

BRITISH ADVENT

MESSINGER

ORGAN OF THE
BRITISH UNION
CONFERENCE
OF SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTISTS
EDITOR W. L. EMMERSON

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FIRE and FAITH

AT THE STANBOROUGH PRESS

By Pastor J. A. McMillan

President, British Union Conference

ON Friday morning, January 3rd, fire was discovered in the front area of The Stanborough Press. Brother James Willis, of the book-binding department, had gone into the building at 6.20 a.m. and shortly after starting work, he noticed smoke and found a fire raging in the stock room. The fire brigade was soon on the job, but the flames quickly spread throughout the editorial, accounting, dispatch and stock rooms, and the entire front of the building was destroyed.

Our hearts were grieved as we stood helplessly by and watched the flames spreading from room to room, and as parts of the roof fell in and sparks flew upward, our prayers ascended to God for the vital work which our publishing house has done and must continue to do.

It is yet too soon to assess the total damage that has been done, but our courage is strong. Brother Craven tells me that all the vital records are intact. The fire was stayed as it reached the workshop and



The fire-devastated front of the British Publishing House.



The first part of the building to be involved in the conflagration.

factory, so amid the dirt and smoke, salvage work is proceeding, and the machines that print the Gospel message in its varied forms will soon be pulsating again with activity.

We want every colporteur to know that your needs are being considered. "Business as usual" is the motto and spirit of the Press, and even if the circumstances are unusual and the facilities are less advantageous than normally the work will go on and our faithful colporteurs may be assured that supplies will be made available as quickly as possible.

We do not know how this fire originated, nor why the good Lord permitted this important institution to be damaged. But this we do know—the work will continue, for, as Paul wrote from prison, "The Word of God is not bound." 2 Tim. 2:9. We cherish the conviction expressed by Sister White:

"What a source to which we can look in all times of trouble; the heart can have no misgivings! . . . We can only see a little way before us: 'but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.' He never becomes confused. He sits above the confusion and distractions of the earth, and all things are opened to His divine survey; and from His great and calm eternity He can order that which His providence sees is best. . . . We need to cherish faith."—Letter 19c, 1892.

Indicative of the immediate practical response of our faithful membership is the fact that within twenty-four hours of the disaster one of our dear retired workers sent to the Press, notes to the value of one hundred pounds, and a day or two later they received two other gifts of fifty pounds each from an aged member and one of our isolated believers.

We know that these gifts mean real sacrifice, but they are in the true Adventist tradition, and we are sure that many others, when they learn of the tragedy which has befallen our publishing house, will hasten to its aid.

I am confident that from the ruins of the old Stanborough Press will come a better and more efficient institution, more adequately to cope with the growing demands of the work. God will turn this calamity into a blessing, and a renewed publishing

house will, under God's blessing, create a renewed and more strongly dedicated colporteur work throughout the British Isles that will speed on the work of evangelism and usher in that eternal day where "they shall never again feel hunger or thirst, and sun shall not beat on them nor any scorching heat, because the Lamb who is at the heart of the throne will be their shepherd and will guide them to the springs of the water of life; and God will wipe all tears from their eyes."

The Work Will Go On

By Pastor R. D. Vine

Associate Editor, Stanborough Press

THE incredible has happened. Our beloved Press has been ravaged by fire. But thank God, though the place has been cruelly mauled, there is already reason to expect a speedy recovery.

When we entered the Park to report for work at 7.20 a.m. last Friday morning, we were shocked by the sight of leaping flames which were horribly visible somewhere beyond the School.

With pounding heart we wondered: what could it be—the Estate Hall—the Press—or the Food Factory?

But the agonizing truth exploded like a bomb as we rounded the gentle curve of the Park drive. The church Press, your Press, the only Press in Britain dedicated to the promulgation of pure truth—yes, the dear old Stanborough Press, was in the throes of a raging inferno.

Half of the familiar front section flanking the road, from the east end up to the front door, was a mass of flame.

Our bursting heart cried out in agony against the shattering truth; but the merciless flames roared on, from ground floor to attic. They reduced the dis-



Firemen endeavour to control the flames in the blazing paper store.

patch department, the art department, the editorial department, the chapel, and the paper store, to ashes. Priceless books, irreplaceable records, an incomparable library of pictures and specimens of all we ever printed since the work began—all have gone!

But we saw a miracle happen.

As we rummaged in the mountain of ashes on Saturday night, in grim protestation against the brutal fact that not even the merest relic of our own department could be recovered, the firemen who were still playing hoses on the smouldering paper assured us: "This was a lucky stop!"

For us who saw it happen, it was far more than a "lucky stop." It was a miracle.

As the fire swept up toward the west end of the building, its venom visibly collapsed. True, it scorched the accounts and circulation departments, but it quite suddenly yielded to control. The good Lord decreed, "Thus far, but no farther." That the department housing our presses did not entirely go, is incomprehensible.

"Simply good luck!" the fireman said.

"The Lord's hand," we firmly believe.

Knowing that the newspapers and radio had been alerted to the disaster, we tuned in to the South-east news that evening. The BBC report was blood-chilling: "All is destroyed, except the composing room."

It was an exaggeration, obviously resulting from some misunderstanding. The fact is, thank God, that the engraving, photo-litho, silkscreen, composing, and parts of the press-room and bindery departments are still with us.

A colossal clean-up must be done, of course, and at the time of reporting—just three days after the event—engineers are already on the job of getting serviceable machinery ready for action once more. The whole staff too has done a stupendous job, working day and night.

The purpose of the apparent tragedy may not yet have emerged, but our assurance is: "All things



The fire spreads to the dispatch department.



Leaping flames rise as the fire reaches the editorial offices.

God's Truth Lives On

*Although the printed Word of God in ashes lay,
God's truth lives on!
Although our hearts are grieved and saddened for
today,
Faith has not gone!
From out the rubble and confusion God will raise
A building dedicated to His work and praise;
May we, as soldiers of His kingdom, rise and build
A stronger work, so that His will might be fulfilled.*

*God bless our faithful Colporteurs who, through the
years,
His truth proclaim;
Oh grant, dear Lord, Thy Spirit's power to quell
their fears,
Their love inflame.
Oh, may they trust Thine arm of strength, and plan
again
For future, faithful, earnest work with heart and
brain:
Bring Lord, more workers to the field, the hour is late,
To save more souls, the last great judgment fires
wait.*

*May we arise from out this baptism of fire
Refined as gold,
With all the dross of sin and self removed—entire
By love controlled;
God give us hearts ablaze to serve in a new way
That we may do the greater works in this new day,
That every pamphlet, tract, and book to leave the
Press
May, of the Saviour's saving grace and love, confess.*

Stanley Combridge.

January, 6, 1964



Firemen take a hose up to the window of the art department.

work together for good to them that love God." We therefore believe that a good purpose is being achieved by this apparent disaster. Certainly, we members of the Press staff have been made more resolute in our devotion to the Saviour by our fiery trial. Our hearts have naturally been saddened and subdued. But our love and loyalty have been deepened.

Our personal view of the purpose is unclouded by doubt: an overruling God is allowing the way to be cleared to make room for the kind of extension and improvement we have for years been in dire need of, but unable to achieve.

And now a word to our literature-evangelists around the Union.

Yours is a most vital work that simply must go on. We know, in fact, that it will go on. Prophetic vision has declared the continuance of this blessed literature ministry until the end.

So resolutely maintain the ranks, brethren.

The fact is, we have substantial stocks of book signatures—a veritable mountain range of them!—which are just ready for covers to be applied. Book production is already on the move—just seventy-two hours after the ordeal.

The Bible Speaks and *Footprints of Jesus*, by W. L. Emmerson, also *God's Answers*, by R. D. Vine, will quickly be in good supply. There are other titles, too, that will be available. *Bedtime Stories*, series 39, is ready to flow; but the latest series, number 40, will be delayed until the big presses are on the move again.

We in the art and editorial departments have lost all. Much can be replaced, but the priceless pictures and records of the past which we nostalgically cherished in our cabinets and attic archives, are no more. Yet our "bereavement" reminds us that the past is relatively unimportant. It is the future which counts.

With great cheerfulness, ingenuity, and industry, our wonderful workers are facing up to the chal-

lenge of events. Some have wept, and all have felt like weeping, at their beloved Press's painful trial. But all are firm in their faith; and seeing as they did, God's hand limiting the destruction, they have no doubt that the resuscitated Press will serve the Gospel cause even more gloriously. They have a conviction, in line with prophetic assurance, that the greatest evangelistic exploits will yet be performed in dear old Britain—and elsewhere, too—by the soul-saving literature from our Publishing House.

Out of the Flames

By Pastor W. L. Emmerson

Editor, Stanborough Press

CERTAINLY one of the most serious, if not the greatest, loss sustained by the British Publishing House in the recent disastrous fire, is the total destruction of the Editorial Department.

Occupying the floor above the Despatch Department, which was early involved in the conflagration, it could not be reached through the smoke and flames. In a very short time desks, filing cabinets containing thousands of biblical and other pictures accumulated over many years, information files, and the whole library, crashed through the burning floor into the inferno below.

In less than an hour the work of years perished, leaving not a book, not a piece of manuscript, not a picture unconsumed.

A vast mound of sodden ashes on the packing room floor was all that remained of the dispatch, editorial, proof reading, and art departments.

So it is with absolutely nothing that we must begin again. But we are not discouraged. With the help of God, whose work it is and who has never



By a miracle the end of the building housing the circulation and accounts department (upper floor) was saved.

failed us, we shall go on without a break and with as little delay as possible.

While the fires were still burning, Pastor E. R. Warland and Pastor Victor Cooper offered us hospitality in the Voice of Prophecy building. We do indeed appreciate this spontaneous act of generosity on the part of our sister institution, and it is there that the editorial, proof reading, and art departments are already establishing themselves.

Similar hospitality has been generously extended to the circulation and accounts departments by Granose Foods Ltd., and a part of the Estate Hall has been made available by Stanborough School for storage purposes.

Now you will be wondering how soon we shall be in production again with our truth-filled periodicals and our church papers.

Fortunately the litho plates of the February *Our Times*, which were actually on the large presses, were recovered intact together with some of the printed sheets. It has already been reprinted, and we expect it very quickly to be available to our colporteurs and churchmembers.

Work on the March issue of *Our Times* was just beginning, and all the copy in course of preparation was destroyed, but we have contacted our contributors and we hope to have duplicates of most of the material in a few days. From pictorial agencies with whom we regularly deal we should obtain the necessary illustrative material and we hope to go to press with this issue on time.

With regard to *Good Health*, the March-April issue is just ready for printing, and will soon be available. As in the case of *Our Times*, all the copy in the course of preparation for the next issue was destroyed. However, Pastor R. D. Vine is at work gathering duplicate and new material and this issue will soon be in course of production.

All stocks of our undated magazines *Good News* and *Happy Hours* were destroyed, but the print-



Looking along the upper corridor from the accounts department to the editorial offices.

ing plates are intact and new editions of these are being printed locally at once.

All unpublished reports, articles, obituary and wedding notices for our church paper, the *British Advent Messenger*, have been destroyed. We shall be glad therefore if conference officers, workers, church and press secretaries whose material has not yet appeared will send duplicate copy to us at once, together with illustrative material if still available. New copy should, of course, be sent in the usual way and will be dealt with as received.

The editors of our other departmental papers such as *Youth*, the *Leader*, *Voice of Prophecy News*, *British Bookman*, etc., are preparing copy for forthcoming issues and will continue to render their usual service to their respective departments of the work.

Amid all the destruction and desolation of our beloved publishing house, it may be difficult to understand why this calamity has come upon us, but as in the work of God through the years so many times blessing has come out of seeming tragedy, we believe that His providential purpose will yet appear; and in that hope, and sustained by the prayers and ready help of God's people, we go forward believing that there is a greater work than ever before to be accomplished in this land through the ministry of the printed page.



Charred desks and debris in the accounts department.

Circulate **OUR TIMES &
GOOD HEALTH**

Restoring the Editorial Library

By Pastor W. L. Emmerson

As our editorial library has been totally destroyed it will have to be completely replaced.

In accomplishing this tremendous work of reconstruction it may be that some of our members will be able to give valuable help, for we shall need to provide ourselves with a complete range of books covering:

1. E. G. White's writings and other denominational publications.

2. Historical works covering the ancient empires, the medieval period, and modern history from the French Revolution to the present day.

3. Works on church history, including the religion of ancient Israel and Judaism, the rise of Christianity and the early church, ecclesiastical controversies, the history of the Papacy, the Protestant Reformation, the rise of the denominations, and the modern ecumenical movement.

4. Books on Christian evidences including Bible archaeology, science and religion, evolution, geology, biology, etc.

5. Biblical commentaries (eg, Pulpit Commentary, Expositor's Bible, etc.)

6. Theological works of all kinds, including dogmatic theology, prophetic exposition, devotional works, etc.



A corner of the bindery with what remained of the guillotine trimmers.

7. Aids to Bible study, such as concordances, subject indexes, etc.

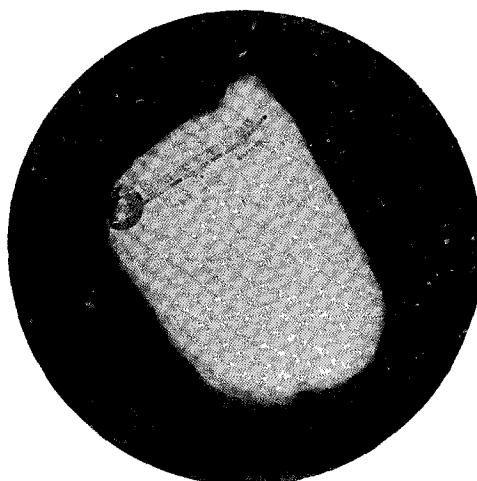
8. Encyclopedias, including the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, Hastings' *Dictionary of the Bible*, encyclopedias and histories of sacred art, etc.

9. Versions of the Scriptures.

A Far Greater Future Ahead

By J. H. Craven

Manager, Stanborough Press



It is so very difficult to put into words the thoughts that I entertain in my mind. Words seem such poor "tools" at times like this to express oneself.

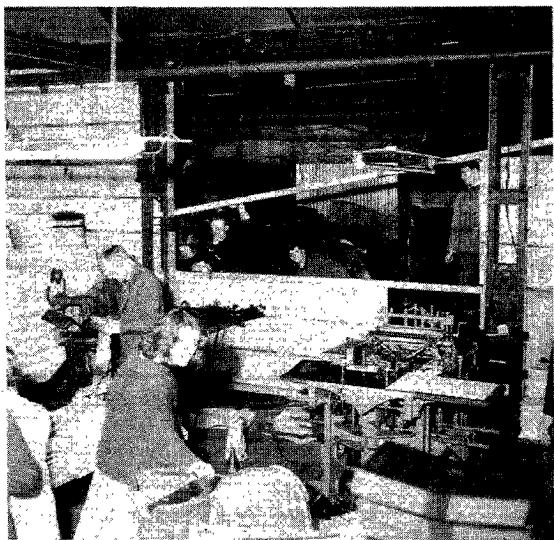
I honestly and sincerely love the publishing work, and together with the Press family, I have tried so hard to build up the Publishing House. Our sole motive has been that it may do a truly glorious work in building up the church. To see much of that work go up in flames in what seemed a few minutes, was something far beyond heart-breaking.

But there is a benevolent reason behind this tragedy. God knows, and all we can do is leave the situation with Him. I know that out of the ashes that remain, something more beautiful, stronger, and more efficient will arise to do a much greater work for the church.

The Stanborough Press will fulfil its God-ordained task in preaching the Gospel of the kingdom in the strongest possible way. A far greater future lies ahead of us than the achievements of the past. Here on Stanborough Park we encourage ourselves with the promise:

"Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them." 2 Kings 6:16.

We are of good courage, we know we are on the winning side.



While the destroyed section of the press room and bindery is being boarded off, the work of cleaning the machines which survived begins.

10. Health books (including denominational works) on anatomy and physiology, biochemistry, nutrition, preventive medicine, physiotherapy, diseases and their treatment, medical dictionaries, etc.

If you have in your library books in good condition which you can spare and which you would like to donate, kindly send us full details. Do not send actual volumes in the first instance so as to save duplication. Your help in this way will be deeply appreciated.

We know that this urgent appeal will meet with a generous response, and we are confident that the library, so absolutely essential to our work, will rise again phoenix-like from the flames.

Stranger at the Press

WE stood looking in amazement at the smouldering black masses of debris.

"What is this?" we questioned, "A funeral pyre?"

"Not a funeral pyre," came the reply, "but the work of a refiner's fire. To you only the dross is visible but, hidden below, is the brightest and purest gold."

"What then are these broken windows? Sightless eyes gazing toward heaven?"

"Yours are the eyes that lack vision. These are not eyes at all. They are open to the need of the world, and from within the need will be met."

"But you are on your knees," pursued the stranger.

"Certainly," the press made answer, "but only because we pray as we work."

"But what can you do, what can you print, and on what?"

"Look at this page, smelling of smoke but unsullied. At the top is written 1964, at the bottom 'Golden achievement for God.' Between the two is space enough for each press-worker to write his

own chapter of endeavour, and the final total will add up to the greatest year in The Stanborough Press's history."

SPECTATOR.

SOUTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE

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Unto the Least of These

"LEAST in ability, least in accomplishment, of least value to the nation. What gift will you give to these driftwood children, many from the wreckage of broken homes?" was the question posed at Christmas, 1963, to the Watford Advent Youth Brass Band. Back came the answer, "The best, the very best of our time and effort."

So it was that Friday afternoon, December 13th, found the Band assembled in an obscure school hall, to render a service of love that will be long remembered by the 130 children gathered there, and will be remembered even longer in the courts of heaven as a gift truly in keeping with the Manger of Bethlehem. Even the tuning-up period, scorned by more sophisticated audiences, was accounted precious by these children, officially outside for the play-recess, as they pressed noses to windows clamouring for "Music While We Play."

The lustiest singing ever heard in a school of this type sounded forth from the hall as the children accepted the challenge of the band and sang with all their hearts, the lovely, time-honoured carols telling of the Saviour's birth. Laughter rang out as Mr. Anniss used his conjurer's skill to mystify; laughter, too, from the band when some of the answers from the audience proved equally mystifying.

A lone Adventist in this school community, to me this visit from the band was a moment of pride. Moving freely and relaxedly among these children, what more splendid ambassadors of our faith could we Adventists have?

ADVENTIST TEACHER.



The bindery staff prepare to resume production in an undamaged part of the building.

We regret it has been impossible to produce the New Year "Youth" in its normal form, for reasons not in our control. But we appreciate the hospitality of the "Messenger" which is allowing us to merge with it, in a special way, for this issue.

Greetings from the Union

WHAT HAS 1964 GOT TO OFFER YOU?

A NUMBER of the large manufacturing firms have, for some time now, been making a habit of sending representatives to the universities to talk with prospective graduates, especially science and engineering graduates, in order to persuade them to accept offers for employment. Because there is a great shortage of such graduates, the rewards are high. Some students play one offer against another in order to get the highest salary. But "what can I get out of it?" is never a sound basis for making any decision. God never intended that we should plunge into life's commitments without first stopping to consider which way we are heading.

Following any course blindly because it offers large financial rewards, is sure to lead to difficulty.

The Christian philosophy and way of life needs to be considered, and considered carefully.

God does not make flattering offers, but the Bible makes it plain that the Christian life offers the individual more than any other way, mainly by showing what He has been able to accomplish in the lives of others.

In *The Ministry of Healing*, page 497, there is to be found the finest challenge that has ever been given to young people:

"Men of stamina are wanted, men who will not wait to have their way smoothed and every obstacle removed, men who will inspire with fresh zeal the flagging efforts of dispirited workers, men whose hearts are warm with Christian love, and whose hands are strong to do their Master's work."

There is no limit to the possi-

bilities of development for the one who determines to follow the Christian way of life. There is another statement which stirs my heart every time I read it, and leads me to offer a silent prayer that God will soon produce the young person who has read it and accepted the challenge in his own life. It reads:

"What is the aim and purpose

ALL includes you. Your MV leader will tell you how you can best serve in the plans he has made for your church. However, before the MV leader calls on you, your own personal decision will have been made. The Lord Jesus is calling for you—may His call not be in vain as you decide what you can give in service in 1964.

BERNARD KINMAN.

NEW YEAR FROM THE BRITIS

of your life? Are you ambitious for education that you may have a name and position in the world? Have you thoughts that you dare not express, that you may one day stand on the summit of intellectual greatness; that you may sit in deliberative and legislative councils, and help to enact laws for the nation? There is nothing wrong in these aspirations. You may every one make your mark. You should be content with no common attainments. Aim high, and spare no pains to reach the standard."—*Messages to Young People*, page 36.

Let us then change our title a little, instead of: "What has 1964 got to offer me?" Let us ask: "What have I got to offer 1964?" There is so much to be done and so little time to do it.

Why not determine this year to give your life direction and purpose? The beauty of God's plan is that there is room and a place for every individual, and every worth-while purpose to be stimulated and developed.

The year 1964 is to be a special year in soul-winning—a unified attack by all of the church. That

Greetings from South England
MARCH FORWARD

SO 1963 has drawn to its close, and a New Year lies before us. The past year has seen many significant events and trends. It has been a year of natural—and unnatural—disasters and upheavals, assassinations and political revolts. Papal pronouncements and inter-church intrigues have seized the headlines from time to time; and while we can thank God that "wars and rumours of wars" have not reared their heads too much, yet simmering ominously beneath the surface has been the ever-present threat of a nuclear holocaust, should some misguided individual or nation become too trigger-happy.

A gloomy way to begin a New Year's message! Yet in the midst of such apparently disheartening and baleful portents, Seventh-Day Adventist young people can be truly happy. And why? Because we have Jesus Christ! "I am come that they might have it more abundantly." He came to bring us life, life in its fullness

and richness, a life lived in His power. And He promises to accompany us throughout 1964. "I will never leave you, nor forsake you," He assures us. He will be with us in every step we take. Whether we be at school, or the office desk, or the factory production line—He is by our side.

He has set before us, as young people, the prize of eternal life—dwelling with Him in eternity. It is a concept that is hard for human minds to grasp, yet how foolish we would be to scorn the challenge! "Laying aside every weight" let us "press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Let us march forward with determination and vigour, hand in

I will be seeing many of you then, but for those of you who will not be there, may I say that we shall be having various functions throughout the year and you will always be welcome.

This coming year is to be dedicated to evangelistic endeavour, and at all our youth gatherings we shall be discussing how we young people can be in the forefront of all activity directed toward introducing others to our Best Friend and Saviour Jesus Christ.

May this New Year be a time of knowing Jesus better, loving Him more, and serving Him with the fullness of our might.

Sincerely your friend,
R. H. SURRIDGE,

ted time," says Paul. "Today if you will hear My voice," is the Lord's appeal.

The poet Byron was only thirty-six when he died; Shelley but thirty; Keats just twenty-six. All were thought to have a great future, yet all died so young. Cecil Rhodes planned so much for Africa, and big things also for his own future. He was forty-nine when he died. "So little done, so much to do," he said.

We cannot be sure of our tomorrows. Remember then the request of Moses: "If Thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence." Exod. 33:15.

Give Him first place in your heart, young people. Do this today. He will go with you right through the coming year—a day at a time.

"Put your hand into the hand of God. It shall be to thee better than light, and safer than a known way." A Happy New Year to you all from the youth leaders in the Welsh Mission.

R. A. BURGESS.

GREETINGS YOUTH LEADERS

hand with our heavenly Master Guide, and resolve to make the coming year one of advancement and victory.

"While another year is dawning,
While its hours and days unfold,
Lord, our prayer to Thee arises,
Keep our faith from growing cold.

May the signs we see around us,
Trying to our trembling faith
Make our prayer to Thee more urgent,
Keep us ever in Thy grace."

May God richly bless the work of your Society during 1964, and make you a blessing to other young people. M. ANTHONY.

Greetings from Wales

CYFARCHION O CYMRU!

THE months of another year are spread out before us as an unmarked canvas, as a new clean page as yet unspoiled, and as a road untrod. There is no call quite like the call of an untrod way. Roads can look so inviting as they disappear around a bend. So often I have thought: "I wonder where that road goes?" Few maps mark all roads in detail.

Today I look with you toward a year ahead, unmarked, unknown, untrod. It is a road we must take. Remember, you will pass this way but once. How then shall we travel this new year of 1964? A day at a time, someone says. Somebody once tried to scare Will Rogers the cowboy-philosopher. "If you had only forty-eight hours to live, how would you spend them?" Will Rogers replied: "One at a time."

We can only spend our days as they come. "Now is the accep-

◆
Greetings from Scotland
and Ireland

THE GREATEST JOY

Dear young people,

I WISH you all a Happy New Year. However, just wishing you happiness will not promote it. May I suggest how you can be sure of having it?

In John 15:11 Jesus says: "These things have I spoken unto you, that My joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full." "These things" can be identified by reading the previous verses. Christ was here speaking of the Christian life as being a happy one in winning others to His cause.

Of all the thrills I know, soul-winning is one of the greatest. Look at your friends through soul-winning spectacles. Look at your parents, brothers, and sisters, in the same way, if they are outside the faith.

Next, ask the Lord Jesus to give you a great longing to win at least one of them to Him this year. Then, when you get the longing—and you will, if you ask sincerely—approach them in the

(Continued on page 16.)

Greetings from the North IN THE FOREFRONT

Dear Friends,

WE, in the Youth Department of the North England Conference, wish all young people in the British Union, God's richest blessing during the coming year.

Next week we hold our camp reunion at Eastwood Grange and



Sir Cyril Black tells of the needs of the world in the "Freedom From Hunger" Campaign meeting at the New Gallery.

Freedom From Hunger Campaign at the New Gallery

In his appeal for the above fund at the sacred concert held at the New Gallery Centre on Saturday, November 30th, Sir Cyril Black, J.P., D.L., M.P., presented the facts behind the campaign.

1. More than half the world's population are short of food.

2. With the increase in the world's population the output of food must be increased. At the present time the population is 3,000 million. By 1975 it is estimated that the population will be 4,000 million, and by the year 2,000 it is estimated that the world's population will have increased to 6,000 million people.

For those of us who have spent our lives in this country it is difficult to realize the need and the hardships which are suffered.

During January of last year Sir Cyril visited a part of West Africa. While there he went round the villages with a doctor and found scenes which have changed little since the time of Christ. Everywhere

the results of malnutrition could be seen, men women, and children suffering greatly from ulcers. Scenes such as these remind us that Jesus came to heal the sick.

More important than giving the underfed people food is to teach them how to produce their own food. It is said if you give a man a fish to eat it will feed him for one day, but if you teach him to fish, you feed him for life. The work of the Freedom from Hunger Campaign is a work of Christ, for the Scriptures tell us, "For I was an hungered and ye gave Me meat."

Also present at the concert was Mrs. Gordon Evans, who is the honorary secretary of the Westminster Freedom from Hunger Campaign. In a few well-chosen words she expressed her appreciation of the programme which had been arranged, and also was able to announce that the amount collected in Westminster for this fund has practically reached the figure of £21,000.

A very excellent programme of music was given by Kathleen Joyce, who always contributes so much with her rich contralto voice. A newcomer to the Centre was John Perrin, tenor, who in a very active musical career has sung at Sadlers Wells and Glyndebourne. It is hoped we shall have many more opportunities of hearing him sing at the Centre. The above two artistes were accompanied very expertly by Olga Wilson. An instrument which always creates interest and perhaps is not heard so often is the harp, which was played with great feeling by Kirsten Unnersten. To complete the list of artistes taking part, Elizabeth Vine gave a very excellent performance at the piano.

As a result of this concert a cheque for £40 was handed over to the Campaign. EILEEN ROSE.

News from Plymouth

FLETWOOD School held its annual Carol Service in the Plymouth church on Wednesday, December 18th. A large congregation of parents and friends was present to enjoy the carols sung by the Juniors and Kindergarten classes. Scripture readings were given by five pupils, a parent, and the headmaster, Mr. N. Wright. One of the carols rendered was composed by the Kindergarten teacher, Miss V.



The singers and instrumentalists who supported Sir Cyril Black in the New Gallery meeting.

Woodhead. The church pastor, Brother J. Ginbey, opened and closed the service.

A group of J.M.V.s, together with Brother Ginbey, on December 21st, took twenty Christmas gift parcels prepared by the sisters of the church Welfare Dept. to the homes of various people whose names and addresses had been provided by the Plymouth Guild of Social Service. Toys had already been collected by the school children and were taken to Plymouth Civic Centre for distribution to homeless children and those in the care of the Civic authorities.

Letters of thanks and appreciation have been received, and one lady has written to say she has accepted the invitation to take part in the V.O.P. Bible Course—a card had been put in each gift parcel.

F. E. COOMBE,
Press Relations Secretary.

NORTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE

President : Pastor K. A. Elias

Office Address :

22 Zulla Road, Mapperley Park, Nottingham

Telephone : Nottingham 66312



Bolton Young People Visit Blackburn

ON Sabbath, December 21st, the young people of the Bolton church group went over to Blackburn to conduct a service for the church group there. We were very pleased to see a good attendance.

The setting of the service was a "doctor's" surgery where the "doctor," ably assisted by a "nurse," attended to several patients with various rather strange "complaints." There was the young gentleman who just couldn't keep awake in church! The "doctor" advised him to take large doses of an old-fashioned remedy, 1 Thessalonians 5:6-8.

THE NEW GALLERY CENTRE

FEBRUARY 1st, at 7.30 p.m.

THE BEST SATURDAY NIGHT IN TOWN



Regular Features
and Guest Artistes

Talent Contest

Slide Competition
Subject: "Mountains"

HELSINKI SPECIAL

THE 1965 YOUTH CONGRESS WILL BE HELD AT
OTANIEMEN, HELSINKI, FINLAND

From July 27th to August 1st

Details will be given later as to means of travel, etc.
and total cost will be in the region of £40.

In the meantime, make use of the scholarship plan outlined below and start saving and working NOW.

●
Bernard Kinman

HELSINKI, JULY, 1965

You can go to the

YOUTH CONGRESS HOW ?

By selling £3. 15s. worth (retail) of literature per week for 20 weeks, plus a bonus of 10%. (This is extra to the 50% given.)

Total sales	£75	0	0	50%	37	10	0
10%					7	10	0
<hr/>							£45 0 0 is yours

The 10% bonus will be given on any amount between £25 and £75 worth of literature sold.

Try one of the following:

1. 75 "Our Times" per week.
2. 50 "Good Health" per week.
3. 30 "Good News" or "Happy Hours" per week.
4. 15 "Bedtime Stories" per week.

Fill in the form and start NOW.

Supplies must be ordered through your Home Missionary Secretary.

To Union Publishing Secretary.

I wish to take advantage of the generous offer to raise funds to go to the Youth Congress.

Name Age
(if under 21, minimum age 16)

Address
.....

Signature, Home Missionary Secretary

The Home Missionary Secretary must keep a record of all your sales and sign a statement at the close stating your total sales.

1964 Missionary Volunteer Reading Course

SENIOR

COURAGE FOR THE CRISIS Arthur S. Maxwell
How to find peace of mind and fortitude of spirit for the dangerous days ahead.

PRICE 8s. 6d.

IN THE ARENA

A sequel to BY SEARCHING by Isobel Kuhn
a writer who spent twenty years working among the Lisu tribe in south west China.

PRICE 8s. 6d.

REFORMATION IN ENGLAND J. H. Merle d'Aubigne

All the great personages of the Reformation period are present in the dimensions of real life.

PRICE 7s. 6d.

JUNIOR

FIELD GUIDE Lawrence Maxwell

A must for every MV. A major attempt on the part of the MV Department to make a positive contribution in direction of recreation through explorations of nature.

PRICE £1 10s. 0d.

MARY JONES AND HER BIBLE Mary Carter

This little book tells how one of the least of seeds has grown to be the greatest of trees. The beginning of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

PRICE 1s.

SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON B. Webster Smith

This is the story of Ernest Shackleton, who through the whole of his life devoted himself to travel in the Antarctic and faced every setback with courage and endurance.

PRICE 5s.

PRIMARY

PAUL THE BRAVE APOSTLE Ethel M. Boyce

Mrs. Boyce has the gift of telling the Bible stories in such a way that the tiniest ones can understand.

PRICE 3s. 6d.

CHILDREN THROUGH THE AGES Gertrude Hume

Stories of children, which introduce us to their homes, daily life, work, and play from early times to the present day.

PRICE 8s. 6d.

SHAGGY THE SHEEPDOG Yvonne Perrin

The story of Shaggy who comes to live at the farm and how he came to know all the animals

PRICE 2s. 6d.

TOTAL £3. 14s. 6d. SPECIAL CLUB PRICE £3. 0. 0.

A young lady came to see the "doctor" about a "couldn't care less" attitude to life which she had developed. He prescribed plenty of Revelation 3:15-18.

Next came a lady who had to be assisted into the surgery. She could hardly walk and was leaning heavily on a stout stick! She told the "doctor" that her legs were usually quite healthy, but about twice a year she just couldn't walk. When the "doctor" asked her about what time in the year this happened she admitted it was whenever "Special Missions Appeal" and the word "Ingathering" was mentioned! "Ha!" he said, "not as serious as I at first thought. They need attention daily with Galatians 6:5 and James 2:14-18.

So the patients came and went and we were greatly intrigued and helped as we listened to the various prescriptions.

After Sabbath, refreshments were served, followed by a social evening. First of all, Pastor P. Read showed some wonderful coloured slides of life in Canada and America. Then games were organized by Brother John Grimshaw, and thoroughly enjoyed by the young and the not so young. The time went all too quickly, as usually happens on these enjoyable occasions and we resolved to have them more often.

HILDA SMITH,
Home Missionary Leader, Bolton.

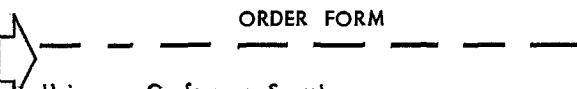
A Faithful Servant of the Church

As we begin another year with new officers, we remember those who have had to relinquish their posts through ill health. One such officer, Brother Albert Geldard, has very reluctantly had to resign from his post as home missionary secretary, which he had held continually for fourteen years. We are very sorry to accept this decision; at the same time we realize that he is in need of a well-earned rest.

Brother Geldard was baptized into the church in 1949 and he and Mrs. Geldard have been very faithful and helpful members. He has taken his responsibilities very seriously and has done far more than the secretaryship called for.

We pray that Brother Geldard and all such officers having to resign through ill health, may enjoy a long and happy, though still not inactive,

ORDER FORM



Union or Conference Secretary

Please send me the MV Reading Course for 1964, at the reduced price of £3 plus postage and packing, 3s.

Name

Address

Amount enclosed

retirement, with the knowledge that they have really earned the "well done, good and faithful servant."

MISS H. SMITH,
Home Missionary Leader, Bolton.

SCOTTISH MISSION

President: Pastor S. H. Parkin

Office Address: 3 Bristo Place, Edinburgh, 1

Telephone: Caledonian 3798



Christmas in Dundee

THIS year has seen much happy activity by both young and old in the Dundee church as the Christmas programme has gone into full and sometimes hilarious swing. Ably directed by Pastor and Mrs. G. Emm with untiring verve, the proceedings commenced with a friendly carol service on Sabbath afternoon, December 21st, to which all the young people contributed, either solo or in groups. This set the Christmas atmosphere as they sang or recited about the birth of Jesus.

After the close of Sabbath there was much bustle as the ladies prepared for the church party. This went with great spirit, Pastor Emm ensuring that the fun never flagged for a single moment. "A most heart-warming evening," everyone agreed, particularly as Santa Claus (looking curiously like one of the churchmembers) arrived with presents for all the children.

But more was to follow. On Monday, December 23rd, a party was held in the decorated youth hall for orphan children at which the young people were the hosts. The visitors came from The Children's Shelter, and St. Vincent's Orphanage (both Roman Catholic institutions). Santa Claus again appeared



Mrs. G. Emm with the twelve orphans she had invited to her party.

YOUTH RETREAT

March 6th to 8th, 1964.

Quiet Talks on Service

A special invitation is extended to all our young people in the Welsh Mission and South West England, who feel the need for spiritual refreshing and an opportunity to talk over ways and means of service. There will be time for devotion, discussion, meditation and personal counselling.

Programme of Subjects

Personal Contact with Jesus

THE BEGINNING OF SERVICE by Amos Cooper

The Triple Life and Yoke-fellows

THE RHYTHM OF SERVICE by Martin Anthony

A Passion for Winning Men

MOTIVE POWER FOR SERVICE by J. A. McMillan

Deep Sea Fishing

THE AMBITION OF SERVICE by R. E. Graham

Gideon's Band

SIFTED FOR SERVICE by B. F. Kinman

The cost £2 2s. for the whole weekend

FRIDAY, MARCH 6th-8th, 1964

FILL IN AND SEND US THIS COUPON WITHOUT DELAY

Please enrol me for the Youth Retreat
March 6th to 8th, 1964.

I understand the charge will be £2 2s. and I
undertake to pay this on or before March 6th.

NAME

ADDRESS

.....

Signature Age

Please return to:
Bernard Kinman, MV Dept., B.U.C. Offices,
Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.

(this time with the familiar figure of the president of the Scottish Mission) to give presents to the orphan guests.

This year an experimental scheme was tried in which food containers were placed in the Scottish C.W.S. Store asking people to deposit food gifts for old age pensioners. Reaction was good, and through a letter in the local newspaper explaining the scheme, names and addresses were provided of old people in need. This idea, under Mrs. Emm's direction went very well, and our young ladies enjoyed the happy part of the work, the distribution of food gifts on Christmas Eve. Twelve parcels, valued at about £1 each, were given away, as well as thirty-eight articles of clothing. Some useful contacts were thus made which will be conscientiously followed up in the New Year.

Mrs. ANN TETLEY.

IRISH MISSION

President : Pastor W. G. Nicholson

Office Address : 83 Shandon Park, Belfast

Telephone : Belfast 657244



Belfast's "Senior Citizens'" Social

THE "Senior Citizens" of our Belfast church, many of whom have been staunch and faithful members of the church for many a long year, were entertained to a tea and a film show on Saturday night, December 7th. Complete with paper hats (out of the Christmas crackers provided), and with tables tastefully and plentifully prepared by Sister Nicholson and her corps of helpers, this event provided a pleasant interlude for those whose declining years are sometimes lonely and burdensome. The film show which followed included trips through some beautiful Scottish scenery, a tour round McDougall's flour mills, and a demonstration by one of their cooking demonstrators.

From the remarks made by our guests as they were taken away by various cars to their homes, we know that the efforts made by the ladies of the church were greatly appreciated, and that a few more rays of sunshine had found their way into the hearts of the "Mothers" (and "Fathers") in Israel.

E. E. HULBERT.

THE VOICE OF PROPHECY BIBLE SCHOOL

Radio Secretary: Pastor V. H. Cooper
Correspondence School Principal:
Pastor E. R. Warland

Crusade for Christ

WE believe that the Voice of Prophecy Bible School, under God's blessing, is destined to bring the Advent message to many thousands of people

here in the British Isles, many of whom will eventually join the church.

One of our chief sources of obtaining students is through the distribution of Voice of Prophecy cards and leaflets—a missionary service in which every churchmember can engage. For this reason we are glad that the programme of the 1964 "Crusade for Christ" includes the distribution of half a million "Friend of the Family" cards during February, in addition to our usual campaign in September. With the keen co-operation of The Stanborough Press these cards were all printed before Christmas. After the holidays, folding, cutting, and parcelling began in earnest. On Wednesday, January 1st, we received delivery of 150,000 cards, and the following day these were shared among many ministers of the church in the South England Conference.

Then, on the morning of Friday, January 3rd, the disastrous fire at The Stanborough Press burned up almost all the remainder of our half-million cards! All we had were just fifteen packages, with a total of about 37,000 cards—a mere third of what we had promised North England as a first dispatch! These we sent to that field, with a few thousand leaflets, on Sunday, January 5th.

What, then, do we have for our members in the West of England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland for the February distribution? Some leaflets and, maybe, a few thousand cards if we can salvage some from the wreckage! Just as soon as possible we will share these out so that every church and company in the British Isles should have some material for distribution in February.

This unexpected change in the situation presents a challenge to every church—indeed to every member. We must not let the enemy triumph over us, but rather—with the Lord's help—turn this temporary set-back into an occasion for renewed and deeper consecration and a better service.

How better? Well, if the "seed corn" is limited let us be extra careful—and more prayerful—in the sowing of it. Let the distribution be better organized than ever before. Where possible, let the card be handed in personally, with a smile and recommendation to accept the offer of a completely free Bible course.

We should be more careful than before to see that new areas are covered, and a record kept by the church on a street map, so that wasteful duplication is avoided.

Do you have in your home—or in your church cupboard—some Voice of Prophecy cards or leaflets which could be used to supplement your supplies? If so, do please use them—yes, whatever their kind or age, provided they are clean. Don't worry about radio broadcasts not now operating, or the special book offer we made in 1962. Just get the cards and leaflets into the homes, brethren and sisters. Leave us here at the Bible school to answer any inquiries which may arise.

"Forward in Faith" is our watchword. So let us press on with a deepening realization that "time is running out" for us to proclaim the message we love. God will surely bless our labours and in "due season we shall reap if we faint not."

PROPHETIC GUIDANCE COURSE

The applications during last quarter for this course—which is particularly for churchmembers—were so many that for a while we were out of stock of textbooks and some of the lessons. We are happy to announce that we now have ample supplies of everything needed for individual or group study.

"YOU AND YOUR HEALTH"

This course, operated from the Health Education Centre, is ideal for ministers to promote in connection with health lectures—and for members to introduce to their friends. The fourteen lessons, prepared by Dr. Wayne McFarland, have recently been revised. While these lessons are not biblical in content, we find that many, on completion of this course of the Health Education Centre, enrol for a Voice of Prophecy Bible course.

A REQUEST TO CHURCHMEMBERS

Our courses, with the exception of that in Prophetic Guidance, are a means of evangelism designed to win people to the Lord and the Advent message. We do not, in general, expect to enrol churchmembers who have the benefits of church fellowship and Bible study in the Sabbath school. However, we realize that there may be young people or isolated members who, for particular reasons, would be greatly benefited by taking one of our Bible courses. We shall always be glad to enrol them. However, in such cases it will help us greatly if members would kindly add "S.D.A." after their name on their application form. Thank you very much.

E. R. WARLAND.

SABBATH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

"Enlarge—Stretch—Lengthen— Strengthen"

By A. C. Vine

"ONE of the most effectual instrumentalities in bringing souls to Christ should be the Sabbath school." So wrote Sister E. G. White under the inspiration of the Spirit of God.

What is the situation?

Well, in many parts of the world field the Sabbath school outnumbers the church in membership by two to one. Here is a most fruitful soul-winning field.

In Britain we need to work hard for a similar Sabbath school picture. At the moment, many churchmembers are not members of the Sabbath school. What a pity! Every member of the church would be greatly strengthened by active participation in the Sabbath school, and is in fact denying himself spiritual growth and strength if the Sabbath school does not figure in his church life.

But more is expected from the Sabbath school than strengthening churchmembers in the faith, and building the children of Adventist families into the faith, most important as these are.

"The influence growing out of the Sabbath school work should improve and enlarge the church [italics supplied]. . . . There is a most precious missionary field in the Sabbath school, and if there are now omens of good, they are indications and beginnings of what may be done."—*Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, page 9.

The Sabbath school must have an *outreach*. We cannot keep it to ourselves, and thrive as a church. It must become a "missionary field" in our own church areas.

But how?

Again, God has given us the answer. We find in *Testimonies for the Church*, Vol. 7, page 21, this enlightening little piece of instruction: "The formation of small companies as a basis of Christian effort has been presented to me," wrote Sister White, "by One who cannot err."

The particular "small companies" we have in mind in this appeal are what we call "Branch Sabbath schools." They are started by lay members who love the truth and who love their neighbours too, and want them to know the truth.

As we visit homes, either with Ingathering appeals, or literature distributing or Welfare work, we shall find people who would eagerly respond to an invitation to our homes for a Bible study. Perhaps you are privileged to visit a few Voice of Prophecy students in your area. These might very probably appreciate a meeting in someone's home to study these things more closely. If you could gather one or two, or more, adults or/and children in your home on a Friday evening, or a Sabbath afternoon, or even a Sunday morning for an hour, you would have a Branch Sabbath school started. Anyone could do this, given a love of Jesus, a love of neighbours, and a place to worship in for an hour.

The little meetings are conducted like a miniature Sabbath school, and the Sabbath school committee of your church will stand behind you if you will try to "enlarge the place of thy tent, . . . stretch forth the curtains of thine habitation; spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes."

The whole emphasis here is on enlargement. In Britain, that is just what we need most—*Enlargement*. Not just numbers! God needs a larger constituency of solid Adventists who know and love the Bible.

And Branch Sabbath schools is one of the most effectual ways of achieving this.

Perhaps you have seen it tried before, and lament that it did not "come to much." Well, it cannot fail to win souls if rightly conducted, as certain successful Branch Sabbath schools and Sunday schools have shown.

This is an appeal to YOU, individual member, to do something in your own neighbourhood to help "gather" the people who are not opposed to truth, who are not prejudiced, whose hearts have been touched by sorrow, or by some Welfare work of ours, or who have been reading our literature or studying V.O.P. lessons. Please think this over and decide to do something for Christ in this very special year.

On the higher levels, counsel and help can be obtained from your pastor and Sabbath school committee, and your conference (or mission) department secretary is ready to help you.

But it does depend on you.

"Prayers and tears and inquiries go up from souls longing for light, for grace, and for the Holy Spirit. Many are on the verge of the kingdom, *waiting only to be gathered in.*"—*Acts of the Apostles*, page 109.

There may be any number of branches to any Sabbath school, but let us take it on our heart to see that there is at least one Branch to each Sabbath school in the British Union before the end of 1964.

Start thinking and praying about it NOW. Discuss it with your pastor TOMORROW (Not the one which never comes!).

You could even get started, and then report to the pastor that you had a Branch already beginning to flourish. What a joy that would be!

AIM: At least one Branch to every established Sabbath school in the British Union in 1964.

New Year Greetings

(Continued from page 9.)

way the Holy Spirit prompts you to, to arouse their interest. It may be by inviting them to a young people's service. If it is, tell the leader about what you plan to do, so that he or she can join you in your venture.

It may be by asking them such questions as: "Do you believe in God?" or: "Do you know what God is like?" and be sure to have the answers ready to give them.

Another way is to sign them up for the Bible correspondence course, making sure they have the right one.

Still another good way is to lend them the right kind of book to read. I would suggest *Escape from Death*, or *Nellie's Prairie*, or *Africa Called Us*. Choose the kind of book which has a good story running through, not just Bible teaching. Let the latter be part of the story. A good plan is to have a small library of such books, and lend them out; then follow up the interest with VOP lessons, or young people's services.

In Luke 15:7, Jesus mentions

A Dramatic Record

FOR the remarkable, though tragic, series of pictures of the fire at the Publishing House, we are indebted to Mr. Michael Cowen of our Photographic Department.

ED.

this joy again—a joy which we share with the angels, just as they share with us in the work of winning our friends. You may shed a tear or two in the process of going forth to win, but you will surely have very real joy as

Thank You All

MAY we, in this issue of the MESSENGER, tender our appreciation and thanks to all who have written expressing their deep sympathy respecting the calamitous fire at the Publishing House, and assuring us of their prayers to God on our behalf.

J. A. McMILLAN,
President, British Union
Conference.

they are brought into the church family on baptism day. Good hunting to you all.

GEORGE EMM.



TILL THE DAY DAWN

MALIN.—We deeply regret to announce the tragic death of Janet Lindy Malin, baby daughter of Brother and Sister Malin as the result of a car accident on October 13, 1963. The members of the Handsworth church extend their sincere sympathies to the parents at this sad time.

CHURCH CLERK.

ADVERTISEMENTS

HOLIDAY, honeymoon, or just a rest? It's warmer in Bournemouth. Flats, self-contained, with all necessities for cooking, etc., available for a few days a fortnight, or even months. Near sea, shops, and station. 10/6 single. 16/6 double, per day. "Allendale," 17 Knole Road, Bournemouth. Tel.: 33944.

A CHALLENGE to a married couple who are interested in young people, camping, and country living (following guidance of Spirit of Prophecy) to share our home, farm, and Gospel work. Write to: G. Rallings, Woodcroft, Checkley, Hereford.

CARAVAN—4-berth. 300 yards from beach. 2 miles from Norfolk Broads on site at Lowestoft, with all conveniences. Apply: C. R. Hood, 39 Cotmer Road, Oulton Broad, Lowestoft, Suffolk.

Listen to the VOICE OF PROPHECY Radio Services

RADIO EUROPE 1 1647 metres (long wave)
Every Saturday night at midnight, G.M.T.

January 18th "Why Was He Called Jesus?"

January 25th "The Christian Sabbath"

and immediately following at 12.15 a.m., G.M.T.—YOUR RADIO DOCTOR

January 18th "Enjoying the Golden Years"

January 25th "Suggestions for Staying Young"

The Voice of Prophecy programme may also be heard on short wave (19.43 metres) from Radio New York, with call letters W.R.U.L. every Sunday at 7 p.m., G.M.T.

SUNSET CALENDAR

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

	Lon'n	Car'f	Edin.	Not'm	Bel't
Jan. 24th	4.34	4.47	4.28	4.32	4.44
Jan. 31st	4.46	4.59	4.43	4.45	4.58

BRITISH ADVENT MESSENGER

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