

MIDDLE EAST DIVISION COMMITTEE MEETING

October 20, 1969 3:00 P. M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

F. C. Webster, Boutros Ghazal, Maurice Katrib, R. L. Jacobs, L. C. Miller, R. C. Mills, Manoug Nazirian, Chafic Srour, K. L. Vine, George Yared.

DEVOTIONAL SERVICE:

Manoug Nazirian offered prayer.

69/169 ARMOUR POTTER - PERMANENT RETURN

On request of Armour Potter and in harmony with the recommendation of the Lebanon Section, it was

VOTED, To pass on to the General Conference the request of William Armour Potter for a permanent return to the United States, effective November 2, 1969, for educational reasons. RLJ

Meeting was adjourned at 3:15 with prayer by Elder F. C. Webster.

F. C. Webster, Chairman

R. L. Jacobs, Secretary

MIDDLE EAST DIVISION ANNUAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Beirut, Lebanon October 30, 1969 9:00 A. M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

F. C. Webster, Manuk Benzatyan, G. N. Benson, W. J. Clemons, Habib Ghali, Harold Gray, R. L. Jacobs, Maurice Katrib, George Khoury, Salim Majeed, L. C. Miller, R. C. Mills, Manoug Nazirian, Chafic Srour, K. L. Vine, George Yared

From the General Conference: Martin Kemmerer, V. M. Montalban

By Invitation: Basim Fargo, Boutros Ghazal, George Ghazal, Jad Katrib, Zihni Kaymaz, Dean O. McDaniel, Minas Megurditchian, Ignatius Yacoub

DEVOTIONAL SERVICE:

Prayer was offered by Habib Ghali.

Elder V. M. Montalban began the devotional service referring to the experience of the prophet Elisha with the king of Syria. When the king sent to Dothan in search of the prophet, the eyes of Elisha and his servant were opened so that they saw multitudes of angels surrounding the city to protect them. Even today God's workers may be encouraged knowing that "they that are with us are more than they that are with them."

The seriousness of committing the sin of omission was pointed out by the use of Matthew 25:31-46; "Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of these. . . ." And also the same sin is called to the attention in James 4:17, "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." The worker's great responsibility insofar as his own spiritual preparation is concerned, was stressed by two quotations from Gospel Workers, pp. 99 and 100. "It is a sin to be neglectful of the study of the Word while attempting to teach it to others." "Guard jealously your hours for prayer, Bible study, and self-examination."

69/170 STANDING COMMITTEES

VOTED, To approve standing committees as follows:

(See next page)

Standing Committees (Cont'd)

A u d i t

F. C. Webster, Chairman
W. J. Clemons, Secretary
G. N. Benson
Manuk Benzatyan
Habib Ghali
Boutros Ghazal
H. L. Gray
John Hasso
R. L. Jacobs
Gabriel Katrib
Jad Katrib
Martin Kemmerer
Salim Majeed
Dean O. McDaniel
R. C. Mills
V. M. Montalban
Chafic Srour
K. L. Vine

C r e d e n t i a l s

R. L. Jacobs, Chairman
L. C. Miller, Secretary
W. J. Clemons
Maurice Katrib
George Khoury
R. C. Mills
Manoug Nazirian
F. C. Webster
K. L. Vine

B u d g e t

R. C. Mills, Chairman
George Yared, Secretary
John Hasso
R. L. Jacobs
Maurice Katrib
Martin Kemmerer
George Khoury
L. C. Miller
V. M. Montalban
Manoug Nazirian
F. C. Webster

N o m i n a t i o n s

F. C. Webster, Chairman
K. L. Vine, Secretary
G. N. Benson
Boutros Ghazal
John Hasso
R. L. Jacobs
Jad Katrib
Maurice Katrib
Martin Kemmerer
L. C. Miller
R. C. Mills
V. M. Montalban
Manoug Nazirian

69/171 PLAN FOR EVANGELIZATION

VOTED, To request each Section committee to give careful study to the matter of fostering a spirit of revival and consecration with reformation in each church and group in its territory, and to planning and conducting full-scale evangelistic efforts and well-organized visitation programs on the part of both workers and members to the end that interested persons be fully instructed and converted and finally baptized into the remnant church. FCW

69/172 BIBLE READINGS FOR THE HOME -- PROMOTION

Whereas the Review and Herald Publishing Association has now put out a paper back edition of Bible Readings for the Home (an 800 page book of quality content and production that has won many to our faith) at a special price of \$1.65 (lower prices available on quantity orders), it was

BIBLE READINGS FOR THE HOME -- PROMOTION (Cont'd)

VOTED, that each Section president, representing the Ministerial Association, vigorously promote the purchase and distribution of this book as widely as possible. LCM

69/173 SABBATH OBSERVANCE

VOTED, To approve and record the following statement on Sabbath observance as voted by the 1969 Autumn Council:

SABBATH OBSERVANCE

A committee was appointed by the General Conference Officers to give study to particular problems and situations that arise in the experience of Seventh-day Adventists with respect to Sabbath keeping. In a time when there is a tendency to rationalize many of the standards of Christian living to make room for a variety of attitudes, and when new situations are arising calling for carefulness in establishing patterns of conduct and church practice, it is evident that guidance may properly be given to the members by bringing to their attention not only the general principles of Sabbath keeping, but also the application of these principles in specific cases.

In its study the committee had access to a collection of Ellen G. White counsels bearing on Sabbath work in Seventh-day Adventist and non-Seventh-day Adventist medical institutions. Members of the Seminary faculty of Andrews University assisted in developing portions of the report. The committee report touches only on problems of Sabbath keeping referred to it for study.

Sabbath Keeping Principles

A Christian view of the Sabbath starts from the Biblical concept of the Sabbath day as "the day of the Lord, unto the Lord." It stresses the original divine creative rest, but more particularly the element of worship, an activity that goes much deeper than merely "going to church," an activity oriented toward blessing others in every possible way, as Jesus Himself has given us the example.

Our concept of Sabbath keeping is that the seventh day is to be reserved for communion with and the worship of God; that it is to partake of the nature of rest, physical, mental, and spiritual. The Sabbath was made for man, and if there are emergencies that have to do with the health and safety of people, these emergencies may be cared for. On the other hand, one should not plan to perform on the Sabbath day work that could by proper care be performed on another day.

"The Sabbath hours belong to God, and are to be used for Him alone. Our own pleasure, our own words, our own business, our own thoughts, should find no place in the observance of the Lord's day. . . . It is a time to visit the sick and to work for the salvation of souls. The ordinary affairs of the six working days should be laid aside. No unnecessary work should be performed." Church Manual, p. 207

Conducting Church Business Activities on the Sabbath Day

Insofar as possible, the Sabbath day should be reserved for worship, rest, and Christian witness in which the family will remain together. Meetings that detract from these ideals should be avoided whenever possible during its sacred hours.

The elders or other church officers may meet some time during the Sabbath hours if need be for the purpose of dealing with doctrinal issues, questions of principles, ritual, preaching, spiritual problems among church members, or emergency problems arising from sickness or accident.

The obligations of the stewardship of one's resources and the fiscal needs of the church would be proper subjects for public presentation on the Sabbath, but ordinary church business should be taken up on another day.

Holding business meetings on week days helps to remind one of the fact that "the church" is not just something for the Sabbath day, but for the seven days of the week. All church activities that partake of a business nature should be avoided on the Sabbath.

While it is fitting to present missionary campaigns in the church on Sabbath, and to publish appropriate campaign data in the church bulletin, all such campaigns should be conducted on a high spiritual level. In the case of campaigns for missionary periodicals the recommendation of the 1949 Spring Meeting of the General Conference Committee (April 12, 1949; page 1445) should be adhered to.

Sabbath Funerals

In harmony with the spirit of rest that should pervade the Sabbath it is expected that Adventists should be advised to avoid Sabbath funerals. Although it is true that in some climates and under certain compelling conditions funerals have to be conducted without any delay, such services on the Sabbath day should be avoided whenever possible. If at such times arrangements could be made in advance with morticians and cemetery employees to perform their routine tasks for the deceased in advance of the Sabbath day, the labor and commotion on the Sabbath could be greatly curtailed. Or if the memorial service could be held on Sabbath, and interment take place later, there would be no objection. While it is not best to take a dogmatic position on either side of this question, the avoidance of Sabbath funerals is definitely preferable.

Ingathering on the Sabbath

The general practice of Seventh-day Adventist churches is to do Ingathering on days other than the Sabbath. Although the Ingathering plan can be organized so as to bring many spiritual benefits both to solicitor and donor, the preferable course is to do the solicitation outside of the Sabbath hours.

Social Helpfulness on the Sabbath

Recognizing that the Sabbath hours belong to God, the Sabbath-keeping Christian will want to honor and reverence the Creator in all his activities, deportment, and spirit on God's holy day.

Not only in worship, but also in his soulwinning and missionary endeavors his public witness and influence will be compatible with his preachment and belief. Though he may participate in certain types of social work for students, youth, and the poor in inner cities or in suburbs, he will still exert an exemplary influence of consistent Christian Sabbath keeping.

If he is engaged in an extension or special school for children and youth, subjects and classes appropriate for the Sabbath can be arranged which are different from the ordinary secular subjects or classes for the week, including activities that contribute to spiritual culture. Nature or neighborhood walks can be provided to substitute for regularly scheduled recesses. Nature and museum field trips of minimal effort, planning and administration can provide profitable substitution for secular subjects and classes.

Certain types of social helpfulness would be in perfect harmony with proper Sabbath observance as might be seen from the words and example of the Lord of the Sabbath Himself.

Using the Sabbath day to perform missionary activities that are of the nature of every day work should be discouraged. Such efforts should be limited to emergency cases rather than the putting forth of studied efforts in this direction.

Sabbath Keeping in our Medical Institutions

Unfortunately, sickness and pain know neither holy days nor hours. Therefore, an institution offering medical care to the public must be prepared to take care of the needs of the sick and the suffering without regard to hours or days. This obviously poses a problem in the matter of Sabbath observance. Great care should be exercised that there be no laxity in the observance of the Sabbath. It is the line of least resistance to carry on nearly normal activities because these are for the benefit of the sick.

Emergency medical care should be provided willingly whenever needed, regardless of the day or hour. However, Adventist physicians and dentists should not place themselves in offices or clinics on the Sabbath where the public would normally expect such service.

Being engaged in medical work places all involved in positions of special peril lest there be laxity. Each institution will obviously develop its own policies to meet local situations and activities. Generally speaking these will encompass the following areas:

1. A discontinuance of all unnecessary activities. Usually this means a complete closing of those facilities not immediately related to patient care.

2. The postponement of elective diagnostic and therapeutic services. Emergency service should not be interrupted. Necessary or emergency care should be willingly and cheerfully provided with high levels of excellence. Decisions as to that which is necessary or of an emergency nature should be made by the attending physician. If this privilege is abused it becomes an administrative problem and should be dealt with accordingly. Non-administrative institutional employees should not become involved in making these decisions nor should they be obliged to confront the attending physician.

It is recommended that the preamble of the medical staff by-laws specifically state that only surgical, diagnostic, or therapeutic procedures which are not postponable because of the condition of the patient will be done during Sabbath hours in the hospital. A clear understanding with all who are appointed to staff membership, at the time of appointment, will do much to avoid misunderstanding and abuses later.

3. The closing of the administrative and business offices to routine business. Although it may be necessary to admit or discharge patients on Sabbath, it is recommended to avoid the rendering of bills and the collection of money. Never should the keeping of the Sabbath be a source of irritation to those we seek to serve and to save, but rather a hallmark of "the children of light."

4. The Sabbath should be a day of delight to the patients within the hospital. A day when the hustle and bustle of routine work is laid aside and the staff is free to spend more time with the patients, to instruct them, to counsel with them, and to acquaint them with the wonderful love of God. Such missionary activity will provide a memory of Christian witnessing never to be forgotten. Meaningful Sabbath keeping is much easier to achieve in an institution that employs a largely Adventist staff. Nevertheless, it represents a challenge that can be met by the believing workers employed in patient care, and may well be a convicting influence in the lives of those not of our faith.

5. Careful scheduling of all personnel is very important. Adventist workers should not routinely be scheduled to work on Sabbath so as to provide freedom on weekdays for secular activities, even though we recognize that "it is well to do good on the Sabbath day." Neither should they expect to always be off duty on that day and thus work a hardship on others who might appreciate an occasional Saturday off. Whenever possible those on duty who wish to attend Sabbath services should be excused to do so if their absence does not work undue hardship on those remaining or limit necessary patient care.

6. An attitude of Christian witnessing before fellow workers is essential. The only contact that many non-Adventist workers may ever have with Seventh-day Adventists may be in the institution employing them. Every relationship should be friendly, kind, and expressive of the love that exemplified the life of the Great Physician. Compassion for the sick, unselfish regard for our fellowmen, an eagerness to serve, and unstinted loyalty to God and the church may well prove to be a savor unto life. The keeping of the Sabbath is a privilege and an honor as well as a duty. It should never become burdensome or obnoxious to those who keep it or to those about us.

Sabbath Work in Non-Adventist Hospitals

"The law forbids secular labor on the rest day of the Lord; the toil that gains a livelihood must cease; no labor for worldly pleasure or profit is lawful upon that day; but as God ceased His labor of creating, and rested upon the Sabbath and blessed it, so man is to leave the occupations of his daily life, and devote those sacred hours to healthful rest, to worship, and to holy deeds."--The Desire of Ages, p. 207.

While it is essential in medical institutions that a minimum of labor be performed at all times in order to maintain the welfare and comfort of the patients, Seventh-day Adventists employed in non-denominational institutions where Sabbath hours bring no relief from regular general duties are under obligation to remember the principles that regulate all Sabbath activities. In order to avoid situations where our church members may be faced with problems of Sabbath keeping in non-Adventist institutions, it is recommended that:

1. When Seventh-day Adventists seek employment in non-Seventh-day Adventist hospitals they make known their Sabbath-keeping principles and request work on a schedule that will exempt them from Sabbath duties.

2. Where work schedules or other factors make this impossible, they make very clear the types of duty they are willing to perform on the Sabbath in providing the minimum medical and hygienic care of the patient and his environment in emergency procedures, and in similar service.

3. Where the above conditions cannot be met, our members should make loyalty to God's requirements paramount as they endeavor to render faithful service and also to earn their livelihood.

69/174 SABBATH OBSERVANCE -- REAFFIRMATION

VOTED, To reaffirm our action 63/375 on Sabbath observance, as follows:

Resolution on Sabbath Observance

WHEREAS, The strict observance of God's holy day of rest is an essential part of the Advent message, which calls on all men everywhere to fear God and give glory to Him, and

WHEREAS, The question of sending our children to secular schools on the Sabbath, and of permitting them to sit for examinations in holy time, has become acute in some countries of the Middle East Division, and our members have asked for counsel in this matter; therefore, it was

VOTED, To call the attention of the membership of the Middle East Division to the following Spirit of Prophecy counsel:

1. The Sabbath has been desecrated "by bringing your studies into that holy time which was not yours to occupy for your own purposes. God has said: 'In it thou shalt not do any work.'" -- Testimonies, Vol. 4, p. 114.

2. "The Sabbath will be the great test of loyalty; for it is the point of truth especially controverted. When the final test shall be brought to bear upon men, then the line of distinction will be drawn between those who serve God and those who serve Him not." -- Great Controversy, p. 605.

3. "The Sabbath question is to be the issue in the great final conflict in which all the world will act a part. Men have honored Satan's principles above the principles that rule in the heavens. . . . How important, then, that our example in Sabbathkeeping should be right." -- Testimonies, Vol. 6, pp. 352, 353.

And further, that we advise all our workers and members that sending our children to secular schools or permitting them to sit for examinations on God's holy day is a violation of the fourth commandment and is not to be condoned under any circumstances. We counsel our brethren to look upon the requirements of God's law as a hedge placed about us in love to keep us and our children from the snares of the enemy. No advantage is ever gained by allowing ourselves to break through this hedge.

We cannot consistently work for the salvation of the world and encourage or permit our own children to continue to attend school or sit for examinations on the Sabbath day.

It is the duty of every worker, church officer, or member to set an example of true Sabbathkeeping before the world and the church, particularly before those who are studying the message or those who are new in the faith.

(See next page, please)

SABBATH OBSERVANCE -- REAFFIRMATION (Cont'd)

and further, it is recommended that Sections and institutions not continue in their employ workers whose dependent children attend school or examinations on the Sabbath, unless there is clear evidence that the parents did everything possible to prevent it. FCW

69/175 SABBATH CLASSES AND EXAMINATIONS -- AVOIDANCE

VOTED, That in Sections where Adventist children face the problem of Sabbath keeping in connection with school classes and examinations, Section leaders make unrelenting efforts to find a solution to the problem in order that children of Adventist parents may receive their education without compromising principle. FCW

69/176 TESTIMONY COUNTDOWN

VOTED, That the Ministerial Department of the Division be responsible for the preparation of materials and the implementation of the Testimony Countdown plan in the territory of the Middle East Division. LCM

69/177 HEALTHFUL LIVING -- REAFFIRMATION OF BELIEF

VOTED, To approve the following statement on Healthful Living voted by the 1969 Autumn Council:

HEALTHFUL LIVING

God in His providence has given the remnant church a balanced program of healthful living firmly supported today by scientific findings. This program emphasizes trust in divine power, proper exercise and rest, cleanliness, the value of sunshine and fresh air, temperance in work and recreation, and simplicity in diet. It stresses the perils of overeating, the discarding of harmful beverages such as tea and coffee, and the abstention from all intoxicating drinks, tobacco and other narcotics, and the avoidance of every body and soul-defiling habit and practice.

In the area of diet, the messenger of the Lord declared:

"We do not mark out any precise line to be followed in diet; but we do say that in countries where there are fruits, grains, and nuts in abundance, flesh food is not the right food for God's people. . . . If meat eating were ever healthful, it is not safe now."
--Testimonies, Vol. 9, p. 159.

"When flesh is discarded, its place should be supplied with a variety of grains, nuts, vegetables, and fruits, that will be both nourishing and appetizing. . . . In all cases, educate the conscience, enlist the will, supply good, wholesome food, and the change will be readily made, and the demand for flesh will soon cease."
--Ministry of Healing, pp. 316, 317.

HEALTHFUL LIVING -- REAFFIRMATION OF BELIEF (Cont'd)

In prophetic words the same messenger stated that "Health reform is to do among our people a work which it has not yet done," and urges that "greater reforms should be seen among the people who claim to be looking for the soon appearing of Christ," . . . (Review and Herald, May 27, 1902--See CH 575) and further admonishes that "This is a work that will have to be done before His people can stand before Him a perfected people." --Testimonies, Vol. 9, p. 154

Therefore,

1. We reaffirm our confident belief in and acceptance of these counsels that have come to this church on healthful diet and living, recognizing them as light which God has given for our guidance and well being.

2. We call upon all Seventh-day Adventists wholeheartedly to adopt and stand firmly by these health principles.

3. We urge all church leaders, ministers and institutional workers to take the lead in guiding the church into a positive experience of consistent, healthful living.

69/178 DENTISTS -- RECOMMENDATION TO CALL

VOTED, That we encourage Sections and institutions to give study to the possibility of placing Adventist dentists in the territory of the Division. FCW

69/179 SUDAN STATION -- DELETION FROM RECORDS

The Sudan Station has been listed in the Year Book and in the Division reports, even though there is no church organization in the country and the three members are either missing or apostatized. Efforts to develop the work in the Sudan have failed and workers are not permitted in the country. Since it is not known where the members were recorded, it was

VOTED, To consider the Sudan as an unentered territory and no longer list the Sudan Station in reports and to consider the three former members of this area as two apostatized and one missing. RLJ

69/180 CHURCH CALENDAR -- 1970

VOTED, That the Calendar of Special Days and Offerings
for 1970 be adopted as follows:

<u>JANUARY</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Offering</u>
3*	Soul-Winning Plans and Projects	Church Lay Activities
10		Church Expense
17	Gift Bible Evangelism	Section Project
24	Middle East College Emphasis Day	Middle East College
31		Poor Fund
<u>FEBRUARY</u>		
7*	Book of the Year Promotion	Church Lay Activities
14		Radio-Television
21*	Christian Home & Family Altar Day	Church Expense
21-28	Christian Home Week	
28*	Temperance Commitment Day	Temperance
<u>MARCH</u>		
7*	Penetration Tract Evangelism	Church Lay Activities
14	Sabbath School Visitors' Day	Spring Mission Offering
21	MV Day -- Baptismal Sabbath	Section Project
21-28	MV Week	
28	13th Sabbath-Northern European Div.	Church Expense
<u>APRIL</u>		
4*	One Million New Pulpits	Million Dollar Offering
11		Church Expense
11-18	Health Emphasis Week- <u>Call to Health</u>	
18	Campaign	<u>Call to Health</u> Subs.
25	Educational Day	Elementary School
<u>MAY</u>		
2*	Health & Welfare Evangelism	Church Lay Activities
9	Literature Evangelism Rally	Church Expense
16*	Spirit of Prophecy Day	Radio-Television
16-23	Spirit of Prophecy Week	
23	Correspondence School Enrollment Day	Section Project
<u>JUNE</u>		
6		Church Lay Activities
13	Baptismal Sabbath	Church Expense
20		Section Project
27	13th Sabbath-Central Europ. Div.	Church Expense

(Church Calendar - 1970 - Continued)

JULY

4*	Medical Missionary Day	Church Lay Activities
11		Church Expense
18		Midsummer Offering
25		Church Expense

AUGUST

1*	Pioneer Evangelism Day	Church Lay Activities
8		Church Expense
15		Radio-Television
22		Section Project
29		Poor Fund

SEPTEMBER

5		Church Lay Activities
12	<u>Review & Herald</u> Promotion Day	Missions Extension
19	Bible Emphasis Day	Church Expense
26*	JMV Pathfinder Day	Section Project
26	13th Sabbath-Southern Asia Div. Baptismal Sabbath	

OCTOBER

3*	Decision Day for Lay Evangelism	Church Lay Activities
10	Voice of Prophecy Day	Voice of Prophecy
10	Correspondence Sch. Enrollment Day	
17	Sabbath School Visitors' Day	Church Expense
17-24	<u>Hope</u> Campaign	
17	Community Relations Day	
24		<u>Hope</u> Subscriptions
31 - Nov. 7	Week of Prayer	

NOVEMBER

7*	Week of Prayer - World Baptism Day	Church Lay Activities
14	Ingathering Crusade Launching Day (Campaign dates, Nov. 14-Jan. 2, 1971)	Week of Sacrifice
21		Section Project
28		Church Expense

DECEMBER

5*	Ingathering Crusade Program	Church Lay Activities
12	Stewardship Day	Church Expense
19	13th Sabbath-Inter-American Div.	Section Project
26	Baptismal Sabbath	Church Expense

* Special Program to be provided.

69/181 CHURCH CALENDAR - 1971

VOTED, To approve the 1971 Church Calendar as follows:

JANUARY	<u>Program</u>	<u>Offering</u>
2*	Soul-winning Plans and Projects	Church Lay Activities
9		Church Expense
16	Gift Bible Evangelism	Section Project
23	Middle East College Emphasis Day	Middle East College
30		Poor Fund
FEBRUARY		
6*	Book of the Year Promotion	Church Lay Activities
13		Radio-Television
20*	Christian Home & Family Altar Day	Church Expense
20-27	Christian Home Week	
27	Temperance Commitment Day	Temperance
MARCH		
6*	Tract Evangelism	Church Lay Activities
13~	Sabbath School Visitors' Day	Spring Mission Offering
20	MV Day	Section Project
20	Baptismal Sabbath	
20-27	Missionary Volunteer Week	
27	13th Sabbath-Australasian Div.	Church Expense
APRIL		
3*	One Million New Pulpits	Church Lay Activities
10		Church Expense
10-17	Health Emphasis Week - <u>Call to Health Campaign</u>	
17		<u>Call to Health Subs.</u>
24*	Educational Day	Elementary School (Local Section)
MAY		
1*	Health & Welfare Evangelism	Church Lay Activities
8^	Literature Evangelism Rally Day	Disaster & Famine Relief
15*	Spirit of Prophecy Day	Radio-Television
15-22	Spirit of Prophecy Week	
22	Correspondence Sch. Enrollment Day	Section Project
JUNE		
5		Church Lay Activities
12	Baptismal Sabbath	Church Expense
19		Section Project
26	13th Sabbath Offering- Middle East Division	Church Expense

(Church Calendar - 1971 - Continued)

JULY

3*	Medical Missionary Day	Church Lay Activities
10		Section Project
17^		Midsummer Offering
24		Radio-Television
31		Poor Fund

AUGUST

7*	Pioneer Evangelism Day	Church Lay Activities
14		Church Expense
21		Section Project
28		Church Expense

SEPTEMBER

4*		Church Lay Activities
11^	Review & Herald Promotion Day	Mission Exten. Offering
18	Bible Emphasis Day-Baptismal Sab.	Church Expense
25*	JMV Pathfinder Sabbath	Section Project
25	13th Sabbath-Trans-Africa Div.	

OCTOBER

2*	Decision Day for Lay Evangelism	Church Lay Activities
9	Voice of Prophecy Day-Correspondence	
	School Enrollment Day	Voice of Prophecy
16	Sabbath School Visitors' Day -	Church Expense
	Community Relations Day	
16-23	<u>Hope</u> Campaign	
23		<u>Hope</u> Subscriptions
30-Nov. 6*	Week of Prayer	Poor Fund

NOVEMBER

6*^	Week of Prayer	Week of Sacrifice
13	Ingathering Campaign Launching Day	Church Lay Activities
	(Campaign dates, Nov. 13, 1971-Jan. 1, 1972)	
20		Church Expense
27		Section Project

DECEMBER

4*	Ingathering Crusade Program	Church Lay Activities
11	Stewardship Day	Church Expense
18	Baptismal Sabbath	Section Project
25	13th Sabbath-Far Eastern Div.	Church Expense

* Special Program to be provided

^ World-wide offering

The session was adjourned with a prayer by Salim Majeed, 12 M.

The afternoon session convened at 3:30 P. M. Prayer was offered by George Yared.

69/182 SABBATH SCHOOL OFFERINGS -- GOALS

Whereas Seventh-day Adventist mission work is very dependent on weekly Sabbath School offerings and

Whereas in 1968 the ratio of Sabbath School offerings to tithe dropped .5% for our world average, it is

VOTED, To express appreciation to our many faithful Sabbath School members in this division who have made it possible for the Middle East to place second in per capita Sabbath School offerings and first in offerings to per cent of tithe (4.2% in 1968) among the world divisions.

However, in order to encourage our members to be both systematic and liberal in stewardship, it is further

VOTED, That the Sabbath School Department in each Section, in harmony with the Section Committee, study the tithe income of the Section and set a weekly Sabbath School offering goal per member that will enable the Section to reach 3.5% of its tithe income and set a 13th Sabbath offering goal of double the regular weekly goal. LCM

69/183 WORLD CONCERN OFFERING -- 1970

VOTED, To accept the recommendation of the General Conference that the basic goal for the World Concern Offering for the Middle East Division be \$3,135, and that this goal be divided among the sections in proportion to their 1968 tithe, as follows:

	<u>1968 Tithe</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Local Currency</u>
Division Misc.	\$ 38,043.00	14.46	\$ 453.32	LL 1,473.30
Cyprus	3,059.00	1.16	36.36	CyL 15.150
Egypt	8,495.00	3.22	100.94	IEg 44.862
Iran	41,896.00	15.92	499.09	Rle 37,431.00
Iraq	97,491.00	37.05	1,161.52	ID 414.828
Jordan	7,239.00	2.75	86.22	JD 30.792
Lebanon	29,034.00	11.04	346.11	LL 1,124.85
Libya	27,006.00	10.26	321.65	LiL 114.875
Syria	1,808.00	.68	21.32	SyL 85.30
Turkey	9,125.00	3.46	108.47	TqL 1,301.65
Total	\$ 263,196.00	100.00	\$3,135.00	

69/184 IRAN SECTION -- REQUEST FOR RELIEF SHIPMENT

VOTED, To pass on to the General Conference the request of the Iran Section for 400 bales of relief clothing, blankets, and tents.
FCW

69/185 IRAN SECTION -- INGATHERING BROCHURE

VOTED, To authorize the Lay Activities Department to publish an Ingathering brochure in the Farsi language for use in the 1970 Ingathering campaign.
MN

69/186 D. A. CHRISTOFORIDES -- CALL TO CYPRUS

VOTED, To pass on to the General Conference the call of the Cyprus Section for Demetrius A. Christoforides of the Greek Mission, to serve as pastor/evangelist.
RLJ

69/187 EDUCATIONAL ALLOWANCE CHILDREN OF WORKERS -- POLICY AMMENDMENT

VOTED, To ammend the first sentence of Section 1 of the Educational Allowance Children of Workers Policy (MED WP 108) to read as follows:

1. An educational allowance shall be granted to unmarried children of regularly employed full-time workers, heads of households, women teachers employed full time, not necessarily heads of households, and of sustantation beneficiaries on a graduated scale for children attending Adventist schools within the Division territory.

RLJ

69/188 BEIRUT OVERSEAS SCHOOL -- TWELVE GRADE APPROVAL

VOTED, To authorize the Beirut Overseas School to operate as a twelve-grade school for the 1969/70 school year.
RLJ

69/189 COLPORTEURS TO UNENTERED TERRITORIES

VOTED, To approve in principle the plan of sending carefully selected colporteurs in company with the Division Publishing Secretary into unentered countries and areas of the Division, it being understood that specific trips and financial plans must be authorized by the Division committee.
MK

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69/190 YOUSSEF SAMUEL -- REQUEST FOR SERVICES

VOTED, To pass on to the Egypt Section a request for the services of Youssef Samuel for a period of from three to six months for colporteur work in unentered territories. MK

The session was adjourned at 5:30 p.m. Minas Megurditchian offered prayer.

F. C. Webster, Chairman
R. L. Jacobs, Secretary

MIDDLE EAST DIVISION ANNUAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Beirut, Lebanon October 31, 1969 9:00 A. M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

F. C. Webster, Manuk Benzatyan, G. N. Benson, W. J. Clemons, Habib Ghali, Harold Gray, John Hasso, R. L. Jacobs, Maurice Katrib, George Khoury, Salim Majeed, L. C. Miller, R. C. Mills, Manoug Nazirian, Chafic Srour, K. L. Vine, George Yared

From the General Conference: Martin Kemmerer, V. M. Montalban

By Invitation: Basim Fargo, Boutros Ghazal, George Ghazal, Rafic Issa, Jad Katrib, Zihni Kaymaz, Dean O. McDaniel, Minas Megurditchian, Ignatius Yacoub

DEVOTIONAL SERVICE:

Prayer was offered by Chafic Srour.

In beginning his devotional study Elder Kemmerer brought greetings from Elder R. H. Pierson, who asked that all committees be impressed with the "lateness of the hour," and the importance of finishing the work. In Romans 9:28 it says, "For He will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth." Elder Kemmerer warned, however, that workers will be held responsible for the part designated to them. Three great assets delegated to the work of God, are: 1. The men and women God has chosen; 2. The message intrusted to them; 3. The time allotted for giving the message to the world. Therefore, as workers, "seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless." 2 Peter 3:14.

69/191 PUBLISHING COUNCIL -- 1970

VOTED, To hold a Publishing Council in connection with the visit of Herbert White, Associate Secretary of the Publishing Department of the General Conference, in February, 1970, and that the following be authorized to attend:

Section Presidents
Section Publishing Department Secretaries
Regular Colporteurs
Student Colporteurs who can attend
Book and Periodical House Managers
Middle East Press Manager
Middle East Press Treasurer

MK

69/192 INTER-INSTITUTIONAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

Whereas the Middle East College, the Middle East Secondary School and the Beirut Overseas School operate in close proximity to each other and are inter-related in a way that affects families of teachers and students, it was

VOTED, That the following be named a committee to study problems which may arise affecting the operation of the three educational institutions under the direction of the Division, with the thought that recommendations be made to the several boards on points which may facilitate the smooth operation of the various institutions:

F. C. Webster, Chairman
R. L. Jacobs, Secretary
Dale Hepker
Jad Katrib
George Unger
K. L. Vine
Ruby Williams

FCW

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. and prayer was offered by Manuk Benzatyan.

F. C. Webster, Chairman
R. L. Jacobs, Secretary