

APR - 8

## Highlights of THE GENERAL CONFERENCE SESSION

San Francisco, California.— As I begin this little report covering the highlights of the General Conference Session, already eleven days have been spent in pre-session meetings. The first five days the Home and Overseas Officers have been discussing the advisability of making some changes in denominational policies, as well as in making final plans for the most important meeting ever held in the history of the Advent Movement.

It has been decided that, taking into consideration the serious times in which we are living and the near return of Jesus Christ, the "Second Coming of Christ in Glory" is to be the central theme of all the work of the regular sessions. The main arena of the Civic Auditorium is being prepared in readiness for the meetings. However, due to the fact that 20,000 or more people are expected on weekends, the Cow Palace has been secured for meetings for the adults, leaving the Civic Auditorium for Young People's meetings.

The Ministerial Department meetings were held over the last weekend before the regular Session. The large, beautiful Congregational Church was secured for these meetings, but at the first gathering it became evident that this building was too small, and the Civic Auditorium was hurriedly prepared for the weekend assemblies.

Thursday evening Elder R. R. Figuhr brought the first message to the Adventist Ministry to search their own lives to be sure their names were written in the Book of Life. Friday

By *GEO. J. APPEL*

evening Elder R. A. Anderson, using as his text 2 Cor. 4:5, 6, made an earnest plea to our ministry to make that consecration through humility that would open their hearts for the infilling of the Power that would bring Pentecostal results. The congregation knelt as Elder E. D. Dick led in a final prayer of surrender. Truly God came very near during this hour. May this spirit come into all our ministry in all lands.

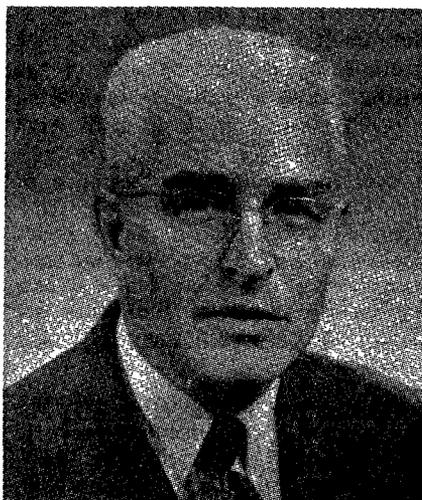
Sabbath morning Elder Vandeman, who for the past two years has been conducting an evangelistic effort in the city of London, using as his texts

Revelation 12: 17; 14: 6, 12, stirred the congregation with the solemn truth that we are saved by faith in the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. We felt the Holy Spirit's presence as the responsibility of the ministry was made so plain. Christ-centered preaching is what the world needs today.

Greater evangelism in mission lands was urged by Elder Shuler, Elder Hasenpflug, and others. All the speakers stressed a larger program in soul saving through public evangelistic efforts.

At last the hour has come for the opening meeting of the 47th Session of the General Conference. At 8:00 o'clock nearly every seat in this great auditorium, which seats some 9,000, is filled, and more are still coming. The members of the Middle East delegation have been busy most of the day preparing the display booth, which is in the middle of the division booths over Polk Hall. We wish you all could see the colorful display.

On the large platform curtain behind the choir loft is a painting of the head of Christ, about sixteen feet high, and above His head are the words, "Behold, I come." Yes, He is coming soon — just as soon as the work is finished. Seated on the platform are all the General Conference and Division officers, as well as one national delegate from each division. Brother Ghanim Fargo is here sitting beside me. To the right of the platform is a large map of the world, dotted with small lights representing our world work. When the lights are turned on, showing the progress by decades, our hearts are lifted in gratitude to God for the way He has so miraculously blessed His people since this movement started. Then there were just a few believers; now there are nearly 1,000,000 baptized members, 1,200,000



*R. R. Figuhr  
Newly Elected President  
of the General Conference*



*Geo. J. Appel*  
Re-elected President  
Middle East Division

Sabbath school members, and some 40,000 workers working in 724 languages.

In this meeting tonight there are 1,042 delegates, the largest delegation ever to attend a General Session. Among the standing committees being appointed this evening is the Nominating Committee, which this year will have eighty-four members. Tomorrow this committee will begin its work electing the various officers for the coming four years.

294,000 baptisms for the past four years is a marvelous achievement. The Division that came nearest to doubling its membership is South Africa, with a gain of over 70 per cent. The Middle East, showing a gain of over 30 per cent, stood a little better than the average 29 per cent for all world divisions. The net gain in world membership is a little more than 200,000. \$72,866,000 was contributed by our people and appropriated to foreign fields. More than 2,000 new church buildings have been erected in these four years, including several large evangelistic centers. Other accomplishments have been a new dental college located at Loma Linda, new buildings for the medical college, and the completion of a large addition to the General Conference office. Our radio work has also made great progress. Now 928 stations are broadcasting the Advent message, and television has been added to herald the truth. Over 2,500,000 have enrolled in our Bible correspondence schools. Radio Ceylon alone broadcasts eleven of our programs. Voices everywhere are proclaiming the Advent message as it sweeps to earth's remotest bounds.

23,000 lay preachers are now helping to give the message. The In-gathering funds of \$18,600,000 represent a marvelous achievement alone.

One-sixth of the baptisms during these four years were students from our schools. 8,883,000 have been treated in our medical institutions. Truly God's blessing has been with His people during this time. Elder Branson's closing remarks emphasized that this is a movement of prophecy in giving the last message for these closing days to the ends of the earth. Whatsoever is done must be done quickly, for we have the profound conviction that the end is near. We must work while it is day, for the night cometh when no man can work.

Nearly two days of the Session are in the past. They have been busy days for some. Everything is well organized and moving to schedule. The Committee on Nominations started its work almost immediately. The first nomination to be made was that of Elder Figuhr for General Conference President. The two following nominations were for Elder Walter Beach, formerly president of the Southern European Division, as Secretary, and Elder C. L. Torrey to be re-elected as Treasurer of the General Conference. These nominations were passed unanimously by the delegates. Elder Figuhr comes into the leadership of God's people as a man of wide experience, not only in America but in overseas fields. He has had many years of executive experience. In his acceptance of his new responsibility he earnestly requested the prayers of God's people that God Himself may be the One Who will lead His people on to victory.

The Middle East display booth is the center of attraction for hundreds every day. The automatic slide changer, holding thirty kodachrome pictures of our work and interesting places in the Middle East, is kept going for nine hours each day. In the rear of the booth, on an elevated table covered with Persian rugs, is a small Arab tent. Inside and around it are dolls dressed in costumes representative of the many nationalities in our field. There are also miniature camels, sheep, donkeys, and other things that are common in the old Bible lands. Hanging on the walls of the booth are flags from the eleven countries in our Division.

Sabbath was a wonderful day. Friday evening Elder Detamore spoke to an audience of some 13,000 or 14,000 in the Cow Palace. By 8:00 o'clock Sabbath morning the crowds began to come, and by the time of the beginning of the preaching service there was



*C. C. Morris*  
Re-elected Secretary-Treasurer,  
Middle East Division

hardly an empty seat in the vast auditorium, which seats some 18,000 people. It was inspiring to see that great congregation, the largest as far as we know in the history of our work to gather under one roof in worship service. Elder A. V. Olson spoke, making a call for reconsecration and dedication in preparation to meet our God. It was more than inspiring to stand with such a large concourse of people.

In the afternoon at 3:00 P.M. there was a Home Missionary pageant. One thousand laymen and overseas workers in double lines walked up through the auditorium, carrying banners and mottos, and took their places in the front balcony. There is not room here to tell all that happened during this meeting, but Brother A. R. Mazat led out in a pageant for the Middle East. He had made a cloth pyramid about ten feet high, with a paper door in one side. At a given time in his talk, one of our group broke through the door, followed by some fifty other people, most of whom were dressed in costume. This was to represent a company of fifty people in Upper Egypt who are calling for someone to instruct them for baptism.

While this large group was meeting in the Cow Palace, another group of over 7,000 young people met in the Civic Auditorium. They also had a wonderful day, with a mission pageant in the afternoon.

With the exception of the Friday evening meetings, all the other evenings have been given to reports from the various divisions.

I must not close this brief report without writing about the Middle East Division report. It came on Friday morning, May 28. We were to have had one and a half hours for our report, but because other business had

interfered we had to condense our meeting somewhat. Nearly all our group were dressed in costumes, including present and past missionaries and representatives.

To the tune of "Onward Christian Soldiers" we marched in, carrying flags from the countries of the Middle East, across the auditorium, and then up onto the platform. As we came up the Mohammedan call to prayer was given, and Brother Morris, the chairman, opened the meeting. Elder Ray Turner sang, "I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked," and four of our national brethren sang a quartet in Arabic. In addition to the president, Elders Mazat, Hartwell, and Wilson had a part on the program. At 1:30 in the afternoon our Division came on again. First there was a dramatized play giving the experience of a modern Job in the Middle East. This was followed by the moving pictures. From the comments heard, all enjoyed both programs.

As this article is now being finished we are nearing the close of the Session. Our people will be inspired as they read the reports in the Bulletins. It truly has been a wonderful meeting. The following is a clarion call, just passed by the delegates in Session.

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#### CALL TO BELIEVERS FOR PREPARATION TO MEET GOD

We, the delegates to the 1954 session of the General Conference assembled in San Francisco, count ourselves highly privileged to serve as representatives of our fellow believers throughout the world. We eagerly desire to share with you the blessings of this great gathering and to bring you what impresses us as the particular word of counsel which God has for the remnant church in this solemn hour.

As we hear the reports of progress from all our world divisions, a sense of profound gratitude has come to us for what God has already done for His people and for what He is now doing through them. His prospering care has been over us from the beginning. It is His Holy Spirit of power that has multiplied our meager resources, energized our feeble efforts until this Gospel of the Kingdom has been carried into nearly every land, and that will continue to go before us as we push on into the remaining unentered parts of the earth.

We are now well within the time of the end of human history. A solemn urgency is upon us not only to arise

and finish the grand work of proclaiming the judgment-hour message to the world, but also unitedly and diligently to heed the summons of heaven which comes to the church through the prophet Amos: "Prepare to meet thy God."

These words are not new to us. They are familiar, yet momentous and timely. Their tremendous significance in the light of present-day occurrences should stir us to a renewed zeal in purposefully and intelligently preparing to meet the Lord of hosts.

Every person who believes that God exists and that His word is true knows that the time of this event is inevitably near. With Bible prophecy in the last stages of final fulfillment, with the modern devices for war, and the engines of annihilation that terrorize the hearts of men; with the daily happenings around us, spread before our eyes in every newspaper, sounding in our ears in every newscast, it is plain that we are moving steadily, irresistibly and with great rapidity toward that sublime event which will forever settle the destiny of men and nations and which will provide the grand climax of all human experience.

Even now all heaven is astir in preparation for our Lord's soon return to this earth. All of earth's developments in every aspect of human life are shaping to that end. All events converge toward the long foretold consummation of God's purposes. All the plans laid by divine wisdom are swiftly approaching completion. We do well to prepare to meet our God.

We claim to have a message for this very time; a message that is the culmination of the gospel; that gives the only true explanation of present-day conditions; that provides the only remedy for a desperate and ruined world; that supplies every need of fallen man; that is the solution of all our ills, and that is the very fullness of the salvation of God. But the message we have is more than a list of doctrines, more than a code of laws, more than a set of rules. It is a message that calls for a distinctive kind of life, the life which is in Christ Jesus. Those who live such lives will witness powerfully and effectively to the great truths of the threefold message. They will be the agencies God will use to set before the world the most convincing evidence of the nearness of the Lord's return. Then will Isaiah 8:18 be fulfilled, and the advent people will become the greatest signs of the times in which we live.

It is our earnest conviction therefore that this work of preparation to meet

our God should be entered upon anew by every Seventh-day Adventist around the world and carried forward with a persistent and holy determination. Full provision for success is available to us in what Christ has done for us, and what He is willing to do in us. The Bible sets forth in comprehensive detail what our blessed Lord has accomplished for us by His death. Meditate on these vital words:

He died that He might take away our sin. 1 Peter 2:24.

He died that we might die to sin and live in Him. Gal. 2:20.

He died that we might become righteous in Him. 2 Cor. 5:21.

He died that we might no longer live unto ourselves. 2 Cor. 5:15.

He died that we might be delivered from the world. Gal. 1:4.

He died that we might become the sons of God. Gal. 4:4, 5.

He died that we might be sanctified unto Himself. Eph. 5:25-27.

He died that we might become His own possession. Titus 2:14

He died that we might receive the Holy Spirit. Gal. 3:13, 14.

He died that He might take us back to God. 1 Peter 3:18.

With all these glorious things done for us, with all these provisions and enablings placed at our disposal, what should hinder us from obtaining an adequate preparation? With Christ as our all in all, should we not know that every sin is forgiven, that all things are clear between us and Heaven?

It is our privilege to rest in the abiding assurance that Christ *for* us is our atoning sacrifice; that Christ *in* us is our living power; that Christ *under* us is our sure foundation; that Christ *around* us is our wall of fire; that Christ *beside* us is our perfect pattern; and that Christ *before* us is our everlasting heritage.

With the very fullness of the Godhead thus made available to us in Jesus Christ, should we not, without further delay, enter into the revival of true godliness and that reformation called for by God's messenger? What should hinder us from upholding in our lives and conduct every high standard of Christian life and teaching?

In the light of the wonderful provision made for us, and this earnest appeal to prepare to meet our Lord, shall we not make full and complete surrender of our lives to God? This will bring victory and joy to our own hearts, and increased fervor and decision to carry the message of truth to our relatives, our neighbors, into un-

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## INTO ALL THE WORLD—

# And Now To The Sudan

By Farris B. Bishai

Before Jesus left this earth, He gave a definite sign to His disciples about His return, and that was that "this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world, for a witness unto all nations, and then shall the end come."

Looking at a world map a few months ago, one could have definitely seen that the light and truth of the last warning message and the tidings of the soon coming Saviour had almost surrounded the whole globe, except for about twenty-two countries. The Sudan was one of these few countries unentered by the light of our message.

"Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." Isaiah 60:1. These words of the prophet were not spoken in vain, and the time has come for the people living in the Sudan to hear the three angels' messages.

January 12, 1953, is a marked day for us and for the Sudan. On that day my family and I arrived in Khartoum, the three-town capital. We had been called by the Nile Union to start the work in the large unentered field, inhabited by almost seven million people. Such a tremendous challenge as lies before us has no doubt put the devil on duty. By his many devices he has tried hard to block the way and stop us from carrying the work and answering this challenge and the Macedonian call. Difficulties rose up soon after we had secured a good suitable location for the mission office and home.

As soon as the neighborhood learned of our being in the community, the priests and pastors of other denominations started to warn their people and harden their hearts against our doctrines, and prevented and even threatened them against coming to our private prayer meetings. Not only that, but they were told to scoff and beat this new heretic, as they called me. From time to time we receive letters of warnings and threats. Sometimes a shower of stones comes over the fence, smashing the bulbs on the outside, and many other ridiculous things they would think of doing in order to limit or even stop the work.

Yet in spite of our being alone in the country, and in blazing hot, dusty, unfavorable climatical conditions, and even with the continual attack of tropical diseases in our family, we are not discouraged. All of these difficulties



*Mr. and Mrs. Farris Bishai  
and their older son*

and hardships would not turn our eyes from the delightful burden of winning souls for Jesus, for we are looking to the great recompense and reward up in heaven, and to that city bright and glorious, whose Maker and Builder is God. We are depending upon His true promises to help us overcome all these obstacles in order that many sheaves may be gathered in from the Sudan, a chosen group ready to meet their Lord soon. All this is because we have a much stronger weapon than Satan, and that is the Word of God. Even Jesus our Prince Emmanuel, with His host of angels, has promised to be our help, for He said, "And lo I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Matt. 28:20.

Our continued efforts in visiting and the several contacts with different classes of people, the lessons of the Voice of Prophecy, and the hundreds of pamphlets that we have distributed since we arrived have resulted in the creation of a good name and confidence in the Adventist people and the mission. Yes, the prejudice in the hearts of men and women we hope can be broken down through the earnest prayers of our believers all over the Middle East Division.

Just a brief survey of our work in the Sudan will make you fellow readers

understand something about our work. Most of our work now is dependent upon visiting in the homes and giving away our free literature and magazines. We have now an organized Sabbath school and a branch Sabbath school with a total membership of seventeen.

We hold meetings twice a week in the evening in our house, where we have a large hall, but in a limited way, not public, as we are not yet allowed to hold public meetings. We have several cottage meetings in different homes, and that of course has helped spread our message to all surrounding, and even to the whole town. We use a projector once a week now in the study of the lessons of the Twentieth Century Bible Course. There are many studying the Voice of Prophecy lessons, a few have finished, others are still continuing, and many come to ask and inquire about difficult doctrinal points.

We thank God that another soul has given her life to God in the watery grave of baptism. When Elder Wilson, the Nile Union Mission president, visited us on April 15, 1954, he baptized the wife of our first brother to join the truth in the Sudan. Her husband, our first convert, had been baptized on October 25, 1953. How we all rejoice to welcome this faithful family to join God's remnant church as the first fruits from the Sudan. Now we have about eight in the baptismal class, and there are many others whom we pray might surrender all for Jesus.

Just recently we were able to hold two large public meetings on temperance subjects, when a total audience of 1,200 people heard the lectures conducted by Elder Wilson. Everyone present knew that the Adventist people don't drink or smoke, or eat swine's flesh. This impressed the hearts of all Moslems to respect and encourage us in every way possible. Many officials and personalities attended and were well pleased. We hope that these efforts and the visits made by Elder Wilson and me to the prime minister and other government officials will prove a definite turning point in our work in the Sudan, so that we can increase our workers and establish our work along the lines of spiritual, educational, and medical aspects.

We look forward to the time when many hundreds here in the Sudan join the remnant church and worship with the commandment-keeping people, now here on this earth and soon in the new earth to come, for God has promised that "My word shall not return unto me void."

(Note: Brother Bishai's address is Box 724, Khartoum, Sudan.)

# Surveying New Fields

Complying with the urge of the General Conference Committee that we "plan on entering new territory" in 1954, our Middle East Division leaders requested the Nile Union Committee to make entrance into the Colony of Aden at the Southeast gateway to Arabia. Your humble servants, Elders Ormond K. Anderson and Chafic Srouer, were duly invited to proceed as early as conveniently possible after their successful Cairo evangelistic campaign, to open up the work in the most important city of the Red Sea coastline.

On March 30, at 7:30 A.M., in company with Elder Neal C. Wilson, we rode the Ethiopian Airlines skyway via Ethiopia to Aden. It was a joy to meet Elder Wallen at the airport at Asmara and to learn of the progress of the mission work in this rather modern city of Eritrea.

At 3:00 P.M. we were called aboard our "ship of the air," and after flying at high altitudes for two more hours, we saw Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital, looming in the distance. In but a few minutes courteous officials escorted us to the air terminal buildings, where we had the pleasure of meeting workers from the Ethiopian Union. These brethren accorded us a gracious welcome and had scheduled us a busy program while we were privileged to spend a few brief days in their Union. We were taken care of in the best manner, and surely it was refreshing to mingle among many of the workers and laity of our neighboring union mission field.

It afforded us more than ordinary pleasure to meet with the medical staff at our Addis Ababa hospital, and also with the staff and students of the Akaki and Shasa Mani Training Schools, where we were privileged to address the student body of these institutions. Incidentally, we were thrilled to learn that throughout the Ethiopian Union there are more than one thousand students in our schools. This is a most encouraging prospect for future workers.

After some delay on the morning of Sunday, April 3, we finally heard the official call "All aboard," at 8:45 A.M., and we hurried to take our places in company with Dr. B. Johnson and his family, of our Dessie

By CHAFIC SROUR  
and  
ORMOND K. ANDERSON

Medical Unit. To our surprise we found that the plane was a DC-3 transport; we hope you never have to ride on such. The remainder of the trip over high mountains and plains, including two short stops, landed us at the port of Djibouti. About noon we took off for Aden, and after a couple of hours flight across the Red Sea we landed at our destination. Right glad we were to get out of those uncomfortable, unsprung metal seats of that trusty, old transport.

After the cool invigorating air of Addis at 9,000 feet, now we found ourselves down at sea level on a spot where "Old Sol" shows no mercy, and soon we were in a lather of sweat. The New World Encyclopedia declares that, "Aden is one of the hottest cities in the world." We don't disbelieve this testimony, for during our sojourn of eight days in that city and environs, we took three cold showers per day and spent every possible hour under whirling fans.

Our first duty was to contact the Municipal Secretary and arrange the order of appointments with other officials. As Her Majesty, Queen Elisabeth II, was due to visit the colony April 27 and 28, big preparations were in hand for the forth-coming occasion, and hence at times we had to wait long on the pleasure and convenience of officialdom. But we had prayed much for God to guide us, and surely we

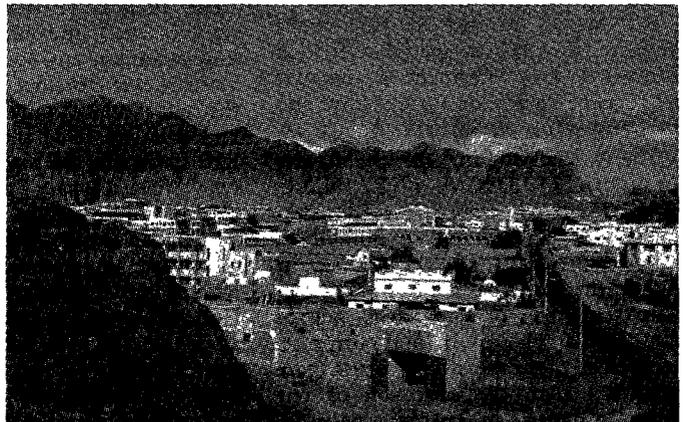
return thanks to Him for what we were able to accomplish.

Housing is most difficult to find in the Colony, and it is sometimes available to those who can offer to pay "key money" to the tune of one thousand Egyptian pounds. Praise God, we were led to a Mohammedan merchant who is erecting a suite of apartments, and he agreed to favor us without "key money," but only with the usual one year's rental in advance.

The population of Aden Protectorate is more than 900,000, and there are a further 130,000 people living in the area of the Colony. The government censor expects that there will be approximately 500,000 people living in the Colony by 1960. This prolific increase will be due to the great oil and other industries which are already taking shape in the Colony. Aden harbor now handles some twenty-two million tons of shipping per year. Obviously, to any thinking person, these facts present a tremendous challenge to the proclamation of the Third Angel's Message in this area of the earth, where as yet we do not find one member of the Advent family.

Some may think that as this area is under administration of the British, the gospel would be given free course. This is not the case, for while British administration has always favored the cause of Christian mission endeavor, in lands where the great majority of the people are strictly Moslem in faith,

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*A view of the city of Aden.*

## WHERE ARE THEY— THE SCHOOLS AND THE CHILDREN?

By T. S. Geraty

When the Master Teacher calls the roll in the School of the Hereafter where will your children be? Your neighbor's children? your fellow church member's?

And when the 1954-1955 school year begins where will they be?

One hundred and one years ago the first Seventh-day Adventist church school opened its school program. The nineteen-year-old teacher taught the children in the parlor of a private home. Could a true education school begin any smaller? The next academic year it moved into another home. And so it grew.

Thus years before the denominational organization took size and shape, the fellow members of one of the pioneer church companies sensed the need of Christian education and did something about it.

We read in *Counsels to Teachers*, page 167 that "the Lord would use the church school as an aid to the parents in educating and preparing their children for this time before us. Then let the church take hold of the school work in earnest, and make it what the Lord desires it to be."

If your church or district has six or more children of Adventists and there is no elementary school, you ask your pastor: "Why not?" You study with your company or group and educational superintendents the possibilities of operating school for your children.

Do not rest satisfied until EVERY BOY AND GIRL OF SCHOOL AGE, among our Seventh-day Adventist families, IS STUDYING IN ONE OF OUR SCHOOLS.

We appeal to you to help make August 14, 1954 a special Christian Education Day. Conduct a singular program of dedication for our boys and girls and youth on Sabbath, August 14.

The special offering for the day is for YOUR LOCAL TRAINING SCHOOL. If you were to provide nothing more than starting or building a substantial *worthy student fund*, your investment will be well worthwhile. Help some boy or girl attend one of our schools who could not otherwise. Remember that "there is no work more important than the education of our youth." *Counsels to Teachers*, page 46.

A suggestive outline of a symposium for Christian Education Day could be—  
Hymn: Church Hymnal, No. 359, "We are Living, We are Dwelling."

Scripture Reading: Proverbs 2:1-12.  
Prayer: For our boys and girls and youth and for a greater realization of our responsibilities.

Special Music, or Church Hymnal, No. 673, "There Were Ninety and Nine"  
Talk: God's call to Parents and Teachers.

Talk: Are All Our Children Safe?

Talk: Christian Education—Our Only Safety.

Prayer of Consecration.

Special Offering: Local Training School.  
Hymn: Church Hymnal, No. 663, "Gracious Father, Guard Thy Children."

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### MEC ALUMNI FIRST AGAIN

A never-to-be-forgotten occasion at Middle East College was the first Alumni Homecoming Weekend of May 29-31, 1954.

Appealing to the student body the alumni in the first service, the Friday evening meeting, keyed the needs of the Middle East Division in a well prepared symposium. Alumni President, Pastor Manoug Nazirian, was chairman of the service and concluded the evening with an appeal from *Messages to Young People*.

The alumni featured an interesting Sabbath school, and alumnus Ibrahim Swaidan preached a special alumni sermon in Arabic with English and Armenian translation. He challenged all to a clearer understanding of service. "The foundation structure of service resolves itself into knowledge, wisdom, long-suffering, and love", Mr. Swaidan asserted. He developed his subject into the aims and commissions of service and then presented the aims of Middle East College in the preparation of workers like Elisha "who know their responsibilities toward self, their neighbors, and toward God." His conclusion clearly rang in the ears of all present and awakened a response: "Take the Holy Bible as your constitution, Jesus as your guide, and service with love as your motto."

On Sabbath afternoon the alumni under the chairmanship of Mr. Aram

Aghassian conducted a wide-awake YPMV meeting introducing soulwinning agencies and reporting on alumni missionary activities.

Sunday morning was full. Led by host-guide, Elder G. Arthur Keough, the first president of Middle East College, the alumni toured the campus. Then followed a lively business session which included recommendations for revisions in the constitution, bigger and better alumni activities, and the election of the following staff for the 1954-1955 terms:

President: Miss Shahin Ouzounian  
Vice President:

Miss Angel Dikran — Jordan

Miss Dola Hasso — Iraq

Yacoub Nashed — Egypt

Secretary: Miss Indra Ashod

Treasurer: George Yared

Editor of Quarterly: Naim Awaiss

Steering Committee:

Miss Shahin Ouzounian

Miss Indra Ashod

George Yared

T. S. Geraty

Naim Awaiss

We wish the new officers and staff every success and we thank the retiring officers and staff for their contributions.

### STEP OUT FROM THE CROWD



The times demand men of  
quality, men who  
know the way,  
Yes, and men who have the  
courage to take it.

WE have the course  
that will help YOU

**MIDDLE EAST COLLEGE**

Extension Division

Box 1170

Beirut—Lebanon

**HERE and THERE**

Continued from page 3

South Lebanon, and baptisms have been conducted in all three of the Beirut churches, as well as in the eastern section of this mission.

A new evangelistic center has been opened near Dora in Beirut, as a result of a Branch Sabbath School opened by Middle East College students and teachers. The college is fostering this interest, and prospects are good.

M.V. and H.M. Rallies have been conducted in Lebanon during the month of May.

The workers in Lebanon-Syria have recently enjoyed two workers' meetings at the mission office in Beirut. Much inspiration has been derived from the same.

\* *Turkey*: Good courage seems to be the keynote of all word from the beautiful land of the north. Prayer is solicited that the future may be marked with special progress.

\*IRAN —

For the past month Elder Y. O. Sangerloo has been supervising the construction of a new church building in Rezaieh. There are many opportunities of advancing the work of God in that place. We have many earnest Voice of Prophecy students there, and Sr. Nanajan Badal is full of courage and visualizes many souls taking their stand for the truth in the near future.

This autumn we are opening a church school for the children of our Armenian believers in Tehran. There is an intensive visitation program among the members of the Tehran Armenian Church. The Lord has come very near, and we are hopefully and prayerfully planning for an extended series of evangelistic meetings and a harvest of souls this summer. We greatly desire your prayers.

Elder H. K. Salakian of Tabriz reports working very diligently to prepare a group for baptism this spring.

From Abadan Brother Gasparian states that he is busy holding meetings once a week in the church which we have rented and conducting cottage meetings in the homes. He needs our united prayers in a very special way for the work of God in Abadan. There are many problems connected with the work there, but our God is sufficient.

Elder K. S. Oster reports that the first signs of the results of our Farsee radio broadcasts have already been seen. Soon after the broadcasts were changed to Tuesday mornings, a letter was received from a gentleman in Bombay, India, expressing his appreciation for the message and asking to be enrolled in the Bible course, as well as asking for additional application blanks for his friends. We trust that this small beginning will develop into a rich harvest of souls.

The Voice of Prophecy building is continuing on apace. We hope it will be ready for occupancy before our annual meetings this summer.



**Call to Believers**

Continued from page 3

entered villages, towns, cities, counties, and countries; until "this gospel of the kingdom" reaches all the world, "and then shall the end come."

These are the considerations which prompt us, as we are gathered here in this great assembly, to ask our fellow believers in all the world to join us in response to the gracious and urgent invitation, "Prepare to meet thy God."



**SURVEYING NEW FIELDS**

From Page 5

the administration in no wise desires that we make the usual enthusiastic public evangelistic approach, but rather that we begin quietly, accentuating health, educational, and temperance and welfare work.

Of course we shall soon introduce the V. O. P. home study lessons, and these will doubtless open doors to bigger things. We look forward to the day when Aden will have our own church, school, and medical units operating.

Now is the time when "we must attempt great things for God and expect great things from God."

As your humble servants go forth in faith and prayer to carry the message of a crucified, risen, and soon coming Saviour to this challenging and needy field, we earnestly plead that you will in seasons of fervent prayer remember them before the throne of His grace, "that a door of utterance" may be given them to the salvation of many precious souls. From September next our Aden address will be P. O. 1255, Aden. Letters of encouragement will be greatly appreciated.

**SCHEDULE OF CHURCH OFFERINGS**

Regular Monthly Offerings

- 1st Sabbath...Local Church Evangelism
- 2nd Sabbath.....Church Expense
- 3rd Sabbath...Education (Local School)
- 4th Sabbath.....Church Expense
- 5th Sabbath.....Poor Fund

Special Offerings

- July 10.....Mid-Summer Offering
- August 14.....Local Training School
- August 21.....Temperance
- September 4.....Missions Extension

**DIVISION DIRECTORY**

- President .....Geo. J. Appel
- Secretary-Treasurer.....C. C. Morris
- DEPARTMENTAL SECRETARIES
- Educational ..... T. S. Geraty
- Home Miss., Y.P.M.V., .....
- ..... A. G. Zytkoskee
- Radio & Publishing.....Wadie Farag
- Sabbath School & Ministerial .....
- .....Geo. J. Appel
- Temperance.....C. C. Morris

**MIDDLE EAST MESSENGER**

Published quarterly as the Official Organ of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Middle East Division, P. O. Box 2020, Beirut, Lebanon.

**CHURCH CALENDAR**

Third Quarter, 1954

July 3 .....	Local Church Evangelism
July 10 .....	Mid-Summer Offering Day
August 7 .....	Home Visitation Day
August 14 .....	Christian Education
August 21 .....	Christian Temperance
August 28 - September 4 .....	Missions Extension Week
September 4 .....	Missions Extension Day
September 25 - October 30 .....	Ingathering Campaign

## HERE and THERE

\* As this issue of the MESSENGER goes to press we are waiting the return of Elders Appel and Morris from the General Conference Session. Elders Hartwell and Wilson will be returning to their fields in the near future also. We are sure these brethren will bring back a great inspiration from these meetings.

\* Report of the General Conference Nominating Committee for the Middle East Division: President — Geo. J. Appel; Secretary-Treasurer — C. C. Morris; Departmental Secretaries: Home Missionary, Missionary Volunteer, and Voice of Prophecy — A. G. Zytoskee; Educational — T. S. Geraty; Ministerial and Sabbath School — G. J. Appel; Medical — William Wagner, M. D.; Temperance — C. C. Morris; Publishing and Radio — Wadie Farag.

\* We wish for Miss Ruby Williams a profitable and enjoyable furlough, as she leaves us for a well-earned stay in her homeland.

### Colporteur Institute at College

Under the chairmanship of the Division and Union Publishing Secretaries and with the help of Brethren C. C. Crider and R. C. Darnell, the Student Colporteur Institute in mid-June brought a great impact upon the student body of Middle East College.

Practical demonstrations, spiritual appeals, principles of salesmanship, and panel discussions have well groomed a large group who are interested in entering the literature ministry this summer.

We believe that the attractively prepared, new gospel-filled books being printed by the Middle East Press and which will be off the presses for the summer will help bring worthwhile results in literature sales and souls won.

### NILE UNION —

The Heliopolis Church was the scene of a beautiful wedding on May 2, when Miss Nadia Fayek of Alexandria became the bride of Maher B. Bishai, M. D., of Heliopolis. A reception, attended by some 300 people, was held in the Union Auditorium following the ceremony. The young couple are now residing in Heliopolis, but are under appointment to Lybia, to pioneer in the medical work there. We wish them God's richest blessing as they

set out upon life's journey together and unite their lives in service for the Master.

Congratulations to Hilal and Sabah Doss, on the arrival of a son, Eman, in Baghdad on May 2. Pastor and Mrs. Doss make their home in Heliopolis.

Heartfelt sympathy is expressed by all our members to Brother and Sister Nassif Boutros of Fayoum, whose little girl, Nesria, died May 7 of a heart disorder, having been ill for several days. May God comfort this family in their loss.

Emile Kafrouni of Heliopolis was a member of the graduating class of Walla Walla College, College Place, Washington, at its Commencement exercises May 22.

The Administration Building of the Adventist Institute is fast going up, and the progress is eagerly watched. The foundations of two cottages have also been laid. The flowing water in the canal promises an abundant supply of water, for which we thank God.

The Y.P.M.V. Secretary, J. S. Russell, reports in the four investitures held this year, a total of 57 being invested in the various classes: 15 Busy Bees, 3 Sunbeams, 23 Friends, and 13 Companions, as well as three Master Guides.

Plans are being laid for two Junior Boys' Camps to be held in Upper and Lower Egypt during the latter part of June and the first of July.

Fifteen souls in the Egypt Mission were baptized on May 1, bringing the total number of baptisms to 106 reported since December 26.

Forty-six years ago Elder and Mrs. George Keough arrived in Egypt to work, and since then they have put in many long faithful years of service. On their way to England to spend their furlough, the Keoughs stopped in Egypt for a few weeks and were a real blessing to us all. As they left our shores, May 8, on the S. S. *Otranto*, they left behind many friends and fellow workers whom they have influenced and brought nearer to the Master and who continue to pray for their success and well-being.

Brother Hilmy Berbawy, Home Missionary Secretary, announces a colporteur rally in Heliopolis, June 23-27. The Publishing Secretary of the Division, Wadie Farag, will give valuable help during this rally.

Mr. Gayed Guirges, a member of the church in Tatalia for some thirty-five years, passed away on May 23, 1954. He is survived by his wife, two married daughters, a young son, and

an older son, Angely, who is studying for the ministry at Middle East College. We extend our sympathy to the sorrowing family.

### EAST MED. UNION —

Many delegates enroute to the General Conference Session have been guests in our territory, bringing to us the inspiration of an account of God's blessing in other lands.

Mrs. Rosalie Wainer spent the most of March and a part of April in the interest of the womens' work in Iraq. She reports encouraging success there.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Fund on the birth of a daughter, Nancy Lee, who arrived on May 1.

\* *Cyprus*: Negotiations have finally resulted in the purchase of a piece of property in Nicosia to be used as a church site.

Steady growth is being seen in the Greek correspondence school work.

The coming Cyprus fair offers a splendid opportunity to display our literature and represent our work.

\* *Iraq*: Bad floods kept our believers in Iraq under quite a strain during the month of April. We were happy to have a part in helping with the flood relief in Baghdad.

A baby girl has been added to the family of Pastor Salim Majeed. They already had a boy; now they have both joys.

An excellent piece of property has just been purchased in the city of Baghdad. Surely the Lord is blessing the good work in His own grand time and way.

Plans are being laid for a camp meeting to be held in the beautiful mountains of Northern Iraq during the summer season.

\* *Jordan*: M.V., H.M., and V.O.P. rallies were conducted in various districts of the Jordan during the month of April. The visits of Pastor Appel, Professor Geraty, and the Union leaders were appreciated.

The Amman church building contract went to the Karaman Trading Company, the building to be completed within four months. The members are of good courage.

\* *Lebanon-Syria*: A fine piece of land has been purchased in Bishmazine, where it is hoped that a new church may soon be built to house the recently organized church family.

Two more have been baptised in

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