

BRITISH ADVENT
MESSENGER
ORGAN OF THE BRITISH UNION OF CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

*British Union Conference
Session*

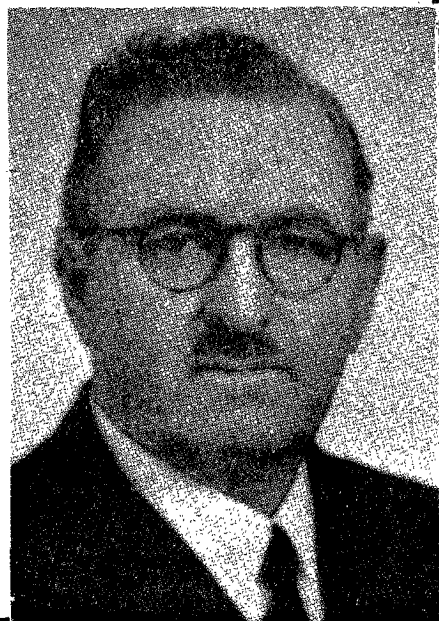
Held in the Town Hall, Watford

August 1 - 10, 1946



Pastor E. B. Rudge

Newly elected President of the
British Union Conference





Ministers on the platform of the Watford Town Hall at the opening meeting of the Union Session.

The Conference Convenes

By THE EDITOR

A SEA of expectant faces looked up at the long row of ministers on the platform of the beautiful Town Hall, Watford, as one of their number stepped forward to announce the opening hymn of the eagerly awaited Union Conference Session.

It was, as Pastor H. W. Lowe, the Union president, said in his words of welcome to the great assembly, a unique occasion.

There had been no such gathering for ten long years. A quadrennial session was to have convened in that very Town Hall right back in 1940, but conditions in the first year of World War II made this quite impossible. In the years that followed, the possibility of holding a Union Session became more and more remote and a whole decade had to pass by before the Advent believers from all over the British Isles could gather together to worship, study, and pray, to review the past, and to plan, under the guidance of God, for the future.

The meeting was unique, too, in that there were present representatives of the Advent church from the ends of the earth, a privilege which had been denied to the church in Britain through all the years of world conflict.

It was good to see Pastor E. D. Dick, re-elected Secretary of the General Conference. We knew he would have much to tell us of the trials and triumphs of the work in all the world since he was last here.

The presence of Pastor C. Lester Bond was noted with pleasure by all, and especially the young people, for was he not one of the world leaders of the Missionary Volunteer Department? The Young People's Rallies were surely going to be times of special blessing.

Pastor M. L. Andreasen had not arrived, but we were assured that he was on his way and would be with us in a day or two. With keen anticipation we looked forward to the messages of one of the foremost Bible teachers in the Advent movement.

Then there were on the platform two representatives of the church from "down under," in the persons of Pastor E. B. Rudge, president of the Australasian Union, and Pastor W. E. Battye, presi-

dent of the North New Zealand Conference. Without doubt they would be telling us of the indomitable courage and endurance of our "fuzzy-wuzzy" brethren amid peril and persecution in the war-swept islands of the South Seas.

Africa, too, was represented by Pastor W. McClements, for many years president of the West African Union, Pastor J. Clifford of the Gold Coast, and Pastors W. T. B. Hyde and W. J. Newman of Nigeria. Brother Ronald Carey was home after fifteen years of service in the publishing work in East Africa, while Brother George Norris and family were back again on furlough from the Argentine.

Yes, it was a unique meeting. Reunion in joyous fellowship would be ours. A spiritual feast was in store for all. We felt it as the visitors were introduced. We felt it as Pastor Lowe carried our minds back over the past decade and as he outlined to us his expectations of the Conference and his vision of coming days.

Calling attention to the wonderful words of psalm forty-six, "The Lord of hosts is with us," he declared that that word had been true in our experience through the years that had passed. Though cut off almost completely from outside counsel, we had never been cut off from God. He had indeed been "with us" all the days here in Britain. And so He would be also as we faced the challenge of the future task.

That the decisive hour of the world's history is at hand, he said, there can be no shadow of doubt. The things which the Advent preachers have declared would come to pass are coming to pass in our day. Iniquity abounds. There is strife and danger and bloodshed on every hand. Statesmen and scientists are to-day declaring as loudly as the prophetic Word that the world has come to the very verge of doom.

But in this last hour we have also the assurance that God has set Himself to "finish the work" in the earth and "cut it short in righteousness." Even now He is gathering out a people from every nation

under heaven to share His divine kingdom. It is for us to open our hearts to the tides of the Spirit that we may be empowered as His instruments for the finishing of the work here in these dear isles.

We must arise and in all parts of the land preach the message that Jesus is coming soon.

We must greatly enlarge our educational work in order to train more workers to share the task.

We must push forward in every other line of

spiritual endeavour at the behest of Him whose determination is to "finish the work."

With this appeal ringing in their ears the delegates to the Conference were seated and the task of appointing the working committees was eagerly entered upon.

The work of what may prove to be the most momentous conference of the Advent believers in this country had begun.

"For Such a Time as This"

Abstract of a Sermon by Pastor C. L. BOND

MAY I say it is a real pleasure to visit the British Isles again. In 1937 it was my pleasure and privilege to attend all the Conference sessions that were held in the British Union and at that time I became acquainted with many of our believers, especially our youth. I have been glad to meet since coming to this meeting quite a number who were in attendance at the youth camp that year, and I am looking forward to the sixteen mile hike on Monday.

I shall begin by reading the fourth chapter of Esther, verse fourteen: "And who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

Esther lived in one of the crisis hours of the world's history so far as the experience of God's people was concerned, and I believe that that message is equally applicable to every Christian to-day. We are here for an appointed purpose. We are not here by chance.

About six years ago I was attending a youth congress in the Philippines where I chanced to be at the outbreak of war. At that conference we had a large rally. Across the centre of the auditorium where the meetings were held there was a large banner and a motto which read, "We were born to live for Christ." I could not help contrasting the spirit of that motto with the Hitler youth mottoes that I saw all over Germany only a few years prior to that time, "We were born to die for the Fatherland." Our text indicates that we were born not to die for Christ necessarily, but primarily to live for Him.

PARABLES OF SERVICE

Yes, God has placed us here for a purpose. And we are in another crisis hour of this world's history. A crisis hour for the world itself, a crisis hour for the church of God upon earth. And "who knoweth but thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

In all the parables of the Lord Jesus you will find that He endeavoured to set forth the lesson of

service to Israel. There was the parable of the lost coin. It was necessary for the woman of the house to sweep and garnish the house in order to find the coin that was lost.

In the parable of the lost sheep the shepherd was compelled to put the ninety-nine into the fold and then go out and search among the rocks and crags of the mountains to find the sheep that was lost.

Then there was the parable of the father and his two sons. He gave a commission to each of them, "Go work to-day in my vineyard," indicating that God is saying to all His people to-day, "Go work to-day in my vineyard."

In the twenty-first chapter of Matthew is the parable of the "householder, which planted a vineyard, and hedged it round about, and digged a winepress in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country. And when the time of the fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the husbandmen, that they might receive the fruits of it."

Sometimes to-day we are inclined to criticize ancient Israel because of their failures and defects; because they did not render their fruits in due season. But I want us to-night to think not of them and their defeats but rather of ourselves and our responsibility.

I read from that wonderful book, *Prophets and Kings*, page 713:

"That which God purposed to do for the world through Israel, the chosen nation, He will finally accomplish through His church on earth to-day. He has 'let out His vineyard unto other husbandmen,' even to His covenant-keeping people, who faithfully 'render Him the fruits in their seasons.'"

To-night we would do well to ask ourselves the personal question, "Am I accomplishing all in God's work and in His service that He would have me to do, or am I following along that same trail of indifference and neglect which ancient Israel

followed. We are here for a purpose and that purpose is to render fruits to God in their season.

Mrs. White goes on to say in this connection:

"To-day the church of God is. . . to carry forward to completion the divine plan for the salvation of a lost race. . . .

"In the night of spiritual darkness God's glory is to shine forth through His church in lifting up the bowed down and comforting those that mourn.

"All around us are heard the wails of a world's sorrow. On every hand . . . the sealed fountains of earnest, Christlike love will be unsealed."—Page 718.

My friends, it is that very thing that our whole world is longing for to-day. As the Gospel song says: "The world is dying for a little bit of love." Oh, that somehow God to-night, by His grace, may plant that love in all our hearts and help us to reach the needy and distressed who are all around us. There are many from whom hope has departed. We are to speak words of cheer to them. Many have lost courage. We should pray for them. There are those who need the Bread of life. We must bring it to them from the Word of God. Upon many there is a soul-sickness no earthly physician can heal. We must tell them that there is a balm in Gilead and a Physician there. Oh, what such a ministry will accomplish for those who are all about us.

Fellow believers, we have come to the time when the prayer the church has prayed all down the ages, "Thy kingdom come," is going to be answered. The seventh angel is sounding to-day. We are in the time when the mystery of God is going to be "finished," when their shall be "delay no longer." But, my friends, God's work on this earth will never be finished "until the men and women comprising our church membership rally to the work." That work is ours; that work is yours; and God is depending upon every one to do his part—even the children.

EVEN THE CHILDREN

A little five-year old girl was hurried to the hospital with acute appendicitis. When everything was in order for the anæsthetic to be administered, the surgeon said to her: "Now we are going to operate on you, but before we operate you must go to sleep, and we are going to give you some medicine to help you go to sleep."

The little patient looked up into the surgeon's eyes and said: "Doctor, if I must go to sleep I must first say my prayers, for I always say my prayers before I go to sleep." And there, in all her pain and agony, she turned over and knelt on the operating table. When she had finished she said, "Doctor, now I am ready to go to sleep."

The operation was performed and the doctor went home. When he returned early the next morning to see his little patient he said to the attending nurses: "That little girl did something to me last night. As I went home, I said to myself: 'If that little girl finds it necessary to talk to God before she goes to sleep, surely I, a responsible surgeon, should have that fellowship with Him.' Last night I knelt at my bed the first time since I was a boy, and I purposed in my heart to follow her example."

We are the light of the world. "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Matt. 5:16.

I shall read a comment on that Scripture from the book, *Christ's Object Lessons*, page 420.

"Christ does not bid His followers strive to shine. He says: 'Let your light shine.' If you have received the grace of God the light is in you. Remove the obstructions, and the Lord's glory will be revealed. The light will shine forth, to penetrate and dispel the darkness. You cannot help shining within the range of your influence."

There is only one thing that will hinder us from shining. That is the presence of sin in our lives.

The psalmist recognized that, for we hear him say in that prayer of penitence recorded in the fifty-first psalm what the result of its complete removal will be. "Purge me with hyssop," he says, "and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which Thou hast broken may rejoice. . . . Then will I teach transgressors Thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto Thee."

PERSONAL EXPERIENCE IMPERATIVE

The apostle Paul recognized this same essential when he said, "The husbandman that laboureth must be first partaker of the fruit." In other words, I cannot bring any man nearer to the Lord Jesus than I am myself. I cannot inspire in the heart of another a determination to prevail with God in prayer unless I have prevailed with Him in prayer myself. I cannot lead another to the feet of Christ in penitence unless I have first been there myself.

Oh, then, that God would help every one of us to remove all the obstructions so that we may "teach transgressors Thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto Thee."

I often think of an experience a great conductor of Handel's *Messiah* had with one of his singers. He was conducting the final rehearsal. They came to the place where the soprano sings, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," and she sang it through. The members of the chorus stood enthralled: her enunciation was perfect, her tonal qualities were just right, and at the conclusion they all expected that the conductor would commend her. Instead he walked up close to her and said, "You do not know personally that your Redeemer liveth, do you?" Rather tremblingly she replied, "Yes, I think I do." And then he exclaimed, "If you do, tell it so that I may know in my own heart that you know that your Redeemer lives."

He beckoned the orchestra and again they played, and again she sang. As she sang the message reached his own heart, it reached the hearts of the members of the chorus. When she concluded they were all in tears. They had caught from her expression and from her life the fact that she knew that her Redeemer lives.

Men and women all about us should catch from our lives the fact that we know our Redeemer lives. May we live for Him to-day, each day. You were born to live for Christ.

British Union Conference

President's Report

1936-1945

By H. W. LOWE

INTRODUCTORY

"And the Lord said unto Moses . . . speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward." Exod. 14:15.

As we emerge from the darkest days in our history, I can think of no words of Scripture with a more vital message for us than these words from God to Israel in their emergence from their darkest hour.

We have passed through years of peril, and the period covered by the reports to come before you is in many ways unique. When the present administration took office in 1936 it was possible to prepare plans and work to them, and for three years our results were of such a nature that we had every reason to expect the best quadrennial reports in our history. But in 1938 the sinister shadows of war came up over Europe, and in 1939 they burst upon us in full fury. From that time we entered upon a period of unequalled darkness, isolation, and frustration. We were compelled to adapt all our methods of work to an entirely new set of circumstances.

War never leaves the church untouched. Twenty of our church properties were damaged, two seriously and two of them were demolished. Several scores of our people lost their lives or were injured. We all felt the terrific pressure of those evil days, and many have suffered somewhat in health, but there is one outstanding cause of rejoicing as we look back to-day. We can praise God that His grace and His truth were the shield and support of His loyal people when the evil times of destruction were upon us.

I feel deeply grateful that our people, our workers, and the men with whom I have laboured for the past ten years, by their courage, their patience, and their loyalty, made my burdens lighter than would otherwise have been the case.

SOME DIRECT EFFECTS OF WAR

The first effect of hostilities was the loss of our Sanitarium and Annexe the day war was declared. Fortunately, while we were not able to avoid this loss, we were able to arrange a lease for hospital purposes, rather than a requisition for other less desirable uses. This resulted in a satisfactory financial arrangement, and the retention in the institution of a good number of our Adventist staff including the manager and treasurer. Under sometimes trying conditions these men and women have carried on during the whole of the war and they have well cared for our interests. I am glad the institution is now again in our hands, and in

process of rehabilitation, though not yet in full operation, due to the difficulty of obtaining adequate staff.

The next direct effect of war was upon our evangelistic work. People were unsettled and were not able to gather in large congregations, and the air raids on cities like Hull, Coventry, Birmingham, Liverpool, London, Plymouth, and Bristol sadly reduced attendances. Yet our ministers and Bible-workers carried on with admirable fortitude. It was in no small measure due to their determined and devoted service that our churches carried on when things might have gone to pieces. Our work never stopped. It was, of course, slowed down, and everybody was working harder than ever before with less results to show for it all. In these circumstances it is worth noting that we maintained our average annual gain in membership as compared with the past twenty years. In actual figures the gain for the period 1926 to 1935 was 3,902, while for the period 1936 to 1945 it was 3,969. I think it is, under all the forbidding circumstances that faced us for six or seven years, no mean tribute to our churches and workers that more souls were won during 1936 to 1945 than during 1926 to 1935.

EDUCATIONAL MATTERS

Our College work felt the full shock of war perhaps more than any other department of our work. Firstly, no students were allowed to remain with us after the age of eighteen and a half, except those who were with us in September, 1939, and those few who were allowed special exemption by government tribunals. This soon reduced the number of graduates and the average age of our student body. This has been a serious set-back to us in the field work, for our educational institutions are a vital part of our evangelistic programme. Our supply of workers will be reduced for some years, I fear.

But these troubles were soon added to by the compulsory acquirement of our College property. The temporary and unsuitable accommodation we ultimately found at Packwood Haugh laid a heavy burden on the College administration. I was greatly surprised that we had no more administrative difficulties than we had, but they were enough, and the brethren there did well under exasperating conditions.

Toward the end of the war it became evident that there was a very strong conviction among the teachers, the Union Committee, and the field in general, that we needed a more modern College than we had at Newbold and at Packwood. A two-hundred-year-old Queen Anne mansion may be an æsthetic delight, but as a College it is something of an administrative nightmare. Eventually, after a country-wide search we purchased two properties at Binfield, Berks., which gave us modern dormitory facilities. Then an adjoining property became ours for teachers' apartments. Land for farming is at present rented, but may ultimately be purchased. With the erection of a modern administration unit, providing classrooms, science laboratories, and offices, we feel unanimously that this property offers the best opportunity we have ever had of possessing a comfortable and modern Col-

lege. Over £40,000 has been expended in this venture of faith to date. I am glad to say the government is now vacating our Newbold property for which we have a good offer for sale.

In the year 1940 the Union Committee released E. E. White from our College to head up our church school at Watford, with the idea that this school should be built up to secondary grade and eventually become a Union boarding academy. I am happy to say that from an enrolment of about sixty-five this school has now almost 300 pupils and is doing fine work. Only as our secondary school and college grow, providing a higher standard of education, and training teachers, can we hope to establish church schools that will be a credit to us and a great evangelizing agency in our midst.

To-day we are spending 91.6 per cent of our bonus appropriation on education, and 8.3 per cent on church buildings. I feel I should remind you that our College calls for careful planning and for your full support inasmuch as we face the duty of creating a new faculty as well as a new physical set-up. Both these processes have been begun, and I earnestly hope that you will all join wholeheartedly in the future committee's plans to strengthen our educational work.

CHURCH BUILDINGS AND WORKING FORCES

At the close of 1935 we had 123 churches and companies; to-day we have 154, an increase of 31.

In December, 1935, we owned 30 church buildings worth approximately £56,000. To-day we own 44, worth £68,978.

Caring for our field interests in 1935 we had a working force of 100, whereas to-day we have 138. The average number of colporteurs between 1926 and 1935 was 86, and their total sales amounted to £201,222. The average number between 1936 and 1945 was 65, and their sales £232,827.

In our institutions we employ about 181 persons, so that including colporteurs, field personnel, and institutions there are approximately 319 workers throughout the Union.

FINANCIAL

I shall not attempt to go into figures to come to you from the treasurer, save to say that for the past ten years our tithe income of £417,915 was 72.6 per cent higher than for the previous ten years; and our mission offerings, including Ingathering, amounting to £263,415, was 69.3 per cent above the total for 1926 to 1935.

I now come to what I regard as a very vital part of this the last report it will be my privilege to render to you, and this releases to you a great burden on my heart.

During the ten years 1926 to 1935 the 6,000 members in these islands sent to overseas missions a total of over £155,500. During the same period we spent on evangelism among the fifty million people at home £48,000. From 1936 to 1945 we sent overseas over £263,500, while we spent £53,500 in evangelistic work at home. We did not send one penny too much abroad—that is not my point. My burden is that I cannot believe that an average annual expenditure on evangelistic budgets of £5,000

or £6,000 is an adequate expression of the evangelistic urge which should surely be in our hearts as we contemplate the unwarned masses around us. These figures suggest that either the urge is waning, or our plans and methods are too small and cheap. I wish above all things for this field that some way could be found—and it must be found if the work is to grow here—of spending eight to ten times the amount we are spending here on public evangelistic work, and of increasing our force of evangelists. Otherwise we face the problem of a static membership—and nothing else can grow very much if our constituency does not increase.

Shortly it may become possible to preach the message over the air from a European station. If this happens—and the General Conference Radio Commission is watching and ready to help—then we should have a Voice of Prophecy School ready to organize and handle a large number of names. This in turn will mean a considerable expenditure on staff and literature, postage, travelling, etc.

Let us not be narrow and mean in this matter of soul-winning, but let us realize that soon money will have no value, and the time to convert it into souls is now. The recording angel will not reprove a soul-winner because it cost him so much money per soul for the kingdom; nor on the other hand will he lavish much praise on people who never won a soul for Jesus, nor will He commend preachers who never knew the meaning of an annual baptism.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

During the war both the publishing house and the food factory faced great trouble with staff and raw material shortages.

The number of colporteurs has remained about the same throughout the war and their work has been a blessing. By means of putting practically all our book paper quota into larger books, we have kept up our sales figures. The periodicals have, as you know, suffered exceedingly during the war, and we shall all be glad when paper quotas are no more. It is a sound principle that most of our colporteurs should handle the larger literature, but there is an enormous post-war need for tracts and small literature for use with our home missionary and evangelistic campaigns.

I am glad to say that while the Press has had sad depletions and shortages during the war, the house is in a sound financial condition, as the manager will later show in detail.

Our health work is capable of great expansion, particularly in the manufacture and sale of health foods. Our factory never turned out more foods, and they have worked the clock round in shifts during the greater part of the war. This output of food has given us much publicity of which we should take advantage. But it should be remembered that while the factory has been soundly managed, this is the one institution which is subject to heavy taxation in the form of income and excess profits taxes, and we can say roughly that no profits above the small pre-war level have remained with us. The factory needs extension, if business is to grow. Sales must be energetically promoted, and perhaps some attempt should be made to open retail stores. This

means the expenditure of scores of thousands of pounds, and is one of the factors that will add to the work of the future Union administration, and which calls for the prayerful and practical support of the whole field.

OUR DEPARTMENTS

For the past six and a half years the church departmental activities have somewhat changed the direction of their emphasis.

Our young people were scattered, so the Missionary Volunteer societies were depleted and sometimes disappeared. There was much tribunal work and camp visitation, especially when several thousand Allied men and women came from overseas. Much good work was done in these lines by Pastors J. M. Howard and W. L. Emmerson as well as by the local conference departmental secretaries. Our youth witnessed nobly, on the whole, during the war and should return strong in the truth to their normal church life now.

There was a considerable amount of Dorcas work valiantly persevered in by our sisters, often under trying conditions.

Our hard-driven people, every able-bodied person among them between fifteen and fifty being harnessed to Government work, did not allow their home missionary duties to lapse. Over 1,250,000 pieces of literature were circulated between 1941-45; they gave 40,500 Bible studies, paid 104,000 missionary visits, as a result of which activities 224 new members were won to the truth.

I think it is true that attendances, including the Sabbath-school, have tended to decline during the war, and altogether there is a great field for useful promotion and progress in every department of church life. Here I should say that it is generally felt that three departments are too much for Union and local secretaries and some change of departmental alignment is called for.

Altogether, as I look over the past I feel grateful to God and you all, but immensely anxious to forget the day of small things which has lasted all too long. I feel a great and restless desire to see this land lightened with the Advent message. Still ringing across the centuries to the church which has its enemies and its Red Sea to contend with, is the insistent voice that has, of old, but one message for the church: "Speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward." This, too, is the word of Sister White, who said: "The order of God's providence in relation to His people is progression."

* * *

THE Lord bids us arise and go forward. Whenever the church at any period have forsaken their sins, and believed and walked in the truth, they have been honoured of God. There is in faith and humble obedience a power that the world cannot withstand. The order of God's providence in relation to His people is progression—continual advancement in the perfection of Christian character, in the way of holiness, rising higher and higher in the clear light and knowledge and love of God, to the very close of time.—"Testimonies for the Church," Vol. 5, page 484.

British Union Conference

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

1936-1945

By A. CAREY

THIS year of 1946 we believe will stand as one of the notable years of history in the work of the Lord! It is only by the providence of God that we meet here as a British Union Conference in session at this time, and it is not the usual quadrennial session, for it is now ten years since we were able to meet in like assembly. Ten years—and what years! I think those who saw and understood the restlessness between the years 1937 and 1939, and then passed through the six weary war years, can appreciate the conditions then and now and, in opening up my report on behalf of the British Union Conference, I would state that I believe that after the General Conference Session which has just been held at Washington, and Union Sessions all over the world field, the Lord is going to put an impetus into the closing period of His work, and that is why I say that I believe this year for God's people will be one of history.

We pass on to our local conference, mission, and institutional officers and all churchmembers, our most hearty gratitude for their kind co-operation and earnest work since we met in like capacity. I believe all have laboured under great difficulties but have come through, and we here at this Conference at this time truly are evidences of God's grace and love, and our own loyalty to His message and the church, so we are able to present to this body of believers, the progress of the Lord's work in this part of His vineyard during the past ten-year period.

OUR MEMBERSHIP

May we ask all to study the membership gains and losses which we present to you. At a first glance it may not appear too encouraging, yet we must remember the conditions under which our evangelists and their helpers have been working during the six-year war period. In some cases halls were closed down upon them while efforts were in progress, due to the fly bomb menace, and soon there were other kinds of restrictions which seemed to make it almost impossible to carry on aggressive work of such a nature as ours. Yet I think when you have studied these figures you will not be so discouraged, because they are a proof that during the war years the membership has been maintained and there have been as good an average number of baptisms each year as in former years. Now as to figures. Our membership at the beginning of 1936 was 5,358, and at the close of 1945 was 6,372, thus

showing a net gain in membership for the ten-year period of 1,014. During this period of time, 1936 to 1945; 3,969 souls were received into church fellowship. On the other hand the loss for the same period was 2,955, showing a net gain of 1,014, to which I have already called your attention. This loss was made up as follows:

Loss by apostasy	1,756
Loss by death	1,108
Loss by transfer	91
A total of:	<u>2,955</u>

Let us compare these figures of gains and losses with the previous ten-year period:

GAINS IN MEMBERSHIP

Members Received by	1926-1935	1936-1945
Baptism	3,248	3,141
Vote	654	828
	<u>3,902</u>	<u>3,969</u>

LOSSES IN MEMBERSHIP

Members deleted by:

	1926-1935	1936-1945
Apostasy	1,913	1,756
Death	738	1,108
Transfer to other fields	99	91
	<u>2,750</u>	<u>2,955</u>
Net Gain	1,152	1,014

The decrease in the net gain is due solely to the heavy increase in deaths—whereas from 1926 to 1935 the yearly average of members being laid to rest was nearly 74—during the years 1936 to 1945 the yearly average has been 111, or more than two every week.

On looking back over all the records I have managed to compile during my period of office, I would judge that nearly 3,000 souls have fallen asleep and are awaiting the call of the Lord.

OUR CHURCHES AND COMPANIES

During the ten-year period there have been various changes. Many new companies have been formed, and some have been dropped because of their depletion in members, but I am glad to report that there has been a net increase in the Union of 17 churches organized and 14 companies of believers, a total of 31 places where the banner of Gospel truth has been lifted and is now sending forth rays of Gospel light. The Union figures are supported by the following for the two Conferences and three Missions, and naturally the field leader in each case will give you a report concerning his own field.

THE UNION

	Churches	Companies	Total
January 1, 1936	82	41	123
January 1, 1946	99	55	154
Increase	<u>17</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>31</u>

SOUTH ENGLAND

	Churches	Companies	Total
January 1, 1936	34	9	43
January 1, 1946	48	18	66
Increase	<u>14</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>23</u>

NORTH ENGLAND

	Churches	Companies	Total
January 1, 1936	30	17	47
January 1, 1946	36	23	59
Increase	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>12</u>

WALES

	Churches	Companies	Total
January 1, 1936	9	10	19
January 1, 1946	7	8	15
Decrease	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>

SCOTLAND

	Churches	Companies	Total
January 1, 1936	5	3	8
January 1, 1946	5	2	7
Decrease	<u>—</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

IRELAND

	Churches	Companies	Total
January 1, 1936	4	2	6
January 1, 1946	3	4	7
Increase	<u>-1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>

OUR FORCE OF WORKERS

Our force of workers at January 1, 1936 was as follows:

Ordained Ministers	29
Licensed Ministers	24
Bible Instructors	40
Conference Office Staff	7
Total	<u>100</u>

By January 1, 1946 the workers had increased to the following:

Ordained Ministers	45
Licensed Ministers	42
Bible Instructors	40
Conference Office Staff	11
Total	<u>138</u>

Therefore, there were at the beginning of this year 38 more on the workers' staff of the Union as follows:

Ordained Ministers	16
Licensed Ministers	18
Conference Office Staff	4
Total	<u>38</u>

TITHES

The report of our tithes that we bring to you at this session for the ten-year period, 1936 to 1945 inclusive, is really a wonderful one. The total tithe paid by our membership in this field for that period is £417,915, and the tithe for the previous ten-year period amounted to £241,954. Thus there is an increase in tithe received from our church membership for the past ten years over the former period,

of £175,961. I would now call your attention to the fact that our tithe income for 1945 was nearly £63,000 and in 1936 it was £28,000. In other words, the tithe that this membership is paying in to the denominational treasury to-day is 125 per cent more than ten years ago.

This is due to several factors, of course, such as the increase in membership of approximately 15 per cent; increase in the earning capacity of the nation so far as wages are concerned, by a little over 40 per cent, and I do feel also that there has been especially during the war period, a larger faithfulness in tithe paying on the part of our churchmembers. For instance, ten years ago on the data at our disposal we reported 74 per cent of our churchmembers as regular tithe-payers, whereas to-day from further information we have gathered we are confident that 85 per cent of our membership is paying tithe. In the North England Conference they are reporting 90 per cent of their membership as regular tithe-payers.

It is really surprising how our tithe jumped forward, as it were, between the years 1940 and 1941, over £7,000 increase in the one year, then again the next year a £6,000 increase, again the next year an increase of nearly £6,000, and again in 1944 the tithe increase was a little over £3,000. It seems stabilized at this figure of £63,000 per year just at present. There is however still the possibility of a steady increase as the membership increases. Truly we are grateful to God for the loyalty of our churchmembers in the payment of tithe, and we pray the Lord's richest blessing on every one who has had part in sending these funds to the Lord's treasury for the carrying on of His work not only in this field but in mission lands beyond.

OFFERINGS

Here again we have to report remarkable gains for the ten-year period as compared with the previous ten-year period.

The total offerings for missions from our church membership exclusive of Ingathering (that is offerings provided out of their own means), for the period 1936 to 1945, amounted to £109,319, as compared with £70,851 for the previous ten-year period—an increase of £38,468—and the offerings from our own membership for the year 1945 were £17,176 as compared with £7,516 in 1936. From this you will see that our church membership to-day is providing from its own pocket nearly £10,000 in mission funds per year more than they were ten years ago.

Naturally it is only right that we should add to the mission offerings subscribed by our own membership, the Ingathering which they collect for missions, and here is really a marvellous report. Last year £26,325 was gathered; compare that with the figure of £10,669 of ten years ago, a 146 per cent increase. Then again, for the ten-year period the Ingathering collections reached the sum of £154,096 as compared with £84,665 for the former ten-year period. We really feel that the Ingathering figures are marvellous, and surely the Lord has gone before us as we have collected, and everyone who has taken part in this campaign surely must be indeed

grateful to the Lord for His great blessing upon their labours as this has meant so much for the mission fields.

When you add the Ingathering to the regular mission offerings, the totals are £263,415 for the ten-year period which I am reporting to you, as compared with £155,516 for the previous period, an increase of £107,899 in mission offerings for the ten-year period and our church membership at the present time is providing in regular mission offerings and Ingathering combined, an average of £25,300 more for missions than it was providing ten years ago, and this is 139 per cent increase.

SPECIAL OFFERINGS

There are, however, other items of mission offerings which should be of special interest to this assembly. In addition to our regular offerings and Ingathering already reported to you, there have been a considerable number of special gifts from various members in the field to direct fields and for new work, and the figure is intensely interesting. For the ten-year period the following special gifts have been made from the churchmembers in this field:

East African Union	£643
West African Missions	952
Nigeria	1,289
Arabia	500
Ethiopia	565
India	195
Finland Relief	359
South Africa	507
China	193
To open up new mission stations	470
Argentina	10
Philippines	5
	<hr/> £5,688

What more can we add to such a report as this than "Praise God from whom all blessings flow"?

British Union Conference

Report of Home Missionary Department 1936-1945

By J. M. HOWARD

THIS is a most unusual occasion. Never before have the reports of a Union Session covered a ten-year period—and *what* a decade it has been!

For the past seven years we have been working amid the perils and providences of war. Difficulties unheard of and emergencies unknown have educated and developed our lay-membership.

The government has harnessed all the available working hours of every able-bodied person between the ages of sixteen and fifty, yet during the period under review our 2,400 reporting members have (notwithstanding the 70 per cent cut in paper sup-

plies during the war years) circulated 4,129,508 pieces of literature.

They have helped our evangelists to the extent of distributing 8,470,174 invitations to public meetings.

No less than 394,595 persons have been helped. In spite of severe rationing of clothes, 63,913 garments have been passed on to more needy souls.

The war has doubtless been the cause of the great increase in treatments given. During 1943, 19,319 folk were helped physically by our people. Never before have so many treatments been given in one year.

Reports show that 235,782 missionary visits were paid, and 116,854 missionary letters written.

During these days of perplexity 35,253 persons accepted invitations to attend our meetings.

A total of 21,257 cottage meetings were conducted and 61,201 Bible studies given, as a result of which activities 450 souls were added to the church by lay members.

LITERATURE CAMPAIGNS

Later on in the Conference we shall learn from the Press the many problems of war-time publishing. The problem which caused the greatest headache was of course the alarming cut in paper supplies.

Needless to say, this situation greatly affected our home missionary literature work.

The well-known tract campaign had to be abandoned until paper for magazines is again released.

The Missions Extension campaign was also affected, but our faithful British membership saw to it that the missions treasury did not suffer from that account.

1936	£491	11	6
1937	453	12	11
1938	514	7	1
1939	547	18	2
1940	621	10	0
1941	666	4	3
1942	699	11	6
1943	836	4	9
1944	1,530	9	7
1945	1,670	2	3

INGATHERING

But the most outstanding triumph of missionary endeavour in Britain is the irresistible advance of the Ingathering campaign. As we view the peak of this year's achievement we are constrained to exclaim: "What hath God wrought!"

In 1916 when the campaign first was launched the enormous sum of £206 was collected! This year to date we have realized between £28,000 and £29,000. The figures for the decade are as follows:

1936	£10,669	£1	18	7
1937	10,992	1	18	2
1938	11,132	1	17	7
1939	10,693	1	15	6
1940	11,505	1	18	11
1941	13,167	2	4	6
1942	16,208	2	14	1
1943	19,760	3	5	1
1944	23,642	3	14	4
1945	26,325	4	2	6
1946	28,000	4	8	8

WORK AMONG THE TROOPS

In addition to the usual missionary activities, it was a great thrill and pleasure to our membership to entertain thousands of our Advent believers in khaki from America, Canada, and Jamaica. It was always a great pleasure to see with what joy our people shared their meagre rations with their fellow-believers from overseas. One little church of less than fifty members supplied over a thousand dinners to the American soldier boys who worshipped with them on Sabbaths.

Every fortnight we sent out from the Union office nearly two thousand letters and packages of literature. Every soldier was supplied with a lesson pamphlet, *Morning Watch Calendar*, *The Progressive Volunteer*, *Present Truth*, *Good Health*, and also a church directory.

It was our personal privilege to speak at many of the camps, and visit the boys at their hospital units. In the course of my visiting I heard of twelve young men who had been won to the message through contact with fellow Seventh-Day Adventist soldiers.

It is difficult to live the message in the army, and sometimes one is brought face to face with the problem of disobeying one's superior officer or letting down a principle of the faith. This, of course, ultimately means the guard-room and court-martial. Sixteen of these guard-room cases came to my knowledge—two American, nine Canadian, four Jamaican, and one British. In each instance the Lord marvellously intervened and the victory was won.

On one occasion a general of the Canadian Army was interviewed and went to the trouble of sending personal word to Germany to save three of our boys who were awaiting general court-martial. His final letter to me was brief and very satisfactory. "With reference to the three soldiers whose case we discussed when you called on me, I am now glad to inform you that no disciplinary action has been taken against these men who have been transferred to another unit where they are excused duty on Saturday and are required to work on Sunday."

PRISONERS OF WAR

Under great difficulties we are now gathering a list of German Advent believers in British prisoner of war camps. And right here I should like to remind you that in God's eyes, a believer is still a believer whether he is German, Japanese, or British. Belief in Jesus makes us all one. We are all alike in His eyes.

I am reminded of a story of a chemist who had a valued coloured cook with a nine year old girl. One bright morning the little girl was setting the table when the small son of the chemist became interrogative.

"Jenny, do you pray?" the lad questioned.

"Course, every night," the little girl replied.

"But do you think," the boy continued, "that God hears your prayers as quickly as those of the white children?"

The little girl was confused, dropped the plate she was holding, but answered beautifully, "See here, Master Arthur, I pray into God's ears and not into His eyes!"

Again I say, under great difficulties we have gathered a list of German Advent believers in British prisoner of war camps. Up to the moment we have discovered only twenty. Several times letters have been sent to us through our Southern European Division for certain brethren thought to be in England, and we have had the unusual pleasure of delivering them. We wish you could have seen the tears of joy when they read that their loved ones were still safe. One had not heard from his wife for three years, and the last news was that her home had been wrecked by bombs.

Another young boy who had left his good Adventist home and joined the Hitler Youth party has again found the Lord and is awaiting baptism here in England. We are hoping that the Commandant will permit us, in the near future, to take him to our nearest church to perform this rite.

Still another has used *Steps to Christ* to bring comfort to thousands of his fellow prisoners. It is so well worn that dozens of its pages are loose.

We are grateful that through the generosity of the Brookfield Publishing House regular supplies of German literature and lesson pamphlets are being sent to them and their comrades.

A wonderful opening presents itself among the prisoners of war. Time hangs heavy in captivity and lonely hearts are quickly touched. If you could see the soul-starved groups of captive men who crowd round our boys when the generous, but so inadequate, supplies of German *Signs of the Times* arrive, your hearts would be touched. Pray for these men that in their adversity they may find the Lord and learn the truth. There will never be a time when these Hitler-trained men are so ready to read as now. We are in great need of German Bibles, and Adventist literature in the German language. If you are able to supply any literature please send to the Home Missionary Department, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.

British Union Conference

Report of Sabbath-School Department

1936-1945

By J. M. HOWARD

THERE is one hour in the week when the church has always appeared to me to be a united and happy family and that hour is between ten and eleven o'clock on Sabbath morning.

The one thing that matters to every true parent is that the whole family is within the fold. The Sabbath-school is no exception. Its whole aim is, or should be, the eternal safety of every member.

Sister White in *Testimonies on Sabbath-School Work*, page 47, says: "The object of the Sabbath-school work should be the ingathering of souls. The

order of working may be faultless, the facilities all that could be desired; but if the children and youth are not brought to Christ, the school is a failure."

MEMBERSHIP

During the ten years under review, the number of Sabbath-schools fluctuated between 153 in 1936 and 166 in 1945, a gain of 13, while the Sabbath-school membership of 5,603 has only advanced by 57. This is surely cause for serious thought and decisive action.

The average attendance also shows a disturbing result. In 1936 there were 1,500 Sabbath-school members absent, we find the drift still apparent at the close of last year, when 1,300 members missed Sabbath-school.

MISSING MEMBERS

In addition to this lapse we have the perpetual problem of the "missing member"—the church-member whose name does not appear on any of the Sabbath-school records.

The year 1936 found us with 1,056 of these "problem children"! Now their number has increased in 1945 to 1,663. This represents more than one-sixth of our entire church membership. Surely this vast number in so small a membership is a serious challenge to every Sabbath-school officer? Make it your business when you return to your home church to see that within the next month every missing member is within the Sabbath-school fold.

Looking through the secretaries' reports recently, certain facts stood out in bold relief.

Only twenty-two schools of the 166 in the Union conduct teachers' meetings. It does appear to us that the missing member problem is primarily a teachers' problem. In the last analysis it is the teacher who attracts the student either by an intelligent and helpful presentation of the lesson, or by a pleasing personality, or by both.

Surely it is the duty of the Sabbath-school committee to see that provision is made for the weekly meeting of the teachers. There they can study not only the lesson, but the various problems of non-attendance in their classes.

Another fact was that only 129 copies of the *Sabbath-School Worker* appear to be used among our Sabbath-school officers and teachers. This valuable paper should be more widely read.

Three other facts connected with the Junior Department are of great interest. They are as follows:

There are 437 of our 650 juniors who do not have *The Little Friend*.

There are nearly 500 juniors who are missing the joy of the memory verse cards.

There are only six of the 166 Sabbath-schools regularly using the picture roll, though it should be said that this is largely due to their unavailability during the war years.

I trust that no delegate will leave this Conference without visiting the M.V. and Sabbath-school display table, and when you return home worry your church until they order these necessities from The Stanborough Press.

DAILY STUDY

Five hundred and thirty two Sabbath-school members maintained the daily study habit throughout the year during 1936. This number dropped to 365 for 1945. In studying the figures for the ten years one observes a gradual decline in the number of members who consistently study their lesson every day.

It is true that a much larger percentage of our members start out on the daily study plan as seen from the fact that through the years an average of 3,000 have obtained the quarterly credits, but it is obvious that we each one need to take special care in this matter of daily study of the lesson. The tendency throughout the ten years has been downward.

BAPTISMS

During the past decade 1,452 Sabbath-school students have been baptized into the faith. This is a most encouraging total. Truly, as has been said many times, the Sabbath-school is the greatest soul-winning agency of the church.

OFFERINGS

Most pills are sugar-coated—this Sabbath-school one is sugar-centred! We have left the best until last.

Never in the history of our work in Britain have we shown our missionary interest in a more practical way than now. The increase in offerings is truly amazing.

The total Sabbath-school offering in 1936 was £5,197. In 1945 it had increased to the magnificent sum of £12,226. Knowing the extra calls which war-time conditions have made upon every purse we cannot help feeling gratified at the faithfulness and missionary spirit of our British believers.

The yearly totals from 1936 to 1945 are as follows:

1936	£5,197
1937	5,488
1938	5,664
1939	5,606
1940	5,882
1941	6,846
1942	8,131
1943	9,370
1944	11,749
1945	12,226
	<u>£76,099</u>

These totals include the four different offerings listed below:

	Investment Offering	Birthday Offering	Home Division Offering	13th Sabbath Offering
1936	£20	£81	£653	£1,394
1937	21	83	599	1,656
1938	44	78	546	1,509
1939	38	80	544	1,438
1940	42	79	576	1,545
1941	41	110	627	1,943
1942	93	148	884	2,365
1943	179	169	819	2,597
1944	250	205	1,008	2,969
1945	431	218	1,058	3,087
	<u>1,159</u>	<u>1,251</u>	<u>7,214</u>	<u>20,503</u>

In the *English Digest* I read the following story: "Little Ralph set out for Sunday-school with two pennies clutched in his fist. He was instructed by his mother to put one in the collection plate, and to keep the other for himself. As he walked he tripped and one of the pennies rolled into the drain.

"Well," exclaimed the child, 'there goes the Lord's penny!'"

It is quite obvious that our Sabbath-school membership has taken good care of the Lord's "penny" whatever may have happened to their own.

In that triumphant day when the results of all our efforts are made known, the Lord's penny will be returned to you in *souls saved* in the kingdom.

British Union Conference

Report of Missionary Volunteer Department

1936-1945

By J. M. HOWARD

THIS is an age of youth. The world does not hesitate to use, and where merited, to honour the young people who serve her. The nation appreciates the vastness of the reservoir of untapped talent which lies in her youth. How much more does the church value this reserve of power!

Ten years ago our Missionary Volunteer organization had a membership of 1,749; to-day we have 1,806. There is an average attendance of 1,575 and about 50 per cent of this number report the following activities:

82,465	Hours of Christian help work
43,446	Missionary visits
76,555	Pieces of literature distributed
27,125	Missionary letters written
6,333	Persons taken to services
19,501	Treatments given
12,374	Articles of clothing given away
2,724,465	Bills distributed
11,835	Bible readings given
3,432	Cottage meetings conducted
294	Young people baptized.

OFFERINGS

	Home	Foreign
1936	£97 2 3	£145 19 5
1937	101 9 3	159 14 4
1938	120 13 8	121 3 4
1939	94 12 11	170 3 0
1940	83 2 1	156 17 11
1941	74 16 4	210 2 9
1942	170 14 2	283 14 10
1943	243 16 9	336 10 7
1944	370 14 9	410 10 10
1945	341 16 10	429 18 2

THE PROGRESSIVE COURSES

A great factor in keeping our young people together during the past ten years has been the Progressive Courses. These received a fresh impetus when the British *Youth Handbook* was published in 1944. A grand work of revision was done by the committee under the chairmanship of Brother J. Harker when they produced this book. Our young people received it with enthusiasm and in a little over a year the whole edition of one thousand volumes was exhausted. A second edition has just come off the press.

Two years ago the College board consented to add to its already full curriculum the teaching of the Companion, Comrade, and Master Comrade Courses. These have been ably cared for by Brother R. Scarr.

We feel this to be a great stride forward in our aim of 500 Master Comrades before the next Union session.

The following figures represent the number of young people invested during the ten-year period as follows:

1936	68	1941	50
1937	56	1942	155
1938	135	1943	127
1939	43	1944	78
1940	136	1945	140
Total	<u>438</u>	Total	<u>550</u>

This is a grand total of 988, over 55 per cent of our Union Missionary Volunteer membership. This represents a great deal of hard work and the acquisition of an enormous amount of useful knowledge on the part of leaders and Missionary Volunteers.

MORNING WATCH

This ever-popular calendar has, in late years, reached new heights in circulation. For, while it is, and always has been, attached to the Missionary Volunteer Department, it has always been received with enthusiasm by the whole church. At least one church of our acquaintance makes a Christmas present of the *Morning Watch Calendar* to every person attached to the church from the beginning of reading age up. That church is a very devout little group.

Whereas in the earlier years of the decade the Press ran off 6,000 copies of the calendar, latterly the circulation has reached 14,000. The brethren at the Press have so far very generously placed no limit upon the paper used for this vital publication.

During the latter war years, 2,000 copies of the calendar were sent to the British, Canadian, Jamaican and American service men. These young people were most grateful to receive this gift, especially as we included in the booklet a directory of the churches in Britain, and we like to feel that many a young person was encouraged in the Christian walk and enabled to keep in touch with the church through this simple means.

READING COURSE BOOKS

This essential part of Missionary Volunteer life has caused us the greatest embarrassment in war years. These books are chosen by the General Conference Missionary Volunteer Department and

formerly we were able to purchase them direct from Washington. Since the beginning of the war it has neither been practical nor possible to do this.

The Departmental secretaries have spent every spare moment on this elusive book hunt! Often we have come home elated at the discovery of a suitable volume only to find upon ordering that it was either out of print already, or that only six copies were available for our youth organization. Frequently we have had to scour the whole country to make up the required number. Many times we have sent word to different Missionary Volunteer leaders asking them to make private purchases of a certain book.

Yet in spite of all these handicaps the number of reading course sets supplied to our societies has risen from 60 to 85 during the war years. Each set contains 9 volumes—3 Senior, 3 Junior, and 3 Primary.

RALLIES

Youth rallies have been a frequent and popular feature of young people's work. It has been an inspiration to me personally as I have attended them, to see the enthusiasm and the potential power of our army of youth in this country. No cause is ever poor while it has the talent and energy of youth at its command. It has been my privilege to attend as many as twenty youth rallies in one year.

We have been gratified at the demonstration of local talent in our churches and pleased to see many of these young people go to College to take their training for a place in the Lord's work.

THE PROGRESSIVE VOLUNTEER

This report would be incomplete without some mention of Brother Harker's war baby, *The Progressive Volunteer*. It is tremendously hard to launch and make popular a new magazine at any time. It is doubly difficult under the restrictions of war. But Brother Harker had the foresight to see the need and the courage to make the start. To-day we have a magazine of which we can be proud. You will be pleased to know that the circulation has risen from 900 in its beginning, to 1,200.

We are grateful to our young people for their co-operation in writing articles. It is a tribute to them when we say that we have been able to dispense entirely with reprinted articles.

CAMPS

When total war fell upon Britain and we were eighteen miles only from the enemy guns, when Dunkirk was a recent memory, and invasion more than a scare, our Missionary Volunteer camps continued.

We are more than grateful to the College that when tents were prohibited for civilians they opened their halls to our campers. Incidentally, this arrangement has proved a blessing in disguise and has given many a young person his first desire to enter College.

While the number has sometimes been limited by the beds and equipment available—75 seniors and 75 juniors—last year so many desired to attend that we augmented the number by handmade beds on the floor! The highest number of the war—

IN THE SERVICES

During the ten years under review we have all, and young people in particular, experienced the most wholesale upheaval of any generation. Family life has been unprecedentedly disturbed. Professional ambitions have been wrecked, educational careers have been cut short, well-laid life plans have been changed beyond recognition. And all in six brief years. It is understandable, then, that practically all our young people have been called upon to make decisions and face situations both unexpected and unusual for their age. As the Word of God foretells, many have been called upon to stand before rulers and those in authority to witness for the message.

Many such were called to Civil Defence work in the N.F.S. and A.R.P., and on the land, or in the hospitals, or even in forestry. Still others decided to risk entering the Non-combatant Corps and witness for the Sabbath when occasion demanded. Some successfully faced courts-martial and others suffered imprisonment because of their faith. All courageously stood for the truth.

The tribunals of this country were exceedingly generous to our people. Scores of our Missionary Volunteers were permitted to carry on their customary work, while many others were given the option of some civilian work.

Our Missionary Volunteer Department wrote every fortnight to each of these young people and enclosed lesson pamphlets and literature for their spiritual need.

In closing this report I would like to tell you a story.

"After World War I, the late King George V was about to make a radio address supporting the disarmament programme. A few minutes before the time for the programme to begin, a young technician discovered that a wire leading to the microphone was broken and that there was not sufficient time to make repairs. Grasping the two ends of the wire, the young man allowed the current to pass through his body so that the speech could go on the air. He served as a connecting link, and the King's voice, passing through his body, was heard around the world."

God has no way of reaching the world except through us. He has no voice to use except ours. We are the connecting link between earth and heaven in these last days. Will you not to-day dedicate your life to the service of the King?

* * *

THERE are three ways in which the Lord reveals His will to guide us, and to fit us to guide others. . . . God reveals His will to us in His Word, the Holy Scriptures. His voice is also revealed in His providential workings. . . . Another way in which God's voice is heard is through the appeal of His Holy Spirit, making impressions upon the heart, which will be wrought out in the character.—"*Testimonies*," Vol. 5, page 512.

British Union Conference

Report of Newbold Missionary College

1936-1945

By W. G. C. MURDOCH

CHRISTIAN education is one of the cardinal beliefs of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. We maintain that our children and youth should have the privilege of attending our own schools and colleges in order that they may develop a noble Christian character, which is the highest aim of all true education. Therefore, we feel that in war as in peace, we should continually strive to provide the necessary facilities so that none may be debarred from receiving such a training.

During the past ten years we have been very conscious of the Lord's prospering hand over our Newbold Missionary College. The spiritual atmosphere in the College has been most encouraging. The Weeks of Prayer have been seasons of real refreshing from the presence of God, and heaven has come down to tabernacle with us. Special efforts have been made for those among us who were not yet members of our church, and by the end of each College year, all signified their desire to cast in their lot with the people of God. During the period under review, sixty-one young people have been baptized.

A special feature of our College is the Sabbath morning prayer band. Here in the early morning, a group of earnest young people met week by week to commune with their God, and their fervent prayers have been answered.

Every Sunday during the school year, students have sold literature in the neighbouring towns and villages. This has not only helped the young people to meet their College fees, but has spread the message to thousands of homes.

The summer scholarship plan has been a great financial help to the students. A total of 270 have been successful in qualifying for this benefit, and literature has been sold to the value of £28,154.

The Ingathering for missions has taken on very large proportions, and £5,474 has been collected by the students and teachers.

The scholastic work of the College has been strengthened and there have been large graduating classes each year. The total number graduating for the period from the Ministerial, Bible-workers' and Teachers' Courses was 159. Thirty-four of this number are at present in the mission field. Six are in America, and six are pursuing medical studies.

Most of the others have found their place in the work here at home. Only two have been lost to the church.

We do not wish to enlarge upon the problems which the war brought to us. The evacuation premises in which we were compelled to spend four years were by no means ideal, but they were much better than having to close down our College altogether, and we are thankful that we could continue although there were many hardships involved.

It is not difficult to understand that the "Ideal College" would need to be built to specifications, but such building at this present time is out of the question, so we felt we should try to find a suitable building where we could carry on our educational work. After long and careful searching, the Lord led us to a locality where two estates had just fallen vacant, and were for sale at a very reasonable figure. These were purchased, and we took possession of them at the beginning of the present year. We still did not have accommodation for our teachers and staff, nor had we sufficient land. Provisionally, however, two adjoining estates were about to be vacated, one of which we have bought, and the other one have rented. The latter is not only a large modern mansion with three cottages, but also has eighty acres of very productive arable land. Now we are in possession of these four splendid modern buildings. They are centrally heated, all have modern conveniences and are in good repair. At a time when the housing shortage is so acute and building well-nigh impossible, it seems nothing short of the miraculous leading of the Lord that we should have been able to get possession of these four properties for our College.

It is gratifying to know that our young men who have been compelled to do government service during the emergency, are being allowed to return to the College. Twelve have been released as from August 1st, and all twelve are making plans to resume their studies on September 17th. These mature young men will bring great strength to our College and we are glad that their vision has not been dimmed, despite the long dark years of frustration. May the Lord make them twelve apostles in His remnant church.

Students from other countries are desiring to be enrolled in the College this year. Already many applications have come in from Holland, Belgium, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Switzerland, Morocco, Canada, and the United States of America.

We believe that Newbold Missionary College is destined to play a great part in preparing young people for service, not only for the British Union, but for the Empire and many other countries of Europe.

Let us rally round our College and give liberally of our means to help in the cause of Christian education. Above all may the Lord help us to guide our young people so that they may be sheltered within the walls of a Christian school and may be prepared for the service of God on earth, and for higher service in the world to come.

South England Conference

President's Report

1936-1945

By G. D. KING

IN bringing to you a report covering ten years of work in South England, a good text with which to begin might be Isaiah 43:18, "Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old."

Ten years is a long stretch to cover, and certainly, in the light of what has happened since, 1936 seems a long, long time ago. Practically the whole of the administration period covered by this report has been an "emergency period." The last seven years of it have brought conditions unprecedented in our experience, and have presented us with problems and perplexities beyond our human solution. It is for this reason that our text is an appropriate one, for we further read: "Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert." Verse 19.

The possibilities for the future are not dictated by the happenings of the past. We have God's assurance that He will do a "new thing," and we only review the past in order that we might be more conscious of God's leading and guiding as we press on into the glorious future He has for His people and His cause.

I quote from *Life Sketches*, page 196: "In reviewing our past history, having travelled over every step of advance to our present standing, I can say, Praise God! As I see what the Lord has wrought, I am filled with astonishment, and with confidence in Christ as leader."

"We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us and His teaching in our past history." We have this in mind as we review the history of the past ten years in South England.

MEMBERSHIP

The greatest asset this cause has, is its loyal and faithful membership. To build up and strengthen the membership is the great and final objective of all our church activity, "to make ready a people prepared for the Lord," "an habitation of God through the Spirit." It has been well said that "the grand purpose of redeeming grace is the sanctification of the church." (See Eph. 5:25, 26.)

The bare facts of our membership figures are as follows: At the beginning of 1936 the total membership was 2,713, fellowshipping in forty-seven churches and companies. Since that time, through the faithful witness of our membership, the loyal support of lay preachers, and the arduous and faith-

(Continued on page 18.)

WHILE I feel that it is a very great privilege to address such a large congregation of fellow believers in the Advent message, I am sure, too, you will understand me, when I say I feel very deeply the responsibility of this hour. My text is found in Isaiah 10:3, a verse that contains some vital, personal and pertinent questions.

"What will ye do in the day of visitation, and in the day of desolation which shall come from far? to whom will ye flee for help and where will ye dispose of your heavy baggage?" (Spurrell translation.)

These are striking questions which we realistically and in a personal way need to ask ourselves and find the needed answer.

We live in a world that is judgment-bound. For six years Europe has received a visitation of divine judgment which is but the forerunner of that which is yet to come. As surely as Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed by the avenging hand of God, so it is inevitable that the judgments of God must come to this world, and when they come they come to destroy the destroyers and to root out all the remnants of sin and its working. That is the day of wrath, the visitation of final judgment. We know it is coming. We believe it is due. Our presence here this morning, I take it, is an indication of our desire to escape the wrath of that final disastrous hour.

Well then, dear friends, do you know the answer to the question, "In the day of visitation, to whom will ye flee for help?"

TENTING TOWARD SODOM

Lot was a preacher of righteousness. He was a man endowed with great gifts and responsibilities. He dwelt alongside the servant of God. Yet one day he decided to come out on the hilltop and view the lands afar. Soon he began tenting toward Sodom, and presently he found himself enticed by the inducements of profitable business to go right into Sodom. There he dwelt, and there his family lived and married, and there he surrounded himself with ties that held him fast. Then messengers of God came and said, "Lot, escape for thy life lest thou be consumed in the avenging wrath of God that is so soon to be unleashed."

What did Lot do? Did he gather his family and flee? He began to bargain with the God who had shown him so unmistakably the sincerity of His love. He wanted to stay. He wanted to be saved amidst all the sin and degradation of that desolating place. So, almost with impatience because the final work of God was being hindered, the angels took that man and his wife and his daughters and thrust them without the city. Even when they got out, the spirit of the Jew was still there and he bargained until he was allowed to go to Zoar. But he didn't find happiness in Zoar and so he climbed the mountainside, and went to a cave. So he ultimately failed in a great responsibility.

What a terrible experience that is to think about to-day. What were Lot's mistakes? Do you suppose that that sin in the cave overwhelmed Lot with the suddenness of a thunder-bolt? Men do not fall into this catastrophe without knowing it. What did Lot do? He turned his back upon the altar of the

living God. He chose to find his pleasure and his profit in the world. The more he developed his talent in business, the less God affected his life. Finally we find him so destitute and besmirched by the moral filth of all that God intended to destroy that he left behind him two whole nations of people, idolaters to the end of their days, and destined to a desolating death because of it all.

How different was Abraham. He stayed where the altar of God was erected. When the circumstances of life compelled him to move, he took with him all that was represented by the altar of a living God. He looked for a city "that hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God." And when, in the final day the heavens reveal the eternal city of God's people, Abraham and his seed will be there, What a lesson for us, isn't it?

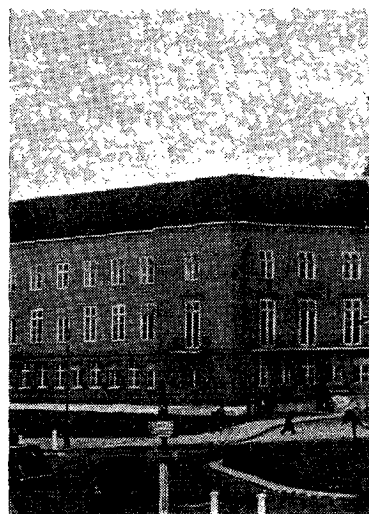
Oh, dear friends, this morning, I wonder if we cannot just for a moment think what it was that made the difference in the destinies of those two men—Lot forsaking the altar of the living God; Abraham building his life around it. It seems to me the difference is expressed in a little couplet I read somewhere which says:

"Decision determines direction,
Direction determines destiny."

Abraham fixed his eyes upon the city that had foundations, and he saw its symbolism in a daily visitation to the altar of the living God. Lot fixed his eyes upon the cities of the plain. Lot passed on into oblivion with a disastrous record. Abraham sleeps awaiting the grand inheritance. What made the difference? The decision to keep the eyes upon the city of God rather than upon the city of the plain.

REMEMBER LOT'S WIFE

It is very significant that in His teaching Christ said, "As it was in the days of Lot, so shall it be in the days of the coming of the Son of Man." He goes on to tell the whole pitiful story, and then He said this: "Remember Lot's wife." I have been wondering, brethren, why He said that, and I only discovered the reason a couple of years ago, when I was reading carefully that chapter in *Patriarchs and Prophets* that tells the whole story of Lot's disastrous experience. There Sister White points out that Lot's wife was lost because of the hesi-



The Watford Town Hall with

"What Will"

Abstract of a Sermon



The Union Session was held.

Ye Do?"

Pastor E. B. RUDGE

tancy and the unfaithfulness and the disobedience of the husband.

There is something in that for the church of God. We were all distressed yesterday to learn that in ten years, almost 1,800 of the people of this church have slipped out of the fold through the back door. We were told that most of them were the youth of the church.

I believe, dear friends, this Sabbath day is a very good time for us to remember that when the angel said to Lot, "Escape to the mountain, lest thou be consumed," he might well have taken his sons-in-law and his family and his wife and have saved them all. Instead we have to look upon that family, in all probability, as being among the eternally lost.

We need to understand to-day, that our physical salvation depends upon our spiritual salvation, and that spiritual escape from the avenging wrath of God must precede our physical escape. We can only arrange for that by doing what God would have us do. Come out from the world and its sins. Abandon all the follies that beset human nature. Cease dicker with God and truth and righteousness and when we know that which is true and right let us be responsive, fixing our eyes "upon the city that hath foundations whose Builder and Maker is God."

The servant of the Lord never told us a truer thing than this: "The world is fast becoming ripe for destruction." The scientists know that. The journalists know it. I picked up a paper the other day in America containing an article by a woman journalist. It was headed, "Just Four Years Left." She went on to point out that the scientists, when they disclosed the disastrous and destructive effects of the atomic bomb said: "Civilization has five years in which to find the effective way to bring about peace or we must be prepared to face complete destruction." "One year has gone," she said, "Only four years are left. Nothing has been done to save mankind; won't somebody please hurry?"

NEED FOR HASTE

In this our day we must hurry with the things that belong to God and the Christ; and to remember that Lot's wife was lost very largely because of the failure of her husband.

I want to tell you that there is no grander state for you and for me and for your families and my family to-day than this wondrous message that

God has put into the care of His church. For if you turn over to Revelation 14:4, 5, you will read the words, "These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb. And in their mouth was found no guile; for they are without fault before the throne of God." I want you to know, dear friends—and I believe you do know it—that the great need in the church life of this movement of ours to-day is more guilelessness, less guile; more faultlessness and less fault-finding; more undefilement of spirit than carelessness of speech. Undefiled in heart, guileless in spirit, faultless in purpose—that is not perfectionism, it is the character that this Advent message offers to every man and woman that will accept it as the gift of the Christ who died to make them His.

Christ wants to prepare us through this message to stand in that great day when He shall come. Those that overcome the world, the flesh, and the devil will be the favoured ones who shall receive the seal of the living God. Those whose hands are not clean, whose hearts are not pure, will not have the seal of the living God. Those who are planning sin and acting sin will be passed by. What solemn, challenging words are these. How much better, dear friends, is it for us to cease planning sin, cease acting sin, and plan and act as men and women who expect the imprint of the seal of the living God.

A few weeks ago, when we knew we were coming to England, Brother Hare said to me "How are you going to address your baggage?" I said I had written, "To London, England." Do you not desire to have placed around your soul that destination ticket—God, New Jerusalem?

I believe with all my heart, that God is taking this Church and leading it to its destiny, triumph in Christ, and the possession of the eternal kingdom. I want to go on with it, but I cannot go on with it if I am going to be like Lot and dicker with things of the world, its sin and its filth, if I am going to be like Lot, and imperil the church of God by my own foolishness and weakness. So I must have those things that make for the undefiled spirit, for the guileless heart, for the faultless purpose.

I have some inspired questions from *Testimonies to Ministers* which God's servant has written and I want to read them to you to-day. These are for everybody, including myself.

"Professing to know God, do I put Him out of my thoughts, and substitute an idol?" That is very personal, you may need to think deeply to know the answer.

"Do I lead other minds to regard sin lightly by my example?"

"Am I a spectacle to the world of moral looseness?"

These are basic things, my brethren, and knowing the promises of God and the purpose of God, I wonder if we could not resolve to-day like the servant of God of old that "having therefore these promises," we will "cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." I believe that these things are basic to a proper relationship to God in spiritual things and I base it on the fact that

the final pronouncement is, "He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still."

It seems to me that up there in that cave beyond the city of Zoar the time came when God in His severity had to put His hand over the record of Lot and said, "He that is filthy, let him be filthy still." How different at the tomb of Abraham. There came the overshadowing hand of God writing, "He that is righteous, let him be righteous still."

"Decision determines direction, direction determines destiny." The man who would enter the kingdom, the man who would be saved from his own follies, and from all that is involved in holding back from the service of God, must come to the place where he sees in Christ His salvation. He will save unto the uttermost all who come unto God by Him. Let us plead together for that marvellous combination of strength and victory.

A NEW CONSECRATION

God says, "Put me in remembrance that I am God, that I am your Father, that I am the Potter, I am the Moulder, I am the Cleanser, I am the regenerator, the Transformer."

Have not we a wonderful God? Oh, we cannot fail Him, can we? Aren't you ready this morning to put Him in remembrance of what He has promised to do? If there is a minister here to-day, or a church elder that needs to remember something that must be put behind, I want to ask that minister or worker to-day if he will join me in standing in a new consecration to be used in the grand and glorious way by God to finish this wonderful work. If there are elders here and church officers who have things to put right and would like to join me in taking Jesus Christ as the crown of a victorious life of service, I wonder if you would like to join me in consecration? I am going to ask the fathers and the mothers, the parents of this great congregation, if they do not feel that this is a day to rededicate their lives in the interests of the salvation of their families and of themselves.

I am going to ask any who may be here who have never yet definitely decided to place their feet in the narrow way that leads to life eternal, if they would like to make a decision to-day. And if there is anyone here who has started and perhaps lost the way, and would like to restart the journey, won't you make this an opportunity of dedicating your life to Christ and to His service?

Our gracious Father, we bring to Thee this offering of ourselves to-day. Thou knowest each one of us and the need that presses down upon us. Thou knowest, too, dear Lord, the greatness of Thy power and Thy strength and the willingness of Thy heart to help. Be with us each one, measure to us that help and strength which we need, and make us strong to-day in our determination to be wholly Thine. Forgive our sins, pardon every wrong thing in us, and in that great day of victory, redeem us all, we pray, for Jesus sake." Amen.

South England Conference PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from page 15.)

ful service of evangelists, pastors, Bible instructors, and colporteurs, under the blessing of God, no less than 1,920 new believers have been added to the church, probably many more than in this hall on Sabbath. Incidentally, our intrepid colporteurs, who are our best-paid workers in South England, have increased their sales from £10,226 to £19,059. The death rate of our members in South England seems abnormally high, and it is with reverence and respect that we think of the 524 members who have passed away during the ten-year period. At the close of 1945 the membership figure was 3,263, fellowshipping in sixty-six churches and companies.

Personally I was much impressed with a statement made by Elder J. L. McElhany in his opening address at the recent General Conference. It was a statement to which my own heart responded. He said: "I desire to emphasize what I have endeavoured on many occasions to emphasize, and what I believe to be the great outstanding need and objective of this cause to-day; that is to evangelize, to win souls for the kingdom." To keep the crusade of evangelism advancing has been the unswerving purpose of the leadership in South England during the past ten years. At times it has not been easy. During the dark days of the war, when blackout and bombs made havoc and chaos of so many well-made plans and programmes, it might well have been said, "It can't be done," but our workers did not falter, and to them I pay tribute to-day. Of them it can be said, "They did not shrink in the day of battle." It is for them to rejoice in the nine new churches and fourteen new companies raised up by their faithful labours during those years. Five of these companies have since been organized into churches.

During this meeting you will hear from four of our evangelists, each of whom has been ordained to the ministry during this ten-year period. The workers in South England can, I think, be aptly described as a "happy band of brothers." We have 18 ordained ministers, 17 licensed ministers, and 18 Bible instructors, loyally united in the work of furthering the Gospel and in building up the cause within our territory. The present staff of active evangelists and Bible instructors is woefully inadequate to meet the demands of a progressive programme of evangelism, in addition to "the care of all the churches."

FINANCES

It is when we take a quick review of our tithes, offerings, and Ingathering contributions that we can truly say with the Lord's servant, "Praise God! As I see what the Lord has wrought, I am filled with astonishment and with confidence in Christ as Leader."

The total tithe income for the year 1935 was £15,305; for 1945 it was £33,577. Thus it will be seen that the tithe income has more than doubled in

ten years. The progressive steps in tithe increases have been truly astounding, even allowing for the increased flow of currency, and the devaluation of the pound. Year by year the tithe income has advanced, indicating a loyal and faithful membership throughout our churches.

One of the most gratifying features of our financial returns is that the percentage of gain in total mission offerings has more than kept pace with the tithe increase, again indicating that our members are not only returning to the Lord His own, but are liberally supporting the cause by their free-will gifts.

I refrain from listing separately the various mission offerings, such as the Annual Offering, Missions Extension, Young People's, Week of Sacrifice, and Sabbath-school gifts, and for the sake of brevity give you the total mission offerings. In 1935 the figure was £3,982, while in 1945 it had jumped to £9,156, the figure having increased year by year consistently with the reported tithe increase, and outstripping it in percentage gain.

When we think of the contributions made to overseas missions by our Ingathering campaign, we make a discovery of progressive missionary effort which is literally amazing. It will be remembered that in the "bad old days" of 1935, many months were consumed in tedious door-to-door collecting for missions. The business of reaching the goal was really arduous, and to many irksome. It was indeed with "painful steps and slow" that we "toiled along the climbing way" in order to reach a total of £4,845. Now in 1946 we reach over £14,000 in one clear month, the victorious story of which will be unfolded in Pastor E. R. Warland's thrilling report.

But let us pause here to catch a vision of what this little conference of 3,000 faithful and loyal members has meant to General Conference funds for this ten-year period. I give you this astonishing fact. We have made a contribution of no less than £193,500 for work outside our territory during the past ten years. This surely is cause for comfort, if not for satisfaction. By reason of our own faithfulness in tithes and local offerings, and with rigid economy in operating (perhaps at times too rigid!) we do not now ask for any appropriation. Our work inside our territory is self-supporting, and in addition, we make this contribution to speed on the work elsewhere. When the final reports are rendered and the great harvest is gathered, there will be trophies from lands afar as a result of this sacrificial service in South England.

As I said at the beginning of this report, I repeat again, the greatest asset this cause possesses is its loyal and faithful membership. If so few can accomplish so much, what would a doubled membership mean to the cause of God in this sturdy little land of Britain! It is to that task of increasing and strengthening our membership that we must all consecrate ourselves as we press on into the future service which is ours.

Time does not permit me to dwell in detail upon the experiences which came to many of our dear believers in these war years as they endured the onslaught of enemy action throughout the whole of

our territory. Many of our members lost their homes; some were injured, and a few lost their lives, but the figures we have presented indicate, better than anything else could do, that they have kept their confidence in the Lord and in His cause.

A number of our church buildings were damaged by enemy action, some of them severely, particularly Wimbledon, Carlton Colville, and Lewisham. However, in spite of these losses, our church building assets have been considerably increased by the addition of seven new church buildings, five of them since 1940. As we think of the war effects upon our territory, it is well to remember that the only territory within the British Union to come under enemy occupation is within the borders of the South England Conference. The Channel Islands suffered severely during the war years, but we are glad to report that some interests aroused by student colporteur labours years ago have been brought to fruition since the close of the war. The faithfulness of these believers during the war years is a real epic of Adventism. Pastor A. J. Mustard and J. H. Parkin have since visited the Islands, and a baptism has been conducted. We now have six baptized members resident in the Channel Islands, and the prospects for strong evangelistic work there appear to be propitious. This is a need and opportunity to which the executive committee must give prayerful and practical consideration.

While the days of warfare were difficult and trying, we undoubtedly learned some lessons which could perhaps be learned in no other way. Evangelism became more personal and intensive; workers have been compelled to follow up every possible interest with assiduous industry, for only in this way could a harvest be gathered under the existing conditions. These valuable lessons of personal, persistent evangelism will yield increasing returns as they are applied faithfully under conditions more favourable for large-scale public evangelism.

Brother E. E. White will report on the war-time project of building up a secondary school of 260 pupils from an enrolment of seventy-seven.

It is well to recall also that it was during the war years that friendship and fellowship, courage and comradeship were the qualities which carried us unitedly through to what we still hope will be brighter days of peace and opportunity. Speaking of those dark years, one writer reflectively states: "There was in those years a spirit of courage and fellowship and unbreakable faith which may have been equalled in the historical record, but has never been surpassed." Whatever may be the necessary emphasis upon organization and efficiency in our service for the Advent cause, it is well for us to ponder the fact that it will be courage, fellowship, and unbreakable faith which will carry us through to ultimate victory in our true service for God.

As I close this summary I look back with deep appreciation upon the loyal service rendered by my office colleagues, fellow field-workers, and the consistent support of a keen conference committee. We look forward into the future with courage and confidence summarized by these words from *Gospel Workers*, page 26: "As we see the fulfilment of prophecy, our faith in the final triumph of

Christ's kingdom should strengthen; we should go forth with renewed courage to do our appointed work.

I close as I began, with a text, 1 Chronicles 19: 13: "Be of good courage, and let us behave ourselves valiantly for our people, and for the cities of our God, and let the Lord do that which is good in His sight."

South England Conference

Departmental Secretary's Report

1936-1945

By E. R. WARLAND

WE can give in this report only the more essential particulars of the work of the four departments during the past ten years.

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

The history of our church schools has always been one of faith and sacrifice against almost overwhelming difficulties, chiefly financial. The record of the past ten years, with the exception of the Stanborough Park School, has been no exception. At the time of the last Union Session in 1936, three small schools each staffed with two teachers were operating; Stanborough Park with 43 pupils, Walthamstow and Plymouth with 24 each, a total of 91 pupils. By 1938 we had increased the total enrolment to 120 and we were hopeful that a brighter period was before us.

In September of that year we were much encouraged and helped by the visit of Dr. J. E. Weaver from the General Conference. He was amazed to see two teachers at Stanborough Park bravely endeavouring to educate about sixty children whose ages ranged from four to fourteen years, a situation to which increased financial help seemed the only solution.

In May, 1939, we held a short Teachers' Institute attended by Pastor J. I. Robison of the Northern European Division. Many problems of the schools were freely and profitably discussed. The need for an increased staff at Stanborough Park, that it might more efficiently care for the older pupils and so bridge the gap between the schools and the College, was strongly urged. In course of time this plea began to bear its fruit. The next year Brother E. E. White was released from Newbold College to become headmaster of the first Secondary School in this Union. The continued progress of that school under his leadership and with increased financial help from the Union will be given in his own report. The fact that we now have three times as many children in that one school as we had ten years ago in three small schools proves the value of investing teachers and money in an efficient school programme.

After Munich the probability of war compelled London school authorities to make arrangements for the evacuation of all children. The prospect was grim indeed! Even at Stanborough Park the children had regular practice in air-raid drill and two months before war was declared Brother Carey reported, "Shelters tested. School cleared in 50 seconds!" The possession of a good air-raid shelter there was a distinct asset in enrolling new pupils.

In August, 1939, on our return from the Northern European Educational Council in Norway, war was definitely imminent. The Walthamstow teachers were hastily recalled from holiday. School was reopened so that the children would be ready for immediate evacuation. On Friday, September 1st, two days before war was declared, the children with rucksacks on their backs were evacuated with a local L.C.C. school to Rutland. It was indeed a sad experience, particularly for the parents. Twice we visited our twenty pupils and their teacher in the quiet safety of the village school at Braunston. But the opening phase of the war did not prove so devastating for London as was expected. By 1941 most of the children had rejoined their parents, either in London or safer parts of the country. Thus came to an untimely end our precious little Walthamstow school, but we hope to see, in due course, another and larger one serving the needs of North and East London.

The end of our Plymouth school was more sudden and dramatic. The collapse of France threw the south-west of England open to enemy attack. On the night of April 29, 1941, Plymouth suffered a terrible bombing which laid the city in ruins. The next day, in company with the Conference president, we met the Plymouth school board and a recommendation, later accepted by the church, was passed to "close the school as a temporary measure, looking forward to happier times when it may be reopened." During the years this school has been a source of blessing to the children and youth, many of whom are now active workers in the Advent cause. May such financial assistance be forthcoming as will enable our educational work in the conference to be re-established and strengthened in the near future.

SABBATH-SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

No department is more vital to the church as a whole than that of the Sabbath-school. It provides spiritual food each day and fellowship each Sabbath for old and young, the enrolment for this conference fluctuating between 2,800 and 3,000 during the past ten years.

Inspired by a number of helpful Institutes held in various districts, the period opened with increased subscriptions for the *Sabbath-School Worker*, *Little Friend*, and other helps, and an annual rise in the number of members faithful in daily study. From 1936 to 1939 over 8,400 perfect quarterly records and over 1,500 perfect yearly records were registered.

But the years of war put a very heavy strain on our Sabbath-school. Not only were supplies from overseas greatly restricted, but conditions under which the schools met were difficult. It was an

inspiration to us to see the steadfastness of the members when the sirens sounded and planes were overhead. After a night of devastation when, possibly, your own house had been damaged and those of your neighbours were laid in ruins it required some courage and faith to be at Sabbath-school. In addition to London and Plymouth, other cities like Southampton and Portsmouth, presented awesome spectacles as you made your way to Sabbath-school. A few special occasions stand vividly in one's memory. We remember now the earnest prayers and heartfelt expressions of gratitude at Bristol after the terrible Good Friday raid, and at Exeter after the first bombing there. Then there was that Sabbath morning in Weymouth when, with the whole school, we went into an underground shelter and continued to discuss the lesson together as the planes flew over. The wail of sirens, particularly in London, often distracted the Sabbath-school teachers and frightened the children—but they carried on!

Sleepless nights and disorganized transport facilities often prevented perfect or punctual attendance. Yet in spite of these difficulties and discouragements more than 8,400 quarterly credits and 1,130 yearly perfect records were gained during the last six years of the period under review. The Word of God was indeed precious to His people.

The inspiring missionary stories which still came through to us through the *Missions Quarterly* during the war, though the supply was reduced to one or two for each school, bore good fruit in liberal offerings as the following figures show.

	1936	1945	Ten Yrs.
Thirteenth Sabbath Offering	£820	£1,876	£12,365
Total Sabbath-School Off'g	2,743	6,605	40,955

The Sabbath-school offerings per churchmember rose from 4½d. to 9½d. per week during the ten years. Special mention should be made of two contributory offerings which have helped to bring this about. Birthday Offerings rose from £44 in 1936 to £145 last year, with a total of £769 for the ten years. The Investment Fund shows even more encouraging growth. From the infant of £7 in 1936 it became the child of £41 in 1940; the youth of £67 in 1942; the man of £150 in 1944 and the giant of £288 in 1945. Its total contribution during the ten years was only £2 short of £800!

The claims of the other departments have prevented our holding Sabbath-school conventions more often than every third year, our last series being in 1945. Ten well-attended conventions were held last year in different centres covering the whole of the conference. We are glad to see among the fruits of those meetings an improvement in the Sabbath-school enrolment, a consequent reduction in the number of "missing members" (unfortunately still over 700) and more reporting perfect lesson study. May the Sabbath-school continue to build faithful members at home and be a stalwart supporter of the foreign missionaries, some of whom were once children and members in its ranks.

HOME MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT

Throughout these ten years the actual working force in our churches has been from 1,500 to 2,000, or from half to two-thirds of our membership. Of

these, about 500 are reported as young people. The missionary activities have been many and varied, from visiting the sick to the holding of services in halls or public places. The distribution of hundreds of thousands of handbills, particularly during the war period when other labour was unobtainable, has been particularly helpful in the evangelistic campaigns. The following data, given in round figures, provides a cross-section of some of the items reported:

	Youth	Total
Bible Readings	6,000	27,700
Missionary Letters	14,200	55,600
Clothing	8,000	43,000
Literature	402,000	2,470,700

If we divide these figures by the total membership, the literature distributed represents just over eighty copies per member per year. This is encouraging when we remember that for fully half of the time we have been handicapped by paper shortage and unable to promote our annual literature campaigns. The average of one Bible reading and two missionary letters per member per year does not give us the same satisfaction. We should plan to do better than this in the years ahead.

Five years ago we began to send to the church officers a little monthly folder for each of the departments and since then *The Home Missionary Guide* has been a medium of information and help to them, as have the *Sabbath-School Guide* and *Missionary Volunteer Guide* to their respective church departments. The home missionary conventions around the conference have helped to inspire and instruct the membership, many of whom have taken the Bible Service Training Courses. The practical results of this work by the members is illustrated by this detailed analysis we made a couple of years ago of the work of the previous eighteen months. Of those baptized during that period forty-six were brought by parents or children, five by husband or wife, ten by other relatives, six by friends, four through lay efforts, five through literature and two through business contacts. A total of 78 of the 193 baptized in the conference! A witnessing church is certainly a great help to the evangelist.

Perhaps no section of the church has appreciated the work of the conference departments more than the isolated members, of whom we now have nearly 400. The regular posting of the *MESSENGER* each fortnight, with Sabbath-school lesson pamphlet, *Leader*, and other periodicals from time to time, with their own little folder, *The Home Visitor* (now in its tenth year), has been a service gladly rendered to these faithful isolated ones. Our lending library of between three and four hundred volumes has been regularly used by many.

A report of home missionary work would be incomplete without reference to its valued support of the work abroad. From 1936 to 1939 the members, largely by the sale of *Good News* in the Big Week Campaign, provided over £230 annually for foreign work. When the war restricted our printing, and "Missions Extension" became almost wholly a direct offering, the missions did not suffer as some expected. Indeed, the figure steadily rose each year

to nearly £400 in 1944 and £622 in 1945. The total for the ten years was £3,203.

The most important change in the church calendar during the ten years has been the period and time of the Ingathering Campaign. Whereas we once spread the effort over half the year, with the emphasis in the autumn, the collecting time has been reduced, first to two months and now to five weeks in the spring. The so-called "restrictions" of the 1939 Collections Act have proved a blessing, though the minimum age of eighteen in the London area and the adjustment of the collecting period several years to accommodate the hospitals appeals were definite handicaps. Under the blessing of God the untiring efforts of members and the faithful service of leaders and local agents have been rewarded with increasingly large amounts each year.

For the first five years our yearly total was in the region of £5,000. But we climbed to over £6,000 in 1941, over £7,000 in 1942, £9,000 in 1943, £10,000 in 1944 and nearly £12,000 in 1945. The total for the ten years is no less than £70,877. 12s.-4d.

We need hardly say that, strenuous as the work has been at times, this grand united effort for missions has been one of the happiest features of our ten years' association with the churches. We rejoice that our eleventh campaign, that of the present year, has totalled over £14,000. "This is the Lord's doing and it is marvellous in our eyes."

MISSIONARY VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENT

The greatest asset of the church is its youth. If we fail in our responsibility to them the church of to-day as well as of to-morrow stands in jeopardy. Our aim is therefore to inspire and train the youth for present and future service.

In 1936 we had 535 Senior and 375 Junior M.V. members; a total of 810. To-day there are 672 Senior and 332 Junior members, and 54 children too young to be enrolled. This makes a full total of 958. Six years ago, when our membership was just over 1,000, the shortened Ingathering Campaign gave us a little more time to study the problems of our youth. We began a regular half-yearly census. Besides encouraging the church to maintain a vigilant interest in the young people this plan has greatly helped us to provide up-to-date information on each individual. It has assisted us in keeping in touch with those who have moved about during the war. It has also revealed to us some challenging facts.

During the war years there was an understandable flow of young people from Southern England to safer conferences, but the arrival of the College in our midst early this year brought us a net balance on transfers of eleven young people. We have also added during the six years, 436 new names, making our total gains 447. We have, however, lost twelve by death and 256, reaching the age of about thirty-five, ceased to be counted as young people. These were uncontrollable losses. We greatly regret, however, to report that no less than 241 children and young people dropped out of our ranks during the past six years. Forty a year! We believe that many of these could have been saved

for the church and cause of Christ, and plead for a stronger work for the youth in the churches and in the conference.

Our young men and women of military age made a good stand at their tribunals. Their willingness to co-operate with the government in the national emergency was recognized and nearly one hundred of them left home on work of National importance. These were helped by personal letters and literature sent from the office and by the visits of Brother A. W. Cook, the Conference Camp Pastor. We are glad that most are now released and in their societies once again.

During the past ten years there has been a growing realization in the churches of the need and value of caring for the social interests of the youth. Our holiday camps at Swanage, Woolacombe, Newbold, and Packwood, as well as district ones arranged by progressive leaders in several places, have been most helpful. So have the annual reunion socials and Bank Holiday outings. A few years ago the conference invested in a cinematograph which we have used in many places to show educational films on nature, travel, Bible lands and customs, and other helpful subjects.

Building on the good foundation of our late Brother F. W. Goodall's adapted Progressive Courses, we passed over to those of the General Conference Junior Handbook in 1938. Pastor C. L. Bond's visit just before the war was a great stimulus to us. The 1939 Youth Congress in Denmark, attended by nearly forty South England youth who had qualified as Companions, established the plan with us. By 1940, helped by the publication of *The Progressive Volunteer* which South England had recommended at the Congress, we were investing 100 young people a year. Between 1938 and 1943 six hundred had been invested on the General Conference courses.

By this time the *British Youth Handbook*, upon which we had worked with Brethren Harker and Sparrow for some two years, made its appearance. It was given a great welcome by the young people and since then we have been adjusting our training to its requirements. The change-over has naturally retarded Investitures a little, but by the close of last year a hundred and twelve qualified on the new basis. During the past five years 233 Honours have been awarded and 840 Reading Course Certificates.

Our Congress Banner, which providentially survived the bombing when Wimbledon church fell in ruins, is passed on from year to year to the society doing the best Progressive Course work. At present it bears the names of the following holding societies: Wimbledon, Cheltenham, Gloucester, Stroud, Brentwood, Reading, and Bristol. Which society will have it for the work of 1946?

In addition to their *home* missionary work, already mentioned in the report for that department, our youth have given increasing support to the work abroad. Their mission offerings have risen from £87 in 1936 to £247 in 1945; a total of £1,386 in the ten years. Besides this, our youth have collected in the Ingathering Campaigns about £25,000. Some are training to go as missionaries themselves and others have already gone to mission

fields. Should we not invest more in our youth? To do so would surely pay good dividends.

In closing this report I would express my sincere thanks to my fellow officers in the conference and in the churches for their co-operation during the ten years I have been associated with them.

North England Conference

President's Report

1936-1945

By R. S. JOYCE

"It is not wholly past, the time enrolled
In registers grown old; those records lie
Outside the play-house of the inward eye,
And life's a story not so simply told."

I REALIZE this very truly as I try to bring before the delegates, the report of the North England Conference from 1936 to 1945.

Our retrospect takes us back to the peaceful days of 1936 to 1938 when Pastor O. M. Dorland was the president. From 1939 to 1945, he was succeeded by the writer of this report.

It is during these years that

"We ponder change, watch in our lifetime die
a multitude of scenes."

War was no longer a threat. It was a ghastly reality. It was no longer on our threshold; it was in our homes. The blackout came in overnight. Transportation schedules were curtailed. Hours of business changed, housekeeping was revolutionized as food and fuel restrictions came in. The workers, especially evangelists, Bible instructors and colporteurs, faced a situation to which they had to adapt themselves mentally and physically.

But by that time we had each made a "design for living." Evangelists, Bible instructors, colporteurs, and churchmembers had fitted their programmes to the war conditions, and figures supplied by the secretaries show you how God blessed their efforts.

MEMBERSHIP

During the ten-year period, we passed the 2,000 mark. The membership now stands at 2,161, a net gain for the ten years of 406. The net gain for the previous ten years was 240. There are 256 isolated members of the conference church.

Compared with many other countries, we have suffered little. However, we lived in a grim world, with terror, destruction, and profound dislocations of life on all sides, and many of our cities suffered air raids. Our veteran minister, J. E. Bell, and his wife, had the worst experience of any workers in the British Isles. They were bombed out of two homes while living in Liverpool. When asked if they felt they should move, they replied, "Not be-

cause of the bombing." Their courage was an inspiring example to all.

In 1944 we suffered the sad loss of our brother, Pastor A. F. Bird, by death. For over twenty years he was a faithful worker in the British Union. There are members in the two conferences and Wales who accepted the message through his evangelistic ministry.

During the ten years, 376 of our members were called to rest. "The memory of the just is blessed." Prov. 10:7.

LAY PREACHERS

We have 149 lay-preachers in this conference. To supply the help for which they asked a set of seven lessons on preaching were prepared as a *Lay Preachers' Handbook*, and classes were held in every district. In the office also we have been steadily building up a lay preachers' library. We have done all we could to inspire and encourage our faithful lay preachers, whose work is greatly valued.

MONTHLY BULLETINS

Seven, four, six, or eight-page bulletins are prepared and sent out as follows: *The Evangelist* is sent to the conference workers, and *The Lay Preacher* to the lay speakers, by the president. *The Caller* is sent to each isolated home by the secretary-treasurer. *The Literature Ministry* goes to each colporteur and is prepared by the field missionary secretary. *The Fisherman* for the Home Missionary officers, *The Berean* for the Sabbath-school officers, and *The Supplement* for the Missionary Volunteer Society officers, are prepared by the departmental secretary.

EVANGELISM

My predecessor stated in his 1937 report on North England: "The indifference among the people toward spiritual things makes it difficult to obtain an interest." Since then, to that indifference have been added blackout, bombing, requisitioning of halls, lack of advertising material and labour, a housing situation almost hopeless for workers' moves, and war-time conditions in general. However, the evangelists have courageously striven to enter unentered towns, and the number of churches and companies was increased by sixteen.

Through the years we have taken an especial interest in the training of the young evangelists, and we are confident that they are now ready to work in the great cities of North England.

LITERATURE MINISTRY

Compared with ten years ago, literature evangelism has entered upon a new time. In 1936 a colporteur caused a stir by selling £681 worth of books that year. Now it is quite the usual thing for certain men to go beyond a thousand pounds in sales annually. One colporteur reached £1,150 in 1945. Good, steady, praying men and women constitute our colporteur force. Under the blessing of God their sales have gradually mounted year by year, with hardly a setback, giving a grand total value of literature sold for the decade ending December 31, 1945, of £122,049. This means that besides quantities of the smaller publications, 126,661 bound books containing the one message of

clear light for these dark days have passed into the homes of North England's many needy cities, towns, and scattered villages.

DEPARTMENTS

The activities of the departments give the pulse of the membership. They will be reported upon in detail by the departmental secretary.

I shall however say a word about the Ingathering Campaign and departmental offerings when I speak of finances.

EDUCATION

Newbold Missionary College was located in this field during the period under survey. In recent years a high standard was reached, when every student was a baptized member by the end of the College year.

We congratulate the students on their splendid Ingathering achievements. They collected as much as £760 in one year.

TITHE

True, we have experienced an abnormal degree of financial prosperity, but the wonderful thing about the tithe for these years is that 91 per cent of our membership is faithful. This is an increase of 23 per cent.

With the net membership increase of about one-quarter, one naturally expects a similar increase in the tithe. But the figure for 1936 was more than doubled in 1945! The figure of £7,613 has become £19,366, and "it is marvellous in our eyes." Even allowing for the war with its all-round rise in values and incomes, we still say, "It is the Lord's doing."

INGATHERING

For the three years prior to the war, the totals kept fairly level. The declaration of war in September, 1939, found us in the middle of the Ingathering campaign, and though our members carried on loyally, there was a small decrease. The following year government restrictions came in which we felt must severely hamper the campaign. We were allowed to collect for two months only, under strict government supervision. Paper rationing made promotion material very scarce. Succeeding years brought a further tightening of restrictions and we were limited to one month's collecting. Yet "man's extremity" became "God's opportunity" and, thanks to His blessing on the magnificent efforts of His willing people, the totals each year have continued to soar. In the current year's campaign, 1935's total of £3,705 was more than trebled. This year, even without the valuable help of the College, we show a gain of £974. 11s. 10d. over last year. From a per capita of £1. 19s. 9d. in 1935 we have risen this year to a per capita of £4. 18s. 9d.

FINANCES

You will be happy to know that more money is sent out of the conference than is received. For example, last year we sent out £14,659 more than we were given for our operating budget. In addition to this, the operating gain for last year was £2,533.-7s. 10d.

The total offerings for the ten years under review

were £85,734. The total offerings for the previous ten years were £47,843. 11s. 9d.

Combining in one figure the Sabbath-school gifts, M.V. offering, Miscellaneous, Week of Sacrifice, Missions Extension Fund, and Annual Offerings—all of which come directly from the members' own pockets (but excluding Ingathering), we notice the following:

Total in 1935 £1,876. 18s. 6d.

Total in 1945 £5,440 0s. 0d.

Almost three times as much!

The Evangelistic Fund shares with the MESSENGER Offering and the Students' Aid Fund the distinction of being the only gift that we make toward the cost of the work in our own land. The lowest total during the ten-year period was £68, and it climbed to £335.

From 1889 to 1935 we secured five church buildings with a total value of £3,584. From 1936 to 1945 we obtained five church buildings at a total value of £6,120. That is, as many in ten years as were bought in the previous forty-six years, and with nearly double the value of the first five.

We need many more buildings and sincerely hope that this accelerated speed will be maintained. We have encouraged every church without a building to start a Building Fund. One has a fund of over £1,200.

The halls we now use have been vastly improved, but dedicated church buildings are needed to establish the work securely.

As we received the necessary gifts, we have steadily improved the headquarters offices, so that they would be representative of our work throughout the conference and the world field.

REGIONAL MEETINGS

Workers and members alike felt the lack when year followed year and conference sessions could not be arranged. During the past two years, regional meetings were organized which gave all the members the opportunity to meet together for special services. The attendances passed all expectations. We believe the messages given and the influence of renewed and new friendships built up the faith of the constituency and cemented fellowship.

We urgently need regular District Departmental Conventions, Lay Preachers' Councils, and Health Lectures.

THANKS

We wish to render thanks for three special things:

For Protection. "Not until the providences of God are seen in the light of eternity shall we understand what we owe to the care and interposition of His angels. Celestial beings have taken an active part in the affairs of men . . . They have thwarted the spoilers' purpose and turned aside the stroke of the destroyer."—"Education," page 304, 305.

For Increases. Encouraging gains have been made all along the line in spite of the war conditions. We would like to give honour where honour is due for these good increases. First, we give to God the

glory, and then to the consecrated workers, faithful church officers, and loyal members who have contributed to these gains.

For Individual Faithfulness. The Seventh-Day Adventists in North England are loyal members of God's remnant church. This is shown by their faithfulness in tithe-paying and Ingathering. If 178 now on our roll were taken off, we would have a perfect financial membership. Ninety-one per cent paid tithe during 1945 and during the first quarter of this year. This will give you a true picture of the strength and weakness of the membership in North England.

To make certain that, before the Union Session, every church membership roll throughout the conference was cleared of all who were no longer members in good and regular standing, the conference secretary wrote early as follows to every church clerk:

"If you think there are any apostasies, please see your church elder or leader *now*, so that your Church Board may consider these cases and take action *before* the month end; the sooner the better."

You will be glad to know that, even in face of this advice, the membership shows an increase for the second quarter.

WHAT SHOULD BE OUR INDIVIDUAL ATTITUDE TO THE FUTURE?

We should all pray that God will "give us strength to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed. Give us courage to change the things that can and should be changed. And give us wisdom to distinguish one from the other."

We should all "be faithful guardians of the interests of the cause in every line, seeking to shield it, not only from loss and disaster, but from all that would profane or contaminate. Never through any act of ours should its fair name be tarnished, even by the breath of careless criticism or censure."

We should all strive for greater achievements. Solomon knew human nature when he said, "The eyes of man are never satisfied." Prov. 27:20. This dissatisfaction with achievement has been called "divine discontent," and the Spirit of prophecy tells us that we should have it. I know you all feel, with me, that there are greater things in store for North England, but we are distinctly told that: "God in His wise plans has made the advancement of His cause dependent upon the *personal* efforts of His people."—"*Testimonies*," Vol. 5, page 464.

He has given us in this conference material and spiritual blessings. It is for each one of us to strive by His grace to use the opportunities everywhere. There are as great evangelistic possibilities in North England as in any other part of the world. There is a population of 20,000,000 largely Protestant. There are many large unentered towns. We should say individually, "Now is the appointed time."

In closing, I want to bring to your minds a cameo out of the hundreds of incidents which happened during the never-to-be-forgotten years, 1939 to 1945.

The railway station teemed with little children, coated and gas-masked, excitedly taking in the

scenes around them, or clinging tearfully to harassed and sad-eyed parents who had determined to take advantage of the government evacuation plans. One little girl wept bitterly as the train steamed out, while her brother, scarcely older, tried to comfort her. She finally sobbed out that she was frightened because she didn't know where she was going. Blinking back his own tears, he put his arm around her and said, "I don't know where we're going either, but the KING does."

None of us knows what lies ahead, but the KING of heaven and earth does, and we can confidently move forward in His Name.

North England Conference

Departmental Report

1936-1945

By B. E. SPARROW

SINCE the North England Conference departments were last presented to a Union Conference Session, they have grown ten years older and ten years is a long time. Think of the difference between a baby and a child of ten; think of the change in a boy of ten before he becomes a young man of twenty; or the development experienced by a young man of twenty as he becomes a man of thirty. It is natural, therefore, to expect growth in the three North England departmental children—Sabbath-school, Home Missionary, and Missionary Volunteer; and I would like to assure you that you will not be disappointed. They have grown.

I want to give you an accurate but simple account of that growth.

First, we introduce the *Sabbath-school*.

Its membership has kept roughly parallel with the increase in conference membership, until to-day, with 1,980 scholars, it amounts to 92 per cent of our church membership. An average of 74 per cent of these attend Sabbath-school each week and 14 per cent (or 260) of them study their lesson daily throughout the quarter.

The year 1940 saw a downward trend in most sections of church life, but Sabbath-school offerings continued to rise until, at the end of 1945, they reached their highest level—£3,800, or twice the 1936 total. In spite of a woeful lack of visiting missionaries, our interest in missions has by no means slackened!

When Sabbath-school has ended, the *Home Missionary Department* takes the platform. Throughout the decade, one-third of our membership has been reporting weekly missionary work. It is difficult to assess the results of this voluntary service, for so much of it is absorbed into the general growth of the church, but some labours bear tangible fruitage, e.g. Dorcas work. A total of 17,761 persons

have been helped and 2,600 garments have been made and given away; twelve Dorcas societies are working, and several have co-operated with the Red Cross and other war-relief organizations.

North England's Ingathering sometimes suffers a partial eclipse. She has so consistently broken all records that her success is taken for granted. But the most unresponsive observer will admit that her 1946 achievement is outstanding—2,015 members have collected £10,085, or £4. 18s. 10d. per member. Never before have such heights been reached. Contrast it with the 1936 result—£3,700 against £10,000, nearly 3 times as much.

How has this been done?

(1) The inspiring example of the College. It started with £300 in 1936 and rose to £760 in three days in 1945.

(2) Church leadership, e.g. Hull, with 100 elderly members collecting £1,042—over £10 per member.

(3) When all praise is given elsewhere, most of the work is done by humble consecrated members who simply do it for the Lord's sake, e.g. Miss Tesh, £114. 12s. and Mrs. Vasey, £103. 7s.

Some of our finest home missionary work has been done in the families of the church. It has been good to see a husband baptized because of a faithful wife's influence; to watch children grow to Christian stature because of parental training; and, at times, to see parents brought into the church through their children's witness.

Last in our ten-year review, but by no means least in importance, comes our *Missionary Volunteer Department*.

This is subject to change for, within a decade, young people can pass beyond the reach of an M.V. society. We are glad to report, however, that the M.V. membership has, with some ups and downs, increased from 620 in 1936 to 730 in 1945, and their gifts to missions have risen from £39 to £134, a 340 per cent increase.

Because of the war, many of our 700 young people have passed through fiery trials, but they have been faithful, they have given a good witness before magistrates and counsellors, and have returned home purified seven times.

Much of the credit for their development must be given to one or other of the thirty local societies that have encouraged spiritual growth, and exercised latent talent. The weekly gatherings have fostered Progressive Course work, have prepared 397 young people for investiture, and have strengthened the characters of our youth.

Annual camps have also played a large part in M.V. life. They began in North England; war-time camps started in North England and have all been held in North England. It is safe to say that these are the happiest of all Seventh-Day Adventist gatherings and that they accomplish a good that is out of all proportion to their small initial expense. North England young people will be glad when they can once again be held under ideal conditions.

We have good plans for our youth, and good youth for our plans—intelligent, devout, eager young people—but we do need stronger, trained local leadership. This calls for well-planned M.V. conventions under a conference leader who has time

to spend in this exacting work. Our youth will more than repay the cost of any help given.

The progressive influence of God's Spirit can be seen in the story of each department. He has prompted prayer and Bible study, He has encouraged generous giving and large Ingathering, He has kept our young people faithful. We realize that the future success of these phases of church life depends on the degree in which they are controlled by the Spirit of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Welsh Mission

Superintendent's Report

1936-1945

By S. G. Hyde

WE bring you the sincere greetings of the 460 members who constitute the Welsh Mission, members who share with you the Advent hope and outlook and who love this cause and all for which it stands. With the psalmist we can say: "Blessed be the Lord because He hath heard . . . our supplications, who has been our strength and shield." our hearts have "trusted in Him" and we have been helped—"therefore our heart greatly rejoiceth and with song will we praise Him."

It is sixty-five years since the Advent messenger first proclaimed the message in the Principality of Wales, a "land more distinct from England than either Scotland or Ireland." Yet the numerical strength of the church in Wales is still short of 500. But for the war years and the crippling conditions under which our workers have laboured, we are confident that we should to-day be rejoicing in a full 500 members in the constituency. Sixty-five years is a long time to occupy a field for what seems to be such poor results. But Wales' experience has been peculiar in that so many of her sons and daughters have been forced, by economic circumstances, to leave their homeland and thus find fellowship elsewhere.

Since the days when Pastor A. John preached in Aberystwyth (1888), Pastor J. S. Washburn in Cardiff (1896), and Pastor W. H. Meredith organized the first church in Pontypridd in 1903, between ten and fifteen hundred souls have been won to the cause of truth—yet to-day, by reason of migration and death, as well as the inevitable apostasies, less than 500 remain.

Even during the stormy decade for which it is our privilege to report to-day 200 souls have been added to the church by just a handful of labourers. No one can exaggerate the difficulties under which our workers laboured during these ten years. Wales had more than her share of aerial warfare and for two-thirds of the decade conditions were all against public evangelism. And during the first third of the decade, Wales was still suffering from the

results of an economic depression which had sapped the very life from her peoples. So we do rejoice in this gathering of 200 souls and in the splendid witness of the membership and their ever-readiness to support the work of God at home and overseas and to maintain their faith and trust in God. Indeed no period of history could have proved the sterling qualities of our Welsh Mission members more than the period under review. And, as their leader, I learned highly to esteem the friends of Wales and to love them sincerely.

Look at the financial results—always a safe pointer to the spiritual standing of a church. In the matter of the Lord's tithe £26,568 was brought into the treasury by a people who needed the "open window" experience. Notice the growth (in two-year periods):

1936-37	£3,462
1938-39	3,730
1940-41	4,830
1942-43	6,699
1944-45	7,847

In the preceding decade, the tithe income was but a little more than £17,000 so that an increase of well over £9,000 can be reported to-day.

In gifts and service for missions overseas, £20,658 was raised by our gallant little church of Wales, well over £8,000 more than was raised during the preceding decade. Here again we look at the growth:

1936-37	£2,884
1938-39	3,020
1940-41	3,608
1942-43	4,682
1944-45	6,464

The same consistent growth is seen in the separate offerings (all in two-year steps):

	Annual Offerings and Week of Sacrifice	Big Week
1936-37	£137	£37
1938-39	119	45
1940-41	178	63
1942-43	277	71
1944-45	330	118
('26-'35—£824)		434

	Sabbath-School	M.V. Offering
1936-37	£732	£13
1938-39	778	8
1940-41	922	12
1942-43	1,225	25
1944-45	1,657	44
('26-'35—£3,745)		102

In the Ingathering campaign, of course, Wales has been conspicuous. On a per capita basis Wales has been one of the leaders of all the world fields—once during this decade the actual leader! Starting out at the beginning of the period with a little short of £1,000 for the campaign, in each of the last three years we have well passed the £2,000. Time will not allow to give much detail regarding the teamwork and the individual accomplishments,

but this I must say—that one of our younger ministers, Brother C. D. Watson, collected over £100 in this year's effort and one of our ex-Bible instructors, Miss M. L. Cooper, has done over £100 both this year and last. Here are the steps of "Ingathering" progress:

1936	£941	1941	£1,271
1937	1,028	1942	1,402
1938	1,003	1943	1,673
1939	1,000	1944	2,104
1940	1,160	1945	2,207
1946 over £2,000			

Thus during each of the ten years under review, the members of the Welsh Mission have contributed an average annual amount of £2,656 in tithes and £2,066 in offerings! Truly an encouraging evidence of consecration and of the blessing of God upon His people.

We have spoken of the inadequate working force of the Welsh Mission. At the present time we have one ordained minister, apart from the field leader, three senior licensed ministers, two junior workers, and two lady Bible instructors. This little band has had to care for some fifteen organized churches and companies and several groups and isolated families. With public evangelistic work claiming their first attention, this pastoral task has not been a light one. In it we have been helped by a small band of lay preachers, whose work has been deeply appreciated both by the membership and the ministerial staff.

In the Mission workers we have a hardworking and zealous team, ever ready to co-operate loyally and devotedly, and ready to lift the burdens in the many spheres of church activity. In North Wales there is Brother E. A. Butters; in the border counties district, Brother J. R. Lewis, with Miss A. Hartland as assistant; in the Newport district, Pastor F. S. Jackson, assisted by Brother J. Freeman; in the south-west district, Brother H. Humphries, and in the Cardiff district the superintendent, assisted by Brother C. D. Watson and Miss Jessie Baird. Both lady Bible instructors have grown in ability and usefulness since coming to the Mission. We would also like to speak of the two junior licensed ministers, who came to us for training—Brethren C. D. Watson and J. Freeman. Their Alma Mater would be surprised by the transformation that they have experienced as they have grown in stature and ability.

Of course, the Welsh Mission has played a notable part in the progressive experience of others who were with us for varying periods during the ten years under review. We think of Pastors Bolton and Nicholson, Brethren F. Edwards, Dennis Conroy, and Paul Cumings. Pastor H. K. Munson also spent a few years with us before going north. All these, along with several lady workers, and the present staff were responsible, under God, for the good report which we render to-day.

We pause here to recall, with sincere sorrow, the death of one who gave many years to the service of the church in Wales—Pastor T. H. Cooper. Brother Cooper was loved and respected all over the Welsh Mission, and it was a great loss to the

church, when he was called to lay down his burdens. He also helped to make our present report possible.

In Wales we have a very loyal body of men and women who serve as officers of the churches. The church could not function without these zealous folk and we, in the administration, could not cope with the many activities without their valued and valuable support. We would like to express—here in the Conference—our appreciation of their services throughout the decade.

The Advisory Committee members, too, have given splendid service. They are here to-day—Brethren Robert Jacques, elder of the Newport church, Brother Frank Powell, elder of the Swansea church, Pastor F. S. Jackson, and Brother J. R. Lewis. Here again we pause to recall that during the ten-year period, two of our lay committee members have also been called to their rest—Brethren J. H. Dobbs and J. Rutherford. They also were faithful leaders in the churches of Porth and Hereford respectively.

Altogether, the church in Wales lost over 100 of her members through the incidence of death. This is a big loss for a small field. But we are thankful that these precious souls have “died in the Lord” and share in the proffered “blessing of the dead.” They will swell the number when the gathering day comes.

New work has been attempted in Skewen (near Swansea) by Brother Humphries, and in Pontypool by Pastor Jackson. Sabbath services are being conducted in both places and accessions are confidently expected. Attempts were also made to begin new work in Neath, Port Talbot, and Pontypridd, but without success. We, at headquarters, have kept the evangelistic work going, even though Mission leadership and administration demanded a large share of one's time and thought. Each year we have rejoiced in new accessions to the church. Even now in the Cardiff district, some ten to twelve non-members are observing the Sabbath and are progressing toward membership. In Penarth, a very small seaside town near Cardiff, some six more souls are growing up into the faith.

The Cardiff church has waited long for a house of prayer. War years and present conditions have prevented its realization. But a church building *will* come to this fair city and open its doors to those among the quarter of a million Cardiff people who seek truth and solace for these latter days. Over £1,000 is now in safe keeping toward this project and another £500 will soon be added. In Swansea, a very creditable building was secured, and was dedicated debt-free, during the period of our administration. A large building fund is also awaiting use in Rhyl, North Wales, and we trust will soon be called for.

There remains one aspect of our church life to be mentioned—that of the literature ministry. Wales has but two regular colporteurs—A. W. Howard and C. L. W. Cooke. But they are two of the best Britain has. Brother A. W. Howard is one of the most successful salesmen we have, and Brother Cooke would have been but for ill health and other hindrances. What he can do was shown in a recent week when he took nearly £8 worth of orders

in one house; £20 worth in one day, and £60 in the one week!

Regular colporteur sales for the decade (mainly by the two men mentioned) amounted to some £12,000! Students from the College have sold another £3,000 to £4,000 worth, while the church-members (who since the paper shortage have been unable to dispose of much literature) sold not far short of £7,000 worth of printed matter. Thus nearly £23,000 represent the total sales in the Principality in the ten years. If only we had a dozen regular colporteurs—and there is room for them and as good territory as anywhere in Britain—what a great work could be done!

We must speak of our youth. Unfortunately we have not too many of them, but what we have are very precious and represent a fine group. Some ten of them have been at the College at various periods of the decade; another six or so are planning to go this year. Four have entered the work of the church in some sphere, two have obtained posts on the staff of secondary schools, one is on the nursing staff of a hospital, two are training for their S.R.N., one is training for a teacher's post, two young men are taking their medical training, and another is hoping to begin as soon as an opening can be found. Thus the youth of Wales are very much alive not only to obtain recognized training, but that their trained lives can be offered to God for the finishing of His work. God bless the youth of Wales.

What of the future? A bright prospect opens up before us and we feel confident that the “cords will be lengthened” while the “stakes are strengthened.” When we remember that of the fifty-two towns with a population of more than 10,000, (twenty-six of which have even more than 20,000 population) thirty have not yet even one representative of the Advent faith, one realizes what scope there is for advancement. Seven of the fifteen counties into which Wales, with her 3,000,000 people are divided, have not yet heard the voice of the Advent preacher—not yet, even after sixty-five years of witness. This fact constitutes a challenge to us all, and a cry comes to this Conference from this fair corner of Britain, “Come over and help us!” Yes, Wales needs more help—but more than that we need the power of the Holy Ghost—revival and refreshing. May God grant it and may the church grow in strength and grace as we prepare urgently to meet our returning Lord.

Scottish Mission

Superintendent's Report

1936-1945

By J. A. McMILLAN

It has fallen to my lot to prepare and present a report on the Scottish Mission, although I was

BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

neither its superintendent at the beginning of the period, nor at this time of reporting.

Scotland is a most interesting field, with great historic antecedents. When we think of the part Scotland played in the Reformation, in educational and cultural movements in the past, we feel convinced that its sons and daughters should yield a noble and generous response to God's final Gospel message.

The Sabbath truth first came to Scotland from Ireland in the year A.D. 563. It prevailed throughout the country till the time of Queen Margaret in 1069, when it went into almost total eclipse. The Sabbath was again introduced into the Scottish field in 1893 by Brother Hollingsworth from Belfast. Scotland is therefore bound to Ireland by double ties of gratitude in connection with the Sabbath.

church building in Edinburgh, worthy of the city's dignity and our Advent message. We have enjoyed our association with these ministers, with the young men E. A. Butters, A. H. Watson, K. H. Rosier; and the Bible-workers; Miss J. Archibald, Miss E. M. Hanna, Miss B. Fretton, and Miss E. Barnes.

When we consider the finances of the Mission we are encouraged by the blessings of God and the faithfulness of His people. In 1936 the tithe was £1,157; for 1945 it was £2,841. As the figures reveal, there has been a steady and remarkable increase through the years. The total for the ten years was £20,702. The tithe per capita has risen from £4 in 1935 to £9 10s. in 1945, while the percentage of members paying tithe rose from 69 to 87.

The other offerings increased through the years, as the following tables show:

Year	Sabbath-school	Ingathering	Y.P.S.	Annual Offering and Week of Sacrifice	Mission Extension
1936	266 10 7	733 10 8	4 19 2	58 11 3	10 9 7
1945	651 18 5	1,250 6 9	9 18 8	129 15 3	116 17 9
Ten-year Totals	3,796 4 0	8,007 4 3	77 19 10	994 12 8	336 15 10

MEMBERSHIP

The first evangelistic effort in Scotland was conducted back in 1901. At that time there were about twenty members. The membership has grown slowly through the years and now stands at 303. If we take the membership figures in 1935 and compare them with the total in 1945 we find there has been a net gain of twenty-four. This appears a small gain for ten years' labour, but if we examine several factors, it will become more encouraging. If, for instance, we compare the ten-year period—1926 to 1935—we discover that the net gain was only five. Then again, we find that from 1936 to 1945, 206 souls were admitted to membership by baptism and vote. Many entered and more left the field by transfers and we had thus a net loss of 20, most of whom were young people going to College to train for service in the cause. During this period we lost 98 by apostasy and 64 faithful souls fell asleep to await the resurrection.

Summarizing, we have the following balance sheet

Baptism and Vote	206	By Apostasy	98
Rec'd by Transfer	50	By Death	64
		By Transfer	70
Grand Total	256	Grand Total	232

Membership, 1935: 279. 1946: 303. Net gain 24.

However, under the blessing of the Lord, we believe that there is a brighter and more glorious chapter to be written about the closing work in Scotland.

Our workers in the Mission during the past ten years included the previous superintendent, Pastor L. Murdoch; our veteran evangelist, Pastor D. Morrison; Pastors L. D. Vince, H. T. Johnson, H. W. McCrow, and L. G. Hardinge. Pastor Hardinge is responsible for a fine and commodious

This is tangible evidence of the old Scottish proverb: "Many a mickle makes a muckle." It is also a creditable demonstration of Scotland's unflinching interest in missions overseas.

We have not stressed the war-time difficulties, the problems of the blackout, the scarcity of good halls. We are impressed, however, that the best is yet to be. When we consider that there is but one Adventist to every 16,250 of the 5,000,000 population, and but one worker to every 691,793 people, we feel that greater power for witnessing and soul-winning must fall upon members and workers alike. While safeguarding our present gains, we must plan for aggressive extension in the many towns that have not yet listened to the Advent truth. Under the leadership of the new superintendent we anticipate a greatly increased wave of evangelism, of sacrificial giving, and of personal soul-winning in Scotland that will cause the Advent message to triumph gloriously.

Irish Mission

Superintendent's Report

1936-1945

By E. E. CRAVEN

ABOUT sixty years ago the work began in the Emerald Isle, and in the autumn of 1936 the speaker was transferred to the "Land of Green." I regret very much that we cannot report anything spectacular. We are, however, not like the farmer in Co. Donegal who bought fifty acres of rough land. He ploughed, he sowed, and worked hard, and after

ten years of hard work found that he had not made one penny profit. We are told that he sat down and said to himself, "Well, Pat, ye have held your own, anyway."

We have done better than Pat in Donegal. I do not purpose wearying you with figures too much. As you know, Ireland is divided into two divisions, the north called Ulster and the south, Eire. In the south, a man's religion becomes his politics and in the north a man's politics becomes his religion. In the whole of Ireland we are supposed to have four and a half millions, but it is questionable whether we have three and a half millions, largely due to emigration to Britain.

In the south, Eire, 98 per cent of the people are Roman Catholics, and in the north 30 per cent of the people are Roman Catholics. Opposition in the main does not come from the Roman Catholics, because they do not know us: the opposition comes from the Protestants. I do believe, however, that we have succeeded in breaking down some of the prejudice.

In 1936 we had 150 members; now our membership hovers round the 200 mark. Our members are fairly faithful tithe-payers. They love the Advent faith. For example, in 1945 we paid to the Union office £1,661 in tithe, and in other offerings £1,542. In other words, 200 people contributed the magnificent sum of £3,203. I think that that is not bad. Looking at the financial standing of the Mission up to the end of June, 1946, we find that the Irish Mission is the only section of the British Union which shows an increase, an increase of £226. 10s. 7d.

It is true that our membership is small, and our contributions when compared with other fields may look small. I would, however, remind you that we have contributed more than means. We have contributed men. Think of the following names: Mussen, MacAvoy, Whiteside, the Joyces, McClements, the Keoughs, Baird, Thompson, Bell, McMillan, the Watsons, Adair, Gardner, Marks, Hanna, Baston; and even Pastor George Hyde and Pastor W. G. Nicholson have been happy for many years now with their Irish wives. Ireland has made history.

This is only natural. Ireland has always come to the help of Britain. Ireland's sons have always led the British armies to victory, and her sons and daughters will yet lead this people to victory.

Gallant little Ireland, peopled with the kindest people on God's earth, led the world in 1945 in the Ingathering per capita, and again she has done it in 1946. Can you see the large drops of perspiration dropping to the ground as I read the following figures to you?

1937	...	...	...	£528
1938	...	...	...	£564
1939	...	...	...	£575
1940	...	...	...	£395

In 1940 the Free State, or Eire, members were forbidden to collect, which meant a loss of over £200.

1941	...	...	...	£394
1942	...	...	...	£566
1943	...	...	...	£678
1944	...	...	...	£883
1945	...	...	...	£1,051
1946	...	...	...	£1,296

In other words, the Union during the past ten years have asked us to contribute or raise at the rate of two pounds per member the sum of £3,890, and we have actually given to the Union treasury the sum of £7,000, actually £3,000 more than they asked.

It is reported that Pastor George Keough stated publicly that he considered the work in Ireland harder than the work in the East. We have had real war-time difficulties, but I need not enlarge on these: they are in the past. We, as workers, realize our own inefficiency and many times we have concluded our day's work with heavy hearts and a sleepless night.

In a recent copy of the *Irish Digest*, you will find the following written by an Irishman: "In no country in the world is it possible to talk so much and make so little impression." Oh, how true that is! In Britain you start with a crowd in your evangelistic meetings, and end with a remnant; but in Ireland you begin with a remnant and then perhaps wait four or five years before the ones and twos take their stand for the truth. Hard work has been done in Belfast, Dublin, Derry, Portadown, and Bangor.

Speaking for Bangor, where our last effort has been held, I would say that my associates have worked hard, and we hope to baptize fifteen to twenty souls in this beautiful seaside resort of Ulster.

Our needs are legion. Apart from all spiritual needs, we need men of experience. We need, too, suitable places of worship.

At one time we could boast of a sanitarium. A few weeks ago we were all asked to contribute toward a sanitarium for France. We in Ireland need two sanitariums, one for the south, and one for the north. Mr. Chairman, during the past ten years we have given you in the Ingathering £3,000 more than you called for. May I suggest that we have actually paid for one of these sanitariums. Yes, let us think of France, India, China, South Africa; but, friends, will you ever remember the mission which is right "on your chest."

In conclusion, I thank the members of the Irish Mission for their co-operation. I thank the workers for their unstinted labours. I thank the Union committee for what they have done. We thank our only colporteur, Brother Reeve, for the good seed he has sown. We give to our new colporteur, Brother Ormston, our second book evangelist, a hearty welcome. We bow our heads in reverence as we think of the old faithful members who have passed away. Ireland certainly has lost quite a few. We thank Almighty God for His blessings. We know that when the last trump shall sound, there will be faithful people from the islands of the sea, which will include Ireland. I close by reading to you that beautiful hymn written in 1844:

Angel unto whom 'tis given,
Swiftly through divine command,
Flying through the midst of heaven
With the Gospel in thy hand,
Joyful tidings
To proclaim through every land.

In the circuit thou art taking,
Overlook not this green isle;
But a pause of mercy making,
Here repose thee for a while—
Close thy pinions;
Gladden Ireland with thy smile.

Such the message thou art bringing,
At the first inspiring sound,
Multitudes of preachers, springing
From all quarters shall be found
To repeat it
Till it spread the country round.

England to this land united,
By so strong, so dear, a tie,
Let not Ireland's wants be slighted,
"Come and help us" is her cry—
British Christians! British Adventists!
To your sister's succour fly.

Ireland all too long neglected,
Now demands your speedy aid,
Every good may be effected,
By the Light of life displayed:
Glorious day-spring;
Scatter death's incumbent shade.
—*Irish Missionary Magazine, September, 1844, page 20.*

A Resolution on Christian Standards

WHEREAS, we are living in an age of moral laxity and pleasure seeking, and

WHEREAS, the Advent church in such a time is to be characterized by revival of primitive godliness in preparation for the Lord's coming, therefore

Resolved.—That we call special attention to the very excellent statement on standards of Christian living to be found in the General Conference report and that we give a wide publicity to it either through the MESSENGER or in the form of a tract or pamphlet.

A Resolution of THANKSGIVING and DEDICATION

AS, in conference assembled, our minds go back over the ten long years which have passed since the last Union Session convened, we, the Advent believers in Britain, would ascribe to Almighty God our tribute of thanksgiving and praise for the protection He has afforded His people amid the perils of war, for His manifest leading in the perplexities which have come to the church during these difficult years, and for His signal blessing upon the efforts of the humble instruments of His grace to extend His cause and kingdom in these isles.

In the consciousness that the decisive hour of earth's history is at hand we desire earnestly to be cleansed from every sin that we may be able to stand in the day of God, and plead for the empowering of His Spirit that we may be effectually used of Him in the finishing of His work in the earth, to which end we dedicate our life and our all.

AUGUST 9, 1946

Greetings and Thanks

To the General Conference

Voted, 1. That we send to the General Conference an expression of thanks from this Union Conference in session, for so kindly making it possible for Brethren E. D. Dick, C. Lester Bond, M. L. Andreasen, E. B. Rudge from Australia, and W. E. Battye from New Zealand, to attend, and also for the valuable services rendered by these brethren.

2. That we send to each of the fields represented by these brethren, greetings from the British Union Conference.

To the Mayor of Watford and the Town Hall Authorities

Voted.—That we express our thanks to the Mayor of Watford for his interest in our gathering and his endeavour to obtain extra supplies for the catering committee, also to the Town Hall authorities for the facilities they have extended to us during the period of our conference session.

For Conference Arrangements

WHEREAS, the arrangements for conducting this Conference Session, and the provisions for the comfort of all those present, have been attended to in a most efficient way by a large number of willing and self-sacrificing helpers, therefore

Resolved.—That we extend our most hearty thanks to them all.

To A. W. Cook and every member of the Reception and Apartments Committee.

To Miss J. Mitchell and her helpers who provided meals for the visitors during the Bank Holiday week-end and the closing Sabbath so ably and well.

To J. A. Clement and his associates in the work of the Information Bureau.

To Miss M. Kirby and her associates in caring for the young children.

To J. H. Bayliss and his associates on the Stewards Committee.

To H. T. Johnson and his associates in caring for the platform and announcements.

To W. W. Armstrong and his associates in arranging the music for the session.

To those members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade who, after finishing their work, attended to render voluntary first aid service.

To W. L. Emmerson and his associates on the Publishing Committee for their untiring service in reporting the meetings; and finally

To all other willing helpers who have contributed to the success of the Conference.

To Those Leaving the British Field

Voted.—That we put on record our great appreciation of the services of H. W. Lowe, W. G. C. Murdoch, R. S. Joyce, and J. Rigby during their years of office, and that we wish them God's blessing as they take up the new work to which they have been appointed.

To the Forces Visitors

Voted.—That we send our greetings to the many members of the Empire and United States forces now returned home, with whom we had happy fellowship during the war years, and who brought blessing and stimulus to us by their generosity and their valued help in the activities of the church.

New Leaders of the British Union Conference and Local Fields

BRITISH UNION

President.—E. B. Rudge.
Secretary-Treasurer.—A. Carey.
Home Missionary and Publishing Secretary.—
J. A. McMillan.
Missionary Volunteer and Sabbath-school Secretary.—E. L. Minchin.
Educational Secretary.—E. E. White.
Religious Liberty Secretary.—W. L. Emmerson.
Medical Secretary.—Referred to British Union Committee.
Auditor.—J. H. Craven.

SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE

President.—W. W. Armstrong.
Secretary-Treasurer.—J. H. Parkin.
Home Missionary and Publishing Secretary.—
A. W. Cook.
Missionary Volunteer and Sabbath-school Secretary.—H. T. Johnson.

NORTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE

President.—G. D. King.
Secretary-Treasurer.—A. W. Lethbridge.
Home Missionary and Publishing Secretary.—
A. W. Howard.
Missionary Volunteer and Sabbath-school Secretary.—E. R. Warland.

WELSH MISSION

Superintendent.—J. M. Howard.
Secretary-Treasurer.—W. G. Baldry.
Home Missionary and Publishing Secretary.—
J. A. McMillan.
Missionary Volunteer and Sabbath-school Secretary.—E. L. Minchin.

SCOTTISH MISSION

Superintendent.—W. R. A. Madgwick.
Secretary-Treasurer.—W. G. Baldry.
Home Missionary and Publishing Secretary.—
J. A. McMillan.
Missionary Volunteer and Sabbath-school Secretary.—E. L. Minchin.

IRISH MISSION.

Superintendent.—A. J. Mustard.
Secretary-Treasurer.—W. G. Baldry.
Home Missionary and Publishing Secretary.—
J. A. McMillan.
Missionary Volunteer and Sabbath-school Secretary.—E. L. Minchin.

NEWBOLD COLLEGE

Principal.—E. E. White.
Business Manager.—N. H. Knight.

THE STANBOROUGH PRESS LTD.

Manager.—J. C. Craven.

THE STANBOROUGH

Manager.—A. H. Thompson.

GRANOSE FOODS LTD.

Manager.—G. E. Adair.

COMMITTEE OF CONTROL

Until the chairman of the British Union Conference returns to take up his duties, the following will constitute a committee to exercise the functions of the president—G. D. King (Chairman), W. W. Armstrong, A. Carey.

BRITISH UNION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

E. B. Rudge, A. Carey, W. W. Armstrong, G. D. King, J. M. Howard, W. R. A. Madgwick, A. J. Mustard, E. L. Minchin, J. A. McMillan, Medical Secretary, E. E. White, W. L. Emmerson, J. C. Craven, G. E. Adair, A. H. Thompson, H. Rhodes, H. W. Boxall, E. Merchant.

Thank You

THE owner of a black and white umbrella sends grateful thanks to the person who found it on Stanborough Park and took it to the Information Bureau at the Town Hall.

Advertisements

PRINTING. C. Russell, Newton Street, Macclesfield.

WANTED, strong girl as mother's help. Two young children in family. Easy and comfortable home. Sabbath privileges. Good wages. Write or apply to: Mrs. R. Berkson, 16 Broadhurst Avenue, Edgware, Middlesex.

ISLE OF MAN. Homely accommodation required for S.D.A. man and wife, September 9th-16th. Write: H. C. Saxby, Horton, Northampton.

PAINTERS and Bricklayers wanted. Full Sabbath privileges. Apply: West Herts Building Company, 123 Sheepcote Lane, Watford. Telephone: Garston 2230.

CONCRETE SPURS (42 inches by 4 inches by 4 inches reinforced) 8/- each retail price, complete with bolts, nuts, and washers. Special prices to trade. Save your rotting wooden fence posts. Order now from West Herts Building Company, 123 Sheepcote Lane, Watford.

COLLINS CLEAR TYPE BIBLE, with H. M. S. Richards' Helps for Bible Study. Write for prices: D. Davies, 39 Shetland Road, Leicester.

TINY "REST HOME" offered for company. Short or long periods from October 1st. Country. Near sea. Terms moderate. Apply: A. C. Aylward, Malt Cottage, Rookley, Isle of Wight.

Please Note!

THE printing department of The Stanborough Press Ltd. will be closed for the annual holiday from August 16th to 31st inclusive. In consequence, the next issue of the MESSENGER, containing further conference reports, will not appear until September 6th.

The sales department will receive orders and despatch goods as usual throughout the factory holiday period.

Sunset Calendar

Reproduced from the *Nautical Almanac* by permission of the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office.

	London	Nottingham	Cardiff	Edinburgh	Belfast
August 16th	8.22	8.31	8.35	8.50	8.56
August 23rd	8.08	8.16	8.20	8.33	8.40
August 30th	7.53	8.00	8.06	8.15	8.23
September 6th	7.37	7.44	7.50	7.57	8.06

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