

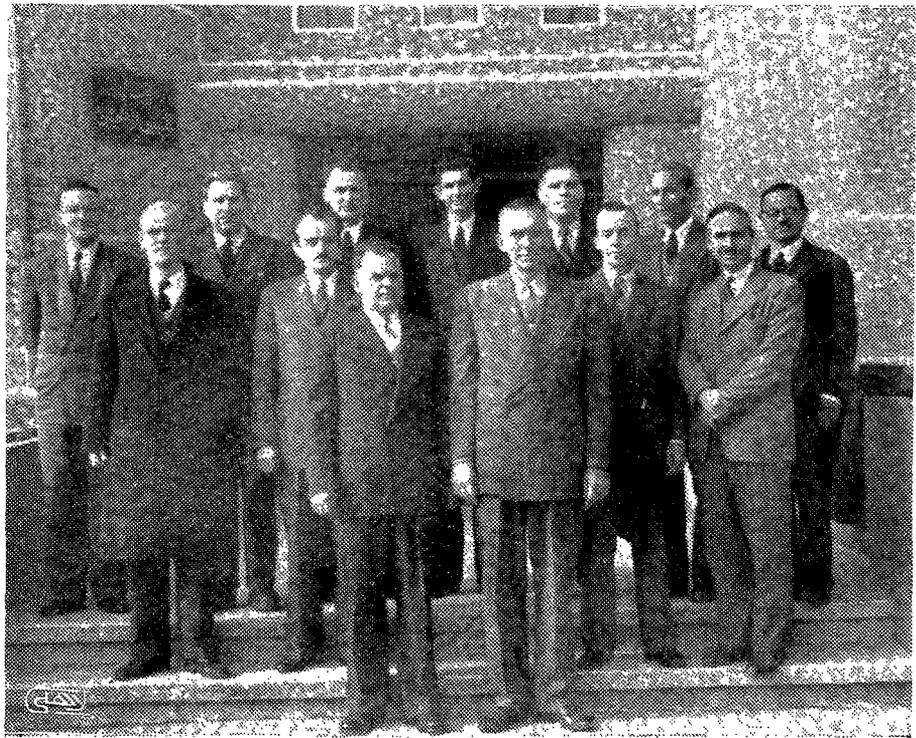
MIDDLE EAST MESSENGER

BEIRUT, LEBANON,

FEBRUARY, 1949

**ANNUAL
UNION
COMMITTEE
MEETINGS
HELD IN BEIRUT**

JAN. 20 - FEB. 7



UNION COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Our annual Middle East Union Committee Meeting was conducted at the Union Office in Beirut, January 20 to February 7.

Elder Roenfelt and Brother Cummins of the General Conference, met with us again this year, and we sincerely appreciated their counsel and inspiration.

A number of new workers have joined us in the Middle East during the past year. Elder and Mrs. Cubley are in Beirut where Elder Cubley is serving as Secretary-treasurer of the Union. Brother and Sister Wines are at the Fayoum Training School where he is

the principal and business manager. Brother and Sister Camille Nowfel are at Middle East College where he is teaching History and English. Brother Adeb Fango is now the principal of the Beirut Arabic School. Dr. and Mrs. Schilt have gone to Baghdad where Dr. Schilt is Medical Director of the Dar el Salam Hospital. Miss Welch is the Director of Nursing Services at the Dar El Salam Hospital. Miss Toblissen is a nursing supervisor there. Brother and Sister A. E. Klein arrived during the meetings, and he has been appointed cashier in the Union Office.

Also a number of transfers have been made during 1948. Brother and Sister Ashod have moved from Istanbul, Turkey to Nicosia, Cyprus, where they are engaged in evangelistic work. Miss Hannah Jubran who served so many years as principal of the Beirut Arabic School has been appointed as principal of our school in Amman, Trans-Jordan. Brother Guirguis Soliman of Egypt has joined the staff of the Voice of Prophecy in Beirut for translation work. Elder and Mrs. Jacobson have moved from Teheran to Baghdad, where he is now serving as business manager of the Dar El Salam Hospital. Elder

and Mrs. Mondics have moved from Beirut to Istanbul, as he has been appointed superintendent of the Turkey Mission. Brother and Sister Winslow have made the longest move in the Union,—all the way from Meshed in Eastern Iran to Middle East College. They are both teachers on the College staff.

Unfortunately, during this past year, we have lost the services of Dr. Arzoo who has left Iran to take up private practice in California. Also, the Norris family have been called from Cyprus and the Palestine-Trans-Jordan Mission to the Celebes in the Far Eastern Division. We wish for both families, an abundance of God's blessings in their new fields of labor.

Inspiring reports were brought to the committee by the Mission superintendents and the heads of the Union institutions. Budgets were voted for the various fields and plans laid for the work during 1949.

We believe that you all will be interested in the report of the nominating committee, which was adopted as follows :

Union Mission Officers

Assistant treasurer : A. B. King
 SS. M. V. Ed. secretary : G. Arthur Keough
 Cashier : Arthur E. Klein
 Director Voice of Prophecy, and Pub. Dep't secretary : George D. Keough

Middle East College

President and business manager :
 F.E.J. Harder

Iran Mission

President, Acting treasurer : C. C. Crider

Iraq, Lebanon-Syria, Palestine-Trans-Jordan Missions

Acting President : E. L. Branson
 Acting treasurer : Union treasurer

Dar El Salaam Hospital

Medical superintendent : Dr. C. H. Schilt
 Business manager : M. V. Jacobson

Egypt Mission

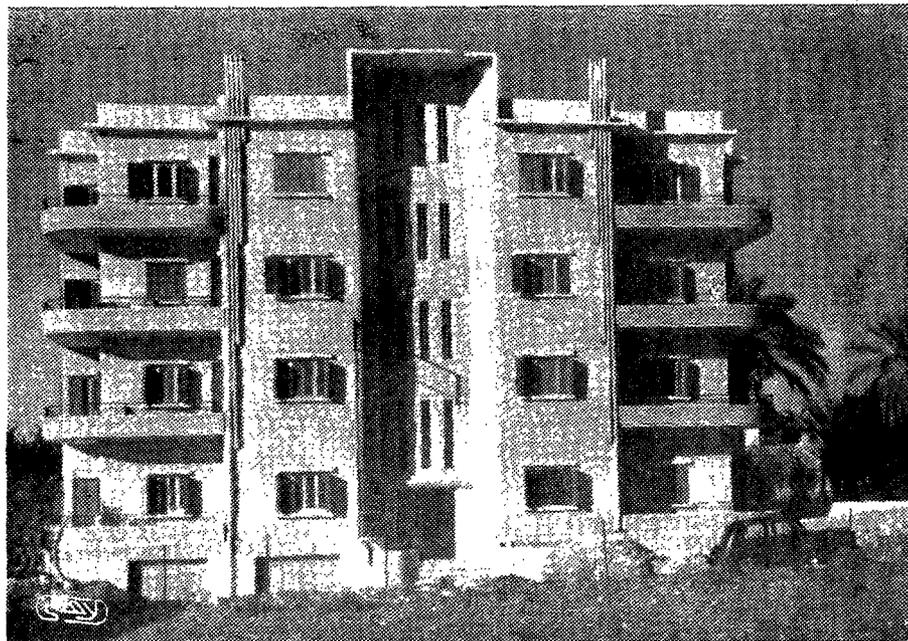
President-Acting treasurer : Neal Wilson

Turkey Mission

President : B. J. Mondics
 Acting treasurer : Union treasurer

May the Lord richly bless all the members of our churches throughout the Union. We earnestly pray that all will cooperate with those who have been asked to lead out in various phases of the work. May 1949 be the best year thus far for the saving of souls in the Middle East territory.

E. L. Branson



UNION OFFICE AND APARTMENT HOUSE, BEIRUT

COMMENTS ON THE MEETINGS

A GREAT TASK AND GREAT OPPORTUNITIES

During the meetings of the Winter Council of the Middle East Union just ended, I was impressed again both with the magnitude of the task that remains to be accomplished in these lands before the Lord comes, and with the opportunities of doing it that present themselves. "The greatest want of the world", of the Middle East, "is the want of men — men who will not be bought or sold; men who in their inmost souls are true and honest; men who do not fear to call sin by its right name; men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole; men who will stand for the right though the heavens fall." Education p. 57.

G.D.Keough

THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT

The needs are urgent; the problems are greater; the workers are fewer; the situation would be impossible except for the power of God which is promised; the future is bright.

Melvin V. Jacobson

FORWARD IN FAITH

As we try to look in the work of God,

we seem to see impregnable barricades. But as we push forward in faith, those difficulties which at one time appeared insuperable are discovered to be only mirages by which Satan has tried to discourage us in our efforts.

It is due to the plans laid by the committee and the courage gained by spreading these plans in prayer before our Heavenly Father that mountains of hindrances have been made low and the way made smooth for the finishing of the work.

S. Noujaime

POWER OF THE SPIRIT

As I have listened to the deliberations of the past three weeks, and have heard of the problems in these Arabic lands, I realize more fully that human endeavor, wisdom, and planning will never complete the work here. It is only as God gives His Spirit, His power over this land that the gospel can be carried into all hearts. The difficulties here are a challenge to us to whom have been committed the oracles of God, that we may live so that God can pour His Spirit on us, anointing us with the Power from Heaven that will finish the work

Dr. C. H. Schilt

"NATIONS SHALL WALK IN THY LIGHT"

By G. D. KEOUGH

Isa. 60:1-3. "Arise, shine". This is a favourite text with us. I have heard at least three talks based on it in the last two months. But I will not apologize for using it, for it is, in a sense, a Middle East text. The multitude of camels, and the dromedaries of Midian and Ephah, and all they of Sheba, who bring gold and incense, are from the Middle East, and the mention of them may be taken as a promise of success in this field.

But I want to call your attention to what the Arabic text says. You may have noticed that the margin of the English Bible says for the word "shine", "be enlightened", and that is the sense of the Arabic. "Shining" may suggest an effort on our part, and man's efforts to shine seldom bring glory to God. But the Arabic text exhorts us to accept the light that has come, and assures us that when we do so "The nations shall walk in thy light". It is not only that they come to it, but the Arabic text says they will walk in it, a most encouraging statement.

The corresponding text in the New Testament, 2 Cor. 4:6, 7, is of interest. "God hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." Seeing that God has shined in our hearts, you would expect the light to be seen in our faces. But, no; it is in the face of Jesus that the light of God's glory is given. When we accept the light that comes to us from God, and when He shines

in our hearts, it is the face of Jesus that is seen, and not our faces.

The apostle goes on to say, "We have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us." We may be the lamps, but the oil is the Spirit of God, and it is God who lights the lamp. We are the earthen vessels, and the excellency of the power is of God.

All power is of God. Jesus taught us to pray, "thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory". No preson, no nation has any power, save that which God has given him, or it. Nations may seek to hinder the work of God, but all their power is of God, and they can do no more than God allows, and He will restrain the remnant of wrath that does not work out His plans. Psa. 76:10. We should regard the powers-that-be as instruments of God. When the time comes for God's work to go forward, no nation can hinder it. We may work in the confidence that "thine is the power" to accomplish the task. So that, if we forget ourselves, forget men, and accept the light and power of God, the nations will walk in our light, and this work will soon be finished in the hardest of lands, when the "earth is lightened with its glory."

* Summary of Devotional Talk given by Elder G. D. Keough at the Annual Union Committee Meetings, Jan. 19 — Feb. 7, 1949, Beirut.

put him in a very small place where he could not sit. Our brother began to sing. At last he was taken to the Commander-in-Chief whom we met some time before. He told our brother to stop keeping the Sabbath and be loyal to his country. Our brother saluted him respectfully and spoke in a pleasant voice: "Sir, didn't I tell you before that I must be loyal to God first, and then to my country? To die is easier for me than to disobey God". The Commander-in-Chief smiled, and then said to our good brother brother: "Go and keep the Sabbath". We went to him and encouraged him to be faithful. Everyone in the camp knows this Adventist young man. Truly he is a good witness to God."

VOICE OF PROPHECY

"Since studying these lessons I feel I am getting nearer to God. Pray for me to continue in the truth because the temptations and trials I meet are strong."

"The Voice of Prophecy is guiding my footsteps and helping me to surmount difficulties and withstand persecution."

"Pray for me that God may establish my steps in the truth and guide me in His right ways."

"I prefer to stand with Christ even though it is going to cost me the hatred of the world, and especially of my relatives."

"The texts are so precious, so inspirational, so interesting that they stick in my memory without any effort to learn them".

READY TO DIE..... BUT NOT TO BREAK THE COMMANDMENTS

In a letter dated Jan. 25, Pastor Chafic Srour sends an encouraging report of the progress of the work in the Tartous area during 1948. He says :

I am sure you would like to have a short report about the work here. The year 1948 was a very successful one. Twenty seven people were added to the Church by baptism. A new church was organized, so that now we have three organized Churches. The ttihe income was high. Also the Voice of Prophecy made very good progress in our area. The government respects us highly, and considers the Adventists the best people in Syria. We are well known everywhere.

Our believers are very active in winning souls. Two by two, they take literature and distribute it in the villages around. They are very faithful. Everyone of them decided, by the grace of God, to bring another person to this truth in the year 1949.

Two weeks ago, Brother Tawfeek and I went to the Commander-in-Chief of the army

and asked him to release a brother from the duty of bearing arms, and working on the Sabbath. I told him briefly about our beliefs and principles. First of all he was angry and would not listen to us. Then I said boldly to him, "Sir, we Adventists do not kill people, but on the contrary we help the wounded and those who are suffering from the results of war. We are ready to go to the battle field under fire, and help relieve suffering. We Adventists are ready to die rather than break the commandments of God." The Commander-in-Chief took the matter seriously, and in a gentle voice, he told us: "My dear young men, I cannot do anything for him. You have to meet the Minister of Defense in this matter". We left him, and our brother decided to be faithful whatever may be the consequences. The first Sabbath he did not find much difficulty, but the second Sabbath, he was referred to his Chief, then to the higher officer. He was put in prison for a while. Our good brother began to give Bible studies to the prisoners. The Chief took him out, and

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DO YOU KNOW - - - - -

That we have a bigger and better *Sabbath School Worker* beginning with the January issue of 1949? The issue has been increased from thirty two to forty eight pages so that fifty per cent more space is being given to illustration of such important features as sand table set ups, flannelgraph use, more detailed instruction for the Sabbath school services in every division, and a wider variety of articles for officers. As a Sabbath school officer, as a teacher in the Sabbath school you need the teaching aids and the suggestions given in this periodical. If you can read English at all, see that you get it. Ask your mission president to enter your name for a subscription.

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QUALIFICATIONS FOR LEADERSHIP

By E. S. CUBLEY

Secretary-Treasurer, Middle East Union Mission

The experience of Nehemiah is both instructive and inspirational for those who have been chosen to carry the responsibilities of leadership in the Lord's work. Although the book of Nehemiah is seldom thought of as a textbook in leadership, it contains an excellent object lesson in leadership drawn from Nehemiah's own experiences as a leader during a very difficult time in the history of his people.

Nehemiah's first qualification for leadership was his personal humility. Actually he occupied, as cupbearer to the king, a position of the greatest trust and responsibility, honor, and profit. Yet he begins his narrative by the simple statement, "And it came to pass... as I was in Shushan the palace," and it is not until the end of the first chapter when it becomes necessary to show the providences of God in giving him favor with the king, that Nehemiah makes the statement in only six short words, "For I was the king's cupbearer".

Nehemiah's first work in preparation for leadership was to make sure his own hands were clean, his heart pure, his sins confessed. So he wept, and fasted, and prayed certain days to attune his soul with God. Only after he knew that nothing separated him from God did he feel free to begin his work of leadership. His plans were properly authorized before he made any forward move. Furthermore later experiences proved the wisdom of this course. While he might have felt that in his position he would be justified in going without consulting the authority above him, Nehemiah not only obtained specific authorization, but he also got the several requisitions needed for materials to do the work according to plan. "...let letters be given me to the keeper of the king's forest that he may give me timber... for the gates of the palace, for the wall of the city, and for the house that I shall enter into."

Nehemiah's next move seems an amazing example of proper procedure for a first class executive. He had prepared himself, he had secured God's approval, obtained proper authorization from the king, gotten requisitions for the materials, yet he lacked first hand information about the work to be done. Therefore he set out to gather the facts and investigated for three days and nights before he told anybody in Jerusalem anything as to his intentions or instructions from God.—Nehemiah 2:11-16.

During those three days and nights Nehemiah examined the problems, found out

what materials he had on hand to work with, and decided upon the methods to be used. What an example of good leadership. How many times has failure to seek and consider the real problem, or failure to discover the materials already on hand which might be used, caused leaders to squander consecrated money and bring needless delays or even shame upon the cause of God.

In spite of his carefulness, Nehemiah was really fearless in the face of ridicule and opposition once he was convinced he was pursuing the right course. In chapter 2 verse 19 we find the opposition laughing him to scorn but Nehemiah in turn telling them in no uncertain terms to tend to their own business and leave the rebuilding of Jerusalem to those commissioned to do the work. Nehemiah also knew how to give praise and encouragement as well as to criticize when errors were made. He wrote, "They strengthened their hands for this good work" and again in Chapter 4: verse 6, "So we built the wall... for all the people had a mind to work."

Good executives might well consider the motto which one very successful leader adopted as his rule of conduct, "Shoulder the blame and share the praise". Since no human being can always be right, or foresee the entire future, the good executive recognizes that he may make mistakes and that much of the success of the work done depends upon the loyalty and efficiency of his corps of workers. The leader who is quick to claim the credit for good results and equally quick to place the blame for failure upon his colleagues soon produces a discouraged and disgruntled group of workers. So I can picture Nehemiah, going here and there encouraging the workmen, giving approval to some, suggestions to others, constructive criticism to a few, praise to many. So when we read, "we built the wall, for the people had a mind to work", it indicates that Nehemiah was generous enough to give the credit for the success of the undertaking to the people. Finally we discover that Nehemiah stayed by the job and wasn't enticed to go running away hither and yonder when someone tried to divide his attention. Chapter 6:13 and 14; 22 and 23.

When I lived for a time upon the prairies of Colorado, we had a mongrel hound who usually started out each morning to hunt rabbits. Along about noon he regularly returned, worn out and hot, panting from his exertions, a picture of complete frustration. Finally my observations proved that

he was indeed frustrated for he never could follow a single rabbit trail long enough to get the rabbit. Instead he always found a fresher scent and took off in a different direction after a different rabbit before he had been long on the hunt. This continued until he ran himself to exhaustion and complete defeat.

By contrast, our neighbor had a pure breed hound who often crossed our pasture at full speed as he followed some rabbit's trail. Unfortunate indeed was the rabbit whose trail this dog picked up for he never turned aside for anything. He kept his head down and his muzzle closed but nothing interfered with the business of tracking down that one rabbit. Many times I have seen the end of the trail for the helpless rabbit.

As executives we can learn something from this homely illustration as to sticking to the business in hand until it is driven to a finish. Nehemiah never turned aside or gave up his determination to see the work finished until it was actually done.

Consider then Nehemiah, a humble, God fearing, yet fearless leader who sought counsel, studied his problems, attacked it intelligently, carried his people with him in the work, through timely encouragement, and who stuck by the work until it was completed. Consider Nehemiah a successful leader among men.

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BAPTISMS IN 1948	
Egypt	75
Iran	23
Iraq	6
Lebanon - Syria	40
Palestine - T.J.	3
Turkey	5
TOTAL	152

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DO YOU KNOW

That the General Conference sponsors an examination for Sabbath school teachers which, when satisfactorily passed, entitles one to a Sabbath school teachers Normal Certificate? The Textbook is called, *Teaching Teachers to Teach*. Are you interested in improving your teaching ability? If so, write and let us know and we shall do our best to help you achieve your ends.

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AN IMPORTANT EDUCATIONAL COUNCIL

As our educational work grows in the Middle East there is need for wider counsel so that we may build wisely and unitedly. It was our privilege to hold an Educational Council in Beirut, January 5-9, when problems affecting organization, working policy, and curricula were considered and recommendations were formulated which have since been adopted by the Middle East Union Committee in annual session.

The Council met under the chairmanship of the Union Educational secretary, G. Arthur Keough. The delegates were: Paul Boynton, Principal of the Iran Training School; Miss Bryne, Principal of the Heliopolis Junior Academy; Miss Edith Davies, Director of the Department of Education, Middle East College; Adeb Fargho, Principal of the Beirut Arabic Junior Academy; F.E.J. Harder, President, Middle East College; Robert K. Hasso, Principal of the Mosul Training School; and E. C. Wines, Principal of the Fayoum Training School, Egypt. The members of the College faculty were also invited to attend and the meetings were held in the Girls' Parlour of Middle East College so that they might be able to fit in attendance in harmony with their schedules. Principal E. C. Wines was elected to be Recording Secretary for the meetings.

The watchword of the Council was,

"Something better." *Education*, p. 296. The papers presented and the discussion looked forward to something better in one or other phase of our school work in the Middle East. Elder Boynton pointed out what we ought to do in order to have better training schools. Miss Davis indicated the ways and means of preparing better teachers. Mr. Adeb Fargho drew attention to better extra-curricular activities. President Harder showed how Middle East College planned to provide better facilities for advanced education. Mr. Robert Hasso dealt with one of the most important aspects of school administration, fostering a better spiritual atmosphere. Miss E. Bryne referred to the possibility of having parent-teacher associations in connection with our schools. As a whole we look forward to a better organization of our educational work in the Middle East so that we may be able better to attain our ultimate objectives.

At the opening meeting of the Council Elder E. L. Branson spoke on the subject of our schools and the finishing of the work. Stress was laid on the part that our schools must play in the work of Evangelism in the Middle East. Our aim is to follow the divine pattern in education, for we recognize that "we are rapidly nearing the final crisis in this world's history, and it is important that we understand that the educational advantages offered by our schools are to be

different from those offered by the schools of the world." *Counsels to Teachers*, p. 56. We are to set standards that are high and holy. "Holy angels are to supervise the work through human agencies, and every department is to bear the mark of divine excellence". *Id.* p. 57.

As a result of the Council a definite curriculum has been adopted for our training schools, both as regards secondary work and the special courses for those who plan to do village work. There is now a unified plan for alternating courses and all the schools will keep step in teaching Bible and certain other subjects. Our schools will be governed by appointed boards of control and the duties of these boards and the principals of the training schools have been clearly defined. It is planned to make the *Journal of True Education* more readily available to our teachers everywhere, and it is hoped that by the fostering of teachers' reading courses our teachers will improve steadily in professional efficiency.

The meetings of the council proved eminently worth while, and before dismissing the delegates moved a unanimous vote of thanks to the Union for making the council possible. There was also expressed a gratitude to God for His keeping power, for the providences of the past, and for the promises for the future. Everyone consecrated himself anew for more efficient service in our educational work in the Middle East.

CHILDREN IN AMMAN

WANT TO HEAR THE

BIBLE STORY

Miss Hana Jubran writes from Amman to say that our school there is making good progress. She has succeeded in organizing a Sabbath School for the children with an average attendance of sixty. She says: "I enjoy my Bible class with the senior girls very much. They always have questions to ask. There is a Muslim girl who is very interested and is telling the others that she wants to become a Christian. She studies her Bible lesson and learns the texts by heart and always says how she wishes to be in heaven. She lives very far from the school, but still she brings her brother to



LOOKING OVER THEIR BIBLE LESSON BEFORE CLASS

Sabbath School to hear the Bible story and join in the singing and receive the memory verse card. Often the big girls ask me:

"Why don't we study the Bible all day long and talk about heaven? As long as Jesus is coming soon we want to be ready!"

☆ PUSHTU PUSH II

THE EXPERIENCES of MESSRS. KENNETH OSTER AND GROVER C. WINSLOW AS THEY PIONEERED A TRIP INTO AFGHANISTAN

REPORTED BY GROVER C. WINSLOW

A bit further on we stop at the Afghan customs and are told that it will be several hours before we will resume our journey. We surrender our precious passports for examination and stamping and go across the road to a fairly nice hotel to rest in the lounge for a while. We learn that the hotel business is a government monopoly in this country. We learn many things about the hotels before our return to Meshed. Here we learn that the smallest outposts have surprisingly fair hotels. When we are ready to start again we make the driver a bit angry by checking to see that our luggage is still on the truck. His resentment and the undisturbed condition of our luggage is our first hint of an honesty and trustworthiness in Afghanistan that is not present in her western neighbor.

It is the middle of the night as we start out again. A few miles along the road the truck, now loaded in back with a cow and her calf, and accompanied by another truck, slows up. A camel and its rider appears out of the darkness and the truck comes to a stop abreast of the other machine. The driver and our travelling companion quickly jump out of their side of the cab. There are sharply spoken but indistinguishable words as someone tries to open the door on our side. We make no attempt to help him. Tensely, but with resignation in his voice, Brother Winslow says, "This is it! The second time in a row for me!" But this is not a hold-up. Thank God, it is only a swap of drivers. Perhaps our driver's anger at our distrust has gotten the best of him to the point that he no longer wishes to sit on the same seat with us. Farther on, several armed men loom out of the darkness and the truck again stops—to pick up a passenger, something that no bus or truck driver would ever dare to do in Iran! A clogged gas-line delays us for some time. The "man midonam" (I know) attitude is evident as they try Brother Oster's suggestion to blow out the line only as a last resort. It does the trick and after a time we arrive in Herat. We find that we have missed the bus for points east by just half an hour. The irony of it all! It is five A.M. by our watch, but we find that it is six o'clock here and change our watch according-

ly. We find out from our Meshed friends who are just leaving Herat in their car for Kabul that if we go to the garage we might catch a truck ride out. The next bus does not leave until Saturday evening and this is only Thursday morning. Over the vehement protests of the driver, who insists that we stay at the hotel, we insist upon being taken. bag and baggage, to the main truck garage. The policeman, who is supposed to check our passports, goes with us. The police chief has not yet arisen, and we insist upon taking our passports back, for we are told that a truck is preparing to leave for Kabul. The policeman demands to have our passports back again and begins to point and threaten when we flatly refuse. A buzzing, belligerent crowd begins to gather. We finally decide to surrender our passports, as we realize that we are not in Iran and that here we are the only foreigners in a seemingly hostile city. Brother Oster scouts for transportation and Brother Winslow stays with the baggage, as it becomes evident that the first truck will not return from the gas station whence it had gone. The chief of police informs us by telephone that our signed passports are on the way back to us. A sigh of relief. The truck returns, but not the passports. It is beginning to get hot. Then we get the great let-down. The truck will not leave until evening because of the heat! Inquiry reveals that the truck owner wants too much money, besides. More scouting. Efforts to hire a private car fail. No transport leaves until evening. We figure that we cannot get far enough before Sabbath to make it worth while. If we get only part way, stop for Sabbath, we might have trouble catching the bus on Sunday as it came through. Later experiences show that this would have been very correct. God had a purpose in detaining us in Herat. We are in a quandary as to what to do, and almost dead for sleep. We have prayer and await God's answer. All efforts to get reasonable passage by truck fail one by one as the drivers become more and more arrogant and deceitful. At last, we load our luggage on one truck and get in the local means of conveyance to go to the hotel to wash up and get a square meal. These gadees are light, two-wheeled carts pulled by one horse. There are two seats, back to back, each seating two persons. Some of them have canopies over them, and ride

quite nicely. Just as we find the gadee, we are impressed to give up planning to go by that truck as being too tricky and uncertain, go back to the garage with the gadee, and, without a word to anyone, take our baggage off the truck, load it on the gadee, and head for the hotel. For better or for worse, we are here in Herat until Saturday evening, a delay we had hoped would not be necessary. But God knows best, and that is the way He saw fit to answer our prayers.

At the hotel, which is on the outskirts of the city, we get a wonderful shower bath and then have a fairly well cooked palo for dinner. As it is late afternoon of Thursday and we are falling asleep in our chairs, we retire at six p.m. We get up at eight o'clock the next morning. Some "music" maniac started playing a piano in the hall outside our door at five, but we just refused to get up.

At ten o'clock this Friday morning we started out to see the sights. We walked all the way to town before finding a covered gadee to take us around. The sun was beating down mercilessly and we could not feature riding around too much in any type of uncovered vehicle. A stop at the bus station was futile. Today is Friday and almost every place is closed. It is almost unbearably hot. What it will be further south in our journey we fear to even contemplate. We visited some ruins of some huge minarets and its mosque and took pictures. Attempts to find a good vantage point from which to photograph the ruins of the tremendously high old city wall fail, so we move on to see the local mosque. The minarets there are very beautiful. On our walk to town we had taken pictures of a beautiful new government hospital and then of an absolutely decrepit Bank of Afghanistan directly across the street from it. The new part of Herat has many beautiful buildings and fine wide avenues. No streets are paved, but they are all smooth, compared to Meshed's unpaved streets.

This afternoon we have washed clothes and written letters. Tomorrow is the Sabbath and we will have our Sabbath School right here in the hotel. We will think of our struggling little schools in Shiraz and Meshed. God be with you there, and may He be with all His Sabbath keepers the world over.

We have sent for our hotel bill this afternoon, for our bus leaves early Saturday evening. What a bill! Why, they have charged us for the wood used in cooking our meals! It has cured us of using Afghan hotels, and we intend to camp out for the rest of the trip regardless of any pressure put on us to do otherwise. Sabbath has been a blessed day of rest. Where will we be next Sabbath? Kabul?

(To be continued)

* Pushtu is the prevailing language of Eastern and Southern Afghanistan.

FAYOUM TRAINING SCHOOL

PRINCIPAL : E. C. WINES

**ELDER BRANSON LEADS OUT
IN SPRING WEEK of PRAYER**

I have just returned from the Fayoum Training School, where it was my privilege to conduct the Spring Week of Prayer. I enjoyed every day visiting the teachers and students and observing the progress of the school, in general. Brother Wines has everything well organized and every-one seemed to be sincerely happy. In fact, during the nine days I did not hear one word of complaint from anyone about anything, which is quite remarkable in an institution.

Each day two services were conducted, besides the prayer bands. Early in the week a real spirit of fellowship and consecration was manifest. A number of young men who had not been praying regularly before, began to seek God most earnestly, night and morning.

Twenty young men had already been baptized and were members of the church. Eleven had not been baptized and all of them joined the baptismal class. Of course, not all can be baptized before school is out, but a number who have studied the doctrines of the church in the past will be baptized in June. The others will study again next autumn and we trust that they may be baptized before the end of 1949.

The last Sabbath afternoon, we had a most interesting testimony meeting. I will quote a few sentences from the testimonics :

"I never prayed in my life before, and I thank God for the many good lessons about Jesus that I have learned. Now I enjoy the time of prayer."

"I thank God for this week of Prayer. We have seen Christ as a young man and felt Him with us. I consecrate myself to His service."

"I did not pray at all before. I was given the opportunity to be baptized twice and I refused, but now that I have seen Christ calling me very much, I cannot refuse His call this time."

"I thank God that I will be baptized and that we will be buried with Him, and will reign with Him in heaven."

An elderly stranger listened as every young man in the school gave a very sincere testimony of consecration, then he stood and said, "I thank God for leading me to this meeting at the proper time. I have never seen such a spirit among a group of young

men. I do not understand it but I thank God for your testimonies and I too want to give myself to God at this time."

We were all made happy by the evident results of such consecration. A teacher testified, "I have felt God calling to the students and I have seen an improvement in all. I have felt that the noise and the bad words uttered by the students have disappeared during this week of prayer. And I have felt God calling to me, and I want to reconsecrate myself to Him today."

May the Lord continue to bless the faculty and students of Fayoum Training School.

E. L. Branson

STUDENTS SHARE THEIR FAITH

Missionary Volunteers of the Fayoum Training School have demonstrated their desire to share their Faith.

Showky Raghieb, a prayer band leader, watched the mourners as they conducted a funeral at the cemetery next to the school farm. He learned that they were Christians from the neighboring village of Seila and inquired if they had a church and a minister. They replied that they had a small meeting place but only an occasional visit from a pastor.

"Would you like to have some of the students from the school visit you and conduct a service?" he asked.

"Surely," they replied, "You will be most welcome."

Showky spoke to Brother Wines and Brother Hanna, and it was decided that Fikhry Michael and Angely Gayed, two other prayer band leaders, should go with Showky and conduct services in Seila.

Five weeks have passed since these meetings began and the interest is growing each week. Last Sunday 15 adults and 20 children attended. Special stories are told to the children and a sermon follows for the adults.

May the Lord continue to bless these young men as they "Share their Faith" with others.

E. L. Branson.

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DO YOU KNOW

That you can have an English Senior Sabbath school Quarterly with blank pages for writing your notes ? This is a special teacher's edition which is proving very popular.

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**ARMENIAN SABBATH SCHOOL
QUARTERLIES**

We translate the Senior Sabbath School Quarterly into Armenian and print a small edition for the use of our Armenian members in the Middle East Union. But not only in the Middle East is there a demand for these lesson pamphlets. We have an order for eighteen copies to be sent to Buenos Aires, Argentina. We send twelve copies to Fresno, California, where a former worker in the Middle East Union is at present located. We send 26 copies to Varna, Bulgaria, in addition to single copies sent to addresses in the United States and France. These lessons are highly appreciated because every-one likes to study the Sabbath School lesson in his own language.

From Varna we recently received an interesting letter from an enthusiastic lay worker who makes good use of the Armenian Sabbath School lessons. She wants all the printed matter she can get. She says : "First of all accept the hearty greetings of our group. All send their personal greetings and express their thanks to God for the life and success of the workers and for the Armenian S.S. Quarterlies you are preparing and sending. In the first quarter, 1949, we received twenty four copies, but they were not sufficient. I sent six to Shuan—three kilometers distant from Varna—where there are 50,000 people and an Armenian centre where we

(continued on page 8)

MIDDLE EAST
MESSENGER

Official Organ of the
MIDDLE EAST MISSION OF
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS

P.O.B. 1011, Beirut, Lebanon

E. L. BRANSON.....*President*
E. S. CUBLEY.....*Secretary-Treasurer*
G. ARTHUR KEOUGH.....*Editor*

Annual Subscription L. L. 5.00

**All copy for publication in the
MIDDLE EAST MESSENGER should
be submitted through the mission
or institution in which the contri-
butor holds membership**

Welcome,

Mr. & Mrs. Klein
and Family

It is a real pleasure to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Arthur E. Klein who with their small son Richard arrived in Beirut on the SS Exeter on Jan. 30. They are now busy with the task of settling in the union building where they will live for some time.

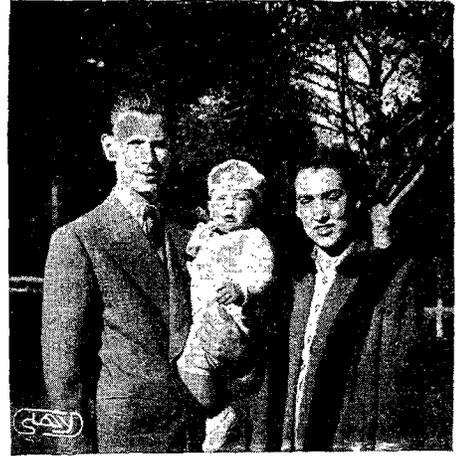
Mr. Klein is a graduate of La Sierra

College with a major in Business Administration. He has been connected with the White Memorial Hospital business office since his graduation.

Mrs. Klein is a graduate of the Washington Sanitarium and Hospital. While in training she did affiliation work with the Children's Hospital and with Johns Hopkins University Medical School, and later took post-graduate work at the White Memorial Hospital.

We are especially happy to have this added help in the handling of the business phase of the Lord's work in the Middle East.

E. S. Cubley.



ARMENIAN S. S. QUARTERLIES

(continued from page 7)

have four baptized sisters. In the autumn I went to Silivra. I preached two sermons and a young man aged twenty nine was very much interested. I keep sending him a quarterly. There are two families in Sofia that are very friendly and I send them two quarterlies. They have tasted the truth and want more. Here is a place that has been ready to receive the truth for fifteen years, but we need books, S.S. quarterlies, and Bibles." This zealous worker adds that recently twelve were baptized in Varna and eight others are getting ready for baptism. During the war years she was checked only one year when the town was evacuated, but in 1944 she secured a permit from the new authorities and in spite of "awful accusations, despising, chasing, etc." she has carried on her meetings ever since. The national church has tried to silence her but without success.

Within the territories of the Middle East Union these Armenian quarterlies go to far away Isphahan. Over a hundred copies go to Tehran, the capital of Iran. Many go to Araq, Hamadan, and Kermanshah. Some go to the Basrah; others to Cairo, the capital of Egypt. A number go to Istanbul where

there is a strong Armenian community. A pamphlet enters the home of a distinguished professor in a large Armenian Educational Institute in Nicosia, Cyprus. North, south, east and west they go to help in the study of the Word of God, to strengthen the believers in the truth, and to bring others into the full light of the Gospel.

FROM HERE & THERE

Our North American Union papers have been featuring in their December issues an article by Pastor Nashed Yacoub indicating a need for a church building in Assiut. Also an article by Pastor A. G. Zytkoskee showing the salutary influence the Advent Mercy Home is having on its orphan children. In some of the papers there has also appeared an article by Pastor Neal C. Wilson entitled *Watered by the Blood of Martyrs*. This publicity has come in timely since a portion of the overflow of the 13th Sabbath Offering in the 4th Quarter of 1948 is to help the work in Egypt.

* * *

From the North Pacific Union Gleaner of Dec. 21, 1948, we learn that Walla Walla College, through its Students Association, made a Christmas present of approximately \$760 to our Marienhöhe Seminary near Darmstadt, Germany. In 1946 the Associated Students had sent a Christmas present to the Italian Training Institute in Florence of \$1,160. And a year ago a sum of \$1,303 had been sent to the China Training Institute. It will be remembered that recently Emmanuel Missionary College made a gift to Middle East College of approximately \$600. This generosity on the part of our home colleges towards our sister institutions in other parts of the world is a tie that binds us in one movement and a source of encouragement to all to press on with the great work we have been given to do.

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DO YOU KNOW
That there is a Reading Course for Sabbath School officers? In addition to the articles in the *Sabbath School Worker* definite assignments are made every month for the book, *Evangelism in the Sabbath School*, by H. W. Lowe.
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UNION SABBATH SCHOOL REPORT
FOURTH QUARTER, 1948

Missions	No. S.S.	Membership	Offerings (Local currency)	Lebanese pounds	Per capita offerings
Egypt	14	589	L. Eg. 132.040	1,540.47	L.L. 2.61
Iran	10	315	Rls. 12,400	688.82	2.18
Iraq	3	254	I.D. 106.076	1,208.09	4.76
Pales.-Tr.-Jor.	3	78	L.P. 21.870	249.07	2.80
Turkey	1	74	L.T. 131.37	124.07	1.68
Lebanon-Syria	6	447	L.L. 1,195.24	1,195.24	2.67
	37	1,757		5,005.76	Average per capita L.L. 2.78