



Vol. 11. No. 3.

March, 1940

"Thanks Be Unto God"

By W. E. Read

IN these days of peril our voices should be continually lifted up to the Lord in praise and thanksgiving. The many mercies and providences which came to the apostle Paul amid dangers and difficulties called forth expressions of gratitude from his heart, for, on several occasions, he breaks out with the expression: "Now thanks be unto God."

Centuries ago when the Lord had wrought a great deliverance for His people, the prophet Samuel set up a memorial of thanksgiving to God and called it "Ebenezer," the meaning of which is, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." This can be the expression of our own hearts to-day as we think of all that God has wrought for His children, the many answers to prayer, the many wonderful providences, His protecting care in time of danger, and the innumerable blessings He bestows.

In returning from a recent rather extended visit to the Scandinavian countries, to Finland, and the Baltic states, I feel that there are special causes for gratitude and thanksgiving to the Lord:

1. *For Journeying Mercies.* Just before leaving headquarters last November, when reading through *Desire of Ages*, I came across a few lines which proved a real comfort and which brought a feeling of assurance to my own heart as I made my way from country to country. It reads:

"Whether on the land or on the sea, if we have the Saviour in our hearts, there is no need of fear."—Page 216.

What a joy it is to know that

the Saviour is with us. "Lo, I am with you alway," He says. What a comfort the consciousness of divine companionship brings to us in all our journeys; to know we are where the Lord wants us to be; to go where He wants us to go, and in the doing, and in the going, to know that He leads us so unmistakably that there is no question about it. This brings a confidence in divine leadership and the assurance to our hearts of the protecting and guiding power of God. The way *visas* came just at the time they were needed, the way transportation facilities were offered just at the right time, have been remarkable. Over and over again we have seen the over-ruling providence of the Lord in the many favours and blessings He has granted.

2. *For the courage in the hearts of our workers and believers.* The experiences on this journey have impressed me more and more with what a real Christian experience means to human hearts. All around may be turmoil and strife, dangers may lurk on every hand, suspicion and fear may fill the hearts of men, the future may be uncertain, none knowing what a day may bring forth. Yet, where the war clouds hang so heavily and the dangers are so imminent, there we find in the hearts of our workers and our dear believers a calm, quiet confidence in the Lord. What a blessing it is to know the Lord! What a joy to have the assurance we are walking with Him day by day!

What a comfort it is to know that He hears us when we pray, and to be conscious in our own life and experience of divine answers to prayer! What an assurance this brings to our hearts! I shall not forget some of the meetings held in Finland, some of which were in underground cellars reminding one of the catacombs of Rome. Yet, there we met to worship the Lord. Facing dangers on the right hand and dangers on the left, one sees in the experience of our believers a sincerity of purpose, a deepening sense of the presence of the Lord, and a consciousness of whole-hearted consecration. The Lord certainly brings peace and restful assurance to His people in the darkest hours.

3. *For the strong, progressive plans made for the New Year.* Under the conditions we face to-day, one would not be altogether surprised to hear at times expressions of discouragement, or that this or that cannot be done under present circumstances, and that we must let down on this enterprise, and not expect so much in this or that campaign. But no, no expressions like these were heard as we met with the various committees. Really the brethren made stronger plans for 1940 than they have ever made. They look forward to greater faithfulness in missionary zeal, for larger results in soul-winning, and for greater achievements in the raising of funds for the work of God. Some of the marks of strong, true leadership are progressive plans in a time of difficulty, a refusal to be discouraged, a refusal to be daunted by

the difficulties that loom up before us. Consecrated, spirit-filled leadership will, in this time of trial, lead the people of God into deeper consecration, to achieve greater exploits, and, under God, do a larger and more progressive work than ever before.

May the blessing of the Lord be

with His people. May He comfort those in sorrow. May He bring to those who live amid persecution and danger special help and blessing and the assurance of His own comfort and presence.

May 1940 be the best year we have ever had in our own experience, as well as in the work of God.

In Trying Times

BY G. E. NORD

IN spite of the trying conditions under which our 1939 Ingathering Campaign had to be conducted in some parts of our Division, God wonderfully blessed the efforts of His people. Our schools as usual, rallied nobly to the task. Newbold College with thirty or forty students less than in former years, and shorter hours for work owing to early blackouts, raised the grand total of 8,400 shillings. It was my privilege to spend two campaign days with them. The first day's effort resulted in more than 2,400 shillings—the largest amount ever raised in one day by the school. It was also my privilege to visit both the Swedish and Norwegian schools as they were winding up their campaigns, having encountered even greater difficulties than at Newbold.

The Swedish school was not able to use motor cars, on account of failure to obtain petrol. However, mostly by the use of feet and cycles, they were able by their own pluck and the help of God to spring the greatest surprise in their Ingathering history. They gathered seven thousand kroner.

From the Norwegian school, in October, Brother Leif Kr. Tobiasen wrote: "We are now very near Kr.7,000 and expect to reach that soon." He sent a photograph of about thirty students, each of whom had gathered more than Kr.100, one Kr.500, all in small sums. About half of the student body; ninety-five in all, were graded as "minute men" having raised nearly fifty shillings each. Since then we have learned that they have gone beyond Kr.8,000, a marvellous achievement considering the circumstances.

The Danish, Finnish, and Estonian students have followed

close in the footsteps of the other schools.

When we sent out our last Ingathering Bulletin in the middle of November, one union had 126 per cent of its goal, and the Swedish-Finnish Conference had 153 per cent. South Sweden had 142 per cent and all the rest above 110 per cent. The West Nordic Union reached its goal in the shortest time. The South Norway Conference got a large overflow. The British Union heroically climbed to the top before the close of the year with an overflow of 19,800 shillings. Scotland and Wales went beyond their goal, with Ireland highest over the top of any field: 178 per cent raised by November 15th. Thus every field reached its goal.

The Division more than raised its goal, for which we render grateful praise to God from whom all blessings flow, and our most heartfelt thanks to all faithful co-workers and loyal harvesters.

The Big Week also came off victorious in 1939. A large number of local home missionary conventions and lay-preacher institutes

were held, and nearly 2,000 members enlisted in about one hundred Bible training classes conducted in the different conferences, the largest number being in the British Union. A good number of souls won for the truth by our members have been reported. Thousands of papers, tracts, and books have been sold and distributed and other work done which will bear fruit in time.

"This new year, which will probably be a fateful one in the history of the world, has opened quietly, but it is the quiet of the calm before the storm," said Mr. Chamberlain. One thing, however, we know, that God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in time of need. It is often repeated that "with the Lord there is no crisis." He measures every trial we must pass through and watches the furnace fire that must purge the gold.

"The world is not without a ruler. The programme of coming events is in the hands of the Lord." "That which appears to finite minds entangled and complicated, the Lord's hand can keep in perfect order." "When the stronghold of kings shall be overthrown, His people will be safe in His hands."—"Testimonies," Vol. 5. pages 753, 754.

We can plead no excuse for not doing the work committed to us in such a time as this, or the worse time coming. The warning message must be given under the most fiery opposition by our evangelists and workers everywhere. The members of the church will individually be tested and proved.



Students of Onsrud who each collected at least one hundred kroner.

The Big Week, April 6th—13th, again calls upon all to do a larger work, scattering more literature, giving more time, effort, and money, if possible, than ever. The Ingathering Campaign coming later, demands wholehearted, united action. More hours, more money solicited, more contacts made, more faithful follow-up-work in visitation, distribution of

literature, holding Bible readings, and doing the greatly needed welfare work. We plead for a hundred per cent co-operation in these important efforts. We shall surely see God richly blessing and greatly multiplying our members and resources for the finishing of the work that will bring the faithful servant's reward.

close down, for it is very difficult to get hearers to sit in such cold meeting places. We deeply regret this necessity, but God can help us so that under these special conditions we may work and win souls for Him. At the present moment our ministers have got into contact with the interested ones, and have many names and addresses, so that an important part of the work can still be carried on. God has ways and means that we know not of.

We are of good courage, and strengthen ourselves with the thought that we are not working for men, but for the Lord. He is with those who put their trust in Him. The work will be finished and the Advent people in the West Nordic Union will go forward to the day of triumph. God orders the battle. Our prayer is that all may be enrolled and united in the grand undertaking.

We set ourselves in 1940 to becoming a real "Union," so that the prayer of Christ for His disciples, "that they may be one," can be realized. The possibilities set before us are greater and more cheering than ever before.



Our Health Work

BY C. M. SCOTT

It is rather early to give a full account of what has been accomplished in 1939 in our Union, because the figures we have touching the health work are taken from the 1938 reports. We had then in the Union eighty-six institutions, large and small: fifty-six in Denmark, twenty-six in Norway, and four in Iceland. The turnover of these institutions was about Kr.3,000,000, of which there was given away in charitable work Kr.116,000. The number of treatments was over 700,000. The workers employed, including the management, were 732. But to that figure should be added a considerable number who were engaged in medical work, although not connected with any institution. For instance, private doctors, masseurs, and masseuses, some engaged in nursing work and in cooking, as well as others who had no direct part in the health

West Nordic Union

BY P. G. NELSEN

THE year 1939 was the best we have seen for a considerable period in the West Nordic Union. Our net growth was 118 members. In the course of the year there were 367 new members added. We are thankful to God for this result, but at the same time we recognize that it ought to have been much greater. We trust that the day may not be far distant when we to the glory of God may be able to report a net increase of 200 in one year.

In our Union territory there are 6,874,000 people, of whom we expect that many more will be won for the Advent message. One part of our field may seem to be more difficult than another, but we believe that even if a part of the people of Denmark, Norway, the Faroes, and Iceland are apparently as unresponsive and indifferent as the dead who lie in the graveyards, there will yet be many of them who will, by the power of God's Spirit, be awakened out of their sleep of indifference. John the Baptist said to the Jews in his day that God was able to raise up children unto Abraham from the very stones.

Our evangelistic work has the brightest prospects. In a number of places there is great interest in the public lectures conducted by our ministers. It looks as though the war has made people anxious to be enlightened as to what the prophetic word says about coming events. We hope for a good harvest of souls this year. The time has come when we must work with energy and zeal as never before, so that the brief remaining opportunities may not be wasted. Even if we must now carry out under the pressure of the time what we

have neglected to do in easier days, yet the work must be done. "Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit," God said, yet it shall be done. Thanks be to God for these and many other precious promises.

Our publishing house also shows progress in 1939. The same applies to the educational and health work. Everything seemed truly promising, but when the war broke out, there was a serious breaking of all the glowing promises. Our sanitarium in Skodsborg was especially affected by the change. As yet guests have not come back in their customary numbers. We have therefore been obliged to set on foot some considerable reductions in the management and working of the sanitarium.

We were very glad for the large and successful Youths' Congress which was held in the West Nordic Union last year, just before the war broke out. In the coming year we expect to go ahead with our full strength in this branch of the work. We have just appointed a new Union secretary who will devote himself to the interests of the Missionary Volunteer and Sabbath-school departments.

The Harvest Ingathering during 1939 aroused great enthusiasm in our membership. We went over our goal in spite of special difficulties we had to overcome in our Union.

While these lines are being written, comes the sorrowful news that all churches and public assembly rooms in Denmark, in consequence of the lack of fuel and the hard winter, may only be heated up to ten degrees, Celsius. That may perhaps make it necessary to

work, but who earn a living thereby. All these would certainly bring the total up to double the figure given above. This means that from fifteen to twenty per cent of the membership in the Union earn their living somehow in this line of service; from which follows a further conclusion, that the churches, conferences, and Union draw a similar percentage of their income from the health work. So far as we are able to speak of the year 1939, we must say that it has been a good year; at least the smaller institutions have noticeably increased their turnover. Unfortunately this is not the case with our largest institution, Skodsborg Sanitarium, which has been sorely affected by the war. Our chief institution in Norway, the clinic in Oslo, has also not quite come up to the turnover of former years. To-day, an increased turnover by no means indicates an increased net profit. However, when we get the reports in full, they will certainly show progress.

It has been the good fortune of the health secretary throughout the year to visit practically all the institutions in the Union with the exception of those in Iceland, as well as many churches and private institutions. At New Year we held at Skodsborg a meeting for the Danish health workers. This was well attended. Many interesting subjects were dealt with by public lectures. Important questions on which the future developments of the work depend, were discussed, and many new ways by which development and growth may be obtained were spoken of and debated. There are without doubt many possibilities still before us for promoting this branch of the cause both in Denmark and Norway.

The new laws which Norway has passed, and which Denmark will undoubtedly enact before long, for the regulation of one part of this work, do not seem in Norway to have made our work any more difficult. A number of our workers have been qualified, and before long there will probably be many others who will be recognized. This is an important matter for the future of our work. Probably

the same results will also follow in Denmark.

There is one side of our work which it is pleasing to recall, namely, the hygienic cookery and our health reform restaurants. We have five or six in the Union, and one health food factory. We have done very little for this feature of the work, but there is undoubtedly a great field awaiting us if we only had people with the right training and a real interest in this work. The South Norway Conference has made decided advance in this department, in that for several months they have had a trained cook travelling among the churches who has given instruction of a practical character in healthful dietary and cooking. The interest has been very good.

The denomination may well find cause for rejoicing in the increasing interest shown by the young in

preparing themselves for service along medical lines. We have now fifteen or sixteen qualified doctors, some of them advancing in years, of whom there are three in Norway, and the rest in Denmark. In addition to these, there are twelve to fifteen who have already taken their matriculation and are now aiming to pass the medical examination: some of these are almost ready. This means much for the strengthening of the cause and the future work of our denomination.

In spite of certain difficulties, we rely upon the assurances of the Spirit of prophecy that this line of work will continue until the end. We pray that we may find right ways and means to go forward and labour in such a spirit that we may have a part among those whom the Lord can entrust with the blessings which He has promised His faithful people.

South Norway Conference

BY T. S. VALEN

WHEN we look back at the year 1939 we find many things for which to give thanks to the Lord. He has blessed our efforts so that we have won 132 souls in the course of the year. There have been nine evangelists at work, so that, on the average, each has won fourteen or fifteen. One of the ministers has served as Bible-teacher in our mission school at Onsrud, where sixteen young people were baptized. One evangelist has been occupied as department leader, and another has served as leader of the young people's work. Both of these have had a share in the many that have been won through the home missionary and missionary volunteer work. We feel unable to continue both of these in departmental work, so one of the two is now taking over all the departments in the conference.

In the month of July about 200 young people gathered in a summer camp at one of the most beautiful spots in the country—Ulvik, in Hardanger. Apart from some rainy days, we had fine weather, with delightful summer warmth. There was plenty of

opportunity for hill climbing, and forest excursions, with rowing and swimming in the beautiful Hardanger Fjord, and other healthy exercises. The spiritual interests were not neglected. Several young people took their stand for the truth during the camp. Among the lofty and majestic mountains which surrounded the place, one could not but lift the heart up to Him who had created it all.

Visitors to the camp from the Division were the M.V. secretary, Brother W. T. Bartlett, and the Educational secretary, Brother J. I. Robison. From the English school came Brother Murdoch, and from our own Union, Brother E. Bjaanas, the M.V. secretary; also the young people's leaders in the Swedish and Danish conferences. Several preachers of the Norwegian conferences took part also in the camp. The blessings which both the young people and the workers received encourage us to lay plans for another summer camp in 1940, probably in the first half of July.

In our mission school at Onsrud, which serves the two Norwegian conferences, we have over ninety

students. It is a joy to visit the school and talk with the enthusiastic and devoted young people. We have a staff of very capable teachers at the school. The principal, Leif Kr. Tobiassen, has done much to awaken an interest for the school work in our conferences.

The health work has felt the effects of the war. Our institution in Oslo, which had a large patronage, suffered noticeably from the crisis which set in in December. We have a number of small private clinics which accomplish a good work in propagating the health message. At our Oslo clinic there are sixty workers. We are now planning to modernize the building and believe that we shall be able to run it to advantage in the future. A young man who has been trained in cookery at Skodsborg has been going round the conference giving instruction in the art of healthful cooking. This has been a great blessing to the churches and others who are interested.

We have only one church school, situated in Oslo, but we hope to establish two more immediately. Several lady teachers are preparing themselves for the work of educating the children.

We must say the Lord has blessed us far more than we have deserved. He has preserved us from the war, and we believe that He will give us great blessings and many more souls in the days to come.

Our tithe climbs year by year; last year we received about Kr.170,000 from our members. The Harvest Ingathering has also been going up steadily; last year we went up nearly Kr.5,000. In all we collected Kr.47,000, and of this, Kr.8,000 was collected by our mission school. Other offerings have also made definite progress. We shall do our best to keep the tithe and mission offerings on the increase, and to work with our utmost strength to carry forward the work of God both in our own conference and in the world-wide mission field.

The Norwegian School Carries On

BY LEIF KR. TOBIASSEN

IN spite of war raging in our neighbour country, we have been enabled by the Lord to continue our work at Onsrud Missionary College much as in peace time. It is true that the cost of food and fuel has soared—while our diet has been slightly reduced in richness—and one of our teachers has been called away to the medical corps of the army, also we are suffering some other inconveniences; but in spite of all, we are able to carry on under the protection of God's guarding angels.

The war broke out a week or two before we were to start our school year, and it looked at times as though we should not be able to begin, or at least that we should have to postpone the date of opening. However, we were able to begin on time. We had 110 names of students whom we were expecting. There might be a great drop in enrolment, since we knew that some of the young people and their parents would be scared by the ominous turn of events. However, in nearly all of our churches a spirit of calmness and fortitude

prevailed. Over ninety students arrived, and the total enrolment is ninety-six as against seventy-two last school year and forty-eight the year before.

In our junior college section we have an enrolment of more than twenty-five promising young men and women. As a whole our student body is composed of good, steady, and earnest young people who with pluck and determination have taken part in our scholastic and missionary activities.

The Student Association is carrying out a strong programme of religious, cultural, and social enterprises. Each Wednesday night one hundred per cent of the students gather in the various devotional bands for prayer and spiritual conversation. Each Saturday night the association sponsors a programme of cultural uplift, consisting of talks, musical features, and discussions—all directed and executed by the students themselves. The fortnightly student paper, *The School Mirror*, serves as the organ of the Student Association.

The Missionary Volunteer society is the other great organization of the student body. The society this year has achieved outstanding success in its endeavours. The Harvest Ingathering broke all previous records. The final result was almost N.Kr.8,000.00 as against a little more than N.Kr.4,000.00 last year, and about N.Kr.2,700.00 the year before. About half the student body qualified as minute men. The various missionary bands have recruited every student into active work for the cause. The Gospel Workers Band, the Correspondence Band, the Literature Band, and the Sunshine Bands, with drive and enthusiasm, conduct all sorts of missionary activities. At times the M.V. society gives programmes or conducts small young people's conventions in near-by churches. At the moment the society is promoting a vigorous campaign



Onsrud Mission College.

for 1,250 subscriptions to the new Norwegian M.V. paper.

Also the Sabbath-school is a strong centre of spiritual action. The main features fostered by the present Sabbath-school administration are the daily lesson study plan and caring for the home division in an effective way. As the result of these influences, added to the spiritual features of the other parts of the school programme, the interest in the baptismal class is very high among the yet unbaptized students. We expect soon to have a baptism similar to the one that crowned last year's work, when sixteen students entered into covenant with their Lord.

The school industries, the farm, the garden, the poultry farm, the dairy, and the various small shops, are all contributing toward the advancement of our educational programme. Nearly all of them are under student management. Seven students earn their whole way through school this year by working; fifteen earn about half their fees, and all the others earn part of their expenses in some

feature of our student labour schemes. Fifteen of the students earned full or part scholarships by canvassing with our literature last summer.

The chapter on our needs is a bulky one. The Norwegian school was never liberated from debt. The buildings are mostly very old and do not at all give sufficient accommodation. Our industries cannot develop owing to scarcity of funds for even modest investments. Neither does the school have any operating capital. All this makes the work heavy in so many respects. Yet, the Lord has wonderfully blessed the educational work in Norway during the past few years. In all our churches there is a growing interest in giving our young people a high Adventist education. This increasing enthusiasm and the splendid quality of the present large student body, in addition to the definite commands and promises of God regarding strong, far-reaching, forward plans for our educational work, constitute a solid, promising foundation upon which much can be built in Norway in the short time still spared us.

The staff of workers is not large. The conference employs in all seven or eight ordained and licensed ministers, four Bible-workers, and two office workers, in all, fourteen. At present we have ten efforts in progress, and in addition, three or four laymen's efforts. This is the first year we are seriously entering into the laymen's work, and we hope to gather many good experiences so that in time to come we may lay new and better plans for the growth of this feature of the work.

A little body of colporteurs is labouring to circulate our literature. In 1939 the churches worked hard, according to the divine plan, to sell and give away many thousands of tracts. The Harvest Ingathering this year went ahead of the foregoing year, notwithstanding we have not enjoyed full liberty in this enterprise.

The Danish people are not as a rule religiously inclined, and it has, therefore, been more difficult to gather large crowds in Denmark, compared with other Scandinavian countries. The public meetings held in the capital were attended at the outset by 600—800 people. In the smaller towns, one has to be content if he can draw from twenty-five to 100 people. The serious international situation has, however, apparently created a deep interest in many hearts to hear about the prophecies. As workers we greatly need more of the Holy Spirit's power in this time of the latter rain. The possibilities for a strong forward movement, both in the evangelistic work and in the book work have certainly never been better than they are the present moment, and our prayer is that God will help us to profit by all the opportunities He is giving us.

East Danish Conference

BY A. VARMER

So far as territory is concerned, the East Danish Conference is certainly the smallest in the Division, comprising the relatively small islands of Sjælland, Lolland-Falster, and Bornholm in the extreme east. On these islands there are some two million inhabitants, of whom half reside in the capital, Copenhagen.

The year 1940 is for us a jubilee; it is forty years since the East Danish Conference was organized, the first conference outside the United States.

In the East Danish Conference our denomination owns its largest sanitarium in the world, namely, Skodsborg Sanitarium, which last year employed 320 workers and was patronized by some 3,000 patients and guests. The tithes and offerings from this institution make up a considerable part of our conference revenues.

Twenty-eight churches with

1,694 members are the solid foundation of all our work. We can only say that we have an army of faithful and sincere members in our conference. During 1939 the tithe income was D.Kr.138,000, or about Kr.10,000 more than the previous year; mission offerings reached Kr.75,000, which is about Kr.7,000 more than the year before. Financially, taken as a whole, 1939 has been one of the best years in the long history of our conference.

West Danish Conference

BY H. MUDERSPACH

In the past year the West Danish Conference has enjoyed much of God's blessing and can note progress along practically every line of activity, so that we with good reason can exclaim with the

psalmist; "The Lord hath done great things for us; whereof we are glad."

While we for years have won only about eighty-five new members a year, in 1939 we have

accepted one hundred into fellowship. We can now report 1,531 members.

In spite of much unemployment and threatening war conditions the tithe has shown an increase of Kr.3,500 above last year, which in itself was a good year. The S.S. offerings have a gain of about Kr.4,000, and our campaigns in the Big Week and the Harvest Ingathering each show a growth of Kr.600 above the previous year.

The Home Missionary department has been growing gradually, 1939 can note progress especially with missionary visits and Bible readings held. Our Dorcas societies have taken more earnest hold of their work than ever, as the members have sensed the opportunities of the unsettled conditions. Undoubtedly this relief work will play its part in giving us the goodwill and favour of responsible leaders. Our thirty-eight private clinics in the conference have in the past year given free treatments to the sick and needy, worth Kr.18,000.

Our M.V. department had a good year. It was indeed a privilege to the West Danish Conference that the Division's M.V. Congress could be held inside its borders. It gave practically all our M.V. and J.M.V. leaders in the churches an opportunity to be present. Previous to the meetings,

these leaders worked intensely, and after that long-to-be-remembered feast still more zeal and determination has entered into their work.

In the fall a very successful layman's convention was conducted, the result of which we expect to enjoy this coming year. Many earnest men have begun small private efforts or are giving Bible readings in homes, from which we look forward to a harvest of souls.

Our faithful and God-fearing principal and teachers at the mission school are promoting the interests of the school, spiritually and financially. Practically all students who had not already entered into covenant with God, took their stand at the end of the school year. The prospects for the present year are equally promising.

In the canvassing field the brave book-evangelists have about 700 less working hours on account of sickness and other difficulties, but in spite of this their combined endeavours show a gain of Kr.2,600. May our heavenly Father continually bless these faithful soldiers!

We ask to be remembered in prayer and assure you that we, in spite of difficulties of many kinds, "press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

1938 to about Kr.5,350.00 in 1939. As I said, we have no reports from the Faroes for the last quarter.

All other gifts have gone up, so we are marching onward.

We have Dorcas societies operating in all our churches, and they are doing splendid work for the poor and needy. Many outside friends are helping us do this kind of work.

The church school in the Westmann Isles is still one of the leading schools of its kind in the Division as far as membership is concerned. About ninety per cent of those who have finished the course in that school have been baptized and received into the church as members.

This year we shall be able to print our own tracts and other small pamphlets on our little press. We all look forward to that day.

We are operating six clinics in the conference, and they are doing splendidly. Beside these clinics we have five trained nurses who are recognized by the State authorities. One of them is the head nurse in a state hospital, another is one of the main nurses in a city hospital in Reykjavik.

For each congregation we have a church building, the last one was built last winter in the Faroes. They are all without debt. For that we thank the Lord.

Pray for the work in Iceland.

[EDITORIAL.—Brother O. J. Olsen left Iceland last November for the Faroes but never got there. His boat took him to Denmark instead, which involved a journey of nineteen days. He is quite tired, he says, of staying in Denmark, and is longing to get back to his field.

—W.T.B.]

Our Work in Iceland

BY O. J. OLSEN

OUR work in Iceland is prospering in spite of difficult times, but I suppose harder times are ahead. Thank God we shall soon be home.

It has been a blessing that the winter so far has been mild, as the fuel-supply is very limited.

The 31st December, 1938, we had 431 members. During the year twenty-two were added to the churches, but we lost three by death, so the net gain is nineteen, that brings the total membership up to 450. Then we have some 200 children below fourteen years of age who are not baptized, and quite a number keeping Sabbath who are not baptized yet.

We have one ordained minister, two licensed ministers, two on sus-

tentation, one office worker, and one church school teacher. We have an average of about six colporteurs working most of the time.

The tithe went up from Kr.17,394.32 in 1938 to Kr.22,261.66 in 1939. There should have been more tithe reported, about Kr.2,500.00, but it did not reach the office in time on account of the poor communications. We have had no reports from the Faroes the last quarter of 1939.

Sabbath-school offerings went up from Kr.3,523.65 in 1938 to Kr.4,242.33 in 1939.

Harvest Ingathering went up too, I do not know exactly how much but somewhere near Kr.200.00, or from Kr.5,175.83 in

News has reached us indirectly from Poland to the effect that our buildings in Warsaw were somewhat damaged by shell fire, but none of the occupants was injured. The churches on the whole are carrying on their work. Two men have been ordained to the ministry. Colporteurs are meeting with increased success, and are not now hindered by the opposition of the priests.

W.T.B.

Editorial Notes

MANY will remember Brother A. A. Carscallen, who was our pioneer worker in British East Africa. He is now in charge of the work in British Guiana. Brother Carscallen writes that he has now passed his sixtieth birthday, but is well and strong, and able to do a hard day's work. They are starting a new station in the Mount Roraima mission, and are hoping to make it a good industrial station. Brother Carscallen had two sons when he left Africa in 1921. Harry, the older of the two, is now on the faculty of the Glendale Academy; the other, George, died last spring of pneumonia. He fell asleep in faith and his father's heart is comforted concerning him. Brother Carscallen sends his greetings to all old friends.

SISTER K. NIELSEN writes that the last year was an exceptionally busy one at the Kendu Hospital, and the new ward has been full to overflowing most of the time. The maternity section has been well occupied. Arun Kecha, the senior worker at the Kendu Press, is now in the hospital, seriously ill. Sister Nielsen writes that they find him a very God-fearing and trusting Christian.

YOUTH'S MAGAZINES

WITH the beginning of 1940, two new magazines are being published in our Division for the youth. There were already three, one in Danish-Norwegian, serving the whole of the West Nordic Union, one in Swedish, and one in Estonian. To these we now add one in the British, and another in the Norwegian. The British paper is entitled *The Progressive Volunteer*. It was planned at first to issue four pages a month, and the original purpose was to supply helps to those who were taking the Progressive Courses. Before the first number appeared the plan had been enlarged, and the paper is now an eight-page monthly. It is packed full of interesting matter, consisting of brief articles, notes on nature studies, notes and questions on the Bible Year, information about suitable books for reading, and similar matter of great value

to our young people. The first edition was 1,000, and the papers were all disposed of. The price is 2s. per annum, plus postage, 2s. 6d.

In the West Nordic Union it has been decided that, owing to a widening gulf between the Danish and the Norwegian languages, a youth's paper should be published in the Norwegian. It consists of a 16-page monthly, and is entitled *Norsk Advent Ungdom*. The first number is well illustrated, and contains a number of interesting articles. The subscription price is Kr.3 in Norway and other Scandinavian countries; in foreign countries the price will be Kr.4.

We are glad to welcome these two new magazines, and are confident that they will prove of great value in building up the work among our young people.

PASTOR H. WILSON of the Sierra Leone Mission completed twenty-five years of service in 1939. In a letter to Brother H. Rasmussen he thus recalls his experience:

"Yes, it was on the 5th of February, 1914, that I packed up all my earthly belongings in a little old tin trunk, and boarded the train at Water Street for Waterloo against the wishes of all my relatives. They all voted for the civil service, and did their best to paint a very beautiful picture of what that would mean—fat salary, regular increment, easy work, and at the end a full year's salary in one lump, and a very handsome pension. On the other hand they painted a very black picture of Mission work, especially the new despised Seventh-Day Adventist cult that may soon fall to pieces, and predicted an old age of poverty, misery, and bitter regrets. But I was hearing a Voice they could not hear; I was seeing a Hand they could not see, and which was beckoning me to a life and service that I did not then fully understand. And so it happened that in spite of reason and the prospect of a bright future, I was carried away by a mysterious and irresistible Power into the supreme adventure of my life. At

about eleven o'clock in the morning of that wonderful day, I stood before the superintendent and with all the earnestness and sincerity of a nineteen-year-old heart I said to him, 'I am here, sir! I am still here, sir! But I am praying and hoping that when the muster roll is called in the courts above I shall through Jesus be able to answer, I am here, Sir! In your prayers remember me.' W.T.B.

Unentered Territory in Siam

BY R. P. ABEL

OUR work was opened here in 1930, but it made slow progress at first. However, in 1932, permission was granted to open a mission school, and from that time encouraging progress has been made.

For some time the enrolment stood at just thirteen. Finally a change came, and the school began to grow until to-day we have about 300 students and a staff of twelve conscientious teachers who are carrying on what is recognized to be the best school in East Siam. Last year our students received the three highest grades given in the government examinations.

We are holding our school in a rented building which is just about ready to collapse. Every room at all useable is full of boys and girls who have come to us from homes that only a few months ago were closed to the message. We are putting forth earnest efforts to secure funds for adequate buildings for this growing school, that we may have dormitories for boys who are now forced to live with the priests in Buddhist temples. If we could surround these boys with a wholesome Christian atmosphere, very soon might we have an army of workers.

The Advent Survey

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

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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.