

WEST AFRICAN ADVENT

MESSENGER

VOICE OF THE WEST AFRICAN UNION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

VOL 5.

SEPTEMBER, 1951

No. 9.

The Oneness of Youth Fellowship

By D. V. Cowin

There they were,—endless groups of them from the places of the earth. Some were young and some old, some light and some dark, some were short and some tall, some were from near and some from far, but all were intent upon a single purpose,—the youth fellowship of the Paris Youth Congress. What a joy it was to see and to experience, together, for those six inspiring days the force which is the Love of God, as it cut across all language barriers and caused to melt away the boundaries of the nations. In every event of the gathering, both formal and informal, there was to be seen repeated efforts of the Advent youth to communicate with each other by signs, and otherwise, and exchange their ideas of "Sharing your Faith." And, since youth knows no limitations in fellowship, they succeeded beautifully in their efforts to become one great family in Christ.

By Tuesday evening the great dormitories (two of them) housed thousands and thousands of army cots on which rested the 5,000 delegates from almost every corner of the globe. Mixed together to sleep, to bathe, to visit and to pray were these groups of youth representing more than 25 nations. As the hours of the days slipped by the stiffness soon melted away and friendly youth on their nearby beds, at meals, on the paths and elsewhere tried to bridge the gulf

Greetings! West Africa

By G. D. King

It is always a pleasure to revisit old friends—and in revisiting West Africa I feel that I am doing that. Although it is now twenty-six years since Mrs. King and I reluctantly relinquished our work in West Africa it seems but a short time ago—especially now that I am on "the Coast" again.

Many friends of Africa in England have asked me to bring greetings to our workers and believers here in West Africa—I am happy to pass on those greetings to you through the pages of the "Messenger." Already I have been greatly cheered as I have met faithful African workers who were "in the work" years ago when we were here. The strength of our work here, as elsewhere in our great mission enterprise, depends largely on the strength and development of the indigenous workers. It is indeed encouraging to see faithful workers who have laboured fruitfully throughout the years and it is equally inspiring to see other workers growing up into mature and fruitful service. Already I have seen many changes indicating progress and development and I am confident that the Lord has great things in store for this field as we press forward into His opening providences. May God richly bless our whole working force and membership as you, with full surrender in service realise the great possibilities which lie just ahead of God's cause in this interesting and challenging field.

of language differences in order to become better acquainted. Youth will always find a way to communicate even though the medium is most amazing to see. Here stands a man from Africa who speaks Swahili (in native garb) attempting to learn where two young Italians live. A French boy (a farmer) tries by actions to tell a man from Peru what his business is. Girls and women from Finland wanted pictures of themselves taken with boys from West Africa. None could speak the language of the others but were not deterred one bit. Many a hearty laugh was the result of these "getting acquainted" antics, but eyes were made moist by these exhibitions of the indwelling of the "Love of God" in the Advent youth.

Then came the first great gathering of the Congress on that Tuesday evening. The hall was in readiness. The chairs were in place. The speaker, Pastor E. W. Dunbar, was tense. The great moment, climaxing two long years of planning had arrived. Pastor Aitken, M. V. Secretary of the Southern European Division stepped to the microphone to welcome to the great congress the young people from all the lands. He waited a moment and instantly there flowed the power of the congress theme into eight different microphones to reverberate into all parts of the huge congress hall expressed in eight different languages so that all present might hear the full story and inspiration of "Sharing your Faith" in all the lands of the world. It was a success, and from that

moment onward the congress knew no language or worship or fellowship barriers as the various programmes stepped along smartly from topic to topic and from group to group. There was apparent only one intent and that was to learn better how to win souls to Christ.

There were no sacred places and no forbidden times where the camera hobbyists could not click their shutters. Unmeasured amounts of film were exposed by both amateurs and professionals and as a result the record of those meetings (posed and candid) will, for years to come, bring back memories of all that transpired in Paris at the time of the congress. Such was the photographic record of the story of the intimate side of youth fellowship.

The brief report of the efforts of all to "Be one in Christ" and to break across all corridors of nationalism as Adventists can never be complete unless there is told the moving and heart-touching story of the Alter Calls. There were two of them. They were quietly made but were frank and urgent and forceful. Hearts were warmed. Decisions for Christ were made. Hundreds of youth took their stand for Christ. The vesper hour of Friday night was beautiful with the sweet worship music of the Berlin A Capella Choir being breathed upon all. Then just before the sermon came the full and deep voice of Miss Del Delker of the Voice of Prophecy singing quietly but grippingly the true story that "The Love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell." What a lovely setting for Pastor Anderson to use in speaking to the youth of the church. For nearly two hours he spoke to the hearts of each one present. It made no difference at all that eight translators were relaying the persuasive story he was telling. At last he made the call and hundreds, yes thousands came down the avenues of that great hall in response. There was not a dry eye in the hall. Soon the meeting was closed but the people were loathe to leave the place for it was there that so many had found God.

The deep worship spirit of the entire Youth's Congress was climaxed in the morning sermon hour on Sabbath, when once more the platform was entirely covered with choirs, an orchestra and the leaders of the youth from the various fields represented. Music from the choirs such as wins the heart of a sinner prepared the way and then Pastor Dunbar spoke again. He spoke of Paul in the Bible and of Daniel too. We were reminded of Joseph and then he told of the real sacrifices of our youth of to-day as they attempt to live for Christ. Finally he made the appeal for anyone present who had never given his heart to God and who wished to be baptised and to join the church to come forward for prayer. Pastor Dunbar asked four of the youth leaders to make a similar appeal in their native tongue. Once more came forth the winning voice of Del Delker as she sang, "I'd rather have Jesus than anything this world can give." The effect was electrifying. First one and then two and then more started to the platform. Hearts were broken and tears flowed freely. Several Pastors and various youth could be seen in the audience speaking to certain ones. Then together they came. Yes, several hundred came and thus the blessings of the Paris Youth's Congress were abundant. The result will be felt all over the world. It was good for all to have been there.

Sabbath Day at the Paris Congress

By M. Harding

Having had very busy hours the past days, everybody, old and young, thousands and thousands of people looked forward to a beautiful Sabbath day. The young people rose from their beds and prepared themselves for the day. Soon they were seen coming from every corner with their hymn books and Bibles, on their way to the hall for the Morning Watch service.

Elder Minchin who conducted this service made only a few remarks and asked that the assembly

be separated into groups of 10, 20 and 30 for group prayers and testimonies. As such, there were small groups to be seen here and there in the great hall and around about the outside of the hall. This was a happy sight, having so many people speaking many languages, all doing the same thing and carrying out the same idea. When this warm, lovely welcome of the Sabbath morning hour passed by we then had breakfast.

At 9.30 a.m. the sound of the electric bell was heard far and near, calling the thousands of people, congress, and visitors too, to service. All the Adventist churches within the area of Paris were closed in order to permit the members to spend their Sabbath hours at the congress with the many other believers there.

When the hall was filled with 5,000 delegates and about 5,000 more people who came to witness this programme, the Sabbath-School was opened by singing the song "Give me the Bible." On the platform were seated all the General Conference Leaders present, Division, Union, M. V. and Sabbath-School Secretaries and distinguished visitors. The German Stringed Orchestra and a Danish Choir presented special music before the time of the opening of the Sabbath-School.

Pastor Moffitt, the General Conference Sabbath-School Secretary reported on the progress of the Sabbath-School work in the world field for eight decades. This data was represented by candles, ranging from a short one to a very tall one, almost touching the roof of the hall, the facts were as follows:-

Year	Number of Sabbath-Schools	Sabbath-School Membership
1878	177	5885
1888	1113	26738
1898	2284	49000
1908	3825	91230
1918	5610	171000
1928	9921	343344
1938	13576	538358
1948	15139	832628

The Sabbath-School offerings for the 40-years were represented by large rolls of crepe paper, namely

pink, yellow, red, green and blue, and as the year and amount was called out, someone would run from the platform with that long scroll of paper running as far as it would reach.

These are the figures:-

	Dollars
1909	— 155.12.
1919	— 100,000.00.
1929	— 203,000.00.
1939	— 187,600.00.
1949	— 238,000.00.

The Sabbath-School programme was closed by singing "Jesus is coming again" following the study of the Sabbath-School lesson which was conducted by a group of young people given in a panel presentation.

At 11.15 a.m. the preaching service which was conducted by Elder E. W. Dunbar, the world leader of the 250,000 Adventist youth, began. Before his sermon, the Norwegian and German choirs gave special music. A beautiful solo was sung by Mrs. Watson from England. Brother Dunbar's text was chosen from Acts 27:25, 13, 14. During his sermon he narrated the story of a Chinese boy who was persecuted by his own dear father for worshipping the true God. The boy being steadfast in the gospel, his angry father took his long finger nails, drew out parts of the boy's throat, cut his back with a knife, and threw the pieces of cut flesh onto the floor, but still the boy was faithful and never gave up. As the speaker came to the close of his sermon, he made an appeal for the youth to give themselves to God and to be baptised. Responding to this appeal 280 young people stepped forward and demonstrated their desire to be baptised and to join with God's people. Prayer was offered by Elder Anderson for these new ones and for the old ones too. The closing song was the well known chorus "Into my heart."

At 2.30 p.m. a panorama of missions programme was given. All the delegates from various countries present at the congress dressed in their native costumes, carrying with them their banners or flags, marched from the back of the hall and up on to the platform. Missionaries and delegates from all parts of the world field told of the progress of the

work in their area. Then the delegates from West Africa staged a very thrilling programme of 20 minutes, which brought this panorama to its close.

At sunset hour the American Division staged a programme showing how they share their faith, after which the Southern European Division presented a very colourful programme illustrating the persecutions and difficulties which the believers go through for the love of the Lord.

Thus the beautiful Sabbath at the Paris Congress was spent and everyone received a spiritual Sabbath-day's blessing.

The Churches I Visited In Europe

By J. A. Makinde

It is a good thing to know what they do in other countries and compare every aspect of life there with yours. After finding out the similarities and the dissimilarities, it is also good that you put all together and take out the good ones for the good of your country and the bad ones you let off. If everything said and done there can be useful to your country, then you should make the best use of each idea.

It was 7.30 a.m. on July 7 when I and my fellow West African delegates for Paris anchored in Marseilles, one of the most important French Harbours. It was not very long after our arrival that we went through the customs and left for a hotel where we left our luggage and went to the S.D.A. church, everyone in his native costume. Eyes were fixed on us in great surprise as we walked along the streets of Marseilles.

Our pilot, the treasurer of the Local French Conference, directed us into the church and found us seats. We found the Sabbath-School at study. The people were very happy to receive us as their own brothers, nevertheless it was not without some excitement both to the old and the young. There and then I had my first privilege of worshipping in a European church. We also had the privilege of partaking

of the Lord's Supper with them. We also witnessed a very beautiful investiture service held for some young people of that church.

When we got over to Engiand a few days later we were able to visit some of our churches in order to present Mission Programmes about our work in West Africa. The churches we visited were the Stanborough Church, the Chiswick Church and the Wood Green Church. All of these were in the South England Conference. In the North England Conference we visited our churches in Derby and Nottingham. Besides these, we were also asked to visit some of our schools. In this connection I was asked to visit our Walthamstow church-school together with another brother. But, before we left the school, we asked to see the church building and the headmistress of that school took us in her car to see the church which was located several miles away.

As we went about I opened my eyes to study the surroundings and the inside appearance of each church building, the general behaviour of the people during the hour of worship, their behaviour while at study and their willingness or unwillingness to give. I must confess that I found nothing against any of the above-named points. I was rather impressed by the way everything was done. I hardly knew when people entered or went out. Everything was reverently done. There was no noise making or conversation within the church. Even children worshipped as if they knew that the Father and Creator of all beings was present.

Now, let me open the door of one of the churches for you to peep in to see how things are arranged. Look to the left, to the centre and then to the right and see how things are arranged. Look to the left, to the centre and then to the right and see how the simple but neat and clean chairs are set for people to sit upon. Look at the floor. See how it shines. Look at the people and see how they listen attentively to the speaker. Everything is decent and in order.

As regards giving,—there was no

demanding before each one gave. Everyone gave according to the instruction of the scripture. So the money collection went on everywhere without any form of conversation and confusion. Yes, there is the spirit of liberality among our European fellow-christians.

I noticed in many of these churches also that there were libraries to help to promote spiritual growth in the church, both among the youth and the aged as well, so that they may grow in grace. The establishment of such a library is a conspicuous evidence of their liberality.

There is much more to say. I also have another impression that our brethren and sisters never let a visitor go out without a hearty welcome.

In conclusion, my visit to those churches revived in me a spirit of more faithful service to God. It gave me more understanding of what the great joy of our gathering at the feet of Jesus will be like. Therefore fellow-believers it behoves us all to heed the instruction of Paul to the Philippians now, as if given to the West Africans:— "Finally brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report: if there be any virtue and if there be any praise, think on these things. Those things which ye have both learned and received and heard and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you." Phil. 4: 8, 9.

A Challenge to The Youth of To-day

By S. Opoku-Adusei

Marvellous has been the result of the great Youth Congress in Paris. As the Spirit of God descended upon His children and the burden of service and duty pressed down the heart of each, a great sense of inspiration filled the congress hall, and consequently thousands are going forth with strength and determination to aspire to greater attainments and to achieve success in their service for the Master.

Likewise I feel duty bound to share my faith, and the inspiration I have received, with you, through this article of personal challenge.

Never before in the history of God's people has the demand of youthful vigour, zeal and courage been so great, so urgent and so grave. In such a critical hour as this, when Satan is working as never before to instigate theories of unbelief and is stirring up human hearts to war against God and His word, when with persistent, persevering effort he is seeking to inspire and to array men in opposition to the institutions of heaven and the workings of the Holy Spirit, when thousands are daily stepping into his snare of pain and the pleasures of sin, when the wickedness of the closing scenes of earth's history seem to drown the truth and the light of the gospel, it is time, even to-day that the courage and testimony and ardent zeal of the youth become much more active for the service of God.

As a free moral agent of redemption, ransomed by the blood of Christ, God calls upon you to assert your liberty and employ your God-given powers as a free subject of this kingdom. Great are the possibilities and advantages of the youth who live in this generation of increased light and knowledge. Our failure to reach the ideal standard of efficiency and usefulness will rise up against us in that great day of judgment.

God calls upon the youth of to-day, young men and women of no flashy kind, who cannot be bought nor sold, who like Daniel will remain faithful to their Master, wherever they may be, and who like Joseph cannot be tempted to turn aside from their course of integrity. Youth who are ready to consecrate mind and heart to His service and make God first, last and best in whatever they plan and do. These are the youth whose services are especially needed to-day to resist the tide of worldliness, to cry aloud, sparing not and lifting up voices of warning, like prophets of war, that they might save themselves and others from this hour of wickedness and peril.

So, dear youth, the call is personal and the challenge is direct upon you. Are you ready to enlist under the Saviour's standard? Are you ready to bear the banner of the Cross before the dying world? Will you make it your duty to share your faith with the thousands who are speeding up daily on their downward march to perdition? Are you by precept and example playing your part and making the most of the God-given opportunities? Remember, that greater is your accountability to God in these days of your youth than in any other period of your life. And just for your soul's sake and for Christ's sake, pause on the threshold of your life to-day and weigh well your responsibilities, your possibilities, and your opportunities.

As you read this personal challenge, don't you feel the grave responsibilities resting upon you? Will you not then fall on your knees and in a broken heart express your sorrow for slipped opportunities unimproved? Will you not resolve to-day to press to the forefront and identify yourself as an undaunted volunteer, holding aloft the blood-stained banner of your Prince, your Saviour and Lord? Are you not ready to trust in the merits of Him who died for you, and taking your stand right by His side respond to-day. "Here am I, Lord, send me." These were the themes of that recent great Paris Youth's Congress.

General View of the Paris Youth Congress Camp

By E. V. Watson

It is a real pleasure for me to sit and think of the great "Paris Youth Congress." This lovely scene puts me in mind of the words of the Apostle Paul when he said in his first epistle to the Corinthians, chapter two, verse nine: "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him." Yes! this verse very well fits in, on this occasion, when one imagines the well-decorated camp, with flags and bunting, beautiful natural

Flowers in the gardens, with evergreen lawns, shady trees and nice paths.

Taking a glance at the southern side of the camp you will notice the well-decorated Assembly Hall (numbered 60). Going into this hall, right on the north-west side is the large rostrum about 100' x 50' x 15' in size, containing an electric pedal organ, a very large French piano, several microphones, about 20 national flags placed on the third level of the stage, and on the first and second levels over 200 chairs and a beautiful white pulpit. In the middle of the stage just above the national flags hangs a globe of the world and the letters "M. V." inscribed on the middle of it. Beneath this globe is a large golden torch which is kept burning all through the days of the Congress. On both sides of the wall behind the globe and torch are the words written in French "Toi Eclairer Le Monde" which is interpreted "Arise and Shine." Below and above the rostrum are many floodlights all centred towards the stage so that photographs can be taken of all the evening programmes. Right in front of the stage are apartments for the eight interpreters.

Looking towards the north-eastern side of the hall are erected some lovely booths where are displayed souvenirs from the Northern, Central and Southern European Divisions. Glancing at the south-western end of the hall, there stood the sick bay where first aid and other treatments can be given. In the middle of the hall thousands of chairs are placed in nice array, arranged by language areas. Outside the hall and in front of the main gate stood a flag-staff and on it was flown the large congress flag with the words: "Congress European De La Jeunesse Adventiste" with the usual "M. V." emblem in the centre of it. About 20 yards from the flag-staff is a belfry in which hung an electric bell announcing the hours of the day and the call to meeting with its rich tone.

Two large restaurants are provided "A" and "B" and are spaced about 50 yards apart. Each of these two restaurants are again sub-divided by "A" and "B". Well over 5,000 people eat here.

About 50 yards from Restaurant "A" is the Administration office where instruction and information are given; just about 45 yards from the Administration office, inclining slightly left on the north-west end of the camp is an underground path. So a person can get to the dormitories and car and coach park safely. Two very large dormitories are provided, capable of accommodating about 8,000 people. There is one for men, the other is for women. The lighting was adequate. The general view of the camp was good to look at, and was healthy and enlivening. In my opinion I feel that this lovely scenery is a foretaste of what heaven would be and look like.

Many, many nationalities were represented at this Congress, and to make you understand the whole situation I take the liberty of mentioning those whom I personally contacted and spoke with through signs or English, namely English, Scottish, Welsh, Icelanders, Finnish, Canadians, Ugandians, Dutch, Ethiopians, Indians, Swiss, Americans, Swedish, Danish, Austrians, Cameroons, Norwegians, Germans, Italians, Portugese, Gold Coast Nigerians, Liberian, Sierra Leonians, Belgian, Estonia, Moroccans, Mauritian, Irish, Angola, Australians, Madagascar, Luxemborg, Jamaican, Jutlanders, Grecian and Chinese. There were others whom I did not meet.

There were about 5,000 delegates, young men and women, and in addition more than 5,000 young and old between the ages of 5 months to 70 years, weak and strong. Mothers and fathers who made it a point of duty to attend this wonderful Youth Congress. How happy we were to be gathered together as one great family,—God's family."

My First Visit to Europe

By M. Moses

Gathered from all the four corners of the world in that great and beautiful city of Paris in Europe, from the 24th to the 29th July 1951, were many thousands of Adventist youths. "But, what brought them together?" you might ask. They were delegates (5,000) and visitors many (more thousands) to the greatest Youth Congress ever held by the Seventh-day Adventist denomination. Adventist youth from all the countries of Europe, the two continents of America, the eastern continents of Africa, Asia and Australia, yes, from the many and lonely islands of the great Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, met together in Paris to learn how to "Share their Faith." It was for this same Great Purpose that I made my first visit to Europe.

The five West African delegates, (Mr. Watson from Sierra Leone, Mr. Harding from Liberia, Mr. Adusei from the Gold Coast, Mr. Makinde from West Nigeria and the writer from East Nigeria) under the most capable leadership of Pastor D. V. Cowin, the West African Union Education and Missionary Volunteer Secretary, left their homes, well over a month before the Congress in order to tour Europe, especially Great Britain, and to attend the Congress. After travelling through, by air, land, and on the water, and after visiting many places, all of which offered me wonderful sights, I can appreciate now to the full that old and wise saying, "Travelling in the young is a means of education, and in the old a means of experience."

My two weeks stay in Great Britain gave me such wonderful impressions about the love and helpfulness of the British people towards visitors that Eternity in all her power cannot erase. That love towards visitors which abounds in Southern England is also present in Northern England. I found it among the Adventists as well as in the general public. I saw it in London, a city whose fame has reached the remotest corners of the world. I saw it as I visited the Parliament, Westminster Abbey, the

The Advent Messenger

Official organ of the West African
Union Mission of Seventh-day
Adventists.

P. O. Box 1016, Accra, Gold Coast
D. V. Cowin - Editor
R. Muderspach - Assistant Editor

King's Palace, the Festival of Britain, the Zoo, the Museums, the Universities and a host of other places of interest within and near London. It seemed as if this wonderful spirit of love was born at the Stanborough Sanitarium of the Seventh-day Adventists in Watford, Herts. This was the place at which we put up for the two weeks. It was a sweet home to each one of us and time seemed to fly away too soon. When I visited Cambridge, a city crowned with some twenty University Col-

leges, this wonderful spirit of love was also there. I found it all along as I travelled to Derby and Nottingham. I am sure it abounds every where in Great Britain and if ever you visit this "Blessed Island" placed on the sea by nature herself, you cannot be lost. Seventh-Day Adventists will love you, the British Police will help you. Yes, the general public will be your friend, and you, like I will find a richer meaning in the well known expression "A friend in need is a friend indeed."

for life, but for all that is necessary for its continuance, common gratitude requires us to render Him all the service of which we are capable, for it is impossible for us to do as much for Him as He has done for us.

Some people may cavil at the expression, "Thou hast created all things, and at thy pleasure they are and were created;" but such persons forget that what is for the pleasure of God is for our highest good. They forget the possibilities of the life which He has given us; that it is only preparatory to a life that shall never end, a life filled with joys of which it is impossible for the mind of man to conceive. It is the Father's "good pleasure" to give us the kingdom that shall have no end. The service of which the lawyer spoke, and which Christ approved, is summed up in one word, "godliness"; and of this Paul says that it "is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come." 1 Tim. 4:8. It is only because men lose sight of that which God is doing and proposes to do for them, that they refuse to render Him the service which is His due.

The Honour Due To God

By C. Lester Bond

"And behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? He said unto him, What is written in the law? How readest thou? And he answering said, Thou shall love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself. And He said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live." Luke 10:25-28.

There are many degrees of service which we may render to God, but there is only one that is acceptable to Him and that is undivided service. God requires that all the faculties both of body and mind shall be consecrated to Him: He will accept nothing less. We are to regard ourselves and all our talents, whatever they may be, as belonging to Him without reserve. It is a rare thing to find one who realizes the full extent of the claims that God makes upon us. Our minds have been so warped by selfishness that it is difficult even to conceive of such perfect service as the Lord requires, and much more so to do it. It should be the great object of every person to have his spiritual discernment so quickened that he may be able to comprehend the completeness of service that God requires of him. It could not be any more forcibly stated than it is in the text above quoted; but to understand and carry out all the details is the work of a lifetime.

But it should be constantly borne in mind that God does not make this claim upon us arbitrarily, and without sufficient reason. He claims no more than is His just due. In Revelation 4:11 we find the basis of God's claim upon His creatures as follows:

"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created."

It is because God has created us that He has a right to our service. This fact is made very prominent in the Bible. Why should we serve Jehovah, rather than the gods which the heathen worship? Because He created us and all things that we enjoy, and they did not. Paul says: "There be gods many, and lords many, but to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in Him." 1 Cor. 8:5, 6. The Psalmist says: "Serve the Lord with gladness: come before His presence with singing. Know ye that the Lord He is God: it is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves: we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture." Ps 100:2, 3. Not only does He give to all life, and breath, and all things, but "in Him we live, and move, and have our being." If we had made ourselves, or could by our own unaided efforts maintain our existence for a single moment, we would be under no obligation to any being; but since we are indebted to God not only

Many Are Waiting

By M. E. Kern

Waiting for what? "Many have gone down to ruin who might have been saved, if their neighbours, common men and women, had put forth personal effort for them. Many are waiting to be personally addressed."—*"Desire of Ages,"* page 115.

Has it occurred to you that to-day there are many former Seventh-day Adventists who lost their way, but who, as they see the fulfilment of prophecy and the approaching end, are longing to flee from the wrath to come? Would it not be wonderful if you could be the instrument in God's hand to bring one or more of these lost souls back into the fold? There are doubtless hundreds, even thousands, who are just waiting for the invitation.

Some time ago a brother visiting Alaska was contacted by a former

(Continued on page 8.)

From

Woman to Woman

Sponsored by the Women's Welfare Organisation

The Importance of Bodily Cleanliness

By Mrs. H. S. Pearce

I had not been in Africa very long when I was disturbed each evening by the piteous screaming of a small child. It sounded as if the child was being ill-treated in a very big way. When this had occurred each evening for some time I felt that I must investigate and find the cause of the screaming. I did and imagine my surprise when I found a small boy being given his evening bath by his father. The father appreciated the necessity of bodily cleanliness but the small boy looked upon his bath as a punishment!

As children we all found washing and keeping ourselves clean a very trying procedure and had it not been for our parents or other adults looking after us would often have been more dirty than clean. How often have we all heard the boy and not a small one either—who on being told to go and wash says, "Oh, why must I wash again—I'm not dirty?" Generally speaking children do not realise the importance of bodily cleanliness and unfortunately there are many adults who think the same way. It is up to us who know better to teach them.

I do not think that any of us realise the importance of water both for use outside and inside the body. When it is used on the outside of our bodies it removes dirt and perspiration and so allows our skin to breathe through the small, small holes that are in it. By removing the dirt, germs are removed too, and this is why it is so important to wash our hands before handling food, as in the preparation of it or before we eat. If care was taken to wash hands before every meal many disease-causing germs would be prevented from entering the body. I realise

that in some parts of the country it is not easy to get all the water that we would like but with care and a little effort enough could be got for each member of the family to wash his body all over every day. This will result in the body feeling good because the skin can do its work so helping the other parts of the body to do theirs.

I wonder how many people know that it is very important for our bodies that we drink plenty of water each day. The water, of course, must be clean. You will learn how to make water clean for drinking in another article, but here let me say that everybody should drink plenty of water each day in order to keep the body clean inside. Water washes away many things from inside our bodies which, if left there, would cause us plenty of trouble. So we see that by keeping our bodies clean inside and outside we shall be helping to make our bodies strong and healthy and surely that is the way God intended our bodies to be.

The Ibadan (Nigeria) Dorcas Society

By Mrs. J. J. Hyde

I think the "Messenger" family will like to hear about our Ibadan Dorcas Society.

We started at the beginning of this year with only two or three senior members, but as the months have gone by that number has increased. We are also glad to report that a Junior Society has been formed where our girls are enthusiastically doing a good work.

Our senior ladies have been embroidering cloths for the Communion Table. Now that these are nearly finished we have started working to help our Harvest Ingathering at the end of the year. Little dresses

and underclothes for girls, blouses and knickers for small boys, and vests, bootees, bonnets and coats for the babies,—all these are being made from pieces of materials that some of us have left over from the dresses and other clothes we have made for ourselves. Often these pieces are not large enough of themselves to make anything, but with the yolk of one colour and the skirt of another we are able to use even these small pieces very usefully. Also old dresses, if taken apart and pressed, will provide enough material to make a small garment which will sell for a few shillings.

We have had to buy nearly all our wool. But we have a fund to which all the women of the church pay at least one penny a week. This is not a large or difficult sum of money, but our Treasurer, Mrs. B. Oyelese, sees to it that we do not forget to give our pennies, and so we have had enough money for all our needs.

The girls meet on Sunday afternoons, and are busy sewing and knitting small garments: and very well they work, too. It is not all work. We try each week to have some stories of women who have done well for God and their fellows read to us as we work.

And so we are happily working away preparing for that happy day at harvest time when we shall call all our friends to come and buy the garments that we have made. We will be very proud of ourselves and our work as we see the money coming to us for use in the work of God.

I do not know how many Dorcas Societies we have in West Africa. I hope it is many. But let me recommend the Dorcas Society to all our ladies as the best way in which we women can get together and come to know each other better. Sitting together, talking about our babies, and the things that interest women, we get closer to each other than in any other way. Both Africans and Europeans have much to learn from each other, as we walk together along the road to the house of God in heaven.

I pray that these few lines will encourage many other churches to organise Dorcas Societies, so that they also may enjoy its benefits.

African Pastor Writes Forceful Letter to Editor

One of our African ministers, Pastor J. B. Terry, has written a letter to the editor of the Sierra Leone *Daily Guardian* on a Sunday-closing issue which is a model of clear, forceful presentation of our religious liberty principles,

Part of it is quoted here:

"... This attempt to legislate people into the kingdom of God, or, in other words, to set up the kingdom of Christ by civil law, is not a new experiment. It was repeatedly tried out among the nations of ancient and mediaeval times. To learn its terrible results, we need only to read the blood-stained pages of history. Christians who know its baneful fruitage are compelled to offer a warning against its repetition.

"In conclusion I must emphasize that we are not against copying worthy examples from our next-door neighbour, but such a one as forcing the conscience by legislating upon matters of religious concern cannot be said to be a wonderful, Christian example. In religious matters, only the power and love of God should dominate the heart and life of the individual. When civil law shackles the conscience, the profession of religion becomes a cloak of hypocrisy. Let not Christianity seek the aid of Caesar instead of Christ. Religion is too sacred to be dragged into politics or regulated by civil laws."

Many Are Waiting

(Continued from page 6)

Adventist who was seeking to find his way back. He had questions to ask, for if he returned he wanted the full assurance of faith. Such an effort on our part will react in great blessings upon ourselves. It will lead us to deeper study of the truth and more fervent prayer.

Some who lost their way years ago, and thought to get away from

ancient conceptions of Adventists, have found their "broad way" has narrowed their outlook and shrivelled their souls. They look back with regret over past decisions.

Would it not be wonderful if you could find such aching hearts and lead them again into that more abundant life in Christ? Would you like to do it? Will you try?

FACTS

For YOU

The following facts and figures are gleaned from the Statistical Summary presented at the General Conference session. For the most part they cover the four-year period 1946-1949.

Membership: At the close of 1949 S. D. A. churches around the world numbered 9,991 with a recorded membership of 716,538. This was an increase of 495 churches and 140,160 members since the end of 1945. Members in North America total 243,193 in 2,833 churches. Organized in 1863 with 3,500 members, the church works in 706 languages in 228 of the 282 countries of the world.

Workers: 17,523 workers were engaged in evangelistic and colporteur activities throughout the world at the end of 1949; 20,408 more were employed in schools, sanitariums, hospitals, publishing houses and other institutions, making a total of 37,931 workers.

Tithes and Offerings: Tithes and offerings contributed during 1949 were the largest in the history of the church. The total of £14,915,190 includes £9,026,286 tithes; £3,394,954 mission offerings; and £2,493,951 home missions and local church donations. This is a per capita gift of £20. Members in North America contributed £11,209,292 in tithes and offerings, a per capita gift of £46.

Investment: At the beginning of 1949, when the latest financial summaries were available, the total investment in Seventh-day Adventist church buildings, schools, publishing houses, health institutions, food centres, and other assets was £55,359,440, of which £36,141,666 was in North America and £19,217,774 overseas. The added property investment of £21,878,386 throughout the world during the past four years was more than the entire denominational assets in 1940.

Missionaries: During the four years ending with 1949, 1,235 workers were sent by Seventh-day Adventists from home bases for service in mission lands. This number did not include the children of missionaries or labourers returning to their fields from furloughs. Of these 981 were from North America; 541 from other home bases. During 1949 239 workers were sent to mission fields.

Schools and Colleges: At the close of 1949 Seventh-day Adventists were operating 3,854 elementary and mission schools with 5,904 teachers and 162,764 pupils. This is an increase of 665 schools, 1,127 teachers and 39,183 pupils in the last four years, 32,277 students were enrolled in the 310 Adventist schools above the elementary level at the close of 1949.

Missionary Volunteers: The Adventist youth organization numbered 10,009 societies with 251,679 members in all the world at the close of 1949. 13,500 youngsters attended the 131 summer camps conducted by the church to provide wholesome recreation and spiritual guidance.

Colporteur Report For July 1951

Name	Hours	Orders	Deliveries
East Nigerian Mission:			
Ogbonna W.	40	7 10 0	—
Osarobey A. G.	171	3 18 0	5 4 0
Owubere N. M.	102	93 11 0	36 0 3
Ugboaja J. O.	166	88 5 0	57 17 6
Ubani A. A.	177	112 15 0	12 15 6
Miscellaneous	38	42 4 0	5 11 6
Gold Coast Mission:			
Abbey N. K.	140	90 17 0	97 8 0
Amoah A.	42	32 15 0	23 4 0
Ampim H. K.	76	22 0 0	44 0 0
Clark C. A.	108	28 15 0	13 19 0
Coumooh J. T.	162	22 16 6	15 17 0
Daitey A. N.	124	52 15 0	51 12 0
Mensah A. F.	96	15 0 0	8 0 0
Owusu S. K.	63	45 18 7	26 1 6
Ofori S.	78	22 0 0	35 4 3
Quarten J. A.	132	109 5 0	25 2 6
Miscellaneous.	160	55 1 6	105 9 6
Union			
Totals for July 1951	1875	845 6 7	563 6 6
Union Totals thus far 1951.	16951	7,111 8 7	3,460 19 2