

Rebuild Christian Missions



Our **TIMES**

INGATHERING ISSUE



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Mission properties in war lands destroyed, damaged, looted.

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There is a world to be rebuilt—houses, homes, factories. There are ideals to be rebuilt also—Christian ideals of love, mercy, peace. Christian missions have always been the builders of ideals. The gifts we give to expand Christian missions are an investment in making peace, security, and happiness for ourselves and all mankind. It is a time to capitalize on Christian ideals by investment in Christian missions.

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(Below) Mission studies the world situation.

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Gateway to restored health at one of our medical institutions.

our resources, talents, and abilities. This requires that we train ministers and evangelists, teachers, physicians, and nurses to carry forward a great and growing work. The work of establishing schools and colleges, hospitals and medical training centers, and publishing houses for preparing

HOPE, . . . LIFE, . . .

AND COURAGE

IN THE entire history of the church, from apostolic times to the present, there has never been a time of greater need than now. A great world, broken and wounded, shocked with the impacts of war, needs the healing, saving touch of the gospel message.

Millions of precious human lives have been snuffed out. Cities and towns and countless thousands of homes have been utterly destroyed. Families have been broken up and scattered, never again to be reunited.

The inherent human right to worship God according to the dictates of individual conscience has been denied to large groups. Persecution and death have been the fate of tens of thousands. Amid the gloom and despair of these unfortunate times, God's message of hope and salvation shines clear and bright from His word.

Scattered among the nations and countries of this earth are millions of precious souls longing and looking for something that will change their despair into hope, their misery into joy. This change is possible only through the name and the merits of our blessed Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He is still the answer to all of the world's needs.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church gladly and joyfully takes its place in doing its full part in carrying forward the work of God into all the world. To do this we consecrate all

By **J. L. McELHANY**

President, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

literature, all comes within the plans of the church. These institutions have been located in hundreds of places throughout the world. In North, Central, and South America, in Europe, Asia, Africa, Australasia, and in the great island fields they are to be found. Space would fail in recording the results accom-



Missionary O. H. Christenson, dressed as a Mongolian priest, holds a Bible written by hand in Mongolian.

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Editor, ROBERT LEO ODOM Art Director, ROBERT M. ELDRIDGE Circulation Manager, RALPH E. CRAWFORD

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plished by means of these instrumentalities.

We are now operating in these world fields 3,401 schools and colleges, and 184 sanitariums, hospitals, clinics, and medical and nursing training centers. We have 61 publishing houses where we are producing gospel and health literature in 185 languages. Our church has its representatives in hundreds of countries and island groups where contact is made with native people in the various spoken languages and dialects.

But we are not satisfied. We still hear the call of God to move forward. We are now planning to increase and expand these facilities, for the Lord's work must be carried forward with ever-increasing vigor and power.

We do thank God for the divine blessings and providences that have enabled us to enter so many countries and island fields. We thoroughly appreciate the generous support and help our multitude of friends have given to us by their contributions to this worldwide missionary enterprise.

With firm and resolute purpose we set for ourselves the task of carrying on this good work until the terms of the Great Commission have been fully carried out, and men everywhere have heard the story of redeeming love as revealed through our Lord and Redeemer.

DEPENDING ON HUMAN AGENTS

“SEND men to Joppa, and call for one Simon.” Acts 10: 5. Thus God gave evidence of His regard for the gospel ministry and for His organized church. The angel was not commissioned to tell Cornelius the story of the



The missionary explains the word of God to a Fijian chief.

cross. A man subject, even as the centurion himself, to human frailties and temptations, was to be the one to tell him of the crucified and risen Saviour. As His representatives among men, God does not choose angels who have never fallen, but human beings, men of like passions with those they seek to save. . . . To men and women has been committed the sacred trust of making known 'the unsearchable riches of Christ.' Ephesians 3: 8."—E. G. White, *The Acts of the Apostles*, p. 134.

Carrying on the light of the Florence Nightingale lamp. Newly capped freshman class at one of the nurses training schools connected with our sanitariums and hospitals.



Opening the MINDS of the BLIND

By E. D. DICK
Secretary, Mission Board

IN A certain city through which I often pass is a large state-supported institution. Its numerous buildings are well established. The grounds are spacious and well kept. As one nears that area, he observes signboards bearing the word "Caution," as warning to traffic to be mindful of blind pedestrians, most of whom are children. These blind people are receiving a well-deserved education to enable them to meet life courageously in spite of severe handicap. This is a laudable effort which every good government owes to its less fortunate. The paying of taxes to support such worthy objectives is a pleasant duty of loyal citizens.

Fortunate are they who, though sightless, live in a Christian-motivated civilization where the interests of those handicapped by blindness are tenderly regarded. By an interesting and intricate system of embossed characters, written languages for the blind have been developed. One such system is known as Braille. An extensive literature, both cultural and technical, has been produced. The entire Bible is now available in Braille and also on phonograph recordings, so that the light of the gospel can shine clearly into the mind of the blind both through the written word and through the medium of speech. This has been made possible through the unselfish labors of charitably inclined individuals and organizations, and the splendid efforts of the Bible societies.

But the greatest tragedy is not the sightless, but rather those who having eyes, see not—those whose minds are blind; the illiterates. In my wider travels I have passed through great geographical areas where but few could read or write. Few in our enlightened land realize the magnitude of this great

scourge. On good authority we are told that six out of every 10 of earth's inhabitants are illiterate. In Asia and Africa, where dwell more than half the human race, nine out of every 10 can neither read nor write. Ninety-five out of every 100 Africans are still illiterate. In India the 1941 census showed 340,000,000 illiterates—80% of her people. In South America as a whole, six out of 10 can neither read nor write.

The sad tragedy is not fully comprehended until it is realized what results from illiteracy.

Reading the Bible in Braille.
(Photo by S. M. Harlan.)





Schools—the Pathway to Better Living.

They suffer the afflictions of disease, of superstitions, and of wicked customs as none others can. At least 1,000,000,000 illiterates are virtual slaves, in bondage to their creditors.

The belief that everybody has a right to read and write is modern, and has been promoted largely by religious influences. It came as a by-product of the Reformation. The invention of movable type by Gutenberg made possible the supplying of a Bible to every well-to-do home, instead of one for a town or province. Luther, Tyndale, and others greatly stimulated literacy by translating the Bible into the language of the people. When the leaders taught their people to search the Scriptures, reading became a practical necessity. The first Sunday schools in England were established to teach the people to read the Bible and to "do easy numbers." In Wales the Sunday school still teaches "reading, writing, and 'rithmetic." The early schools and colleges of the western

world were founded and operated by church-motivated organizations. Indeed, in addition to the blessings of the gospel which have come to us through enlightenment by the reading of the Word, we also have the treasures of liberty, freedom, and justice.

A serious little student in Kashmir, India, with wooden slate and huge pencil. (Photo by Ewing Galloway.)



A typical old woman of the mountains in heathen lands. Unwanted, unclothed, unfed; waiting for death. Such is the fate of millions without God.

Lands where the light of the gospel has long been shining, Christian lands, are places of greatest literacy and greatest enlightenment. In heathen lands illiteracy is greatest. The Christian missionary comes as the champion of literacy. His first objective is to bring the light of the gospel to benighted people, en-

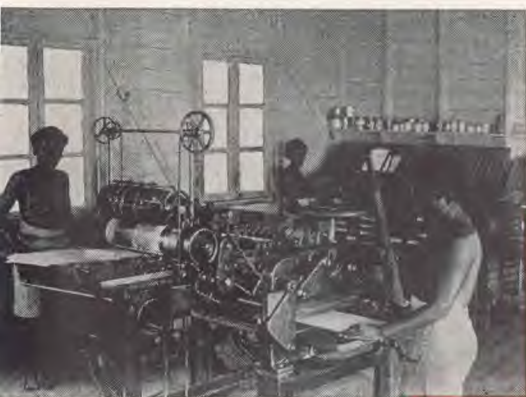
slaved in ignorance and superstition, most of whom are illiterate. Schools are established, and adults as well as the young are encouraged to learn to read and write. This is the pathway of emancipation. They learn to read the Scriptures in their own language, and thus discover the power of the gospel to transform lives. They learn of the causes of disease and methods of prevention, and the rudiments of sanitation and hygiene. They begin to build better homes, and keep them clean; to properly clothe themselves, their women folks and their children. They come to know and to enjoy the worship of the living God, instead of fearing the spirits of the witch doctors. They seek out the Christian doctor for help in time



Folding tracts at the Tibetan Mission Press, Tatsienlu, Szechwan, China.

women are being emancipated from the bonds of illiteracy through the efforts of the Christian missionary.

It is for these lofty services that the missionary leaves loved ones and the comforts of the homeland, and goes forth beyond the securities of modern civilization to live in lands infested by diseases and fevers, being exposed to a thousand dangers and inconveniences. His one objective is that he may be used in opening the minds of the blind.



Gospel printing press in the Solomon Islands.

of sickness instead of submitting to the cruelties and delusions of the medicine man.

A literate community is a strong community. Teaching people to read, therefore, is not only important but indispensable. No better example of this need be asked than the transformed lives of native peoples on the South Pacific isles, as witnessed to by the American armed forces. Where a few decades ago the people were cannibalistic and cruel, they are now, through the enlightenment of the gospel, true, loyal, kind, Christian peoples.

Nor is this true of the South Pacific isles only. All through Central and South America, Africa, India, and China, men and

A gospel colporteur in Bengal, India.





PIONEERING

Adventist Missions IN CHINA

By N. F. BREWER

Mission Board Representative for China

ON MARCH 21, 1888, Abram La Rue, a retired seaman, 69 years of age, sailed for Hongkong, China. For years this earnest Christian gentleman had been deeply burdened by a sense of responsibility to carry the gospel to China; but the Mission Board did not consider it advisable to send a man of advanced age to such a faraway land where Seventh-day Adventists had not as yet established a mission station, and he was advised to find a field of missionary endeavor nearer

Missionary F. L. Lee and an official of the Chinese Government who has accepted Christianity. Pastor Lee's 26 years of service in China have witnessed great expansion and development of the gospel work throughout the vast country.

home. But his burden for the Chinese people could not be laid aside, and by a providential opening, he secured passage on a boat, and he determined to labor in China as a self-supporting missionary.

For 14 years Abram La Rue labored alone among the Chinese seamen and the floating mass of humanity who are born, live, and die on the small houseboats which fill the harbor. In January, 1902, the arrival of three missionaries from America brought great joy to this aged pioneer. But he was permitted to work only a little over a year following their coming. On April 26, 1903, he was called to lay down his earthly burden. A few days before his death, Mr. La Rue willed the greater portion of the small amount of money he had to the mission in Hongkong for the work in China. Thus he gave all to the cause he loved. A stone marks his grave in the Hongkong "Happy Valley" cemetery and bears a silent witness to the zeal and sacrifice of this pioneer missionary.

Our mission work is now established in



practically every province in China, and today we have 20,000 church members in that land. Eighteen sanitariums, hospitals, and clinics are in operation, and 18 educational institutions. We have three publishing centers in China—The Mongolian Mission Press, the Signs of the Times Publishing House in Chungking, and The Tibetan Press at Tatsienlu. All this has been made possible because each year men and woman have been ready and willing to leave their homeland, loved ones, and many of the comforts of life, to give the gospel of Christ to the people of China and other countries.

A promising young missionary, Herbert Smith, with his wife began a noble work in West China. One day as he was itinerating through the territory under his charge, he was accosted by bandits and shot, his body left on the lonely trail where it fell. The sorrow seemed greater than the wife could bear, but her heroic missionary spirit prevailed, and she resolved to remain and carry on the work at the mission. Many are the missionary martyrs who have laid down their lives in China.

Dr. Elmer F. Coulston and his wife (a nurse), upon graduation from medical college, turned a deaf ear to offers of a paying practice in the homeland, and consecrated their talents and their lives as medical missionaries in China. After the required time spent in studying the Chinese language, they established a medical center in Kalgan, Northern China. With the courage and zeal of true missionaries they conquered obstacles and soon had a large and successful work in operation. Long hours of work and loss of sleep weakened the doctor's resistance and he became seriously ill. But he could not be

spared. Critical emergency cases were brought to the hospital to be cared for, and the doctor, knowing that only immediate surgery could save the patient, and with no one else to help, gave orders for the patient to be prepared and placed on a cot beside his bed. When the surgical preparations had been made, the bedfast doctor reached across and operated on the patient, with the result that recovery followed.

(Continued on page 17)



Mrs. B. Miller spent 32 years in service for the women of China, teaching the Bible in the homes of the rich and the poor, and training native Bible women.

The Shanghai Sanitarium Clinic. Built in 1925 as an extension of the Shanghai Sanitarium and Hospital, it serves the needs of the poorer classes.



Chinese nurses in training at the Shanghai Sanitarium and Hospital.





The Ho

By R. A.
Associate Sec

A WORLD of endless peace! A world where fear and want, pain and grief will be no more; where the clash of class and creed, race and religion will give place to a universal brotherhood! That is the world for which we hope and pray. Will it ever come?

For 19 centuries the church has been praying, "Thy kingdom come." When that prayer is answered we will have a world without sin, pain, tears, or death.

In the gorgeous gardens of the Royal Castle at Sandringham, England, is a grave. A younger brother of the present king slipped into the shadows of death when he was but a boy. His father, although the ruler of an empire that spans the globe, could find no help in the hour of tragedy. The young prince who had never known the full vigor of youth had spent much of his short life in pain. The skill of the greatest physicians was of no avail, and at the tender age of fourteen he passed away. On the modest tombstone nestled among the blossoms are these appropriate words, "In Thy kingdom he shall have peace." His earthly father, with all the riches of an empire at his call, could not bring him peace; but felt assured that in the kingdom of his Heavenly Father he would find peace, for the Prince of Peace will be its Ruler. "The Lord shall be King over all the earth" in that day. (Zechariah 14: 9.)

This subject holds a paramount place in Holy Scripture. From Genesis to Revelation the dominant theme is Paradise lost and Paradise regained—lost through sin, regained through salvation. Jesus said, "The Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Luke 19: 10. When He

began to proclaim the principles of His kingdom, He said, "Blessed are the meek for they shall inherit the earth." Matthew 5: 5. Notice the statement—they *inherit* the earth. They do not have to buy it or steal it or fight for it. Instead, it comes to them as a free gift of God. And notice again, it is *the earth* that they inherit, not some other planet.

But someone says, "Surely this old bomb-blasted, blood-drenched earth is not to be our eternal home. There must be something better than this." Yes, dear friend, there will be something better than this, something better than we have ever dreamed. "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither hath entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him." 1 Corinthians 2: 9.

However, we can know something about the things of that kingdom, because "God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit." Verse 10. Guided by His Spirit, holy men of old foretold the splendors of that glorious land. "Behold, I make all things new," says the faithful Witness. (Revelation 21: 5.) It does not say all new things, but "all things new." The earth will be renewed and made ready for the habitation of a redeemed race. War will be unknown, for "violence shall no more be heard in thy land, nor shall they say, I will build a bulwark, for I shall have no destruction within thy borders. . . . but the Lord shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory, . . . and the days of thy mourning shall be ended." Isaiah 60: 18-20. There will be no funeral trains in that lovely land of light. "Thy people also shall be all righteous. . . . they shall inherit the land forever." Isaiah 60: 21. What wonderful words!

"Now we see through a glass, darkly



... Beyond

ANDERSON

Ministerial Association

1 Corinthians 13: 12. When we study the sun's eclipse we use a darkened glass. Its glory is too overpowering for the natural eye. Likewise, the radiance of that glory-land is too much for the natural mind to comprehend.

This little world, the one dark blot in the universe of God, the place where sin has played its awful drama, where men and demons have defied the God of love, will yet become the peaceful habitation of the saved.

A little lad with childish heart had dreamed of the day when he might have a real toy boat all his own. He was poor, but he often gazed with longing at the lovely things displayed in the store window. Yet there was always the glass between. Would he *never* have a boat? He wondered. Then, one tragic day he was seriously hurt in a street accident. Taken to the hospital, he lay for months recovering. A kind-hearted man passed his bed one day and chatted for awhile. Next time he visited the children's ward he brought with him a parcel. Unwrapping it, he placed upon the bed the very boat the lad had seen so often in the shop window. Could it be true? The little fellow gazed in silence. Then, timidly he reached over and touched it. In ecstasy he exclaimed, "There's nothing between—nothing between!" Restriction was gone. It was his own, his very own boat!

Some day soon the kind and loving voice of our Saviour will be heard saying, "Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." Matthew 25: 34. All trace of sin and its curse will be gone, and we will see Him face to face; there will be *nothing* between.

Heaven is far more than a state of mind.

It is a *place*. Jesus said, "I go to prepare a place for you." John 14: 3. And that place will be the habitation of God Himself. He "is not ashamed to be called their God: for He hath prepared for them a city." Hebrews 11: 16. That city is the heavenly Jerusalem the metropolis of the renewed earth. And to that celestial city will come the redeemed of all ages to worship Him who loved them and gave Himself for them. With its jasper walls and golden streets, this mighty majestic city is a strange contrast to the disease-infected cities of sin we now know. This city has nothing but attraction. Its citizens will be the very society of heaven, and, best of all, Jesus Himself, the heavenly Shepherd, will be there to lead His people to the fountains of living waters. There they will hunger and thirst nevermore. The dusty toil-worn garments of their pilgrimage will be exchanged for robes of light and glory. And from the throne of the Eternal will flow the River of Life, while blooming on its banks in beauty unknown to the sons of earth will be the Tree of Life, whose life-giving fruit and evergreen leaves are "for the healing of the nations." Revelation 22: 1, 2. Yes, all the wounds of war and the hurts of hatred will be healed when "the Lord bindeth up the breach of His people, and healeth the stroke of their wound." Isaiah 30: 26.

The one thing that stands between us and that everlasting peace is an unfinished task. Jesus said when the gospel of the kingdom has been preached in all the world for a witness to all nations, then shall the end come. (See Matthew 24: 14.) We solicit your help to carry His message to the waiting millions and thus hasten the day of eternal peace.



MISSION ENTERPRISES

In the Homeland

THE REPORT of mission work by Seventh-day Adventists would not be complete without acknowledgement of the thrilling achievements and marvelous results of their work for the far-too-often forgotten groups of people scattered throughout North America. The personal sacrifices and the extensive service rendered by our staff of

By LOUIS K. DICKSON

Vice-president, Mission Board for North America

prising the head, the hand, and the heart is brought within the reach of the underprivileged whites of the mountain regions, and have also provided for multitudes of the colored race who, in certain sections of our country, are deprived of educational and medical privileges. Some of these schools are self-supporting, while others are supported by the church. The painstaking efforts of missionary teachers, doctors, and nurses have been rewarded by most gratifying results in the development of industrious, dependable citizens. But a much greater work needs to be set in operation in order to carry forward this mission enterprise more adequately.

One of the outstanding results of the work of Seventh-day Adventists for the colored race, both North and South, is the development of leadership whereby religious organizations are manned and carried on under the administration of their own groups. The Oakwood College, located at Huntsville, Alabama, pre-



Making garments for the needy. Dorcas Relief Society of the Beaver Creek Russian Church, Arlee, Saskatchewan, Canada.

“home missionaries” in behalf of their fellow men along lines of education, relief of suffering through medical aid, and enabling them to recognize and share in the glorious provisions of the gospel for all mankind, constitute one of the most inspiring chapters of world mission history.

Education is one of the indispensable phases of all mission enterprise, and in some form is fundamental for all successful mission uplift work. Seventh-day Adventists have realized this, and have established rural schools throughout the deep South, where education com-

Italian evangelists in North America.





Laying the cornerstone of a new building at the Spanish-American Seminary, Sandoval, New Mexico

prepares hundreds of young men and women of the colored race for successful life work in the professions, who take their places as loyal citizens in every community. Many of these Oakwood College graduates dedicate their lives to evangelistic missionary endeavor in behalf of their own people in this country and also in Africa and other parts of the world. Such work affords a distinct contribution to better racial feeling in this country.

Someone has said, "Save America, and you save the world." Immigration has made the United States the home of a large foreign population which is the most versatile mission field on the globe. "All people that on earth do dwell" are represented here, being gathered by divine ordering within easy reach of the gospel message and the blessings of re-



(Above) A mountain school in North Carolina. (Right) A Bible class at Oakwood College.



ligious and civil liberty. The vast number of these people who are unable to speak or read English, presents a great field for mission service holding bright prospects for large results.

There is also to be considered the opportunity to furnish these people of many nationalities religious literature in their own tongue. At the present time we have a trained staff of gospel workers conducting organized work among 25 differ-

ent language groups throughout North America, and at our International Branch Publishing House a wide range of literature is printed in twenty different languages and circulated among foreign-language people.

The North American Indian has not been forgotten in the missionary planning by our Mission Board. Enabling the Indian to grasp the provisions of the gospel, and teaching him to become a good citizen of our country, are fundamental factors in uplifting these underprivileged people. In the Indian reservations we find every stage of the long struggle of the ages repeated—from the painted heathen savage, thirsting for the wild and lawless days of bloodshed and strife, to the keen, intelligent, industrious Indian whose life has been molded by Christian ideals. No longer is manifest the melancholy feature of Indian life which permits the aged to die in great want and suffering—neglected, unwanted, without hope. Through the ministry of the medical missionary, confidence is established and true friendship exists. The work of the medical missionary and the teacher in behalf of the Indians of many tribes in North America is a demonstration of the love and power of the lowly Nazarene who died to save all mankind.

This type of work merits the full support of every philanthropic citizen. To all who have assisted us so generously in the past we earnestly appeal for continued co-operation.

A Service Rendered to WORLD PEACE

By
W. A. BUTLER
Secretary, Seventh-day Adventist
Relief Commission

HUNDREDS of thousands of ruined homes and broken hearts are left in the wake of the dreadful war. Millions of persons have lost all their earthly possessions, and many have become discouraged and given up in despair, while others have gathered courage and are attempting to re-establish their homes.

Throughout this time of international crisis our Mission Board has urged our constituency to do their full part in the vast relief service set in operation by the Red Cross and the various national relief organizations in America and Canada. Some 3,000 Seventh-day Adventist church and Dorcas groups have been constantly busy gathering up clothing to be shipped overseas. This has called for many hours of service in sewing and mending.

In addition to articles of clothing for civilians, large supplies of utility articles, such as bedside pockets, afghans, toilet necessities, and many practical and serviceable items have been shipped to chaplains of army and navy hospitals for the comfort of the young men and women in the armed forces. All our members have considered it a privilege to

have a part in the "National Sharing Service for International Relief."

The denomination has established receiving centers in two large warehouses, one on the Atlantic Coast and the other on the Pacific Coast. Here each bundle is unpacked, the garments sorted, labeled, and baled and shipped overseas as fast as shipping space is available. Our shipments have gone to North Africa, Ethiopia, Greece, Italy, France, Belgium, Norway, Holland, Sweden (for refugees), the Baltic States, Poland, Russia, Jugoslavia, and the Philippines.

Since our Mission Board has branches in the European countries, the shipments of clothing have been received by these organizations, and the distribution has been made in cooperation with national or local relief organizations for the benefit of people of all nationalities or religious faith. Thus the bond of Christian fellowship and good will has been greatly strengthened. This clothing collection and distribution is, of course, in addition to the regular mission work of the denomination.

In a recent Associated Press notice, President Truman, referring to the demonstration of humanitarian kindness manifested by the people of America in supplying clothing to meet the great emergency, said that this "has rendered a service to world peace."

A corner in one of our clothing warehouses, from which many tons of clothing have been shipped overseas.





IT IS the opening service of the central Uganda camp meeting, where hundreds of native believers have assembled to enjoy the annual spiritual feast of sermon, prayer, and song. The sermon for the day is ended, and all

hearts are filled with new power, new confidence, new strength. A hush passes through the congregation as an elderly man rises from his seat and begins to speak. The people all know him. He is the former witch doctor who for 20 years deceived the people with his dark magic. Here he stands with his charms and medicine, his face radiant with joy, and this is what he says:

"I thank God that Jesus has power over Satan. He has saved me from the bondage of sin. I have brought my charms and medicines to be burned as a token of my full surrender to my Saviour. I have been a medium in the hands of Satan for many years, deceiving and cheating people. I feel exceedingly sorry for the evil I have done, and from a broken heart ask forgiveness of God and man."

In order to prove that all his witchcraft through the years was of the devil, he proceeds to tell the secrets of his magic.

"I have three kinds of gods: Kalote, the god of the leopard, the most cunning, cruel, and heartless animal; Lukindu, the god of the lion, the strong roaring beast that seeks its prey in darkness; Kewaza, the god of the elephant, the largest and strongest beast of the forest. Listen now, how these gods speak."

He then places a small horn to his mouth, through which he imitates exactly the voice of the leopard seeking its prey, the lion roaring, and the elephant snorting, while simultaneously, by pounding with the big horn on the ground, the tramping of the nearing beast is demonstrated.

"Since everything is performed in dense darkness, the people believe that the spirit in the horn is speaking," explains the witch doctor. "They are ignorant and filled with fear, so I have the power over them. I ask them to tell me their trouble, and promise that the god of lion, leopard, or elephant will give instruction for the remedy. As the poor man or woman tells me his troubles, it has been my

By MARY SACHS, Missionary

practice to say, 'You have an evil spirit, but I can cure you by catching the spirit for you. The god of the lion will tell you how much you must pay as a fee.'"

Then the witch doctor explains that he himself announced the amount to be paid, speaking through the little horn. Sometimes the person paid as high as 15 pounds, or \$75.

A Witch Doctor Speaks

To demonstrate the catching of the spirit, he asks one of the members of the congregation to come to his side, kneel down, and hold tight to a bag made of banana leaves containing a little water, and be ready to act quickly and tie up the bag as soon as it is announced that the spirit has been driven into it. The man kneels in darkness. The approaching spirit (the witch doctor with the little horn) makes terrifying shouts and screaming noises. A shiver goes through all who are listening. Amid this noise the witch doctor knocks the waiting man over, shouting, "I have caught it! I have caught it!" The supposed spirit still screams and shouts, yet it is forced into the bag, as the poor "patient" believes to be true when in the darkness he places himself at the mercy of the witch doctor. Then the bag is tied with a string at the top, and the holder is ordered to take a hoe and bury the evil spirit, bag and all, in the garden.

"This is an example of how I have deceived the people," concludes the witch doctor, with tears in his eyes. "But I want to assure you all that there is nothing like the love, the power, and the salvation of Jesus. I thank God for saving me, the chief of sinners."

THE WAR in the Pacific has quickened the interest of Americans in those distant lands about which we have had little or no knowledge. "The war," says one writer, "has thrown the mission fields into the very molten center of the fiery outburst." How true this is!

The achievements of the missionaries in the Solomons and other island groups have been great. Where the lords of war failed, the heralds of the gospel succeeded. Thousands of stalwart islanders accepted Christianity, and became loyal allies instead of potential enemies. But



Many a soldier reported "missing in action" was found and carried to safety in the arms of natives of the South Sea islands, whose lives have been transformed through the influence of Christian missions. (Used by permission of the Curtiss-Wright Corporation.)

as a result of the war nearly all mission properties have been destroyed. Munda Bay, an outstanding mission center, became a great battle area. Hundreds of Americans and Australian airmen, forced to land in the jungles, owe their lives to Christian natives who rescued them, cared for them, and finally managed to assist and guide them back to their comrades.

One soldier wrote home to his mother: "Do you remember the people who used to come around every year in the interest of foreign missions and you gave them a donation? The next time they come, don't give them 10 cents, but give them \$10. The missionaries are doing a wonderful work out

here, and I have learned something about the value of foreign missions."

It may be time to re-think missions from a new angle as suggested by Henry P. Van Dusen in his recent book *They Found the Church There*. On page 134 he says:

"Just 15 years ago, a small group of wealthy American philanthropists, disturbed by what they diagnosed as a waning public confidence in Christian Missions, devised and financed an elaborate 'laymen's inquiry' into certain

Missions

SERVE HUMANITY

By W. A. SCHARFFENBERG
*Associate Secretary, Home Missionary
Department, General Conference*

limited areas of missionary work, in India, China and Japan. Their report, published under the title 'Re-Thinking Missions,' had a wide reading and immense influence.

"Whatever the intention of its authors, the Laymen's Report undoubtedly served further to encourage misgivings, to shake and even

Native Fijian evangelists starting on a preaching tour. Their 'suitcases' are carried on their backs and are made of kerosene tins, in which they carry Bible, hymn-book, clean shirt, loincloth, comb, and towel. Thus equipped, they travel through the villages for several weeks.



shatter the confidence of large numbers of people in the missionary enterprise as a whole. It conveyed the impression that there were a few, probably a very few, individual instances of Christian work abroad which merited continuance; but that Missions by and large were of dubious value and validity, hardly justifying well-considered support.



(Above) Chaplain W. H. Berghem and members of our mission in New Guinea. These Christian natives, and many others like them, saved the lives of hundreds of service men during the war. (Below) Pango Tonga Beach, Samoan Islands.

“Today, another ‘laymen’s inquiry’ is in process. It embraces the whole world. It is fortuitous, not carefully organized. It is being conducted not by college professors and scholars, but by hard-bitten soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines of the armed forces of the United Nations. So far as can be judged the verdict they are returning is almost altogether favorable. Instances of complete ‘about face’ from indifference, skepticism, or derision to ardent enthusiasm pile up by the hundreds.” (Quoted by permission of Charles Scribner’s Sons, publishers.)

There is power in the gospel—power to change men’s lives. When the first missionaries landed in Fiji a little over 100 years ago, the people were held in a fierce grip of cannibalism and superstition. Now the government census reveals that over 85% of the native population are members of a Christian church. Wherever the missionary goes, cannibalism, barbaric customs, and superstitions disappear; the Bible is translated into the native dialect, schools are established, and the youth are taught to read; the gospel begins to work upon the hearts of men and women; clinics and hospitals are established, and the sick and diseased are treated. The general

living standards are raised and the morals are improved; for the gospel lifts men and women to higher spiritual and social standards.

It pays to invest in foreign missions; for wherever the missionary goes, there is left behind him a trail of transformed lives.

Pioneering Adventist Missions

(Continued from page 9)

But continuous labor and anxiety for the many sick people constantly seeking his aid, resulted in his death.

One day as his wife sat by his bedside, she asked if he had any message for his father in America, and with a smile, he replied, “Tell father I died happy in service.” Thus another missionary paid the supreme sacrifice in behalf of China.

Today the world’s great needs are ever before us. China, torn and bleeding by long years of cruel war, appeals to us to help by sacrificial giving. Surely we who have been abundantly blessed with the comforts of life will not refuse to do our part. Jesus said, “Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me.” Matthew 25: 40.

Our HEAVY FINANCIAL Load



By JAMES F. CUMMINS
Assistant Treasurer, Mission Board

SEVENTH-DAY Adventists, as a religious organization, carry an extremely heavy financial load. Although their numbers are not large, and their membership is not composed of people particularly wealthy, still we find that the results of their giving are truly remarkable. The returns for the year 1944 show that the tithes and offerings given by the church in the United States and Canada alone amounted to more than \$20,000,000. With the tithes and offerings given in other countries added, the grand total is about \$25,000,000. Over 90% of this is contributed by the members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, the remainder being received largely through our annual Ingathering Campaign. Thus, for every dollar received from sources outside the church, the church itself gives over \$11.

As a result of the war, absolute amounts of money have almost lost their significance, and it is beyond the average individual to comprehend what many of these figures mean. However, the amounts as stated above, when reduced to a per capita basis, indicate that on the average each Seventh-day Adventist gave for the maintenance of evangelistic, educational, and medical work, nearly \$100 in 1944.

In spite of the markedly liberal giving of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, even these funds are not adequate to meet the many appeals for help. Denominational

properties, consisting of schools, sanitariums, churches, hospitals, clinics, dispensaries, and printing plants in zones affected by the war have suffered great damage. A survey indicates that the probable cost of replacing them will reach \$15,000,000. In many cases these institutions represent the sacrifice

and labor of many years of effort, and have been suddenly and almost completely swept away. We now find that we are called upon to replace almost immediately institutions that have been laboriously built up over a period of years, which makes the present need much greater.

Characteristic of the Christian religion is the desire on the part of its adherents to share their blessings with the less favored. With this motive in mind, Seventh-day Adventists have dedicated themselves to the task of improving the lot of their fellow men, of sharing with the needy, of binding up the broken-hearted, and of rendering service whenever and wherever needed. We solicit your interest and co-operation in this world-wide ministry to human need.

Facts of Interest

(Report of 1945)

S. D. A. denomination organized . . . (year)	1863
Membership at time of organization	3,500
Present world membership	557,768
Churches	9,351
Sanitariums and other health institutions	184
Advanced and elementary schools	3,401
Publishing houses and mission printing plants .	61
Periodicals published	280
Printed languages	185
Colporteurs engaged in literature sales	3,440
Missionaries sent out since 1900	5,029
Average missionaries yearly for 44 years (not children or return furloughs)	114

*Shall We, Whose Souls Are Lighted,
The Lamp of Life Deny?*

APPRECIATION

The help which our many friends give in support of this ever-expanding world program that extends hope and healing to multitudes is greatly appreciated. If after reading the messages contained in this issue you care to contribute further, send your offering to the address below. It will be gratefully received and officially acknowledged.

W. E. Nelson Treasurer, General
Conference of Seventh-
day Adventists, Takoma Park, Washington 12, D. C.



CHINA

PACIFIC OCEAN

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

MISSION STATIONS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC.

For more than half a century the Seventh-day Adventist Mission Board has been at work among the countries and islands of the South Pacific, establishing mission centers of medical, educational, publishing, and evangelistic work.

BURMA

CANTON AMOY HONG KONG

FRENCH INDO-CHINA

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

BAY OF BENGAL

SUMATRA BORNEO

GUAM

PALAU CAROLINE ISLANDS

CELEBES

ADMIRALTY IS. ST. MATTHIAS

NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES

NEW GUINEA PAPUA

SOLOMON ISLANDS

GUADALCANAL

NUKUHIVA

MITCHELL IS. SAMOA

NEW HEBRIDES

TIKEHU MOOREA DUKE OF YORK SOCIETY ISLANDS

FIJI ISLANDS

COOK ISLANDS

NEW CALEDONIA LOYALTY IS.

MANGAREVA

PITCAIRN IS.

INDIAN OCEAN

AUSTRALIA

BRISBANE

NORFOLK

AUSTRAL ISLANDS

PERTH

LORD HOWE

NEW ZEALAND

CHATHAM

TASMANIA

ENTIRE POPULATION IS SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

