

# MESSENGER

VOICE OF THE WEST AFRICAN UNION

MISSION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

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## UNION SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

By Pastor N. B. Nielsen

A Constituency Meeting in mission lands always affords very special and interesting opportunities to see and hear of the great things God is doing for and through His children, and of the progress of His work into the regions beyond. In the Bible and also in the Testimonies we are encouraged to review the way in which God has led us in the past, both in our personal Christian experience and as a people looking for our Lord's soon coming, and who have an urgent message to the whole world. In fact the Spirit of Prophecy reveals to us in sure and clear language that "we have nothing to fear" as a people except that we might forget the way in which God has led us in the days which have passed.

I trust this report may help us to receive new and vivid glimpses of God's loving care and blessing upon His work in West Africa during the past four years. As we think of these things, may we be led to exclaim with God's servant of old: "This is the Lord's doings, and it is marvellous in our eyes."

At the close of the Constituency Meeting four years ago, goals were set for baptisms and converts for the year 1952, and the totals for our seven mission fields added up to the splendid figure of 3,150 baptisms and 8,400 converts. "Goals mean souls" is a slogan often heard among us as a people, and judging by the statistical report for West Africa during the above-mentioned year, the truth of these words seems very evident indeed.

The fourth quarter of each year appears to be the most fruitful in souls won to Christ

and we believe this will prove true also in 1955.

The statistical summary of churches, church members, and mission workers found on page 28, will help to impress on our minds the extent to which the work has grown as compared with its development up to less than nine years ago. The church membership has more than doubled during that time. The largest increase in one year was 2,570, in 1952. The number of ordained ministers has also more than doubled during the same period and the number of colporteurs has increased almost 100 per cent.

From a total tithe receipt in 1947 of £5,790 the annual amount has increased until in 1955 it has reached £19,884 in eleven months only, making 1955 the best year of the nine years, we feel sure, and each year better than the preceding year, all the way through.

The total offerings for four years from 1948 to 1951 amounted to £31,253, and from 1952 to November 1955 or three years and eleven months, the offerings from our churches in West Africa totalled £48,043, which is an increase of £16,790 over the the previous four years.

Looking at the details of the various offerings it will be noticed that the Sabbath school offerings and the 13th Sabbath offerings have had a steady and unbroken increase from year to year. The Harvest Ingathering also shows marked and continuous progress except for a slight decrease in 1953 as compared with 1952, but with 1954 more than making up for the shortage.

The appropriations received from the General Conference and the Northern European Division by the West African Union for the four years 1948 to 1951 amounted to £75,138 for operating expenses in connection with the work in the various missions and institutions and from 1952 to 1955 a total of £127,711. 15. 8. was received for the same purpose, making an increase of £52,573. 15. 8. over the previous four year period.

Special appropriations and Church Extension funds received from the Northern European Division during 1952 to 1955 amounted to £100,265. 15. 8. as against £80,000 during the previous four years, being an increase of £20,265. 15. 8. A total increase in appropriations from the Northern European Division of £72,839. 11. 4. for 1952-1955 as compared with the previous four year period.

In addition to these large sums of money the Division has provided funds from abroad for the support of all overseas workers, and

for paying their transportation and travelling expenses in connection with their services in the fields as well as to and from their respective homelands.

As we review the work of the past four years in connection with our mission activities in West Africa, there is much to encourage our hearts and for which to be thankful to God. God has indeed blessed the work of His servants from year to year and many precious souls have been led to seek and find Christ as their personal Saviour. May God grant us all a richer and fuller measure of His Holy Spirit so that by His great power, His grace and love, the work may continue to grow and spread until it has reached the very ends of the earth including this great and needy part of God's vineyard, the West African Union Mission.

The following are our baptisms and members added on profession of faith from January 1, 1952, to September 30, 1955:

	Total	On Prof. of Faith	By Baptism
1952	3,011	60	3,071
1953	1,426	107	1,533
1954	1,498	112	1,610
1955 (9 Months)	550	95	645

## PUBLISHING DEPARTMENT REPORT



By Pastor D. L. Chappell

Four long years have passed into history since we prepared a report of our publishing work for the delegates to the Union Constituency Meeting held in Accra in January 1952. We are happy to present a report of the onward progress of literature evangelism in West Africa to the delegates gathered here at Bekwai, Gold Coast, for the second constituency session.

On the following pages you will read statistics that indicate how God's hand has rested lovingly over the publishing department personnel in the offices, fields, and factories. You will realise that more than human effort was required to make the excellent record of literature distribution in our scattered territory. With me, you will praise the Lord for the thousands of "leaves of gospel truth" broadcast over your fields by

our loyal band of literature evangelists. When you meet Brethren Mawutor, Ihemeje, Oriaku, Ampofo, and Vaysse, you will want to add your words of commendation to mine for the faithful service they have rendered as publishing department secretaries. And, of course, you will not forget to thank the Book and Bible House men for their "behind the scenes" service to your literature ministers.

The products supplied to our colporteurs by the Advent Press, Stanborough Press, Oriental Watchman Press, and presses in America have been superb.

COMPARATIVE REPORT OF LITERATURE SALES JAN. — NOV. 1954 and 1955

Mission	Colporteurs		Deliveries		Gain or Loss
	1954	1955	1954	1955	
East Nigeria	13	19	2,859 4 7	5,499 18 2	92% G
Gold Coast	26	19	9,217 3 0	7,562 4 0	18% L
Ivory Coast	4	4	1,229 14 10	1,578 14 0	28% G
Liberia	1	1	182 19 0	254 3 10	39% G
North Nigeria	0	Miscel.	—	5 10 0	100% G
Sierra Leone	0	Miscel.	—	27 9 10	100% G
West Nigeria	3	3	604 5 1	898 2 8	48% G
<b>West African Union</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>14,093 6 6</b>	<b>15,826 2 6</b>	<b>12% G</b>

NOTE: The November reports from Ivory Coast and Sierra Leone arrived too late to be included in this comparative report. We expect the December reports to increase the gains recorded above and to reduce Gold Coast loss.

SUMMARY REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1950 THROUGH NOVEMBER 1955.

East Nigeria	15,899	7	1
Gold Coast	46,132	6	6
Ivory Coast	3,493	0	3
Liberia	595	9	11
North Nigeria		5	10 0
Sierra Leone	506	1	7
West Nigeria	2,641	12	11
West African Union	£69,273	8	3

£1,067 worth of magazines were distributed January 1952—November, 1955

## SABBATH-SCHOOL REPORT

By Pastor D. L. Chappell

"Idun is here," my wife said as I got out of my car by my house in Accra one day in early November. "Fine," I responded as I hastened inside to greet my friend, Mr. K. B. Idun, who had been discharged from Ankaful Prison Camp on October 28th. For the next hour we talked.

Mr. Idun had been a member of the Branch Sabbath School in the James Fort Prison in Accra two years ago. When he was transferred to Ankaful, he organised a Bible class there with a membership of about forty. He began to keep the Sabbath and soon persuaded another inmate, Mr. Danquah, to observe the

Sabbath with him. The other men attended the classes, but as yet have not accepted the Sabbath truth.

During the past two years, I visited Mr. Idun and his class three times and showed Bible pictures to all the inmates. We supplied Sabbath School Quarterlies and papers for the group.

As October 28th drew nigh, Mr. Idun expressed his desire to become a baptized member of the Adventist Church. Also did his friend, Mr. Danquah, who has been attending baptismal classes in the Kumasi church since his discharge in September.

On the day that Mr. Idun visited me, we decided to arrange for him to enter the colporteur work at Winneba. Later in November he began canvassing and according to a letter written the 20th of December, he had taken 60 orders for our good Adventist books. In preparation for his baptism in the near future, he is receiving further studies from Pastor Arloo.

Thus two more souls have been won through the work of Branch Sabbath schools in West Africa. The Sabbath schools have had a part in drawing to the church a goodly number of men, women and children. According to our reports 1,247 Sabbath school members were baptised during the twelve month period ending September 30, 1955. This was 532 more than were baptised during the previous year. In some measure, our Sabbath schools are proving to be the soul winning agencies that God planned for them to be.

*The Sabbath School is the Heart of the Church*

**KEEP IT HEALTHY!**

Sabbath school membership end of September 1955:	40,188
Sabbath school membership end of September 1954:	38,695
Increase in one year:	1,493
Sabbath school membership end of September 1950	31,248
Increase in five years:	8,940
Branch Sabbath schools end of Sept. 1955	137
Branch Sabbath schools end of Sept. 1954	149
Decrease in one year:	12
Increase in number of organised Sab. Schools in period	22
Offerings Oct. 1954 — Sept. 1955:	£ 6,913
Offerings Oct. 1953 — Sept. 1954:	6,508
Increase in one year	405
Offerings Oct. 1951 — Sept. 1955:	4,952
Increase in four years:	1,961

WEST AFRICA WILL BENEFIT FROM THE 13TH SABBATH OVERFLOW OFFERING TO BE RECEIVED ON THE LAST SABBATH OF 1957

BREAKDOWN OF SABBATH SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP IN THE SEVEN MISSIONS ON 30th SEPTEMBER:

East Nigeria	21,691
Gold Coast	10,313
Ivory Coast	285
Liberia	728
North Nigeria	1,227
Sierra Leone	1,744
West Nigeria	4,200
Union total	40,188

Sabbath school offerings for quarter ending 30th September: £1,645. £1,645 divided by 40,188 equals only  $\frac{1}{4}$  of 1d per member per Sabbath! ARE WE DELEGATES SATISFIED WITH SUCH A LOW RATE OF SUPPORT OF GOD'S WORK?

"IS A SHILLING A WEEK TOO GREAT A PRICE FOR A MISSION SACRIFICE?"

Since some of our poorer members cannot give a shilling each week, many of us who have been especially blessed by God must give several shillings each Sabbath to make the total offering average out to one shilling per member per week.

LET FAITH AND SACRIFICE CHEERFULLY MIX WHILE SERVING GOD AND MAN IN 'FIFTY-SIX

"The Sabbath school, when rightly managed, possesses marvellous power, and is adapted to doing a work. . . . It should be the place where, through a living connection with God, men and women, youth and children, may be so fitted up that they shall be a strength and blessing to the church."—"Counsels on Sabbath School Work", pages, 9 and 11.

And thus, the SABBATH SCHOOL SERVES AS THE HEART OF THE CHURCH. KEEP IT HEALTHY!

## SPOTLIGHT

ON PRESS EVANGELISM PROGRESS

January 1953 — December, 1955

By Pastor D. L. Chappell

Union Committee adopted a working policy for the Press Relation Department.

Provided for appointment of a press secretary for each mission.

Recommended that Adventist institutions have a press secretary.

Accepted a plan of issuing press secretaries PRESS CARDS provided by the Bureau of Press Relations of the General Conference.

A few of the events covered by our press releases and pictures since January 1952 follow:

Centre spread in the "Daily Mail" of the opening of the new Yele School.

Pastors Gibson and Mensah attend General Conference session in U.S.A.

Pastor Richards visit in 1953.

Union Committee Session in January, 1955.

Miss Turtill returns after a long sick leave in U.K.

Opening of The Advent Press by Prime Minister Nkrumah.

Chappell and Adusei presenting 198 Bibles to Director of Prisons in Accra.

Opening of new school in Negbema, Sierra Leone.

Pastor Coon presenting 30,000th Voice of Prophecy Bible Course Certificate.

Delegates to Youth Congress in Sweden. Moyer, Chappell, and Kennick Ingathering in Freetown.

Opening of new Secondary School in Bekwai.

Arrival of new missionaries and missionaries going on leave.

Pastor Gibson presenting £200 cheque to Gold Coast Society for the Blind.

Pastor Wilson died in Kumasi.

Brother D'Alphoncio's wedding in the Accra Church.

Ground breaking ceremony for the new Kwahu Hospital.

Visit of Pastor Simonsen and other Division men.

New church at Ile-lfe.

Pictures of brethren Clarke, Hulbert and Coon appeared often with their "Bible column" articles.

508 articles appeared as "Week-end Meditations," "Your Bible Column," etc.

Pastor D. J. Clarke submitted the majority of these Bible subject messages in his weekly "Meditation" column in the "Daily Mail" during his two and a half year term of service in Freetown. We deeply appreciate the valuable contribution to press evangelism made by him. We have felt keenly our loss sustained by his death, but we believe that his thought-provoking messages continue to bless hundreds of his readers. May God surprise him on the resurrection day with an abundant harvest from the gospel seed sown by his work.

In closing, I solicit a sincere interest in your prayers for your press secretaries as they continue to "tell the Adventist story" far and wide through Press Evangelism in West Africa.

## HARVEST INGATHERING REPORT

1952 - 1955

"Well, Pastor, it looks like we will miss our £100 goal here in Jos."

"Yes, it does, Brother Chappell, for we have been to nearly every business place I know here. Too bad so many of these big companies referred us to their head office in Lagos," agreed Pastor A. G. Dickay, as we headed down one of the back streets in Jos, North Nigeria, in search of a few more business men to solicit.

"Let's stop here. This is Arab's Transport Companies that sends big lorries across the Sahara Desert. I had forgotten about it."

Having finished showing my pictorial report of our mission up-lift work, and remembering how desperately we needed a large donation in order to reach our goal, I mustered up courage to suggest that he give £15.

"How much do you say?" the manager asked in a tone that made me nervous.

"Sir, I suggested £15, but any amount will be appreciated."

"Let me tell you something, young man. I suggest that you leave each person to decide voluntarily what he wishes to give."

"Yes Sir," I said and stood motionless while the man continued.

"So you think I should give £15? I was planning to give £25!"

Speechless and motionless, I waited for the man to write out the cheque. Receiving it, and humbly thanking him, I walked out with Pastor Dickay who was as speechless as I.

In the car we unfolded the cheque and stared at a big £25! Right there and then we offered a prayer of thanks to God for the working of His Spirit upon the hearts of men to impress them to give generously for His work in the earth.

Since January 1952 God's Spirit has moved upon the hearts of hundreds of people in all walks of life to share in the medical, educational, and spiritual endeavours of the Seventh-day Adventist Mission in West Africa. We rejoice over the £22,000 that have been contributed by our friends during the past four years. While we gladly give God the credit, we sincerely thank all our members for their part in the Ingathering Campaigns—for letting God use them to impress "the Gentiles" to give.

Amount reported January 1945 through November 1955 £31,402. 1. 3.

Amount reported January 1954 through December 1949 £13,377. 15. 1.

(Only £3,000 had been reported by November 30, of this year)

Breaddown of amounts reported by Missions  
January 1952 — November, 1955:

East Nigeria	£4,948	0	9
Gold Coast	9,252	10	11
Ivory Coast	1,292	11	7
Liberia	1,740	4	0
North Nigeria	316	6	4
Sierra Leone	1,423	13	10
West Nigeria	3,004	8	9
	£21,977	16	2

NOTE: We expect about £4,000 to be reported during December, since much of the Ingathering work is done near the end of the year.

Special mention is made of the excellent increase made by the Sierra Leone Mission and the North Nigerian Mission over the amount reported in 1954. By the time that the December reports are in, some of the other missions will probably show a nice increase also. As of the end of November, North Nigeria showed a gain of £128; Sierra Leone had a gain of £309. Well done!

Also we wish to express our appreciation for the fine record set by the members of the Ile-Ife church and the staff of the Ife Hospital in soliciting funds for missions. They reported over £300 this year!

How much did your church report? How much will it report next year?

As delegates to this important Constituency

Meeting, let us return to our churches determined that during future Ingathering campaigns—EVERYONE SHALL PULL TOGETHER

And thus, WHEN INGATHERING TIME ROLLS AROUND IN NINETEEN FIFTY-SIX, YOUR LABOUR WILL SHOW HOW FAITH AND WORK SHOULD SMOOTHLY MIX.

## Report of

# GOLD COAST MISSION

By Pastor H. J. Welch, President.

"Wonderful is the work which the Lord designs to accomplish through His church, that His name may be glorified."—*Acts of the Apostles*, pages 12, 13. The challenge of this statement from the Lord's servant should make us feel very humble indeed when we compare what we have to report with what God designs that we should do. Though in the Gold Coast Mission we have reached most of our man made goals, yet how terribly short we must come of reaching God's goal for His church. Nevertheless we do see evidences of God's wonderful working. We take courage as we recount His blessings to the work and workers of our field. How true is the following statement from *"Gospel Workers"* page 28.

"Providence is going before us and infinite power is working through human effort. Blind indeed must be the eyes that do not see the working of the Lord. . . ."

### Membership

The Gold Coast Mission comprises an area of over 104,000 square miles, inhabited by over 5,000,000 people of whom about 3,500,000 are heathen, 650,000 professed Christians and around 1,000,000 are Mohammedans. Of these people around 95 per cent neither read nor write although the number of literates is increasing very rapidly. Against this background the Gold Coast Mission presents a baptized membership of 5,465 with a Sabbath-school membership of 17,882. About 5,000 of these are in classes preparing for ultimate baptism and church membership. Baptism for 1955 number approximately 430. However this figure, as are others, is only approximate as reports are as yet not complete. The net gain in membership is 347. According to as yet incomplete reports from

district leaders conversions total over 1,000. By far the greater number of these are the result of the work of laymen including teachers in Mission schools and Adventist teachers employed by government or other units. Many new companies have sprang up since our last report. Constantly reports come in of small groups of believers of whom we have never previously heard. The total of all is close to 275. Many are very small and actually amount to branch Sabbath schools. The great task of the ministerial force is to bring these small, scattered and often poorly led companies to the place where they can be fully organized churches with strong lay leadership. At present only 44 of these groups of believers are organized churches.

### Finance

Firmly believing that our people can be blessed only as they fully return to the Lord His tithes, mission officers and workers have taken every opportunity to place this truth before the members, and the results for 1955 have been gratifying as can be seen by the following figures:

Tithe for 1953	—	£8,443
" " 1954	—	£8,378
" " 1955	—	£9,595

We believe that this increase represents much faithful promotion on the part of Evangelists, Pastors and church leaders.

Sabbath-school offering for the same period are:

1953	—	£1,535
1954	—	£1,615
1955	—	£1,800

Ingathering figures are:

1953 —	£2,644
1954 —	£2,618
1955 —	£2,500

Most Ingathering funds in the past have been raised by means of harvest festivals. While this has been good, nevertheless we believe that we have neglected a very fruitful source of income and soul winning experience in personal solicitation. Pastor Agyei of the Takoradi district deserves special mention for his good work in following this method which is relatively new to the Gold Coast.

In addition to these regular funds the Gold Coast field has, since the beginning of the Secondary school programme, contributed a total of £4,370 to this purpose. Many of our churches have erected new houses of worship or have repaired or extended older ones. The Mission has been able to help in some cases from Ingathering comeback funds but by far the larger part of the expense has been borne by the members and represents many thousands of pounds.

#### Education

As all realize, the Mission has developed on a foundation of school work. Due to Government policies no large expansion of school work is possible or even desirable. However the contribution of 212 teachers directing the work of 6,500 children in 68 schools, and in many cases providing leadership for the churches is no small enterprise. Since Pastor Vetter was forced by illness to retire from the field, Brother S. E. Opam has carried most of the educational work very creditably indeed. We appreciate his energetic and faithful service. We are happy too for the progress of the educational work at Bekwai, what a blessing the students of that school have been to the cause of God. We appreciate the work of Brother Sparks, Brother Maberly and Brother Farrell, Miss Smith and in fact all the members of the staff. We should not fail here to express our sorrow at the loss of Pastor Wilson. His influence as an educator was inestimable.

#### Missionary Volunteer

The Missionary Volunteer work as elsewhere in West Africa originally included old as well as young in the church and was in reality the Home Missionary Society. Most of the interest centered around investiture

programmes. Now that the M.V. Society is coming to be recognized as the youth organization of the church we have felt that it is advisable to try to build up some strong, well organized Missionary Volunteer Societies, with regular programmes and a strong Share Your Faith emphasis. This seems to be a more substantial basis than dependence so largely on progressive class work and investitures. Brother William Ackah, Junior, has enthusiastically entered into the programme and tells me that there are now about 30 societies reporting. Brother Ackah's visit to Stockholm Youth Congress was very valuable to the field for he has returned with much zeal and courage. He hopes to conduct a youth camp sometimes during 1956. We believe that the coming year will mark a large advance in the youth work in the Gold Coast.

#### Publishing Department

The activity and zeal of our fine band of faithful colporteurs has been a constant source of encouragement. Brother R. D. Mawutor has proved an able and enthusiastic Publishing Department Secretary. The work grew to the place where it was necessary to ask one of our top colporteurs to assist him. Brother I. K. Ampofo was called to this work and is doing well. A former trusted employee of the Bank of British West Africa Christopher Boye-Doe was converted through the efforts of Pastor Gibson, the Voice of Prophecy, our worker at Tarkwa and others and gave up his work in order to obey God's commandments. After his baptism he was invited to become Manager of the Book and Bible House and has proved to be a great blessing in that department. During the last 20 months, our band of colporteurs, 20 strong, working a total of 46,373 hours, have delivered £16,047 worth of our books and magazines. We know of 10 souls won by them and baptized but only eternity can tell the full influence of their work. 5,000 customers of the colporteurs are enrolled in the Voice of Prophecy. One of our colporteurs V. K. Glover has opened a branch Sabbath school in Peki, Ewe land.

#### Evangelism

We have already touched upon this subject in mentioning the souls won and the growth in membership resulting therefrom. We believe that the work of all the departments is definitely evangelism but there must also be a coming to grips on the part of the

Mission with the problem of the thousands yet unwarned, the problem of our large centers such as Accra, Kumasi, Sekondi, etc., and the vast unentered areas of Northern Territories, and Togoland. We still plead as earnestly as we know how for a missionary family for Tamale in the North.

In spite of the many evangelistic efforts held in past years we have hardly dented the surface of Satan's wall of ignorance and superstition. When Pastor R. D. Vine travelled with me as we passed through village after village he asked, "Do you have any work here? Most of the time our answer was "No." After several days of this he said, "Brother Welch, what plan do you have for reaching this people?" That was a challenge indeed but I think now I know the answer. It lies in a consecrated, organized, vitalized laity. I wish I had time to tell you how God is blessing our church members and of the many new companies raised up by their efforts. We sincerely believe that in addition to our regular evangelistic efforts we must do more in 1956 to arouse, organize and train our laymen. The home bases must be strengthened. We plan during 1956 a series of meetings with the laymen in every district. We believe it will be time well spent.

As we come to the close of this report we wish we could give due credit to all who have had a part in the progress of the past year. We think of the faithful work of former leaders in the mission, some are now retired, others have gone on to take up other responsibilities, but they built a good foundation. We have deeply appreciated the help of our Union and Division brethren and we gratefully thank our brethren from overseas for the funds so freely given. We would like to express appreciation for the efficient consecrated workers in our Kumasi offices. How we do appreciate the faithful service of Brother John Rigby, without whose efforts even this report would have been impossible. As Secretary-Treasurer of the Mission he has carried his heavy load efficiently and loyally. My good associate, Pastor C. B. Mensah carried the president's work during my furlough and the work prospered in his hands, God has blessed his ministry. To our dear Heavenly Father we give the most abundant praise and all the glory for the way He has led and blessed His people. We need so much the power of His spirit. We close with these words from "*Gospel Workers*," page 288.

"Day after day is passing into eternity bringing us nearer to the close of probation." As never before we must pray for the Holy

Spirit to be more abundantly bestowed upon us, and we must look for its sanctifying influence to come upon the workers that those for whom they labour may know that they have been with Jesus and have learned of Him.

## ADVENTISTS IN THE NEWS

### PRESS RELATION REPORT

By Pastor D. L. Chappell

Evangelist Samuel Adusei was hurrying along one of the busy street of Accra when he heard a voice behind him say, "Pardon me, Sir." Turning around, he saw a young man who asked excitedly, "Didn't I see your picture on the front page of the 'Daily Graphic' a few days ago?"

"You may have. Why do you ask?" queried Brother Adusei, eager to learn what had made this youth so interested in his picture in the newspaper.

"You were standing beside the Director of Prisons and a white man, weren't you?"

"Yes, that's right."

I was deeply impressed when I read that your mission presented nearly 200 Bibles to eighteen prisons in the Gold Coast. I would like to know more about the mission that does that type of work."

And thus another friend was made for the Adventists through the press evangelism.

Since our last Union Constituency Meeting held in Accra in January, 1952, press evangelism has been creating a lot of goodwill for the Seventh-day Adventist Mission in several parts of West Africa. Accra and Freetown have received the heaviest bombardment of press releases.

During the four year period ending 31st December, 1955, twenty-three newspapers in Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Gold Coast and Nigeria devoted 10,275 column inches of space to 915 Adventist press releases. They used 136 pictures with these news stories and articles on Bible topics. We sincerely thank our mission and institutional press secretaries for this excellent record. God has honoured their labour, and we praise His name for what has been accomplished.

The influence of this press evangelism is greater, we believe, than apparent results reveal. Not until after the sad news of the untimely death of Press Secretary D. J. Clarke last August reached us, did we learn how

greatly were his weekly "Meditation" articles in the "Daily Mail" appreciated by the people of Sierra Leone. One reader, who never met Pastor Clarke, wrote a touching "Tribute to Pastor Clarke." It was printed in the "Daily

Mail" and was reprinted in our "West African Advent Messenger." I trust that all of you read it, and that you were made to realise more fully the value of press evangelism in West Africa.

## Report of EAST NIGERIAN MISSION

The four years that have just passed have been a tremendous challenge to God's people in East Nigeria. Battles have been lost and won, but praise to our Maker for the advancements that have been made over the enemy's ground. 86 jujus were destroyed in 1955. All departments of our work have been evangelistic in their outlook and have contributed greatly to the total progress.

### Baptisms

Our baptisms have been encouraging during these four years. Our present membership is 7,467, which is a net gain of 2,557.

In order to keep more accurate records Baptismal Certificates have been issued to all our members in good and regular standing. When we have investigated the others it will no doubt show some loss. However, correct figures are more encouraging even though not so large.

### Finances

When Pastor Nielsen went on furlough Pastor Dickay was appointed Acting Secretary-Treasurer. According to the auditor's report, Pastor Dickay has done an excellent work. I am proud we have an African who can handle thousands of pounds and do his work efficiently and effectively. It is high time we look for other trust-worthy workers and prepare to train them for such important posts.

By the following chart you will see the progress that has been made in offerings. Our members are not behind in their giving, but



By  
Pastor W. F. Newman,  
President

unfortunately the title does not show the increase that was expected.

### Evangelism

Evangelistic Efforts held during the four years have made good success in spite of much opposition in some areas. Our work in Enugu, Warri and Calabar has been encouraging. Pastor Ahamba has been striving with a number of people in helping them to get Sabbath free. Our effort with the Director of Education on behalf of three students in the Government Trade Centre was successful. Pastor Hulbert and his three co-workers have established themselves in the ancient port of Calabar. Brother Achor laid an excellent foundation in placing hundreds of books in the homes of these people. With constant house-to-house visits and hundreds of personal Bible studies being given, a very fine group have been brought along.

Warri area has baptized its first two converts. These came as a result of the Voice of Prophecy and have been the means of interesting many others. Pastor Onwere and his two workers are of good courage for the future progress of the work in that area. In

	1952	1953	1954	1955
Sabbath School Offering		1775 4 1	1910 7 3	2010 14 7
13th Sabbath School Offering		459 5 1	569 14 2	508 15 11
Big Week		43 2 1	33 7 7	91 3 10
Harvest Ingathering		1521 11 2	1351 17 10	1163 15 11
Tith e	3956 9 3	5404 14 8	5544 10 3	5715 13 1

fact, if I may trespass a little into West Nigeria, I would add that Benin Province is ripe for the Advent Message. Many appeals have been coming in for us to enter. A number of souls are definitely interested in this message. So far we have 60 meeting each Sabbath in the Sabbath School.

#### New Interests

We have a number of new interests which can be cared for by workers or lay members. However, we have some which are too far away from existing work to be cared for without sending a worker.

Brother Ekanem, one of our experienced teachers visited Itu-Mbauzo which is comprised of twelve villages. Already we have 169 Sabbath School members in four of the villages. They are pleading for a worker.

In the Niger Delta we have a large unentered field. Pastor Limejuice is living on the edge but it is impossible for him to visit and foster all the new interests that are springing up. He tells me one interest at Kei which is near the sea is now dying for lack of visiting. The place is two days journey by canoe away from our nearest evangelist.

#### Camp Meetings

East Nigeria would be lost without its annual camp meetings. We highly appreciate

its visiting speakers from Europe and America. Elder Brewer will be encouraged to know that his suggestion regarding the Camp Meeting Offerings has been very successful. Elder Lohne, from the land of the stock-fish, has given us a wonderful inspiration. We know that we have another link binding us together with Northern Europe.

At the beginning of this quardrennial session we had a Ministerial Institute when over 250 workers attended. Elder C. E. Mosley inspired us with his lively oratory and his practical spiritual message.

Our working force, while not increased in numbers, has increased in ability. 38 have been trained at Ihie, and the following have been ordained to the gospel ministry:

1952 J. Ahamba, J. Imebuogu, R. Meze, E. Onumaegbu, F. Uzoaru.

1954 W. Limejuice, Z. Imo.

1955 J. Wogwugwu, J. Odinmah, A. Oluikpe, A. Adiele.

We regret that in 1953 Brother J. Kanu, one of our evangelists holding Ministerial Licence passed away after a short illness. Brother A. A. Phillips, for many years a faithful school teacher and Brother S. Ubani both died during 1955. They rest, but their work do follow them.

#### Literature Ministry

Summary of Sales:	1952	.....	£2,627 0 11 )
	1953	.....	2,472 5 6 )
	1954	.....	3,411 1 1 ) 4 Years : £14,030 15 10d
	1955	.....	5,520 8 4 ) (11 months)

As you will see by the figures given, our sales have made a steady increase. Brother S. Ihemeje who was called to the Publishing work in 1952 has done much to build up a strong colporteur force.

It is encouraging to see that many of these colporteurs are soul-winners. Branch Sabbath Schools are being conducted and souls won as a result of these outposts of evangelism.

#### Missionary Volunteer

It is grand to work with young enthusiastic people. East Nigeria owes a great deal to its young people. Now that we have called Mr.

Isaac Nwobia an Higher Elementary Teacher to assist in this important branch of God's work I am sure much more will be done to save our youth.

Investitures:	1954	1955	Total
Number of investitures held	19	16	
Number invested in Preparatory Class	591	627	1,218
" " " Friends	577	194	771
" " " Companions	364	181	545
" " " Guides	162	61	223
" " " Master Guides	89	44	133
" " " TOTALS :	1,783	1,107	2,890

**Home Missionary**

In 1954 after the visit of Pastor Pedersen the Division Home Missionary Secretary we organized a Home Missionary Department in our field. The members are now gradually understanding the difference between this department and the Missionary Volunteer. Our lay members are certainly enthusiastic in taking part in evangelistic work. The women are not behind as a strong Dorcas work is being promoted in all of our districts.

The success of our women's work is largely due to the splendid Women's Institute that was conducted by Miss Nuka and others at our College at Ihie. Judging from the response from our members during the Camp Meetings, this institute was greatly appreciated and we are looking forward to another in 1956.

**Education**

	1952	1953	1954	1955
No. of Schools	24	26	29	31
No. of Scholars	3839	4593	5071	5839
No. of Teachers	155	165	184	221

The educational advancement that the Eastern Regional Government is planning will mean a great opportunity for us to open many schools in 1956, and 1957. If we do not seize this opportunity, then the prospects of new schools in 1958 will be small. The future of Ihie is influenced greatly by the advance that is made in the field. Pastor Farrow, our Educational Secretary urges that help be given in the establishment of new schools.

J. Ukegbu, our former visiting teacher is now studying in London. Very good reports have come concerning him and we look forward to his return to take up greater responsibilities.

In 1954 a small European school was started by Sister Nielsen. Sister Farrow took it over when the former teacher went on furlough. We do not know to what extent our influence will go when one considers that three Roman Catholics were taken from a Catholic School to attend this school. The parents are very well satisfied with their children's progress.

In the four years 150 students have completed their Teachers' Preliminary Training Course, 90 per cent of whom are in our employ.

In closing I would like to say thank you to the Union and Northern European Division for the financial help that has been

**"God Speaks To Modern Man"**

250 copies of "God Speaks to Modern Man" have gone out, and we have another hundred on order. All the Government Ministers in the Eastern Region have received a copy and many Councillors in the local countries. Quoting from one of the many replies the Administrative Secretary for Afikpo writes— "There has never been a time in the world when the need for God's guidance is as great as it is today. Men are departing from God in pursuit of material things. . . . It is not only in this wise but in many other ways that I greatly appreciate the spirit that has motivated this gift."

I am certain that this book will accomplish much good and break down prejudice.

In closing I would like to say thank you to the powers that be to consider prayerfully

given during the past four years. However, in the light of the rapid advancement that is being made on the educational lines, is it wise to put all our eggs in one basket? It may be our educational institutions are draining the fields of all extra resources for evangelism. If this continues it will be to the detriment of the work as a whole. I appeal to the powers that be to consider prayerfully the future trend and to make plans for the safeguarding of our churches and future evangelism.

Our workers and members pledge themselves unreservedly to the finishing of the task in this part of God's field.

**TEMPERANCE**

By Pastor E. Keslake

Looking through the Accra "Daily Graphic," Monday, March 12, 1956, my eye was attracted by the title "West Africa buys more Food and Drink from Britain."

Reading on, I learned that Nigeria's imports of U.K. produced beer, spirits and table waters imported for the month of January, 1956, were £36,000 as compared with £20,000 in 1955.

In January, 1956, Sierra Leone imported from Britain 59,000 lbs of tobacco as compared to 44,000 a year ago.

(Continued on page 28.)

## Report of

# WEST NIGERIAN MISSION

By Pastor G. M. Ellstrom, President

Just think four years nearer the coming of the Lord than we were at the last Union Constituency Meeting. How much nearer have these four years brought us to the finishing of the work in West Africa? May we consecrate our lives to the completing of this great task that God has entrusted to us.

West Nigeria has been going forward during these four years but we cannot be satisfied with the progress made no matter how far it has advanced. As I have not yet been three months in West Nigeria I can in no way lay claim to any credit for the progress of the work. In thinking of giving credit our thoughts first turn to our Lord, and we wish to thank Him for all that has been accomplished. May He ever have His way in the work we do and I feel sure that even greater things will be done. In giving credit to man's effort for the work that has been done we must first mention Pastor Hyde who so recently left this field. He spent eight faithful and fruitful years in West Nigeria. The increased number of schools and trained S.D.A. teachers stands as an evidence of his interest in and efforts for our youth in this field. The Church nearing completion at Ibadan will stand as a memorial of his labours for the membership of West Nigeria. We wish to thank him and others before him for something solid upon which we can continue to build. There is one person more to be mentioned by name in these expressions of thanks for work well done and that is Brother Gustavsson. For more than six months he has carried the burden of the field alone and he has had a very heavy programme but he has cheerfully performed his duties to the best of his ability and we see a little advance in almost every line of endeavour. Others also should be mentioned such as Pastor Adeoye who is with us here today, Pastor Dare, Pastor Alabi and the evangelists who have faithfully fulfilled their duties plus all the teachers who have cared for our churches besides teaching their classes. Last but not least we thank Pastor Gibson for his interest in helping the field to carry on August evangelistic efforts. He spent quite a lot of time in West Nigeria in the interest of the work there during the absence of the field president.

As we look back over the four years we are

happy to note that in nearly every phase of the work the trend is forward. The report is not complete for we don't have the figures for the month of December. So far we have no figures for baptism this year as most of our baptisms are held during this last month of the year. Here are the comparative figures since 1952.

Baptisms		
1952	—	211
1953	—	215
1954	—	232

I fear we have dropped in 1955 in this most important part of our work for our largest district has had no baptisms during the year. I trust that some will be baptized in this district in the first part of 1956 as well as in the month of December. Next year then should show a considerable increase.

### Missionary Volunteers

We had no one responsible for the M.V. work this past year except Brother Gustavsson, who was too heavily burdened with responsibilities to find much time to sponsor this important phase of our missionary programme. In spite of that we noticed a forward step due largely to the interest shown by some of our teachers:

M. V. Investures		
1952	—	No records — small number
1953	—	" " " "
1954	—	401 invested
1955	—	550 "

### Colportage

Our colporteur work is showing progress, and with Mr. Oriaku now in the field to supervise this very important soul-winning work we are expecting to see greater things in the future.

He writes—"Since the beginning of December the six student colporteurs from Ihie, two from E.T.C. Otun, and one new recruit have got orders above £150, delivered over £27 in two weeks and sold 500 copies

of "West African Tidings" within the same period. God is richly blessing us indeed.

**Education**

This coming year we shall have twice as many teachers as we had four years ago. The work of school management as well as the treasurer's work has increased immensely, but we are still only two overseas men in the field, and when one is on furlough it is almost impossible to find time for promoting active evangelism, which should be the most important work of the missionary. Mr. Agboola and Mr. Gustavsson have done a noble work, but we need help as the schools now require one full time man to properly care for them.

During the last 18 months the West Nigerian Mission has also received about £12,000 for building of 60 new primary school classrooms.

You will notice that a great deal of money passed through the Mission and you may also note carefully that we are above all the dispensers of government funds. Perhaps this will give you an idea of the work involved in carrying on successfully our school programme.

We now give a comparative report of the offerings given by our people. We are glad to see what has been done and trust that much more will be given by our people that a more effective evangelistic programme can be carried on.

Enrolments and No. of teachers in our schools.

	1953	1954	1955	1956
Enrolment	1852	2375	3300	?
No of teachers	80	89	130	160

**Finance**

Following is a comparative report of the money that has been brought into the Mission during the past four years:

The Harvest Ingathering is up by £900 even though Otun district, Lagos district and Okitipupa district have not yet submitted their reports. The Week of Sacrifice Offering will be reported in December. The same thing

Tithe, Union Appropriation and Government Grant Compared

	1952	1953	1954	1955
Tithe	1921 16 1	2677 2 3	3044 5 4	2979 4 8 (11 mts)
Union Appr.	2730 0 0	2822 0 0	2822 0 0	2822 0 0
Govt. Grant	2789 1 0	5103 13 9	6200 5 0	15000 0 0 (Crikka)

Report of Sabbath — School Offerings for 1952 — 1955

	1952	1953	1954	1955
S. S. Offer. 12 Sabb.	664 19 4	763 14 1	915 0 0	840 0 0
13th Sabb. Offerings	146 18 10	112 18 9	160 12 6	114 2 11
Birthday Offerings	29 5 0	3 7 1	2 17 6	4 6 0
2nd Sabbath Off.	9 15 5	- - -	- - -	- - -
Centennial Sabb. Off.	2 19 9	- - -	- - -	- - -
£	853 18 5	879 19 11	1078 10 0	958 8 11

Report of Offerings for 1952 — 1955

	1952	1953	1954	1955
Big Week Offering	2 5 7	6 11 8	3 2 7	3 3 6
Annual Offering	17 3 8	6 7 2	6 11 9	12 1 0
Harvest Ingathering	1067 1 3	819 10 5	1111 1 3	900 0 0
M. V. Offerings	13 2 1	10 19 9	12 14 11	15 16 2
Week of Sacrifice	56 3 2	82 1 -	138 16 9	18 13 6
Voice of Proph. Offer.	- - -	- 3 9	13 0 5	- - -
Mission Extension Off.	2 17 9	- - -	- - -	- - -
£	1158 13 7	925 13 9	1285 7 8	949 14 2

with the Voice of Prophecy Offering.

We need more evangelists to answer the many calls that come to us and we need more overseas help at the present to train willing and capable workers to carry greater responsibilities in the cause of God. Of utmost importance to our field right now are institutions of higher education to develop

good Christian characters in the hundreds of students who have only finished their primary six education. Let us do all we can to fulfill these needs that the work of the Lord may be more firmly established throughout West Africa and that the message may be more speedily preached to every nation, tongue and people.

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## Report of RADIO DEPARTMENT

"Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before Him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon His name." Malachi 3:16.

During the past quadrennium your West African Branch of The Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School processed 39,000 applications for lessons from prospective new students. More than 21,000 of those applying returned their first test papers and where thus enrolled, and helped through these eternally important lessons to think upon the name of their Creator.

That they "spoke often one to another" is evident from the fact that by actual count half or more of the applications received during each of the four years came from individuals personally acquainted with current students and who were led by them to write for lessons of their own.

### West Africa Leads the Division

There are now 110 branches of The Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence School throughout the world, nine of them located in the territory of our Northern European Division. For a number of years your West African Branch school has maintained the Number One position of leadership in most phases of this work in the division. During the second quarter of 1955 (the latest report available), West Africa accounted for 20 per cent of the total applications, 30 per cent of the total enrolments, 42 per cent of the total active students, and 65 per cent of the total graduates for the entire Division.

This quadrennium has witnessed unpre-



By Pastor R. W. Coon, Principal

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cedented growth as a result of the good foundation laid in the early years by Pastors Keslake and Hulbert, and as a direct result of the numberless providential blessings—material and spiritual—bestowed upon us by our benevolent Heavenly Father. Today a staff of 18 Nigerians at Ibadan and one Liberian at Monrovia serve between 6,000 and 8,000 active students in our constituency.

### Entering New Territory

The Voice of Prophecy's unique value is that it not only can be used as a vital, successful tool in the soul-winning programme of the local pastor or evangelist, but it also goes into places where we have no workers, to serve as an entering wedge in opening new territory.

*The World Almanac and Statesman's Yearbook* divides the world into 230 countries or areas, of which only 33 yet remain to be entered by workers of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Two of these 33 unentered

lands are located here in West Africa, and we are thrilled that during the past year the Voice of Prophecy established contact with both of them!

Application forms were sent to an interested individual residing on the little island of Fernando Po, part of Spanish Guinea located about 10 miles off the coast of Eastern Nigeria. There are an estimated 11,000 Nigerians, many of them literate in English, working on the plantations of Fernando Po. Let us pray that the Lord will bless this first contact with this heretofore unentered territory.

Our Union President, Pastor Gibson, was instrumental in establishing a beach-head in the other as yet unentered country, the Gambia, located in the westernmost part of British West Africa. He met four young men from Bathurst, the capital of the protectorate, while on a plane returning to Nigeria from the Division Winter Council in England a year ago. Before they parted Pastor Gibson had all four signatures on the Voice of Prophecy application forms which he sent on over to the Ibadan office. The harvest from the sowing of this "mustard seed?" A total of 27 students enrolled during 1955 in Gambia, which is reported to be more than 90 per cent Moslem.

#### Accomplishments

During this quadrennium an *average* of 5,986 active students were carried on the records of the West African Branch. The highest mark recorded was 8,235 active students on the 1st of May, 1954.

A total of 35,425 graduated from one of the three courses which the school offered during 1952-1955.

Student donation and profits from the book sales, while as yet negligible in the new office established in Liberia in 1953, amounted to £2,162 in the Ibadan office during this period.

Our faithful workers, who deserve much of the credit for the report, have been far from idle: more than a quarter-million (278,035) pieces of mail came to the two offices from students in the various countries served, and nearly two-thirds of a million (648,201) pieces of mail were sent out to them at a total postage expense of £2,335.

During the four years covered by this report nearly one and one-quarter million lessons (1,207,594) were sent out to those requesting them of which some 687,848 were returned to our instructors for correction. In addition, truth-filled literature in form of books and

copies of "The Signs of the Times," "Present Truth," and "The Voice of Prophecy News" were sent out totalling 178,586 pieces, making a grand total of 1,384,180 items of literature sent out. It is impossible to estimate the ultimate result of this gospel seed-sowing on such a mammoth scale. Surely there will be many saved in the Kingdom of our Lord as a result of this endeavour.

Each week nearly 1,000 copies of the "Signs" are mailed to graduates. These have been supplied to us by approximately two dozen missionary-minded individuals or church congregations in the United States at a financial sacrifice on the part of the donors amounting to more than £800.

At present we are sending the "Signs" to all non-Adventist graduates of our third Advanced Course for the first six months without charge to the recipient. Although the financial position of the institution for next year appears at the moment to be precarious, for reasons stated below, we fervently hope to be able to continue this project which maintains contact with the student even after he graduates. As there are often no mission workers within miles of the towns where many of our students live, to follow-up the interest developed, this additional contact has proved most valuable and rewarding.

#### Training Africans for Leadership

During 1955, a most important step forward in the Africanisation of our work was materially implemented. During the absence of the principal from the Ibadan office, Pastor R. O. Wosu was able to assist the acting principal, Brother S. Gustavsson, in the position of office manager, thus relieving Mrs. Coon of a number of her office duties on a permanent basis. Additionally, Mr. John A. Kilanko, who joined the staff six years ago and who has proved a most faithful worker, was promoted from his position as cashier to that of a bookkeeper on a permanent basis after having been trained for this advanced post by Mrs. Coon, a professional accountant.

As overseas workers we feel it incumbent upon us to train our African workers to higher posts of leadership, and the assumption of these responsible positions by two of our staff last year was one of the most significant developments in the entire history of the Voice of Prophecy in West Africa.

#### A Look at the Future

While much has been accomplished in past years, much more remains to be done. As we look at the future we know that God

will continue to lead us as He so faithfully has done in the past. Plans are now under way for publishing a new series of lessons to meet the more highly educated classes of West Africa which until now we have largely been unable to reach. These two new courses will be based on those so successfully used in Southern Asia, and will contain more than twice as much material per lesson over that in our current courses.

It is also hoped that The Voice of Prophecy might materially expand its work and make an even greater contribution to the work of the West African Union Mission by re-locating in a more advantageous place where it could additionally serve as a nucleus for new work. But whether it re-locates or remains in Ibadan, it is imperative that more office space be made available since the present overcrowded condition can only be detrimental to the efficiency of our faithful staff of workers.

With Pastor Henri back in Liberia from furlough, and a new radio transmitter of much greater power soon to be installed at Station ELBC in Monrovia, we sincerely hope that it will not be long before our radio programme returns to the airwaves of West Africa.

We also look forward in anticipation to the development of the Bible Correspondence School work now being produced and planned in the Ivory Coast for those literate in the French language. A brief report of this work has already been given by the Acting President of that field.

In Nigeria the Gorsuch Award made to government employees in 1955 (increasing salaries of junior staff by 20 per cent and senior staff by 10 per cent) has had its natural and anticipated effect on non-government workers. A number of commercial houses have already adopted the provisions of the Award, even to the granting of arrears retroactive to October, 1954—a prominent feature of the Award.

Although there has been no increase in the annual appropriation to The Voice of Prophecy during the past three years, yet we felt we have a moral responsibility to provide our workers with a higher standard of living, and we have materially increased their salaries each year even though this has meant a corresponding and proportionate decrease in the funds available for the operation of the institution. Now in 1956, we will have to further effect a major revision of our salary scale, since the cost of living for all Africans in Nigeria has skyrocketed with the imple-

mentation of the Gorsuch Award, particularly in the Western Region.

### An Appeal

While we cannot fully see the road ahead, we know that our God will continue to supply all our needs in Christ Jesus, and we appeal to our constituency to continue their support of our work as the annual offering is taken this year for the Voice of Prophecy in every local church throughout the Union territory.

We have appreciated your response in years past, and take this opportunity of expressing our gratitude for the generosity of our laity and workers in the various fields. Together, we know that, in the words of our international motto, we shall continue to go "Forward in Faith," winning souls and adding many pages to that "Book of Remembrance" which the Lord caused to be "written before Him," inscribing the names of those that "feared the Lord and spake often one to another . . . and that thought upon His name."

### Report of

## NORTH NIGERIAN MISSION

By Pastor J. J. Hyde, Principal

I speak of North Nigeria as one who has just returned to it after many years. Things have changed. I have not yet got the new picture clearly in focus.

May I mention some of the changes that I have noticed. There is now a fine church and school on the original compound. Across the road is a large new hospital. There are many more workers than formerly. But the evangelistic force is not much increased unfortunately. There is however, a notable exception to this statement. In Jos, Kaduna, and Kano, three of our chief cities, Ibo colporteurs and evangelists have been posted. They are working under some restrictions as to their preaching, but we hope and believe that they will find opportunity to help some from within those strongholds of Islam.

Our school has at last been recognized as a full standard VI school. You who have Standard VI schools by the dozen may not be greatly moved by the news, but to those who patiently repeated Standard VI for two or three years hoping against hope that this

year the school would surely be recognized and that they would get their first school leaving certificate, it was thrilling news indeed. Now we can prepare our boys and girls to enter teaching or Nursing Training School. In achieving this happy end we are greatly indebted to the men and women from East and West Nigeria who came and spent a few years helping this weaker field and we say to them—Thank You.

A great deal of the emphasis in our work in North Nigeria has always been placed upon the medical work. At present Dr. Lamp of the U.S.A. is the Medical Director, I would say he is happy in his work. He sometimes says he is perplexed. But so are we all—frequently. Carrying on where his predecessors left off, Dr. Lamp is opening up Leper Dispensaries far into the Mohammedan and Pagan areas to the North of us. Leprosy and its treatment is undergoing radical changes and almost anyone can learn to treat it in a few easy lessons. So it is not very difficult to run such dispensaries. Later as better trained personnel become available, full dispensary work will become possible. But full dispensary or not, they are all evangelistic outposts and everybody recognizes that fact; certainly other missions do. I sat with Dr. Lamp, a District Officer and Mohammedan District Head, a Leprosy Officer and a representative of another mission one morning a few weeks ago. That other mission was demanding that we be not allowed to set up these dispensaries because they said they had non-medical missionaries in the area. It was clear to all that they were not much concerned about medicine, but that they did not want our message to reach their people. However, the interesting thing was that after the main discussion was over, the District Officer and the District Head began in the presence of the objecting missionary to suggest several places where we could usefully open our work, with their full blessing. The good work of all the past years is opening doors for present advancement. Is it not God who says "I will work, and who shall hinder it?"

The North Nigerian field is indebted to Pastor W. G. Till for the church and school at Jengre and the church in Jos. We who follow behind him enter into his work. May God help us to continue to work as faithfully as Pastor Till did. As we become better acquainted with our new field we will undoubtedly find needs of both men and money. When we do, we'll prepare for you another report.

## Report of

# SIERRA LEONE MISSION

By Pastor A. M. Moyer, President

As the year of 1955 ends, we the workers of the Sierra Leone Mission can but say "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

Tribute should be paid to the three workers whose days of work are over. On June 5, Pastor H. D. Wilson passed away in Gold Coast. This man of God filled posts as teacher, dresser, pastor, evangelist, Bible teacher and administrator. Forty years he toiled for the Master so the Lord called him for a short resting period before His coming. Pa M. S. C. Williams, who died on August 12, rendered thirty years service to the cause he loved so much. His humble and willing spirit permeated the atmosphere of all of those who surrounded him. With his last strength he knelt by his bed side and prayed, then laid on his bed and went to sleep to wait the call of Christ. Pastor D. J. Clarke went to his rest on August 23 while on furlough in England. His services as resident pastor in Freetown, press relation secretary and clearing agent for the mission are greatly missed. He with his family served the Sierra Leone Mission for two and a half years.

God called these three men to rest, but has called others to take up the burden of soul-winning. The inspiration left by these men is burning in the hearts of our believers and workers. Our motto is "Let us finish the work."

A word of tribute should be paid to Pastor and Mrs. Keslake who laboured for five years in this field. May the Lord bless them in their new work.

The educational work has made good strides forward. Two new school buildings, at Nenghema and Matotoka have been completed, both were started by Pastor Keslake. All the schools have shown a good increase in pupils. Several have doubled their enrolment. Five who completed standard VI will be used in Mission service in 1956. Five were baptized from our school in Bo.

The Lord has poured out His Spirit upon the workers and laymembers of the mission. The tithe increase for the first eleven months of 1955 shows a fifty-two per cent increase over a like period of 1954. The Sabbath school offerings have increased 15 per cent. The In-gathering has shown an unusual gain of 275

per cent. The baptisms have been doubled. The workers have also put on a strong programme to reclaim the missing members. Certain economic conditions exist which have brought some difficulties, but God in His mercy has helped us overcome them.

The Mission has been reorganized into four districts with District Leaders located in strategic places. In the past year a number of new bridges have been built which has been a great help in getting around. For several months of the year, the roads are practically impassible, but even during that

period the Lord has been with us in our travelling.

Brother John Muderspach is doing a wonderful work with the finances. He also has carried on a strong programme in the field in visitation and Ingathering. If time would permit I would like to tell you of the good work of each office assistant, each pastor, each teacher, and each evangelist, but that would be impossible. We are all working hand in hand. Sometimes one of us stumbles, but soon others help him and we march on together to victory in Christ.

## Report of

# LIBERIAN MISSION

By Pastor C. D. Henri, President

It has been my privilege to be back in my field of labour just three months. One month of this year was spent travelling to and from the United States and five months in the States, speaking at six different camp-meetings hundreds of miles apart, numerous churches and travelling over 15,000 miles by car to meet these appointments. We travelled from Hyde Park, New York to Hawthorne, Florida, and from Washington, D.C. to San Francisco, California. Add to all this 4,000 miles of travel by train and you have a picture of the five months spent in the United States. For the benefit of those who are not acquainted with what this period of intense activity and travel is called, please let me inform you. It is furlough!

Consequently much of our report tells of the good work our co-labourers, African and American have accomplished.

### Monrovia

Our work in the capital city of Liberia was left in the hands of two of our young African workers, M. I. Harding and William Gittens. They did a magnificent job of holding the church together, conducting Spring Week of Prayer, evangelism and keeping the tithes and offering up to and above anticipated levels. On our return we found the church girded and ready for the Ingathering Campaign! What miracles, what exploits, how

many souls saved and what stongholds of Satan could be stormed and conquered if all our Liberian young people and workers were so consecrated! The unheard of has been done in Liberia. Now, we feel that a new day has dawned in Liberia for the onward progress of the work—using Africans!

### Konola

1955 was a splendid year at our Konola Academy. Our enrolment was 132. 98 per cent of these students were non-Adventist but at the end of the school year we baptized nineteen. Nearly thirty five are in the baptismal class.

1955 also saw one of our largest elementary graduations. Twelve young people received their certificates. The president of Liberia had two nephews in the graduating class. We also graduated the son of Liberia's economic advisor and the son of a prominent judge. As a result of young people like these attending Konola School the fame of the Seventh-day Adventist Mission has spread throughout the republic. Doors are opening for

the proclamation of the Gospel through the countries which heretofore were closed to us. We have personal invitations from the highest officials of government in Cape Palmas, Sino and Cap Mount countries to open missions in their territories.

Konola is also beginning to fill her place as a training institute for Liberia. One of our largest districts, the Liiwa district is being successfully directed by a Konola graduate and the most outstanding evangelist in that district is a graduate of the school.

Others are teaching and carrying evangelistic responsibilities in other sections of the field.

Our first medical endeavour will begin to function in 1956. Mrs. Cantrell, the wife of the principal of the school and a graduate nurse will operate the clinic on the school campus. Funds have been given for supplies and the government of Liberia has promised some of our medicines. But the greatest asset that made this project possible was a gift of \$1,000 to build a small building to house the clinic!

The money came to us as a result of an article written by Brother Simonson after his visit to our needy field. Right here and now we say a hearty and fervent "thank you" to Brother Simonson and the dear sister who read the article and sent the money.

The future for the Konola Academy is bright. Applications for enrolment are pouring in for 1956. A new family to replace the Giddings family is on the campus. If enrolments warrant it we shall teach the first, second and third years of high school, looking forward to our first secondary graduation in 1957!

#### Ingathering

Our faithful ingatherers in Liberia would like a bit of Christian competition from some section of the West African Union. For the past four years, perhaps even longer, Liberia's solicitors have led the Union! We haven't been informed but we don't think 1955 will be an exception. Sister Rachel Crowe, crippled with rheumatism and cumbered with family responsibilities, collected \$200; Sister Henri, \$184.50; Brother Gibson \$55.50. Are there no others in the Union to share with these the stratosphere of individual ingathering achievement? At this writing we have reached and surpassed our mission goal of \$1,190. When all the funds are in, the Monrovia church alone will have more than raised this amount! We praise God that our African brethren are willing to do their share in help-

ing to finish the work of God in West-Africa. All our stations did their part!

#### Voice of Prophecy

Last year the Voice of Prophecy was completely off the air. This, of course was due to furlough but the effect on our correspondence school was considerable. Enrolments, active students and graduates dropped off greatly. It is our desire to go back on the air with the Voice of Prophecy tapes in 1956. With the Sudan Inland Mission blanketing West Africa with their programmes which are often very definitely against us, we must at all costs endeavour to counteract this influence with our own programme. The Liberian government has purchased a new 1,500 watt transmitter which is to be put into operation for the inauguration of January 2, 1956. This transmitter was purchased for ELBC and we can get our same time but at an increased cost. Despite this increased cost let's keep our message on the air!

#### Facts and Figures

Tithe	\$4,109.24
Tuition	824.06
12 S. S. Offerings	1,015.03
13th Sabbath Offerings	1,021.82
Ingathering	1,412.46
Week of Sacrifice Offering	24.58
Birthday Offerings	22.16
There were 89 baptisms	

#### Gratitude

"Count your blessings . . . and it will surprise you what the Lord has done" is sound advice. Retrospective, we thank God for His leading, protection, providence. The health of all our workers has been good. Our faith, our morale, our courage is good as we face the challenge of 1956.

The General Conference, Division and Union has responded to our urgent calls for funds and personnel. Our gratitude to you brethren for considering Liberia, as you have had to make so little go so far for so many.

"Thank you" written or spoken is soon forgotten, but a living dedication to the responsibilities placed upon us by God and His servants is indicative of our gratitude. Pray much for Liberia and the work we endeavour to do for God.

We also thank God for the preservation of the life of President W. V. S. Tubman. He has been most kind and sympathetic to our work and liberally supported it. The assassination attempt upon his life in June last year did not succeed. This year he has signed his name for another \$300 for ingathering.

## Report of

# IVORY COAST MISSION

By J. R. Buzenet

In spite of our weaknesses and sins and our many mistakes, God has continued to keep us and bless us. Our difficulties are many: political and social anxieties, strength of Islam and official Christianity, lack of trained personnel, insufficient premises, illiteracy . . . but they are not at all excuses for our failures and inefficiency.

Truly we are still in the time of small beginnings and God wants us to exercise faith and diligence to reach both Africans and Europeans and bring them the light and hope of love and truth.

In a country as big as Gold Coast, with a two million population, our work is located in four areas: 1. On the Coast, Abidjan and surroundings. 2. In the centre, 200 miles North, Bouake. 3. Halfway between these two; Tiemelebro with an organized church. 4. About 150 miles N.W. of Abidjan near the town of Divo, at Iroporia, one organized church and nearby, at Agbao, our oldest company.

### Membership

At the end of 1955 the baptized membership was 123, the Sabbath schools had about 200 adult members and 100 children and the number of persons in the baptismal classes was 20. Illiteracy among men and women, together with the shortage of trained or permanent instructors account for these low figures.

### Personnel

There are still at present just three African colporteurs, two African preachers, three African teachers, and two white missionaries. While we pray and prepare to get many more workers than ten, we put our confidence in Mrs. White's statement found in "*Christian Service*" page 262. "Ten truly converted, willing minded, unselfish workers can do more in the missionary field than 100 who confine their efforts to set forms and preserve mechanical rules, working without deep love for souls."

### Finances

Tithes from April 1 to November 11 amounted to 71.790 francs (£144). We can

hope for a continuous increase as it is obvious higher figures can be reached when our people fully accept the duty and blessing of faithfulness in their tithe paying.

### Sabbath School Offerings

Sabbath school offerings for the first ten months of 1955 were about £100.

### Ingathering

At the end of December the totals for Abidjan and Bouake was about £550. On the whole there is much room for improvement in our finances and by God's grace we want to do much better in the future.

### Evangelism

Evangelism cannot be separated from the work of all the departments of the church as its aim is the saving of men, women and children, however we must endeavour to launch public evangelistic campaigns in the two big cities of Abidjan and Bouake, and also in the numerous main centres across the country. So far, a few series of film lectures were given at Abidjan and Bouake in 1954, and new ones are in progress in the same towns now that the mission is supplied with two projectors and sets of films. Our two evangelists E. Diaoue at Bouake and J. Ehuman at Iroporia are visiting villages around their locations, holding open air meetings and continuing their instruction studies in the homes of the new interests they have raised. As a result a few young men, escaping from their traditional parental subjection, began to attend Sabbath meetings and a Sunday adult class since the fall of this year, at Bouake.

### Literature Evangelism

Under the leadership of our president Pastor G. M. Ellstrom, and since April, of

Brother G. Vaysse, our 4 colporteurs have succeeded in distributing during the first ten months of 1955 £1,578. 14s. 0d. worth of literature, a gain of 28 per cent on the same period in 1954. They are located in 3 important town centres and we hope their sowing will help and make easier our future public meetings.

Recently in October we had a very inspiring and profitable colporteur's institute with Brethren G. D. King and Chappell. We thank them sincerely and together look forward to the time when our spearhead forces will be more than doubled and will enable our mission to find out the many existing possibilities of work before it is too late.

#### **Voice of Prophecy and Bible Correspondence Course**

The Voice of Prophecy or the Voice of Hope as it is called in French, started its radio broadcast in March, 1955. It is a weekly programme from Abidjan to be heard every Sunday evening from 6.30 to 6.45 p.m. The Radio advertises our Bible Correspondence Course and there are approximately 400 students enrolled; 150 of them have gone through half of the 28 lessons. Many listeners and students write from Ivory Coast, Dahomey and Togoland, for enquiry and help and several V.O.P. students living in Abidjan visit the mission and get Bible studies. It has been planned to start the French educative course which acquaints people with the christian health and education principles and methods.

#### **M. V. Department**

Little has been done this year in comparison with the great need in our field. Among the adult members, we still have just a few invested "Friends" and we need a number of enthusiastic "Messengers" and "Guides" to look after the young ones both in their M.V. activities and Junior Sabbath Schools. In December, 1954, 10 Friends and 6 Helpers were invested and we hope to have our next investiture in January, 1956, when we hold our third annual M.V. Camp. Our teachers and pupils have been studying and working for months in their progressive classes for that purpose. For two weeks in December we had the visit of Brother Ackah, M.V. and S.S. Secretary in Gold Coast, who went to the Youth Congress in Stockholm. All our members and youth were thrilled by the inspiring report of the experiences of the West African delegates in various countries of Northern Europe and the coloured slides showing many aspects and achievements of our work in West Africa.

#### **Education**

We are sorry to report that in spite of the great needs of our mission, we have only one church school at Iroporia (Divo) and one primary school at Bouake. In addition at Bouake a training centre to prepare colporteurs, teachers and preachers has been started with a few literate young men from our churches, and at Iroporia an adult class for 10 interested but illiterate young men is being run by our African evangelist. Our Iroporia church school is located miles away from town, in the forest, and our teacher, David Nguessan now a candidate for baptism, is helped by our preacher J. Ehuman and S.S. Superintendent of our Iroporia church. The pupils are about 20 and some of them have reached standard 3 since the school opened in June, 1952.

Our Bouake primary school was started in March, 1955, and we had a 6 month school year with about 50 pupils. The present school year started on October 16, with 112 pupils and 2 teachers for standards 1, 2. Our new teacher is a young Moslem, our first one is an African Adventist, from Dakar (Senegal) who was converted from Islam. He is full of thoughtful enthusiasm and has proved a success with his pupils who love him and have already achieved a lot in the different school activities. The favourite ones are the two daily Bible classes where the new G.C. Bible text books are used together with S.S. junior lessons and picture rolls. (Incidentally the pupils have their own S.S. at 3 p.m.) about 50 came voluntarily each Sabbath, in December, 1955, and on the 13th Sabbath in March and June they had very successful programmes when they dramatised the stories of Gideon, Samson, David and Goliath, and Elijah and Ahab.

The other favourite activities of the Bouake pupils are gardening, games and M.V. classes where they learn songs in the Baoule and French languages.

We are pleased to say that of our 112 boys and girls 60 per cent are Moslems, 20 per cent non-Christian and 20 per cent Christian. We pray that the seeds sown each day may, under God, give a harvest of souls saved and of workers won for the Adventist witnessing.

#### **Plans for the future**

We want to promote the Voice of Prophecy programmes and the Bible Courses, also our colportage and the training of future workers. Soon when we are granted land at Abidjan-Treichville and Divo we want to establish "mission centres" there.

### Gratitude

For our many blessings and a measure of progress, we pay a tribute of praise and gratitude to our Divine Master, Brethren Tarr, Rudge, Simonsen and King from the Division and Brethren Gibson, Cowin, Chappell and Nielsen from the Union brought us inspiration, counsel and help for which we are truly

thankful and which we appreciated much during the long absence in 1955 of our President Pastor G. M. Ellstrom whom we are very sorry to see leaving us after nearly 10 years of kind and experienced leadership.

May God bless abundantly our Division and Union as they strongly co-operate to forward the cause of God in every corner of our great African field.

## Report of

# ILE-IFE HOSPITAL

### Introduction

1955 has been another year of growth and progress at Ife. It seems that everyone expects great things of Ife and they are usually not disappointed. We are thankful for the Lord's blessings in a material way but we are especially thankful for the opportunities for evangelism and the results that we have faith to believe will come as we go forth in the strength of the Lord.

### New Church

In a material way I'm sure the greatest event of the year was the completion and dedicated of the new church in the hospital compound, this event brought favourable comment in Nigerian newspapers and it has greatly cheered and inspired our own members. One of our friends from the London office said he believes it to be the best house of worship in the Northern European Division.

### Baptism

Not all the progress of the Ife church has been in wood, stone and concrete, 36 people have been baptized in the baptistery of our new church. The first service held there was a baptism and just before Dr. Nagel went on furlough we had a second baptism when he baptized an additional 21 making our present church membership over 190.

### Other Building

We have nearly completed construction on a new classroom block consisting of a chapel, a library, a science room and two other classrooms. This new structure will correct the deficiency of the present inadequate classroom facilities.



By Dr. D. J. Peterson, Actg. Medical Superintendent

A new annexe to the obstretical ward, primarily for infected cases has been completed and is now in use. This brings the number of hospital beds to 120. There is also a new wing of four rooms being built on the girls domitory so we can accept more female nursing students.

### Medical Work at Ife

In 1955, there were 76,924 patient visits in the outpatient department. There have been 3,362 inpatients treated in the hospital, some for one or two days and some as long as six months. We have done 816 major surgical procedures. That makes an average of 2½ major surgical procedures each day. In addition many minor surgical operations were done.

**Personnel**

During 1955 there have been two doctors, three overseas nurses, 16 native nurses and three native midwives carrying on the medical work at Ife. We have 66 other employees and we had 58 students of which eleven nurses and three midwives have been graduated this year. The new class which is starting today will be larger than previous classes and will consist of 20 students. This is possible because of the increased facilities which the new classroom block and new addition to the girl's dormitory provide. Our nurses graduation this year was attended by royalty in the person of His Highness the Oni of Ife who presented the diplomas and gave a few words of admonition to the graduation class. The Oni has been a great help to the hospital in many ways.

**Inisha Maternity Centre**

For several years we have operated an out patient dispensary at the town of Inisha which is 54 miles from Ife. This year a new 20 bed maternity centre was completed and is now ready for occupation. This centre was made possible by the funds raised by the community of Inisha and the West Nigerian Government. Dr. Nagel was in charge of the planning and building of the centre.

**Spiritual Activities — Sabbath**

Sabbath is not a day of inactivity at Ife. Each Sabbath we conduct four baptismal classes, a jail service, two children's classes in the town of Ife, and services for patients on the wards as well as the regular Sabbath services.

**Other Spiritual Activities**

On Sunday night we have been carrying on an evangelistic effort in the town of Ipetumodu. The attendance is usually about 500. Many members of the hospital family have taken part in this effort but plans for the effort were made by Sister Rose and Miss Welke.

Each morning Mr. Majolagbe the hospital chaplain conducts worship in the clinic with the patients who have come for treatment that day.

The Ife district raised £350 in the Ingathering campaign.

**Conclusion**

Much has been accomplished this year but there is much to be done and much improvement is needed. We need an interest in your prayers that the Third Angel's Message may go forward in an even greater way at the Ife Hospital in 1956.

**Report of the Advent Press**

(Continued from page 26)

receive technical education at the Watford School of Printing, but will also benefit from practical experience obtained while working at The Stanborough Press. We hope that in the future many other members of our staff can benefit from similar courses.

**"Tidings" Magazine**

We have pressed forward, this year, with the production of our missionary paper, but are rather disappointed with the sales figures which have dropped off considerably since the inception of the project. We trust that in consultation with our field leaders, some ways and means may be found to substantially increase the sales of this little magazine.

Although we do not, as yet have figures for the complete year, our balance sheet for the first eight months shows that in Book Sales we are maintaining the high standard of achievement set last year, although it appears that our Job Printing income will be lower

than previously. This can possibly be understood when it is realized that our "ship" has had a temporary "captain" for over nine months, which has, unfortunately, left the "engine room" without adequate supervision on a number of occasions.

Some of our more outstanding efforts this year are as follows:—60,000 Tracts in Twi, 50,000 Tracts in Ibo and 80,000 miniature tracts in English and Yoruba for the Ife Hospital and something over 150,000 V.O.P. lessons. An edition of 3,000 Steps to Christ in Yoruba is completed and the Ibo edition of 5,000 is now ready to go to press. During the latter half of the year we have also made a firm effort to regularize the editions of the "Messenger."

**Hope for the Future**

We firmly believe that God will favour the publishing work in West Africa, and just as everything done during 1955 has been a genuine effort to serve, so we rededicate ourselves to the service of God and the West African field in the years that lies ahead.

## Report of

# KWAHU HOSPITAL

By Dr. J. Ashford-Hyde

The year which has just ended has been the first in the history of the hospital. When we review it we are forced to give our thanks to Almighty God for His signal blessings.

We thank Him for giving us this plant, standing at a value of nearly £70,000 at a cost to the mission of only £5,000. We thank Him for the fact that we operate it with only the minimum of government interference at no cost to the mission whatsoever. We thank Him, too, for the success that the hospital has enjoyed.

### Staff

At the beginning of the year Dr. and Mrs. J. Ashford-Hyde from the Jengre Hospital and Sister Amy Horder from Ife Hospital came over to Gold Coast to prepare for the operation of the hospital. At that time the buildings were nearing completion ably supervised on behalf of the West African Union by Pastor D. V. Cowin. As we review the year we pay tribute to him for the tactful handling of the contractors which enabled us to enjoy many extra amenities which were not specified in the original contract.

In the early part of the year four volunteer staff nurses from the Ife Hospital, Miss. R. O. Dare and Messrs. Ola, Ezeaku and Sesay came to carry the day-to-day burden of the care of our patients. We were happy to record their success in the Gold Coast Q.R.N. examination. Later Staff Nurse Eppie came to reinforce them.

With this staff—this skeleton staff—a full scale hospital programme was launched. Nursing Aids were employed, some of whom later formed our first class of student nurses, but none of whom knew anything about nursing or hospitals. The strain on all staff, and especially on Sister Horder, was terrific as the fame of the Hospital began to spread and it was with great relief that we welcomed Mr. and Mrs. L. Acton-Hubbard, at the end of October. Mr. Hubbard, whose qualities had been demonstrated at the Jengre Hospital now cares for Nursing Administration while Sister Horder is in charge of the teaching programme. Mrs. Hubbard has been unable to carry heavy burdens in the Hospital but

we hope that 1956 will see her taking her rightful place in the team.

The professional team was completed when Dr. Peter Lowe came in November. Dr. Lowe has had a good experience in British hospitals and soon proved himself in clinic, ward and operating theatre. I would like to express my appreciation to the Division for sending us such an excellent reinforcement and relief for a heavily pressed Medical Director.

While recording the arrival of the professional team we would do well to thank the Gold Coast Mission for appointing their senior pastor as hospital chaplain. We hope that under his spiritual care the evangelistic work at the hospital will spread as far as its professional reputation, and that souls may be won not only in this area but in all sections of the Gold Coast.

### Professional Work

An attempt was made to start slowly, so that the team would have the opportunity to work in gradually. As time went on, however, the pressure from the needy sick for help proved overwhelming and as fast as the departments could be prepared to receive them—and sometimes before—we had to open. We began work in the Out-patient Department in April and opened two wards in June. At this time we began our first class of trainee nurses for the Q.R.N. examination conducted by the Nurses Board of the Gold Coast.

We are happy to be able to report that we have received full recognition as an approved training school by the Nurses Board subject only to our continuing to make 50 beds available for general cases. The Board of Governors will have to consider ways to continue to provide for this condition when the maternity service of the Hospital gets under way.

During the year we have seen 28,844 Out-patients and 557 In-patients. These have

been lodged in the wards, the private rooms and on the verandahs. We have had no senior student nurses but in spite of that the Senior Sister Tutor from Kumasi reported, after inspecting on behalf of the Nursing Board, that the standard of nursing was very high, and the enthusiasm of the overseas nurses was enviable. A trained nurse from the large Kumasi Central Hospital asked one of our staff nurses "Is this a mission hospital?" She answered "Yes, it is. Why do you ask?" "I knew it must be," he said, "I could tell it by the way you care for your patients." We thank God for these testimonies which more than outweigh the more vocal criticisms of one or two politicians, who are jealous of

the favour in which the hospital is generally held by the public. This confidence has also shewn itself in the fee income which stands at £6,628.

In concluding this report, I would like to pay tribute to the support which I have received from my staff. The opening of a new hospital creates problems that only those who have faced them know, but through them all I have been conscious of the loyalty of my staff both English and African whose team-work has enabled us to surmount all our administrative difficulties. Let us thank God for that team work, and pray that it may continue through the history of the hospital no matter who may make up the team.

## Report of

# NIGERIAN TRAINING COLLEGE

By B. A. Roberts, Acting Principal

Since there was no evangelistic class in 1955, the work of evangelism has been the work of the entire school family. The Bible Study Class held on Sabbath afternoon has been a regular activity. Many were the topics, both of specific and general religious interest that were discussed during this pre-vesper hour.

The baptismal class, also a Sabbath afternoon feature, was held weekly until near the close of school when eighteen students accepted Jesus as their personal Saviour and were baptized.

The branch Sabbath Schools, under the able direction of Mrs. Nuka, continued to tell the story of Jesus throughout the school year through the medium of song, prayer, stories and flannel-graph board.

A number of studies on the book of Revelation were given by the Acting Principal during the third quarter of the school year. These studies occupied the regular prayer meeting hour.

A new approach to the hearts of the students was made during our fall week of prayer. Various tutors gave their services for a ten minute talk on certain aspects of prayer each morning before the students separated for prayer bands. In the evening, one of the students spoke on a phase of being like Jesus. Student reaching for student had a very favourable reception.

### Vocational

With the exception of the College Press, the vocational work of the school has not progressed as we would like it to. Our woodshop has been geared mostly to supplying the needs of the college and providing classwork for both the teachers-in-training and one class of the secondary department. Much of the work on our compound has been landscaping, painting, and the cutting of palm fruit.

### Educational

Academic progress has continued in 1955. There were fifty-eight graduates from the teacher-training department out of a total of ninety enrolments.

The secondary department has also continued to grow. Our Form 111 class was added in 1955 making it necessary to employ additional staff. Mr. and Mrs. Wolfe, with Latin and English as their respective major subjects have also joined the staff this year and have been a great help in the secondary department.

### Expansion

Expansion is still an important item in our over all school picture. This year we have completed one new dormitory, an infant building, a family dwelling, and one half of a science block.

### Future

There are several problems which must be cared for as we begin our 1956 school year. We have a science building and the necessary

supplies, but no science master. The salary scale for teachers is rising, and we must meet this scale if we are to keep our teachers. Our water supply is very inadequate.

Even with the many problems, our courage is good. As we see the progress that has been made, we cannot help but remember the statement reminding us that we need have no fear for the future except as we forget the way the Lord has led us in the past.

## Report of

# THE ADVENT PRESS

By C. G. Meredith, Acting Manager

As we look back over the year which has passed we can certainly see where the Lord has been leading in the work of the publishing house.

Without His leading, guiding hand, we may have met failure, but we feel that He has given us a certain measure of success.

The year started quietly, but by the time Pastor Pearce commenced his leave in March, the volume of work had stepped up and we were quite busy. Apart from occasional short lapses, our factory hands have been continually busy, and the pressure of work has been maintained throughout the year.

### New Machinery

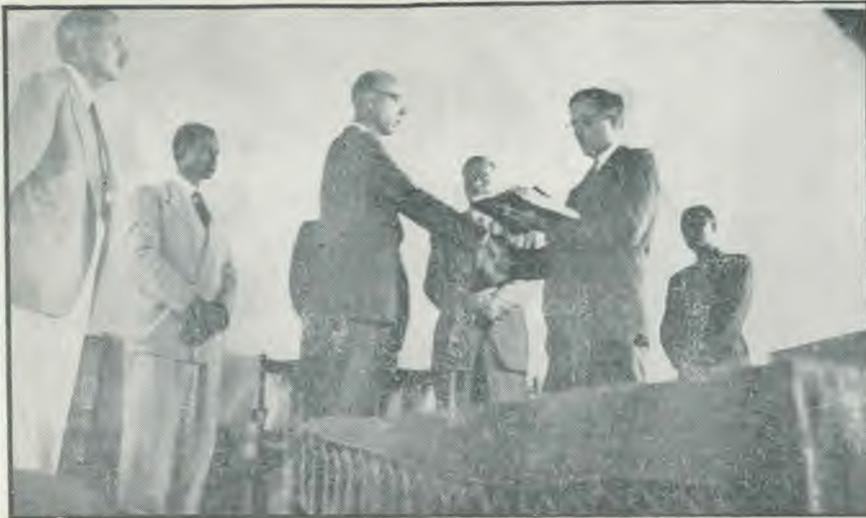
As Pastor Pearce informed you at the last year end, the Stanborough Press planned to donate a large Wharfdale machine to us. Toward the middle of the year this gift arrived, eight tons of machinery packed in six cases. With the aid of a mobile crane these were stacked in our yard and suitably covered. Early in December we removed the covers of these cases and on inspection the machinery appeared to be in good condition. This was a very welcome change, when we thought of the condition of previous consignments of machinery. This Wharfdale machine in conjunction with the folding machine purchased in England by Pastor Pearce and expected shortly, will make a very substantial increase in our ability to serve the Literature Ministry of West Africa. The signature bundling machine and rounding and backing machine, two small items of bindery machinery which should be coming with the folder should im-

prove the quality of our bound productions.

Along with this encouraging news, we can also recount many experiences when the devil has done his level best to thwart and discourage us. In June we had the misfortune to have our safe removed by thieves. This was not only a financial loss to us, but the inconvenience of the loss of so many of our confidential papers is still being felt. A number of times during the year we have had machinery breakages at most inopportune times, but with a little courage and ingenuity we have succeeded in keeping the presses running. I trust I will be excused for inserting here one particular experience which I feel may be of interest. We had the unhappy experience of having the teeth strip off an important gear wheel on the large Babcock press. A new gear from the U.S.A. would have taken at least 6 - 8 weeks to arrive. We finally managed to rig the machine with an old motor cycle sprocket and chain, a heavy spring and a length of iron bar and kept the press rolling—although a little slower, during the three weeks it took to effect a rather complicated repair at a local shop.

### Staff Education

In July, the charge hand of our binding department, Mr. Seth Lokko travelled to England, where, with the help and co-operation of Mr. J. C. Craven, he will not only



Pastor D. L. Chappell being given the address of welcome by Pastor J. O. Gibson, President of the West African Union Mission, at the time of his ordination.

## Ordination

By Pastor E. Keslake

One of the high spots of the Union Constituency meeting was the special service held the last Sabbath morning, at which time Pastor D. L. Chappell was ordained to the Gospel Ministry. Pastor Tarr, the president of the Northern European Division preached the sermon. Others who took part were Pastor Lindsay, treasurer of the Division who gave the charge, and Pastor J. O. Gibson who gave the welcome.

Pastor Chappell's ministry has been widely felt throughout the extent of the West African Union. Under his able direction, the Colporteur Ministry has grown and developed into a large work.

His endeavours in the cause of God were not at all restricted to the book work. Reading from this issue, the reports from Pastor Chappell, one notices that he reported not alone for the Publishing Department but also for the Sabbath School and for Press Evangelism and for Ingathering. In fact, Pastor Chappell gave more reports at the recent Union Constituency meeting than any other individual. But beyond the requirements of the many departments under his care he devoted himself to faithful ministry to the prisoners in the James Fort Prison.

Truly, the work of God in West Africa has been enriched by his fruitful labours in the few years he has been here.

## I'll See You in the Promised Land

By Pastor D. L. Chappell

No doubt, my beloved in West Africa, you have heard by now that I will be unable to return to your interesting land because Mrs. Chappell has Rhumatoid Arthritis and the doctor advised her not to go back to the tropics to live.

Although we expected the General Conference to vote us a permanent return after it considered the doctor's report, when the letter giving the decision of the committee actually arrived, it was like a bolt of lightning, knocking me speechless. I handed the letter to my wife and went for a walk. I wanted to be alone while I faced the full realization that "I'll never see my friends there again."

For the next few minutes my mind flooded with mental pictures of colporteurs, workers, and devoted members in West Africa whom I have known and loved during the past six years. I recalled with gladness numerous experiences I shared with you in service for the King of Kings. With gratefulness and a touch of pride, I remembered how God has blessed our labour together and how the gospel work had progressed in that rich corner of His great vineyard in recent years.

"I'll never see my friends there again." But wait. Is that true? No. I shall see them in the promised land! Therefore, my beloved, I shall not say "goodbye," but rather, "I'll be seeing you."

Praying that God will continue to bless your soul-winning endeavours, and anxiously awaiting our happy reunion in the promised land of God's glory, I wish to use the words of the poem below to express the sentiments of my heart just now. Please pray for us.

**LET ME GO BACK**

Let me go back! I am homesick  
For the land of my love and toil,  
Though I thrill at the sight of my native hills,

The touch of my native soil.  
Thank God for the dear home country,  
Unconquered and free and grand!  
But the far-off shores of Africa for me  
Are the shores of the promised land.  
My brain is dazed and wearied  
With the homeland's stress and strife,  
With the race for money and place and power,

And the whirl of the nation's life.  
Let me go back! Such pleasures  
And pains are not for me;  
But O for a share in the harvest home  
Of the field beyond the sea!

NOTE: Brother Chappell's address is:  
2240 Fairbanks Avenue  
Winter Park, Florida, U.S.A.

**TEMPERANCE**

(Continued from page 11.)

Gold Coast imported from Britain in January, 1956, £59,000 worth of beer, spirits and table waters and 182,000 lbs of tobacco and cigarettes at the cost of £110,000.

What are we Seventh-day Adventists doing to hold back the eroding tide of intemperance which is increasing?

"Because of the wickedness that follows largely as the result of the use of liquor, the judgments of God are falling upon our earth today. Have we not a solemn responsibility to put forth earnest efforts in opposition to this great evil?"—"Counsels on Health," page 432. Surely it is time that we exert ourselves in a great temperance crusade.

*The Advent Messenger*

Official Organ of the  
West African Union Mission of  
Seventh-Day Adventists.

P. O. Box 1016, Accra, Gold Coast.  
Editor - - - - - J. O. GIBSON.

**MEMBERSHIP AND WORKERS' REPORT**

Year	No. of Churches	Members Added	Members Dropped	Members Total Dec. 31.	Increase on Previous Year	Ordained Ministers	Licensed Ministers	Licensed Missionaries	Other Workers	Colporteurs	Total
1951	102	2,268	404	11,698	1,864	41	38	129	52	29	289
1952	101	3,552	982	14,268	2,570	53	53	107	59	43	315
1953	102	1,961	997	15,232	964	63	44	103	37	38	285
1954	106	1,837	786	16,283	1,051	59	39	119	43	88	348
1955 (9 mths)	118	831	518	16,596	313	61	41	134	47	88	371

**TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

Year	Tithes to Union		Tithes Retained By Mission	Total Tithe	Offerings (Local Fields)		Offering S. S. 13th	Missions Extension	Harvest Ingathering	Week of Sacrifice & Annual Off.	Total
	1,235	1,580			Offering School Sabbath	Harvest Ingathering					
1951	1,235	11,115	4,699	12,350	1,515	87	5,238	653	9,854		
1952	1,580	14,220	4,978	15,800	1,653	5	6,268	320	12,364		
1953	1,950	17,550	4,652	19,500	1,384	31	6,127	318	12,512		
1954	2,045	18,405	4,390	20,450	1,381	121	6,449	339	13,540		
1955 (11 mths)	1,988	17,896	3,025	19,884	851	149	3,134	130	9,627		