



Vol. 10. No. 2.

February, 1939

The Surety of the Message

By W. E. Read

God has committed to the Advent people a special message for this day and generation. It is the message for the hour and is to be carried to earth's remotest bounds to prepare a people for the coming of the Lord. This evangel is outlined in Revelation 14:6-14. In the thirteenth chapter of Revelation, however, we behold the people of God harassed and persecuted by organizations which are actuated by the spirit of the evil one. Notwithstanding this, the message is to be given, and given with no uncertain sound. As God's people rise in their God-given strength the Holy Spirit will witness to the appeal they make and souls will be won to the truth.

The grand climax of the message is seen in Revelation 14:14, where we read: "And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on His head a golden crown, and in His hand a sharp sickle." In Revelation fifteen we behold the triumph of the Advent movement. To-day God's people are delivering the message, and although soon persecution will be rife and they will pass through great tribulation, God gives them, for their encouragement, a vision of the victory that awaits them as they stand loyal to His wonderful message of truth.

The message warns us against the worship of the beast, against the worship of the image, and against receiving his mark, and when John gives us the vision of the victorious Advent people, he

sees them standing on "a sea of glass mingled with fire." He sees those who "had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name." There they "stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God. And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb."

The threefold message of Revelation fourteen, based as it is upon a distinct time prophecy, placed in the setting of the imminent appearing of Christ, inspires confidence in the heart of everyone who yields implicit obedience to the call of God. It is the Lord's plan that His people *know*, and act because they know. He does not want us to wander in the mazes of doubt and uncertainty, feeling perhaps that it might be the truth, or that the message may possibly be right; that is not God's plan for His children. He wants us to *know*, to be *sure*. He wants us to be certain in our own hearts that the message He gives is His saving message, His last message for these days.

Think of John the Baptist who came many years ago preparing the way of the Lord. He announced the Gospel of repentance, but it was without any hesitation, without any doubt; there was a note of certainty in his appeal. "I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness," he said, "make straight the way of the Lord."

Think of Luke as he writes the preface of his gospel. There was, no doubt, uncertainty in the minds of many in his day as to some events in the life of the Saviour, but Luke sought to set all these doubts at rest. In the fourth verse of the first chapter of his gospel, he tells why he wrote the twenty-four chapters of the book, "*That thou mightest know of those things, wherein thou hast been instructed.*"

Think of the apostle Paul as he wrote his letters to the churches of the early days. He knew no doubt. He knew his message, and he believed it with all his heart. Listen to his words: "Therefore we are always confident." 2 Cor. 5:6. "We are confident, I say." 2 Cor. 5:8.

Think of the apostle John and the expression he uses so many times in his three epistles: "But we *know* that, when He shall appear." 1 John 3:2. "We *know* that we have passed from death unto life." 1 John 3:14. "Hereby we *know* that we are of the truth." 1 John 3:19. And so on over and over again in these epistles.

It is our privilege to know that our sins are forgiven, and that we are accepted of the Lord. It is our privilege also to know that the Advent message which God has given to this Advent people is *the* message for this day and this generation. "God has given great light to us as a people, but this does not mean, however, that there is no more light to come. We must be prepared for rays of light yet to

shine forth from the Word of God."

"We must not for a moment think that there is no more light, no more truth, to be given to us. We are in danger of becoming careless, by our indifference losing the sanctifying power of truth, and composing ourselves with the thought, 'I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing.' While we must hold fast to the truths which we have already received, we must not look with suspicion upon any new light that God may send."—*"Gospel Workers,"* page 310.

When considering the question of further light shining forth from the Word of God, there is one truth which we do well to recognize and that is, that further light, further truth, that God may bring to us will not deny that which has been given to us already. In the early classes in school we learn that twice two make four, and that is a principle which obtains, however high we may rise in the study of mathematics. There is no truth that we can learn in that science that will ever deny the first principles we learned. They stand all the way through, and so it will be with the truth of God as He reveals it to His people. New light will not change what was revealed some years before. The truth is the truth and the truth will stand throughout the ages.

"Let not erroneous theories receive countenance from the people who ought to be standing firm on the platform of eternal truth. God calls upon us to hold firmly to the fundamental principles that are based upon unquestionable authority."—*Ibid.*, page 308.

"Never, never seek to remove one landmark that the Lord has given

His people. The truth stands firmly established on the eternal Rock—a foundation that storm and tempest can never move."—*"Testimonies,"* Vol. 8, page 162.

"The past fifty years have not dimmed one jot or principle of our faith as we received the great and wonderful evidences that were made certain to us in 1844, after the passing of the time. The languishing souls are to be confirmed and quickened according to His Word. . . . Not a word is changed or denied. That which the Holy Spirit testified as truth after the passing of the time, in our great disappointment, is the solid foundation of truth. Pillars of truth were revealed, and we accepted the foundation principles that have made us what we are—Seventh-Day Adventists, keeping the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus."—*"Special Testimonies,"* Series B, No. 7, page 58.

"There is to be no change in the general features of our work. It is to stand as clear and distinct as prophecy has made it. . . . No line of truth that has made the Seventh-Day Adventist people what they are, is to be weakened. We have the old landmarks of truth, experience, and duty, and we are to stand firmly in defence of our principles, in full view of the world."—*"Testimonies,"* Vol. 6, pages 16, 17.

May God help us to stand loyal to the Advent message and receive it, "not as the word of man, but as it is in truth, the Word of God."



"THE dispensation in which we are now living is to be, to those that ask, the dispensation of the Holy Spirit. Ask for His blessing. It is time we were more intense in our devotion. To us is committed the arduous, but happy, glorious work of revealing Christ to those who are in darkness."

The Devotional Meetings at the Winter Council

CONDUCTED BY M. N. CAMPBELL

ON Tuesday, the 13th, Brother Campbell gave a study on the new birth. There was no subject that more delighted him personally. He was always glad to hear sermons on the subject and was always learning something new about it.

Nicodemus was evidently an outstanding character. In any attempt

to discover the most respected man in Jerusalem, Nicodemus would certainly have found a place among the first three. Yet Jesus saw in him a lost sinner. How does He regard us? Our value in His eyes does not depend upon our rank in the church, our length of service, or our works, but purely

on the fact that we have been born again. It would be a tragedy of the first magnitude for any of us to trust in our activity in the cause, or the fact that we happen to be a conference president, and wake up too late to the fact that we were entirely outside the kingdom because we had not been born again.

Why was it so essential to be born again? The description given of a sinner in Isaiah 1:6 is answer enough. Brother Campbell recalled how he had been impressed when visiting Africa with the sight of a native suffering from yaws. The disease had so eaten up his body that it was difficult to put a pencil on any place that was not covered with sores. That was something like what the Saviour saw when He looked upon a sinner.

Nor was there any hope that the sinner could do anything for his own restoration. The heart is desperately wicked; no one can know it. Carlyle, in his *History of the French Revolution*, asks the question: "What is the Reign of Terror?" and himself gives the answer that it is the madness that dwells in the human heart.

This sinful human heart asserts itself whenever it is not restrained by fear. Brother Campbell spoke of business firms in New York who make provision for entertaining visitors from the provinces and showing them the sights of the city. Almost invariably it is the lowest haunts of vice that the visitor desires to see. He would not dream of visiting such places in his home town, but away from those who know him he inclines to evade the restraints that have kept him respectable where he is known.

Romans 8:7 tells us that the human heart never can be obedient to the law of God. A man may make a new typewriter out of an old, but he cannot reconstruct a human being. Unless a man is born again there is no hope whatever for him. Just as the bitten Israelite died of the venom unless he looked at the brazen serpent, so the sinner is doomed apart from the saving power of Christ. The ordained minister must not deceive his own heart or trust in his own works. The devil who caused the early apostasy in the church is

after us all. Only when we withstand every temptation in the strength of the mighty One will we be permitted to act a part in the proclamation of the message when it shall swell into the loud cry. It was at Calvary that Nicodemus fully understood the word of Christ to him; he was then born again and became an influential member of the early church.

On Friday morning Brother Campbell dealt with the subject of deliverance from sin. Sin, of course, will not reign in our immortal bodies, but we are charged not to let it reign in our mortal bodies. What is the use of preaching to others about salvation from sin unless we have found that the doctrine works out in our own case? "Sin shall not have dominion over you." "Thanks be to God which giveth us the victory." Every preacher must be able to sing the song of deliverance. It is God's will to cleanse His people from all unrighteousness. This cleansing comes by faith just as the forgiveness comes. He that is born of God cannot commit sin.

Brother Campbell illustrated what this Scripture means. There are some things that a decent man simply cannot do; they are abhorrent to his moral standard. To the divine nature sin is repulsive. As we become partakers of the divine nature we come to hate sin. We would not yield to it for any consideration. It is by prayer very largely that we abide in Christ and enjoy the experience of uninterrupted victory. When Peter fell it was because he had neglected to pray. If a man makes a sincere dedication of himself to God in the morning he will not go far wrong that day.

On Sunday and Monday mornings Brother Campbell dealt with the promise of the Holy Spirit. In the plan of God baptism should be accompanied by the gift of the Holy Spirit. Whoever has been baptized and has not received the power of the Holy Spirit for victory over sin can obtain the gift at any time by asking for it. Half a dozen Christians filled with the Spirit will do more than ten thousand Christians can accomplish without it. This is the early rain.

Brother Campbell spoke of a Russian communist who attended a series of meetings conducted by him. This man was hardly able to understand a word of English. He was, however, fascinated by the truth, drank it in, and became an ardent Christian worker. He was as fiery a representative of the Gospel as he had been formerly of red Bolshevism, yet this man could hardly understand what the preacher was saying. Brother Campbell regarded this experience as an illustration of the working of the gift of tongues. Most of what passes by that name is utter foolishness, of no value to the speaker or to the hearer. The devil has tried to fill the world with counterfeits in order to nullify the work of God.

The early rain is given to assist in fighting the battle against sin. The latter rain will be given for the purpose of finishing the work of the Gospel, and will be given to those only who have made full use of the early rain.

How may we know that the Holy Spirit has taken full possession of

us? In the same way that we know when our sins are forgiven: by faith in the promise. The early rain was given to the church, as an abiding Comforter, at Pentecost. There are two things that do not need to be repeated; one is the sacrifice of Calvary and the other the gift of Pentecost. But we are told to pray for rain in the time of the latter rain.

The minister is powerless without the help of the Holy Spirit. Brother Campbell instanced the case of a minister who seemed to have lost his spiritual power and hold on the Lord. He became weaker and weaker in his ministry until at last the brethren told him that he ought to seek other employment. This was a heavy blow to the man, but he knew well that he had become unfruitful. He pleaded for another chance and, as usual with us, the brethren gave him what he desired. He sought the Lord most earnestly and discovered the causes of his failure and made good. He went to work again in such a way that great results attended his ministry.

A Notable Sabbath

THE Sabbath of the Council was one of outstanding and abounding blessing. It began with the usual social meeting for the members of the council. After some introductory Scriptures read by Brother W. T. Bartlett, the meeting was thrown open, and from that time until it was necessary to close there was a steady stream of testimony, all of it inspiring and much of it memorable. Brother G. A. Lindsay told how, on his recent voyage from the Fall Council, he had been invited by some of the stewards of the steamer to speak to them at their nightly prayer meeting held in the baggage-room, three decks below the water-level. The attendance varied, but every night of the voyage there was a gathering of members of the ship's company and a few passengers down in the depths of the vessel, sitting on the trunks. Brother Lindsay was impressed with their earnest desire for truth and for greater help in Christian experience.

In the evening Brother M. N. Campbell spoke on prayer. The sermon was full of remarkable evidences of the power of prayer found in the Scriptures and drawn from the speaker's own experience. One described how a poor church with slender means, situated in a city where land was costly and the price of building prohibitive, was directed and helped by the Lord in a remarkable manner so that they obtained one of the best sites in the city and were able to erect an appropriate church building.

The Sabbath-school was a delight from first to last. The local choir rendered some timely music; Brother T. T. Babienco conducted the review in heart-stirring fashion, and Brother W. G. C. Murdoch, of Newbold, taught the lesson so that it sparkled with light. The most unforgettable item of all was Brother W. Czembor's missions appeal.

The preaching service was conducted by Brother Campbell. It was a retelling of the story of the

ten virgins. The parable was made intensely practical, and it seemed a perfectly natural conclusion when Brother Campbell led us to a new dedication, that our individual vessels might be filled with the spiritual oil. It was not merely a sermon but an event which will tell in the shaping of our work in this Division.

The afternoon was devoted to a missionary symposium in which Brethren T. Fielding, from the Gold Coast, W. Till and W. J. Newman from Nigeria, and Brother H. Hurlow, from the South African Division, took part. The stories told were of thrilling interest.

So ended a day which the Lord had richly blessed. It was the high point of our Winter Council and seemed to us like God's benediction and mark of favour resting upon His servants as they faced new perils and new tasks, relying in their deepening needs upon His abounding grace.

→ → →

Visit of General Conference Y.P. Leader

THE presence of Elder A. W. Petersen, Secretary of the M.V. Department of the General Conference, added some very acceptable and valuable features to the early meetings of our Winter Council. Brother Petersen was on his way to the South African Division and stopped in England for about a week. This gave opportunity for a number of secretaries of the young people's department to meet with him in council. A day and a half was spent in this way at the offices of the British Union Conference, Stanborough Park. We discussed with Brother Petersen a large number of our problems and found him full of practical wisdom and helpful experience. We also talked with him about our plans for the coming congress in Denmark next August. He was keenly interested in all we were hoping to accomplish at that congress. With his help we were able to shape a programme which we all feel sure will make the congress a very important meeting for the future of our M.V. work in this Division.

Brother Petersen also conducted two of the devotional periods of the Winter Council. He told us how greatly the Lord was blessing the youth as evangelists in North America. A burden is beginning to rest down on the hearts of our youth to go out with the message wherever the Lord may open the way, and astonishing numbers of people are giving their hearts to the Lord in consequence. Brother Petersen pointed out that in the

early days of the movement, when the work was being carried forward by the men whom we now speak of as the pioneers, those pioneers were, as a rule, young men between twenty and thirty years of age.

Brother Petersen stressed the importance of Christian education and the power of the Bible when faithfully studied to expand the mind and develop its powers to the utmost.

A Larger Evangelism

Extracts from a paper read by T. T. Babienico

WE need ever to keep before us the marching orders given us by Christ: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature."

We are told two things: (1) what to preach, and (2) where to preach.

Men do not usually undertake any kind of work unless they are sure of success. Our duty is to obey the command given us—to go and preach.

In our planning much time is spent in studying the possibilities of success. Often, to our finite minds, there seems no prospect of success, and we do not undertake the task, regarding it as futile. Such a method of procedure is a great hindrance to larger evangelism.

From Christ's parable we learn that the sower threw his seed everywhere. It was his duty to sow. It was not for him to worry whether it fell on good or bad ground. Many times we fail to do our duty by looking for good ground and keep back the seed instead of scattering it everywhere. Christ stresses our work by saying "to every creature." This is "larger evangelism." If we fail to realize the significance of the words, "to every creature," then evangelism will be reduced to poor selfish effort.

All are more or less limited and become locally-minded. This was true of the disciples, but Christ bade them, "Lift up your eyes." It was hard for them to think of God as the God of all people and

that His work has to be done for all men.

The will of Christ with regard to larger evangelism was revealed to His servants through the gift of His Spirit. They all spoke in different tongues, every one heard in his own language. The work must be done for all nations, not only across the sea, but at home. We have the assurance of Christ's presence with us as we go to the ends of the earth. Larger evangelism means that we move on and on and on, in faith.

We are not to imitate the world's great men, using a substitute for the truth. The Word of God gives life to the preacher and quickens the hearers. Without the Word both are dead.

Sin is rampant everywhere and the only remedy for sin is Christ crucified. Lift Him up. There is power in the good old message. Preach it in its simplicity and larger evangelism will be the result.

It is a great hindrance to larger evangelism when the advice of Christ is not followed. "First the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear," is nature's way. The sickle must not be cast in too early, nor yet too late. We must not grip the heart too soon.

The mind is the door of the heart. Use the door to get to the heart. We must first teach them that they may know and understand, and then appeal to the heart. Otherwise we might get a few old folks, but the young, able and strong, would be gone.

"No man hath hired us." We need to take heed lest at the last

day we may have this accusation thrust at us by men. Larger evangelism demands help from every churchmember. Let us hire every member of the church, giving them in return the promise of the Lord: "Whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive," and send them into the vineyard. The goal is "Every churchmember a soul-winner," and if we make this part of our pro-

gramme, we will see results in our work. We must draw close to every churchmember, impressing upon them the importance of working in the Lord's vineyard. We must not, however, try to get them all to do one thing. There are many different kinds of work in which they can be encouraged to have a part. We must teach them how.

Items from African Missions Report

BY J. I. ROBISON

It was my privilege one year ago to lay before the Winter Council a few facts relative to our mission fields. Since that time I have had opportunity to visit our mission fields and also some of the unentered lands. I have been impressed more than ever with the magnitude of our task and the colossal missionary problem that we face in carrying this last message to the 55,000,000 people in our mission fields in Africa.

No steps have been taken to enter any new territory during the year. We had hoped that the Ivory Coast would have had a missionary before now, but still the three companies of Seventh-Day Adventists are without a shepherd. Then there is the great Anglo-Egyptian Sudan with its 5,760,000 people, and the French West African colonies with over 8,000,000 unwarned souls.

The membership in our mission fields has now passed the 10,000 mark, being 10,056 at the close of the third quarter of 1938. This is twenty-seven per cent of the total membership of the Division. In 1933 we had only twenty per cent of our members in the mission fields, so it is evident that our greatest membership gains are now in Africa. In fact our membership in our present African Mission territory has increased seventy-three per cent since 1933, although our mission staff, both European and African, has remained almost the same.

The net gain of 1,189 during 1937 is a splendid showing, but it

is only a tithe of what might be done in Africa if we had the men and the means to push the work on into other lands still waiting.

Our missionaries are working in unfavourable conditions. We are glad to report, however, that their health has been preserved during the year and only one has had to return home permanently.

We are looking forward to holding a Missionaries' Council on the West Coast of Africa in March. All of our European workers and their wives on the West Coast are to attend and three delegates from East Africa. Brethren Read, Bartlett, and Colson from the Division office will be present, and it is expected that this council will

be a very important gathering. It is the first of its kind ever attempted in our mission fields, and we trust it will be a real blessing to our work in Africa in unifying mission policies and laying plans for a larger evangelistic programme.

The educational work in Africa is one of the most important departments of our mission enterprise. The increase over 1936 in enrolment was 2,300, and sixty-two more schools were being conducted, the largest increase being in the Kenya Union where we opened up forty new schools last year.

During 1939 we hope that our new educational programme for Africa will begin to take form, at least in some fields. The new school in Gold Coast is even now under construction and by April or May we hope will be opened at the Bekwai Mission. Brother Magnus Larsen is under appointment for this work and will be going forward at about that time. The plans for a larger East African training school will be undertaken, and an evangelistic course of training started at Kamagambo. The new enterprise in West Africa, which we hope will develop into a West African Training School, is expected to be launched. This institution will be located somewhere in Nigeria and serve as an advanced training centre for all of the West Coast.

Evangelizing Under Difficulties in Uganda

BROTHER TOPPENBERG reports an evangelistic effort just finished, conducted by himself and Brother Muderspach, with the help of their wives. The presence of the ladies drew many African women who otherwise would not have attended. A folding organ helped the music.

The effort was carried on under difficult conditions. Owing to circumstances beyond control, it had to be held during the rainy season. The ground was flooded with torrents of rain which invaded every place, with the exception of the beds. Winds were strong and, at times, the workers expected their frail dwelling to be blown down.

Inside the tents the ground was never dry, so that clothing and bedding were always damp.

This was not all. Bubonic plague broke out shortly after the effort started; the nearest neighbour died of it after two days' illness. It seemed more than probable that the authorities would prohibit the meetings. The death-roll went up to thirty, but the meetings continued. Excitement rose high when rats were seen in the camp, and all united to chase away or destroy the dreaded carriers of the disease.

When the effort came to an end, twelve adults took their stand and joined the baptismal class. Several

of these were heads of families. One woman, of dignified bearing, determined that she could not and would not remain longer in a polygamous household. Another confessed to practising witchcraft and brought all her implements to be burned. Shortly after, another followed her example. The workers felt repaid for the hardships they

had passed through as they rejoiced over these deliverances of once-imprisoned souls.

The Muderspachs are leaving on furlough and the Linds follow shortly.

Two new interests in the Nchwanga area have lately sprung up. W.T.B.

S.W. Mission	55
N.W. "	39
N.E. "	14
S.E. "	291

This gives a total of 399 for the Union. Apostasies and deaths reduced the net gain to 280. During 1938, 510 souls have been baptized, and we are looking forward to larger baptisms at the forthcoming camp-meetings.

In the year 1920 it took five Sabbaths to cover the entire field, visiting one Sabbath-school each Sabbath. Now it would require three years to visit all the Sabbath-schools in the Union, according to that plan, and at the present rate of expansion another sixty or more Sabbath-schools would be added to the list at the end of the three-year period.

The literature work continues to prosper, and we believe that the blessing of God will descend as the dew of heaven on this Gospel seed. We hope to reach our goal of £1,000 sales in 1938.

Extracts from Report of Nigerian Union

BY W. MCCLEMENTS

A good spirit of evangelism has been manifested by our workers and lay-members, particularly so in Ibo country, where the Advent message makes fresh conquests from week to week. In the north our young converts from paganism have shown real growth in scriptural knowledge and in spiritual experience, and have taken an active part in witnessing for the Saviour among their heathen friends and neighbours. In Yoruba country the message meets with stubborn resistance on one hand and indifference on the other. Nevertheless almost a hundred people were baptized in the two Yoruba fields and the Sabbath-school membership increased by over four hundred. All our school teachers, with one exception, joined forces with the evangelistic workers, during school holidays, in conducting evangelistic efforts.

The good increase in mission offerings has been an encouraging aspect in the work during the year under review, and has helped us greatly on our way toward the goal of a "self-supporting African work."

The following percentages of "African self-support" have been reached.

S.E. Mission	94 per cent
N.W. "	78 " "
S.W. "	72 " "
N.E. "	47 " "

The past year has shown an increase of twenty new Sabbath-schools as follows:

S.E. Mission	15
S.W. "	4
N.E. "	1

The Sabbath-school membership has mounted up from 11,352

in 1936 to 13,405 at the end of 1937—an increase of 2,530. This increase is divided as follows:

S.W. Mission	144
N.W. "	293
N.E. "	14
S.E. "	1602

The baptisms for the year 1937 were:

Items from Report of Estonian Conference

BY E. MAGI

Our country has 1,127,000 inhabitants and 1,969 of them are Seventh-Day Adventists. For every 572 inhabitants there is one Adventist. We baptized during 1938 over ninety souls.

We have preached in four languages—Estonian, German, Russian, and Swedish. We have this year some Swedish work in that part where there are Swedish people. Brother E. Kanna and his wife—a graduate nurse from Skodsborg—wrote me not long ago that there is a good interest, and we hope to have a blessed harvest there. We would be very glad if the Swedish people in our Division would furnish that work with some special literature and leaflets.

Our tithe has increased and we have raised EKr.3,693 over our goal, which was EKr.25,700. Seventy-eight per cent are tithe-paying members.

The Estonian Conference is glad that we have the great privilege to send a second missionary to Africa. Our conference

treasurer, Miss M. Saks, will sail in the first part of January to Uganda. Miss A. Nuka has just finished her furlough and returned for the fourth time to her beloved field—Sierra Leone.

Our Mission School is our smallest baby, but it grows. In the graduation class there were six students and five of them have done very well in their State Examination.

We now have thirty-three students in the graduation class. Three of the teachers are attending the university in Tartu, preparing themselves to get the rights of State teachers.

Extracts from the Baltic Union Report

BY T. T. BABIENCO

We are glad to be able to report, thanks be to God, that the work in the Baltic Union is onward. The Lord has spared the lives of

our workers and blessed them in their efforts for lost souls.

As far as the reports that have come in from the three fields show, the membership at the close of 1937 stood at 5,467. During

the year 153 souls were baptized.

The total literature sales for the year amounted to £2,430.

Our believers have taken an active part in all the missionary campaigns, and £1,320 was given

to mission work.

The two schools in Latvia and Estonia are doing good work. Last year there were about fifty students enrolled. The number has been increased this year.

Resolutions Adopted at the Winter Council

RESOLUTION ON THANKSGIVING

Voted: 1. That we, assembled in the Winter Council of the Northern European Division, unite in this expression of gratitude to God:

(a) For His providential care in watching over us during the past year, restraining the forces of strife that would otherwise have deluged Europe with blood, and procuring for us lengthened opportunity of comparative peace in which to carry on our task.

(b) For the blessing that has rested upon our missions in Africa, raising our membership there to more than ten thousand, and giving a large increase in the enrolment of our schools.

(c) For the preservation of life among our missionaries, notwithstanding considerable sickness.

(d) For the protection extended to our Division force in frequent travel.

(e) For the increased gain of souls won to the truth throughout the Division.

(f) For the willing spirit of our people so strikingly manifested in the recent Harvest Ingathering Campaign.

(g) For the innumerable and manifold blessings so richly bestowed upon us since our last Winter Council.

2. That we do hereby rededicate ourselves and our all to His service in the proclamation of the everlasting Gospel, trusting our Redeemer for all our many needs and for the enabling grace to prepare for a soon-coming King.

SHEPHERDING THE FLOCK—AN APPEAL

We as members of the Northern European Division Committee and leaders of all parts of the Division assembled in Winter Council at Watford, England, most earnestly appeal to our ministers and workers everywhere to arise in the power of God and lead our dear people into a deeper spiritual experience, stabilizing them in the faith and uniting everyone with us in a great soul-winning endeavour, quickly to finish the work of the Gospel in the earth.

We should ever remember the words of our blessed Master, "Feed My sheep," "feed My lambs," in His counsel to the apostle Peter. In later years we find the same apostle exhorting the elders to "feed the flock of God."

"The church, enfeebled and defective, needing to be reprov'd, warn'd, and counselled, is the only object

upon which Christ bestows His supreme regard."—"Testimonies to Ministers," page 49. The members of the church are to be nourished and fed with spiritual food. To feed the flock is the solemn duty of every faithful shepherd; the Lord will hold him responsible for the way he fulfils this duty. He is to do his work "not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind." The promise to elders and leaders who thus feed the flock of God is that "when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away." Said the apostle Paul to Titus, "For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldst set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee."

God's earnest appeal through Ezekiel to the shepherds of Israel who fed themselves but not the flock, clothed themselves with wool but had not cared for the sheep, is a direct message to the elders and leaders of the church of Christ in this day. We have fallen upon perilous times, when men are lovers of their own selves and covetous. Seldom has the church of Christ been in greater danger than to-day. While it is our duty to give the last message of warning to the world, it is also our duty spiritually to feed, nourish, and in every way care for those who accept the truth. It is a grievous thing to see souls leaving the ranks of the people of God, and especially at a time when so many new believers are being won to the truth. Under no circumstances must we lessen our evangelistic efforts for new converts; rather should we greatly multiply them, yet at the same time see to it that we properly feed and nourish the flock. To this end

We earnestly Recommend: 1. That our ministers and church officers seek in every way possible to help our believers into a deeper and fuller Christian experience, especially endeavouring to foster a spirit of love and sociability and discouraging the spirit of criticism and fault-finding.

2. That where members are weak in the faith or are yielding to the influence of the world, special efforts be put forth in an endeavour to save them from ruin, and that our workers and their families set a careful example in word and conduct, training our members to avoid such things as the theatre, the picture house, undesirable radio programmes, and

other questionable worldly fashions or amusements.

3. That when a new church is organized, special attention be given to the selection and training of local leadership, in order that the new church may be strongly established.

4. That proper instruction be given to each member in order that he may understand and appreciate his personal relation to the church of God as a world organization. God does not deal with His church only as a whole, but directly with each member individually. The instruction of the apostle Paul concerning church organization should be so deeply impressed upon each member that he will at all times feel his own personal responsibility in the welfare and work of the church, and will draw spiritual food for himself from the Word of God as given in the Bible and the Spirit of prophecy.

5. That local conferences and missions arrange for a two- to four-day convention every year if possible, to instruct, inspire, and qualify the church officers for their sacred work. It is suggested that among other things, the following essentials should be taught:

(a) The principles and methods of church organization.

(b) The relation of the church to the conference.

(c) The responsibilities of elders, church leaders, Sabbath-school, Missionary Volunteer, and Home Missionary officers and leaders.

(d) The necessity of personal contact and interest in each member of the church.

6. That each member of the church be trained in active soul-winning service. To accomplish this, we suggest that the church be organized into working groups, each member of which has the definite objective of winning at least one soul to Christ each year:

(a) For house-to-house Bible studies.

(b) For the circulation of literature.

(c) For evangelistic work, enlisting particularly the young people, to hold evangelistic efforts.

(d) For visiting the sick and needy.

(e) For pastoral work to co-operate with the elder or pastor in visiting the home of every church member, several times a year, to visit those who absent themselves from the services of the church, encouraging them to faithful attendance, and to visit those who have drifted out of

the church, endeavouring to win them back to the fold; and

7. That we urge each member of the church to be a member of the Sabbath-school and to be faithful in the daily study of the Sabbath-school lessons and attendance at Sabbath-school; and that we encourage our Sabbath-school teachers regularly to visit the members of their classes.

8. That every pastor connected with our churches be encouraged to hold or connect with at least one evangelistic effort a year, at the same time enlisting the active co-operation of all the members of the church in giving Bible studies, distributing literature, aiding in singing, etc.

9. We urge our institutions, publishing houses, schools, and sanitariums to arrange for evangelistic efforts to be carried on in their neighbourhoods by workers in these institutions.

10. That, as may be arranged by conference or mission organizations, revival services for a week or ten days be held in the churches, at which time a special appeal be made to those of the community whom the members have interested in the truth, to the children of Adventist parents, to backsliders in the church, and to all for a deeper consecration of heart to the work of God.

11. That special consideration be given to encouraging a larger attendance at the weekly prayer-meeting of the church, but that where distances are great, making it difficult in large centres for members to assemble in this way each week, we counsel that group meetings be held where the believers can have the benefits of these weekly seasons of prayer, it being suggested that under such circumstances a united prayer-meeting of the churchmembers be held once a month.

12. That special interest be taken in our youth, to guard them from being swept away by the pleasure-loving spirit of the perilous times in which we live, and that with this in view, we encourage our people everywhere to see that their children and young people are, so far as possible, placed in our own denominational schools, that they may become firmly grounded in the truth and receive a training that will prepare them for usefulness in the cause of God.

13. That a welcoming committee be appointed in each church:

(a) To greet all strangers coming to Sabbath-school and church services.

(b) To see that such persons are invited into a Sabbath-school class and introduced to the teacher and members.

(c) To ascertain whether they are members of a sister Seventh-Day Adventist church, and whether they plan to change their place of residence; if so, to solicit their transfer of membership.

(d) To urge them to become regular attendants while in the vicinity of the church.

(e) To take special interest in members of other Seventh-Day Adventist churches who happen to be in attendance on the occasion of the celebration of the ordinances of the Lord's house, and to see that they are invited to participate.

(f) To call immediately upon those who have been received into the church, whether by letter or on profession of faith, welcoming them into church fellowship and encouraging them to unite in one of the groups of church activity.

14. That we encourage the maintenance of the family altar in every home, also the faithful payment of tithes and regular systematic offerings to the church and foreign missions.

15. That the Sabbath-school officers be requested to redouble their efforts to get into the Sabbath-school the large number of missing members which our statistics reveal, and to this end every effort be made to brighten the services, and to improve standards of teaching in our Sabbath-schools.

16. That we counsel our church boards to arrange for the list of names of members of the local church and company to be divided among the elders, deacons, and deaconesses, and that such churchmembers be regularly visited at least once a quarter.

17. That when churches who have not a conference worker find it hard to handle certain cases who have become doubtful, or are in spiritual difficulty, they get in touch as soon as possible with the conference president, or nearest conference worker, so that arrangements might be made for such individuals to receive the needed help before it is too late.

18. That when church officers find any of their members have moved away leaving no address, and all efforts to locate them have failed, they report the matter to the conference president without delay.

19. That plans be made in our churches so that once a quarter the isolated members of any particular church, who cannot attend the regular ordinance service on account of sickness or for any other reason, be visited by the church elder so that the ordinances might be held with them.

20. That we encourage those who read English to subscribe for the *Review and Herald*, and that our other church papers be recognized as an important means of feeding the flock of God, and that we encourage our members to subscribe to them; that in cases where churchmembers cannot read, the leader of the church see that the information and spiritual help contained in the church papers be brought to the unlearned by those who can read.

21. That all our believers be encouraged to purchase and read the writings of the Spirit of prophecy, and that our conferences endeavour to furnish our churchmembers with

as many of these writings as possible in their own language.

Finally, brethren, we most earnestly plead that in our endeavour to carry out the above-mentioned plans, we ever bear in mind that our dependence upon the Lord is absolute. Only as we maintain a living connection with God through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ can we employ these, or any other plans effectively for the upbuilding of His cause in the earth. If our work is to be spiritual and truly successful, the Holy Spirit must be the impelling power in our lives and service to the end that we may be Spirit-filled men and women, fitted for the Master's use. We ask you to join with us in renewed consecration of heart and life to God, that as ministers and workers we may be of help and blessing to our dear people in the sacred work to which the Lord has graciously called us.

A CALL TO GREATER EVANGELISM

Believing that the winds of strife, that recently seemed about to blow in all their fury, have once again been held in check by the angels of God for the definite purpose of giving opportunity to the church to complete her heaven-appointed task; and

Believing that in the little time of comparative peace now vouchsafed to us we should witness the outpouring of God's Spirit without measure upon the church and the swelling of the message to a loud cry in all the world;

We, members of the Northern European Division Committee assembled in Winter Council at Watford, England, in December, 1938, including at this council leaders and representatives from all parts of our Division territory, do hereby solemnly call upon our entire ministerial staff, including field leaders throughout the field, to arise in the strength of God and proclaim with renewed vigour the Advent message everywhere.

We believe that the time left us in which to finish our work is exceedingly short. Surely the consummation of all things is just at hand. The world is about to meet God over His broken law. Millions who are about to perish are still unwarned, and yet we are told that "we hold in our hands the bread of life for a famishing world."

Years ago the word of the Lord came to us through His messenger saying:

"A great work is to be accomplished; broader plans must be laid; a voice must go forth to arouse the nations."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 5, page 187.

"We have no time for dwelling on matters that are of no importance. Our time should be given to proclaiming the last message of mercy to a guilty world."—*Ibid.*, Vol. 8, page 36.

"As the rays of the sun penetrate to the remotest corners of the globe,

so God designs that the light of the Gospel shall extend to every soul upon the earth. If the church of Christ were fulfilling the purpose of our Lord, light would be shed upon all that sit in darkness and in the region and shadow of death."—*"Mount of Blessing,"* page 68.

"May God help His people to arouse and walk and work as men and women on the borders of the eternal world. Soon an awful surprise is coming upon the inhabitants of the world. Suddenly, with power and great glory, Christ will come. Then there will be no time to prepare to meet Him. Now is the time for us to give the warning message."—*"Testimonies,"* Vol. 8, page 37.

We believe that it is high time that the church of Christ arise and respond fully to these clarion calls from the Lord. The time is at hand for a mighty advance in soul-winning. Responsible committees in each field should see that a larger proportion of the available funds is used in the carrying on of aggressive evangelism, while at the same time giving due attention to the fostering of the work already established.

In certain sections the spirit of evangelism needs to be revived. Great cities and large areas are still unwarned. The supreme purpose for which God has raised up this people is to preach the everlasting Gospel in the setting of the third angel's message to the entire world, and we cannot neglect this task without denying our Lord. We, therefore, earnestly appeal that the work of public evangelism be strengthened in every land and

We Recommend: 1. That conference and mission field committees plan immediately to reorganize their forces for aggressive evangelistic advance in each field in an endeavour to enlist all in a supreme effort to raise the cry of the Advent message in all the world.

2. That conference and mission leaders arrange their work as far as possible so as to engage in the work of public evangelism, thus setting before their working forces a worthy example in this work of first importance.

3. That opportunity be given for departmental secretaries to secure some experience in soul-saving evangelism by conducting short revival campaigns in our own churches and by holding a series of week-night meetings for the public.

4. That those engaged in conference office work be encouraged to connect with some definite soul-winning endeavour and, where necessary, being freed from other duties sufficiently to enable them to do this work.

5. That where possible public efforts be of several weeks' or even months' duration, meetings being conducted five or six nights a week, and intensive house-to-house work being done by those connected with the respective efforts. Where, how-

ever, a live interest has been awakened in a community by the activity of a local church, it be remembered that shorter efforts of from ten days to two weeks may be conducted, thereby adding new members and encouraging the church to go forward in soul-winning endeavour.

6. That in fields where there is a shortage of funds for evangelistic efforts the representative countries give study to allocating the available evangelistic funds to chosen, efficient ministers and that other workers be not granted evangelistic budgets, but be encouraged to carry on work in connection with churches with the definite responsibility of:

(a) Seeking to reclaim those who have left the truth.

(b) Putting forth special efforts for the salvation of our youth.

(c) Training the churchmembers in tract distribution, giving of Bible readings, and holding of cottage meetings.

(d) Taking an active part himself in each phase of this work, thus setting an example to the church and at the same time labouring earnestly to save souls for the kingdom of God.

(e) Organizing the church into suitable bands, each specializing in its own definite line of service so as to accomplish the maximum for the service of God.

7. That our conference and mission committees give careful study to the needs of unworked areas, planning to release workers to enter these places that have as yet had no opportunity of hearing God's last message of mercy.

8. That institutional leaders within their territories be encouraged to foster an evangelistic spirit among their workers, adopting the plan of special efforts being conducted by teams of workers from within the institution.

9. That suitable laymen be encouraged and trained to labour in self-supporting evangelism, thus co-operating with the ministry in a greater soul-saving endeavour through the field.

10. That in our African mission fields special efforts be put forth to train quickly a large army of native evangelists to work for their own people.

11. That we appeal for a deeper consecration and a more thorough organization and training of our churchmembers, including the youth, to engage in soul-winning work, so that our entire membership may be aroused and pressed into this mighty effort to finish the work while the day of opportunity lasts, for soon, very soon, "the night cometh, when no man can work."

12. That in countries where ordinary public evangelism is not practicable, we urge our workers and people to follow the example of the early church in going from house to house and there opening the Word of God to the people, thus fulfilling the prophecy: "Servants of God,

with their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, will hasten from place to place to proclaim the message from heaven. By thousands of voices, all over the earth, the warning will be given."—*"Great Controversy,"* page 612.

13. That we appeal to our entire church membership to pray earnestly to God for our ministers who are engaged in public evangelism that they may receive power in their ministry and that large numbers of souls may be won to Christ.

14. That Sabbath, February 11, 1939, be appointed as a day of fasting and prayer for all our believers to cry unto God on behalf of the great evangelistic advance we desire to see brought about throughout our field.

15. That in connection with the work of evangelism we continue definitely and enthusiastically to promote the "Win One" campaign, emphasizing as heretofore the joys of soul-winning, the whole family in Christ, the personal prayer list, the use of literature, visiting of friends and neighbours, and by the daily life witnessing to the sanctifying influence of the Gospel; that on the special day of fasting and prayer, an effort be made in all our churches and companies to enlist every member in the "Win One" campaign.

Because of the seriousness of these times and the lateness of the hour, we believe that this call to evangelism is one of extreme urgency. We must not hesitate longer to press all ministers and lay forces into this all-important line of service. "The night is far spent; the day is at hand"; and it is high time that we awake out of sleep and go forth under the power of the Spirit of God to finish quickly our world task.

UNITY

It is the duty of every Christian to hold in all honour the apostolic injunction that we "keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace," since there is "one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." Through Christ we all "have access by one Spirit unto the Father," and "are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God."

No loyal follower of Jesus Christ would frustrate His prayer that "they all may be one; as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me."

The Advent message is to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. The message is one and it raises up one church in all the world. Of this church it must ever be true that "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female," for we "are all one in Christ Jesus."

As Satan sees the end approaching he is working with increasing wrath in an attempt to confuse and divide

the people of God. It behoves every leader and every churchmember to stand united in the blessed hope and so to press together in single-minded purpose and unselfish service as to present to the world an unbroken front.

As the Advent movement, under the leadership of Christ, unites as an organization in our General Conference, all other related organizations are members of the same body. The closer these organizations draw to the General Conference, the greater will be the progress of this movement. United in the truth we can carry out the will of God and withstand every onslaught of the enemy.

As representatives of the one world-wide Advent movement assembled in Winter Council of the Northern European Division at Watford, England, we definitely consecrate our lives afresh in God's service and unanimously join hands and hearts with one another and with our faithful workers and churchmembers throughout the world. We are agreed that never has there been greater need of harmony and co-operation among God's people than in this closing hour. Therefore we solemnly go on record:

1. That we will put forth every possible effort to hold together and to avoid all barriers of nationalism, racial feelings, or unholy independence, that would lead to separation or division. We will not permit the spirit of ambition for office, the desire to rule, or unchristlike antagonism to people of other countries to enter our hearts. With fervent faith in God, deep humility of heart, we will manifest mutual confidence in one another.

2. We agree that experience has proved that the unity of the Advent movement is best preserved when there is an interchange of workers of different countries, bringing in a variety of gifts and experience and adapting these to the conditions and needs of each field. The General Conference Executive Committee is composed of men of various nationalities, and in the manning of our own Division we march in rank with them, employing workers from different countries with their varied gifts.

3. We urge that in our mission fields steps be taken to develop a larger force of ministers and leaders from among native converts, and that responsibility of leadership be placed upon them as rapidly as possible. This plan will relieve the overburdened missionary staff; secure for them a larger degree of co-operation from the indigenous workers, and give stability to the work.

4. We realize that the Spirit of Christ must rule in our individual hearts, and love for souls must be the impelling motive in our lives. As a citizen of an earthly country, every one must be loyally subject to its authorities and pray for the rulers of his country. At the same time, as children of God, we are to bear in

mind that we are also citizens of a heavenly land.

5. We ask that the importance of this unity and the great principles which underlie it be emphasized by our union and local conference and mission representatives as they visit churches and attend district meetings from time to time.

6. We request our representatives and missionaries who labour in or visit countries other than their homelands, to endeavour to lead our believers to a fuller understanding of the world-wide scope and unity of the Advent movement, and that they exercise particular care, in making reference to their homelands, to avoid comparisons which might in any way harm the true spirit of fellowship and brotherhood.

WRITINGS OF THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY

WHEREAS, The writings of the Spirit of prophecy are of inestimable value in fortifying the minds of our people against the inroads of scepticism and worldliness in these perilous times,

We Recommend, 1. That during a suitable period in 1939 each union give consideration to stressing the importance of a faithful study of the writings of the Spirit of prophecy, also to extending their circulation and use.

2. That our pastors and church elders devote at least one Sabbath in 1939 to emphasizing in the church service the value of the Spirit of prophecy both to the church at large and to its individual members.

3. That all our publishing houses unite in this special effort to extend the circulation of the writings of the Spirit of prophecy, and that, where possible, special price discounts be offered with this in view.

4. That earnest consideration be given to the formulation of definite plans for increasing the publication of the writings of the Spirit of prophecy in various languages.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

While scrupulously avoiding political issues but recognizing the need of educating our people in the principles of Religious Liberty and the responsibility that is ours in promulgating these truths,

Resolved: 1. That we increase our efforts to educate our own members and the public in the significance and value of religious liberty.

2. That we ask our evangelists and other public workers to preach on the subject, write letters for the press and wherever possible provide articles for editors who may be waiting to print such on suitable occasions.

3. That all our home unions carefully study the matter of providing our people with suitable leaflets on various points affecting religious liberty, with a view to leading them and others into a clearer apprehension and enjoyment of the liberty

wherewith Christ makes men free.

4. That we ask our Training Schools to make a place in their curriculum for this important theme.

REVERENCE IN OUR CHURCHES

In these times of declining interest in public worship and in the spirit of personal devotion to God and His service, we are regretfully conscious of a decline of true reverence in our midst, both in our personal and public attitude to the Lord.

"There has been a great change," we have been told, "not for the better, but for the worse, in the habits and customs of the people in reference to religious worship. The precious, the sacred things which connect us with God, are fast losing their hold on our minds and hearts, and are being brought down to the level of common things. The reverence which the people had anciently for the sanctuary where they met with God in sacred service, has largely passed away."—*"Testimonies," Vol. 5, pages 491, 492.*

We believe that the blessed truths which God has committed to us should be honoured with the deepest reverence in our church services, and we should remember that "angels when they speak" God's name, "veil their faces. With what reverence then should we, who are fallen and sinful, take it upon our lips."—*"Prophets and Kings," page 49.*

There is a deep need to teach our children, in the words of the servant of God, to respect and reverence the ministry, their parents, the aged, the Word of God, the house of God, and the name of God. (See *"Prophets and Kings," page 236; "Patriarchs and Prophets," page 492 (Old Ed.).*)

We urge our ministers, church officers, and laymen throughout this Division to take steps to restore the spirit of true reverence by cultivating a deeper sense of the unseen Presence in the individual life, and in all phases of our church life.

Voted: 1. That congregations should be counselled to pass to and from their places in church quietly, and that "common talking, whispering, and laughing should not be permitted in the house of worship, either before or after the service."—*"Testimonies," Vol. 5, page 492.*

2. That more care should be taken to organize church services beforehand so that there be a minimum of such arrangements immediately prior to the meetings.

3. That the church department officers likewise transact as much of their work as possible before or after meetings, and that as little as possible be done in the church proper, especially on the Sabbath day.

4. That in exalting the people's conception of true reverence for God, for His Word, and for His house, we remember that the exterior and interior condition of the church contributes in no small measure to the

dignity and inspiration of public worship.

5. That in every form of public worship we should exercise care to avoid any appearance of unseemly, irreverent conduct in God's house.

6. That we set a good example to our children in this matter of reverence and that we seek to direct the parents in the proper training of their children both in the home and in the church, especially avoiding words of criticism which lower the dignity of the ministry, the church-members, and the services of the sanctuary.

DEPARTMENTAL WORKERS

WHEREAS, It is clearly revealed in the Spirit of prophecy:

"That which is needed now for the upbuilding of our churches is the nice work of wise labourers to discern and develop talent in the church—talent that can be educated for the Master's use. There should be a well-organized plan for the employment of workers to go into all our churches, large and small, to instruct the members how to labour for the upbuilding of the church, and also for unbelievers. It is training, education, that is needed. Those who labour in visiting the churches should give the brethren and sisters instruction in practical methods of doing missionary work."—*Christian Service*, page 58, and

WHEREAS, This needed work must largely be accomplished by those set apart to carry departmental responsibilities in the conferences,

We Recommend: 1. That in choosing men for the departmental work, conferences give careful consideration to a wise selection, as far as possible calling men of proved ability and experience in soul-winning labour, and

2. That such departmental secretaries be left free from other duties, to develop the interests under their charge, it being understood that such work is in itself soul-winning work calling for whole-hearted and whole-time consecration on the part of those engaged in it.

3. That where the circumstances of union and local conferences justify it, no one man be asked to carry more than two departments.

INCREASING OUR TITHE INCOME

WHEREAS, It is God's plan that the tithe be used for the support of the ministry, and

WHEREAS, The servant of the Lord emphasizes that great blessings come to the people of God through faithfulness in the payment of tithe, and

WHEREAS, We are told in the Spirit of prophecy that if all would be faithful in this respect, there would be no lack of means in the Lord's treasury. "If all who profess the truth will come up to the claims of God in giving the tenth, which God says is His, the treasury will be

abundantly supplied with means to carry forward the great work for the salvation of man."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 3, page 395, and

WHEREAS, The percentage of tithe-paying members throughout the Division indicates that a considerable number of our believers is missing the spiritual blessings that come from supporting the Lord's cause through the tithe,

Therefore Resolved: 1. That our ministers, Bible-workers, departmental secretaries, managers of institutions, be requested to give special thought to this question, and to urge all our believers whether in the churches or in the institutions to be faithful in rendering to God His own.

2. That in our training institutions students be urged faithfully to pay their tithe of all their income whether received from labour or other sources.

3. That we counsel all our unions to arrange a special Tithe Sabbath each year, at which time a suitable programme be rendered and an appeal made to all our members to enter into a spiritual covenant with God to pay an honest tithe into the treasury, and that members who have had signal blessings through tithe-paying be encouraged to relate their experiences, as the Lord should lead, in public testimony.

4. That in connection with this service, use be made of a special tithe covenant card or bookmark, so that those entering into such a covenant might have a permanent reminder of this special experience.

5. That we pass on the suggestion to our unions and conferences that consideration be given to reading in our churches on Sabbath, even without comment, brief selections from the Bible and the *Testimonies* on tithing, thus allowing the Holy Spirit to work upon the hearts of the people.

6. That we request those in charge of unions and local conference papers to arrange for the publication of brief articles on the question of tithe-paying, it being suggested that in the preparation of such articles we keep in mind not only God's claim upon His people, but also the rich blessings He bestows upon them as they are faithful to Him.

7. That each union conference arrange for the collection of material relating to blessings that have come to our believers through tithe-paying with a view of circulating same in the form of a tract among our churchmembers.

8. That conference and church treasurers be urged to pay special attention to the writing of appreciative letters to those sending in tithes, and that by periodic communications giving items of personal interest as to the progress of the work, they endeavour to keep in personal touch especially with our isolated members throughout the field.

9. That the nominating committees

in our churches be counselled to give special care in the recommending of church officers to see that all nominees are tithe-payers, and that this principle apply to the appointment of Sabbath-school teachers.

10. That counsel be passed on to our ministers, church elders, and church treasurers, to visit and tactfully labour with non-tithe-payers with a view to encouraging them to become faithful tithe-payers.

11. That our conferences lay plans so as to keep track of the percentage of churchmembers who are paying tithes, aiming to increase this percentage quarter by quarter, and looking forward to reaching the goal of 100 per cent of the members of the church being faithful to God in this respect.

12. That conference treasurers be counselled to send out a quarterly statement to all churches and companies in their respective fields showing the tithes and offerings of each group of believers.

13. That in all our efforts to increase the tithe income we stress the spiritual basis, using particularly the counsel of the Bible and the Spirit of prophecy rather than emphasizing the shortage of money in the treasury.

INCREASING OUR MISSION FUNDS

WHEREAS, It is the purpose of God that His people bring into the treasury mission offerings as well as the tithe, and

WHEREAS, The servant of the Lord has counselled us that the progress of the work in heathen lands reacts in blessing on the work in the home fields, and

WHEREAS, The unentered mission territories in our Division constitute a mighty challenge for a larger and stronger mission programme, and

WHEREAS, In this age when undue emphasis is placed on creature comforts and the material things of life, there is great danger that our members neglect the solemn duty of carrying the message of the Gospel to the unwarned portions of the world,

Resolved: 1. That we express our appreciation to our ministers, workers, church officers, and believers throughout the fields for their loyalty and liberality to the cause of God in their gifts to missions, and that we urge them to continue their support of our large mission programme, and even give more vigorous effort to the various plans arranged for the raising of offerings for missions.

2. That conference committees give earnest study to ways and means of increasing the gifts to missions by an appeal for special gifts at the time of the Sabbath-school or some other Sabbath service at our annual meetings.

3. That our various offerings such as the Sabbath-school, Week of Sacrifice, Annual Offering, Young

People's gifts, and the Ingathering and Missions Extension Campaigns be brought prominently to the attention of our laymembers and all our workers, with a view to increasing considerably our mission offerings, and that in connection with these special offerings, conference executives in their promotive work set before our people last year's achievements for each church with the suggestion that they go a little beyond last year's figures in the effort this year.

4. That in promoting the weekly per capita figure of all offerings in any special church or conference, we stress particularly the Sabbath-school offerings, and aim to raise a certain per capita as Sabbath-school gifts each Sabbath, and in connection with this, our members be urged to donate their Sabbath-school gifts whether they are present at the Sabbath-school or not.

5. That we take up earnestly the Investment Fund plan, and also the Birthday Gift arrangement, which afford a ready means of raising funds for missions, and which, where tried, have revealed the great blessing of God upon the efforts of His people.

6. That in every church the Home Division of the Sabbath-school be organized, a special secretary be appointed to foster the interests of this department by visiting the homes of the members, and by furnishing lesson pamphlets and offering envelopes to those who are unable to attend the regular sessions of the Sabbath-school.

7. That we request union and local conference committees to lay such plans as will enable them to keep track of and also to promote strongly the idea of a per capita goal in our mission offerings for their fields, and that this goal be translated into an individual goal for each church and kept prominently before our believers each month.

8. That we endeavour by a special programme and special promotion work to increase the Thirteenth Sabbath-school offering by an appreciable percentage in an endeavour to increase our offerings during 1939.

WEEK OF SACRIFICE PROMOTION

WHEREAS, We are definitely told in the Spirit of prophecy that "we are nearing the end of this earth's history, and the different lines of God's work are to be carried forward with much more self-sacrifice than has yet been manifested," and

That "churchmembers . . . should practise self-denial and economy that they may come behind in no good gift. We are strangers and pilgrims seeking a better country, and every soul should make a covenant with God by sacrifice. The time for saving souls is short, and whatever is not needed in supplying positive necessities should be brought as a thank-offering to God. And it is the duty of those who labour in word and doctrine to show an equal self-sacrifice," and

WHEREAS, The Week of Sacrifice has proved a source of rich spiritual blessing to many of our believers the world over, and has meant much to the advancement of our work, and

WHEREAS, Not all our believers and workers in our conferences and institutions are now fully enjoying these blessings, therefore,

We Recommend: 1. That union and local conference committees and institutional boards give earnest study to this matter and make a determined effort to enlist the active support of every worker and believer in this offering.

2. That the responsibility for promoting the Week of Sacrifice offering rests primarily upon the presidents, managers, and treasurers of our organizations, and that special study be given to the best method of promoting this special offering in our institutions.

3. That the spirit of the Week of Sacrifice be carried into our homes and wherever possible into our institutions, thus educating our believers, and especially our young people, in willing self-denial.

4. That those in leading positions in our conferences and institutions, and those set as shepherds of the flock, be urged to set a good example in sacrificial giving to those under their care.

5. That personal appeals be tactfully made to all our workers by the leaders of all organizations and institutions, encouraging the workers to have the amount deducted from the wage; in case the deduction at one time would cause embarrassment to the worker, it be arranged for the deduction to be spread over a period of two or three months.

6. That a special programme be arranged for the Sabbath preceding the Week of Sacrifice.

7. That special mention of the Week of Sacrifice offering be made in our institutions at their morning worship during that week.

8. That articles from Division and union leaders be printed in our church papers.

9. That every effort be made substantially to increase the Week of Sacrifice offering in each union above the amount raised in 1938, so as to enable us to enter some of the hitherto unentered mission territories of our Division, the main objective being the Egyptian Sudan.

SELF-SUPPORT AND SEGREGATION OF BUDGET

Voted: That we adopt the following action taken at the time of the Autumn Council at Battle Creek, October 18-27, 1938:

WHEREAS, We find that the policy adopted in 1936 for the segregation of budgets in various sections of mission divisions is proving helpful in the upbuilding of the cause, and

WHEREAS, The great commission given us by the Master to preach

the message in all the world places upon every section of the world field a responsibility for sending the message to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people, and

WHEREAS, Reports from our mission divisions indicate that even in some mission divisions, fields long receiving support from the general treasury are, in the providence of God, developing in strength and financial ability to the place where they themselves are becoming bases for the supply of men and means for the extension of the message into regions yet unentered, and

WHEREAS, The time has come when our believers in all divisions should be encouraged to share in larger measure in the financing of the work of God by assuming increasing responsibility for the maintenance of the work in their respective fields and at the same time doing their part in raising funds for general mission advance in all the earth,

We Recommend, 1. That division committees apply and adapt the plan for the segregation of budgets, as conditions and circumstances in their respective fields may indicate, outlining before our believers in mission territories the unity of the church in all the world, and the value of the denominational plan which from the inception of the movement has been in operation, whereby members in all parts of the world participate in the maintenance and extension of our world work.

2. That in sections of division fields where it is considered advisable to apply the plan, the general budget statements be prepared in two sections, numbered respectively, 1 and 2, Section 1 to include all national or indigenous workers, and Section 2 to include missionaries from North America, Europe, and other home bases, and that the salary and expense of foreign workers be paid from Section 2 of the budget.

3. That frequent appeals be made to our believers by division and union leaders, mission directors, church pastors, and elders, and others on whom responsibility is placed, in an endeavour to bring in sufficient tithes from the churches to cover the budget requirements of the various fields and to help in sustaining the church activities in other lands, and that in all the world it be recognized that mission offerings given by our people belong to the General Conference, for use in promoting the world-wide mission work, and should not be included in local budgets as estimated income.

4. That it be the goal of every managing board in mission fields to place our publishing houses, sanitariums, and hospitals on a self-supporting basis, including all salaries, and all operating expense, in order that more funds may be released from the budget for the extension of the message into unentered fields, so that an increasing proportion of what is appropriated by the General Confer-

ence may be used for opening up new work.

5. That division committees endeavour to arrange for an increased percentage of tithe for appropriation to other fields from conferences or missions within their territory that are able to meet their regular operating cost from their tithe less tithe of tithe and sustentation per cent, and that they also encourage other sections of their fields to work to this goal.

6. That monthly statements be issued from each mission and institution to each member of the controlling field committee or institutional board, and that from time to time national workers, pastors, and church elders be supplied with statements of tithe receipts and mission offerings for their respective sections, revealing goals and results attained.

DEBT CONTROL

The Word of God declares, "The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine, saith the Lord of hosts" (Hag. 2:8); and again, "Every beast of the forest is Mine, and the cattle upon a thousand hills." Psalms 50:10. While the world is His and the fullness thereof, God has laid upon His people the responsibility of supporting His work in the earth. He endows men and women with ability to earn money and to gain wealth not for the gratification of self or that they may live lavishly, but that they may have means whereby they may support the activities of the cause with which He has graciously associated them. The Lord desires His work in the earth to advance free from every hindering influence.

The admonition of the Word to "owe no man anything" is a principle which applies to organizations and institutions of the Advent movement, as well as to individuals. Much embarrassment has come to this cause through the years because of indebtedness which has been incurred unwisely. Again and again our loyal people have rallied to the relief of the work in the reduction of these obligations. By so doing they have shown their loyalty and devotion to the cause, and God has blessed them for their faithfulness.

We have now come to a time when, as never before, the work should be operated on a "no-debt" basis. To this end we are admonished by the Lord through the Spirit of prophecy in the following quotations: "God does not want His work to be continually embarrassed with debt."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 7, page 206. "God designs that we shall learn lessons from the failures of the past. It is not pleasing to Him to have debts rest upon His institutions."—*Ibid.*, Vol. 9, page 71. "More and more shall we be obliged to plan, and devise, and economize. We cannot manage as if we had a bank on which to draw in case of emergency; therefore we must not get into straitened places. As individuals

and as managers of the Lord's institutions, we shall necessarily have to cut away everything intended for display, and bring our expenses within the narrow compass of our income."—*Ibid.*, Vol. 6, page 209.

Debt will destroy as does a cancer, and we are warned against it in the following impressive statement: "We should shun debt as we should shun the leprosy."—*Ibid.*, Vol. 6, page 217. Concerning those who are in danger of carelessness in this matter, the counsel is given: "Let them guard themselves as with a fence of barbed wire against the inclination to go into debt."—*Ibid.*, Vol. 7, page 236.

This instruction places upon the church of Christ a solemn responsibility. "No man liveth unto himself" and no institution or organization exists to itself alone. Each is a part of the great cause to which it belongs, and when, through failure to meet its obligations, one member suffers, all parts of the body are caused to share this suffering.

In the light, therefore, of the explicit and positive instruction given us concerning this matter and of the vital and fundamental principles involved, we feel that we should forthwith cease incurring further debts and without delay take steps to liquidate the indebtedness which already rests upon the cause. This is a solemn duty enjoined upon us by Heaven. Leaders in our work are responsible both to God and to their brethren to be faithful to their stewardship in these important matters.

In view of the seriousness of the situation, we—as leaders in the work of God—do earnestly covenant before God and with one another to exert every effort to reduce our denominational indebtedness, and to this end faithfully and consistently to apply the policies hereinafter outlined.

We Recommend, That the actions regarding debt control taken at the Autumn Council session October 20 to 27, 1937, be reaffirmed and amended as follows:

WHEREAS, The incurring of indebtedness by any organization, whether conference, mission, institution, or church affects very definitely, though sometimes indirectly, the entire denominational organization,

Resolved: 1. That we reaffirm the principles set forth in resolutions and actions formerly voted by the General Conference, looking toward the operation of our work on a "no-debt" basis, all work being carried strictly on a cash budget plan.

2. That in all our denominational organizations throughout the world, including the General Conference, divisions, union and local conferences, and missions, all operations be conducted on available funds, and that no further debts be incurred except in emergency situations as pro-

vided for in this series of resolutions; that in all our institutions, including publishing houses, schools, and sanitariums, the work be carried on with available funds, so that there shall be no increase of indebtedness.

3. That when the controlling board of an institution or organization desires to enlarge or improve its properties and increase the facilities for carrying on its work, this shall be done without incurring indebtedness.

4. That in self-supporting union conferences in North America, building or other projects costing more than \$250 but not exceeding \$5,000 shall be approved by the union conference committee concerned; except for items of general repair or improvement the cost not exceeding \$500 for which cash is available so that no indebtedness is incurred.

5. That in self-supporting union conferences in other divisions, projects costing more than \$250 and not exceeding from \$1,000 to \$2,000 (as may be determined by the division concerned) shall be approved by the union conference committee concerned; for projects above that sum, but not exceeding \$5,000, approval shall be given by the division committee concerned. In union and local missions, approval shall be given by the division for all proposed expenditures, except that the union mission committee may authorize the erection of small, inexpensive chapels which are financed by local constituencies without debt.

6. That for projects exceeding \$5,000 in any part of the world field, the division committee, or in the case of North America, the union conference committee concerned, shall secure the approval of the General Conference Committee before construction is begun or financial commitments entered into.

7. That no conference, mission, or institution shall borrow money for reinvestment, or to loan to individuals.

8. That no conference, mission, or institution shall make loans from its own funds to employees or others. This provision, however, shall not preclude the operation of specific loan funds such as student aid funds; or the granting of loans to doctors, as provided in the policy adopted by the Autumn Council of 1933.

9. That no conference, mission, or institution shall borrow money to reloan to churches, and no church shall borrow money for church building purposes or church expense except as hereinafter provided.

10. That churches contemplating either the purchase or the erection of church buildings be cautioned against undertaking financial obligations which would be likely to embarrass the membership; and that concerning such undertakings, local and union committees give careful counsel in each case, taking into consideration the size of the congregation, its financial strength, and the location of the building.

11. That in the purchase or building of church properties, in no case shall commitments be made into or building operations begun until seventy-five per cent of the entire cost of the building, including initial furnishings, is in hand in cash, and provision satisfactory to the responsible authorizing committee for securing the remaining twenty-five per cent, is made, and that in the case of construction, the work proceed and obligations be incurred only as funds are available. In special cases in home bases where in the judgment of authorizing boards and committees it is deemed advisable, a church may be authorized to borrow up to fifteen per cent of the cost of its building project in order to complete it, provided a definite programme for the liquidation of the loan has been approved by the authorizing committees. In cases where it is practicable to occupy church buildings before the contemplated project is entirely completed, authorization may be given for the work of construction to proceed as funds become available.

12. That in institutional and conference equipment, improvement, and building projects, the full amount of the funds needed shall be in hand before commitments are entered into, except that in cases of extreme necessity in home base territories, the provisions of the foregoing section concerning church buildings shall be extended to institutional and conference projects; that is to say, building operations may be started when seventy-five per cent of the entire cost of the building is in hand in cash, and provision satisfactory to the responsible authorizing committee for securing the remaining twenty-five per cent is made, and that in the case of construction, the work proceed and obligations be incurred only as funds are available.

13. That any project involving the expenditure of \$25,000 or more be regarded as an enterprise requiring wider counsel with local, union, division, and General Conference committees as to the percentage of funds above seventy-five per cent that must be in hand before obligations are incurred or building operations begun.

14. That only reliable estimates from experienced builders and contractors be submitted by the local conference committees for the approval of union, division, or General Conference committees concerning contemplated building and improvement projects.

15. That any plans for institutional expansion include provision for the payment of any existing indebtedness within a reasonable period of time, as well as for the financing of the proposed expansion.

16. That any institution or field organization closing a financial year having incurred an operating indebtedness during the year shall make full provision for such deficit in the

preparation of the budget for the ensuing year.

17. That in order that executive committees, managing boards, and other responsible officers may be kept fully informed concerning the work under their control, monthly financial and operating statements shall be furnished to the members of the responsible boards and committees and to the president, treasurer, and auditor of the union and division fields involved. Financial statements of institutions shall be furnished also to the secretaries of union, division, and General Conference departments concerned. Monthly statements of union and division organizations shall be sent to the president, treasurer, and auditor of the General Conference.

18. That when the financial statements of a conference, mission, or institution reveal that the organization is not operating within its income, but is becoming more and more involved in debt, it be strongly advised that a meeting of the committee or board concerned be called without delay to study and adjust the matter.

19. That when any conference or mission shows in its monthly or yearly statements that it is not operating within its income it is the responsibility of the committee or board which directs such conference or mission to take immediate steps for the correction of the situation. When such conditions exist, the higher organizations shall give counsel and guidance in finding a way out of the difficulty.

20. That when an institution finds it is not operating within its regular income, the same plan be followed as outlined in Section 19, and that should it be found impossible for such institution to operate on a paying basis, study be given to its liquidation.

21. That while we recognize that the chief responsibility for operating trends rests upon officers of institutions and of institutional boards, we stress also the responsibility of all board members pointing out that they, as well as the officers, represent the constituency concerned and are equally answerable for the welfare of the institution.

22. That when under unforeseen emergency conditions it may seem imperative that some funds be borrowed in order to preserve or protect existing properties and interests, such loans be secured only after approval as follows:

(a) A union conference may borrow, in any one calendar year, or authorize the borrowing of amounts not exceeding \$1,000, or its equivalent in local currency. Amounts exceeding \$1,000 must have the approval of the division or General Conference committee.

(b) A union mission may not borrow or authorize the borrowing of money without the approval of the division.

(c) An institution in a local conference not coming directly under the supervision of a union conference or union mission may borrow, in any one calendar year, or authorize the borrowing of amounts not exceeding \$1,000, or its equivalent in local currency, upon approval of the board of trustees of the institution. Amounts exceeding \$1,000 must have the approval of the division or General Conference committee.

(d) It is understood that overseas divisions may neither borrow nor authorize the borrowing of amounts exceeding \$5,000 in the aggregate for all of their organizations in any one calendar year without the approval of the General Conference Committee.

23. That upon the completion of a building project, or at the end of each year during which it is under construction, a report of the financial standing of the project shall be made to the treasurer of the division concerned; and the division treasurer shall file with the treasurer of the General Conference copies of reports concerning all projects which have required General Conference approval or which have received aid from the Church Extension Fund or other special funds.

24. That leaders who show inability to operate the work in harmony with our established financial policies be not continued in executive leadership.

DEBT LIQUIDATION

WHEREAS, For many years it has been the denominational policy to conduct all foreign mission work on a strictly cash basis; and

WHEREAS, The incurring of debt in the mission field not only hinders the development of the work in that field but also imperils the future of our world mission programme;

Resolved: 1. That mission fields having incurred indebtedness be required to adopt a definite policy of debt liquidation.

2. That not less than ten per cent of the entire indebtedness as at January 1, 1938, of each division and its subsidiary organizations be liquidated annually. That for the purpose of computing the amount of debt reduction, indebtedness shall be understood to consist of Notes Payable, Mortgages and Accounts Payable.

3. That as far as possible, funds be raised within the respective divisions with which to liquidate their indebtedness; but in cases where such funds are not sufficient, the balance of the indebtedness shall be made up from the regular budget receipts other than tithe. Where the indebtedness is exceptionally large, it is advised that the question be made a matter for special consideration by the division committee in counsel with the General Conference.

WHEREAS, The foregoing principles apply also to other than mission territories,

Resolved: 4. That in fields other than mission territories, where indebtedness has been incurred by conferences or institutions, not less than ten per cent of such indebtedness shall be liquidated each year. Where the indebtedness is exceptionally large, it is advised that the question be made a matter for special consideration by the division committee in counsel with the General Conference.

5. That in fields where debt-paying comeback funds are received, these moneys be carefully safeguarded for the specific purpose for which they have been provided, and applied in harmony with the debt-reduction policy; and further, that the union treasurer concerned furnish to the treasurer of the General Conference at the close of each year a statement of the use of the comeback funds received.

6. That at each Autumn Council of the General Conference Committee, overseas division officers and presidents of union and local conferences in North America shall submit reports regarding plans for the reduction of indebtedness in their fields, methods adopted to this end, and progress made. Furthermore, that in overseas divisions, union conference and union mission officers make similar reports of progress of debt reduction at the annual division councils.

SABBATH-SCHOOL GOALS

WHEREAS, The participation of all our churchmembers as members of the Sabbath-school is essential to the spiritual life and welfare of the church; and

WHEREAS, From ten to twenty per cent of our church membership in the home unions are as yet not regular members of the Sabbath-school;

We Recommend: 1. That an earnest endeavour be made in all the conferences of the division between now and the 1940 General Conference session to complete the enrolment of all churchmembers as on June 30, 1938, in the Sabbath-school.

2. That each union and conference examine its Sabbath-school records, assign goals, and keep such goals steadily before every Sabbath-school concerned.

3. That we endeavour to organize branch Sabbath-schools wherever opportunity presents itself.

4. That we welcome the Training Course for Sabbath-school teachers, prepared by the General Conference, and lay plans to translate the lessons into our leading languages so that the Course can be launched in 1940.

PERCENTAGE RELATIONSHIP OF SABBATH-SCHOOL OFFERINGS TO TITHE

WHEREAS, There is need of a Sabbath-school offering goal which can be used successfully in promoting the Sabbath-school offerings in the individual churches, and

WHEREAS, The majority of our mis-

sion goals should be in proportion to our ability of giving and our income,

Voted, That the goal for Sabbath-school offerings, including Thirteenth Sabbath Offering, Investment Fund, and the Birthday Offerings, be twenty-five per cent of the tithe income.

YOUTH AND EVANGELISM

WHEREAS, The nations of the world are making a bold bid for the youth and Satan is seeking to enlist them under his banner, and

WHEREAS, We are told that there is no other class that can do as much good as young men and young women who are consecrated to God; the youth, if rightly trained, could sway a mighty influence and reach a class whom the minister cannot affect,

Resolved: That we earnestly urge our conference workers and church leaders to enlist and train the youth in various lines of missionary endeavour and that we encourage our young people to take the Advanced Study and Service League Course of Study, thus equipping themselves for definite aggressive evangelism.

EDUCATION

WHEREAS, We have been warned again and again through the writings of the Spirit of prophecy of the dangers in allowing our children and young people to attend the schools of the world, and

WHEREAS, We have been admonished to establish church schools wherever the message is preached and that this work is of first importance and lies nearest to our churchmembers and should receive the earnest approval of all our conference workers; and

WHEREAS, Our present facilities provide a Christian education for only about one-tenth of our children and youth while fully 7,000 of them are in the schools of the world; therefore

We Recommend: 1. That in every union conference, study be given by union and local committees to the possibility of opening up and maintaining church schools in centres where there are a sufficient number of children who are not now enjoying the benefits of a church school.

2. That we recommend to our larger training schools that they consider the possibility of introducing normal training in the courses offered for the preparation of workers for our church school work.

3. That as the way opens we encourage Seventh-Day Adventist teachers now employed in secular schools to take a short course of training in one of our schools with the object of entering the church school work.

4. That every worker in the division put forth effort to encourage our young people to attend our own schools and colleges where they will be under the care of Christian teachers.

5. That our workers use great caution in recommending young people to attend a college in the world in preference to one of our own schools, and that such counsel be given only in exceptional cases by responsible leaders after careful consideration of the case.

6. That the whole question of our church school work be studied at the time of the Educational Council in 1939.

INCREASED SALE OF DOCTRINAL LITERATURE

WHEREAS, We are told through the Spirit of prophecy that our workers should be encouraged to give their first attention to books that deal with the evidences of our faith, books that teach the doctrines of the Bible and that will prepare a people to stand in the trying times before us;

We Recommend: That conference presidents, publishing house managers, departmental leaders, and other workers do their utmost to encourage the circulation of a larger percentage of our books and other literature containing our specific doctrines.

SPECIAL ALLOWANCES TO COLPORTEURS

WHEREAS, There are times when faithful colporteurs find it impossible to meet living expenses, due to high rents, sickness, and other conditions over which they have no control,

We Recommend: That each union committee (or, where there is no union committee, the local committee) and the publishing house board give study to drawing up a colporteur Sickness and Emergency Assistance plan, and that where publishing houses are not able to care for such expenses, union committees (or local committees) be asked to share in financing this plan.

MISSIONS EXTENSION CAMPAIGN, 1939

WHEREAS, Throughout the years, educational, publishing, and medical institutions throughout our division have benefited from funds obtained from the annual Missions Extension Campaign; and

WHEREAS, In all our fields and particularly our missions in Africa, there is still urgent need to strengthen and enlarge the medical, educational, and publishing phases of our work;

Therefore Resolved: 1. That on the occasion of the 1939 Missions Extension Campaign we unite in promoting the sale of whatever literature may be arranged by the respective unions.

2. That our union conferences and institutions be urged to plan as far as possible for at least one field day in which executives, ministers, and workers in conferences and institutions, including teachers, students, and nurses, can take part in this special effort.

3. That every effort be made to enlist our entire church membership in the Big Week Campaign, emphasis being placed on house-to-house work,

thus ensuring a wide circulation of the literature provided for this campaign.

4. That the Missions Extension offering be taken up in all our churches and companies on the appointed date; that all workers in conferences and institutions supported by the cause be urged to donate the equivalent of one day's salary toward this special fund.

5. That the colporteur force throughout the Division be urged to take part in the Big Week Campaign, donating the proceeds from the largest day's sales to the Missions Extension Fund.

HARVEST INGATHERING CAMPAIGN— GOALS FOR 1939

WHEREAS, The Harvest Ingathering Campaign has become a part of the world-wide work, and from this source have been gathered large sums for the furtherance of God's work in the earth; and

WHEREAS, This campaign has proved to be an excellent method of bringing our work to the attention of those in authority and to leaders in all classes of society; and

WHEREAS, This campaign is a practical way of training our church-members in meeting the public, and also has direct results in the winning of souls to the truth of God:

Therefore Resolved: 1. That we continue to promote the Harvest Ingathering Campaign in all our unions, conferences, missions, and institutions, and urge that all our workers join in making this special effort fruitful for the winning of souls to Christ, also in raising funds for the advancement of the kingdom and that time be granted to the workers apart from other duties to reach their set goals.

2. That the first Sabbath of the period set for the campaign be recognized as Harvest Ingathering Rally Day and that the regular Rally Day programme be strongly promoted in all our churches and companies on that date.

3. That previous to the opening of the campaign, conference officers work with the respective churches in the matter of distributing territory, assigning church goals, arranging for suitable field leadership, looking forward to the training of all our churchmembers in this line of missionary activity.

4. That during the week immediately preceding the beginning of the 1939 campaign, special consecration and prayer meetings be held in all our churches.

5. That the date for the 1939 campaign be set for a period of four to eight weeks, every effort being made to achieve the respective goals within this period.

6. That the 1938 Ingathering Magazine cover used in the United States be recommended to our fields, or where this seems inadvisable that each union work out its own cover design according to its own needs.

7. That a goal chart similar to that used in the United States last year be recommended to all our fields, and that this be printed by The Stanborough Press Ltd. Where this is deemed inadvisable the field may prepare its own chart, but in counsel with the Division treasurer.

8. That the Division secretary provide suitable material for all the unions as early as possible, and in addition each union provide its own local material for the 1939 Ingathering Magazine.

SOUL-WINNING WORK BY OUR LAY MEMBERS

WHEREAS, We have definitely been told that "the work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers."—"Testimonies," Vol. 6, page 438:

We Recommend: 1. That every member be encouraged to join our "Win One" movement, and that we appeal to all our ministers and workers everywhere to assist in marshalling and training all our lay forces to reach this objective.

2. That efforts be made to organize our members into groups and classes, it being understood that each member be placed in a working group suited to his talent and experience, and that instruction be provided in how to work for souls. We suggest that the church be organized

(a) For house-to-house Bible studies.

(b) For the circulation of literature.

(c) For evangelistic work in enlisting particularly the young people to hold evangelistic efforts.

(d) For visiting the sick and needy.

(e) For pastoral work to co-operate with the elder or pastor in visiting the home of every church-member several times a year. To visit those who absent themselves from the services of the church, encouraging them to faithful attendance and to visit those who have drifted out of the church, endeavouring to win them back to the fold.

3. That we faithfully use the first Sabbath service of every month for instruction in home missionary methods, plans, and work.

4. That in connection with the fifteen-minute church missionary service arrangements be made to gather reports and make announcements concerning the programme of activity for the ensuing week.

LAY PREACHERS' AND WORKERS' REPORTS

WHEREAS, There are yet thousands of villages, towns, and cities where no organized church is established and in which the truth has never been preached, for lack of workers:

We Recommend: 1. That more of our laymen who give evidence of ability be encouraged and helped to prepare to respond to this call for

self-sacrificing helpers by conducting evangelistic efforts.

2. That for the Division we adopt a goal of 150 lay evangelistic efforts in 1939.

Goals Set for 1939

HARVEST INGATHERING

British Union	£ 9,700
Estonia	E.Kr. 9,450
Lithuania	Lits. 4,350
Polish Union	Zl. 19,800
East Nordic Union	S.Kr. 85,000
West Nordic Union	N.Kr. 95,000
Kenya	£ 294
Gold Coast	£ 367
Nigeria	£ 525
Sierra Leone	£ 84
Upper Nile	£ 42
Cameroons	£ 1
Liberia	£ 19

MISSIONS EXTENSION

British Union	£ 450
Estonia	E.Kr. 1,800
Lithuania	Lits. 580
Polish Union	Zl. 3,900
E. Nordic Union	S.Kr. 7,020
West Nordic Union	N.Kr. 8,800
Kenya	£ 20
Liberia	£ 2
Nigeria	£ 20
Sierra Leone	£ 5
Gold Coast	£ 15
Upper Nile	£ 8
Cameroons	£ 2
	£1,592

ANNUAL OFFERING

5% increase on the actual offering received for the year 1938.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S OFFERING

British Union	£ 100.
Polish Union	Zl. 520.
East Nordic Union	S.Kr. 585
West Nordic Union	N.Kr. 1,400
Estonia	E.Kr. 36
Lithuania	Lits. 29
	£ 223

SABBATH-SCHOOL OFFERINGS

British Union	£ 5,880
Estonia	E.Kr. 6,804
Lithuania	Lits. 3,799
Polish Union	Zl. 24,830
East Nordic Union	S.Kr. 58,344
West Nordic Union	N.Kr. 97,640
Kenya	£ 840
Nigeria	£ 420
Gold Coast	£ 220
Sierra Leone	£ 105
Cameroons	£ 10
Upper Nile	£ 84
Liberia	£ 26
	£16,923

WEEKLY PER CAPITA GIVING IN MISSION OFFERINGS

British Union	1s. 5d.
Iceland	I Kr. .50
Norway	N Kr. .70
Denmark	N.Kr. .90
Sweden	S.Kr. 1.20
Finland	F.Mk. 5.30
Lithuania	Lits. .60
Estonia	E.Kr. .24
Poland	Zl. .47

(Mission fields—same as for 1938.)

The Advent Survey

Organ of
The Northern European Division of
the General Conference of S.D.A.

Editor: W. T. Bartlett

Published monthly on the 25th day of the month Price 2/6 per annum. Subscriptions to be sent to the Division Office, 41 Hazel Gardens, Edgware, Middlesex, England