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## The West Nordic Union Conference

By L. Muderspach

### DEPARTMENTAL WORK

In our departmental work we have made good progress in various spheres. We have translated and duplicated lessons for laymen's courses and lay evangelistic courses. One lay evangelistic course was held in West Denmark, and one in North Norway. In East Denmark recently a large and very successful officers' course was carried on, and we hope that the various plans recommended by the General Conference and the Division will be carried out during the coming year. It is necessary that several courses and institutes be held in order to develop our departments adequately. Some contributions must be made by the conferences for these, but we have reason to believe that means spent in this way will bring good interest.

### YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

Better facilities have also been worked out for the youth and lambs of the fold. The *Junior Hand Book* has been translated and printed, and *Messages to Young People* and *Denominational History* have been translated and are now in the hands of the printers. We have collected Kr.2,360 as a special fund to help publish these books.

The junior work, according to

the new plans, is being carried on with great interest in the conferences, and we have reason to expect that there will be many to take part in the M.V. Congress at Vejlefjord Mission School in August. We believe this congress will increase the interest in this important branch of our work.

### OUR SCHOOLS

In our mission schools we have about seventy students in each. The Danish school is fairly well established financially, while the Norwegian school fights under a pressure of increased debt. The latter school has more students than ever before in its history, and the school board has decided to extend the curriculum to include six years, thus bringing it up to the status of a Junior College. This should enable those who have the desire and the ability to take Artium (Scandinavian University entrance exam.). Plans for this Junior College include ministerial and teachers' courses, and should furthermore give room for Bible-workers' and commercial courses. This will mean a most desired increase in our school programme, but it will call for the employment of new teachers and the erecting of more buildings. A couple of teachers' houses will be needed—though we ought to be able to get these through private donations—and also a large building, part of which could be used as an assembly hall and gymnasium, and the rest as classrooms.

WHEN we look back on a completed year's work, we usually ask this question first: "What have we accomplished in soul-winning?" This, after all, is the very core of our work. The answer to this question in our Union is that we have won more souls than in the previous year, but have also lost more. We have taken in by baptism and vote 400 new members, but so many have been transferred, or disfellowshipped, or have died, that the membership at the end of the year was 6,968.

We have about the same number of workers as before—twenty-five ordained ministers, fourteen licentiates, six missionary licentiates, and seven other workers. Our greatest problem is still: How can we engage the many young men who surely would prove good ministers, but who up to the present have not found a place in our budget?

### PUBLISHING WORK

Our sixty-eight regular colporteurs have, together with some part-time colporteurs, sold N.Kr.399,838.01 worth of literature, which is about Kr.27,000 more than in the previous year. In addition to this, the churches and publishing houses have sold literature to the value of N.Kr.102,391.20 — Kr.23,474.79 more than in 1937, so that our total sales in 1938 were N.Kr.502,229.21, or more than Kr.50,000 better than in 1937!

The great problem, which is a usual one, is: How shall we get the necessary means? The Division has promised to give us Kr.2 for every Kr.5 we collect up to Kr.40,000. This is a great help and incentive, but all the same it will be a great task to carry through.

There has been no great change with regard to our church schools. We have eight as before, with about the same staff of teachers and students.

#### OUR HEALTH WORK

Brother Scott, our Health Secretary, has lately had opportunity to visit our churches and clinics, which I am sure will make for progress in this important line of our message. He gives a report of these visits in a separate article in this issue.

#### OUR FINANCIAL POSITION

The better times we have had in the northern countries during recent years, together with an increased promotion, have had their mark on the income of our conferences. All of them show encouraging increases. Altogether the tithe has increased by about N.Kr.40,000—from Kr.408,613.04 to Kr.448,423.12, which is about 9.8 per cent as against an increase of 4.3 per cent the preceding year. Upon investigation, it appears that

sixty-six per cent of our members pay tithe.

The mission offerings have increased by Kr.12,392.79, though the total Sabbath-school offerings were down by about Kr.1,000, due to the large Thirteenth Sabbath Jubilee offering we had in 1937. Offerings for the twelve Sabbaths have gone up by over Kr.4,000—an encouraging sign of progress in systematic sacrifice. In 1937 the average per member was Kr.8.76, and in 1938, Kr.9.26. The Annual offering increased by Kr.2,000, the Harvest Ingathering by Kr.7,000, and the Week of Sacrifice by Kr.1,500. The Missions Extension Fund fell back a bit.

Our public efforts are now in full swing throughout the Union, and we hear encouraging reports from many places. We pray that the Lord will give us a rich harvest of souls in the present year, and that He will enable us through earnest efforts to retain, build up, and establish the souls already won.

We have devoted ourselves anew, with all that we have and are, to God's service in proclaiming the everlasting Gospel. We fully believe that the Saviour will come to our aid, and by His grace prepare us for the soon-coming final events and His own glorious appearing.

1896. This is not at all sufficient in this city with a population of one million, as the meeting-hall has a seating capacity of 300 only. The other church here in the capital meet in a hired hall, which we are sorry to say is not too cosy.

Even though Copenhagen has heard our message many times in the years gone by, we have been able to run a successful effort this winter with an average attendance of seven hundred people, or as many as the hall would hold. Our working staff is small. This winter we have been able to run four public efforts only, as one of our ministers is engaged as chaplain at the Skodsborg Sanitarium, and another as Home Missionary secretary.

In this conference we have at present a membership of 1,671, scattered in twenty-eight churches, with thirty-eight Sabbath-schools. During the last two years the membership has dropped by thirty members.

Our most pressing need is greater evangelism. The laymen's movement has not yet been started, but the conference has planned for a convention this coming autumn or winter. The tithe for 1937 was Kr.107,826.90, and for 1938, Kr.111,641.12, which means an increase of Kr.3,814.22. Gifts to missions for 1937 were Kr.53,746.55, and in 1938, Kr.55,612.11, which is an increase of Kr.1,865.56. The total increase amounts to Kr.5,679.78 in spite of our lower membership.

Even if this wonderful message has been sounded here in this little country since 1876, the harvest is still great, and ripe, and our prayer is that God will send more workers into our Danish vineyard.

## *The East Danish Conference*

BY AXEL VARMER

SIXTY-THREE years ago there came from U.S.A. to Denmark a strange little man who preached the second coming of Christ so eagerly that the mob tried to kill him right away, and he escaped death by only a hairbreadth because a woman hid him in her pantry. His name was Matteson, and in 1878 he established the first church. In 1880 the Danish Conference was established, and since then the work has grown rapidly so that we at present have a membership of 3,300, while the population in Denmark is 3,700,000.

However, in 1931 the conference was divided up in two: The East Danish and the West Danish Conferences, the former having its office in the capital city of Copen-

hagen, where we have our largest membership, namely 600. Our pressing need here is a new church building, as we have only one—Ebenezer, which was erected in

## *Departmental Work in the West Nordic Union*

BY E. BJAANAS

It is not easy in a short article to give a correct picture of three large and important departments within a large and extended Union comprising three nationalities and three languages. It can only be a glimpse of the wonderful work that

God is doing for His people in this field.

About 5,200 come together on an average every Sabbath in our 171 Sabbath-schools and ninety-seven Sabbath-school groups of isolated members. They give N.Kr.1,700

every week for missionary work among the heathen, or about 88,000 shillings a year. Our workers, and by far the largest part of our members, are actively interested in the Sabbath-school. Throughout the years it has been, and will I am sure continue to be, one of the corner-stones of the Advent message in our Union.

Our youth play an important part in all the life and activity of the church. We have 700 of them in our M.V. Societies. The junior work, marked by life and colour, is in many churches putting on full speed. The West Danish Conference is farthest ahead in this line, but East Denmark is coming along nicely. In the two Norwegian conferences we have five or six junior societies, but we shall probably see quite a few more started very soon. Last autumn two lively junior societies were started in Iceland, and quite a long time ago the M.V. Secretary on the Segå Island informed us that twenty-five had completed the Friend's Class.

In 1938 our members sold more than 100,000 of a large, well-illustrated, twenty-eight-page Harvest Ingathering magazine, and for these they brought in N.Kr.107,000. We are looking forward to a new campaign with faith and good cheer. Our other mission campaigns have also brought in good results.

We have had two institutes for lay preachers. This was at least a new start on an old plan in which we have not shown as much interest as we ought. The attendance at these institutes was not as big as was desired, but when we start these institutes again next autumn we hope for a real good, lively interest, and a more fruitful lay-preaching work during the coming winter.

A large number of our young people are employed in our many and fairly large institutions, and others are in direct missionary work. We feel the good hand of the Lord is over us and have very much to thank Him for.



"Be honest, be loyal, be kind. Remember that the hardest thing to acquire is the faculty of being unselfish. As a quality it is one of the finest attributes of manliness."

## Our Silent Witnesses

BY L. A. NILSEN

THE literature ministry in Norway was an object of the Lord's richest blessings throughout the year 1938, as it has been also in the years gone by. The year 1937 was our best since the depression, but by the help of the Lord and through the unremitting efforts of our faithful, self-sacrificing colporteurs, the sales rose about N.Kr.14,000 over the joyful heights of 1937. It has been a time of struggle for the many who have been engaged in the work, and while encouraging experiences and good results have been earned, the promises of the Bible concerning the great rewarding day have given comfort and encouragement.

Thirty thousand books have been scattered among the towns, the widely-extended valleys, and the thousands of islands of Norway. About 30,000 tracts have been distributed, also approximately 144,000 copies of our health paper, and 70,000 copies of *Tidens Tale*. Our health paper especially has had a

good year, inasmuch as our subscription list was extended from 11,000 at the beginning of the year to about 13,000 at its close.

It has been encouraging to notice an increased interest in our churches in the distribution of our literature. We sent out about twice as many tracts this year as last. The reason for this was that packets of tracts were issued in connection with the Big Week literature.

Interest in the Advent message has sprung up in several places: two persons have already been added to the church as the fruit of a young sister's devoted labours, and several others are studying the truth and preparing themselves for baptism.

The good Lord, who has promised that His word shall not return unto Him void, is watching over our literature and is fulfilling His promises to the joy and encouragement of those who go in faith and confidence on His errands.

## The Health Work in the West Nordic Union

BY C. M. SCOTT

THOUGH I have been medical secretary for the Union for some time, it has not been possible for me to function as such until the last three or four months, when I have had opportunity to visit both the churches and institutions throughout the Union.

The new laws that have come into force in Norway have given quite a bit of extra work. I am glad to report that not less than thirty of our young people have taken a short, extra course in Oslo, and have thus obtained the necessary state qualifications in massage.

The larger part of our health work is naturally done through our larger and smaller health institutions. In addition to our sanitarium in Skodsborg, our clinic in Oslo, and our clinic and food factory in Copenhagen, we have fifty-three privately-owned clinics in

Denmark, and twenty-two in Norway. No less than 720 workers are engaged in these health institutions. This means that eleven per cent of our total membership are directly engaged in our health work in these countries. We have given approximately 637,186 treatments, and have done a considerable amount of charitable work, amounting in value to no less than N.Kr.104,776 (£5,200) during the last year. The gross turnover of the institutions during the year was considerably over N.Kr.3,000,000 (£150,000).

These health workers are in many places good leaders of our churches, and the amounts coming to the treasury of the denomination as tithe from this source is by no means small.

Though the right arm of the message is rather strong in our

Union, we ought, especially in our churches, to make still greater progress in order to come up to the teaching we have received through the *Testimonies* regarding healthful living.

We see ahead of us a large field of labour in regard to the teaching

of our churchmembers, not only in preparing healthful food, but also along other lines of our far-reaching work. There is good interest in these questions in the churches, and I believe our health movement has good prospects of developing still further.

## *Vejlefjord Mission School*

BY P. A. CHRISTIANSEN

WE have thus far in many respects enjoyed a very good school year, and it has been a real joy to witness the excellent spirit that has prevailed among our many students. Almost everyone took part in the Harvest Ingathering with zeal and energy, and we reached our goal in record time.

There has been great progress in our farming and gardening, and we had about 200 guests at our Summer Pension. We are grateful to the Lord for the success of these industries, and for the fact

that they have grown stronger from year to year, for they support the school financially.

There is one thing, though, that has been rather disappointing. Last year we received a State subsidy of Kr.6,000, but this year we received none, on account of the many older students who were in our lower classes. We are now planning to arrange matters so that in the years to come we shall be entitled to receive the State grant, for it will prove a great help to those students who are endeavouring to get to the school.

## *South-East Nigeria*

BY W. T. BARTLETT

I HAVE now spent seven weeks in this part of Nigeria, four of them in an institute for the workers, and the rest in visiting churches and local Camps.

Last year the Elele Mission held one camp. This year they held four camps in different parts of the field. In this way a larger number of people were able to enjoy the gathering. The aggregate attendance this year was over 1,100, while last year at the one camp it was about 670. Of the four places, one (Abua) has a language of its own, and its 270 people had a pleasant camp in which there was only one translation. These camps are the best advertisement for the work being done locally, and the baptisms are, as a rule, witnessed by crowds. Brother A. Vine is now returning from Elele to work in England, and his successor will find a very interesting and promising field.

In the Aba Mission also special camps have been held in the more distant groups. In the Ibibio country 550 people gathered. This

area also has a language quite different from the Ibo. In Emū also 290 people gathered. In these two camps forty-five people were baptized. It was desired to split up further the large Aba camp which gathered last year between 5,000 and 6,000 people. There was not time available for this breaking up of the camp, and so again Aba had a colossal gathering, about the same size as last year. In addition to this we had a camp for 1,400 children under the superintendence of Brother C. A. Bartlett of

Onitsha. Next year it is hoped to split up the big camp into three or four, and the aggregate attendance will probably be doubled. Only twenty-seven were baptized to-day. The large list of candidates will be baptized in different areas, as on account of the huge number desiring baptism it had been impossible to exercise the necessary scrutiny. All the white workers of the South-east Mission shared the preaching in these camps with Brother McClements and the writer.

Two African workers were ordained during the Aba camp. Their names were Philip Onwere and Robert Wozu. Both these men had put in several years of faithful and successful service as evangelists, and their ordination was universally approved. God's blessing rested on the service. The man who had first called Robert Wozu's attention to the truth more than twenty years before was present, himself not yet obedient, and I was introduced to another man who had beaten him severely to stop his preaching, now himself happy and zealous in the cause.

It is a joy to see the enthusiasm of these Ibo members. Many of them come out of dense heathenism. We are establishing churches in districts which, a very few years before, were notorious for poisonings, brutal murders, and cannibalism. These people are learning to love the Word of God, and the missionaries are patiently leading them into higher and higher standards of Christian living. The Girls' School, now to be reopened, will help powerfully to raise the family life. The Ibo people possess many attractive qualities. Our work is gaining ground rapidly among them, and deserves the most generous support.

## *A Bible School at Aba*

BY W. T. BARTLETT

WE have just completed a month's Bible Institute for the workers in the South-east Mission of the Nigerian Union. Most of the instruction was given by Brethren C. A. Bartlett, A. C. Vine, and the writer. Brother W. McClements joined us for the last week.

It has been a very profitable institute. There were over sixty workers present, all of whom understood English, and the majority speak it fluently. Some needed a translator when they spoke. Many of the prayers were in the Ibo and other vernaculars.

The year 1938 had shown good

progress. The goal was set for 2,500 new Sabbath-school members, and over 2,300 had been added. Such a large increase of adherents was proving beyond the power of the workers, and one purpose of the institute was to increase their efficiency. Also some breaches had shown themselves of recent months, not only in the churches, but also among the workers. The various Bible studies closed up these breaches, and restored a warmer, closer brotherhood than ever. At the closing meeting for testimony it was very evident that all who had pulled apart during recent months were now, heart and soul, with their brethren. Some studies given by Brother McClements on organization helped greatly to inspire confidence and a desire for perfect unity. The divisions had grown out of an excess of zeal, and when clearer knowledge came, the enlightened zeal manifested itself powerfully. There was deep joy and exuberant happiness over God's help and blessing that had restored brotherly love.

The hunger for Bible knowledge may be judged from the fact that during the month 257 written

questions were placed in the Question Box.

One interesting fact emerged again and again in the testimonies. Some who have never identified themselves with the message have passed it on to others. Some of the workers had first been attracted to the truth by the strong recommendations of schoolmasters and others, who were not themselves obedient. One heathen woman became concerned about her soul's salvation, and visited a neighbouring mission to make inquiries. She got into touch with two women, and told them of her desire for a change of heart. They told her that in the body they were members of the mission, but in the spirit they were members of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, and strongly recommended her, if she desired a real conversion, to go to the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. She followed their advice and found what she sought.

God is doing a great work among the Ibo people. The land is full of churches. Through the earnest workers He has raised up, a thrilling work is being accomplished. Here is a great opportunity to win precious souls.

## African Singing

BY MRS. M. C. CLIFFORD

EVERYONE loves music and the African is no exception. His ears become thrilled with the clamour of the drums, and at its familiar sound the children dance for joy and are overcome with excitement. When African children are not working on the farms they have time to spare, and are soon drawn to such a centre of attraction, for only a small proportion of them have the opportunity of attending school.

An important festival is held in Ashanti every forty days. In connection with this festival the chief, wearing his regal and gorgeous attire, parades through the town under the shelter of an enormous umbrella, preceded by a number of dancers and followed by drummers, hornblowers, and a large retinue of people. The grandeur of these ceremonies and the excitement and feasting associated with them are a

strong allurements to the youth of this land.

Having this as a background from infancy the young people find our sacred songs and hymns a great contrast to their own music, so that it takes time for them to appreciate the harmonies and melodies which are so familiar to us.

At Bekwai we have a small day school. The children are under the immediate care of African teachers, but once a week they come to our bungalow to practise singing to the accompaniment of the organ, and it has been a great satisfaction to watch the improvement. At first they seemed unable to sing a single note correctly, but gradually their ears have been trained to catch the strains of some of our beautiful Advent hymns, and they now sing a number correctly. These they enjoy, but often err in singing too

lustily, for the boys and girls in Ashanti land are not afraid of opening their mouths wide; their dark brown faces and ivory white teeth form a pleasing sight as they sing the praises of God. Their campmeeting is held at the close of the year, and the children are now learning some new hymns to sing at that time. The members of each school and church are striving to see who can sing the best.

Not only can the ears of the young be trained to enjoy our Advent hymns, but the adult members also appreciate the tuneful messages, as the following incidents show: On one occasion when the hymn, "Draw me nearer," was chosen to be sung at a missionary meeting, one woman said, "Yes, I like to feel that Jesus is near to me." Another woman who has become converted recently testified that on her first attendance at a church service the hymn, "All power is given unto Me" was sung, and it strengthened her desire to follow Jesus, so that it has become her favourite hymn. Through lack of good teachers some of our congregations do not reach the perfection in tune and tone that we would wish, but the psalmist says, "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord"; this they do; and we believe that the Lord accepts their praises.

It has been mentioned that heathen festivals prove a strong attraction to the young and old of this land. But I am happy to say that in recent years singing bands have been formed in the towns and villages where a strong Adventist church can be found, and these have proved to be counter attractions. Instead of the young people trifling away their evenings, they spend them in the church learning to sing. When a church is fortunate enough to have a musical leader and a band of thirty or forty enthusiastic young people it is not surprising that their singing reaches a high standard. They sing in parts with perfect harmony and balance, and charm the ears of our visitors from the homeland. Though our music must sound strange to their ears when heard for the first time, the Ashantis are a musical people and soon learn to enter whole-heartedly into it.

The Lord wishes us to use our

talents in His service, and the singing bands accept willingly any invitation which comes to them to make a service attractive and inspiring by their singing. They are happy to join the evangelist in holding public efforts or "open air"

services, and play no small part in attracting a large audience. In the day of final reckoning will be known the number of those who have been won to the Lord by beautiful singing.

*Bekwai, Ashanti.*

## Fishers of Men

BY S. G. MAXWELL

WE were standing on the top of a high hill overlooking the Ukamba country. It rolled away to the distant haze as far as the eye could see.

"Look, Bwana, there is the church which we have built." Some 2,000 feet below could be seen a white object, evidently a good-size building.

Nzuva was telling of his love for the truth. He had been a follower in another mission only three months ago. Now he was telling of the church he had built for us.

How had he found such zeal and love? Had he been influenced by the missionary? No. Being sent on a message by another society, he happened to pass by our teacher's house on the top of the mountain. Our worker saw him and welcomed him in to a meal. A Bible study followed. The message gripped his heart and he began to preach.

There was nothing fluent in his presentation of the Word. He has barely Standard three education. But "out of the mouth of babes" is often fulfilled. "How many have you won?" "Two hundred people come to the church each

Sabbath," he replied. I gasped.

They have put up their own building and were calling for a teacher. Men, women, and children had all helped. Even the children had raised five shillings from somewhere to buy nails for the building, so eager were they to get a school started.

Nzuva held out his arm as he pointed some fifty miles away. "I have preached all through that area," he said. "Here and there and there they are calling for help."

Here was a lay brother on fire with the message. Our few Christians in that district on the hill have been faithful in sowing the seed. In another direction from where Nzuva pointed a company of 100 had been raised up, and not far away from them a further eighty gathered regularly. Other calls have not yet been answered. The only paid worker is the teacher who won Nzuva to the message. The field surely is ripe for a larger work.

Nzuva asks an interest in your prayers that he may yet win more souls.

*Kenya Union, E. Africa.*

## African Mission Training Schools

BY J. I. ROBISON

FOR the last three years we have been looking forward in the Northern European Division to the establishment of two new training centres in our mission territory in Africa, as well as the strengthening of our existing schools in the various mission fields. At the home office we have often referred to this as our African Educational Development Plan. We have spent many hours studying ways and means by which this plan could be brought to fruition, and last year

we made it the special object of an appeal to the General Conference in a memorial prepared by the executive committee and presented to the General Conference officers in Battle Creek. As a result of this appeal a special appropriation of \$10,000 was granted us and earmarked definitely for our African educational work. This splendid gift, together with other monies that we have made available from Division funds, makes it possible for us to look forward to a larger

development of our educational work in Africa in the near future and to the early establishment of at least one of the institutions planned for.

This, however, places upon us as missionaries and executive leaders in our mission fields a heavy responsibility. In the launching of this larger educational work for our African missions, care must be exercised that no mistake is made, and right locations are found for the institutions to be established. Not only in the matter of location must we guard against mistakes, but also we need special guidance that the schools to be established are founded on right principles and that the education offered is of such a character that our crying need for trained workers and efficient teachers who have the love of the message in their hearts will be met. As I have come in contact with our mission fields, both in East and West, I have been impressed again and again that our greatest need in Africa is for trained, consecrated workers. This need I believe you all recognize, and we must look to our training schools to supply it. The building up of our training centres, then, is vitally connected with every branch of our mission work, and we especially invite all our missionaries to give us your co-operation and counsel as we lay plans for a larger educational work in Africa.

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND THE ADVENT MOVEMENT

The Seventh-Day Adventist Church is a great international missionary movement. The world is our parish. The purpose of the Advent movement is to take this last message of mercy to the whole world—to declare the good news of a soon-coming Saviour to every nation, kindred, tongue, and people. And not only to declare the good news, but to help men everywhere to experience the saving, redemptive power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, in preparation for His coming. The primary purpose and object of this movement is therefore a missionary and religious one. We should not allow political, nor social, nor cultural objects to absorb our attention or time,

though our missionary activities may extend to some of these fields. We must ever keep before our workers the all-important fact that "in a special sense Seventh-Day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light-bearers," and to us "has been entrusted the last message for a perishing world."

In years gone by there has grown up in the minds of the native people and also in the minds of many missionaries the idea that one of the objects of Christian missions is to take Western civilization to the world. This, I believe, has been most unfortunate, for to-day we see Western civilization crumbling. It has been discredited in many lands of the East, and even in Europe its foundations are being undermined and its Christian background denied. If in our mission work we have been so closely associated with the cultural and social uplift work that these have seemed to appear of primary importance, then when some of these things begin to crumble, as they are doing to-day, the lights that have formerly been our guide will go out and that which we had thought would have facilitated and furthered our work will prove to be only a handicap. But the third angel's message is more than social uplift, more than a civilizing influence. "It is the power of God unto salvation," and it is the only power that will save men to-day.

The dazzling success of scientific progress and invention will prove to be a boomerang that will return upon the heads of the nations that have sponsored it to their own destruction. But the Advent message is God's plan of saving a people from this modern age, and we who are to proclaim the message must take care that we are not attracted by the dazzling but empty brightness of the world and fail to see the more wonderful light that is shining from the pages of God's Holy Word.

Therefore our starting point in Christian education in the mission field must be a realization that the Advent movement is, first of all, a Christian missionary movement founded upon the Word of God, and that its first object is to save men from sin and prepare them for the coming King. Upon this

foundation and this alone can we build an educational structure into whose walls our sons and daughters will fit as living stones, "polished after the similitude of a palace" and from whose doors they will go out to minister to the world "as an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ."

#### THE MISSIONARY MUST KNOW WORLD CONDITIONS

We realize that in order to fulfil this aim in Christian education it is necessary to know and understand the world in which the aim is to be realized. To serve mankind and to take to the world a saving message we must, as it were, live in the world, and so share in love and goodwill the experiences of our fellow-men. I believe that as ambassadors for Christ we must not only be physically present in a country, but we must be in touch with some of the deepest and strongest currents of life that are stirring the people among whom we live. So as educators we must not only know and teach that which is stirring the minds of men, but be able to present to our students an understanding of these things in the light of the prophetic Word. Thus even the cross currents of modern life may become effective agents in the lives of our students to an understanding of the Word of God and a preparation for His coming.

As workers for Christ we should avail ourselves of all the light that modern knowledge can shed upon our task; also we should accept the help which modern educational experience can give us in the carrying out of our aim. These helps should be, however, only the means to an end, even as improved methods of communication and other scientific inventions greatly accelerate the carrying of the Gospel to the world, but are, in themselves, no part of the Gospel.

Tremendous new forces are stirring the world to-day as never before. New idealistic forms of social and political life are changing the present order more rapidly than many of us realize. These powerful influences are forming the outlook, moulding the minds, and determining the attitude of the

present generation more completely than all other influences combined. These forces are largely anti-Christian and opposed to evangelical missions. They are, I think, the greatest enemies that the church has had to face for over a century.

In these forces, however, we see a definite fulfilment of prophecy, and these days in which we live should be a challenge to the Advent people to arise and finish the work before these anti-Christian powers overwhelm the world. We need a deeper understanding and a larger vision of God's purpose for us in the light of present-day events, that we may see not only the greatness of the task, but the power of our God who in these last days is to enlighten the world with His message.

As educators we need that larger vision so that from our training schools there may go out young men who have not only knowledge and book learning, with a theoretical understanding of the teachings of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, but also a burning zeal for God, with the spirit of true evangelists who feel that they must proclaim this message to others whatever the world may say or do.

"With such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour might be carried to the whole world! How soon might the end come—the end of suffering, and sorrow, and sin!"—*"Education,"* page 271.

Our greatest need to-day in both the home and mission fields is for men of noble character and true devotion who "in their inmost souls are true and honest; men who do not fear to call sin by its right name; men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole; men who will stand for the right though the heavens fall."—*Ibid.,* page 57.

Our schools should, I believe, make the development of such character their first object and their highest aim. If success attends their efforts in these lines, then we can rest assured that from the doors of our training institutions will go forth devoted workers who will give their strength, time, and intellect to the advance-

ment of the third angel's message. Lamps will be lighted everywhere until the world shall be illuminated with the light of the Gospel, and a people made ready for the coming of the King.

In the establishment of the new training institutions in our mission fields I trust, then, that we may earnestly seek to find and follow God's plan for these schools. We have the opportunity of demonstrating in our mission fields the

value of the principles of Christian education. In all our plans may we acknowledge Him as the great Teacher and He will direct our paths. When we honour the Lord and recognize that "in Him are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge," then we can expect that our students will find that wisdom that "is more precious than rubies," and that the light of this message "will break forth as the morning" and be carried to the ends of the earth.

in this institution. For foreigners with an incomplete knowledge of the English language the work may be hard, and the problems to be faced and solved may be distressing, but workers who want further education that will develop mind and spirit, and fit them for better Gospel service in these last days, will find it here.

The institution is built upon the solid rock of Advent truth, and I believe it has come to the kingdom for just such a time as this, when the devil is marshalling all his forces to the last battle against faith and truth and love.

No one can possibly visit this school and fail to receive a blessing, and no public worker, however silver-tongued he may be, will leave this place without a larger vision and better equipment for his future work.

"There are empires awaiting you if only you will rise high enough to master, govern, and rule them," says Dr. Alexander Cannon in his newly-published book *Sleeping Through Space*. It may mean sacrifices and hard work for some, but it is worth while. Those who plan for a course at the Seminary will never regret the sacrifice they made to accomplish it.

## The Truth about the Theological Seminary

BY G. GUDMUNDSEN

"TELL me the truth about the Seminary," my friends sometimes ask. It is not always easy to tell the truth, even though it is a very noble deed. Many times it takes great courage to do so. In saying this I do not want to excuse or condone untruth. It is only a plain statement of fact.

At the first glance of the Seminary one feels just a bit disappointed. The size of the building is not so imposing as one had imagined, and the equipment is not so magnificent either as some would expect. But this illustrates again the old truth that it is not the building nor the equipment that make the school, but the heads of the men who are running it.

On my journeys in Africa I visited many different schools, large and small, and was astonished to find that a small village school with a poor outfit sometimes would exercise a greater influence on the surrounding community than a larger and well-equipped institution in a populated centre.

Once, after visiting such a larger institution, I asked some people in the street if they knew the gentleman who was teaching there. They shook their heads and said, "No!" Then pointing to a shop they added, "The man in that shop may know him." I went over to the shop and asked the same question. "Yes," the shopkeeper answered, "this gentleman teaches about sixty-five boys every day, and he passes by here morning and evening." Some time later I came to a

village school. The school building was a native hut without windows, and the whole outfit consisted of a rude blackboard about three feet by two feet and a piece of chalk. I asked again some people in the street if they knew the man who was teaching there. "Oh, yes," they answered, "everybody knows him. He is teaching the people here." Later I found out the difference. The former was a trainer, the latter was a teacher. The former trained the students in numbers, and counted them in numbers. The latter taught the people character, and stamped character on everybody with whom he came in connection.

It is hardly necessary to mention that the main task of the Seminary is to mould and stamp a firm Christian character on every student who enters this school. It seems to be a consuming desire of the faculty to see Christ enthroned in the lives of every man and woman who enters within its doors. One gets tremendously impressed by the forgetfulness of self and the dedication of life, soul, and spirit of those who are in charge in their efforts to provide a splendid education based on thoroughly Christian principles.

I had never realized the great need for an institution of this kind before I came here and attended the classes. Now I believe that, even from a business standpoint only, it will pay the various organizations to give as many of their workers as possible a course

In these days of doubt, disbelief, and irreligion, it is supremely important that everyone who names the name of Christ know what he believes and why he believes it. The time has come when everyone should affirm, and re-establish if need be, his faith in the great fundamentals of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He should know what Heaven expects of him, and what he must do to meet God's will for his life. The tides of rationalistic infidelity are running too strong in the world for any man to withstand unless he is moored to the certainties and the verities of the Christian religion.—*Selected*.

### The Advent Survey

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