

“Best Ever” Swanwick Tonic

Report of the Annual Literature-Ministry Convention

by Garth W. Till

AFTER last year's institute we all felt that there could never be a better or more spiritual convention; but this year, I believe that we've done it again!" So said Pastor W. John Arthur in his closing remarks at the end of the 1970 Literature Evangelist Institute, held in the Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, during the week January 12th to 18th.

It was quite true. All who attended these meetings felt they had received a greater spiritual uplift here than ever before.

What made this year's "Swanwick" the best ever? Although it is impossible to pinpoint the source of the blessing, I am going to endeavour to share it with you by telling you something about the events of this fabulous week.

Monday afternoon, January 12th, was filled with all the bustle of arriving delegates checking in with their luggage—some only just in time for the evening meal at 6.45. But an hour later everyone was in the recently constructed lecture hall singing: "Praise Him! Praise Him! Jesus our blessed Redeemer," and the mood for the whole of the Institute was set.

Pastor Arthur welcomed delegates and their wives, and introduced those who were attending the Institute for the first time: G. Amore, Mrs. M. Calder,

Miss J. Chesney, Mrs. A. Dermer, Miss G. Dick, P. Fanstone, C. L. Golding, S. Henry, J. Jack, V. L. Lawrence, Mrs. V. A. Lewis, A. Moore, W. Palfrey, Miss C. Parker, A. Peters, L. Redman, L. Rodgers, L. Scarlett, G. W. Till, G. R. Webster, J. Wells, and R. J. Wright.

Dr. Bernard E. Seton gave the opening address, in which he showed from 1 Thessalonians 1:2, 3 how the Thessalonian church attained her pre-eminence among the early churches: "God wants the same calibre of Christian today as He had 2,000 years ago in Thessalonica," Dr. Seton said. He proceeded to stress that by working, labouring (or suffering), and hoping in partnership with Jesus and in the sight of God, we today can attain this high standard.

Tuesday and every day thereafter, began with prayer bands before breakfast. These early morning sessions of prayer got each day off to a good start, and prepared our minds for the activities to follow.

At 9 o'clock, Pastor Donald Lowe gave the morning message. He spoke about Jeremiah, the man most entitled to be discouraged. He told how time after time his message apparently won no converts, and how he eventually died a martyr's death, unaware of any results for his labours. Yet years later, many



Literature-evangelists assembled in the fine new assembly hall at the Swanwick Convention Centre. Left picture shows Press Manager, Pastor K. A. Elias; Publishing Leader, Pastor John Arthur; and Press Production Manager, Dennis Archer.

people began to practise true religion as a direct result of his faithfully delivered messages. The lesson was clear: if the literature-evangelist has the tenacity, courage, and dedication of Jeremiah, he too will be able to go forward regardless of difficulties, saying with Paul: "If God be for us, who shall be against us?"

Pastor Bruce M. Wickwire then gave the first of four daily lectures entitled: "Successful Selling in the Seventies." During the course of these lectures he related many experiences of bookmen in Europe to demonstrate the awakening that is now taking place. He urged the British bookmen to prepare themselves for a similar awakening here in these isles. Such preparedness hinged on several forces: *The Force of Dedication*, which would reveal itself in the sort of trust in God which means giving oneself completely without holding back anything, and in the sort of obedience which makes one willing to go anywhere God sends one; *The Force of Time* would make the literature-evangelist utilize every precious moment, realizing that when he kills Time, he injures Eternity; *The Force of Action* gives stability. Just as a cyclist has a hard time balancing when standing still, but gains his equilibrium as he moves forward, so God's workers become more stable as they apply themselves to their task.

In these lectures Pastor Wickwire showed that selling is a science which can be studied, as well as an art which can be acquired.

Next Basil Powell gave a report on the Home Health Education Service which manages the financial side of the hire-purchase sales system. He reported 1,160 sets of the *Bible Story* sold during 1969. We were also shown with the aid of slides how the sales are processed, and how a check is kept on the credit payments.

At various times during the day, A. McIntyre told us some of the secrets of selling to schools. Brother David Cox introduced a new plan for selling *Bedtime Stories* in sets of twelve, Ronald J. Davey suggested how the literature-evangelist should plan his budget, Miss G. Brailsford and A. Peters showed us their methods of keeping records, Clive Blackburn told us what he expected from his Publishing Department Secretary, and Tudor Watts balanced this with what he expects from his colporteurs.

The day's training activities ended with a panel discussion on sales problems, under the chairmanship of David Cox. In the evening we thrilled to the story of Gladys Aylward, as told in the film: "The Inn of the Sixth Happiness."

The Wednesday morning session began with a message from Pastor Peter H. Stearman, based on the story of Peter, John, and the Cripple recorded in Acts 3. There have always been two groups of people, he said: builders and wreckers. It behoves us to build wisely as master-builders, and not use the tools of the wreckers.

Among papers presented during the morning was one by J. Ponder on Self-Employment Psychology, and one by H. Wilby demonstrating the effective use of such tools as the canvasser's brief-case and prospectus.

After dinner, a debate on the topic of "Regular Wage v. Commission" ended in a straw vote for regular wages. It was made clear from the floor, however, that the vote was purely on the merits of the arguments put forward, and not on the convictions of the voters. The winning team consisted of Dennis J. Johnson, and Miss L. Gardner. "Opposing" debaters were W. Kitchen and A. McIntyre.

Special Days

February 14th	MESSENGER Offering
February 21st	Literature Evangelism Emphasis
March 7th to 14th	M.V. Week of Prayer
March 14th	YOUTH Offering
March 28th	World Concern Offering

Mrs. I. Davey read her excellent paper on the role of the L.E.'s wife; A. J. Morgan talked about his "Golden Hours" for selling, which have shifted from 9-12 a.m. in 1951 to 6-9 p.m. today; C. Wilson gave us some useful hints and suggestions on preparing income tax returns, and continued with a paper on the forthcoming decimalization of sterling.

The rest of the afternoon was devoted to encouraging reports from our two Book and Bible House managers, W. J. Griffiths, and E. Johnson. Both institutions are doing yeoman service in bringing our health foods and our literature before the public eye, and in keeping the workers in the field well supplied with books. Over 1,000 customers visit these two shops each week, the vast majority of whom are non-Adventists.

On Thursday morning, Pastor Donald McClure preached on Psalm 127:1: "Except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain." Drawing

FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER

"PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER" James 5:16

"I would like to thank you all for your sincere and Christian prayers on behalf of my wife. Praise the name of the Lord, her hand has improved so much that she was able to return to work a week ago. I thank God that He is a God who hears and answers prayer. Thank you all very much, and please continue to pray for us. May God richly bless you all. How wonderful to be fellow citizens of the kingdom of God."—S.G.V.

"I am requesting for my name to be put on your prayer band. I have not been enjoying good health since July. Also I have domestic worries. I feel so insecure, tensed up, and afraid, and am often very depressed. Please pray for my husband that he will come back in the faith and also for two friends of mine who are not very well, and have personal troubles. God bless you."—P.J.

"I am a member of the S.D.A. Church in Walsall, but have been in poor health for a long time. I have had to give up some of my work in the church and now I feel worse than ever. Will you pray for me please, so that I will be helped and so able to take up full activities in my church and work again. Thank you in Jesus' name."—M153 M.L.

One of our faithful sisters, Mrs. V.J., who is suffering from throat trouble, requests our prayers for healing.

"I am sending a request that you please pray for some dear relatives in the Orkneys, who have great trouble at this time. Their 32-year-old daughter—mother of two little boys—is suffering from extensive cancer. Twice she has undergone major surgery, having to be flown by special plane to a hospital in Aberdeen on one occasion. On Boxing Day she was again admitted to her local hospital as her condition was worsening, and little hope was given for her recovery. However, her parents say: 'We will not give up hope, we just pray she will get better.'"

"Please, please pray for her without delay, that if God sees fit He will even yet heal her, and restore her to her family, for with God nothing is impossible. Pray, too, that the Spirit of God may speak to their hearts, that they may desire to know more of this wonderful Advent truth."—M.P.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO REMEMBER PREVIOUS REQUESTS

World Concern for Evangelism

God bless you as you prepare to donate a liberal offering for direct evangelism on Sabbath, March 28th

EACH Sabbath as we make our way to church whether London or Liverpool, Southampton or Manchester, Bristol or Birmingham, or wherever else, one thing must impress us—that the thronging thousands of men, women, and children either do not know or do not care that Saturday is the Sabbath. For in the morning they are bustling and pushing in the crowded supermarkets and shops, and in the afternoon they are excitedly making their way by coach, car, or foot to the football ground, sporting their scarves and rosettes, glad to carry the colours of their favourite clubs and happy to shout, stamp, and even scream for them.

We know that Sabbath observance is not the whole of Christianity, but at the same time we know that this "breathing-space for the soul" is a vital part of the everlasting Gospel. The ignorance of Sabbath and the disregard for Sunday (the only Sabbath that most folk know about) is an indication of the enormous need that the immense population of our towns and cities have to hear the Gospel of God.

The need is obvious, as obvious as our physical need of food, air and sunshine; but the question is how to fill the need.

I was thrilled all over again this evening while reading the story of David and Goliath to my children. While they were enjoying the exploits

of the shepherd lad my mind was pondering another application.

So often our giant problems defy us. We must preach this thrilling Message but funds are very small. Thirty years ago, virtually every minister in the British Union had money for evangelistic campaigns each year; but this year, in the North England Conference, there is barely enough for six small public evangelistic campaigns. In comparison with the population, the number of ministers is, humanly speaking, insignificant. Furthermore, we have very few representative churches. Such problems tend to defy the army of God as Goliath did of old.

Thank God there is an answer, just as when the young man David fearlessly went and destroyed the enemy of God. Faith and action, these two great characteristics of God's true servants, come ringing down the years. "You come to me with a sword, and a spear, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of Hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand." (1 Samuel 17:45, 46.) Before David made this great statement of faith he looked back and said: "Let no man's heart fail. . . . The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine." (Verses 32, 37.) He's done it before, He will

do it again. Indeed, can we not all look back and say the same: He's done it before, and He will do it again.

He will give us the means and show us the way, all we need is faith that will move us to action. On March 28th there will be a special opportunity for us all to help by giving for evangelism. The offering will be called "World Concern for Evangelism." I like to think of it the other way round: "Concern for World Evangelism." Let us make it more personal: "My Concern for World Evangelism" and let us all show this concern by preparing to give in a big way.

"This Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness and then shall the end come." Jesus cannot return until this work is done in the world, and that means in your town and mine.

The special offering already mentioned is unique in that each Conference and Mission will receive more than it gives in proportion to what it gives. These funds will be specifically for Evangelism. Let us all then do our part, in simple faith and action, to finish the Lord's work. We ARE able in His might. Let us go forward and do it.

DONALD LOWE,
North England Conference.
President,

from the story of events in Hezekiah's reign, Pastor McClure called our attention to the fates of the two cities Dan and Beersheba. The latter, though built in the desert, was founded in integrity by Abraham. Today it is still a thriving city. Dan, the city of Jeroboam, was built in a far better location, but because the Danites had not settled where God planned they should, and because they did not follow His way, it is now nothing but a heap of ruins. So we too, must allow God to have the shaping of our lives, or we labour in vain.

After the morning message, E. Fung gave some useful hints on how to create more leads for the *Bible Story*. A. Southern gave some thoughts on how the literature-evangelist can make improvements in his personality and his canvass, then the group broke up into four sub-committees to debate topics reported below.

The afternoon began with a very heartening report on The Stanborough Press, by the manager, Pastor K. A. Elias. He began by reminding us how the Press had been running at a considerable loss at the end of 1968, and then outlined some of the steps taken to rectify the position. The first was prayer—which appeared for six months to be ineffective, as by June 1969 the situation was virtually unchanged.

The next reluctantly taken step, was staff economies, whereby those who voluntarily left were not replaced. The working force was thus reduced by 50% (compared with the pre-fire staff). Thirdly some commercial work was taken on. This, although it does not involve a great deal of the Press time (being only about 12% of all the jobbing work done) brings in some useful profits.

In concluding his encouraging report, the manager urged all colporteurs to strive for at least a 5% increase in sales this year, as this was all that was necessary to put the Press "in the black" again. A unanimous decision was made by all present to strive to reach this goal and pass it.

Pastor Raymond D. Vine then told of future plans for new publications, which, it is hoped, will include a children's A.B.C. magazine, a British edition of *Your Bible and You*, and, eventually, inexpensive small books for wide distribution, on a variety of vital subjects.

The four groups which had met in the morning now gave the reports on their topics: The first tried to determine whether deferred payment selling had proved successful in the Literature Ministry, or if it should be discontinued. They reported a unanimous decision to

page 8 →

How Shall We Study the Bible?

AS Adventists, we pride ourselves on our devotion to the Bible and claim an intimate acquaintance with its teachings. We endeavour to accept its counsel and to direct our lives by its precepts. And this is praiseworthy. Yet our very strength can contain the seeds of weakness. It becomes easy for us to fall prey to bibliolatry—an indiscriminating, rather slavish, literalistic approach to the Book which may prevent us from discovering its true message.

Awareness of the dangers that confront the earnest student of the inspired Word leads us to ask, and to try partly to answer, the question: "How shall we study the Bible?"

First, there are general principles which should guide every Bible student. We must look at the Book as a whole, perceiving and remembering the overall purpose behind the giving of the Scriptures, namely, to reveal God the Father through the life of the Son and the ministry of the Spirit that men might believe in the united work of the Trinity and be saved from sin.

But since the Bible is made up of sixty-six smaller books, we also need to study and understand the many parts and grasp the message given by each writer, seeing these as parts of the whole. Such study will prevent our distorting particular passages and help us relate even the smallest section to the total design.

Adherence to this general rule will keep us from taking texts out of their context. The weirdest theories can apparently be sustained from the Bible if we just join text to text without serious reference to the original intent of each verse. We can lift a text from Genesis, take a verse or two from Malachi, another from Romans, and yet another from Revelation and use the collection to support doctrine that is contrary to Biblical instruction. We should therefore be careful about using the "proof-text method" of study and teaching.

In a similar vein we would counsel against trying to squeeze more from a verse or passage than can legitimately be produced in the light of the author's clear purpose. We have all heard of ridiculous interpretations that have been aired in past decades—tram-cars have been found in Nahum 2:2-4, a succession of contemporary military struggles in Revelation 16:12-16, and forecasts about current political developments from prophecies concerning Christ's return. Let us therefore eschew extreme positions, excessive emphasis on minute detail, and one-track interpretations of a few doctrines, to the neglect of the complete range. Let us be balanced in our Bible study.

We should also be careful in deducing a sequence of events not plainly outlined in the Bible. We naturally want to peer into the future and are sometimes tempted to foresee that which God has not revealed. Our limited sense of time is very different from the Lord's eternal outlook, and we need to beware of the dangers of time-setting and the construction of rigid timetables for the fulfilment of prophecy. This caution utters no word against genuine study of the prophecies, but it does warn against trying to see more than our Lord has shown.

The apostle James reminds us that "God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble." This principle, applied to our study of the Bible, will

guard us from spiritual pride. The truly humble student will not be dogmatic: his mind will ever be open to a deeper understanding of the little he already knows, and will be receptive to light on the larger areas of which he knows much less. This spirit will be especially evident in our dealings with others. Brash dogmatism can be so repellent; teachableness can be so winsome and yet not yield one millimetre of truth!

Without doubt, our great objective in studying the Bible should be to know God, to learn of His ways, to understand His purpose for us, and to find the spiritual power to fulfil it. Because of our human limitations, we cannot do this directly: we must find God through Christ, and the only original source for such knowledge is the Bible. This makes Bible study imperative for our salvation. Let us then search the Scriptures daily, for it is they that testify of the Saviour and reveal the deep simplicities of redemption. And as we gain this knowledge, let us apply it to ourselves that our lives may manifest the beauty of our Bible-based religion.

B. E. SETON.

What Our Literature Work Means

by J. Ernest Edwards, *General Conf. Lay Activities Sec.*

AS we recall the humble beginnings of the Church's outreach with the publication of *Present Truth* in 1849—with the backing of only 100 scattered believers, three penniless preachers, and no Church organization—we do well to compare what happened in Rocky Hill, U.S.A., 121 years ago, with what is transpiring in the Adventist Cause today.

1849	1970
1 periodical	284 periodicals
1 language	263 languages
1 printing job	46 publishing houses
Projects sponsored by few companies	14,500 churches
100 believers in New England and a few other States	2 million in 200 countries
1,000 tracts	1 million free tracts distributed by Adventist laymen each week
A few dollars spent in this initial project	\$1 million sales every week

Denominational sales of Adventist literature in the past 121 years total \$700 million.

Adventist literature today is not confined to religious publications, for we believe in ministering to the entire man, to his well-being physically, mentally, and spiritually. Our literature today includes health and temperance literature, children's books, character-building literature for youth, inspirational material, as well as religious literature that deals with Bible teaching and prophecy.

We can be encouraged by the effect of Adventist literature. Around the world 431 persons are being baptized every day. But soon more than 1,000 will be converted in a day, most of whom will trace their first convictions to the reading of our publications. (R. & H. 8/1/70)

"I Wish I Were Dead!"

New Gallery Welfare leader Eileen Rose reports

JUST for a split second the man meant it when he said: "I wish I were dead." Yet life is sweet, and most people cling to it. It is so easy to sit back and think: "What a dreadful thing to say," particularly when life is comfortable and the worries one has are trivial. Walking along a busy thoroughfare thronged with people you don't often notice the shabbily dressed men and women there are about. If you pass through a large railway terminal and there, huddled at the bottom of the escalator, you see a hump of rags clutching a bottle, it is more comfortable to direct one's attention to something else rather than contemplate the object of squalor with the thought: "There, but for the grace of God, am I."

Can life be joyful when you know you haven't got enough money in your pocket to buy a night's kip in the city's most murky doss house?

If you've got the money for a bed will life look bright and cheery when you wake up in the morning and find you're infested with parasites?

You've served your sentence in goal and the gate behind you closes with a reassuring thud. But there's no one to meet you. There's no place with "welcome" on the door. There's no job. There are no clothes.

"Where are you going, Bill?"

"I'm going down the market to get a pint. Coming?"

So it all starts all over again. One pint—and a hundred is not too many.

Can it really be true that men will commit crime in order to get sent back to prison? Does freedom mean so little to so many accused of petty crimes? The world outside is a hustling, bustling place, and few people have time to bother about those desperately lonely, unwanted and unable to cope with life. It is a sad reflection on the Christian churches that so little is thought of the man or woman who has been inside. It is almost as if they were of another breed.

"Sin has extinguished the love that God placed in man's heart. The work of the Church is to rekindle this love."—*Ellen G. White, letter 134.*

* * * * *

Old age is a complaint that comes to all who live long enough, and with advancing years difficulties arise which are not easy to deal with. Even with the generosity of the Ministry of Social Security adding a bit to the weekly pension, the ever-increasing rise in the cost of living pushes further back the possibility of many people being able to buy clothing and replace worn out bedding. Hospital welfare officers discover many such people and send them along to us at the New Gallery Welfare Centre to see if we can help to solve their problems.

"Do you think you could find another suit for my husband? The last one you gave him four years ago is wearing out. Oh, and have you got a warm pullover? He has to sit in a chair all day long and he does feel the cold so."

"What about yourself? Wouldn't you like something?"

"Well, I don't like to ask. You see I'm still wearing the mac you gave me. I wash it every week and it hasn't worn out yet."

A nice warm coat, some warm undies and woollies find their way into the parcel with the suit. So a grey day turns to sunshine for two old people.

The man struggling to keep his family together while his wife is in a mental hospital finds his problems ever mounting as he tries to balance his meagre budget. As he closes the door of his little home his shoulders sag as if weighed down with the problem of how to make ends meet. The weather has turned cold, bitterly cold, and there are five beds without a single blanket on any one.

The list of life's tragedies could go on and on. Problems, problems, problems. How to solve them is the question which must be on the desk of every social worker in the country. We can't solve them, we know we can't. What do we do then? Fold our hands, sit back, and shake our heads in despair?

No, we try to help. We try with God's help to bring a word of cheer, a smile of encouragement to those in need, and in a practical way we give clothes and blankets. Up to this time we have been able to give practical help, but rapidly our shelves are emptying and little is coming in to fill the empty spaces.

What shall we do? Turn these people away? Send them away to where?

As Christians who love Jesus, who went about doing good, we cannot, we must not send them away.

Please help us to replenish our shelves particularly with children's underwear and nightclothes, and every kind of men's garments.

EILEEN ROSE,

New Gallery Centre,

123 Regent Street, London, W.1.

FIVE-DAY CLINIC SCHEDULE

A NUMBER of Five-Day Stop Smoking Clinics will be conducted in South England during 1970. In view of the fact that many members have asked for prior notice of these clinics in order that their friends and relatives may be notified, we here give as complete a list as is possible at this stage. Further dates will be announced as they become known. Smokers wishing to attend one of these clinics should write to:

Miss G. Olney, Temperance & Health Education Department, South England Conference, 25 St. John's Road, WATFORD, Herts. WD1 1PZ

Place	Sponsoring Authority	Date
Reigate, Surrey	Health Department	March 2-6
Bletchley, Bucks	Health Department	March 16-20
Richmond, London	Health Department	April 6-10
Barnet, London	Health Department	April 13-17
Norwich, Norfolk	South England Conference	April 20-24
Chertsey, Surrey	Health Department	April
Canvey Island, Essex	Health Department	May 11-15
Watford Herts.	British Union Conference	May 11-15
Ashford, Middx.	Health Department	May 18-22
New Gallery Centre	British Union Conference	May 18-22 (12.30-2 p.m.)
Norwich, Norfolk	South England Conference	June 8-12
Esher, Surrey	Health Department	October 12-16
Epsom, Surrey	Health Department	October 26-30
Woking, Surrey	Health Department	November 2-6
Rayleigh, Essex	Health Department	November 16-20

We are at present negotiating for clinics in Southend (Essex); Colchester/Clacton (Essex); Bromley (London); Chiswick (London).

A number of our ministers are conducting small home clinics with the use of 16mm films. Further information is available concerning this.

REX RICHES,

Temperance Secretary,
South England Conference.

Baptism

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—There is no doubt that Sabbath, December 13th was a unique experience, for it was the first baptism in the new baptistery of our new church at Weston-super-Mare.

Sandra Down had been influenced through the young people to read the lessons from the Gift Bible. This ultimately led her into the Church. After speaking to her dentist employer she had the great satisfaction of being led down into the waters of baptism for acceptance into the Taunton church.

Her friend Eileen MacNamara also joined her in the step of baptism.

Mrs. Beulah French sang: "One thing I of the Lord Desire."

May the Lord richly bless the new church at Weston and may this baptism be the signal for many more to follow.

PASTOR JOHN FRENCH.

Thirty-one Baptized

HOLLOWAY.—In the past twelve months, four baptismal services have been conducted by Pastor S. H. Parkin in the Holloway church. This means that thirty-one souls have been added to the church membership during that period. Of these, ten have joined the Stoke Newington church.

It is encouraging to note that twenty-two of that number were young people under thirty-years of age.

The gift of the Holy Ghost is promised to those who "repent and are baptized." The promise is emphatic: "Ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

On this acceptance does the growth of the Church depend for 1970.

GENEVIEVE GUENIN.

Funds Raised

WATFORD.—Into the hustle and bustle of Paddy's Market, went the members of the church, as they prepared for the Sale of Work. A good time was had by all and £68 was raised toward the Church Building Fund. On December 19, 1969, a toy service was held. Toys, clothing, and food were handed to the Area Children's Officer, and £4 sent to the Shelter Fund. Sixteen families were also helped at Christmas time with gifts of money.

V. J. RUDDOCK.



Group of candidates recently baptized at Brixton. Pastor T. McLeary (left) and Bible Instructor Sister Graham (right).

East Anglian Baptism

LOWESTOFT church made a good start to the new year when two of our young people witnessed to their faith in Jesus as their personal Saviour and were received into fellowship at a baptismal service conducted by Pastor Walter J. Newman, aided by Pastor J. M. Howard, on Sabbath afternoon, January 3rd.

They were Miss M. Baker who joins her parents Brother and Sister E. Baker, both active workers in the church; and Raymond Elmy, son of Sister E. Elmy, who has been an active welfare worker in the church for many years.

The parents were overjoyed to see their children take a stand for the Church, after studying the basic beliefs with Pastor Newman, who affirmed that the young were the heritage of the Church. He hoped that this would be one of many such baptisms during the year.

H. G. HART,
Press Secretary.

Christmas Service

BOURNEMOUTH.—December 20th was a day to remember at Bournemouth church. The Sabbath school and church joined forces for the day; also for the first time we held a toy service. The juniors sang new carols, accompanied on the guitar by their teacher, Mrs. Trudi Poole, and Pastor R. H. Bainbridge took open class.

Mr. Pringle from the N.S.P.C.C. was to have come to receive the toys and to tell us something of the Society's work, but unfortunately the flu bug laid him low.

The divine service consisted of carols and readings appropriate to the Christmas season. The choir, under their conductor Mr. Leofric Rhodes, sang several items, and the congregation joined in the better known carols. In the afternoon the young people gave a nativity play and this brought to an end a most happy and blessed Sabbath.

CHURCH CLERK.

Members—Please Check!

You are a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church—but which church? Is it the one you attend, or another? Which church holds your membership? Our believers sometimes move from one place to another without notifying their church clerk or minister. Just imagine the amount of time wasted and effort needed to locate such travellers!

The *Church Manual's* advice is wise and clear: when a churchmember moves from one locality to another for a period of longer than six months, he should, after settling into his new environment, make immediate application for a letter of transfer to a church near his new residence. Application should be made to the clerk of the church with which the member desires to unite. If the member is isolated he should make application to the Conference or

Mission secretary to join the Conference church. So, dear member, would you please check your membership, making sure that it is with the church in which you worship.

Adventists often enjoy especially warm feelings for the church which they first joined. This is natural. Most of us will never forget the Christian love and fellowship which surrounded us at the time of our baptism, but when we move to a new environment we should form new links, not only with tradesmen, but with the churchmembers in our neighbourhood. We need them and they need us, so our support and loyalty should be transferred to the minister and church officers in our new local church. Our missionary effort will be in conjunction with the members who live around us. Our offerings will support our local church. Our tithes will be sent to the Conference in which we

NORTH ENGLAND CONFERENCE



Newcastle Campaign

ON October 28, 1969, the second Newcastle campaign began in the Y.M.C.A.'s Connaught Hall, in the city centre. A total of 1,450 people—even more than last year—requested tickets or queued to get in for the first night's film: "Day of Triumph." There was another large crowd for the second week's film: "John Wesley."

But then the north-east's winter set in, with its fog, ice, snow, and cold, bringing a consequent drop in numbers. However, it is encouraging to see that even after the Christmas break, in the tenth week of the series, a hard (and hardy) core of over 200 regular attenders trudged through the snow to attend the meetings.

Soon, we will begin the Sabbath afternoon Bible seminar meetings, as well as continuing with the regular midweek meetings.

Will you please pray for the work up here in Newcastle and district. There is a great work to be done, and the resources and facilities are so inadequate, but we know that God will bring His work to a swift and triumphant conclusion. Let us pray that this campaign might be part of the means to that conclusion up here, and that there might be another good harvest of souls as a result of this effort, as there was of the one last year. DEREK MARLEY.

Baptism

BRADFORD.—On Sabbath, December 27th, Bradford church was full, as members from Halifax and other churches joined local members to witness a baptism.

We had the rare privilege of seeing seven ministers in our church that Sabbath, including our own minister Pastor A. R. Rodd who conducted the baptismal service. We were happy too, to have our President, Pastor D. Lowe to give the afternoon address.

reside. To do otherwise is to divide our interests and our efforts. In order to prosper, every local church needs the full support of all Adventist members in that community.

Now just a word to our isolated members—we are sorry that you miss so much happy local church fellowship. Do you know your nearest Adventist neighbour, and do you ever worship in one another's homes? Are you sure that you cannot travel, even periodically, to a church? It would be such a blessing to you if you could—even once a month; and if you could, you really ought to do so. To be isolated is tragic enough, but to isolate yourself is to cut yourself off from the stimulus of fellowship that we shall all need more and more as we see the DAY drawing near.

VICTOR H. COOPER,
Secretary, British Union Conference.

The two candidates were Brother E. Fisher from Halifax church, and Martin Leeming from Bradford. Brother Fisher's wife and others have been praying for many years, so we all rejoiced that he now took his stand for God. Brother Fisher is already an active leader in our Pathfinder club.

Martin Leeming is a young man who was first introduced to our church by another young person from Bradford. We pray that he too, may lead others to Christ and the truth.

Two lessons may be learned from this baptism. Never give up praying for loved ones who have not yet accepted Christ; and also never hesitate to invite someone to your church. You never can tell what the results may be. JOHN MCGOLDRICK.

IRISH MISSION



Music Ministry

DUBLIN.—On December 20, 1969, after several members braved the bitterly cold weather to accomplish their five nightly carol singing endeavour, aided by the minister, Robert Vine, with his trumpet accompaniment, we discovered that we had gathered £25, so a party was held for 30 underprivileged children. They enjoyed a grand "tea" and films, and each departed at the conclusion of the entertainment, with a suitable gift to "show Mummy."

On the following evening the "old folk" attended a party given in their honour. They were provided with "tea," games, and plenty of good music rendered willingly by Robert Vine on his lip challenging instrument, a duet by Rosemary and Betty Sisson, an amusing sketch by Sisters Rita Ponder, and Betty Sission and Brethren Junior and Senior Sisson, and Trevor Murtagh. We also enjoyed a grand solo by Sister Eileen Murtagh. The pianist was Sister Edith MacNaughton. Some of the elderly non-members also contributed their vocal items.

We all had a very enjoyable time, thanks to the industrious ladies who made the festivities possible. Eighteen gift parcels were presented to non-members.

F. MALE.

Irish Mission news continued on page 12 →

“Best Ever” Swanwick Tonic

(Report continued from page 3.)

continue to offer credit-buying facilities to customers.

The second group, which met to seek means of implementing the Institute's goal to strive to win "70 souls to the Truth in '70," reported the following suggestions: that each L.E. should encourage members of their churches to engage in giving Bible Studies by inviting them personally to help them, and gradually leaving them to carry on by themselves. The gift Bible plan should be used more: persons enrolled in the Voice of Prophecy should be revisited at intervals by the L.E. who had enrolled them. The L.E. should strive to follow Mrs. White's advice and become more knowledgeable about matters of health, so that he could give good simple medical and dietetic advice to his customers.

A third group discussed the National Gift Scheme, and brought their report. This scheme, evolved some time ago, whereby business men are approached to subscribe to books and periodicals to be placed in orphanages, hospitals, etc., has not been able to become fully operative because of legal hurdles which are now under scrutiny by the denominational legal department. The group felt, however, that once these problems had been solved, the scheme held great potential. It could be most effectively operated, they felt, by full-time women literature-evangelists.

The fourth group had met to decide whether the Institute might not be more profitably convened in the Isle of Man next year instead of at Swanwick. In the lively discussion which ensued, the following points had emerged in favour of the Isle of Man: (1) More central. (2) Modified arrangements (compared with past institutes) could result in reduced costs (3) not being anyone's territory, it invited the organization of a field day in which every delegate could take part in an endeavour to evangelize the island on which there is not a single Adventist, and at the same time to improve selling techniques.

As a result of this last report, the Institute, as a body, voted that more investigation be made into the possibility of holding the next convention on the Isle of Man.

The Lord's Supper was celebrated after dinner. Pastor E. H. Foster spoke on the question asked by God of Adam in Eden: "Where art thou?" He asks us the same question today, for the same reason—to make us stop and realize where we stand in relationship to Him. Only when we really know where we are, are we aware of the need of a Saviour. Only then are we willing to open our hearts to



Britain's Literature-Ministerial Force with their leaders, at the Swanwick Convention Centre, January, 1970.

the cleansing power of God, which we receive in direct proportion to the extent to which we surrender ourselves to Him.

Pastor Foster spoke again on Friday morning, when he discoursed on John 17. He examined the significance of the words "the world" which Jesus repeated twenty times in this prayer. It became clear, as we studied, that we are in the world, but must not be of it; we are sent into the world as Jesus was sent into it; we must achieve unity so that the world will be impressed with the relationship we have with God. To be able to live so close to the world and yet not be tainted by it, we must be sanctified ourselves, and then dedicated to the service of bringing God's message to the world.

Friday afternoon saw the influx of some 130 part-time colporteurs for the week-end Auxiliary Literature-Evangelist Institute.

Pastor R. D. Vine took the evening meeting, in which he talked about "Songs in the Night." Just as Paul and Silas sang songs at midnight in the Philippian jail, so we too should be happy Christians. On the purely human level, their joy was not logical, but it produced such an effective witness that the jailer and his whole family were converted. We, in the midnight of this world's history, when all around men's hearts are failing them for fear, can best serve God with a song in our hearts—a song which He alone can put there.

On Sabbath morning, the Sabbath school had Bible House Manager E. Johnson as superintendent. Pastor Elias taught the lesson, after which Garth W. Till, who only returned from Nigeria during the past year, spoke feelingly of the needs of the mission field in West Africa. He urged us to read 2 Corinthians chapters 8 and 9, and then resolve to give more generously than ever before in support of missions this year.



Pastor Wickwire preached the morning sermon. Looking back briefly at the 60s, he concluded that though the decade had opened in hope, it had closed in despair, and that the 70s hold no brighter prospect. We are called of God to take men a message of assurance, and we must be up and doing, for there are: "Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision." He then called for more part-time colporteurs to stop "grinding corn for the Philistines," and dedicate themselves to full-time work. Twenty-seven members of the congregation responded, and a further six persons stood to signify their decision to do part-time work.

Sabbath afternoon was devoted to a symposium of colporteur experiences which, if I reported fully, would leave no room in this MESSENGER for any other news! Suffice it to say that many literature-evangelists related their experiences which showed, in the words of Brother A. McIntyre, that "the work's

easy, if you only let God do it for you!"

Pastor Elias spoke on Joshua chapter 1 during vespers. God gives us the same message today that He gave Joshua. We are to be strong and of a good courage. Then we will have good success.

Saturday night was Prize Giving Night, at which the following awards were made:

Highest Number of Hours: J. Jack 2,110 hrs. and Mrs. M. Doole, 2,351 hrs.

Big Week: J. D. Ahwan, with the sale of five sets of *The Bible Story*.

Leading Literature-Evangelist: Miss G. Brailsford, South England Conference; I. A. Hards, North England Conference; A. Southern, Scottish Mission, and T. A. Brownlow, Irish Mission.

Literature-Evangelist of the Year: A. McIntyre, with £5,308 worth of sales besides the winning of several souls to Christ this year.

Literature-Evangelist of the Decade: A. J. Morgan, who was the leading L.E. for no less than four years between 1960-69.

The Publishing Department Secretaries also received a token of appreciation consisting of a pocket edition of the modern English version of the New Testament, kindly donated by the Book and Bible House managers.

The evening was rounded off with a skit presented by W. Kitchen and R. Davey called: "The Dell—2015," in which, as old, retired colporteurs, they reminisced about the "good old days 'way back in the Stone Age of 1969."

The Sunday morning session of the Auxiliary L.E. Institute began with an address by Pastor Arthur, in which he talked about the three types of Christian: the rowing, the sailing, and the steam-boat kinds, and encouraged his hearers to belong to the latter class, who keep going year after year regardless of environment, propelled forward by the great power that comes from God.

During the rest of the morning, T. J. Watts gave some hints on overcoming objections; H. G.

Testimonials re: Swanwick Institute 1970

"Let me thank you for a wonderful time at the Institute. It really is inspiring to see such Christian people all out for one purpose. . . ."—M.D.

"I would like to thank you, and your colleagues for the wonderful gathering at Swanwick. I had a wonderful time and enjoyed every minute. It was very interesting. It seems to get better and better every year. This one seems to be the best one I have attended. I feel sure that the blessing of the Lord God was upon us all. I believe—I believe—I believe—that a wonderful success will attend us this year, 1970, in selling and in soul-winning. . . ."—J.D.A.

"Thank you for a wonderful Swanwick. We have indeed enjoyed every day."—A.C.

"Just a word of appreciation for the happy time and spiritual uplift which my wife and I enjoyed at Swanwick this year."—A.J.R.

Cruttwell reported on the work of the Holloway Literature Band which has now operated for 29 years; D. Cox urged the auxiliaries to organize literature bands in their churches; Peter Fanstone told of his first six months as a "regular" during which God has blessed him with over £1,000 worth of sales; and T. A. Brownlow gave some hints on canvassing, gained

from his experience in Northern Ireland.

All too soon Pastor Arthur was saying "Good-bye," and we were all holding hands and singing: "God be with you till we meet again," and thus another "Swanwick" was over.

I wonder what it will be like next year over on the Isle of Man! I must start looking up my plane schedule!

Call to Literature-Evangelism

by W. A. Higgins, *Secretary, General Conference Publishing Department*

IN ACTION FOR GOD

Heaven responded to lost mankind

"FOR God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

In all of God's vast universe, only this world has gone astray—only on this earth can there be found those who have rebelled against God's plan. God loved man, whom He had created, and He wanted to save him. He loved him so much that He gave His Son. His decision to make the plan of salvation available to the human race called for action and sacrifice. Christ's part in the plan called for action, too: "For the Son of man is come to seek and save that which was lost," Luke 19:10.

Even as a youth Christ was aware of His mission: "And He said unto them, How is it that ye sought Me? Wist ye not that I must be about My Father's business?" Luke 2:49.

God calls for our co-operation in giving the Gospel

The advance of the Gospel still calls for decisions, for action, for sacrifices. Surely these commands, given to God's servants in days of old, apply with equal force today. "Arise, go . . ." "Arise, shine . . ." "Bear much fruit . . ." "Ye are my witnesses . . ." "Go ye, therefore . . ." "Take My yoke . . ." "Go tell . . ." "Go out into the highways . . ." "Go, speak . . ." Yes, there is work to be done. The Master has a task for us. We must act!

In every case, as man heeded God's commands and went on a mission for the Master, their labours were blessed, souls were converted, and there was rejoicing in heaven. In less than thirty years after the ascension of Christ, the early Church had so effectively witnessed, that every part of the then known world had heard the story of a crucified, risen, and ascended Saviour. Their hearts were aglow. Their lives were filled with activity for the Master.

Activity is good for the Church, it is good for the individual. "Activity is the very condition of life."—*Steps to Christ*, page 80. [English Edition, page 61.] The Lord has a task for all His children. "Each has his place in the eternal plan of heaven. Each is to work in co-operation with Christ for the salvation of souls. Not more surely is a place prepared for us in the heavenly mansions than is a special place designated on earth where we are to work for God."—*Christ's Object Lessons*, pages 326, 327. The Lord knows our capacity, our talents, and He knows where we can work best. "The Lord has His eye upon every one of His people; He has His plans concerning each."—*Testimonies* Vol. 6, page 12.

The urgency of our work

Today we face the most challenging hour in the history of the world—the most challenging hour in the history of the Advent movement. There has never been a time when the hearts of men were so stirred over world events. They are afraid of the future. There is a hunger on the part of many for religion.

Never have the morals of the nation been as low. They need the stabilizing influence of the Gospel. They need to know what God's plan is for the world, and for themselves. Christ wants them to learn of His love and His plan for the redeemed.

Christ counts on us

Shortly after the culmination of World War II, a devastated city began its heart-breaking and wearying work of restoration. In the old city square had stood a large stone statue of Jesus Christ, with His hands outspread in an attitude of invitation. On the pedestal were carved the words: "Come unto Me."

In the process of the restoration of the statue, with the aid of master artists and sculptors, the figure eventually was reassembled, except for the hands, of which no fragments could be discovered anywhere in the surrounding rubble. Someone made the suggestion that since the former hands could not be found, the artists would have to fashion new ones.

Later came a public protest, couched in the words: "No, leave Him without hands!" So today, in the public square of this city the restored statue of Christ stands without hands, and on its base are carved the words: "Christ has no hands but ours!"

Christ Has No Hands but Our Hands

Christ has no hands but our hands to do His work today;

He has no feet but our feet to lead men in His way;

He has no tongue but our tongue to tell men how He died;

He has no help but our help to bring them to His side.

What if our hands are busy with other work than His?

What if our feet are walking where sin's allurements are?

What if our tongues are speaking of things His lips would spurn?

How can we hope to help Him and hasten His return?

A fruitful way to serve

Before we had the name Seventh-day Adventists, which was given in 1861, we had a publishing work. In 1848 the first vision was given to Sister White regarding our publishing work. She told how this work, beginning in a small way, would grow and finally be like "Streams of light clear round the world."

That prophecy has been fulfilled. Today we have 46 publishing houses, printing literature in 263 languages. We have an army of 5,000 literature-evangelists, who each year deliver \$52,000,000 worth of literature. They are reporting the most thrilling stories of providential leadings, of people waiting for the message, and of their visits being an answer to prayer. *Through the literature ministry, literally thousands are won each year.*

This is the time when God is preparing the world to receive His message and the Church must get ready to complete the task. But here is the problem. WHERE WE HAVE ONE LITERATURE-EVANGELIST WE NEED MANY. *We need scores of our sisters who can devote their spare time to this fruitful ministry, carrying the magazines and small literature, as well as the larger books. We need scores, hundreds, yes thousands of men and women who will devote their full time to going to the homes of people, talking to them about the things of eternal value, introducing the books into their homes, and enrolling them in the Bible Correspondence Courses.*

Speaking of the literature work, Sister White said: "This is the very work the Lord would have His people do at this time."—*Colporteur Ministry*, page 6. It is not an easy work, but it is a good work, it is a necessary work, and it is a rewarding work. Those who engage in this ministry have a glowing experience, because day by day they see the evidence of angels guiding in the work, and the Holy Spirit working upon the hearts of the people. They see answers to prayer and they have the satisfaction of seeing men and women, influenced by the Gospel, accept the message. Such a work will provide satisfaction in this world and for the world to come. This is the type of missionary work that will continue to the end of probation because we have been assured: "As long as probation continues, there will be opportunity for the canvasser to work."—*Colporteur Ministry*, page 11.

God's people need this experience

We have come to the time when Satan will do everything in his power to discourage and weaken the members of the Church and cause them to lose their way. We must recognize this and gain strength—spiritual strength—to meet the crisis. We read in *Acts of the Apostles*, page 105: "Strength to resist evil is best gained by aggressive service . . ."

In contrast to that statement is this one from *Education*, page 264: "Those who reject the privilege of fellowship with Christ in service, reject the only training that imparts a fitness for participation with Him in His glory. *They reject the training that in this life gives strength and nobility of character.*"

Listen to the testimony of one of our lady literature-evangelists: "I definitely know the Lord called me into the colporteur work. I have not only been able to help others, but have been blessed myself in becoming a better and stronger Christian with greater faith in God and this wonderful Advent message. I wouldn't exchange the seven years I have enjoyed in the colporteur work for all the rest of my life. I only wish I had gone into it many years ago.

"The greatest thrill that comes to any Christian, is when they have had a part in helping someone take their stand for the truth. About two weeks ago I had the joy of seeing a man baptized whom I had met while working in Vicksburg. His wife will be baptized soon."—Mrs. A. M. Corbon, Alabama-Mississippi Conference.

God has expected faithfulness and activity from

Sabbath, February 21st is Literature Rally Day

His followers in every age, but *surely He expects more from His people in this serious hour than in any other age.* What are you doing for Jesus? Remember, times like these call for decision, for action, for sacrifice. Your services are needed in the Master's vineyard. Perhaps you could be a literature-evangelist and carry the truth to the homes of thousands who otherwise would sit in darkness. Right now, think and pray very seriously about this and find out what you can do to help meet this need.

A VITAL WORK

OUR publishing programme is vital to the evangelistic strength of the Adventist Church. Recognizing the value of this phase of the work, the Church has set aside Sabbath, February 21st, as the day when the importance of the literature work is to be presented in all our churches.

Literature has been a mighty force in the Adventist Church from its very beginning. Our literature evangelists are now having more outstanding soul-winning experiences than in any other time in the history of our work. More people are willing to buy our literature, knowing that it is Seventh-day Adventist literature, than at any previous time. Each year more and more people are being won to the faith through the influence of our literature than ever before.

However, we face unusual problems because the population is growing rapidly. We have a larger task than ever before. We need to greatly enlarge our force of literature-evangelists.

Will YOU respond to this appeal, and indicate your interest by filling in the coupon below, and sending it to your Conference or Mission Publishing Secretary?

YES, I am interested in the evangelistic service of the Literature ministry. Please give me details of—

☐ Full-time service ☐ Part-time service

Name

Address

Church

E. G. White was inspired to write: "The canvassing field is in need of recruits. Those who engage in this work in the spirit of the Master will find entrance to the homes of those who need the truth. . . . God will strengthen and bless them as they lead others to the light."—*Colporteur Ministry*, page 16.

Send to:

South England
Mr. Tudor Watts,
British Union
Conference,
Stanborough Park,
Watford, Herts.
WD2 6JP

North England
Mr. David Cox,
North England
Conference,
22 Zulla Road,
Mapperley Park,
Nottingham. NG3 5BZ

Ireland, Scotland,
Wales
Mr. H. Wilby,
93 Grenville Drive,
Cambuslang,
Glasgow, Scotland.

Belfast Carol Service

At the Belfast church we normally hold our Young People's Carol Service on the Sabbath afternoon before Christmas. However, this year we decided to bring our carol service to the morning congregation. So a programme of readings and carols was carefully prepared and printed; a girls' choir was formed; identical choir dresses were made; a poster "manufactured"; invitations sent out, and we had the best carol service ever!

The service was held on Sabbath, December 20, 1969, in our holly-bedecked church. It was lovely to see the church almost filled with visitors and members as our twelve-strong choir filed up the aisle singing: "Once in Royal David's City."

P.R. SECRETARY,



Belfast girls' choir, with Mrs. Eardley (far left—the Y.P. Leader), and Miss Madge Ellis beside her (choir leader).

Picture by Leslie Hill.

Readers write

Amazing Providential Incidents!

I DO not want to monopolize the MESSENGER but since I have read Sister White's statement that "labour for other souls should be preceded by much prayer," and since I am planning to give the truth to *all* my (rural) neighbours by presenting them all with FREE copies of that absolutely ideal magazine *Radiant Living*, which contains the "entering wedge" and a fine variety of our Bible truths all in one delightful volume, I am requesting prayer for the Lord's abundant blessing on my small efforts by every S.D.A. who reads this, before I deliver the copies!

I have come to realize as never before that it is more than "high time" that I should be *wholly* "on the Lord's side," and then do my very best to try to save poor perishing souls all around me. So accordingly although "officially retired," I have resumed part-time literature work in surrounding towns and villages. And with encouraging success, too. But I do need the Lord's blessing on my work or else it will be in vain. So please pray, all who read this, will you?

The only class I could never sell any literature to, when previously canvassing, were deaf-mutes. They all refused even after I had pointed to the price. But one day I learned the (very easy) deaf-mute language. Result: not one single refusal have I received from the many deaf-mutes I have met since! As soon as they point to their ear, I then tell them my name, address, age, and a few other interesting items—then the price after handing them the "book." It is all a lively short silent chat! Many deaf-mutes, by the way, have lighting devices inside which black out when a caller lifts the knocker, and this signal sends a deaf-mute to the door. Aiming at brevity, I want to tell a few other short stories that are really *amazing*!

One night recently, when canvassing far from home, I missed the last bus (due to a time-table alteration) and was stranded at 11 p.m.! Taxis and hotels cost a fortune, so I prayed: "Lord, get me out of this predicament." When I went to the police station to inquire about a taxi or hotel, a stranger suddenly appeared at the station door on my very heels. It was exactly at the right moment, too! After overhearing my short story of misfortune (?)

this mystery man butted in before the police officer could utter a word, and offered to drive me all the way without charging a penny! Imagine my amazement! And my gratitude to the Lord—and to that man! However, I gave this kind thoughtful-looking Good Samaritan a reasonable fare, a free magazine, and took his name, for further contact. I have been praying the Lord to lead me to truth-seeking souls, the way Philip was guided to that Ethiopian. So who knows . . . ?

A few nights later, after selling well, I was crossing over to my bus stop for home when I was suddenly "intercepted" by a helpful religious motorist who drove me home without charge. He knew me but I did not know him. I gave him a free magazine. So who knows? Again I was amazed.

Yes, and I *often* get other free lifts when going to church or to shop! So don't be misled by that one-sided propaganda typical of recent date, that would unfairly stigmatize the many decent Irish people there are!

The following night, our Pastor Roy Hulbert and I were both in the same town engaged in the Lord's work, unknown to each other. I was finishing the last two or three houses in a secluded area and it was just about to rain (at 9.30 p.m.). Just then Pastor Hulbert suddenly appeared at the right time, and drove me home to my door, again saving me my bus fare! Again I was amazed!

On another occasion in the same town two small boys suddenly appeared in an empty street at the right spot at the right moment and exclaimed: "There's a deaf-mute in that house, mister. He lives alone. He can't hear you knocking." I then peered through his window to catch his eye. I had some trouble doing that. Then I prayed: "Lord, make him look." Quick result: a nice little chat at the door and the deaf-mute literally bounding and running for the money! Then a happy looking deaf-mute's warm handshake.

Another day, owing to a time-table error, I would have missed the bus when going to canvass but in due course the bus, already on its way and far from its starting point, suddenly pulled up *without request* and the driver shouted: "Get in." Again I was amazed! For I had despaired of catching it, and did not signal!

These remarkable occurrences and "well-timed" movements, all happening inside two or three weeks after I had resumed canvassing, plus my encouraging success, are to me the Lord's voice calling me to continue to do my utmost, not to make money, but to save perishing souls!

And the prayers of *all* God's people if "fervent" and "without ceasing," for *all* us literature-evangelists who need them *so* much could set those big machines in The Stanborough Press rolling day and night—Sundays included!

JOHN BODELL,
Emerald Isle.

THE BRITISH UNION CONFERENCE

Listening Post

by V. H. Cooper: *Secretary, British Union*

THE new Revolutionary Command Council of Libya has taken over the last two privately owned hospitals in the country, according to Seventh-day Adventist leaders there. Adventists owned a £1,000,000 65-bed hospital in Benghazi and employed 48 families and single workers. A large percentage of the workers were Americans, but staff members were also from the Philippines, Indonesia, Korea, India, and several countries in the Middle East. Several of the missionaries will re-locate in the Middle East, and Far East. Others will return to their homelands. The Libyan government has asserted that complete compensation will be paid Adventists for their hospital. The other private hospital nationalized at the same time was located in Tripoli and not church-related.

M. T. BATTLE, Lay Activities Leader of the Northern European Division is conducting a reaping campaign in Bodo, N. Norway, above the Arctic Circle where the few Adventists in the community have distributed more than 100 Bibles together with study lessons as part of the Gift of Bible programme. Do your neighbours have a Bible?

THE 1970 Week of Prayer is now to be held October 31st to November 7th. Church officers please alter your Special Days Calendar accordingly. The British Union Committee has also set November 7th as World Baptism Day in accordance with the General Conference recommendation. It is intended to be the climax of the local church lay activities evangelistic programme during 1970.

THE British Union Committee recommends that the 13th Sabbath programme and offering for the current quarter be held on Sabbath, March 21st, in view of the World Concern Offering for Evangelism to be received on March 28th.

Two gunmen invaded a Seventh-day Adventist church near Washington, D.C., and robbed more than half of the congregation of 100 persons. The pastor, Harold M. Lindsay, had just started his Sabbath morning sermon when the men entered the church. One had a sawed-off rifle and the other a revolver. The congregation was ordered to put their hands up, march by rows to the rear of the church and deposit their money in a pile. When 54 people had been robbed the bandits seized a small girl as their hostage. When she began crying, the pastor asked them to pick on someone else. Her cousin, the 12-year-old son of a policeman, volunteered. The men then cut the telephone wires and raced away in a VW, leaving the boy unharmed.

IN the U.S.A. the top news story of 1969 involving Seventh-day Adventists was the Five-Day Plan to Stop Smoking. The high interest in the plan is indicated by a steady flow of people enrolling in the course, and the hundreds of news-clippings describing their struggles to give up the habit. Adventist leaders estimate that during 1969 at least 300,000 people

have tried the plan in the United States. Of this number research indicates about 75 per cent drastically reduced their smoking or quit altogether. The Five-Day Plan has also received extensive radio and television coverage.

PASTOR P. H. STEARMAN has voluntarily withdrawn from the British delegation to the General Conference Session, June 11th to 20th 1970, so that he can give adequate care to the Field School of Evangelism to be held in Cardiff at the time of the session. In view of this withdrawal the British Union Committee appointed Pastor C. D. Baidam of Leeds as a delegate to the session.

SMOKING SAM and SMOKING SUSIE, the Church's health education department dolls are hitting the headlines these days—and not only in the press. B.B.C. Television in its programme "Nationwide" on January 14th showed Susie, complete with her detachable glass smoke-filled lungs, being introduced to a class of schoolgirls by Rex Riches, South England Conference health education secretary and Lionel Hubbard of the British Union Conference. Later on the B.B.C.'s 8.50 news the Adventist Church was again given credit for the contribution to society made by its educational programme on the dangers of smoking. Susie also appeared the same evening on B.B.C. 2's news programme. The next week on "Team at Six" Midlands Associated TV viewers saw Barbara Page interviewing Lionel Hubbard and Jack Mahon of the North England Conference health education department. They were conducting a 5-day clinic attended by 120 people in the Birmingham City Health department office.

Two days later Brethren Mahon and Hubbard were interviewed by Janice Dickerson for a 30-minute broadcast on the B.B.C.'s Overseas Service programme "Worldwide." Beamed to the forces, the discussion will alert listeners to the dangers of smoking. Requests for giving lectures and holding smoking clinics are pouring into the Church's health education offices.

FORMER postage and packing arrangements by the Book and Bible Houses have now been amended in favour of the following charges: Under £1 invoice, 9d. charge (packing), plus postage; Over £1 invoice value, 1s. 6d. charge (packing, max.), plus postage.

DR. ROY O. YEATTS, head of the fifth Adventist medical relief team in Biafra returned to Britain today. With his wife and three nurses Dr. Yeatts had to evacuate the N. Ngwa Adventist hospital. They fled to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Owerri which in turn was evacuated, and eventually flew to London on the last plane leaving the country. All members of the team are now reported safe.

FULL-TIME literature-evangelists are being offered a Salesmanship Course by the newly established branch of the Home Study Institute at the Northern European Division offices in St. Albans.

"We are told to let our light shine, and if it does, we won't need to tell anybody that it does. The light will be its own witness."
—D. L. Moody.

BRITISH UNION CONFERENCE
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
invites you to
A STUDY CONFERENCE

SCIENCE and SCRIPTURE

to be held in the
**LINCOLN HALL OF RESIDENCE
NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY**

MARCH 20th to 22nd



Of special interest to
YOUNG PEOPLE, studying science at school or university who
would like to understand the Scientific Creationist position.
LAY PREACHERS, who would like a meaningful approach to
the Genesis record.

CHURCHMEMBERS, who have an implicit faith in the Scriptures
but would like to know how scientific discovery affects this belief.
IN FACT ALL who desire to take a serious look at the Creationist
and the Evolutionist.

Lectures in the beautiful library of this six-year-old college will
be presented by our most capable university lecturers and scien-
tists. Accommodation is in self-contained single study-bedrooms.
The cost for the whole week-end is £4 10s.

**WEEK-END STUDY CONFERENCE, NOTTINGHAM UNIV.,
MARCH 20th to 22nd**

Please enrol me for the above conference for which
I enclose a deposit of £1.

Mr/Mrs/Miss

Address

..... Age (if under 21)

I have pleasure in recommending the above as one who
will benefit from this course.

Signed (Minister)

Return to: J. M. Huzzey, 22 Zulla Road, Mapperley Park,
Nottingham. NG3 5BZ

Science and Scripture Conference

The Second University Study Conference

ONE of the most successful, stimulating and socially enjoyable week-end conventions we have ever held in Britain was held last March in the aesthetically beautiful and comfortably appointed Lincoln Hall of Residence of Nottingham University. Far more people than we could accommodate applied for admission to the Studies on Creationism. The one hundred and sixty successful applicants who came from far and near, north and south, obviously enjoyed the main attraction—the rare opportunity to hear this fundamental question of origins discussed by men who have devoted to it years of specialized study. Not less obvious was their appreciation of the excellent cuisine, the comfortable single bedrooms and the truly magnificent fellowship.

On the week-end March 20th to 22nd the British Union Conference Department of Education is sponsoring the Second Annual Study Conference on this very pleasant and accessible University Campus. The programme of studies to be presented will have some affinity with the 1969 syllabus but it will be continuative rather than repetitive and the emphasis will be somewhat less on the scientific side as specialists in philosophy and the humanities join the lecturing staff. In other words there will still be plenty of interest for the scientific but there will be a fuller treatment of the philosophical, historical, and theological implications of scientific research. The programme is ideally suited to those who are currently in the discipline of study at college or university or taking G.C.E. at Advanced Level. Those who are engaged in teaching, in the ministry and lay preaching will find great benefit. Many others who may feel that they are a little out of touch with trends in formal education but whose minds are alert and inquiring and who are continuing to pay attention to reading will find much that they can appreciate, assimilate and use. If they are anxious to give a positive witness for their faith, young people who are currently working on their General Certificate of Education at Ordinary Level will find that they will not have their interest or endurance stretched to the point of suffering.

The Study Conference is not in any sense designed to be a social event. Unless you wish to give priority to study and research we would recommend you to invest your money in our more fellowship orientated week-ends, but those who come to the Study Conference will not go short on fellowship. Last year we welcomed a wonderful group of students, people in the professions, some keen minds from industry, and altogether as lively and intelligent a group as we could possibly hope for. We are exceedingly fortunate in being able to call on the services of first-class lecturers who bring gifts of scholarship and perception from a variety of backgrounds and approaches.

From the economic point of view the week-end is first-class value for money. The only cost passed on to those attending is the charge for food and

Till the Day Dawn



PASTOR JOHN
RUTHERFORD LEWIS

JOHN R. LEWIS was born in Newcastle-upon-Tyne on July 1, 1911. Under the ministry of Pastor F. C. Bailey he, with his mother and his sister Marjorie, accepted the Advent Message in 1930. The following year saw him travelling from Newcastle to Rugby to enrol as a ministerial student at Newbold Missionary College which was then replacing Stanborough College as our training centre. John was a keen student, and within three years had graduated and entered evangelistic work, assisting Stanley Standen in a tent campaign. With exemplary faithfulness he continued his ministry, and in turn served North England, Wales, Ireland, and South England. Members in Manchester, Worcester, Kidderminster, Mansfield, Shrewsbury, Hereford, Coleraine, Lewisham, Brixton, Colchester, Clacton, Slough, High Wycombe, Bath, and Swindon learned to love him while being blessed by his kindly ministry. From 1939, when Pastor O. M. Dorland united him in marriage to Miss Olga Mackay, his life was shared by a loyal, dedicated, hard-working wife, and later by their son Michael who is now taking teacher-training in London. The Church's approval was set on Brother Lewis's ministry by his ordination in 1946, and succeeding years have only confirmed the rightness of the action, for, as his conference president declared: "He was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith."

It was while preparing, at his own request, to move from Bath to Swindon in the interests of more effective evangelism in the railway town, that Pastor Lewis was suddenly taken ill. His heart failed, and on

accommodation. This is about the charge for two night's bed and breakfast in a fair to mediocre hotel. But one is provided with virtually four star hotel tariff for two full days. The late Dr. John Hyde, after attending the 1969 session, wrote to us about the food service in the magnificently appointed dining room: "It was not

MISS PHYLLIS JOY WETTSTEIN

MISS PHYLLIS JOY WETTSTEIN died on January 11, 1970, as a result of injuries received in a road accident some days before. A Canadian citizen, Miss Wettstein had received her undergraduate training as a teacher in Seventh-day Adventist colleges in the U.S.A. and Australia, and had studied further at Andrews University, Michigan.

Prior to taking up her appointment as Art teacher at Stanborough Park School, Joy Wettstein had taught for two years at Indiana Academy, U.S.A. It was in September 1969 that she first entered the classroom in Britain and there was an immediate rapport between teacher and pupils. She seemed the personification of all that was best and important in Christian education as she endeavoured to help each pupil strive to achieve his or her best. Because of what she was, the sense of loss in her passing was all the deeper.

Her pupils were the majority of the congregation at her funeral on January 13th, as they, together with her colleagues, remembered the buoyant life that had been so suddenly ended. The Headmaster, Mr. H. I. Dunton and



his wife, with Miss Jill Riley, supported Joy's mother who had flown from Canada to be present at her daughter's burial. The funeral service was conducted by Pastor E. Logan and the address was given by the writer.

Joy Wettstein was laid to rest in that hallowed spot in the North Watford Cemetery where sleep so many of the saints of God.

While mourning her passing we thank God for the influence of her life, and pray that His comfort may be especially real to the many loved ones and friends who are particularly affected by her death. We confidently await the resurrection day, the day of reunion, and rededicate ourselves to the task Joy laid down—the training of boys and girls for citizenship in the kingdom of God.

ROY E. GRAHAM.

MISS E. SAWYER

WITH much regret we record the passing of still another member of the Salisbury company. Sister E. Sawyer, born June 3, 1877, passed quietly to her rest on January 8, 1970. She went to Australia to give help to her immigrant brothers at the turn of the century, then served as a district nurse. While in Western Australia she accepted the Advent message. Her qualifications and initiative attracted the attention of the brethren and she was invited to become a Bible Instructor, in which capacity she served for a number of years. She returned to this country to give help to others, and eventually settled in Salisbury where she passed to her rest in the home of her cousin, Sister Dyer. Our sister retained all her faculties until the end, and even at 92 was witnessing for the truth she loved to those who happened to visit her home. "Blessed are those who endure to the end," our Saviour said. Sister Sawyer longed to see the day of her returning Lord. We believe her faithfulness and confidence will receive its due reward.

R. H. BAINBRIDGE.

Friday, January 2nd, he fell asleep, in his 59th year, and after nearly 36 years of unbroken Christian service.

On a bitterly cold day, January 8th, Pastors E. H. Foster, R. T. Bolton, and B. E. Seton laid our brother tenderly to rest in the beautiful Haycombe Cemetery on the outskirts of Bath. From that spot, we simply believe, the trump of God will raise him from sleep and re-unite him with his Saviour as well as with his dear wife and son, his deceased mother, his sister Marjorie [Mrs. Sherman Anderson of Wisconsin, U.S.A.], many other appreciative relatives, and a host of those to whom he ministered and whom he led to his Master.

We bespeak practical sympathy and understanding prayers for the loved ones who remain to mourn their loss. May the God of all comfort bring them safely to a sunlit resurrection morning.

B. E. SETON.

Mrs. Olga Lewis and her son Michael, sincerely thank all who, in this time of sad loss, have helped, written, and in other ways comforted them. In due course, all letters of sympathy will be answered.

prepared in the way that one associates with a meat-catering establishment trying to put on a vegetarian menu. It was beautifully prepared from good nutritious materials and served in a most attractive way."

Food for the body—Food for the mind—Food for the Spirit. Coming?

PASTOR J. MAHON.



TILL THE DAY DAWN

BUND.—The members of the Coventry church were saddened by the loss of Sister Florence Bund in her 84th year. Although of delicate constitution she faithfully nursed her 93-year-old husband for the past year. Mr Bund had fallen downstairs and was very ill for many months. However, owing to the loving care bestowed on him by Mrs. Bund, he has made a good recovery and when the writer last saw him he was sitting up and receiving visitors. Our sympathy goes out to our aged brother, and to his two daughters who are left to mourn the loss of a godly Christian mother.

J. RISK,
P.R. Sec.

BROWN.—It is with regret that we record the death of Miss Lavinia May Brown of the Newcastle church, at the age of 77. Sister Brown was baptized by Pastor E. Butters in 1953, and was a regular and faithful member until in recent years failing health and the location of the church prevented her from attending. The funeral service was conducted by the writer at Saltwell Cemetery, Gateshead, on Sabbath, December 13, 1969. Our sympathy goes to those who mourn the loss of a dear relative and friend.

DEREK M. MARLEY.

ELLIS.—Mr. James Braid Ellis, aged 90, was born May 2, 1879, at Cupar, Fife, Scotland, and the late Pastor A. E. Bacon officiated at his baptism in 1911 in Cupar. He suffered a serious illness some months ago, but recovered somewhat, and it was quite a shock when he passed away suddenly on Monday evening, December 15, 1969. Pastor W. J. Newman conducted the funeral service on Thursday, December 18th, in our own chapel. Interment of this saintly veteran took place at the Kirkley Cemetery, Lowestoft.

JENNY ZYDENKO,
Church Clerk

LOCKER.—It is with regret we report the death of Brother Albert George Alfred Locker. After a short illness he fell asleep on December 15, 1969, at the age of seventy-eight. For many years our brother had suffered much ill-health which he bore with fortitude and patience. During his long life he occupied many positions and served the Cause in his native land, assisting in the construction of extensions to the Spicer College near Poona and other buildings in South India. He was laid to rest in the Streatham Cemetery by Pastor M. Murdoch who spoke appropriate words of comfort to the mourners. May the Lord sustain the devoted wife and daughters in their loss as they with confidence await the glorious day of Reunion.

P. BATES.

COVENEY.—The Stanborough Park church, Watford, mourns the passing of Sister Mary Ethel Coveney on December 22, 1969, at the age of 82 years. Our sister, her husband, and daughter, Joan, were baptized at Bristol in 1942 by the late Pastor O. M. Dorland. Always an active worker in the church, she had served as head deaconess, Sabbath school superintendent, organist, as well as engaging in Dorcas activities. For twelve years the Coveney's enjoyed fellowship with the Bristol church, then joined the Southend church, and from there when her husband died in 1950, Sister Coveney came to Watford to live with her daughter. The service of committal was conducted by Pastor A. G. Tapping at Southend church on January 1, 1970, and our sister was interred by the side of her husband to await the call of the Life-giver. She is survived by her daughter, Joan, who has been, since 1946, a successful and respected member of the staff of Stanborough School.

P.R. SECRETARY.

STOCK.—The Southend church was saddened by the sudden passing of one of its members, Sister Ruth Stock, on January 2, 1970, at the early age of 47. Sister Ruth was introduced to the church by Brother T. Reid, who was employed in the same factory, and she was baptized by Pastor J. C. French on May 21, 1956, together with the writer and her twin sister Cremation took place at Southend on January 9th. She now sleeps in the full assurance of awakening to meet her Saviour and loved ones. A memorial service was held in the Southend church on January 25th conducted by Pastor Neil Robertson, assisted by church elder, Brother C. Wilby. Many members, friends, and work colleagues attended. The pastor paid tribute to the way in which she was ever ready to witness to

the truth in her daily life, sometimes in the face of much opposition. She had an implicit trust and faith in the Lord and the reading of some of her favourite passages of Scripture bore testimony to this belief. Two suitably engraved flower vases were presented to the church by her work colleagues, as a token of their affection and regard.

MISS EVELYN L. HORN,
P.R. Secretary.

SHEPHERD.—Mrs. Rose Shepherd was baptized as a member of the Bolton church in 1961. For almost nine years we have known this gentle soul. She always had a cheerful smile, always gave a happy greeting, yet always she had pain, and a heavy burden to be born. She fell asleep on January 19, 1970. Jesus was no stranger to her. Now, in the sleep of death, she awaits her Saviour's voice to call her home.

STANLEY FLEMING,
Church Clerk.



SHORTER—REDECEN-DIBBLE.—At Stanborough Park church, Watford, on Sunday, December 21, 1969, Clare Olivia Redecen-Dibble, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. Redecen-Dibble of the Stanborough Park church, was united in marriage to Roland Louis Shorter, only son of Pastor and Mrs. R. W. Shorter of Lynwood, California, U.S.A. After a rainy start to the day the weather cleared up for the occasion and the bride appeared radiant in a gown of gros-grain silk trimmed with maribou and carrying a bouquet of white lilies. Attending the bride, as Matron of Honour, was her sister-in-law, Margaret, and also page boy Christopher Annable. Filling the function of best man was the bride's brother Jonathan. The reception, attended by many relatives and friends, was held at the Armstrong Hall, Stanborough Park. Until he takes up an appointment as a minister in Texas in the summer, the groom is studying at Andrews University where the happy couple will live during this intervening period. We wish them great happiness in their new life together.

PRESS RELATIONS SECRETARY.



Room and board available in happy Christian home in Somerset. Within easy reach of 5 S.D.A. churches. Ideal for retired lady or gentleman—or couple. Reasonable terms. Apply in first instance to: Pastor L. Murdoch, The Old Rectory, Binegar, Bath, Somerset. BA3 4UG. Tel. Oakhill 381.

The Walthamstow choir still has a number of E.P. records available at 12/6 each plus 1/- p. & p. Orders from: "Christmas Record," 12 Stradbroke Grove, Ilford, Essex. Supplied as long as stocks last.

LOW-FARE SCHEDULED FLIGHT TO NEW YORK for General Conference. Write for details to: The Secretary, B.U.C. Offices, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts. WD2 6JP.

"Sister Linfoot would like to express her sincere thanks via the MESSENGER to Sister Trott and Sister Bayliss of Ongar for their kindness and hospitality during her recent illness."

POTATOES: Pentland Dell and King Edward, organically grown. No chemicals, either spray or fertilizer. 32/- cwt., 17/- 56 lb. D. Chapman, 37 Eastfield Road, Louth, Lincs.

CONGRATULATIONS to Brother and Sister Ruddock of the Watford Town church, on their Ruby Wedding, on Christmas Day, 1969.

WELFARE societies and individuals who have been knitting bandages for Masanga Leprosarium, Sierra Leone, West Africa, are invited to send them to the Welfare Dept., B.U.C. Offices, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts, WD2 6JP, as we are about to dispatch the next shipment.

V.H.C.

WANTED: Pictorial and Commemorative stamps for I.O.W. Church Building Fund. Send to Mrs. Hemming, 69 Clarence Road, East Cowes, I.O.W.

Holiday Accommodation

It is understood that advertisers of holiday accommodation in this Journal are prepared to make bookings which will not involve travel on Sabbath (Saturday).

SWITZERLAND, have first-class holiday in modern chalet in the Alps. Self-catering, all conveniences. 74 francs per person per day, 6 francs off peak season. Cut price families. Details: H. L. Benham, Kanderbruck, 3714 Frutigen 2, Switzerland.

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ACCOMMODATION. Holidays or longer. Miss Ayres, 297 Alder Road, Poole, Dorset. BH12 5BH.

HOLIDAY in Jamaica. Fare £110. Depart Gatwick July 27, 1970. Depart Jamaica August 20, 1970. No further bookings after March 31, 1970. Only about 30 seats to be filled: G. Cheddar, Holiday Travel, 155 Ferndale Road, London, S.W.4. 01-274-6603.

BOOK NOW! Cosy semi-detached fully-furnished country cottage Sleep 4/5. Close Dawlish Warren. Car space. Details: Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Stockley, 4 Westwood, Cofton, Starcross, S. Devon.

Acknowledgements

THE Treasurer of the British Union Conference acknowledges with thanks receipt of £5 Tithe from Anonymous; and £2 Tithe from W.G.L.C.



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Feb. 20th	6.24	6.37	6.26	6.28	6.41
Feb. 27th	6.37	6.50	6.39	6.43	6.56



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THE Editor is grateful to all contributors. Articles should be as brief as is consistent with clarity and interest; this also applies to wedding and obituary notices.

It is regretted that editorial cutting is often essential due to limitation of space. Contributions should be double-space typed; or clearly written, leaving wide margins. Please take special care with proper names and initials. Pictures are appreciated, but only those that are contrasty, glossy, and sharp.

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