



Great Memories of a Great Meeting

Outstanding Impressions of the General Conference

By Arthur S. Maxwell

THE forty-third session of the General Conference is over. The last hymn has been sung, the last sermon preached, the last resolution passed, the last prayer offered.

There is something dreadfully eerie about this auditorium now. All is dark and silent, save only for the distant tap-tap of a typewriter and a gleam of light under the door of the editorial department.

As rapidly as it formed three weeks ago the great crowd has melted away. Delegates and friends have said their last good-bye and now are hurrying back across continents and oceans to their posts of duty.

Standing here alone in the gloom and quietness, the great memories of this conference come flooding through my mind.

First, perhaps, those mighty hosts of worshippers on the two Sabbaths of the conference—surely this was something unique in history.

Brother Kohtanen, of Finland, said to me to-day: "I never realized be-

fore that there were so many Seventh-Day Adventists in the world." Many, I am sure, felt just the same.

WONDERFUL REPORTS

Then, the great mission reports from the Division leaders. These were truly the most remarkable records of Gospel triumphs since Luke wrote the book of Acts. They have left an ineffaceable memory of an advancing, heaven-inspired, all-conquering movement.

The morning Bible studies have been especially helpful, notably the outstanding message from W. A.

Spicer on "The Coming of the Advent Message."

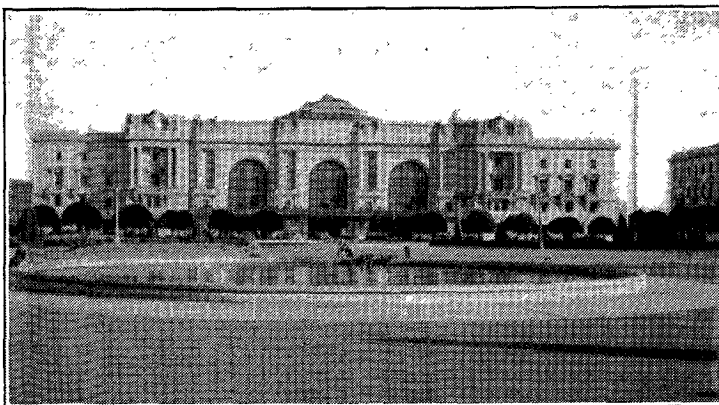
I have been glad, too, to hear addresses by so many experienced evangelists who hitherto have been but names in the *Year Book* to me—John Ford, H. M. S. Richards, C. T. Everson of the United States, and J. W. Kent of Australia. It was a good plan to have these well-known soul-winners on the programme with missionaries from heathen lands.

Speaking of the programme reminds me of its splendid variety and general excellence, and especially of the musical contributions. Both choir and soloists rendered most acceptable service. And when all else is forgotten I shall go on

humming to myself that exquisite little melody with which every service was so reverently ushered in:

"There is a place of
calm retreat
Close to the heart
of God."

Yes, and shall I ever forget that grand solo of Carlyle B. Haynes: "What! Never Part Again." He



The Civic Auditorium, San Francisco, where the General Conference was held.



Kata Ragoša, a chief of the Solomon Islands, with one of the idols his people once worshipped. He is now a powerful Adventist preacher.

sings it, I am told, at every General Conference—it is part of the institution—but somehow it grows richer in volume and in meaning every time.

But now I can almost hear you saying, "Brother Maxwell, won't you give us your general impressions, just what you think yourself of the conference as a whole?" I will.

Honestly, I think it was a very fine meeting. It had its weak spots, like all human endeavours, but these were few and far between.

"It has been a good conference," said W. T. Bartlett to me after the last meeting, with emphasis upon the "good." He was right. I feel exactly the same about it.

A WORLD MOVEMENT

I was glad to notice the widening horizons of a one-time somewhat parochial people. I found, with great satisfaction, that many brethren were awakening at last to the realization that this is, after all, a world movement.

One still finds the objectionable word "foreign" placarded in various places and incorporated in sundry documents, but a motion to substitute for it the word "overseas" was enthusiastically adopted by the entire delegation. There will be no "foreigners," I predict, next time.

Then, too, I was impressed with the friendliness of everybody, and the lack of serious criticism of leaders or policies which sometimes finds its way into large meetings of this kind. So far as I could see, such an unfortunate element was entirely absent. Self-seeking was non-existent, and I am sure God was pleased.

Again, I was particularly impressed with the astonishing evidences of the power of the Gospel to "save unto the uttermost." This was brought home to us all so convincingly, so many times, in so many ways, and from so many places, that I know many felt overwhelmed by it. The presence of many native brethren and sis-



Pastor Wilson a native evangelist from the Gold Coast and Isaac Xiba Nkomo of Rhodesia.

ters from distant mission fields and their cultured, ringing testimony for Jesus, was one of the most powerful, uplifting influences of the conference.

God is undoubtedly doing a marvellous work in the earth.

Which brings me to my outstanding impres-

sion—and that is, that, despite all the weaknesses, all the frailties, all the inefficiencies of men, methods, and means, God is definitely, unquestionably, leading this Advent people onward to astonishing victories in all the earth.

Truly it is "not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord."

A TREMENDOUS HOUR

Something tremendous is happening. If we do not realize it, then we are blind and deaf.

While other mission societies have been retreating, Seventh-Day Adventists have advanced. Neither the World War, nor the subsequent world depression, was able to hinder the onward march of this movement. There has been enormous progress in recent years. The attention of the world is being directed upon us. Governments of the great powers are granting us unexpected favours, even calling upon us for help.

Undoubtedly, if God should see fit to allow another General Conference to assemble in 1940, the story that will then be told will stagger the world—and us.

It is a great hour in history. The Spirit of God is moving upon all peoples. He has made bare His holy arm to finish the work and bring about the consummation of His eternal purpose. Let us make no mistake about it, "The final movements will be rapid ones." God give us all vision to understand the times and grace to do His will therein.



Delegates leaving the Auditorium after one of the sessions.

Seventy-Three Years of Progress

Striking World Statistics presented at the General Conference

"At the close of 1935," declared H. E. Rogers, the statistical secretary of the General Conference, "this work was conducted in 353 countries and islands, by 25,000 evangelistic and institutional labourers, who are using in their work 573 languages and dialects. This increase in languages has come mainly during the past fifteen years, and it is possible that it is an increase greater than that shown by any other movement during the same period of time. The increase in languages during the interim since the last session of the General Conference has been 179, or one new language added on an average of every twelve days. The increase in countries and islands in which work was begun during 1935 was 28, and in new languages in which work is conducted, 34.

"The work," he continued, "is carried on throughout the world by twelve divisions, comprising 69 Union conferences, 146 local conferences, and 320 missions—a total of 547 evangelistic organizations, employing 11,600 evangelistic labourers, with 443 associated institutions, with which are connected 13,400 persons—a total of 25,000 labourers employed by the denomination in all lines of work

carried on, or one labourer actively employed for every eighteen churchmembers.

"On December 31, 1935, the membership of the 8,000 churches of the denomination throughout the world was 422,968. This is a gain of 123,413 in the entire world since the last session of this body,



A representative from Mexico in picturesque Spanish garb.

and is equivalent to a gain in membership greater by 5,642 than the entire membership in the United States and Canada at the time of the last session of the General Conference. Another comparison will show the rapid growth this cause is making in all the world when it is stated that the increase in mem-



A striking figure at the conference, representative of one of the Red Indian tribes of the United States.

bers during the past six years is equivalent to the membership in all the world up to 1914, or seventy years after the beginning of this movement.

"In North America in 1929, there were 117,771 churchmembers. The membership in this country had increased to 157,507 by 1935, an increase of 39,736, or 33.82 per cent. In 1929 all the Divisions outside of North America had a membership of 181,784, which had increased to 265,461 by 1935, an increase of 83,677, or a gain of 46.03 per cent. The average gain of all Divisions is 41.20 per cent. The greatest percentage gain in membership is shown by the Southern African Division, 100.21 per cent; while Inter-America stands second, with 92.66 per cent."

The Northern European Division comes eighth on the list with an increase of 35.15 per cent.

The number of persons baptized, and joining on profession of faith, and connecting with the denomination from 1929 to 1934 was as follows:

Year	No. Baptized
1929.....	29,371
1930.....	28,536
1931.....	34,859
1932.....	41,629
1933.....	40,952
1934.....	38,809

Since the last General Conference work has been started in 214



A group of General Conference leaders.

new countries and islands, an increase of 153.96 per cent, and 4,722 labourers have been added to the working force in various branches of the work, representing an increase of 23.29 per cent. During 1935, 123 new recruits, not including children or those returning from furlough, were sent to mission lands.

In 1863 when the General Conference was organized, Seventh-Day Adventists paid tithes to the extent of £1,600. In 1934 they paid in tithes £1,063,726, besides raising and giving another £914,917 for missions. The grand total of tithes paid by the denomination since 1863 has reached the stupendous figure of £24,218,785, while other mission offerings during the same period total £19,455,756.

Throughout the world field there are 69 publishing houses staffed by 1,090 employees. Literature is printed in 169 languages and comprises 7,182 publications (including 250 periodicals) totalling 529,636 pages. The cost of one copy of each book, periodical, and tract would be £417. During 1934 the total value of literature sold throughout the world was £683,269.

In the sixty-nine sanitariums and sixty-two treatment-rooms operated by the denomination, 903 qualified doctors and 5,066 nurses and other helpers are at work.

Indicative of the extensive educational work of Seventh-Day Adventists is the fact that they operate 2,130 elementary schools with 2,896 teachers and an enrolment of 72,625 pupils, as well as 214 intermediate schools and colleges staffed by 2,459 teachers and with an enrolment of 25,117 students.

During the past six years sixty-eight new institutions have been established, comprising eleven publishing houses, twenty-five sanitariums, eleven treatment-rooms, ten advanced schools, and eleven health food factories.

Summing up the outstanding features of his report, H. E. Rogers stated: "The church membership was never so high as at the present time, the gain since the last session of the General Conference being greater than in

any other interim, even exceeding the membership in the United States and Canada at the last session of the General Conference.

"The number of countries and islands in which this work is carried forward now stands higher than ever before, having reached 353, or practically the entire world; while the number of languages—573—in which this work is now conducted has reached an unprecedented figure, the gain coming mainly during the last fifteen years, and it is possible that this is an increase greater than that shown by any other move-

ment in any similar period of time.

"We might ask," he said, "Why this effort to reach these lands and the peoples speaking these languages? The answer is found in the words of our Saviour: 'This Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.' Matt. 24:14. To the Seventh-Day Adventist people has been committed the task of carrying this Gospel of the kingdom to all the world. When this has been done, we may confidently look for the end of all things. May we then be found faithful."

SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE

President: Pastor R. S. Joyce

Office Address: Midland Bank Chambers, 506 Holloway Road, London, N.7

Telephone: Archway 1927.

Twenty-first Anniversary at Croscombe

ON Sabbath, June 13th, the Croscombe Church was tastefully decorated with fresh green leaves and beautiful flowers to celebrate its twenty-first anniversary.

In the morning service, the writer took his text from Psalm 105:5, "Remember His marvellous works that He hath done," and spoke of the care God had taken of this church through the years. He had done great things for His church, and still had great plans in mind for her. The church choir, under the leadership of A. C. Johnson, sang suitable pieces, making our worship inspiring and interesting.

In the afternoon, Pastor G. Keough, who has spent many years in Egypt, gave a rousing missionary address on "Customs of the Egyptians."

The children's Sunday afternoon service, followed by the evening preaching service, was also taken by Pastor Keough, whose vivid illustrations and original biblical expositions imparted a spiritual tonic.

The following Monday, at 7.30 p.m., a sacred concert was arranged, conducted entirely by local

church talent, the writer being the chairman. Tableaux, duets, recitations, children's pieces, dialogues, interspersed with beautiful anthems by the choir, occupied a full two hours and revealed what time and concentrated enthusiasm young and old had put into this programme. The hall was full, many friends and Salvation Army officers being present. A good collection was taken for church expenses.

We will all remember this twenty-first anniversary. May God keep each member enthusiastic for His glory in the village of Croscombe.

JOHN G. BEVAN.

Preparing for Service Holloway First Aid Class

A FEW months ago a number of young men from the Holloway, Wood Green, and Tottenham churches formed a class in First Aid under the auspices of the St. John Ambulance Association. Dr. George Boyd of The Stanboroughs was the instructor, and very kindly gave his services free of charge to aid the young men in their endeavour.

Apart from the every-day value of a knowledge of first aid, these

young men felt that it may prove valuable in keeping them out of combatant service in any future war.

As the course progressed a few dropped out for various reasons, but fourteen took the examination conducted by the St. John Association, and only one was unsuccessful.

Our thanks are due to our

heavenly Father for His aid, to Dr. Boyd for his services, and to the Holloway Church for the use of its lecture hall for all the lectures and the examination.

We record this venture in the belief that other young men, and young women, too, will be inspired to fit themselves a little better for service to humanity in cases of emergency. A. J. MUSTARD.

NORTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE

President: Pastor O. M. Dorland.

Office Address: 22 Zulla Road, Mapperley Park, Nottingham.

Telephone: Nottingham 6312.

Thirteenth Sabbath News from Mansfield

ON Sabbath, June 27th, our company of twelve spent a most enjoyable hour. After carrying out the usual programme up to the missions reading, we found a good time was in store for us; as the rest of the period was devoted to the Thirteenth Sabbath programme.

The junior members, under the leadership of Sister Wilkinson, inspired us by rendering a medley of delightful and instructive items, including an interesting song entitled, "God invested all with Jesus."

When the offering was taken up we were all anxious to know if we had reached our quarter's goal of £3. 15s. The cash was quickly counted and, beyond all expectation, we found the amount to be £2. 0s. 6d.! Adding this to the offering for the other twelve Sabbaths, we found we had exceeded the goal by 17s., the total being £4. 12s.!

The juniors played a large part in raising this amount. One of the boys, aged eight, saved a certain threepence he was given to spend each week, and the other juniors, a girl and boy, respectively eleven and six, saved many of the pennies they received each week from acquaintances. Their happy faces as they handed in their offerings testified to the fact that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

MARGARET STENDALL.

The Work Will Be Finished

WE have come down to the closing scenes of the Gospel dispensation, and the time has come for God to cut short His work in righteousness.

"Time is short, our forces must be organized to do a larger work." —*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, page 27.

Surely it is high time for the world to be moved and stirred by the saving truth of God. "Thy people shall be willing in the day of Thy power." The Lord who has called us to "go" has made provision for our success, if we but have faith in His infinite power. The call to a courageous advance is needed most in this crisis hour.

We believe that the majority of our people understand the importance of the truth for this time, but it cannot be emphasized too often. May we not have the cooperation of every member in every church and company, including the isolated, in the circulation of our truth-filled literature?

Usually, when persons read themselves into the truth, they are even stronger than when they accept it merely through hearing it preached.

The ministry of literature has proved very effective in the winning of souls, and thousands of people are rejoicing in the blessed truth because of the faithful labours of the colporteur-evangelist.

Opportunities for making personal contact with souls in the in-

terest of the message are all about us, and it is very encouraging to know that many who are not members with us are used by the Lord to circulate our literature. We have been informed of several who are taking a number of copies of each issue of *Present Truth* to send regularly to their relatives and friends. One very enthusiastic member of another church in Nottingham bought three dozen copies of *An Hour With Your Bible* to give to his fellow-members.

It is generally admitted that the weather during the past few months has been very unfavourable, and at times would tend to hinder our regular colporteurs in their work, but we are thankful to say that they have remained faithful to their task and the Lord has greatly blessed their labours.

We are very happy to report that Brother A. S. Maxwell's latest book, *Our Wonderful Bible*, is greatly appreciated everywhere we go.

It has been my privilege again this summer to visit our student colporteurs in the field. The majority are out for the first time. One week was spent with Brethren G. Brown and R. Vine at Driffild, Yorkshire, and the Lord gave us good success in that small country town.

The people at Warrington, Lancashire, and Runcorn, Cheshire, where Brethren B. Ainsworth and R. Keough are canvassing were delighted with the work they were doing, and almost one hundred per cent gave their order for *Our Wonderful Bible*.

The past week Brethren H. Newton and R. Darbyshire made a start in the villages on the outskirts of Nottingham, and the results were beyond our expectations.

Another young man who is planning to go to college, and is canvassing one of the suburbs of Nottingham with *Our Wonderful Bible*, is meeting with good success.

These times demand genuinely consecrated colporteurs who have the spirit of Christ in their hearts. If the cause can find such men, the work will advance marvellously. We are told that the colporteur work will continue until probation closes.

D. DAVIES.

The Ministry of Literature

An Appreciation

WE feel almost duty bound to express to our colporteurs and churchmembers a word of deep, sincere appreciation for the way in which they have, with renewed vigour, taken up the sale and distribution of our periodicals. This is something we have worked and hoped for for some time past, and we are delighted to report that, recently, we almost reached the place where demand actually exceeded supply—a most welcome change!

We have accordingly adjusted ourselves to the new situation, and although our printing orders have been increased by thousands, we have had embarrassing moments in knowing just how to fill the orders as they have continued to come in.

Our health journal, *Good Health*, is enjoying a rapid recovery, so much so that a reprint of the very attractive June number became necessary. The periodicals in their present form reflect, we feel sure you will agree, the strenuous efforts which have been directed toward producing really attractive and "value for money" papers. It is our aim that our periodicals shall be attractive yet at the same time dignified and free from the offensive and objectionable advertising matter which characterizes many secular magazines. Our health magazine is intended solely for the presentation of the principles of healthful living in all its aspects, while *Present Truth* must continue its God-appointed mission of carrying "wonderful words of life" to all who read its pages.

It is a source of great encouragement to us to know that men and women have definitely changed their ways of living through the message of the printed page. Some, through reading *Good Health*, have become ardent supporters of the health message, and are now assisting in its promulgation. Others, through reading *Present Truth*, have surrendered their lives wholeheartedly to the cause of God and have become veritable pillars of

strength in the Advent movement.

Yes, friends, great and wonderful things have been and still can be accomplished through the distribution of our truth-filled literature. Who can possibly assess the value of the faithful work done by such stalwarts as Brethren Smart, Binks, Lacey, McGougan, Smith, Cowley, Conroy, and the many others who are engaged in this divinely-appointed work?

Let us remember that *Present Truth* will enable us to *present* truth, and that *Good Health* will actually and quite literally promote good health among all who heed its counsel.

For all the good work you have done, and we trust will continue to do, we thank you, and pray God's richest blessing as you associate with the literature ministry which surely, after all, is missionary endeavour of the highest order.

A. GEORGE RODGERS.



Alongside the Irish Sea with "Our Wonderful Bible"

"LEAD me, dear Lord, by Thine own hand," we often pray and we surely are conscious that God does lead us by His own hand. We can sing from our hearts that other line, "So long Thy power hath blessed me."

Not long ago the Lord guided me to a little whitewashed cottage down by the side of the Irish Sea. All day I had toiled without result, and at last there was left only this poor little cottage, which I had passed earlier in the day. Although I did not know the name of the occupant, I approached the door, knocked, and when it was opened, addressed the person: "Good-afternoon! Mrs. Jones?"

"Yes," my prospect replied (much to my relief).

"I am Mr. W——, Mrs. Jones," I resumed. "It is good to find you at home to-day, because I would like to speak with you briefly."

"Well, come in then."

Emerging some time later, I was

rejoicing with two more names in my prospectus.

How was it done?

Well, first of all, Mrs. Jones had a sister Mrs. Davies, who lived a little way up the road. I had called on Mrs. Davies' home before but found her away. Now the Lord led me to Mrs. Jones, just when her sister was paying a visit.

Yes, the Lord *does* still lead by His own hand.

W. H. WALKLETT.

At Rest

BOOTH.—On June 9, 1936, Mrs. Selina Booth passed away at the City Lodge, Cardiff, aged eighty-one years. It was in the month of November, 1912, that Sister Booth (then Sister King) was baptized, having accepted the message under the labours of Pastor Washburn. She and her husband, Brother King, spent some years of faithful service in the colporteur work. For some time Sister Booth had been confined to a bed of suffering. When visited by the writer she would frequently say, "Oh, I long to fall asleep in Jesus and leave this old world." The Lord has graciously granted her desire and she now sleeps in Jesus in sure and certain hope of a glorious resurrection. Our sincere sympathy is extended to the relatives who mourn their loss.

T. H. COOPER.

Advertisements

SEND YOUR printing orders to S.D.A. firm and employ more S.D.A.s. Visiting cards to catalogues. Samples sent. Satisfied customers everywhere. "Success" Printing Service, Portslade, Sussex.

ADVENTIST sister requires post as companion-housekeeper. Full responsibility. Age 33. Write: E.B., 7 Woodside Lane, Finchley, London, N.12.

WANTED.—General maid, experience not essential. Good home; within reach Stanborough Park; Sabbath privileges. Interview: 75 Gallows Hill, Kings Langley.

TRACTS urgently wanted, Southampton Church. Will any person or church having surplus tracts please forward to: Mrs. Langford, 21 Lemon Road, Shirley, Southampton.

WANTED.—Situation by young man, age 26, with expert knowledge of tomato growing, market gardening, also capable motor-driver. Apply: H. Crocker, 58 Beaumont Street, Stoke, Devonport.

FREE exchange of homes—Kensington for seaside or country. Accommodation: two double, one single bedroom, two reception rooms, kitchen, bathroom (geyser). Write: Noble, Java House, Perham Road, W. Kensington.

WANTED.—Qualified masseuse for permanent post. South coast. Apply: Masseuse, 2 Eaton Vale, Brighton 7.

QUADRENNIAL SESSION.—Private camping equipment for hire. Tents, beds, blankets, stoves, etc. Send for list. E. Merchant, Alton Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY two S.D.A. girls to associate as cook-general and nurse-housemaid. Three children. Uniform. Sabbath privileges. Both free first week August to attend conference. Write: Mrs. Thomas, 7 Avenue St. Nicholas, Harpenden, Herts.

Quadrennial Session News

An Invitation

WE wish to pass on word to our young people that everything is now ready for the Annual M.V. Camp, which is to be held at Stanborough Park this year. Quoting from a letter we have received from one who resides on the Park, he speaks of it as being "one of the most beautiful spots in Hertfordshire. The estate and surrounding woods are especially beautiful during the summer months and in such an environment, so admirably suited to the requirements of campers, a perfect holiday is ensured."

Yes, a perfect holiday! in perfect surroundings! in perfect company! What more could you wish for? We extend to you a very hearty welcome to join us for the full ten days, July 30th to August 9th.

If you have not already done so, hurry up and fill in the form below and send it to Pastor F. W. Goodall if you are in Scotland, Ireland, or Wales, and if you are in the North Conference send to Mr. J. H. Parkin, or in the South England Conference then send to the writer. H. T. JOHNSON.

Apartments for the Quadrennial Session

MANY applications for accommodation and apartments have been received from our churchmembers and delegates for the forthcoming Union Conference session, and it seems that the time is at hand

SUNSET CALENDAR

	Lon'n	Not'm	Car'ff	Edin	Bel't
July 24th	9.00	9.11	9.13	9.34	9.38
July 31st	8.50	9.01	9.03	9.22	9.28

BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

Published fortnightly on Friday for the British Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists by The Stanborough Press Ltd., Watford, Herts.

Copy for next issue.—July 16th.

EDITOR: A. S. MAXWELL.

when we should explain that the Union Conference Committee have found it necessary to appoint a special committee to deal with the finding of suitable accommodation and apartments for our members visiting Stanborough Park during the conference session. This committee is called the Location Committee, and we will be glad if you will send all applications including the Apartments Reservation Form to Pastor W. Maudsley, Chairman, Apartments Location Committee, c/o B.U.C. Office, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts. A. CAREY.

Wedding Bells

CASBURN—BREWER.—On June 1st, at Wellingborough, Miss Violet Brewer was united in marriage to Edward Casburn. It was a very happy day as a large number of friends gathered at the Baptist Church kindly loaned for the occasion. Pastor Keough conducted the service and spoke appropriate words to the bride and bridegroom, who are both active members of the Wellingborough Sabbath-school. We wish them the rich blessing of God as they continue together in His service. L. CASBURN, Church Clerk.

Recent Changes

(Continued from last page.)

We are grateful for the developments which have come in our Sanitarium work during the past few years. We are thankful for the Hospital, the Maternity Department, and the Welfare Clinic, as well as the improvements which have been made in the Sanitarium itself. But the work in the field needs to be strengthened. We should have a large number of private clinics established all over the country, where our health principles can be made known. The health work needs building up in our churches, and the work of our Food Factory needs the continued sympathetic care and co-operation of all our people.

Shall we not determine, in the strength of God, to go forward in the new quadrennial period with renewed courage and hope in God, setting our goals higher and still higher? Shall we not plead with God for larger results in our work; then work with consecrated energy, and lay hold of the arm of Omnipotence, to enable the Lord to accomplish mighty things for His people?

Missionary Volunteer Camp—Quadrennial Session, 1936

I AM planning to attend the Young People's Camp at Stanborough Park (D.V.) July 30th to August 9th.

Name

Address

Age

I enclose registration fee of 6d.

British Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists 1936 Quadrennial Session, July 30th to August 9th

PLEASE reserve for me the following accommodation:

Single bedrooms Double bedrooms Private sitting-rooms

for the period inclusive

I wish to take the following meals at my rooms

I wish to take the following meals at the Conference cafeteria

Name in full

Address

Fill up and cut out this form and send to The Secretary, British Union Conference, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts., who will pass it over to the Location Committee.

Recent Changes

By W. E. Read

IN recent issues of the MESSENGER reports have appeared concerning the General Conference, which was held at San Francisco. This gathering of leaders from the ends of the earth was a remarkable meeting, and one which will long be remembered by all who were privileged to attend. It was an important meeting, in many respects, and particularly because the time had come for so many changes to be made in our world work. Some of these were due to sickness, and others to the application of the term of office regulation, adopted a few years ago. Information as to these changes has already been passed on to our believers, but there are perhaps some to which reference should be made at this time.

In our own Division family there will be several new members. Brother L. H. Christian, Brother E. D. Dick, and Brother C. V. Anderson remain on the other side of the Atlantic, and their places will be taken by others. You have already learned that the writer has been called to take up work in the Division, and this, of course, leaves a vacancy in our own Union. This matter will of necessity be given consideration by the Nominating Committee at the time of the forthcoming Quadrennial Session. According to recent decisions of the General Conference, the other members of the Division family will be as follows:

Secretary.—J. I. Robison.

Treasurer.—E. R. Colson.

Publishing Department Secretary.—L. A. Vixie.

Field Secretary.—

T. T. Babienco.

Ministerial Association and Sabbath-School Department Secretary.—W. T. Bartlett.

Educational Secretary.—

J. I. Robison.

Medical Department Secretary.—Dr. A. Anderson.

Home Missionary Department Secretary.—E. G. Nord.

Missionary Volunteer Department Secretary.—H. W. Lowe.

Another change which affects our field is the call for Brother Roy Anderson by the brethren on

the Pacific Coast. This matter came up soon after our arrival at the General Conference, and as Brother Anderson felt the call to be from the Lord, and that the time had come for him to change his field of labour, for the time being at least, the matter was voted through at the General Conference session.

We are sorry that these brethren with whom we have become acquainted, and with whom we have enjoyed sweet fellowship during the years, will be so far removed from us that we shall not have the benefit of their association and counsel. We certainly wish them God-speed in their new spheres of service for the Master, and would assure them that we greatly appreciate the faithful labours which they have rendered to the cause of truth in our field.

In entering upon my work in the Division, I wish to take this opportunity of mentioning to the brethren and sisters throughout the Union, that I have found a special joy in my ministry during the past few years. I cannot think of any period in my work during the years when I have enjoyed working with the brethren so much as during the past quadrennial period. There has been such a kindly spirit of co-operation and sympathetic interest, also a willingness to shoulder burdens in the work of God. God has given us a splendid body of men in the Union Committee, and it is to the faithful, untiring efforts of these brethren, coupled with the loyal co-operation of both ministers and churchmembers, that any success which has come to us is really due.

As we face a new quadrennium, shall we not resolve that we will attempt even greater things for God. There are some matters to which we should give careful and prayerful attention:

1. *We must build up more strongly our membership.*

This, after all, is the most important thing in the work of the threefold message. Our commission is "to preach" the everlasting Gospel, and, wherever the heralds

of the Advent message go, whether they specialize in education, medical, publishing, or any other line of Adventist activity, the grand object must be the promulgation of the truth of God for this time and the gathering of men and women into the kingdom of God. A larger membership in the British Union would be a solution to many of our problems at this time.

2. *We must foster the work in our island fields.*

Around the mainland of the British Isles there are a large number of islands, small and large, which contain, in the aggregate, more than four hundred thousand people. These must hear the message. Very little has thus far been done to present the truth to them. Plans should be laid to open up work in the larger of these island centres.

3. *We must strengthen our publishing work.*

Not many years ago, we had more than 100 colporteurs in the British Union. To-day we have considerably less. This phase of our work needs careful study and thought, and more of our brethren and sisters should give their time to the spreading of the message in printed form. With our large population, there is ample room for 200 or even more literature workers. What wonderful results would accrue if we had such a band of faithful men and women who were distributing our literature like the leaves of autumn!

4. *We must further develop our educational work.*

While a good deal has been done in this direction, and while large investments have been made in our College at Newbold, we must regard this only as a beginning. We are grateful to God for the work our College has done through the years, but the time has come when it must be strengthened. It must have better facilities; it needs a dormitory; teachers' houses are needed, and much yet remains to be accomplished in bringing our educational work up to a higher standard.

5. *We must build up our health work.*

(Continued on previous page.)