sent to the stockists.

It sounds a long job, but actually, from the oven to the delivery van can be as short a time as ten minutes.

The Starch Reduced Department has quite a different story. Here the best flour obtainable (from the standpoint of quality of gluten content) is passed through a mixing machine where, by constant



Granose Foods factory at Stanborough Park, Watford.

agitation in water, the starch content of the flour is washed out leaving behind the gluten (protein) content. This, after proper maturing, is made up into a suitable dough and eventually baked on a "travelling oven." A piece of dough measuring about three inches long and one inch across finishes up as a loaf nearly twenty times the size. The weight is not much more than an ounce, but the low starch content makes it a boon to those who suffer from diabetes or obesity. In the same department are made other starch-reduced foods—rolls, batons, biscuits, etc.—second to none on the market.

What we used to call the "Nut-food" Department should now really be called the "Cannery," for two years ago we added to it our "Soya Bean" range. This department has doubled its output during the past four years, and we are thirty-six per cent ahead of last year (six months' figures).

Just take a peep at this section early one Sunday morning. The worker in charge has prepared well ahead of his helpers, and when the four young ladies join him at 8 a.m. a number of wire baskets of steamed beans are taken out of the retort ready for them to begin. One fills an empty can with the hot beans, the next puts in the proper quantity of tomato sauce, and all the next has to do is to put on a loose lid—but she is kept quite busy at it. Now the machine plays its part; can and lid quickly inserted, a slight pressure of the foot, a whirr of wheels and—a completely sealed can. Just one more process. The retort is now ready again for use, and into it goes tray after tray of sealed cans for the necessary period of "sterilizing." This varies with each product but the results are the same—almost 100 per cent perfect. The retort is quite capacious—3,000 tins at one filling, and in use practically every day.

I have mentioned difficulties of four and five years ago. Economy had to be our watchword and everyone co-operated in reducing operating costs to a minimum. It was most interesting to deal with our problems from the standpoint of "How can we reduce this expense and yet maintain efficiency?" Item after item was considered,

experimented with, tested and finally cut out or modified, and in this way, in spite of the continuous increase in prices of raw materials, we were able to bring costs to the place where they no longer seriously worried us. We had to spend to save, but in one notable case the investment of £80 has resulted in savings of nearly £800 in the four years.

Government taxation sometimes comes at an awkward time. In the old days we had steam boilers and ovens hand-fired with coal and coke. This was a dusty and untidy method of obtaining heat and power, but when oil-firing was introduced our troubles seemed to be over. Then national needs caused the Government to look round for another source of taxable income and the penny per gallon tax on fuel oil made a tremendous difference to our operating costs. But the worst was not yet; a year ago the oil companies decided that they, too, needed a similar increase, with the result that coal once more came into its own.

The extra needs, consequent upon increased output, caused us to consider the installation of modern plant. This has been completed and with mechanically-stoked ovens and boiler using small coal we have now, we believe, all that we require to care for any reasonable growth in demand for the next few years, and we hope to be able to retire the investment completely within five years.

Now let me say a few words about people, for after all no machine will work without someone to guide it. There are fifty-four of us altogether, just enough to get the work done—to have problems to share and outside interests to keep us busy. In short, a happy family. Outside interests—yes, just a few. Two years ago we had the privilege of repeating history;

we catered for a Union camp meeting in addition to our regular work. Fifteen thousand meals in nine days; it was an interesting time for some of us! Then we are always welcome at local conferences, where, in addition to maintaining an exhibit, we provide facilities for the sale of our products to the members in attendance, and provide the liquid refreshments. On the Sabbath of the last conference in South England we served about 1,800 fruit drinks.

But there are other activities. In Harvest Ingathering our workers can always be relied upon to get their goal. They more than doubled it two years ago, and every year there is a nice overflow.

Then as a Union institution we have a keen interest in the needs of the field. Recent years have not been prosperous enough for us to give on the scale of previous years, but we have made "token" payments to show our willingness, and we look forward to the time when we can once more furnish means for the extension of the evangelistic work in our field. We rejoice that during the years thousands of pounds have been provided in this way, but we shall not be satisfied until we can feel that the Union can budget on a substantial amount each year from its Health Food Factory.

Our factory superintendent, Brother G. E. Norris, has been on four months' leave of absence to the Argentine to give them help with their new food factory, which assistance has been greatly appreciated by our South American friends. Our College at Newbold has just called for one of our senior workers to help them in their needs.

We ask you to remember us in your prayers, that God may guide and overrule for the extension of this department of the cause.

Health Food Work in Denmark

BY H. WESTERLUND

OUR food factory is located in Copenhagen and will this year celebrate its fortieth anniversary, as the work was started in 1898, a short time after Skodsborg Sanitarium was established. Brother

John P. Hansen, a Danish brother living in America, was sent here to take charge of this branch of our work. Until that time Brother Hansen had been connected with the food factory at College View.

The work started very modestly, but with great faith for its future as a help to the sanitarium, and also as an important factor in helping to realize the ideal: a healthy mind in a healthy body.

Looking back forty years we must say that the Lord has been good and the efforts put forth have been blessed, so that constant progress can be traced through the years. It became several times necessary to enlarge, and some of these extensions have been quite considerable.

The main products have been nut foods, aids for diabetics, health bread, health biscuits, health coffee, and tea. Quite a new department was established in 1934 when we started to make pure vegetable margarine, and give our members, as well as the public, a product free from animal substances, such as oil from whales and pork fat. The department has had good success, but in 1937 a new law regarding margarine came into force to the effect that a certain vitamin preparation should be added to all margarine made, and this was made up largely of liver-oil from the whale. We applied for exemption from this law, giving as reason our principles regarding clean and unclean animals, and they exempted us on condition that we only sell our margarine to the members of our organization and not in the shops. Other organizations and societies, such as the Jews and three vegetarian societies, also applied for exemption and received it on the same condition. We are now selling our margarine to these through agents. We are pleased to say that our sale has not decreased but increased quite considerably. We notice that the vegetarian societies have grown considerably because a number of people wanted vegetable margarine and joined these societies in order to be able to get it. These societies used as an argument to get people to enrol that one of the advantages of being a member of the society is that they are able to buy a clean vegetable margarine. On account of starting this department it became necessary again to enlarge our factory. We also needed more room for raw products, and so

cellars were made under the already-erected side building.

During the years 1935-37 several changes took place and it became necessary to renew a large part of the equipment in the factory which, until that time, was still made up of machines and tools which the first manager brought from America. We disposed of some of these machines, and it was interesting to note that a coffee-roaster bought in 1898 for Kr.450 was sold in 1936 for Kr.475, and that two mills which were bought respectively for Kr.24 and Kr.25 were sold for Kr.25 each.

Of the new machines I will especially mention our new baking oven which weighs 100 tons and goes by electricity. Another machine worth mentioning is the new biscuit machine which automatically feeds the new rotating oven.

All the rooms have been modernized; there have been put up

new white wall tiles everywhere, all the working tables have been covered with stainless steel, and all the floors with "Terasso." The public factory inspection has declared that our establishment is the most sanitary food factory in Copenhagen.

With regard to the turn-over this has been on the increase the past eight years and during the past five years it has doubled, so that during the year 1937 it amounted to Kr.150,000. It has been our desire during the present year to increase it by Kr.25,000, and we believe we shall succeed. The work is not ours but His who called us to it. At the present time we have reached Kr.12,000 of the Kr.25,000, and though we are working under difficult conditions on account of the exchange and quota restrictions we believe that the work will ever go forward victoriously.

Ekebyholm Mission School, Sweden

BY C. GIDLUND

WE began our school year last September with eighty students enrolled. We had the brightest prospects of success, and these have also been realized. Looking back on the past year, we cannot but say with the man of God, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." Freedom from conflicts without and within has made the school work a pleasure both for the teachers and their pupils, for although there must always be struggles, we have not striven against one another, but for and with each other against faults and weaknesses, selfish and evil tendencies, and sin and temptation in all its forms. Such struggles have only brought us closer together and taught us to love and esteem one another more highly.

Here at the school we have seen many evidences of the transforming influence students can exert upon one another. The older and maturer ones have felt a real burden for the salvation of those who had not yet known Jesus as their personal Saviour, and after the Week of Prayer the whole school family were united at the foot of

the cross of Jesus, to the joy and satisfaction of all who had been praying to that end.

All our missions campaigns have met with a ready response from the young people. They have put their vigour, enthusiasm, and faith into the work. In the Harvest Ingathering over Kr.6,000 (about 1,600 dollars) were collected in less than a week, exceeding last year's record by Kr.2,000. At the Colporteurs' Institute, which began immediately after the close of school, we again saw how many of our youth understand present-day needs and possess a strong belief in the Advent message. Nearly fifty students from Ekebyholm are now in the canvassing field and several of our agricultural workers have been touched by the same inspiration and have left the plough for the prospectus. Indeed, where should we expect the missionary spirit to grow and bear fruit in action, if not at our missionary college? Here is a typical case: Two young people were offered situations, which they were qualified to fill, at the office of one of our institutions. But their reply

was, "We are going out into the canvassing field," and they did, too.

During the past year twenty-four have earned scholarships for Ekebyholm and two for Newbold Missionary College—a great incentive to all our progressive young people.

Eighteen students have been graduated from our four-year course in the Academy, and seven have completed the Seminary course. The latter students have conducted an effort in a village near by, thus gaining good practice and giving the villagers much of value. The impressive graduation exercises were attended by over a hundred visitors, mostly the parents and friends of the students. On the last day of the school year

thirteen young men and women were added to the church by baptism. It is especially interesting and encouraging in this soul-winning work to note that most of these new members are the children of Adventists.

I should like to say a few words about the good results which the school farm has given since we placed a man of our faith in charge of it. The agricultural department has given us a net profit of Kr.4,000 each year and thus has benefited the school both directly and indirectly. If we had not had the farm, the school fees would have been considerably higher.

We thank God for this school of ours and for what it desires to do for the young people.

The Gold Coast

BY J. CLIFFORD

ENCOURAGING reports come to us of soul-winning efforts in Koforidua, Mampong, Attebubu, and other centres.

This year has been marked by a deadlock in the trade of the country's staple commodity, cocoa; the price of this has dropped so low as to render it almost unsaleable, and how to make ends meet has been a real problem to our mission. But such an experience reminds us that it is not by money nor by numbers but by the power of God's Spirit that His work will be completed, and we are encouraged to see the success that has attended soul-winning efforts put forth in the field.

We have been happy to have Pastors W. E. Read and J. I. Robison with us for a brief period this year, and to have their counsel on our educational and other problems. With their aid a plan has been worked out for our schools so that we can conduct them fully in accordance with denominational principles, and do more to train our African workers. We believe the blessing of the Lord will rest upon this advance step.

Good reports reach us from our members in the French Ivory Coast, and we hope that a missionary may be sent to that field in the near future.

A brief account of a visit to our believers in the Nzima and Ahanta districts in the south-west of Gold Coast will be of interest.

Apart from a short period spent by Pastor T. M. French at Axim, this populous field has not had the help of a resident European missionary, and until the present year has had only one African worker.

The Kikam church, raised up in 1910, has given loyal service to the cause of God. Two of its laymen have raised up a group of Sabbath-keepers in the Ivory Coast, others from the church furnish strong

leaders for our companies in the mining centres of Tarkwa and Abosso. Many of the old members rest in their graves, but the younger ones are carrying on the work. During our visit a man, after fifteen years of apostasy, took a new stand for the truth and showed his sincerity by bringing in over £2 of tithe.

Another visit was to Princes Town, where we lodged in an old castle built by the Brandenburg Germans in 1682. In this town there are fifteen believers, gathered in through the efforts of the Kikam churchmembers. Our first baptism for the Ahantas was conducted here in the sea. During our stay the members kept us busy in visiting interests which they had developed in neighbouring towns.

The past twelve months another company has been raised up among this tribe. A man, hearing the truth, became convinced of its importance and gave up his position as train guard in order to keep the Sabbath. He returned to his home town Dixcove, in Ahanta, where his earnest testimony and labours resulted in sixteen souls taking their stand for the message. It was a pleasure to meet with these earnest believers and to instruct them further. Our public meetings in this town were well attended and resulted in others taking their stand for the truth. We take courage as we see the Lord's work advancing in these coastal districts as well as in the hinterland of Ashanti.

Teacher Arloo's Visit to Ivory Coast, May, 1938

Abidjan

THIS is the town in which our Techiman members live. The population of the place is about 70,000, including the sections on both sides of the river. About ten different dialects or languages are spoken here. There are fourteen members already enrolled in the Sabbath-school, and during our meetings, which lasted ten days, five new converts were added. These were some of the Ashanti traders who also live here. Brother Amu, the leader, worked very hard

inviting the people to attend our meetings. The Spirit of God moved on the hearts of the people and helped them to receive the Word. I feel certain that if our work were started here with a European missionary and good evangelists who could understand and speak the language well, many would turn to the true God.

At the conclusion of the ten meetings Brother Amu said, "I wish the God of Abraham would send us a worker for this side of the Gold Coast; I would help him."

He was so impressed that he spent about 600 francs travelling to the inland stations. Another member was also appointed to accompany me on all these trips. He also would help the work on this side. The total tithes and offerings received here were 1,655 francs.

Abengourou

Travelling by train about 120 miles inland, I came to Agboville station, then by lorry 146 kilometres, and came to Abengourou. Here lives the Omanhene (king) of Anwonwini people. The town has a population of about 30,000. Here there are eight precious souls who have recently been converted to the truth; they are store-keepers for Brother Amu. I had meetings with them and they enjoyed my visit; they gave in their names for baptism. Brother I. K. Markeh of Kikam is now residing here as a tailor with Moses Andoh, who has been a long time in the Ivory Coast. The latter is able to speak the French language very well. He is willing to undertake the work of an evangelist immediately a missionary is sent to the place. Having stayed a few days with them, I returned again to Agboville and took train inland to Tiemelekro, a distance of about eighty-nine miles.

Tiemelekro

This village has a population of about 400 and our Nsima members, John A. Blay and John Essien, live here. The latter was here when I visited them. As these two men are strong in the faith some of the citizens have united with them in serving God, making a total of seven altogether; and during the evening and morning services three more souls accepted the truth, making a total of ten in all. These are strong and able to sing well; they are also good tithe-payers and faithful Sabbath-keepers. Four of them have already been baptized by Pastor Garbrah. They devoted much of their time and studied closely with me the Word of God every day. Indeed, hungry and thirsty souls are these members here. When the meetings with them were ended, the leader, Brother Blay, said: "May it please the Lord of Israel that a chance may be afforded me to visit the Gold Coast again and study the

Word of God more, and come back and teach the people here in Tiemelekro." He could read the Twi Bible very well, and as I could not speak the language very well, he was my interpreter. I received the sum of 1,993 francs 50 centimes from them as tithes and offerings.

Agbawu

Having returned again to Abidjan on May, 16, I joined another lorry the next day by the south road, 192 kilometres, to Sakota Junction, then by foot thirty-five Km. to the village Agbawu where live our native members. The pathway to it is dense forest. I spent three days on the way before I reached here.

The people in this village live in an insanitary condition; they live with their domestic animals, cows, sheep, goats, and fowls, in their compounds. The women carry loads on their backs, the men on their heads. The village population is about 260, and we have a total membership of twenty-seven adults, eleven of whom have been baptized by Pastor Garbrah. They have been taught to be clean in their compounds, and they appear clean when they come to church. The language spoken is Didder, similar to the one in Grand Lahou. Good meetings were arranged and

many people came to attend, including the chief. He was present when I was teaching the prophecy in Daniel 7 from my prophetic chart. In the evening he came again, this time with the stool elders, and asked me to explain the same subject again to his elders. This I did, and when I had finished he exclaimed, "Things that my ancestors did not hear or see, have in God's marvellous way been revealed to us in these last days; I pray that a missionary might be sent down to teach my people." His words were interpreted to me by Brother Adingah into Twi. The harvest is ripe, only the labourers are few indeed. Our members in this village are experiencing difficulty; the French Government is forcing the majority of the people to go to France for military training. Some of them have been enrolled for this purpose and will soon be taken away. Therefore they gave me a message to be delivered to the pastors, teachers, and members in the Gold Coast to fervently pray for them that the Lord might look upon them and deliver them. There were many disputes in the church among our members, and by the help of God these were settled amicably.

The total tithes and offerings received here is 210 francs 75 centimes.

Further Progress in Primitive Regions

BY T. H. FIELDING

A WEEK ago, taking with us a native teacher, a student in training and a small cook boy, and leaving my wife and small baby in the care of the Lord, we set off to visit our growing interest among the primitive heathen of the district of Dwan, about a hundred miles north-east of our Agona station. For the last twenty-two miles we journeyed over a rough side road definitely not improved by the recent heavy rains. But we forgot all about the bumps and jolts when we saw the shining happy faces of our believers as they welcomed us at the end of the journey. We were glad to meet again our worker and his wife who are doing such a splendid work up there. The worker's wife was so pleased

to see some of her fellow-Ashantis that she almost danced for joy.

My place of abode was a mud hut with grass roof, the only opening being a doorway. But the floor had been nicely prepared with special native floor polish, and being right among the members in the Christian section of the village, we were soon comfortably settled. With the camp bed erected and the inner man fortified, we were ready to begin the busy programme the resident worker had arranged for us in the short time we were able to spend there.

At the opening of the Sabbath, with our ninety or more believers, we filed along a grass path to a village a quarter of a mile away. The evening air literally rang with

the songs of Zion. Try to picture the ensuing scene in that village. Little round mud huts silhouetted against the moonlit and starlit tropical sky, wisps of smoke curling upward from scores of glowing wood fires the tang of which fills the air, a large ring of dark-skinned heathen, many of whom are almost naked, a happy band of singing Christians in marked contrast, then silence as pointing upward to the sky the white missionary is saying, "Who hath made these things?" He is telling the heathen that God in the heavens is their Father and loves them so much that He has given His only Son to die for them and will soon send Him back for them if they are ready.

Early Sabbath morning we went to the village of the paramount chief two miles away. As we preached and sang before him and his benighted people we could not help but compare the present happy occasion with the sullen reception we received two years ago. Although as yet we have little fruitage there, the Gospel has begun its work. Much of the darkness has been dispelled.

Back at our temporary headquarters we held the regular Sabbath morning service. The membership has very definitely outgrown the room which serves as a meeting-hall. The members are building themselves a new mud church. After lunch and a short rest, leaving the young student in charge of the Sabbath-school, we journeyed to a village three miles away. Here we have about fifteen young men and a small mud church. They are calling for the teacher, whom, alas, we cannot yet send. In that village there is a fetish tree in a hole of which are placed eggs each day to feed the gods—a striking contrast to the monument of the threefold message at the other end of the village. The chief had recently died. His son is a Sabbath-keeper and has married an Adventist wife from the other village. The chief was opposed to the marriage and to the son's membership, and said that because of the son's disobedience either he or the boy would die. Next day the chief sickened and within a week was dead. The young man's wife, too, has suffered much persecution from her father.

But both are very happy in the truth. (See picture.)

To close the Sabbath we preached in yet another village nearby. We have no representative there as yet, but our words were well received. As we were beginning to think that bed was a good place after such a strenuous day, the people from the heathen section of our village sent to ask if we were coming to preach to them. We could not say "no," so we went and sat among them and talked with them about Jesus.



Photo: T. H. Fielding
Chief's son with his wife.

Sunday morning we were up early, packed up, and taking the resident teacher with us, we went on our homeward way to visit *en route* another new interest which the Lord has marvellously presented to us. Some weeks ago, visiting one of our Ashanti companies raised up three years ago by the efforts of the laymembers of a nearby church, we met a young man from a district some seventy miles up the Great North Road. He said many people in his village and the next had become interested in the truth by what he had told them after returning from a visit to Ashanti. Could we send them a teacher? As his village was about twenty-five miles from the district we have just reported above, I arranged for the teacher from there to visit them. Hence my taking him with us on this occasion. To reach the place we

turned in for a quarter of a mile from the main road, and leaving the two boys in charge of the car and baggage, we tramped six miles through grassland, the sun getting hotter every moment. In the first village we found about fifteen people who had begun to keep as much of the truth as they knew. We preached in the village, explaining a few of the high points of the faith and then, with the new believers, went farther for more than two miles to find, in an even more primitive village, more than eight new Sabbath-keepers. The chief had recently been bereaved so we preached to a very attentive audience about the resurrection of the dead. Three more people added their names to the roll. With that to cheer our hearts and intending on our next visit to stay longer with them, we began our tiresome journey back, in the hot afternoon sun, along the eight-mile bush track to the car. As we dropped wearily in the driving seat we learned that the young student we left behind had preached to the people in that village and had interested a man and his family. A great door and effectual is opened unto us in that region. Oh, that we had a strong evangelist whom we might send to reside there.

Rejoicing in the triumphs of the faith we had witnessed in both of these primitive districts, we sped along the last seventy miles to home nothing daunted by the blinding storm through which we passed before we got there. This land provides many thrills, but the greatest thrill of all is when we see the banner of the threefold message planted in new soil.

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BROTHER E. R. COLSON has left for a visit to the missions of East Africa. He will audit the accounts of the Union missions and also attend the camp meetings in Kenya Colony, returning in good time for the Winter Council.

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