



Dar El Salaam Hospital Dedication

By M. V. JACOBSON

The anthem "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" never meant more to anyone than it meant to the group of hospital workers, members of the constituency, church members, and friends gathered in the chapel on Sabbath morning, November 27, 1954, to dedicate the new Dar el Salaam Hospital to the service of God and the finishing of His work upon the earth. The day was cloudy and rainy, but there was sunshine in the hearts of approximately 120 people who were found in their places as the ministers entered the chapel and the call to worship was sounded.

A beautiful dedication service had been arranged by our pastor, Elder C. C. Crider, president of the

Iraq Mission, that all will long remember. After expressing a word of welcome to all who had come to worship with us in our new chapel, he chose the beautiful hymn of adoration and praise, "O Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness" as our opening hymn. President Geraty of Middle East College read the scripture lesson, and Elder George J. Appel, the president of the division and of the hospital board, offered the morning prayer.

It was very fitting that two of our student nurses should give our special music, and they sang the hymn, "I Will Follow Thee, My Saviour."

In giving a history of the start of the medical work here in Baghdad it was pointed out that the first



Dar el Salaam Hospital, Baghdad

DEDICATION

Continued from page 1
 medical work was started in Baghdad when Sister Marie Huhner came from Germany and started a maternity home some twenty or more years ago. The present hospital, however, had its staff in 1945 when Doctor Essery and Stanley Johnson began the big task of transforming an old hotel building on busy Rashid Street into a temporary hospital until such time as a new hospital could be built. During this time Brother Johnson was moved to Middle East College, and Brother Melville Seitz was asked to take his place at the hospital. Doctor Essery was also called to other work, and Doctors Karmy and Saaty and Nurses Joyce and Lucille Henderson arrived in Baghdad to actually get the medical work going. The first patients were accepted in November of 1946, and from that time until now the work has shown a steady, healthy growth. To these early pioneer workers of this institution we are all indebted for their foresight, hard work, and devotion. They gave unselfishly of their time that the work might get a good start, and we cannot speak of this without paying extra tribute to Brother Seitz, who gave his life for the work here and who is buried in the British cemetery here in Baghdad.

Construction work on our new hospital did not start until the spring of 1952, when Elders Appel and Morris, Doctor Pihl and Arthur Fund signed the contract with the Al Mansur Construction Company to build the buildings. It has taken three years to complete the work, but we now have a beautiful set of buildings in which to carry on our work and which are a credit to the cause.

In closing the report on the history of the work the writer pointed out that we must be thankful to all who have helped through the years in getting the work started here, but we should be especially thankful to Brethren Bashir and Nasif Hasso for their generous contributions and loyalty to the work here. We should also give a word of appreciation for the work of Brother Lewis Rice, who supervised the construction work.

The sanitarium family was especially pleased to have another visit from Doctor T. R. Flaiz, the medical secretary of the General Conference, and he gave the dedicatory sermon. It was a beautiful sermon, in which he asked the question, "To what are we dedicating the institution today? Is it to high class surgery? To the practice of good medicine? To take care of the poor? To make a name medically?" No. We

Greetings from the SECRETARY of the GENERAL CONFERENCE

By W. R. BEACH

To the workers and members, Middle East Division:
 Greetings in the Lord!



W. R. BEACH

have the same purpose as did the builders of the temple years ago. It is so nicely expressed in the 8th chapter of First Kings, where King Solomon says that the temple was dedicated that the people of the earth might know the Lord God. Now how will the people know the Lord God in our hospital? It will be by watching our doctors and nurses work, and by seeing how sympathetic our hospital personnel are when these people come here and meet the workers in the different departments of the hospital. All our labor here is to hasten the coming of our Lord, and He will not tarry if we will do our part and be patient.

At the close of the sermon Brother Ramses Mina from the Nile Union Mission and Elder W. R. Beach, Secretary of the General Conference, offered the dedicatory prayers while the congregation solemnly bowed. The meeting was closed by the singing of the hymn, "The Great Physician Now is Near" and the benediction was pronounced by Doctor William Wagner, the medical director of the hospital.

Yes, Sabbath, the 27th of November, will always be remembered by our workers here. It is our eighth anniversary here in Iraq, and our birthday in the new hospital. We thank God for all His blessings and for a place in His work.

It is my joy and privilege to send you this personal message from the Middle East Division headquarters, where the first quadrennial session of this field is now in session. Attendants at this meeting have come in from the many lands of this great expanse of territory to join Elder G. J. Appel, president, and his staff in study and counsel. This, my first contact with them, has been a heartening experience. I have found these leaders to be men and women of God. They represent the 204 courageous, capable workers dispersed along a thin line—a very thin line indeed—across the millions of the Middle East. We can have confidence in this band of stalwarts. May God grant them a special blessing as they lead the people of God to the gates of the kingdom.

Many reports have been presented to the council. They have been very encouraging. God is granting a large measure of success to the Middle East Division. Some of the facts recounted seemed unbelievable to my ears. Think of this: During the last quadrennium more Arabic Seventh-day Adventist publications were printed and circulated in the Middle East territory than for the preceding fifty years of heroic effort.

The Middle East Press stands as a symbol of this advance. Certainly far-sighted planning brought it into existence. The Middle East College is another monument to this type of leadership. More than 100 college and academic students are attending the institution this year. Already 57 men and women have passed through the doors of this school to find their places in your various working forces. Hundreds will yet follow in their footsteps. The young people of Middle East College are the bright hope of the church leadership in the Middle East.

Of course, the ultimate goal here, as elsewhere, is the salvation of souls. The attendants at the council make this aim the center of their preoccupations. Indeed, the division is astir with evangelism. During the past four years the membership increased 31 o/o, which is 2 o/o above the world average. Such a gain in membership is a miracle in the Middle East. It cheers our hearts and gives courage for the future.

The Voice of Prophecy and the Correspondence Schools have played an important part in soul winning. They are extending their long arms of service into the remotest parts of the field. The total list of enrollments now stands at 173,000. The holy city of Mecca is

Continued on page 4

OUR MINISTRY THROUGH HEALING

By WILLIAM WAGNER, M.D.
Medical Secretary, Middle East Division

The world as it came from the hand of its maker was clean and pure. It was beautiful and lovely. It was a nice place to live. All nature gave evidence of the wisdom and love of God. All creatures, with glad hearts, gave glory and honor and obedience to God.

In this edenic grandeur, there were but two human beings. Only two persons were able to enjoy the wonders of primitive creation. Adam and his wife Eve were the only earthly persons who were able to experience that fullness of joy which can come only to sinless beings in a sinless world.

It is beyond our ability to pierce with our thoughts the blessed state of existence before sin. The holy record tells us of a man and woman who lived in the dawn of a perfect creation. A man and woman who were perfect in beauty and holiness. They were a perfect couple living in a perfect land where the natural forces of earth were health and strength, where the mind of man ascended in thought toward a full knowledge of the love of his creator. All was peace, joy, and contentment. There was perfect obedience to the will of God.

How quickly this changed with the entrance of sin into the world. Sin at first seemed pleasant, but its true nature was soon revealed in misery, suffering, sickness, and death. The character of mankind quickly degenerated to the point that his own destruction must be decreed. It became necessary for God to destroy all but eight souls in a universal flood.

Through the intervening years, God has sent his spirit of reconciliation into the earth. Through love He has sought to draw men from sin into the paths of righteousness. His desire for man reached perfect fulfillment in the gift of His son. "He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities." With sin and Satan came sickness and death. With Jesus and righteousness came life and healing. "How God annointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him." Acts 10:38.

And so Christ's church today remains to carry on the work of the Saviour. This is the work of bringing relief from want and suffering. It is the work of bringing salvation from sin. It is the

work of the restoration of man to the full image of God.

Our people have always considered the work of Medical Ministry as an integral part of God's remnant church. God gave us the health message, through the Spirit of Prophecy, to assist in the work of full restoration. The church and the power of healing are inseparable. "With His stripes we are healed." Isaiah 53:5, last part. "The Saviour of the world devoted more time and labor to healing the afflicted of their maladies than to preaching. His last injunction to His apostles, His representatives upon the earth, was to lay hands on the sick that they might recover." *Testimonies for the Church*, Volume 4, page 225. And so we follow on in the steps of the Master, preaching deliverance from sin and demonstrating the love of God before our fellow men through the ministry of healing.

There are two reasons for our health message. The first is for the benefit of our own believers. "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." 3 John, verse 2. God, in His mercy, has given us the health message to protect us as far as possible from the evil effects of sin in the world. You will remember that in Old Testament times God gave His people certain laws of health. He promised them that if they obeyed these laws they would be kept free of the diseases which plagued the surrounding nations. So for the children of the remnant church. God, in His mercy, has given us a clear picture of a better way of life in the Spirit of Prophecy. If we follow the counsel our own health will prosper.

For more than one hundred years we



Dr. Wagner and Family

as a people, under the guidance of the Spirit of Prophecy have taught concerning the evil effects of the use of tobacco. Science has now caught up with our teaching and we now find that those who have habitually used tobacco have a greatly increased death rate from heart disease, cancer, and other degenerative diseases. Think of the blessing that has come to our own people through the years as a result of their faith in the Spirit of Prophecy. Through the teaching of the Spirit of Prophecy concerning the evil effects of tobacco, we have been protected from another one of the curses of sin. Yes, God has thought of the welfare of each one of His children as He has given us the laws of health through the Spirit of Prophecy.

The second reason for our health message is to help develop in the heart of each member of the church a portion of the love that lies in the heart of God. The ministry of healing is a ministry of love. It was exemplified in the parable of the Good Samaritan. If we love God, we will love our brother. "And this commandment have we from him, that he who loveth God love his brother also." 1 John 4:21. In no other way can we so effectively demonstrate our love and sympathy as we can in ministry to the sick and afflicted. Those who are in need or who are ill have a right to look to the church for help. The power of healing rightfully belongs to the church. And in entering into the program of medical ministry we each have opportunity to demonstrate the love of God before our fellow men.

As another expression of this love, the members of our remnant church have joined together and brought into being our new Dar el Salaam Hospital. This institution is dedicated to the service of God through love to our fellow men. It is our prayer that the ground this institution occupies will be holy ground. We pray that the consecration of every worker may be complete, that God's Spirit may be a constant blessing, and that heavenly beings will delight in visiting our rooms and wards and may be near to bless and help in all the efforts put forth by our staff. We pray that this may be a sanctuary of healing, a place of spiritual refreshing where men and women may learn to know God.

We earnestly request your prayers in behalf of our medical program at the Dar el Salaam Hospital. We pray it may stand as a beacon in the desert lands of the Middle East and light the pathway of many to that heavenly land.

"I Have No Pleasure"

By J. S. RUSSELL

Some things make God very happy. True pleasure is a holy attribute. When this beautiful earth came forth from its Creator's hand, everything upon it brought happiness and pleasure to the heart of God. "For Thy pleasure they are and were created." Rev. 4:11. It seems that God is extremely happy when He sees others happy. He has pleasure in His people (Ps. 149:4), when He sees them developing the graces of righteousness.

But the Lord finds no pleasure in the life and death of the wicked. (Ezek. 18:32). Of all the results of this reign of sin, the heart of our loving Father in heaven is most grieved to behold the highest part of His creation groping blindly or dwelling wilfully in the atmosphere of sin. God did not make man to do this. He made him in His own image and designed that he should share in the thrill of perpetual pleasure that comes to man while in full harmony with heaven.

Speaking reverently, if we could sit where God sits and moment by moment be faced with the state of this old world, could see what sinful man does, understand all his motives, and penetrate all the devices of demons, perhaps we, too, could then understand better than we do now why a God of love and righteousness can find no pleasure in the life and destiny of the wicked. Even the small measure of earth's woes that we are caused to observe in our small sphere frequently brings a pang to the heart and a sigh to the voice. And when the Spirit of God rolls upon the heart a burden for the souls of men, we are but sharing in a very small measure the heartache which our Father must bear night and day for the lost of earth.

Grasping a clearer knowledge of the true nature of evil with its terrible power to deceive, degrade, and destroy, we then begin to see in bolder contrast the abundant grace of God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Grace which, if permitted, is able to perform such a work of transformation in human lives that the Lord can bring us into His likeness, make us partakers of His divine nature, and permit us to co-reign with Him through eternity. No wonder Christ will show to the universe through the eternal ages the product of God's redeeming love through His Son. About Him will be found living evidence of how God was able to salvage out of the awful havoc which Satan had wrought in the earth a multitude of beings who had caught a glimpse of the beauty of



J. S. Russell

the principles of righteousness in contrast to the degenerating nature of sin. When we realize that the redeemed will never exhaust the depths of the nature and holiness of God even to the extent of milleniums of study, we can begin to realize how low man has fallen, and the devastating power of sin.

Should we not plead with God that He might help us to abhor sin and to love righteousness, that we might receive from Him a greater burden on our hearts for the souls of the lost? The remnant church, while being entrusted with the most extensive and vital message this world has ever received, is in danger of being content with a mental knowledge of the truth until our hearts grow lukewarm, our individual testimony for Christ uncertain, and the yearning for souls appears lifeless. Believers in this world-echoing message sometimes seem to be weak in things of the Spirit. The abundant joy, the radiant influence, the positive witness for the truth which come from a heart-warming experience with our Lord seem at times to be crowded out by a zeal for the mechanics of the Lord's work, or by a concern for our own personal advancement or comfort.

The servant of the Lord counsels us that the truth we endeavor to present to others is to be the truth by which our own souls are saved. Can it be that our inactivity for God is an echo of a hollow experience with our blessed Lord?

Not all perhaps are in a position to carry on some form of public evangelism, but every believer can engage in personal evangelism wherever he may be. The branch Sabbath school is able

to use all the faithful, humble efforts of the Sabbath school member. Even the youth and children can find their place in a well-directed program in the branch Sabbath school. Every mother school should have at least one such branch, and some may have several. The strength and experience of our Sabbath schools would greatly improve if we would only follow the leading of the Lord in this kind of soul-winning work. And think of the number of friends and neighbors we might save for the kingdom by such humble efforts.

May we catch a measure of the divine hatred of sin and the heavenly longing for lost souls. We find that the highest purpose of our life is to bring pleasure to God, then we shall not rest in listlessness. Our time and energy will be fully occupied in loving ministry to rescue souls slipping down in the blindness and depravity of sin. We will then share with heaven the "joy over one sinner that repenteth." (Luke 15:7.)

GENERAL CONFERENCE

Continued from page 2

visited by the Bible school teacher. Some 2,500 students have finished their course of study, of whom approximately 10 o/o have entered the church through baptism. Certainly the postman is making a fine contribution to our work in the Middle East. The lessons he carries do much to teach and save the fine people of these lands.

And this is only the beginning. Brighter days are just before you. As I have listened to reports and plans and have joined in prayer with these leaders, I have thought: "How wonderful to live and to labor with God in the Middle East at this time." The radiant hope of a finished task and the coming Saviour shines bright and glorious. Jesus soon will come. We believe it. We must share this precious treasure with the unwarned millions about us.

Yes, brethren and sisters of the Middle East Division, God is doing wonderful things for you. He is calling you to do yet greater things in His name. Everywhere the fields are whitening for the harvest. This is the challenge that you must meet. The General Conference, I can assure you, will stand by you and render every possible help in finishing the task. Let us then together be up and doing. Let us remain "steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord," knowing that our "labour is not in vain in the Lord." 1 Cor. 15:58. When the task is finished, the Master, at His coming, will gather His people to Himself. Then we shall rejoice among the elect and receive a "crown that fadeth not away."

IMPORTANT RECOMMENDATIONS

*From the Middle East Division
Quadrennial Session*

The Middle East Division Quadrennial Session met from November 19 to 30 in Beirut, Lebanon, and Baghdad, Iraq. A number of actions were taken in these meetings which will be of general interest to our workers and believers throughout the field. We are giving you in this issue of the *Messenger* a copy of some of these which we trust our workers will read and put into practice in their work.

INCREASING MISSION OFFERINGS THROUGH SABBATH SCHOOL

WHEREAS, There are still numerous unentered sections of the world missionary field, and many that have been entered are understaffed and ill equipped, and the time remaining for us to cooperate with the Lord in finishing His work in all the world is very short, and

WHEREAS, The General Conference Treasury is dependent to a very large degree upon the Sabbath school offerings for the support of our foreign mission program, and

WHEREAS, The Lord has continued to bless His people with a great degree of prosperity, and since the Bible basis for giving is "as God hath prospered,"

We recommend, 1. That all our believers re-examine their obligation to Christ in view of the great sacrifice He has made in our behalf; and that in gratitude for this inestimable gift and the prosperity with which the Lord has blessed us, we unite in a much more generous support of the mission program, particularly with reference to very considerably increasing the steady systematic support of missions through the Sabbath school.

2. That all our Sabbath schools, classes, and members be urged to look forward to doubling our present rate of giving as soon as possible, and that to this end in addition to giving more liberally from our abundance, we earnestly seek the Lord for a revival of sacrificial giving and the practice of self-denial in all our expenditures, in harmony with the instruction of the Lord that "When those who know the truth practice the self-denial enjoined in God's word, the message will go with power."—*Counsels on Stewardship*, 302.

"Let us save every dollar that can be saved, that the matchless charms of Christ may be presented before the souls of the perishing. . . .

"Each one should strive to do for Jesus all that it is possible for him to do, by personal effort, by gifts, by sacrifices. There should be meat in the

house of the Lord, and that means a full treasury, that responses may be made to Macedonian cries coming from every land. . . .

"Let all the pennies, dimes, and dollars that are lost to the cause through selfish love of pleasure, through desire to meet the world's standard, through love of ease, be turned into the channel that flows to God's treasury."—*Counsels on Stewardship*, pp. 298, 299.

CALL TO EVANGELISTIC ADVANCE

In this tremendous hour—tremendous in its possibilities for destruction, and tremendous in its opportunities for evangelism—when men, women, and children are longing for a word of hope and courage; when "Christ—the hope of the world" is being given worldwide publicity; when the truth expressed in the Spirit of Prophecy years ago, "Now is the time for the last warning to be given," when "decided efforts should be made to bring the message for this time prominently before the people. The third angel is to go forth with power."—*Test.*, Vol. 6, p. 16

We, assembled at this Quadrennial Session, invite our workers around the division in every capacity of service to reaffirm the great call to evangelism which was sounded at the recent General Conference Session, and that in preparation for this work we enter into deep heart searching and reappraisal of personal experience and relationship with God and the message, and that this take the form of:

1. Bible study befitting a ministry charged with the solemn responsibility of bringing such a message as ours to a dying world.

2. A restudy of the counsels of the Lord concerning the minister's personal consecration and dedication to his task.

3. A re-evaluation of our spiritual influence upon the flock.

4. A building up of the unity of the brethren in all lands.

5. A call to a world fellowship of prayer for the final outpouring of the Spirit of God.

6. An integration of the excellent and comprehensive recommendations on evangelism which were passed by the 1952 Autumn Council, as follows:

"1. That division, union, and local field committees proceed immediately to survey their territories and to marshal their forces with a view to organizing an overall program of integrated evangelism by which the total strength of the ministry, the activities of every department and the resources of every

institution shall be focused on soul-winning fruitage.

"2. That union and/or local fields organize yearly institutes under the direction of the president and the departmental secretaries at which this program of integrated evangelism shall be developed, soul-winning techniques presented, and church leaders trained more efficiently, thereby allowing ministers to devote their major time and interest to leadership of public evangelism and to rallying the church, the Sabbath school and the youth in concerted action.

"3. That we encourage union and local committees to invite occasionally experienced evangelists to meet with them in counsel.

"4. That when and where practicable, executive committees and boards arrange the duties of all credentialed and licensed workers so that they can conduct, or be associated with, at least one public effort yearly.

"5. That an ever-increasing evangelistic mold be placed on our colporteur work, and that colporteur evangelists be encouraged to cooperate with ministers in soul-winning by preparing the field with literature prior to a public evangelistic campaign, by reporting the names and addresses of those who have purchased literature in the area, and by personally inviting to the meetings those who have manifested an interest in the message.

"6. That every Seventh-day Adventist church be organized as an evangelistic center in which a year-round program of public evangelism is carried forward by either the conference worker or trained laymen, and that unless a major evangelistic effort is conducted in the vicinity, the lights be on in our churches each Sunday evening where no evangelistic program can be conducted.

"7. That the responsible leaders in local and union fields keep this program of expanding evangelism constantly before their committees, workers and churches, informing them of the progress made in achieving the objective."

REVIVAL OF SOUL-WINNING SPIRIT

WHEREAS, We believe the end is very near, and millions of persons have not yet heard the everlasting gospel message which alone can prepare them to meet their coming Lord; and

WHEREAS, The unfinished task of giving the message to every creature is constantly magnified by fast-growing populations; and,

WHEREAS, We are told, "The work of God in this earth can never be finished until the men and women com-

THE VOICE OF PROPHECY AND THE SABBATH SCHOOL CLASP HANDS IN IRAN

By KENNETH OSTER

It is often heard that the Sabbath school is the largest school in the world, and well might we be proud of the 1,203,750 regular members reported in the Statistical Report of the Sabbath School Department of the General Conference for the quarter ending March 31. When that figure is combined with a total of 1,766,910 (Jan. 1954 report) representing the total enrollments in all fields for the Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence schools, it encourages us to think that almost three million souls are studying the Advent truths in a systematic way! After all, there be many members, but one body. Whatever the method, whatever the school, they are all for the ultimate purpose of winning souls for the kingdom.

For some time the question of following up the VOP interests has presented quite a problem. It is advisable to send a book to every graduate. But once he reads that, then what? It is imperative that all graduates be visited. And even if that should be possible, the question still remains, then what?

We believe that the Lord has helped us to partially answer that question by combining the Sabbath School work with that of the Voice of Prophecy.

About two months ago a VOP student from one of our northern cities urgently appealed to us to assist him

and his fellow-students in the organization of a Bible study class. As it was, once a week several would gather in the home of one of them and discuss the truths they were studying. In response to this earnest appeal the VOP committee decided to print for the first time the Sabbath School Lesson Quarters and as follow-up work organize Extension Division Sabbath Schools in every place where there are three or more graduates. In this way we would be extending not only the S. S. work, but also placing in the hands of interested people a systematic plan of daily Bible study which we are sure will continue until the coming of our Lord.

Brother Morovati, the correspondence secretary of the Farsee VOP, and I have just returned from this northern city, having organized our first Extension Division Sabbath School among our VOP graduates and students. We praise God for the wonderful reception given us and the sincere expressions of their desire to more fully understand the Bible and God's will for them.

Let us all remember our newly organized Sabbath School of six members in our prayers as they meet every Sabbath afternoon from five to six o'clock to study the truths so dear to our hearts. Also pray for the scores of students who will be organized into small Sabbath schools soon in other sections of Iran.

prising our church membership rally to the work, and unite their efforts with those of ministers and church officers." —*Christian Service*, p. 68,

Be it resolved, That we send forth from this Middle East Division Session a clarion call summoning all our church members in every land to join with our ministers in a great soul-winning crusade; and further,

VOTED, 1. That this crusade begin with a call to prayer and revival in which we seek the Lord for a greater love for souls and for a revival of the soul-winning spirit.

2. That our church leadership plan for revival services in our churches, placing before our membership the need for, and great blessings accruing from, a revival of the soul-winning spirit.

3. That all our members be urged to draw up a prayer list of loved ones, friends, business acquaintances, and others interested in the message found through missionary contacts, and that they be encouraged to pray regularly for those on this list in the family

circle and in such church services as the weekly and annual Week of Prayer meetings, missionary, and Missionary Volunteer meetings.

4. That we ask those preparing the instructions for leaders in connection with the Week of Prayer services to include in these instructions suggestions based on point 3 above.

5. That our ministers and church officers plan a coordinated program of missionary work for each church, including a part for each member, implementing the prediction that "every sanctified heart will be pressed into service."—*Ibid.*, p. 11.

6. That wherever possible, training classes be conducted in every church, teaching our members how to work for souls.

7. That we encourage our lay workers to develop interests and bring souls to decision by systematic literature distribution, holding Bible studies, cottage meetings, public efforts, branch Sabbath schools, etc.

8. That we stress the plan of invit-

ing interested persons to attend church services.

9. That wherever possible a mission-wide coordinated soul-winning program be put into effect, culminating in baptism for those who are won.

LAY EVANGELISM

VOTED, That the plan to unify the entire world field in greater lay evangelism and to assure uniformity of reports be adopted as follows:

1. "120" Members

Members of the church may be commissioned as members of the "120" who attain the following four objectives:

a. Have completed the Training Light Bearers or the Christ-centered Evangelism courses.

(Note: If the individual is unable to read or write and/or is living in a place where the book "Training Light Bearers" is not available in the language, attendance at a lay evangelism training institute conducted by the mission or union Home Missionary secretary will be accepted in place of the completion of the Bible Training Course.)

b. Actively participate in one or more church missionary activities such as giving Bible studies, holding neighborhood cottage meetings, (a cottage meeting shall be defined as a meeting attended by individuals from more than one family), conducting branch Sabbath schools and Sunday schools, and following up interests created through Bible correspondence schools, Dorcas welfare, radio, literature contacts, et cetera.

c. Are instrumental in winning at least one person to the church during the two preceding years.

d. Are recommended by the church board and conference Home Missionary secretary as voted at the 1951 Autumn Council: "That for those engaged in such types of service, appropriate recognition be given to them at special church services, the names of those participating to be recommended by the church board and the conference Home Missionary secretary."

2. Lay Preachers and Lay Bible Instructors.

a. In harmony with the Autumn Council actions of 1930 and 1933 calling for strong laymen who engage in the public presentation of truth in churches, halls, school houses and cottage meetings to be recognized as "lay preachers," we recommend that men of experience in soul winning be designated as "lay preachers" and women as "lay Bible instructors" when the qualifications as stated in those recommendations are met.

HERE and THERE

* The short visit of Dr. K. J. Reynolds, in the interest of our educational work, was very much appreciated, and we were sorry when other urgent assignments called him back unexpectedly to the States. Professor E. E. Cossentine, Secretary of the Educational Department of the General Conference, replaced Brother Reynolds in his itinerary and stayed on for the Division Council.

* Miss Euphemia Bryne arrived in Beirut on the morning of October 9 and took up her duties as acting dean of women at Middle East College. We extend a hearty welcome to Miss Bryne.

* The students and faculty at Middle East College, as well as our other workers in Beirut, were happy to welcome Elder K. L. Vine and his wife when they arrived on October 21. Elder Vine is the new head of the Department of Religion at the college.

* We were happy to welcome the many delegates for the Educational Council which met in Beirut beginning on November 12, and for the Division Quadrennial Session, which convened in Beirut and Baghdad from November 19 to 30. In addition to Professor Cossentine other visitors from the General Conference were Elder W. R. Beach,

secretary; Doctor T. R. Flaiz, medical secretary; J. F. Cummins, assistant treasurer.

* Miss Marie Baart, who has served as editor of the *Messenger* since its revival three years ago, returned to the States, sailing from Beirut on December 13.

EAST MEDITERRANEAN UNION

* Mrs. Anees Haddad has just joined the V.O.P. office staff in Beirut in place of Miss Johayna Abboud who has gone to the West Indies. Brother Salim Hasbani has joined the permanent office staff of the V.O.P. in Beirut. Brother Issa Kharma of Syria recently came to work in the Union office.

* Miss Alice Yessayan, who has for over two years served as secretary to the Union president, was married to Brother Moses Elmajian of Nicosia by Pastor Manoug Nazirian on November 14. All wish them much happiness and believe that they will prove to be a great help to the church in Cyprus.

* The third quarter baptisms for the Union were twenty-two, making eighty so far this year.

* The Union Biennial Session was held in Beit Meri December 8 to 11, with a full quota of delegates in attendance.

* Brother Henry Melki rejoices in the fact that at least 35 colporteurs worked over 400 hours each this past summer. Of these, five are now employed in our organizations, and 30 are attending school. About LL 20,000.00 were their total summer sales.

Cyprus

* Brother Fund visited Nicosia recently in company with Elder C. C. Morris, and the newly purchased land was deeded to the G.C. Corporation at that time. Definite plans are being made for the new church building there.

Iraq

* A new school bus has been purchased and is carrying children to the school in Baghdad. Three schools opened in Iraq with a total enrollment of over 500 pupils, and more than 350 of

these are in Baghdad. This school has been inspected and was found to be exceptionally well run.

* The new school and church building in Mosul is now completed to the point where it is already being used. It is a real asset to our work in Iraq.

* Miss Majeeda Shamoon, head teacher in our Kirkuk school, reports fifty pupils enrolled this first year of operation.

* The new chapel in the Baghdad Hospital is already in use, and the last section of the Division Quadrennial Council was held there.

Jordan

* Brother Salah Azar has just joined the teaching force in El Husn and Brother Ibrahim Towfic has resigned from his work to take advanced studies abroad. Brother Naim Meshni is teaching in Amman at the present time.

* The church building in Amman is about completed, and it is expected that it will be ready for use before the holiday season if all goes well.

Lebanon-Syria

* Pastor W. E. Olson held a number of V.O.P. rallies in Lebanon in November.

* Among the new workers employed this fall are the following: Miss Laurice Abboud, Edward Azar, Waddad Akar, George Issa, Gabriel Catreeb, Abdul-Messieh Hamsmieh, George Moujabber, and Mrs. Manoug Nazirian.

* The Bishmazine church in North Lebanon has an active Dorcas Society, which under the sponsorship of Mrs. Daniel Kubrock has done canning, given food baskets to the needy, and prepared hundreds of articles of clothing for the poor.

* Ingathering work has proceeded with good results under the leadership of Brother Henry Melki and local church pastors and H. M. leaders.

Turkey

* A group of brethren recently visited Istanbul, and we believe that their visit was profitable and pleasant.

NILE UNION

* Our Adventist Institute has been operating since the latter part of October and has an enrollment of thirty-nine boys. The director, Brother Yacoub Nashed, and his staff are working hard and carrying a heavy responsibility in maintaining this school. In spite of limited facilities, of which water and electricity are the most important, our loyal teachers and students are carrying on. Elder and Mrs. Hugh Cowles have connected with the Institute and are taking an active part in the school program.

* At the present time seven evangelistic efforts are in progress in our Union, and so far encouraging reports

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

January 22.....	Religious Liberty
February 12.....	Hope Subscriptions
February 19.....	Middle East College
March 12.....	Foreign Missions
March 26.....	Middle East Division (Thirteenth Sabbath Overflow)

CHURCH CALENDAR

First Quarter, 1955

January 1.....	Local Church Evangelism
January 22.....	Religious Liberty Day
January 29.....	Christian Home and Family Altar Day
February 5-12.....	Hope Campaign
February 19.....	Christian Education
March 5.....	Home Visitation Day
March 12.....	Missionary Volunteer Day
March 19-26.....	M. V. Week of Prayer and Sacrifice
March 26.....	Thirteenth Sabbath, Middle East Division

are coming in. Your prayers are earnestly solicited in this matter. Elder J. S. Russell has been spending a great deal of time in the field assisting these young men who are conducting the efforts.

* After a severe illness Elder Wilson is back on the job again. His many friends wish him a speedy recovery and added strength and vigor. Brother Farag is sometimes seen around the office these days, and we are thankful for God's healing power.

* Our union president's father and mother, Elder and Mrs. N. C. Wilson, spent some time visiting in Egypt, and the Heliopolis church was fortunate in hearing several good messages from this man of experience. Traveling with the Wilsons were their son and grandson. Elder and Mrs. Wilson are on their way to the States, having spent a term of service in Indonesia.

* A new church was opened recently in the city of El Badary. Brother Fahamy Mikhail, our faithful blind brother who, with his family, lives in El Badary, will lead out in our church there. Pastor C. V. Brauer and Brother Fakry Naguib are conducting an evangelistic campaign in the Badary church during the fall and winter months. Attendance at the night meetings is so large that two services are being conducted.

* Brother Leon Megrissy, our teacher-evangelist in Tataliah, reports a good enrollment and beginning for the new school year.

* We welcome Brother Lotfy Abdel Messih to the work. He is located at East Zuwak, where he serves as teacher-evangelist. He also looks after our company of new believers in West Zuwak. Brother Daniel Doss is located at Beni-Adiat, and a spirit of revival is apparent in that place.

* Our Assiut elementary school is beginning its 7th year of operation with the highest enrollment in its history. Brother Fakhry Naguib and his fellow teachers have the school well organized and on the way to a most successful school year. The government inspector said that in his opinion it was the best school in his district, and he gave it an "A" rating.

* Congratulations to the Fikry Mikhails for their new baby girl, born in August.

* The Heliopolis Elementary School is under the direction of Brother Shafik Ghali this year, and he and his associates are putting forth every effort to make the year a good one. Joining the staff this year are Mrs. Neal Wilson, Mrs. Yvonne Nawar, Miss Sonia Nasif, and Miss Ann Stavrinides. The secondary work is carried by Mrs. Aziza Habeeb.

Delta District

* A moving service took place in our Sporting, Ramleh church when two precious souls, the first fruits of Elder Beach's campaign in the church followed their Lord through the waters of baptism on Sabbath, November 30. One of these dear souls was Nabil Fayek, brother-in-law of Dr. Maher Bishai, and he is now on the faculty of our Adventist Institute at Gab el Asfar serving the Lord. The other is a dear sister, a British subject from the island of Malta who has been following the faith for more than a year now and has at last taken her stand. The campaigns in this church in English, Greek and Arabic show fine promise.

* Regular attendance at the Arabic campaign carried out by Pastor William Gayed has proved that our new church in the center of Alexandria is a real evangelistic center. Plans have also been laid for a subsidiary effort in

one of the poorer quarters.

* In spite of much opposition and persecution the first night of the V.O.P. campaign in Mansourah has shown great promise. Pastor Beach and Pastor William Gayed and Brother Naguib Mossad report nearly 100 names gathered from visits and a harvest of souls is waiting to be brought in. Pastor Russell and Pastor Beach took the second night meeting the next week and report even larger attendance. This hydro-electric plant town, situated on the western branch of the Nile, has proved a real Macedonia. Recently the Omduh and some of the engineers of the plant as well as forty and more citizens who have all been stirred through V.O.P. lessons called at Alexandria and invited Pastors Beach and Gayed to visit their city. When our brethren arrived they were presented with a petition to open up a church in the town. The Omduh (head man) later traveled to Cairo to petition the Union President for this town and presented a document signed by nearly 100 citizens. Pastors Beach and Gayed have since held meetings there weekly but a regular worker is needed. Pray for the work in the Delta.

IRAN

* R. C. Skinner reports that twenty-three evangelistic meetings have been held to date in the Tehran Armenian church with an average attendance of eighty-two. A good interest is developing and we solicit the prayers of our faithful members everywhere that we may reap a harvest.

* Brethren A. G. Zytkoskee and K. S. Oster made a month-long itinerary through Iran in October, and report a good interest in the V.O.P. lessons. A number of branch and extension Sabbath schools were started with these students.

SPECIAL APPEAL

To All Sabbath School Members in the Middle East Division:

The Thirteenth Sabbath Overflow Offering for the first quarter of 1955 from all our world Sabbath schools will be sent to the Middle East to provide a medical launch for the Nile River and an evangelistic center for the city of Beirut. We appeal to our Sabbath school members throughout the Middle East to especially remember this offering by making the last week of the quarter a special week of prayer and sacrifice, each day praying earnestly for God's work in the Middle East, as well as each day setting aside something toward a real sacrifice offering for the last Sabbath of the quarter.—George J. Appel.