



Organ of the British Union  
Conference of Seventh-Day  
Adventists

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**QUADRENNIAL SESSION**  
of  
**the British Union Conference**  
**JULY 30 to AUGUST 9, 1936**



PASTOR H. W. LOWE  
NEWLY-ELECTED PRESIDENT  
OF THE BRITISH UNION CONFERENCE



# The Great Second Advent Congress Convenes

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By A. S. MAXWELL

THE swish of driving rain; the idle flapping of sodden canvas; the squelching of many feet in damp grass.

Such are the sounds that reach my ears as I write these lines.

Oh, camp meetings are *lovely*! But what is that?

A hymn. From far across the Park it comes, and we know that the young people at least are keeping up their spirits.

It is the same in the large marquee. Everybody bears a radiant look, as though trying to create enough sunshine inside to make up for the lack of it without. Here, too, the hymns are sung with added enthusiasm.

And who knows but that the weather to-morrow will be like a Californian summer? That's the marvel of this wonderful English climate of ours. You never know what you are going to get in the next few hours.

Why, yesterday, when cars and buses were disgorging delegates and visitors by hundreds at the gate of the camp grounds the sun shone upon us in all his glory and some people said the tents were too hot!

I wish you dear folks who had to stay at home could have been here to enjoy those first happy hours of the conference. How pleasant it is to see so many old friends greeting each other after long separation, and hear them eagerly discussing the "old days" and the good time they are expecting at the meetings.

At the recent General Conference there was one place that was given the nickname of "the hand-shakingest corner" of the auditorium. Well, there is a place like that here. It is the reception tent, or, rather, just outside it, where all are welcomed to the conference. Most appropriately the beaming

countenance of Pastor W. Maudsley presides over this cheerful spot.

Perhaps you would like to have a good look round and just see what everything is like? All right, come along.

Here we are at the entrance. A section of the fence near the bottom of Sheepcote Lane has been removed to form a gateway, and over this there has been painted a "Welcome" sign bearing a cheerful greeting in English, Welsh, Gaelic, and Irish. Very nice thought that, don't you think?

Right in front of us is the large marquee, seating, so I have been told, about 1,800 people. The platform is delightfully decorated with ferns and flowering plants. On the right of it is something that looks for all the world like a huge loud speaker, but it isn't. It is a home-made (or I should say Stanborough Press-made) instrument for projecting slides in daylight. On the left is a large map of the British Isles, illuminated to indicate the position of churches, companies, and other interests of the movement. Microphones have been provided to amplify the voices of the speakers and special arrangements also have been made that the deaf may hear.

Talking about microphones reminds me of something that happened last night. Just as the first meeting was about to begin we were all arrested by hearing a voice, as the voice of thunder, reverberating over the whole Park saying: "This is the B.U.C. broadcasting station calling. . . We welcome you all to this Great Second Advent Congress."

Somehow I thought I recognized the voice. Could it have been Brother Rodgers?

It was splendid, anyway, and I know everybody who heard it was

thrilled to the marrow. It was typical, too, of all the really excellent organization which characterizes this conference. It has been organized to the *nth* degree. So far as I can see or hear there is nothing that has not been thought of. And if it was thought of, it was *organized*.

But we must move on. Here is the exhibit tent where, in numerous booths, the story of the various activities of the British Union Conference is vigorously illustrated. You will hear more about this later.

Nearby is a small tent for the Union president, another for the secretaries, another for first-aid equipment (which we hope won't be needed), another for the doctor, and still another for the babies. Lucky babies—they will be able to play here, sleep here, and, I'm told, even have a hot bath if necessary.

But we haven't finished yet. Up in the recreation field—the one in front of the cottages, you know—there are seven more tents, by far the largest being the all-important dining tent. Whatever would the conference do without it? We must visit this without fail. No doubt about that. Here the presiding genius is Brother Rigby, manager of Granose Foods Limited, and evidences of his efficient leadership are everywhere apparent as we step inside. And, let me add, there is a very welcome smell of warm, appetizing food.

This dining tent, by the way, is run on the cafeteria system. It takes a little while for some folk to become accustomed to it, but there's no doubt it is by far the best method for a crowd of this size.

After a snack (and don't forget

to present your tickets), we will run up to the young people's section of the camp. This is in Sheepcote field, just behind old Sheepcote Villa. Here we find the Missionary Volunteer meeting tent, with F. W. Goodall and his two able lieutenants J. H. Parkin and H. T. Johnson, caring for their large flock of the rising generation.

In the same field there is the children's meeting tent and playground and, beyond the Sheepcote spinney, numbers of bell tents where the young people and others are accommodated.

Well, there you have a bird's-eye view of the camp arrangements. Now let us hurry back to the marquee.

There is a large congregation, between seven and eight hundred, I should say. Pastor Read, now president of the Northern European Division, is speaking. He is saying something about the finishing of the work in heaven, and on earth, and in our own hearts; and the paramount need of a new re-

consecration of heart and life to the Lord. It reminds us that all the arrangements for the conference, however wonderfully organized, are quite secondary to the things of the Spirit; and that the supreme reason for all these things our eyes have seen is that God's people may be lifted heavenward, given a fresh vision of the time in which they live, the task they have set themselves, and the ultimate triumph of the cause they have espoused.

This is a "Great Second Advent Congress." May it be "great" in every sense of the term, a conference to refresh the minds and hearts of those who have come—and those who perforce have stayed at home—with the great hope of the soon return of the Lord Jesus, with all that that means of transformation of life and purpose. May the spiritual forces that operate here lead to a mighty forward movement throughout this country and contribute in the largest possible measure to the speedy finishing of God's work in all the earth.

lieve we have reason to expect that, if we seek Him with all our hearts, great blessings will come to us and to the work in this field. I am looking forward to a large blessing personally. My heart longs for a deeper inspiration in fellowship with Him, and I expect to gain it at this conference. I pray that everyone of us may come into a relationship at this conference that will fill us with a desire to finish His work.

F. C. GILBERT. It is indeed a pleasure as well as a privilege for me again to find myself in attendance at a conference like this. My mind goes back to just thirty years ago, when I had the pleasure of attending a meeting of a similar nature, but nothing nearly as large as this, in the city of Nottingham. At that time I came to this country to visit my dear old mother who has since passed away, and as I look into your faces to-night, and see so large a number of delegates, representing hundreds and thousands of others, it brings great joy to my heart.

I think, too, a great deal to-day of a meeting that was held in this country some fifty years ago. Are there any here to-night who attended that meeting at Great Grimsby in 1886 when Mrs. White came to Great Britain? Will anyone stand? (H. W. Armstrong stood.) Yes, Brother Armstrong. Thank you!

If you have this book which I hold in my hand, *Life Sketches of Ellen G. White*, you will find on pages 291-294 a résumé of the experiences of that meeting at Great Grimsby.

A little while before the council which was held at Great Grimsby, some of the workers had been gravely perplexed to know what to do in order to bring the truth to the people of Great Britain. So one day they came to Sister White and asked her if she had any counsel to give. Well, I will not take time to read, but she told the workers and believers that God would be with them if they only would go forward. And, as I sit on the platform this evening and look into the faces of this large audience, how I wish in my soul that the servant of the Lord might be present and see the thousands

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## Greetings

### from the Visiting Brethren

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At the opening meeting of the quadrennial session of the British Union, which convened on Thursday evening, July 30th, the two visiting brethren from the General Conference took the opportunity afforded them of greeting the delegates present.

ELDER M. MCGUIRE. I am very happy for the privilege of being with you at this large gathering. I have many pleasant memories of my visit over here fourteen years ago, and I have been surprised to have so many mention that they remember me.

I was thinking, as I sat here, about the first General Conference I attended forty-two years ago, and I do not think there were as many delegates at that General Confer-

ence as there are here to-night. I know we all rejoice as we see the message spread to every corner of the world. I am sure that the Lord has a great blessing in store for us here.

I have had the privilege during the past few years to visit more than sixty countries and large island fields where our work has gone forward, and we have every reason to be of good courage, to rejoice in the Lord, and to believe that the day is close at hand when the work will be finished and we shall go home.

I was thinking how the mighty outpouring of the Spirit of God came upon His people in the early days, when they were assembled together seeking God, and I be-

of believers in this field, and how the words that she at that time spoke have already begun to be fulfilled.

So with you, beloved, I thank God for this meeting. We are living in a most wonderful time. I am so happy, beloved, that we have come to that day when among us as a people there are no national boundaries. Thank God we are all one in Jesus Christ. On the day of Pentecost the disciples were all of one accord, in one place, and God poured upon them such divine power that by a brief sermonette which easily may be read in fifteen minutes God added three thousand believers to them.

If during this meeting, beloved, we all will seek God for that unanimity of feeling, that oneness of spirit, God again shall open the windows of heaven and pour upon us that large measure of the blessed Spirit that He has promised in the pouring out of the latter rain. Not only will there be added to our number three thousand and five thousand, but from one end of this land to the other, and in the mission fields represented, many thousands shall be added to our number, such as shall be saved. Thus we shall come to the day when our Lord will come, when we may be present at that universal conference, when all God's family shall be gathered around His throne. May God keep us true and faithful to that day.



### Messages from Many Lands

At the opening meeting of the conference many messages of greeting were received from workers in other sections of the Northern European Division and the world field.

From Brother Babienco came word that the Polish Union Conference sent their heartiest greetings and that they would remember us in their prayers at this time.

M. N. Campbell from Canada sent the greeting: "I take a great deal of pleasure in addressing words of greeting to you from the Canadian Union Field."

E. E. Andross sent very kindly greetings. "I am taking this occasion," he wrote, "to convey to you our sincere greetings. It has

been our pleasure to renew our greetings with many friends from England. We regard with utmost pleasure the many pleasant years we spent in England and the many friends we have still there."

Other messages of cheer came from L. Munderspach of the West Nordic Union, W. Lindsay of the

East Nordic Union, A. V. Olson of the Southern European Division, W. A. Ruble, Dr. Hayton, and from the following missionaries in far-off lands: Jesse Clifford, F. L. Stokes (Gold Coast), W. McClements, J. J. Hyde, L. Edmonds (Nigeria), H. Robson (E. Africa), and R. Brett (China).

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## The Finishing of the Work

Abstract of sermon preached on Thursday, July 30th, by W. E. Read

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I WOULD like to read to you two or three passages of Scripture bearing on the finishing of the work of God. The first text is in the book of Romans, chapter 9, verse 28: "For He will finish the work, and cut it short in righteousness: because a short work will the Lord make upon the earth." The other is in Revelation 10, verse 7: "But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as He hath declared to His servants the prophets."

For many, many years we have preached about the finishing of the work of God. We have prayed about it. We have studied it a good deal in our councils. We have thought of it in our ministerial institutes. At almost every conference it is mentioned. And, brethren and sisters, the time has come in the providence of God when the Lord has set His hand to His work to finish it.

These are important texts. The first one perhaps emphasizes more the certainty of the fact that He will finish the work. The second indicates approximately the time. It shows that it is the very close of earth's history, and that we are living in that time when the Lord has set His hand to His work to finish it.

There is a danger sometimes that we think that things go on and on and on much the same, that

there seems to be no definite indication that the work is closing up, but we need ever to keep in mind that this old world is doomed. It is not going on for ever. And in these days we can expect to see remarkable developments. God will work in a wonderful way, bringing surprises to His people in the finishing up of the work of God.

#### WORLD PERPLEXITY

When we think of the world in general there never was a time when there was so much suspicion and fear among the nations as we see to-day. I have just come from the Baltic States and really as one studies the situation in these countries, and in other lands in Europe, one is impressed with the fact that the coming of the Lord "draweth nigh."

Really the horizon seems as though it is crowded with tremendous problems and perplexities.

In some of these lands there is little if any religious liberty to-day. When one looks at Europe with its suspicion and fear, with its social and international complications, one is impressed with the fact that it would take but little to bring about a great conflagration. In fact, during the past two years, Europe has been on the brink of war on several occasions. But angels have held the winds in a wonderful way and the storm has not broken.

## WORK ADVANCING AS NEVER BEFORE

And yet with it all there has been a remarkable advance of the Advent message. Notwithstanding the fact that all over the world during the past few years, owing to depleted resources, we have passed on less appropriations to the world divisions, every mission station has been kept intact. There has not been any retrenchment in any phase of the world work. On the other hand, the providence of God has urged us onward, so that we have been able to occupy other territory not included in our plans.

I could mention to you several organizations committed to the great missionary programme, that have had to cut their appropriations not only in half, but still more, and who have had to cut their missionary forces in half and leave areas in the mission fields without a missionary. In many instances these people are calling to our missionaries to go in and take possession of these fields.

Another thing is this, that, during the past few years, with all the difficulties, larger numbers of people have been won to the truth. I was up in the East Nordic Union two or three weeks ago, and we had a report concerning the progress of the message in Finland. One of our young evangelists went to a certain city in the southern part of Finland and brought in and baptized 118 souls. Up in that same country of Finland, in the central part of it, we had word concerning a sister who was married and had three children, and yet somehow she would go out and conduct cottage meetings. Just how she got the time one can hardly understand, but in one year she was responsible for bringing eleven people into the church and seeing them baptized into this message.

These experiences teach us that God is setting His hand to His work. The message is going quickly. God is finishing it to-day.

## A GREATER BURDEN FOR THE WORK NEEDED

We in England live in a wonderful country; we worship as we please and how we please, no man daring to hinder us. A little while

ago I was in a country where a proclamation has been issued by the Ministry of the Interior which placed restrictions on our worship, and on the organization of churches. No minister can preach unless he has a permit from the government. We have liberties and privileges of which we should be justly proud and thankful to our heavenly Father, and in these times of freedom we should enter into the work and determine at this conference that we will bend every energy to the finishing of the work in the British Isles. That should be the burden upon our hearts and somehow I think that at this meeting definite plans should be laid so that right here at this congress arrangements and plans should be formed for a forward movement such as we have never seen in our beloved land.

## FINISHING THE WORK IN HEAVEN

Then we think of the finishing of the work in heaven. We think of Jesus as our great High Priest. We think of Him entering upon the closing phase of His ministry. We think of the fact that soon our names may be called in the great judgment hour. How these things should lead us, day by day, to a deeper consecration and a very earnest study of our own hearts and our needs before God. I do pray that at this conference we will enter into a deeper experience with God. We should be present at the early morning devotional meeting when we will earnestly plead with God for a deeper experience.

## FINISHING THE WORK IN OUR HEARTS

And then I think of the finishing of the work of God in our hearts. Might I suggest a few things with but little comment to you to-night.

There must come to us, in a greater degree, a strenuous and a deeper burden and passion for souls. There must come to this people a revival of pentecostal witnessing.

Again there must be more earnest prayer. I am not thinking so much of private prayer, family prayer, or the church prayer meetings. These are very necessary, very vital indeed, but really so

much of our praying is for things. We value God somehow in the terms of what we get, forgetting many times that prayer is like a great kingdom in which there are many provinces, and petition is but one province of the great kingdom of prayer. How many enter that province and never go beyond! There is the province of thanksgiving, of adoration, of communion, of intercession. I believe the time has come in the providence of God when this Advent people should intercede on behalf of others with our God in heaven. Little groups here and there should meet together and have prayer lists, and names of individuals, and pray them into the kingdom of God. I think there should be a revival of pentecostal praying in our experience as the people of God.

May I suggest another thing? There must be more sacrificial giving. We are glad to give to the cause of God, but is it not a fact that so many times we give only what we can afford? Is it not sacrifice to give what costs us something, something that we feel? There must come to this people a revival of pentecostal sacrifice.

There must be larger plans; there must be higher goals; we must think in larger terms; we must not judge the future by the experiences of the past. We must expect God to do larger things in this day and generation, for Jesus said, "Greater things than these shall ye do." There must come to the Advent people a revival of pentecostal vision. There must be more earnest and definite seeking of God for the Holy Spirit.

How true is the statement that it is "not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord." Zech. 4:6. What we need to-day as a ministry is a new baptism of power from on high. What we need as church officers and members is a mighty unction of the Spirit of God in our work, in our churches, and in our lives. There must be a revival of pentecostal power in the experience of this people.

## PERILS OF FORMALISM

Then there must be some definite work in our own hearts. I will not

take time to read to-night, but I am reminded this evening of the dread dangers that face this people. I think of the danger of formalism, a danger of moving back and forth like a door on its hinges. I think of the words of Jesus, "Many shall say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord," and He says, "I never knew you." The greatest danger to-day is that we think we are right when our hearts are not right with God. May God save us from formalism, save us from indifference, and help us to enter into an experience at this conference that will lead us into a deeper experience in the things of God.

I pray that at this conference, somehow or other, we will find a way into a closer fellowship with Jesus, and that from our meetings here, there will come a cleansing of hearts, a cleansing of our homes, a cleansing in our churches. Let us put things right between each other, and with our God, and let us enter, brethren and sisters, into that experience that will fit us for translation and get us ready for a place in the kingdom of God.

I wonder to-night if we can from our hearts enter into the sentiment of these words:

"Take my life, and let it be  
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;  
Take my moments and my days,  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

"Take my silver and my gold,  
Not a mite would I withhold;  
Take my intellect, and use  
Every power as Thou shalt choose.

"Take my will, and make it Thine;  
It shall be no longer mine:  
Take my heart, it is Thine own;  
It shall be Thy royal throne.

"Take my love, my Lord, I pour  
At Thy feet its treasure-store;  
Take myself, and I will be  
Ever, only, all for Thee."

May the Lord help us to enter into that consecration to-night. At the beginning of this conference, may the blessing of the Lord descend upon you all in a special way, and may these meetings be a beginning of great things and a deeper experience, and the beginning of a mighty movement in the providence of God in our beloved land.

## First Morning Prayer Service

FRIDAY, JULY 31, 1936

THE first early morning prayer meeting of the session opened with dull grey skies, but with a goodly attendance, notwithstanding. Someone must have anticipated the weather when choosing the opening hymn, which reminded us that "Earth is but dark and drear."

But our spirits rose as we sang heartily the familiar refrain,

"Father, we come to Thee,  
No other help have we."

The veteran, Pastor W. H. Meredith, spoke timely words of exhortation and appeal from Joel 2:15-17. If ministers would weep between the porch and the altar, and cry to God from their hearts, "Spare Thy people, O Lord," then a great revival would come. And

if every Advent believer sensed his or her responsibility to "shine as lights" in the world, "the revival would be complete and glorious."

Our former Union president, Pastor W. E. Read, now of the European Division, led the season of prayer. Refreshingly brief, but very earnest, were the prayers that followed in quick succession. The conference, the ministers, and the people were prayed for, as also were the sick, the lonely, the discouraged, the backslidden, and the needy of every description.

As we supplicated before God, we were all lifted out of ourselves, out of weariness into strength, out of dullness into the never-failing light of heaven. The spirit of this meeting augurs well for future morning devotionals. H.F.D.

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## Studies

### In the Book of Hebrews

Abstract of introductory address given at the Devotional Hour on

FRIDAY, JULY 31, 1936, BY F. C. GILBERT

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HEBREWS is one of the outstanding books of the New Testament. No one is able to differentiate between inspiration, for, as the apostle tells us, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God." Nothing in the Word is non-essential. Nevertheless there is something about the book of Hebrews which is really outstanding. Four reasons may be mentioned why God has given us this book.

#### LAST APPEAL TO THE JEWS

1. It is God's final appeal to the Hebrew race.

Jesus' parable of the fig tree (Luke 13) reveals how longsuffering Jesus was with the Jews. In the parable the dresser of the vineyard pleaded that the unfruit-

ful tree be left for another year, and during the last year of Jesus' ministry, we see how perseveringly He laboured for the chosen people. Thank God for the longsuffering of the Lord.

Yet even after His death and resurrection Jesus did not give the Jewish people up. He sent to them another appeal in the book of Hebrews. He gave them as a people one more opportunity of accepting Him. And it is significant that this final appeal came to them just before disaster came upon them. The epistle was written in A.D. 64, just about six years before the destruction of Jerusalem.

#### COUNSEL TO THE REMNANT CHURCH

2. It contains most valuable

counsel to the people of God this side of the Advent movement of 1844, that is, to the remnant church.

In Hebrews 10:32 the apostle calls upon the Hebrew Christians to "remember the former days" when they were "made a laughing-stock both by reproaches and afflictions." There is a striking parallel between this experience and that of the Advent believers after the great disappointment. What a laughing-stock the saints became to a wicked world after October 22, 1844. The children of those who passed through the 1844 experience, too, had a hard time. How mortified the little folk were when they went back to school.

But the comfort which Paul gave to the early believers, "Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward" (verse 35), came also to the Advent believers after the disappointment.

3. It is God's exposition of the types and symbols of the sanctuary service. Hebrews 9:5-8 is a typical illustration of this.

4. In the book of Hebrews Christ is referred to for the first time as man's High Priest. Elsewhere in Scripture Jesus is many times referred to as sitting at the right hand of God as a prince to give repentance to Israel and remission of sins, but never till the book of Hebrews do we find Him as man's High Priest. (Heb. 2:17; 4:14.)

#### GOD'S APPROACH TO HIS PEOPLE

With this introduction we turn to the opening words of the epistle, Hebrews 1: 1, 2. There are volumes in these two verses. We can thank God that He has the power to say so much in few words.

In the story of Jesus' interview with the woman of Samaria we have an illustration of the tact of Jesus in approaching souls, and in the epistle to the Hebrews the same divine tact is evidenced in the way the Jewish people are approached. There was no theme upon which the Jews loved to dwell more than the theme of God, so the epistle begins with the Jewish belief in one God.

Then it is stated that God spoke to the fathers by the prophets,

thus affirming that all that is written in the Bible is not the word of man but the Word of God.

If man had never sinned, he would not have needed any prophets. Parents do not naturally desire to speak to their children through a third person. They desire to talk with them mouth to mouth. And if they do, surely God does also. But when sin came, man hid himself from God. God did not, however, abandon man. He has been seeking after him ever since through the medium of His messengers.

Finally, the opening verse declares that in the last days God has spoken by His Son, and in the verses which follow there is given an explanation of who and what Christ was, and why He came.

#### "HEIR OF ALL THINGS"

It is declared that He has been appointed "heir of all things." We live in a covetous age when many people are interested only in the acquisition of "things." Such people are not to be envied, but pitied. Life does not consist in the possession of "things," as Christ emphasized in Luke 12:13-21. The possession of houses, land, gold, and silver, is not life. "He that hath the Son hath life," the Scriptures tell us, and "he that hath not the Son of God" does not have anything.

We should thank God for the provisions that God has made for us in His Son, whom He has made "heir of all things." And we can say with the apostle Paul, "I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed in us." Rom. 8:18.

God wishes to do wonders for us. He does not lack power. What He lacks is opportunity. We are the opportunity. Let us give ourselves to Him, for He is "able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us."

Verse two of the first chapter further tells us that it was by Christ that "He made the worlds." In America the largest telescope ever made has recently been set up in California. Its great lens is two hundred inches in diameter. What astronomers will see with it, time only will tell. Yet when they have seen all they can with this telescope, they will have touched only the rim of things, for astronomers are now talking, not merely of the universe, but of universes.

The love of Jesus for you and me is so great that He willingly laid aside His majesty and all these worlds, and came down to the gloomy earth, that by His life and death and ministry, man might not only receive forgiveness of sin, but restoration to the Father's home and heart.

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## BRITISH UNION CONFERENCE

### President's Report, 1932 to 1935

BY W. E. READ

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In bringing this report to you today, we feel constrained to borrow some of the expressions used by saints of old, when they recounted the wonderful dealings of God with His people: "What hath God wrought!" declares a prophet of ancient days. "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us," exclaims Samuel, the chosen of God. "Hallelujah, praise the Lord," cries David, the sweet singer of Israel.

It is fitting indeed that we raise an ebenezer to our heavenly Father, as in His divine providence we meet together again in quadrennial session. How grateful we should be for the many blessings of the Lord. We think of the loyalty and devotion of God's children; of their earnest endeavours in missionary activity; of their faithfulness in tithes and offerings. We think of the manifest tokens

of divine leading in connection with God's work; of the miracles of grace as seen in the lives of those who have yielded to the movings of the Holy Spirit.

We regret, however, that more has not been accomplished; that more souls have not been rescued from the powers of darkness and won to the light of truth. We regret, also, that so many who were identified with us four years ago now walk with the people of God no more. May the Lord have mercy upon them, and may they be led to retrace their steps ere it is too late.

While in so many respects the past four-year period has been one of encouragement, it must be admitted that there have been times of anxiety and perplexity. This is particularly true when one thinks of national and also international affairs. It has been cheering to observe the signs of a return to more normal conditions in the economic realm, but it is a grave question, after all, as to whether the apparent improvement, and the reduction in unemployment, are on a basis of solid or constructive building for the future. There have been many tense moments in international circles. More than once during the past year or two Europe has been on the brink of war, and it has been, we believe, in the providence of God that hostilities have been prevented. Truly the angels of God are holding the winds of warfare, that the winds may not blow until the servants of God are sealed.

This survey covering the past quadrennial period will deal with the following features: Our Field, our Members; our Workers; our Resources; our Institutions; our Activities; and our Hopes and Prospects.

It is not our purpose to give a detailed report, for that belongs to the other brethren who will be presenting words of progress and development concerning our varied Union activities.

OUR FIELD

Apart from the missionary Unions in the Far East, in such fields as China, Japan, India, and the Netherlands East Indies, we are privileged to belong to the

Union with the largest population of any Union in our organized work. Within the territory of the British Union Conference there is a population equal to that of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, the Baltic, East Nordic, and West Nordic Unions combined. The forty-nine millions of people

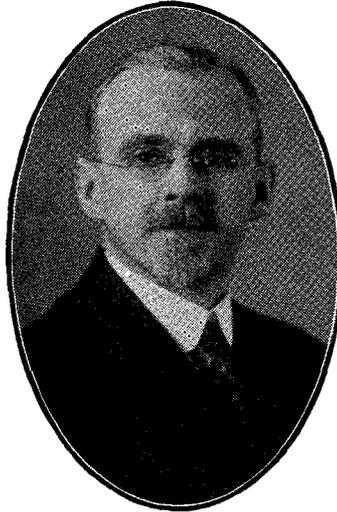
In England .....	922	such cities
„ Wales .....	104	„ „
„ Scotland .....	158	„ „
„ Ireland .....	66	„ „

Then think of the large island fields surrounding our mainland. There are over 1,800, of which 249 are inhabited. These contain a population of over 420,000 souls. How many members have we in these island fields? Very few indeed. Plans should be laid to enter the largest of them as soon as possible.

Think also of the counties, of which there are 118 (including three special island groups) in England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. These are distributed as follows:

In England .....	40
„ Scotland .....	32
„ Wales .....	15
„ Ireland .....	31

Total 118



Pastor W. E. Read.

now President of the Northern European Division

in these islands constitute a mighty challenge to the remnant of Israel which comprise our membership in Britain at this time.

Our conferences and mission fields must give careful and prayerful study to proclaiming the message of mercy to the millions within their borders. Think of the responsibility which rests upon each section of our field:

	Population	Per cent of Union Total
N. England Con.	19,015,553	39½
S. England Con.	18,125,846	37
Scottish Mission	4,842,554	9½
Free State „	2,971,992	6
Welsh „	2,948,931	6
N. Ireland „	1,256,561	2
	49,161,437	100

Think of the cities of our land. We have been reminded many times of the 1,250 cities with a population of five thousand or more, the majority of which have never heard the sound of the three-fold message. Notice how these are distributed between the various fields:

In how many of these do we have representatives of the Advent message? Notice the following:

In forty-four counties we have churches and companies as well as some isolated members.

In twenty-three counties we have isolated members only.

This means that there are still fifty-one in which the light of present truth has never yet been kindled. Forty-one of these, however, are in Scotland and Ireland.

Then there is the great city of London. Perhaps we should think of it as an aggregation of cities. Take Greater London, with its population of over eight million souls, and then think of our membership among this vast concourse of people. We have but 878 members, or but one Adventist to every 9,300 individuals.

Surely it is time that more was done in the great metropolis. If we are to be faithful to our trust, faithful in following the counsel God has given us in the *Testimonies* concerning London, and sound the warning message before it is too late, we must bestir ourselves as never before. We must make greater sacrifices to make possible the preaching of the Gospel of the kingdom to the masses

in what is undoubtedly the greatest city on earth.

#### OUR MEMBERS

The number of churchmembers at the beginning of the past quadrennium was 4,743; at the close, 5,358, a gain for the four-year period of 615.

The total of those who were received into fellowship by baptism and vote was 1,794, as compared with 1,278 for the previous quadrennial period. The net gain for the four years 1928 to 1931 was 197; for the four years just closed, 615. The largest number of souls won to the truth in any one year in the history of our work in Britain was in 1935, when we received into church fellowship 490 new members. The gains for the past four years are as follows:

In 1932	... ..	414
" 1933	... ..	456
" 1934	... ..	434
" 1935	... ..	490

We regret to report that 831 left the ranks of the Advent movement during the past quadrennium. One cannot help but think of all the prayerful effort and earnest labour put forth to win them to the truth, yet they have turned aside to walk no more with the people of God. Ought not this experience to lead us to be more diligent in our efforts to save men and women from going astray? Might it not be that, with more of the Spirit of Christ in our lives, more of His love and tenderness in our hearts, more of His earnest entreaty in our contacts with these souls, many of them might have been preserved from falling away?

During the past four years no less than 329 have fallen asleep in Jesus to await the call of the great Life-giver. Many of them were pillars in our churches and are greatly missed in the churches as well as in the home. For them the struggles and temptations of life are over, and a glorious inheritance awaits them in the kingdom of our God. Should not their example of fidelity and devotion lead us to a deeper consecration, that we might at last rejoice with them in the realms of bliss?

At the commencement of the

past quadrennial period we had seventy organized churches. One, however, was merged into a larger church; and thirteen new churches were organized during the period. Hence, at the close we had eighty-two churches. At the present time there are forty-one companies or groups of believers, a larger number than at the beginning of the four-year period.

#### OUR WORKERS

We are happy to report that, notwithstanding decreased appropriations from the General Conference, our force of workers is larger than it was four years ago. In our conferences and missions we began with 102. At the close of 1935 we reported 107. In the institutions we had 175 at the beginning, but at the close we had 203. Our force of field workers has suffered losses during the quadrennium just closed. Some have gone into other lines of work; some have gone to labour in other fields; some have sought fellowship in other communions; and still others have finished their course. We pause a moment to mention the names of Pastor R. Mussen and Sister J. Bastow. After years of faithful service they laid down their task and fell asleep in Jesus, and now await the call of the Life-giver. Of them it can truly be said that their works do follow them.

During the quadrennial period three of our young men were ordained to the Gospel ministry. It is always a great joy to take part in the ordination service, and to see our strong young men growing into efficient soul-winners for Christ. Let us pray that many more may enter this circle of men utterly given over to the service of God, men upon whom rests the solemn responsibility of, "Woe is unto me, if I preach not the Gospel!"

#### OUR RESOURCES

We have cause for real gratitude to God for the liberality of the General Conference in so materially helping us in our work through the years. During the past few years, however, owing to world conditions, we have been compelled to share with other fields in the reduction of appropriations with

which to carry forward our work. We know that the brethren at Washington, and also at Edgware, have done their best with the limited funds at their disposal, and we feel grateful for their kindly help and co-operation at all times. At the beginning of the period now under review, we received, as an annual appropriation from the General Conference, the sum of £6,912; for the year 1935, the close of the quadrennial period, the appropriation amounted to £4,400, a reduction of over £2,500, or an equivalent of thirty-six per cent.

We feel glad, however, that our tithes and offerings show a steady increase. For the previous quadrennium our tithes amounted to £96,632, whereas for the period just closed the figure stood at £100,087, or 3.7 per cent increase. Our offerings to overseas missions had a still larger increase, the figure being £66,661 as against £60,940 for the four-year period before. This shows an increase of over 9.3 per cent.

We feel thankful to God for the sacrifice and liberality of our churchmembers in these days of difficulty and economic stress. Our tithe increase, together with other factors, has enabled us to meet the situation we faced in the reduction of grants from the General Conference.

Neither are we unmindful of the contents of the little brown boxes which have materially assisted us in our evangelistic work. Then, again, some of our institutions, especially the Publishing House, have contributed of their earnings toward the preaching of the Advent message.

Financial relief has come to us in several ways other than by the direct gifts of our believers. The sale of ten acres of our woodland, a few years ago, enabled us to meet important and pressing expenditures at head-quarters. Last year, as a result of our being recognized as a charity, we received an unexpected windfall from the income tax authorities. This magnificent sum of over £4,600 proved a real godsend to our institutions, two of which were passing through difficult times. Furthermore, it paid for our dele-

gation to the General Conference, helped our church building funds, and materially assisted the evangelistic efforts in the field. We have been deeply grateful to God for this remarkable providence.

Grants on account of church buildings have been made to our churches to the extent of over £4,221 during the quadrennial period. Six new churches have been erected. Three of these are in East Anglia, and came to us free of all debt. The grants just mentioned were made to the other three churches, and also to several churches which were erected during the previous years, and which were heavily in debt at the beginning of the past four-year period. We are happy to report that only one of our churches is in debt on account of its church building at this time.

One of our great needs is more church buildings, and we are sincerely hopeful that the new church building policy adopted by the Union committee some time ago will enable our churches who have small building funds in hand to start erecting houses of worship at a not far-distant date.

#### OUR INSTITUTIONS

We thank the Lord for our institutions. We believe that they are divinely ordained of God. During the years they have been established they have been a wonderful blessing to the cause of truth. Since their organization the Publishing House and the Food Factory have contributed thousands of pounds to the progress of our evangelistic work; our College has given us our workers, both for the home field and also for our missions in other lands; while the Sanitarium has been used of God to make friends with many in the higher circles of life.

During the past four years large investments have been made in these institutions. The Sanitarium has widened the scope of its activities, having now not only the Sanitarium proper, but also a small Hospital, a Maternity Department, as well as a Child Welfare Clinic. In the Food Factory new machinery has been installed, and many improvements have been made.

The College has just completed

what we know as a two-year plan. This was an arrangement with the Northern European Division, by which they promised to furnish us with the sum of £1,000 if we raised £3,000 within the period of two years. This money was to be used for certain improvements in connection with our educational institution. We are glad to report to-day that the required sum has been subscribed, and we are now prepared to proceed with the remaining items of improvement on this plan.

Our Publishing House is well equipped for its work, and we rejoice that during the years it has been such a strong factor in the work of promulgating the threefold message in the British Isles. Their sales, while somewhat less than in the previous four-year period, have kept up well, notwithstanding the difficult times through which they have passed. The brethren in charge of these lines of service will bring their reports to you while we are together in Union session.

#### OUR ACTIVITIES

First and foremost in our activities are the evangelistic efforts which our ministers carry forward throughout the year. During the quadrennial period 107 public campaigns have been held. For each of the four years they are as follows:

In 1932	...	...	23
„ 1933	...	...	21
„ 1934	...	...	30
„ 1935	...	...	33

It will be observed that in the year 1935 we commenced thirty-three such efforts as compared with twenty-three in 1932.

The total appropriations we received from the General Conference during the quadrennium amounted to £21,119. For the previous four years it was £29,742. In other words, we received £8,623, or over forty per cent less during the past four years than in the four-year period before. Yet, notwithstanding this, we were able, by the blessing of God, to set aside for evangelistic work the sum of £13,951 during the past quadrennium, as compared with £11,074 for the quadrennial period before.

In other words, we made available for public efforts £2,877 more the past four-year period than during the previous quadrennium. This is really a twenty-six per cent increase, and yet this was accomplished with a forty per cent decrease in appropriations from the General Conference. We say, To God be all the glory for these evidences of His mercy and of His providential care over His work.

Much might be said concerning the work of the Sabbath-school Department, of the efforts by and on behalf of our youth, and also of the excellent service rendered by our churchmembers in all phases of missionary endeavour. One of the striking achievements of 1935 was the Harvest Ingathering total. This reached the splendid figure of £10,508. We not only passed the ten-thousand-pound mark for the first time, but went beyond it magnificently. The figures for the four years amounted to £38,169, as against £32,416 for the period before, an increase of £5,753, or nearly eighteen per cent. Such an achievement has been made possible because of the excellent co-operation by all our workers, and the consistent loyalty of our believers.

Several new projects have been started; all, however, for the purpose of assisting our members in various ways. The Scholarship Plan has been extended, so that we now have in addition to the regular scholarship arrangement, a Church School Scholarship, and an Institutional Scholarship. There is also a Medical Scholarship, which has proved of real benefit to our young men taking the medical course. The old Endowed Bed Fund has given place to the Medical Aid Plan. With the addition of the Hospital to our Sanitarium, we are glad that so many of our believers have been able to have the special help which our own medical institution can give.

#### OUR HOPES AND PROSPECTS

Grateful as we may be for what has been accomplished, we must never rest satisfied with our achievements. Our watchword must be, Onward, ever onward! We must set higher goals. We

must work even more diligently. Broader plans must be laid, and larger things undertaken in the name of God. Achievements of which we have but dreamed lie before us, and it rests with us, in the strength of the Lord, to take possession of the promised land of greater conquests in the service and kingdom of our God. Might we call attention to some matters on which we do well to ponder.

#### 1. *Our Evangelistic Work.*

This calls for more public campaigns. It means a stronger and more widespread evangelism. It means the release of ministers from purely pastoral work; for the development of a laymen's movement, in which our brethren in the churches will conduct small public efforts. It means that a burden and passion for souls must rest upon every member of the church at this time. We need to be individual witnesses of God's power to deliver from sin. If we follow the noble example of the early church, we shall see many turn to the Lord and be prepared for the coming of the King of kings.

#### 2. *Our Educational Work.*

We need to develop more strongly our educational work. I hope that every effort will be made to bring our College up to the senior college standard. This will call for more equipment and a better library; it will call for increased facilities as to classrooms, and in material with which our teachers can work. There is need, also, for dormitory accommodation and teachers' homes. Still more should be done in giving our teachers opportunity for advanced education. A good beginning has been made in this respect, but more needs to be done to place our College on vantage ground, and to enable it to do the work which is called for at this time.

#### 3. *Our Health Work.*

Definite plans should be made for further development in the health work. Instruction on health principles is needed in our churches, and encouragement should be given for the establish-

ment of more small clinics and treatment-rooms throughout the country. The Sanitarium needs further facilities, and our Food Factory should develop its work to the point where it can again be a real financial help to our field work.

#### 4. *Our Publishing Work.*

This phase of our work calls for special study. Our force of colporteurs is too small. This should be greatly increased. I wish that at this conference definite plans could be made to bring our force of regular colporteurs to at least 100, and a larger goal adopted in the sales of books and periodicals.

#### 5. *Our Church Buildings.*

What a need there is in this respect! Could we not inaugurate a definite programme for this new quadrennium for the erection of many small church homes? If during the next four-year period we could assist our churches, in harmony with our church building policy, so that perhaps fifteen to twenty, or even more, such places could be erected, what a wonderful blessing this would be to our work.

I wish at this time to express my deep appreciation to the members of the Union committee, and the other brethren scattered throughout the field, for their very helpful and kindly association during the past four years. I do not know of any period in my ministry when I have so much enjoyed the fellowship of my brethren, and I feel that it is due to their faithful efforts, their unstinted devotion to the cause of truth, that we are able at this time to bring to you this encouraging report.

In closing, I cannot help but mention one thing which has be-

come a great burden on my heart. I think of the millions all around us still unwarned. I think of the large sections of population where the blessed Advent message has never yet been preached. God has entrusted us with the last message of mercy, a wonderful message of power; a message which rests upon a sure foundation. There needs to come into our hearts with a deeper conviction the thought that this is God's message for this time; that this is the message which is to save men and women from the perils of the last days. But who are we to give such a message? How impotent we feel in the face of such a task! How we need to remember that our sufficiency is of God! In ourselves there is no help, but there is help in God. As we consecrate ourselves to Him, the Holy Spirit will overshadow us, and God will clothe us as He did Gideon of old, so that we shall go forward and do exploits for the Master.

Are we prepared for all this involves? Are we ready to make a full surrender of heart and life? Are we prepared to yield our cherished plans and prospects, and give ourselves to God utterly and wholly for the finishing of His work? Can we not make the beautiful words of Frances Ridley Havergal the expression of our hearts at this time?

*"In full and glad surrender,  
I give myself to Thee,  
Thine utterly and only,  
And evermore to be,  
O Son of God who lovest me,  
I will be thine alone,  
And all I have, and all I am,  
Shall henceforth be Thine own.  
"Reign over me, Lord Jesus!  
O make my heart Thy throne!  
It shall be Thine, dear Saviour,  
It shall be Thine alone.  
Oh, come and reign, Lord Jesus!  
Rule over ev'rything!  
And keep me always loyal,  
And true to Thee, my King!"*

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BRITISH UNION CONFERENCE

**Secretary-Treasurer's Report, 1932 to 1935**

BY A. CAREY

IN the providence of God we again meet together as a British Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists in session. Four years have passed by since we met in like assembly, and we are grateful to God that we have been kept by His grace and love so as to be able to present to this body of delegates and churchmembers assembled our report of the progress of the work in the British Union. We are reminded, however, of many brethren and sisters who were with us when we last met in like capacity, but who have been called to rest to await the glorious appearing of our dear Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

OUR MEMBERSHIP

The net gain in membership during the quadrennium is 615, and excepting quadrennium 1924 to 1927, this is the highest net gain in membership for the past four quadrenniums. During the quadrennium 1932 to 1935, 1,535 souls were accepted into fellowship by baptism, and by vote 259 souls were also accepted into fellowship, making a total of new churchmembers during the quadrennium of 1,794. Unfortunately we have to report certain deletions from the membership due to the following causes:

By death ..... 329  
 By transfer to other fields 19  
 By apostasy ..... 831

making the total deletions in our membership during the period, 1,179, the net result in membership being that already mentioned, 615 souls.

We are indeed grateful to God for this increase in membership, and most earnestly pray that these new members may not only be strengthened by their fellowship with us, but that we, in turn, may experience new and greater bless-

ing by their fellowship with us. Now let us compare these figures with the previous quadrennium:

GAINS

Members Received by	1928-31	1932-35
Baptism .....	1050	1535
Vote .....	228	259
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1278	1794

LOSSES

Members Deleted by	1928-31	1932-35
Apostasy .....	769	831
Death .....	269	329
Net loss by foreign fields	24	4
Net loss by Union letter	19	15
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1081	1179

Net Gain	197	615
Increase in gain 1932-1935 over 1928-1931		418

OUR CHURCHES AND COMPANIES

During the quadrennium thirteen new churches have been organized as follows:

<i>South England</i>	
High Wycombe	
Tottenham	
Wood Green	
Gt. Yarmouth	
Lowestoft	5
<i>North England</i>	
Blackburn	
Lincoln	
South Shields	
North Shields	4
<i>Wales</i>	
Barry	
Hereford	2
<i>Scotland</i>	
Aberdeen	1
<i>Irish Free State</i>	
Mission Church	1
	<hr/>
	13

At the close of the year 1935 there were 123 churches and com-

panies as compared with 105 at the close of the year 1931; thus there is a net increase during the past quadrennium of 13 churches and 5 companies.

Now just a word with reference to the companies of believers. During the quadrennium the banner of Gospel truth has been lifted up in 19 new places, but during the same period of time 14 former companies have been deleted, thus bringing about the net increase of 5 former companies hereinbefore mentioned. Now you ask why has it been necessary to delete 14 companies from our records. The reason is as follows: 5 of them have joined the sisterhood of churches and the other 9 having become so decreased in numbers have been transferred to the conference or mission churches.

OUR FORCE OF WORKERS

At December 31, 1935, we had 5 more conference workers than at the end of the previous quadrennium, and 22 more than at the end of the year 1931, whereas in respect to our colporteurs there has been a falling off. At December 31, 1935, we only had 66 colporteurs as compared with 82 at the end of 1931, and 115 at the end of 1927; therefore we had 16 less colporteurs than at the end of the previous quadrennium, and 49 less than at the end of the year 1927. In view of our increase in membership would not one have expected also an increase, instead of a decrease, in our colporteur staff?

With respect to our institutional employees the main increase is that of the Sanitarium, which, as you know, now has charge of the former college building which has been turned into a nurses' home and hospital, also the former college laundry, and that has made it necessary for a much larger staff to be employed by that institution.

So far as the college at Newbold is concerned they had five less regular employees at December 31, 1935, than at the end of the previous quadrennium. This is partly due to senior students carrying certain work during the past year or two which had previously been cared for by fully-paid workers. The final summary of the schedule

of workers shows that we have 376 workers on the pay-roll of our conferences and institutions in the British Union as at the end of December, 1935.

#### TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Tithes.*—We are grateful to God for the loyalty of our churchmembers in the payment of their tithes, and have to report an increase of £3,455, approximately, for the quadrennium 1932 to 1935, as compared with the previous quadrennium, a percentage increase of 3.57. This increase came at a time of decreasing appropriations and helped to make it possible to continue aggressive evangelistic work which otherwise might have been considerably curtailed. There is one important point, however, in connection with the tithe that we feel we should report to this body of delegates, and that is, during the past year we endeavoured to the best of our ability to gather information from our conferences and through them from the churches, as to the percentage of our churchmembers paying tithe. In some instances it was gratifying indeed to find that we had 100 per cent of the membership in some of our churches paying tithe; but it was with regret that we noticed in one or two instances that the percentage was as low as fifty per cent of the membership paying tithe. Taking the Union as a whole, so far as we can gather on figures supplied to us, approximately eighty per cent of our membership are good and loyal tithe-payers.

One wonders just what it would mean for the furtherance of the Gospel message in these days if the other twenty per cent became faithful tithe-payers.

*Mission Offerings.*—So far as our offerings are concerned we have to report a considerable increase in our general offerings to missions, the sum of £66,661. 14s. 5d. having been raised during the quadrennium 1932 to 1935, as compared with £60,940. 8s. 7d. during the quadrennium 1928 to 1931, thus showing an increase in general mission offerings of £5,721. 5s. 10d., being a 9.38 per cent increase during the quadrennium. However, it is a fact that a number of our prin-

cipal offerings to missions show a decrease, such as Sabbath-school, Big Week, Y.P.M.V., Annual Offering, the main increase in offerings being the Harvest Ingathering. Pastor F. W. Goodall, our Union departmental secretary, will, however, give further information concerning these offerings, so perhaps that is all I should say at this point.

*Special Offerings.*—There is, however, another item which should be of special interest to this assembly, and that is in addition to our regular mission offerings already reported to you, there have been special calls from time to time which have come to us from the Northern European Division for relief work, etc., and during the quadrennium the following sums were raised:

For Central China .....	£10	0	0
For East Africa .....	305	0	0
For Seychelles .....	50	0	0
For Ethiopia .....	2	10	6
For Russia .....	640	0	5
For Miscellaneous			
Missions .....	275	0	0
	£1,282	10	11

When we compare the special offerings raised during the previous quadrennium, it means that there has been an increase of the sum of £874. 13s. 2d. raised by way of special offerings during the years 1932 to 1935. The total tithes, offerings, and special funds raised in the British Union for the past two quadrenniums show that we have raised the sum of £10,050 more during the years 1932 to 1935 as compared with the previous quadrennium. What more can we say concerning such a report as this, but "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow."

#### OUR CONTACT WITH THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

We can only speak in the highest terms concerning our contact and association with the Northern European Division of the General Conference, both from the secretarial and treasury departments, the officers of both the Union and Division working in harmony with one another for the advancement of God's cause in the earth.

#### OUR CONTACT WITH THE LOCAL FIELDS AND INSTITUTIONS IN THE UNION

We are glad to report that our relationships with the local conferences, missions, and institutions have been of the best, one and all working together harmoniously, and we have had much blessing of the Lord in our Christian fellowship and association one with the other.

#### OUR UNION OFFICE STAFF

We could hardly close our report without saying how much we have enjoyed working with our colleagues in the Union office. We highly respect and love President W. E. Read, and shall miss him from our ranks. We earnestly pray the dear Lord to bless him abundantly as he takes up his larger sphere of service. Our departmental and field missionary secretaries have a large place in our hearts, as also the loyal force of workers engaged in the daily office routine. May we also say that the workers in the Union office all engage in the regular campaigns such as Big Week and Harvest Ingathering, and have been successful in obtaining the goals set for them. Every morning, before commencing the duties of the day, we meet in family worship, seeking the blessing of the Lord, not only on the work that is done in the Union office, but we remember all parts of the field and our membership, and have been confident of the leading of the Lord as we have laboured for Him day by day, and we pray for His continued blessing on our work as we step forth with larger vision for the future.

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## THE IRISH MISSIONS

**Superintendent's Report, 1932 to 1935**

BY J. HARKER

"I will mention the loving-kindnesses of the Lord, and the praises of the Lord according to all that the Lord hath bestowed on us." Isa. 63:7.

TO-DAY our hearts are full of gratitude to God for all that has been done during the past four years for the advancement of the Advent cause in the Emerald Isle. While, from the standpoint of increased membership, the results are not what we would desire, there is, nevertheless, abundant evidence of the divine blessing on the labour put forth.

From the beginning of 1932 to December 31, 1935, forty-one souls have been baptized and received into the church.

We are glad also to report that new territories have been opened up. This has brought a knowledge of God's last message to many who hitherto had known nothing of its existence.

We rejoice also in an increased literature circulation. This is of a kind which we believe will mark a new era for the work in Ireland.

Funds, both tithes and offerings, have greatly increased; especially the offerings. These have gone far beyond anything that might have been expected.

Lastly, we should mention the earnest desire manifest in many of our churchmembers to spread a knowledge of the message among the people.

## WHERE WE ARE WORKING

In Ireland (and we are thinking of the island as a whole) there are several important centres of population. These are distributed mainly around the coast. There is Dublin and Belfast on the east, Londonderry on the north, Cork and Waterford on the south, and

Limerick and Galway on the west.

The whole of the west lies untouched, so far as the spoken message is concerned. Up to about a year ago, the same was true of the extreme south. The city of Londonderry in the north was also waiting to be entered. As those who are acquainted with the work in Ireland know, our efforts for well over thirty years have been more or less confined to the north-east counties and the city of Dublin.

But, to-day, since Cork and Derry cities have been entered, we can claim to be working among the people of four out of the seven chief centres of population.

## PROGRESS IN NEW PLACES

It was at the annual meeting in 1935 that the decision was taken to release our two evangelists for work in the two places mentioned. Almost immediately Pastor J. McMillan moved into Cork. He was later joined by Brother Erick Zins, recently graduated from Newbold. These two brethren have put in many months of strenuous service in that large Catholic city in an endeavour to gain a footing for the Advent cause. They have met with obstacles and opposition, as was to be expected, but we thank God a way of deliverance has been opened up in every case. Sunday and week-night meetings have been running for ten months, and the attendances are still maintained. A good hall has been fitted up in the centre of the city. It was providentially secured, and is a great asset to the work. Thus the light shines in Cork.

We now travel 340 miles north to the historic city of Londonderry. Here Pastor F. C. Bailey began a series of public lectures in Novem-

ber of 1935. For many years Adventists have been deliberately kept out of this northern stronghold. For a time it looked as though that situation would continue. As it is, Brother Bailey has not been able to hold meetings regularly within the city proper. But a good hall at a very reasonable rental has been secured, and though the attendances are small, there is a genuine interest springing up in the hearts of several.

Brother Bailey has had wonderful success in gaining access to the local papers. Week by week his sermons have been published in full. In this way large numbers in those northern counties have come into contact with the message for these times. We believe a strong company will be gathered out in this important centre, who will be possessed with the true "No surrender" spirit, as they witness for God and His truth in the last great crisis hour.

## WORK IN OTHER PLACES

Previous to entering Derry, Pastor Bailey conducted public meetings in the city of Belfast. During the same period Pastor McMillan laboured in Lisburn. Brother McMillan also conducted an effort in Larne in 1932. As a result of these campaigns, about thirty souls were gathered into the church. There is still an interest in each place, which is being followed up.

Since these two brethren have left the Belfast area, Sunday-night meetings have been continued in both Belfast and Lisburn. Pastor R. Whiteside has rendered unstinted service, working between the two places. We have also had the loyal co-operation of five or six lay brethren. Sister Kirby, too, is rendering valuable service in the district as Bible-worker. These combined efforts are holding the work together in this north-east district, for which we are thankful.

The number of places where Sunday-night meetings are being held has increased from three, in 1932, to five at the present time. And Sabbath meetings have increased from five to eight in the same period.

SPECIAL LITERATURE WORK

Several years ago a lady living in America, who is not an Adventist, but is interested in the spread of the Gospel in Ireland, sent over a club of fifty *Signs of the Times*. Later this was increased to 100 copies. These papers are coming every week. Then for more than a year, through the kindness of other friends in the States, three other clubs have been sent. Part of this literature has been used in house-to-house work in the cities of Dublin and Cork. But considerable quantities have been scattered all over the country through the mails. We have sought for and received names from all kinds of sources. The papers have gone to places where neither colporteur nor preacher have been. After the papers are read, they are passed on. We have heard of them finding their way back again to America and Canada, and even Australia has benefited.

Several months ago, this work was supplemented by a special *Present Truth* campaign. Hundreds of copies are being sent out every issue. Letters, both good and bad, are coming in all the time. In the main they are favourable. Some have sent a year's subscription after receiving the first few copies. This is true of both *Present Truth* and the *Signs of the Times*. One person writes:

"I enclose 5/6. If this covers all costs, send me *Present Truth* for a year. I think it is splendid reading."

Another who gets the *Signs of the Times* every week says:

"We feel very grateful to you as a family for sending the paper regularly. We like it very much. We pass them on to our neighbours when finished with them. I enclose 10/- for more copies."

This work is capable of almost endless expansion, but like all other lines of missionary endeavour, it requires time and money to keep it going. We are required to spend many hours a week in visiting, mailing, and in correspondence.

Someone may ask, Does it pay? Yes, it pays as well as any other form of aggressive work in Ireland. We know of a family of three, also a husband and wife,

and two other persons, all of whom are keeping Sabbath through reading the literature. These people are away from towns and cities, without any kind of spiritual help from priests or ministers. There are large numbers of people all over the Island who receive no help whatever from the churches. They are glad to receive such papers as the *Signs of the Times* and *Present Truth*.

A NEW TRACT SOCIETY

In connection with the literature work in the Free State, a step has



Pastor J. Harker,  
Superintendent, Irish Missions.

been taken which we feel sure will be of increasing value to us as time goes on. As most people are aware, Ireland, apart from Ulster, is now completely separated from Britain. It has its own government, tariffs, language, and educational system. The Free State is growing in strength and prestige. The present government is as stable as anything in Europe. Industries are being built up all over the country. There seems to be no reason why it should not attain to its own peculiar ideals of liberty and self-expression.

As an independent state, it has adopted certain customs and restrictions which make it almost impossible to import our books from the British publishing house. Because of this, and the general feeling of antipathy toward Britain and British goods, the Union committee took action, some time ago, authorizing the formation of what is now designated as "The Advent Truth Society" with head-quarters in Dublin. So far one small book has been published. Two thousand

copies have been sold. We realize it is a small beginning, but it is a beginning. The day may not be far distant when we shall deem it advisable to print our own missionary paper. The slogan "Ireland for the Irish," is a very real thing in the Free State.

But we need colporteurs as well as literature. There is a free field in the Free State for the regular book- and paper-worker. Young men with energy and consecration can make a success of the colporteur work in Ireland, if proper study is given to the customs and habits of the people.

We think also of the north. Sister Logan has kept on alone for many years, faithfully sowing the seed. Her quiet, unobtrusive, but persistent ministry merits more than passing mention. We are sure God has a great reward in store for her. We are thankful also for the two students who have been with us for a time. They, too, have had a measure of success.

TITHE AND MISSION OFFERINGS

The past four years have been the best thus far in tithes and offerings. In both Northern Ireland and the Free State there are good increases. Ireland can claim the highest percentage increase in the Union in tithe. For the sake of comparison, we will give the figures for the two four-year periods:

1928-1931	.....	£2694	5	5
1932-1935	.....	£2986	13	8
		Increase £292 7 3		

The mission offerings are also well in advance of the previous quadrennium. The figures show a twenty per cent increase: twice the amount of the tithe increase. We now give the total offerings for the two periods.

1928-1931	.....	£2629	10	5
1932-1935	.....	£3164	12	1
		Increase £535 1 8		

The Sabbath-school offerings increased from £974 to £1,004. The Annual Offering jumped from £95 to £106. The Ingathering shows

the most remarkable increase of all. It rose from £1,346 to £1,769, an increase of thirty-one per cent.

The complete list of offerings is here given:

1928-1931

Sabbath-school .....	£974	11	1
Annual Offering .....	95	13	2
Ingathering .....	1346	15	0
Week of Sacrifice .....	72	6	7
Big Week .....	109	12	6
M.V. Offering .....	29	12	1
Miscellaneous .....	1	0	0
	2629	10	5

1932-1935

Sabbath-school .....	£1004	11	8
Annual offering .....	146	6	8
Ingathering .....	1769	15	3
Week of Sacrifice .....	124	10	9
Big Week .....	94	14	1
M.V. Offering .....	18	10	2
Miscellaneous .....	6	4	0
	3164	12	7

These figures show a remarkable degree of faithfulness on the part of the 160 members of the two Irish missions. We believe that God is well pleased with such loyalty.

During the period covered by this report, we have lost 24 souls by apostasy. The same number have been transferred by letter to other fields, and 17 have fallen in death. This gives us a total of 65 as representing our losses. It is a large number out of a membership of less than 200. But we gained 23 by letter. These with the 41 received by baptism and vote make our increases 64; one short of the total losses.

Again we thank Him, from whom every good gift comes, for all that has been done in Ireland during the past quadrennial period. We are grateful for the spirit of unity and love that exists among the workers and the churchmembers. We should mention also the splendid service that was rendered by Pastor G. W. Bailey and Mrs. Bailey in the city of Dublin. They set a noble example for all workers in self-sacrificing ministry and labour for souls. We think also of Sister Adair who served so long

and faithfully in Northern Ireland as Bible-worker.

May God by His Spirit continue to bless the labours of all His children in this western territory, that a multitude of souls may be gathered out to shine as gems in the diadem of the Master.

Craven, F. A. Spearing, T. J. Garstang.

*Plans Committee*

A. S. Maxwell, F. W. Goodall, B. Belton, W. G. Murdoch, S. G. Hyde, R. Jacques, J. Wolfe, W. R. A. Madgwick, Dr. J. Cairncross, H. Benwell, H. W. Lowe.

*Credentials and Licences*

Meade MacGuire, H. W. Armstrong, J. Harker, W. H. Meredith, O. M. Dorland.

*Committee on Constitution*

W. E. Read, A. S. Maxwell, C. A. Reeves, A. Carey, W. Maudsley.

*Committee on Distribution of Labour*

The Union President, O. M. Dorland, L. Murdoch, R. S. Joyce, G. D. King, J. Harker.

THE NEXT SPECIAL  
**BRITISH UNION  
CONFERENCE  
BULLETIN**

will contain  
the sermons  
and addresses

delivered  
during

the  
first Sabbath

of the conference

**Be sure to secure  
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Report of Recommendations Committee

The Recommendations Committee presented the following report which was accepted:

*Nominating Committee*

W. E. Read, D. Morrison, G. Baird, W. Slow, W. Benwell, T. H. Cooper, F. C. Bailey, J. Rutherford, E. E.

Resolution on

**Our Gratitude to  
God**

WHEREAS, During the past four years God has graciously granted to us a period of comparative peace in which to labour for Him; and,

WHEREAS, We have experienced by the blessing of our heavenly Father an encouraging increase in our membership, and also in our tithes and offerings; and,

WHEREAS, The Lord's rich blessing is seen also in the measure of prosperity which has attended the activities of our institutions, therefore

*Resolved*, 1. That we acknowledge with humility and gratitude all the gracious help divinely bestowed on the Union during the past quadrennial period; and,

2. That we express our deep appreciation to God for His signal blessing on the work of our evangelists and workers as revealed in the souls which have been won to the truth, and also for the means provided, in spite of difficult times, for the carrying forward of our evangelistic endeavours; and,

3. That we dedicate ourselves to God with a deeper consecration, earnestly praying that we may be used by Him in the finishing of His work on earth.

**BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER**

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