

# CHURCH STANDARDS

F. M. WILCOX

in the Southern California Conference, we present this statement and appeal. We are living in an age of overwhelming worldliness. Seductive influences are at work in every phase of human life and experience, and this crisis hour is a time of peril and danger to the church of Christ. Prophecies are fulfilling, and events of the greatest magnitude, crowding one upon another, declare that the end of all things is at hand and that our Lord is soon to return.

## "The Standard"

"The greatest want of the world is the want of men-men who will not be bought or sold; men who in their inmost souls are true and honest; men who do not fear to call sin by its right name; men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole; men who will stand for the right though the heavens fall.'-Education,' page 57.

"For such men and for such women God is calling today.

"HEALTH: We appeal to young and old to recognize God as the Creator and owner of these living temples and to live in obedience to all the laws of health which He has ordained. Violation of physical law is also a violation of divine law. Our diet should be simple and nourishing; we should obtain sufficient sleep; our recreation should be found in uplifting physical labour, nature study, or ministry for others; while stimulants and luxuries should be avoided; and as Christ's loyal sons and daughters, let this be the motto and guiding principle of every life: 'Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.' 1 Cor. 10: 31.

"READING: From the wealth of literature that floods our modern world, candidates for heaven will select only those books and periodicals that strengthen, elevate, and develop true character. Remembering that evil and vicious literature

is often published in the most attractive guise, that tales of wild adventure and social laxness, whether fact or fiction, damage mind and morals, blight spiritual growth, and crowd out the nobler aspirations, all Christians should turn from these things as they would from the leprosy, or a deadly viper.

"PURE SPEECH: Speech is a God-given talent that should be used only to His glory; and both the Bible and the Spirit of prophecy caution against levity, cheapness in conversation, coarseness in lan-guage, and the use of slang, all of which are wholly at variance with the ideals of Christian attainment. Now is the time to become proficient in the court language of heaven.

"MUSIC: We counsel the most careful discrimination in the selection of music; for here is an influence that may be employed to cultivate the finest qualities, or may be used to debase the soul and break down the morality. The jargon that comes over the radio, and too often into Adventist homes, is depraving the musical ear of the world. Any melody partaking of the nature of ragtime and jazz; any language expressing foolish, trivial, inane sentiments, should never be heard in a Christian home. We commend the use of uplifting and ennobling music to the exclusion of all other, and place our special approval upon religious music and the selection of hymns which combine majes the 70 harmony with divine truth. 63

"AMUSEMENTS: We entreat our gear people to guard well their social and



The Autumn Council of the General Conference Committee for 1935 was held in October at Louisville, Kentucky. This council was also attended by the presidents of local conferences, by institutional leaders in North America, and by leading delegates from overseas divisions. A series of resolutions on church standards were adopted by this large and representa-tive gathering. In the year 1938, at the Autumn Council of the General Conférence Committee, these church standards adopted® at Louisville were approved the second time. By order of the council they were printed in leaflet form under the title "Denominational Standards" and were sent to conference workers and institutional leaders throughout the field. These resolutions were also reprinted in the "Review" as late as June, 1943.

There came into our possession a few days ago a series of recommendations unanimously passed by a recent joint meeting of the workers and church officers of the Southern California Conferhace. These were later approved by the onference executive committee, who arranged for their publication in leaflet form to be sent to the church members of the conference. It is interesting to note how closely these resolutions tally with the church standards adopted by the two Autumn Councils held in 1935 and 1938. We believe our people will be interested to read this fine statement, under its title, "Christian Conduct in the Crisis Hour.'

"Moved by a solemn sense of responsibility as leaders of God's remnant people

recreational activities, remembering that mere amusement is the idle wasting of empty hours. Surely no one preparing for the coming of Jesus will be found at the theatre, the carnival, the movie house, the opera, the circus, the dance, the card table, or in attendance at commercialized sports. Public recreational activities, unless under careful Christian supervision, are fre-quently employed by Satan in destroying souls. We strongly urge separation from worldly associations at skating rinks and public bathing beaches. Friends, do not spend your precious hours in playing chess, checkers [draughts], or similar games that consume the time we should spend in missionary endeavour and helpful ministry, for such infatuating amusements are opposed to spiritual growth and have no plaće among us.

"DRESS: In the choice of attire, we appeal to Christian manhood and womanhood for dignity, modesty, good taste, and simplicity, avoiding extravagance, flashiness, extreme fashions, and fads. Very low necks, short sleeves, and short skirts fail to accord with Christian standards. 'Satan is constantly devising some new style of dress, . . . and he exults when he sees professed Christians eagerly accepting the fashions he has invented.' ('Testimonies,' Vol. IV, pages 634, 635.) Remembering also that our bodies are temples for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, let there be no artificial aids to change, detract, disfigure, or discolour the handiwork of the Creator. Neither will the true Christian desire to adorn the person with jewellery; and in lands where the custom is not obligatory, no 'circlet of gold' should be worn as a testimony to marriage vows. --- 'Testimonies to Ministers,' pages 181, 182; 'Testimonies,' Vol. IV, page 630.

"SOCIAL RELATIONS: In an age of shattered social ideals and standards, let our young men and women stand forth as representatives of purity and virtue. Let the associations of all be characterized by Christian cordiality, reserve, and dignity, avoiding all levity, cheapness, and undue familiarity. With demoralizing conditions about us that rival the orgies of Sodom and Gomorrah, let all the approaches to an untarnished character be sacredly guarded.

"CHAPERONAGE: Many a girl and many a lad have mourned too late the parental neglect or their own impatient refusal of protection which became responsible for the spoliation of their own unguarded virtue. Young people, will you not welcome and acclaim chaperonage, no longer as an irksome and repugnant association, but as an honoured and happy relation? Will you not establish among yourselves a code of honour which takes pride and delight in associating with older men and women whose lives and prin-ciples you respect? Such an attitude becomes the crowning evidence of your good and noble intentions.

"MARRIAGE: God designs that every Christian home in its harmony, peace, and love should be a model of the home in heaven. In the fulfilment of this ideal there can be no marriage with unbelievers, for in homes established under the unequal yoke, 'the shadows are never lifted.' Our ministers will honour the divine counsel given by refusing to officiate at mixed marriages. Courtships should likewise be conducted in harmony with the highest

Christian principles. 'Marriage has been perverted by sin; but it is the purpose of the gospel to restore its purity and beauty.' ('Mount of Blessing,' page 100.) We deplore the tragic abandonment of the family altar in many an Adventist home and urgently appeal for its revival and faithful maintenance. In these days of lowered standards careful heed should also be given to the vital counsel from the Lord: Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery; and whoso marrieth her that is put away doth com-mit adultery.' Matt. 19:8, 9.

"SABBATH OBSERVANCE: We appeal for whole-hearted revival in true Sabbath observance. Greet the sacred hours with prayer and song; close the day with prayer and praise. Keep worldly music, worldly reading, worldly activities, worldly conversation, out of this day. Lay aside all secular papers and refrain from the use

• "The Christian's life is to be in sharp contrast to the world about us. And when the long-anticipated day of days shall dawn, the Saviour's smile will rest upon a little company, and to the angel reapers we hear Him say in effect: 'These are genuine Christians who have walked in My steps; they talk like Christians, dress like Christians, and act like Christians. In their work, their recreations, and their social relations, they have witnessed wholly for Me; they do not belong here; go, gather them for translation; I have chosen them as citizens elect of a better world.' Let us unitedly seek God for clear vision, courage to do right, and divine strength for a life of victory."

of the radio. Sacredly guard the beginning and ending of the Sabbath, especially having all the preparations fully made before the setting of the sun. Faithfully attend the services of the house of God. Refrain from unnecessary car journeys, pleasure trips, social visiting, and from the purchase of petrol, newspapers, or food supplies. Instead of our own pleasure, our own words, our own business, and our own thoughts, let us call the Sabbath a delight and employ its holy hours in prayer, Bible study, devotion, and spiritual ministry for others.

"Standing amid the perils of these last days, facing a judgment whose decisions are final, we should live daily in readiness to meet Jesus. But says one, 'Do you think this one little thing will keep me from heaven?' 'It is not for us to judge,' we reply, 'but your attitude toward the principles set forth in the Bible and the Spirit of prophecy will certainly decide your eternal destiny."

How are Seventh-day Adventists today relating themselves to these Christian principles? Is not this something we may well consider? Has the time not come in such a crisis hour as this for a renewal of consecration on the part of every member? of writer as well as reader? Are not many in need of a revival and reformation in their Christian experience?

Home Commission

B. H. MCMAHON, Secretary

## Home and Mother

## J. H. MCEACHERN

Home and Mother are the two most endearing words that enter the heart of man and proceed from human lips. This has been true of all generations since God first gave man a home in Eden and bequeathed upon Eve the honourable title. The Mother of all living." Gen. 3: 20. /

Home and Mother are the two mightiest forces in the community, in the church, in the state, and in the nation. The stability of society, of religion, of the government; yes, of civilization itself is dependent upon the degree of respect that is maintained in the human heart for home and mother. When this is gone, man sinks even lower than the brute creation; for even animals, by instinct, cling to mother and will give their very lives to protect what to them is home whether it be a nest in a tree, a hole in the ground, or a den in the forest.

Satan's first attack upon the inhabitants of this earth was made upon the home. He invaded Eden and distracted the mind of Eve from the purpose for which she was created. Other things were made to seem more attractive and more important than the home. From that day forward every new home established has been the target of his hosts of evil. Now, in this last generation when Satan knows his time is short, he concentrates his forces upon the family life to destroy the bulwark of the church-the home.

War is the enemy of the home. Not only is this true of the material destruction of the residences built up by long years of sacrifice, but even more keenly is it felt in the separation of loved ones and the scattering of children from the parental roof.

Satan even carries war's blight far beyond the material into the spiritual realms. While the nation is calling for an "All out" effort on the part of women, as well as men, to fight the battles of democracy, mothers are tempted as was Eve to see things in a distorted vision and regard money-making and public service as more attractive and of greater patriotic importance than that of safeguarding the spiritual and social functions of the home.

The condition of delinquency among the youth now prevailing constitutes a challenge to Seventh-day Adventists. We, as people who discern the signs of the times, should not be caught by Satan's devices. Our attention should be centred upon the home. We owe it as a parental duty to our children, a religious duty to our church, and a patriotic duty to our country to resurrect the family altar and keep the home strong.

#### 52 ☆ 5.7

## THE SEARCH

No one could tell me what my soul might be;

I searched for God, and God eluded me; I sought my brother out, and found all three.

My soul, my God, and all humanity.

--Firdusi, the Persian poet.

From Fields Afar

## Strange Tidings

### A. S. MAXWELL

Perhaps the most amazing news that has come from the war zones during recent months is the persistent report that in Russia the people are flocking to the churches, praying to God for deliverance.

For in Russia, so we have been told, churches by hundreds have been destroyed, and for more than twenty years the most desperate efforts have been put forth to exterminate religion. There it was that the slogan was invented: "Religion is the opiate of the people." There it was that the "Society of the Godless" grew and flourished. There it was that anti-religious museums were established. There it was that hundreds, perhaps thousands, of religious leaders of Catholic and Protestant churches were tortured, exiled, and murdered. There it was that the circulation of the Bible was prohibited and all religious books were banned.

Moreover, for more than two decades now Russia has been the great closed land, with impenetrable ramparts extending from the Black Sea to the Arctic Ocean, barricaded and insulated from the world outside its borders. Comparatively few were permitted to pass this barrier, and even these were so carefully guided and shepherded in their travels that they could gather but the haziest conception of what was really taking place. Consequently Christians of all denominations were filled with anxiety for their fellow believers in that land, while some even wondered whether, after all that had happened, the light of the Christian faith might possibly. have been extinguished.

And now comes this word that the people are flocking back to the churches, praying God to deliver them from the dreadful menace that threatens them. With their cities in flames, their villages in ruins, their loved ones dead at their feet, they are turning heavenward for help. How often has this happened in like circumstances before! But in this case it is of special significance.

It demonstrates once more the utter futility of all efforts to drive religion from the mind and heart of man by brute force or crude propaganda. It simply cannot be done, as every persecution in past cen-turies has clearly proved. Church build-ings may be confiscated, or given over to secular uses, or blasted to pieces; church organizations may be completely disrupted and destroyed; church leaders may be banished or killed; but the life of the church, the faith of the common people in the fundamentals of the gospel, can never be extinguished.

Perhaps in this strange and unexpected development we are being permitted to perceive a still deeper meaning in the words of Christ: "Upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matt. 16:18. In doctrine and leadership the Christian church in Russia may have been hopelessly apostate, far removed from the mind and purpose of its Founder; but the earnest faith of the humble villagers, their wistful hopes, their poor, misguided efforts to do right, were not forgotten in heaven. They were submerged but not obliterated; they were crushed but not completely extinguished.

So the "gates of hell" and all the forces of darkness may assault the cause of Christ, may beat it down and trample upon it, but in some wonderful way it will survive and emerge purer and richer for the trial. Like the burning bush that was not consumed by the fire that enveloped it. so the faith that abides in the hearts of God's true children will never perish, no matter how hard the sufferings may be through which they pass.

"I am the resurrection, and the life" said Jesus, "he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live.' John 11:25. And this resurrection power is not only promised to the individual believer. It is inherent in the church itself; in all real religion; in truth, and righteousness. These are the precious things of God. They cannot be destroyed. Always they will rise triumphant over every assault that may be directed against them. They may appear to die, but they will live again, for they are the things that abide. And those who value them and love them will partake of their permanence, share their victory, and live with them for ever.

## Waiting Only to Be Gathered In

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## C. E. MOON

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At one of our meetings in Mexico the laymen were giving their testimonies of what the Lord had done for them, when a man came forward. He was of a distinct Indian type, dressed in the style used by farmers from the state of Guerrero.

The old man was bent from continuous use of the plough and from other farm work. He turned toward the audience with a gesture and told the following story:-

"My parents died when I was very young, and only my sister and I were left in our family. I loved my sister, as she was all I had in the world. My uncle illtreated us very much and did not care to have us around. We lived as animals would.

"When I was grown I was a devoted Catholic, and really wanted to be faithful to my religion. One night I had a dream, which was most wonderful, and it seemed that a voice spoke to me, telling me that soon I would know the true religion.

"After that experience I would go to the woods and pray and lift my face to God and talk to Him. I watched and waited, but no one came. I continued to pray and wait. Months passed by, and no one came. One day a Catholic farmer came, and I thought he would tell me the truth: so I waited and remained near him in the work. but we talked about the farm, the oxen, the horses.

"I waited and wondered what it could mean. Then one day an Adventist brother came to work for me. I wondered whether he was the man who would tell me about the truth. But the first day went by and nothing was said. And the next day we worked together. As noontide came, this Adventist neighbour came near me and laid his hand on my shoulder and said, 'I love the Lord, and have known Him and served Him for many years; I want you to love Him too." I threw my arms about him and said, 1 have been waiting for someone to tell me of Him. I am so glad you came to tell me of Christ."

And then this man became a strong Seventh-day Adventist.

The messenger of the Lord told us so many years ago:---

"All over the world men and women are looking wistfully to heaven. Prayers and tears and inquiries go up from souls longing for light, for grace, for the Holy Spirit. Many are on the verge of the kingdom, waiting only to be gathered in."—"Acts of the Apostles," page 109.

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## First General Meeting in France Since the War

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### A V. OLSON

I have just returned with Brethren Beach and Gerber from the seminary at Collonges, where all the evangelistic workers from the three French conferences (North France, South France, and Alsace) met for a tenday ministerial institute. It was the first gathering of its kind since the outbreak of the war six years ago. Words fail to describe the joy and gratitude that filled the hearts of all these dear workers as they came together after these long years of separation. Such occasions help us better to understand and appreciate the strength and value of the blessed tie that binds us together in Christian fellowship. And they give us a foretaste of the bliss that will be experienced by all the redeemed when they shall meet in the kingdom above.

As is often the case here below, our joy was not without alloy. The absence of two greatly beloved workers-Brother Paul Meyer, of Lyon, and Sister Gabriel Weldner, of Paris, both of whom perished in the prison camps of Germany early this year-brought sorrow to our hearts.

We were very favourably impressed by the new recruits that have been drafted into the work both in South France and in North France during the war period. They are a fine group of earnest, devoted young men, who give promise of developing into really successful workers. The two conferences mentioned have more labourers today than they had before the war. It is fortunate indeed that despite all the perplexities, difficulties, and hardships caused by the war, the school in France could continue to function without interruption through the whole stormy period, though with a reduced attendance. As a result, a few young people could be graduated each year to join the slender force in the field. Though larger than ever before, the working staff in France is woefully small in comparison with the task which it faces. Plans are on foot, however, for filling the school to its very limit with students, in order that this institution may provide the field with new recruits for its expanding work.

It was a real joy to have representatives from Alsace with us again. When the Germans took possession of this territory they dissolved our conference and church organizations, confiscated our church prop-

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erties, and prohibited our work. Since the liberation our people have regained their freedom, and the properties have been restored. When Alsace was returned to us, the treasurer was the only worker in the field. A faithful church elder was, and still is, serving as president of the conference. A former worker, who had been taken to Germany, has recently returned and will be located in Mulhouse.

From Paris we are sending a young worker, of Alsatian origin, to Strasbourg. Two or three Alsatian young people who finished their studies in Collonges this spring have also been invited to enter the work in their home conference. Thus a beginning has been made in restaffing this field, which has suffered so much from both war and persecution. Efforts are now being made to secure more workers. The two workers mentioned for Strasbourg and Mulhouse were ordained, together with four men from South France, the last Sabbath of the workers' meeting.

Plans were laid for aggressive evangelistic work in all fields. The men who are asked to conduct public efforts today face situations that were unknown before the war. So many public halls have been requisitiond for military and other purposes that it is well-nigh impossible to find suitable halls for evangelistic work. If a hall is found, there is no fuel for heating it, and usually no paper for printing the necessary posters or handbills. In spite of these conditions, plans have been laid for undertaking several efforts this coming winter.

We had a wonderful meeting. Never have I witnessed a finer spirit of brotherly love and unity, of real earnestness and devotion. The last Sabbath will long be remembered. At the close of the morning service all the workers present made a covenant to be true to God, to His Word; to the advent message and movement, and to the great and glorious task which has been committed into our hands. This was immediately followed by a communion service in which all joyfully participated.

I thank God that it was possible for our workers in France to come apart for a few days of rest, study, and meditation. It did us all good. Every worker returned to his field with a new joy in his heart and a new determination in his soul to do his best for the Lord.

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## God's Providences

Those were rugged days, back in old Judea when Herod, who held his title as king only by the grace of the Roman conquerors, "stretched forth his hands" in violent persecution of the new sect called Christians. The Apostle James was put to death, and Peter, eloquent and successful evangelist, was thrown into prison. He was not treated as an ordinary prisoner, but was bound securely and chained to a special guard of two soldiers. There seemed to be no possibility of escape for this servant of the Master, who had won three thousand converts to Christ in a single day.

But lo! as he slept between his armed guards, an angel came, shook him awake, and bade him, "Arise up quickly." As he obeyed the command, his chains fell off. "Gird thyself," the angel directed. "Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me." They passed outside through doors that opened of their "own accord," and Peter was free! The Good Book is full of God's providences toward the children of men, but in this materialistic, prove-it-to-me-and-I'llbelieve-it world of the twentieth century we are prone to think that angels do not now carry on their earthly ministry as aforetime; that there are no more striking manifestations of Heaven's power; that the days of miracles are past.

But not so. Listen!

In an apartment house in a certain European city lived two Seventh-day Adventists—a young man and a young woman, not related, but both believers in th truths of the third angel's message. Now, in Europe the houses are so built and the timbers so placed that there is only one safe place in case of bombing, and that is under the stairway going up to the second floor. As the war raged, this city was bombed, not once only, but again and again. One day when the alert sounded, these young people both made a dash for the stairway, arrived there first, and crawled back into the safest place. In a moment, as it were, forty-two other inmates of the building were packed in around them. (Concluded on page 6)

Our Island Field

## From Central Polynesia

## S. V. STRATFORD

About the end of November, while I was out in the Cook Islands, air transportation arrangements completely broke down unexpectedly and the regular planes were discontinued. Many weeks of delay and hold-up threatened, as no steamer was going from there to the groups I was to visit. The special providential working of God, however, came in a remarkable way, and on the very morning that the regular plane would have left had it been going, I took off on a radio installation plane by special arrangement of the Resident Commissioner with the N.Z. Government and R.N.Z.A.F.

I landed on Tonga on the very day I was due to arrive in that country, and came in only about a couple of hours after the steamer, by which I had been booked to travel, had pulled in at the wharf at Nukualofa. Four weeks later, there was an unforeseen delay of two weeks threatened in connection with the prospects of the quarantining of the ship by which I was then travelling, but finally the decision was to allow us to land. Thus there was no hold-up in the arrangements in the visit to and counsel with our workers in still another group.

Our people all round greatly rejoiced in these providences. Nothing brings more cheer to the advent people today than to witness God working on their behalf in times of need. To me it was a thrill to fellowship with our noble band of missionaries. Battling against difficulties and diseases which we in the home field know nothing about, they toil under the tropic sun ceaselessly, uncomplainingly, and lovingly for the dark-skinned members of the family of God.

These believers in the islands send to our people in Australia and N.Z. their salutations and their greetings; which, by the way, are no mere formal messages, but come right from the heart. May the day soon come when, with them, we can all meet in the kingdom.

A very pleasant and interesting time was spent in the Cook Islands. Pastor and Mrs. J. E. Cormack have been greatly blessed of God at this outpost during the past three years, and I found a happy and united native constituency and a strong and rapidly growing work. For a couple of years this splendid missionary couple cared for our training school, as well as the field generally. Brother and Sister Nelson Palmer are the newest reinforcements there, having been sent out to head up the training school, and they are hard and enthustastically at work in their very important task. Both the training school and our mission work generally are held in very high esteem by the government officials, by business men, and the people of Rarotonga and the outer islands... The work is "on the move," and the prospects are bright.

In Tonga I was met by Brother and Sister J. Cernik, the dear, brave souls who have not only carried on a strong work at our Beulah Training School, but have held the work in Tonga together during the months since Pastor and Sister Hadfield had to leave on account of ill health. The three weeks of my happy visit with Brother and Sister Cernik and our workers and people in Tongatapu went all too quickly. as this was the first visit on the part of anyone from headquarters for a number of years (as was the case in Cook Islands and Samoa). The work at Beulah is greatly appreciated by the Tongan Government, and the Director of Education, the secretary to the Premier, and other officials, spoke very highly of our training school. God has greatly blessed this important phase, and the good influences of Beulah extend to the confines of their mission territory. I was pleased to meet with our evangelists and with our teachers in the school. They, together with the membership, are on the tip-toe of expectancy awaiting the arrival very soon of their new superintendent, Pastor W. G. Ferris, and his family, and, too, of the new mission ship for Tonga, "The Endeavour." We earnestly pray God to abundantly bless Brother Ferris as he takes up his new responsibility and, as he sails this gallant little ship in Tongan waters.

On January 4 I joined the "Matua" at Nukualofa, bound for Samoa. Some of our missionary reinforcements to Samoa were on board—Pastor Christian and family and Brother H. Dickins and family; also two of the training-school teachers returning—Pastor Afaaese and Asatau. Brethren Christian and Dickins, upon landing, immediately entered most enthusiastically upon their work in their new field, and in the short time that I was able to stay at Apia and Vailoa with them I found they had made a good impression. Pastor R. our work temporarily on the island of Savaii. It was with a very sad heart that I personally saw the condition both Brother and Sister Raphael were in due to frequently recurring series of illnesses. They have done splendid work on Savaii and were courageously "sticking things out," all the while hoping against hope they would not have to leave. However, the medical report on Brother Raphael was definite and urgent, and as soon as passage can be secured this mission family must return to the home field. Someone else will need to be asked to go and fill this gap, which tragically (because of the fact that Brother Raphael knew the field so well and could converse and preach freely in the language of the people) has once again been made through sickness.

Calling at Fiji on three different occasions, I was each time merely passing through en route to other places. However, each time I greatly enjoyed the contact with our workers and people. As far as the work in Fiji is concerned, Pastor Guilliard and Brother Frame constituted the official delegation to that group and they will doubtless be reporting concerning it.

Brethren and sisters, let us remember every day, still more earnestly, our work and workers in the islands. Much has been accomplished there through hard work and sweat and tears; but a tremendous lot more has still to be done, and done quickly. Before us lies the task unfinished. May God help each of us to work on, pray on, give on, and go on until the work is done.

## **Around the Conferences**

## Graduation Week-end, New Zealand Missionary College

### C, E. SUMMERFIELD, Preceptor

The week-end of December 7-9 was memorable for twelve students of the New Zealand Missionary College. It was their time of graduation, to say nothing of aspiration and congratulation. The graduates had chosen as their motto "Loyalty in Service," and the aim was indeed lofty, "The world won for Christ."

At the Friday evening service Pastor T. Brash likened the twelve graduates to the twelve apostles. He said that today was freighted with tremendous opportunity for Christian service. The time for receiving the Holy Spirit is now, that we may all go forward "taking men for Christ."

 Pastor Judge spoke on Sabbath about the present demand for loyalty and service when disloyalty and discouragement prevailed.

"Ye must be born again" were the words of Christ to Nicodemus in the long ago. The verity is changeless, and on Sabbath afternoon twelve young people were baptized, as Christ commanded.

A crowded chapel testified to the popularity of cantatas, and Saturday night's rendition of "Jerusalem" was a triumph for the college students and the conductor, Pastor Wilkinson. Before the graduation address on Sunday afternoon a drill display was skilfully staged by the young ladies.

"Winston Churchill was the man for Britain's crisis hour. He thundered a message that was hard and uncompromis-



Back Row: H. S. Kimpton, M. W. Gray, R. H. Walsh, J. A. White, R. P. Brunt (Secretary), R. H. Lawrence, L. R. Waddington.
Front Row: W. A. N. Hodgen, O. K. Strange (Treasurer), C. E. Summerfield (Faculty Adviser), M. F. Nash, H. Lillioja (President), J. E. Adamson.

ing, and inspired his people with unconquerable fortitude. Be Churchills for God," urged Pastor Ball in his graduation address. After Pastor Wilkinson had distributed the diplomas, the class president presented the college with a handsome inlaid piano stool.

When the tea buzzers sounded on Sunday, scores of visitors and students had left, and suddenly came the realization that the sweet-running 1945 graduation week-end was finished.

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## Good News for Radio Listeners

For some time the Advent Radio Church programme in the Eastern States of Queensland, New South Wales, and Victoria has been handicapped by the absence of adequate supporting music. This has been noted by radio station executives as well as by ourselves, and recently we were informed that unless we could improve this plan of broadcasting our future access to the air would seriously be questioned by the best stations.

Recognizing the urgent need of adjusting this matter the Advent Radio Church Board has favourably considered the employment of a quartette whose services could regularly be secured—a quartette of approved musical quality and subject to our own programme requirements. After listening to various auditions, some under the guidance of a well-recognized tutor, we have been successful in finding such a desired group of singers.

In addition to the musical need, we have also considered changing the general form of the weekly programme, following in large part the order of the Voice of Prophecy programme, which elsewhere has proved eminently successful both in attracting a large listening audience and in giving the message with soul-winning results.

The new programme with its greatly improved quality content, will prove beyond question the finest religious service on the air in our Eastern States. The first of this new form will be heard toward the end of February. We want all our church members who can pick up these weekly programmes to do so and to tell their neighbours and friends about them.

In the radio field there lie about us evangelistic possibilities as yet untouched by us. We are going to give the message clearly, fully, and attractively, having but one purpose, and that the enlightenment of the nation to the fact that Jesus is coming again, and the conversion of souls in preparation for this glorious event.

During recent weeks, in response to letters sent out to our thousands of listeners, our mail has increased wonderfully, and the offerings in support of this project have greatly encouraged us in the knowledge that many people do appreciate our efforts and are prepared both to tell us so and to help us financially. The success of

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## God's Providences (Concluded from page 4)

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One was an atheist, who said, as the crash of bombs could be heard in the distance, "I've been saying for years that there is no God. Today I'm afraid I've been mistaken. I'm afraid there is a God." Another crash! Two Catholic women began to cry and sob, "We pray to the virgin Mary faithfully, but she does not hear us. Oh, what shall we do?" Then the Adventist girl in the back spoke up. "I pray to the God of heaven," she said, "and He hears me. I am not afraid." The boy at once added his testimony. "I pray to the God of heaven, too. He hears me, and I am not afraid either." The infidel spoke up. "If you two aren't afraid, come out of there and let some of the rest of us get in." The girl said to the boy, "What shall we He answered, "I am not quite sure." do»" "Well, I think I know," she told him. "Let's get out." So they crawled out of their supposedly safe refuge. Just at that moment a bomb hit the building, and it was levelled. Only the boy and girl were found alive when the rescue squad came to clear away the debris.

Truly, even today, "He shall cover thee with His feathers, and under His wings shalt thou trust."

A careful, godly business man, one of the wealthiest Seventh-day Adventists in the part of Europe where he lives, was in a room on the fourth floor of a hotel in one of the great cities which had not yet been under enemy attack. In the middle of the night he suddenly awoke from a sound sleep with the distinct impression that he must leave that place before two o'clock. He heard a voice say, "Get out of here! Get away. At two o'clock the sky above here will be full of bombs, and this building and a large part of the city will be absolutely destroyed."

So he got up, gathered his belongings together, hurried down the stairs—the elevators were not running—and entered the lobby. He told the men who were there, the desk clerks, porters, and others, of the warning that had come to him. Some said, "He is out of his mind." Others said, "No, he is one of the most careful, sensible men who come here. We know him well. He is a Seventh-day Adventist." And they debated what to do.

Finally the man picked up his bags to carry them out, and a porter came to his assistance. When they reached the door, the porter said, "I would like to go with you, but they will all laugh at me in the morning." "No," the business man told him, "they will not laugh at you in the morning. They will all be dead." But he had to go alone.

He made his way to the edge of the city, and was less than half a mile away on the seashore when the bombers came, as the voice had said they would. It was just two o'clock! In less than half an hour ten thousand persons were dead and fifty thousand were wounded.

Later in the day he made his way back to the site of the hotel that he had left. It was a mass of ruins. "He asked policemen on guard in the vicinity whether anyone had escaped. They told him that there had been 1,059 people in the hotel, and that not one got out alive. Then one spoke and said, "Yes, there was one mana Seventh-day Adventist. I was in the lobby last night a little after midnight. and he came down and said he had been warned by his God that the city was to be bombed and the hotel destroyed. He left." "I would like to see a Seventh-day Adventist and find out something about them," said the first policeman. "Then look at me," the business man advised, "for I am that one man who escaped. I am a Seventh-day Adventist."

Truly, even today, "a thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee."

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## New Book in the Lushai Language

At the present time there is being set up at the publishing house (India) the type for a new book in the Lushai language. Up to now the workers in the Assam field have had no book in this language to sell, and as the book takes shape, the courage of those responsible for its publication seems to grow. Brother O. W. Lange of the Assam field writes:—

"Many, many thanks for the last part of the proof for our Lushai book. You should

that its appeal to their people will be strong. As soon as it is off the press these boys will carry it to their people. Brother Zuala already has a canvass prepared for the book, and he is only waiting for the day when he can carry it back to Lushai "We shall be glad to see the final proof and to get the first copy. If the anticipations of the group who are planning to sell it are carried, Assam will have the bige bigest scoop in the bistory of the publich

see Brother Zuala's face when the matter

arrives. We could save on kerosene if we

could only keep the shine there! . . . This

is doubtless one of the most remarkable

books to be printed at this time. I doubt

if there has been a book so eagerly made

up and corrected by the men who will

actually sell it as this one has been. Every

page of the translation has been read and

re-read by the translator and then by the

boys who are interested in its production.

They believe it is perfect. They believe

biggest scoop in the history of the publishing department in Southern Asia. They are confident of selling every book of this edition during the three months' vacation. Surely we should pray that this goal may be reached."—"Eastern Tidings."

## Highest Award for Valour Conferred on Adventist Non-combatant

## CARLYLE B. HAYNES

Friday morning, October 12, the President of the United States conferred the Congressional Medal of Honour for the first time in American history upon a soldier whose conscience would not permit him to bear arms. No non-combatant before has received this highest decoration of honour within the gift of the nation. It was conferred for outstanding bravery in saving life rather than destroying life.

With the thanks of the nation it was presented by the Chief Executive to a Seventh-day Adventist non-combatant soldier, the product of a Seventh-day Adventist home, a Seventh-day Adchurch school, and a Seventh-day Adventist Sabbath school.

The nation's highest decoration was given on the White House lawn to Corporal Desmond T. Doss, of Richmond and Lynchburg, Virginia. Looking on at the ceremony was a company of notables, including the most exalted figures in the nation's administration—Army Chief of Staff General George C. Marshall, Admiral of the Fleet Ernest J. King, Secretary of State Byrnes, Secretary of War Patterson, Secretary of the Navy Forrestal, Secretary of Commerce Wallace, and many other dignitaries.

## The Official Citation

"Private First Class Desmond T. Doss was a company-aid man with the 307th Infantry Medical Detachment when the 1st Battalion of that regiment assaulted a jagged escarpment four hundred feet high near Orasoo-Mura, Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, on April 29, 1945.

"As our troops gained the summit, a heavy concentration of artillery, mortar, and machine-gun fire crashed into them, inflicting approximately seventy-five casualties and driving the others back. Private Doss refused to seek cover, and remained in the fire-swept area with the many stricken, carrying them one by one to the edge of the escarpment and there lowering them on a rope-supported litter down the face of a cliff to friendly hands.

"On May 2 he exposed himself to heavy rifle and mortar fire in rescuing a wounded man two hundred yards forward of the lines on the same escarpment; and two days later he treated four men who had been cut down while assaulting a strongly defended cave, advancing through a shower of grenades to within eight yards of enemy forces in a cave's mouth, where he dressed his comrades' wounds before making four separate trips under fire to evacuate them to safety.

"On May 5 he unhesitatingly braved enemy shelling and small-arms fire to assist an artillery officer. He applied bandages, moved his patient to a spot that offered protection from small-arms fire and, while artillery and mortar shells fell close by, painstakingly administered plasma. Later that day, when an American was severely wounded by fire from a cave, Private Doss crawled to him where he had fallen twenty-five feet from the enemy position, rendered aid, and carried him one hundred yards to safety while continually exposed to enemy fire.

"On May 21, in a night attack on high ground near Shuri, he remained in exposed territory while the rest of his company took cover, fearlessly risking the chance that he would be mistaken for an infiltrating Japanese, and giving aid to the injured until he was himself seriously wounded in the legs by the explosion of a grenade. Rather than call another aid man from cover, he cared for his own injuries and waited five hours before litter bearers reached him and started carrying him to cover.

"The trio were caught in an enemy tank attack and Private Doss, seeing a more critically wounded man near by, crawled off the litter and directed the bearers to give first attention to the other man. Awaiting the litter bearers' return, he was again struck, this time suffering a compound fracture of one arm. With magnificent fortitude he bound a rifle stock to his shattered arm as a splint and then crawled three hundred yards over rough terrain to the aid station.

"Through his outstanding bravery and unflinching determination in the face of desperately dangerous conditions Private Doss saved the lives of many soldiers. His name became a symbol throughout the 77th Infantry Division for outstanding gallantry far above and beyond the call of duty.

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## Good News for Radio Listeners (Concluded from page 5)

all this undertaking is largely dependent upon your personal prayers and your cooperation. Will you therefore do your part in telling others of the Advent Radio Church when the programme comes on the air, and we are adding your prayers to ours that this modern method of warning the world will prove as successful in Australia as it has been in other lands.

We want our members to write us and tell us how they enjoy the programmes. Write to your local station and tell them how good it is, and pray that all taking part in presenting this service may be blessed in their ministry. For what you have done we are grateful; for what you are going to do we sincerely thank you, and hope to hear from you soon.

W. G. Turner, Chairman, Advent Radio, Box 4112, G.P.O., Sydney, N.S.W.

## WEDDING BELLS

DUFFY-COOPER.-Amidst the refreshing showers of rain, on January 13, Brother Owen Duffy and Sister Beryl Cooper exchanged the vows of wedlock. The Gympie church, made bright by loving hands, testified to the esteem in which these young people are held. We pray that the consciousness of Heaven's blessing will daily be their portion as they journey heart in heart and hand in hand through life. W. T. Hooper.

BEST-THRIFT.-In the Albion church, on the evening of November 25, 1945, Brother George Best and Sister Doreen Thrift were united in the sacred and loving bonds of matrimony. Brother Best comes from South New Zealand, and has been engaged in evangelical work in the Queensland Conference, while the bride has faithfully served God through the Sanitarium Health Food Company. These young people have been much appreciated. As they leave Australia to answer a call which takes them back to the bridegroom's homeland, the good wishes and prayers from many hearts will follow them. May their united ministry be ever used of Heaven to extend and strengthen the work W. T. Hooper. of God.

NOLAN-RUDD .- On the evening of January 14, 1946, the Inverell church was filled with relatives and friends who had gathered to witness the marriage of two well-known young people. The contracting parties were Cpl. Harry P. Nolan, A.I.F., second son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Nolan of Serina, Qld., and Betty Rudd, B.A., daughter of Mrs. M. and the late Mr. H.

## AUSTRALASIAN RECORD

Official Organ of the AUSTRALASIAN UNION CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

Editor:	-	-	-	<u>A</u> .	G.	Ste	war	t
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Rudd of Inverell, N.S.W. Prior to their marriage the bridegroom had been serving his country with the A.I.F. in the Pacific Islands, while the bride had been engaged in school teaching in Victoria. In the absence of an ordained minister of the Adventist faith the Rev. Boltie (Methodist) officiated. We wish Brother and Sister Nolan every success and happiness as they walk life's pathway together.

W. H. Turner.

SCOTTON-FENTON.-On November 21, 1945, the residence of Brother James Fenton, Dumaresq, N.S.W., was tastefully decorated for the marriage of Verna Sylvia, fourth daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Fenton, to Owen Elmer, second son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Scotton of Arding, N.S.W. After the ceremony the guests were entertained in the home of the bride's parents. We extend to this devoted couple our heartiest good wishes, praying that God will abundantly bless them as they unitedly share the blessings and responsibilities of O. K. Anderson. life.

CRAIGIE-DUFFY.—On December 3, 1945, the Avondale church was beautifully decorated by the deft fingers of Brother Bohringer and friends for the marriage of Lily Duffy, eldest daughter of Mrs. Lily Duffy and the late Mr. Oliver Andrew Duffy of Tea Gardens, N.S.W., to Raymond Craigie, eldest son of Mrs. Lily Craigie of Hobart, Tasmania, and the late Mr. An-drew Craigie. The bridegroom has spent two years as a ministerial student at the Australasian Missionary College, where he will continue to further his studies, and the bride has served as a worker in the Sanitarium Health Food Factory at Avondale for some years. After the ceremony the guests were received and entertained at the S.H.F. dining-room. We extend our congratulations, and the happy couple carry the good wishes of their many friends. May God graciously bless them as they tread life's pathway together. O. K. Anderson.

PYE-SPEERS.—The Parramatta church, N.S.W., was the scene of a very happy wedding ceremony in the afternoon of January 7, 1946. The contracting parties were Alexander Edward Pye, son of Sister A. M. Pye of Mortdale, and Olga Bertha Speers, daughter of the late Sister C. Speers of Sydney. For the past twelve months the bride has been engaged as nurse on the staff of the Sydney Social Service Centre. In this capacity she has rendered very helpful and much-appreciated service. That the newly wedded

couple shall be permitted to enjoy to the full all that God plans for them in this life, and continue their happy association through an endless eternity is the prayer of the celebrant and writer. W. Morris.

RUDGE-BRUCE .--- At Tumut, N.S.W., on the morning of January 16th, Glenn Athol, eldest son of Pastor and Mrs. E. B. Rudge of Wahroonga, was united in marriage with Bessie, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Bruce of Tumut. The bridegroom recently returned from New Guinea after two and a half years' service with ANGAU, and expects to resume service at St. George Hospital, Kogarah, of which institution the bride is a recent graduate. The good wishes and prayers of a large circle of friends go with the newly wedded couple as they unitedly serve the needs of suffering humanity. E. B. Rudge,

STAFFORD-TROOD.—On December 19, 1945. in the Avondale church, N.S.W., which had been tastefully decorated for the ceremony, Calvin Ronald, son of Brother and Sister C. Stafford of Morisset Road, Cooranbong, and Beryl Jean, daughter of Brother and Sister J. H. Trood of Morisset Road, Cooranbong, were united in the sacred bonds of matrimony. They carry with them the best wishes of the many friends who gathered to witness the ceremony. Brother Calvin, having spent some time in the colporteur work prior to his appointment to the evangelistic staff of the North N.S.W. Conference, has been asked to locate at Taree, where he now resides with his wife. We wish them Heaven's richest blessing as they journey life's pathway together. W. E. Rudge.

ROOM TO LET. Adventist woman has a furnished room with use of kitchen to let to another Adventist; 8s. 6d. per week. Mrs. V. Shepherd, Noble St., Barwon Heads, Vic.

WANTED URGENTLY. S.D.A. woman to do cooking and assist with housework. Good home. Write to Mrs. F. Lee, "Wickham." Harcourt, Vic., or phone Harcourt 46.

WANTED. An elderly sister, who can care for herself, wants either a furnished room or board. Write 59 Homebush Road, Strathfield, or phone UM6842.

WANTED URGENTLY! 10,000 used Pacific Islands stamps. Save any you receive and forward together with any other used stamps to Home Missions Secretary, Box 27, Hamilton, N.S.W.

WANTED TO ADOPT. Mother anxious to adopt girl about ten years of age as companion for own child same age; orphan or motherless preferred. Good country home offered. For further particulars write Mrs. D. Little, Dromedary, Tasmania.

GIRLS WANTED for work at health food factory. Good conditions, beautiful surroundings, award rates as minimum wages: opportunity to earn extra on piece work. Social and recreational facilities provided. Accommodation at reasonable rates can be arranged. Fares refunded under certain conditions. The company has been released from man-power restrictions. Be in the Lord's work now. Write to The Manager, Sanitarium Health Food Company, Cooranbong, N.S.W.

## AUSTRALASIAN RECORD

## BREVITIES

It was a pleasure to meet Spr. J. W. Sowden at Wahroonga church recently on his way to West Australia from New Guinea where he has been on active service.

Pastor D. H. Watson and family recently returned to-New Zealand from Pitcairn Island where they have served for the past two years. They have been granted three months' furlough, part of which they will probably spend in Australia.

Brother and Sister C. Raphael who have been labouring in Samoa have found it necessary to return to the homeland for health reasons. It is expected that Brother Raphael will be engaged in evangelistic work in the North New Zealand Conference.

On his return to Sydney after three years' absence overseas, we were pleased to make the acquaintance of Sgt. R. E. Tretheway. While in Cairo he attended our church at Heliopolis, and also had the privilege of visiting our college in Beirut. Sgt. Tretheway is awaiting opportunity to proceed to his home town in Wellington, N.Z.

After considerable delay in securing a passage to New Zealand, Pastor R. A. Anderson finally got away by plane on Thursday, January 31, to fulfil an intensive programme of meetings in several of the largest centres of our believers. We believe his visit, though somewhat curtailed, will be a real inspiration to our workers and people in the Dominion.

In a letter recently received from Lt. I. F. Metcalf of the U.S. services, he writes: "The kindness of the Seventh-day Adventists in Sydney will long be remembered by me. I arrived back in the States last June, and after spending some time in hospital am now back at work hoping for my release soon. Again I wish to thank you for your kindness."

On Sabbath afternoon, January 26, the last Sabbath of the Victorian Conference, Brother E. A. Turner, the Home Missions and Sabbath School Secretary of the Conference, was solemnly set apart by ordination to the gospel ministry. The services on this Sabbath, which were held in the Prahran town hall, were very well attended, and in the presence of almost all the ordained ministers and workers of this conference this solemn and inspiring meeting was conducted with becoming reverence and respect. We bespeak for Pastor E. A. Turner, his wife and family, an interest in the prayers of God's people, and trust that his ministry may be productive of much good.

Except a living man there is nothing more wonderful than a book—a message to us from the dead—from human souls whom we never saw, who lived, perhaps, thousands of miles away; and yet these, on those little sheets of paper, speak to us, amuse us, vivify us, teach us, comfort us, open their hearts to us as brothers. C. Kingsley.

## Appeal for Missions

W. G. TURNER, A.U.C. Secretary

One of the most fruitful plans ever introduced to us as a missionary people is the annual Appeal for Missions. Since its commencement in North America in 1902, launched as it was by an earnest layman Jasper Wayne by name, in the State of Iowa, this appeal has brought millions of dollars to the treasury and has been used in the plan of God to lead a number of souls to the truth.

Frequently the personal contact and the magazine left in someone's hands accomplish results much greater than is generally known until some time later. For instance, while in South America I learned this rather interesting fact: An ardent Roman Catholic farmer in Parana, North Brazil, received a copy of our Appeal for Missions magazine. Up until this time he had heard nothing of Seventhday Adventists; but as he read the magazine, to his astonishment he learned of the true Sabbath. Being a man of deep conviction and with the Spirit of God im-pressing his heart, he determined to observe the next Sabbath as holy unto the Lord. He told his wife of his decision, and on the morning of the Sabbath he went away alone and prayed, but somehow little peace came to his soul. This somewhat perplexed him so he thought, "I must put on my best clothes today for this is God's Sabbath. I must prepare my appearance for the holy day." He told his wife of this impression, and suggested that both she and the children do the same. They did this and then all came together and prayed, but even yet the man felt unsatisfied. Again he thought, and then he said to his wife that the Lord could not give the fullness of His

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ADVENT RADIO CHURCH									
BROADCASTS									
(EVERY SUNDAY)									
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2HR - 6.00	o.m. 38H	- 6.00 p.m.							
2TM - 6.00	o.m. 3GL	- 6.15 p.m.							
2AD - 6.30	o.m. 3 <b>UL</b>	- 6.15 p.m.							
2GB - 5.30	o.m. $3CV$	- 5.30 p.m.							
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blessing until his employees ceased their work on the farm during the Sabbath day.

He then went out and called his men together and told them of his decision, saying that they were not to work any longer during that day, nor on any subsequent Sabbath were they to work for him.

Returning to his wife and family again the man kneeled, and there broke upon his heart an experience of peace and joy that never before had been his.

Following the Sabbath he found the address of the Brazilian Publishing House in the magazine, so he wrote asking for further instruction. A worker visited him with the result that ten men and women of the home, farm, and community were baptized into the church of God. Somehow or another the Appeal for Missions does get results.

We are just commencing the 1946 campaign in the Australasian field. During the year 1945 the Lord blessed the united efforts of our workers and church members with the splendid sum of £32,091. This is the best recorded yet. This year should be even better, for our needs are much greater, and now the mission fields are opening once more before us. Missionaries are returning, stations are being rebuilt, and much-needed boats are being provided. Costs have tremendously increased, and we appeal to all to make the 1946 Appeal for Missions campaign the most outstanding, in both financial re-turns and souls, that we have ever recorded in the Australasian Union Conference.

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## From Aleppo, Syria

A letter from Brother Chafic Srour, our worker in Aleppo, Syria, says:---

"No doubt you would like to know about my work here in Aleppo. I hold meetings in the homes of the people every night except Friday, when I have the meeting in my own home for the new members. Many attend these meetings. From sixty to one hundred and thirty persons come to hear the gospel message. I use the projector in my services. Many thousands, including doctors, lawyers, business men, officers, rich and poor, have heard the truth. I have made the acquaintance of many high-ranking men, and I am presenting to them the good news of the second coming of our Lord. Even Moslems like to attend the meetings.

"T am very happy in the work, and now have some persons who are interested, who I hope will soon accept the truth and join the church. I spend every morning in prayer, reading, and meditation. In the afternoon I visit the people in their shops. Sometimes I take my wife with me to the homes of the people. They are surprised to hear that we are in the last days and that soon Christ will come. They have never before heard such teaching. Wherever I go I present to the people the truth about the second coming of Christ. I am hoping to hold a big effort in the city soon, but I must have help.

"It is always difficult to start work in a new place. Here in Aleppo the priests were very angry, and many times they preached in their churches, telling the people not to invite me to their homes. Once some people wanted to do me harm, but God did not allow it. Here most of the Christians are Catholics. Remember us in your prayers."