



IT'S OPEN!

January-February 1968
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Middle East Messenger

The New Benghazi Adventist Hospital

For nearly 12 years the staff of the Benghazi Adventist Hospital in Libya has worked in a crowded and inefficient physical plant which was created by renovating a hotel building in downtown Benghazi. The 25 hospital beds in the old building were almost always filled and the outpatient clinic was chronically overflowing with patients.

It was with understandable interest and impatience that staff and employees looked forward to the completion of the new 65-bed Adventist Hospital which had been under construction since January 1966 in Fueihat, a residential suburb of Benghazi.

The climax of all this eager expectation and long planning came in a three-day program of activities planned by the hospital administration for the dedication of the new institution.

By HERSCHEL C. LAMP, M.D.

The first service was designed for the English-speaking staff of the hospital. An address on the theme "We Dedicate Our Lives" was given by MED Medical Secretary Herschel C. Lamp Monday evening, January 15. The following evening a similar program was presented in the Arabic language by Division Evangelist George Khoury who delivered an address titled "We Dedicate Our Talents" for the benefit of the hospital's Arabic-speaking employees, many of whom are Muslims.

On January 17, at 3:30 p.m., the official ceremonies marking the public dedication and opening of the hospital were conducted. About 500 guests, patrons, and friends of the hospital were seated just outside the main entrance for the outdoor convocation.

Music for the occasion was provided by the Cyrenaica Defense Force Band which featured a large bagpipe section in addition to the usual drums and brass instruments.

Chairman for the occasion was MED President Frederick C. Webster, chairman of the hospital's board of directors. Dr. Lamp summarized the history of Adventist medical work giving recognition to Mr. and Mrs. Rafic Issa and Mr. and Mrs. Munir Masloub who have worked at the Benghazi Adventist Hospital since its founding.

Special tribute was paid to Dr. Roy Cornell who established the hospital but was compelled to leave his work in 1957 following a tragic attack of paralytic poliomyelitis.

Dr. D. Clifford Ludington, medical director, and Mr. Cleo Johnson, busi-

(See *NEW HOSPITAL*, p. 3)



TALKING TOGETHER

Nearly 25 years ago in one of her columns entitled "Let's Talk it Over," which appeared for many years in *The Youth's Instructor*, Laura Clement told the story of a young minister who, before leaving his parish in England's agricultural Midlands, for a larger and more important city pastorate, went to bid farewell to one of his elderly parishioners.

"Well, sir," she said, "you'll be packing up your things, I expect."

"Yes," he replied; "I have almost finished."

"There's one thing you won't be able to pack up, sir," she told him; "one thing you'll have to leave behind when you go."

"I don't understand — what is that?" questioned the minister.

"You can't pack your influence and take it with you, sir," she answered quietly.

The old lady expressed a vital truth which we must all heed. Influence is an inescapable part of living from which we can never be freed. Someone has said, "Even a hair casts a shadow."

In the process of daily living we touch the lives of many people. Perhaps this is true even to a greater extent among those who read the pages of *The Messenger*. You are largely ministers, teachers, institutional employees, or office workers. You are almost continually surrounded by people who are greatly affected by what you do and what you say and how you live.

Are the lives of others made more Christ-like because of their association with you. Has the beauty of the character of Jesus been so vividly reflected in your life that others by sensing the warmth of your kindness, your dedication to truth, and your faithfulness to duty are led closer to the Divine pattern? If this is the product of your influence you may be assured that God is dwelling within you and that the Holy Spirit is directing your life. Remember that Paul stated the fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, long suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness, and self-control. *Galatians 5:22*, R.V. If your life is filled with these qualities to the extent that they spill over and flood the lives of others with these same fruits, then your influence will be uplifting and beneficial to those about you.

Influence, of course, can be just as great a factor for evil as for good. If your life should be contaminated with hatred, melancholy, strife, intolerance, harshness, selfishness or haughtiness, these un-Christlike qualities would most certainly adversely affect the lives of those about you, making your influence negative and creating an un-Christlike environment.

As we face the duties and challenges of each new day, let us ever keep upon the throne of our minds the important fact that from our lives shadows are cast upon the lives of others: the shadows of influence. May yours be an influence that will build Christian characters among those whose lives you touch.

Paul wrote, "None of us liveth to himself." *Romans 14:7*, R.V. And on another occasion he penned these remarkable words, "Be ye imitations of me, even as I also am of Christ." *I Corinthians 11:1*, R.V.

"Whether we will it or not, we cannot journey without leaving footprints, and others will follow where we go because we have marked the way."

A. C. Webster

500 Greet New
Medical Center



NEW HOSPITAL

ness manager, expressed their appreciation for the assistance rendered the hospital by generous-minded patrons, various local business men, the oil companies of Libya, and the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Representatives of the patrons, businessmen, and oil companies expressed their appreciation for the past work of the hospital and extended their best wishes for its continued success.

Pastor H. L. Bland, a vice president of the General Conference, addressed the convocation as the official representative of the Seventh-day Adventist Church's world headquarters in Washington.

The principal speaker of the day was the Kingdom of Libya's minister of health, Mr. Omar Giouda. The climax of his address was the announcement of a gift of Li£ 10,000 to the hospital by King Idriss I. The royal gift lifted the total of solicited or unsolicited local contributions to the hospital to about Li£ 30,000—nearly U.S.\$85,000.

The Italian-marble cornerstone inscribed "To the Glory of God and the Service of Humanity" was unveiled by MED Secretary Ray L. Jacobs. Pastor A. E. Gibb, an associate secretary of the General Conference, delivered the dedicatory prayer.

Minister of Health Giouda cut the ribbon, the hospital was declared open, and guests were the given guided tours of the new medical facility.

The next day, January 18, patients began their visits to the outpatient clinic even though regular bus transportation from the heart of the city to the hospital was not yet in operation.



Bland



For God

and

fellow man . . .

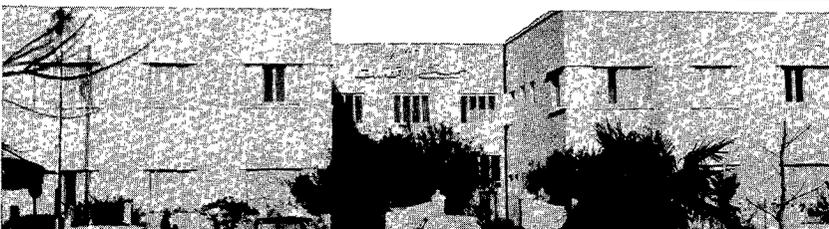


Ludington



Johnson

*All things new—
the former have passed away!*



Korean Nurses Arrive;

Two nurses from Seoul, Korea, have arrived in Libya for service at the new Adventist Hospital in Benghazi. They are the first Koreans to be assigned to an overseas hospital.

The nurses are Oh Hea Ja (Debra), 26, and Cho Chung Cha (Helga), 25, both graduates of the Seoul Sanitarium and Hospital School of Nursing. They were formerly employed by that medical institution in Seoul. Since their appointments to the Middle East were confirmed last spring, Debra and Helga have spent considerable time developing their skills in the English language.

Debra specialized in surgical nursing while Helga is a general duty nurse. The director of the Seoul Sanitarium and Hospital School of Nursing, Miss Harriet Dinsmore, has given excellent recommendations for the girls and has

Helga



Cho Chung Cha



Korean Union President C. A. Williams (right) and Seoul Sanitarium Medical Director Louis Erich offered their congratulations to the foreign mission appointees, first from Korea. That's Helga on the left, Debra on the right.

high hopes for their successful tour of duty in an overseas post.

Debra was born in Chun Buk, south of Seoul. She received her education at Korean Union College, graduating nearly four years ago. She has two brothers.

Helga comes from Mook Ho, Kang Wan Do, and has three brothers and two sisters, all of whom are Seventh-day Adventists. She took a pharmacy course in Seoul before beginning her nursing studies.

Says Korean Union President Cecil A. Williams: "These girls are extremely happy that they can go out as missionaries to another country. We feel that



Wearing national costume, Debra and Helga, as missionaries to a foreign land, are accompanied by headquarters officials and staff members. From left: Mrs. Richard Wilmot, Pastor at Yared. With the nurses in the

KOREA'S FIRST

Debra



Join Benghazi Staff

this is a wonderful trend and a very important step for the Korean Union. It is our hope that many more young people from Korea will go out to other parts of the world field to bring the wonderful message of peace and joy to others."

Impetus to the call from the Middle East Division was given in November 1966 when Pastor Ralph S. Watts, vice president of the General Conference, personally appealed to the nursing staff of the Seoul Sanitarium for volunteers. Six responded, but the list was soon narrowed to two—Debra and Helga.

Since that time arrangements have been under way for passports, visas, work permits, and other necessary details in order to get them ready to leave Korea.

Debra and Helga arrived in Beirut

Debra



Oh Hea Ja



Helga, Korea's first Adventist missionary to the Middle East Division by Pictured are (back row) Mr. and Mrs. Frederick C. Webster, Pastor and Ray L. Jacobs, and Mr. George Mrs. Nazi Stour and Miss Mary



Far Eastern Division Assistant Secretary Don A. Roth showed Helga and Debra where Benghazi, Libya, is located when he consulted with the two nurses shortly after they received their appointments to the Middle East.

for a week-end visit early in February. They continued to Benghazi on Monday, February 5, where they are now on duty at the new Adventist Hospital.

Meanwhile, the MED secretary's office confirmed two more appointments of personnel to be attached to the hospital staff. They are:

* Miss Carmelita Coloma, presently a secretary at the Philippine Publishing House, to be a staff secretary.

* Miss Ellen Lorenz, nursing student at Columbia Union College, who becomes the first Adventist student missionary to be assigned to the Middle East.

MIDDLE EAST WORKERS

Helga



A Million Prayers a Day

The Church is throbbing with excitement! Never before in our history has the Seventh-day Adventist Church world-wide united in a program that will produce over a million prayers a day in behalf of its youth.

And why not? In a thousand ways God is announcing the nearness of His second coming. Evil is multiplying. God's youth give evidence in this hour of a deepening consecration to evangelistic witnessing.

Missionary Volunteers around the world are in the midst of the greatest soul-winning program they have ever undertaken: the winning of 100,000 for baptism by 1970. Reports indicate we are already approaching 50,000 toward our "Mission 70" MV goal of 100,000.

To keep the excitement high and to keep the action fast, the General Conference has planned that the special feature of MV Week, March 16-23, will be a world-wide program of united prayer in behalf of Adventist youth. The chief request in each of the million prayers a day to be offered: fulfillment of our need for spiritual revival and for the power of the Holy Spirit.

Here's more about the plan:

Leaders from the General Conference in Washington to the tiniest mission outpost anywhere will join in prayer in behalf of our youth and their evangelistic program during MV Week.

Church pastors everywhere will coordinate prayer services for the youth during MV Week.

Parents around the world will participate in the prayer program.

And youth themselves will participate actively in MV Week, invoking as never before the presence of the Holy Spirit. Youth in every church institution from the first grade to the university level must be involved.

The daily prayer program lists the following schedule: Sabbath, March 16 (MV Day)—prayers for worldwide revival among Adventist youth; Sunday, March 17—prayers for the youth of your local church; March 18—the youth of the Australasian and Central European division; Wednesday, March 20—the youth of the Middle East, North American, and Northern European divisions; Thursday, March 21—the youth of the South American and Southern European divisions; Friday, March 22—the youth of the Southern European and Trans-Africa divisions, and the youth of Eastern Europe; and Sabbath, March 23—prayers for total youth consecration and the success of "Mission 70"—MV Target 100,000.

The Middle East Messenger believes in the youth of the Middle East. We pray that many of the million prayers a day will come from the Middle East and be for the youth of the Middle East!

Two Million Dollars for Mission

Much publicity has been given to the fact that the General Conference is expecting the Sabbath School Department to raise \$2 million or more through Sabbath School Investment during 1968.

The tremendous needs of our ever-growing and expanding work in the mission fields and our belief that the coming of Jesus is very near justifies this extraordinary appeal to our entire membership around the world. We plead for 100% participation. All should be encouraged to do something. Our response to this—and other similar appeals—will determine to considerable extent the future course of Adventist witness in many areas including, for instance, the Middle East.

God has dealt liberally with us. This is our opportunity to do something extraordinary for Him. Invest a little time or money and then watch God multiply your efforts through the Sabbath School Investment plan. It will mean souls saved.

This is a unique opportunity for our loyal members to meet one of the greatest and most urgent appeals of its kind ever to made to the Church. This is not an ordinary appeal. It is made with the conviction that this is our day of opportunity. It is therefore made with the utmost confidence that all our loyal members in every land will respond, doing their best to meet this timely challenge.

Specifically, our objectives are (1) 100% participation (2) to raise \$2 million (3) in 1968!

focus

BY CHARLES MILLS

Dr. Lamp: More 5-Day Plans

Dr. Herschel C. Lamp, where was your most recent 5-Day Plan held?

The thirteenth 5-Day Plan to be held in the Middle East was conducted January 21-25 in the Assuit, Egypt, Seventh-day Adventist Church. This was the first time that one of these programs was held in a church which is not also known as a cultural center.

Who worked with you in the program?

Pastor Fakhry Naguib and his two ministerial interns, Nathan Malaka and Michael Fahmi, did a splendid job in advertising, public relations, and in making necessary preparations for the 5-Day Plan.

The associate speaker was Division Evangelist George Khoury, who presented the psychology lectures. The night after the 5-Day Plan ended, Evangelist Khoury and his teammate, Division Evangelist Salim Japas, began a two-week series of evangelistic meetings in the church in Assuit. Thirty persons who had attended the anti-smoking clinic also came to the meetings.

Please tell us something more about the various meetings of this first 5-Day Plan in Upper Egypt.

Although the church seated only 150 persons, we had an average attendance of about 175 every evening. Our registration questionnaires showed that the smokers who attended our meetings in Assuit smoked an average of only 14 cigarettes a day and had been smoking only about 12 years. This is in contrast to the usual 5-Day Plan participant who characteristically has smoked 20 cigarettes a day for 20 years. On closing night we learned that 81 persons had broken the cigarette habit during the meetings.

(See Focus, p. 7)

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*On leave		

TRANSITION

BY BERTA JACOBS



ARRIVALS Doctor of Dental Surgery *John Sines* and family (see above, left to right): *Valerie*, 8; *Nancy*, 5; Wife *Jane* holding *Jacqueline*, 4; and *John, Jr.*; in *Benghazi* January 13, 1968. In order to accept the mission call, Dr. Sines donated his home, office building, and dental practice to the *Chesapeake Conference*. . . *Antar Yacoub*, in *Benghazi*, January 8, to serve as a hospital accountant. His family will join him after the close of school. . . Now fulltime students at *Middle East College*: *Shehada Halabi*, pastor and departmental secretary in the *Lebanon Section*, and *Fuad Ashkar*, pastor of the *Mosul, Iraq*, district.

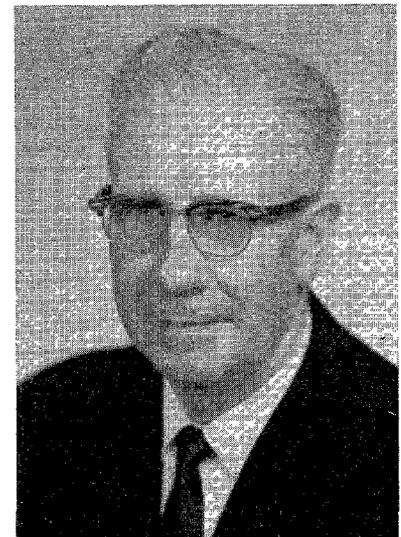
APPOINTMENTS *Barbara Beaven*, daughter of the president of *Columbia Union College*, to a teaching post at *Beirut Overseas School*. . . *Dar as-Salam International's Richard Lee Fenn* to be associate temperance secretary in the *Lebanon Section* in addition to his previously assigned work.

'Mr. Sabbath School' Surveys Division

Pastor Gerald R. Nash, secretary of the *General Conference Sabbath School Department* in *Washington*, began a lengthy *Middle East* itinerary in *Istanbul* on *January 29*. *MED Sabbath School Secretary Curtis Miller* is traveling with the visiting minister who is known around the world as "Mister Sabbath School."

Chief purpose of Pastor Nash's tour of the *Middle East* is the promotion of *Vacation Bible Schools*, *Branch Sabbath Schools*, and the *Sabbath School Investment Plan*.

After visiting *Turkey, Iran, and Iraq*, Pastor Nash declared:



"I feel that the *Middle East Division* is on the verge of a breakthrough. Two of the ways God will bring this breakthrough to pass is through *Vacation Bible Schools* and *Branch Sabbath Schools*. I look forward to seeing hundreds of these conducted in the *Middle East Division* during the current quadrennial period.

"Mister Sabbath School" continued his observations:

"I am very encouraged with the *Sabbath School* work being carried on in the *Middle East* in general, and with the *Investment program* in particular. I can see a definite possibility that the *Middle East Division*, though it is the smallest division in membership, may lead the world field in the amount raised per capital for *Investment*.

"Pastor Miller states that this is entirely possible if every section works toward the goal. We strive for 100% membership participation in the *Investment Plan* during 1968!"

focus

Did you have time to visit any of our other churches in the Upper Egypt region?

Yes, Pastors Japas and Khoury and I visited our churches and members in *Beni Adi* and *Tataliyeh*. It was a special privilege to visit *Beni Adi* which was our first church in *Egypt* and to see the home where pioneer Missionary *George Keough* lived when he went there over 55 years ago. I also had two meetings in the southernmost church in the *Middle East Division*, at *Luxor*, the city world famous for its ancient *Egyptian* tombs and magnificent ruins.

Shortly after this interview Dr. Lamp went to *Abadan, Iran*, to conduct a 5-Day *Plan training program* for *Iranian physicians*. He and Dr. Joseph Khoury, secretary of education in the *Lebanon Section*, will be in *Ras Beirut, Lebanon*, for an all *English language 5-Day Plan* beginning *Sunday, March 31*, sponsored by *Dar as-Salam International*.

GC V.P. Studies (Do You?)

General Conference Vice President Ralph S. Watts sets the trend for ministerial self-improvement by registering



for the *Home Study Institute's* new course in *Asian Backgrounds* prepared by *Pacific Union College's Asian Studies Specialist Wilbur Nelson*. *HSI* in *Washington* offers many interesting subjects to the church worker who wants to improve his ability to serve.

Jordan Effort Wins 8 Baptisms

BY GEORGE KHOURY

The first revival series held by Division Evangelists Salim Japas and George Khoury was conducted in Al Husn and Irbid, Jordan, from December 1-17.

The work in Al Husn has been established since 1930. Many of the Jordan Section workers come from this village in the northern part of the kingdom. Pastor Najeeb Azar is presently in charge of the district. His father was among the first group to accept the truth.

It was a real joy and thrill for the evangelistic team to lead these revival services. On the opening night about 60 persons came to each of the two

meetings. But the attendance increased rapidly to the extent that an average of 350 were coming to the Al Husn meeting, requiring us to conduct two programs—one for the children and another for the adults.

In Irbid the attendance was around 150 each night. Farid Sammour, the principal of our school in Irbid, and his faculty, Misses Wasmieh Fanik and Salwa Saad, cooperated and helped

wholeheartedly in both of the efforts. The Spirit of the Lord was felt to be present in a remarkable way.

The climax of these meetings was a baptism held on Sabbath, December 16. Five persons were baptized. Pastor Azar informed us later that three others have already followed the Lord in baptism. He reported that as he gave an appeal from the baptistry, seven more persons indicated their desire to be baptized in the very near future.

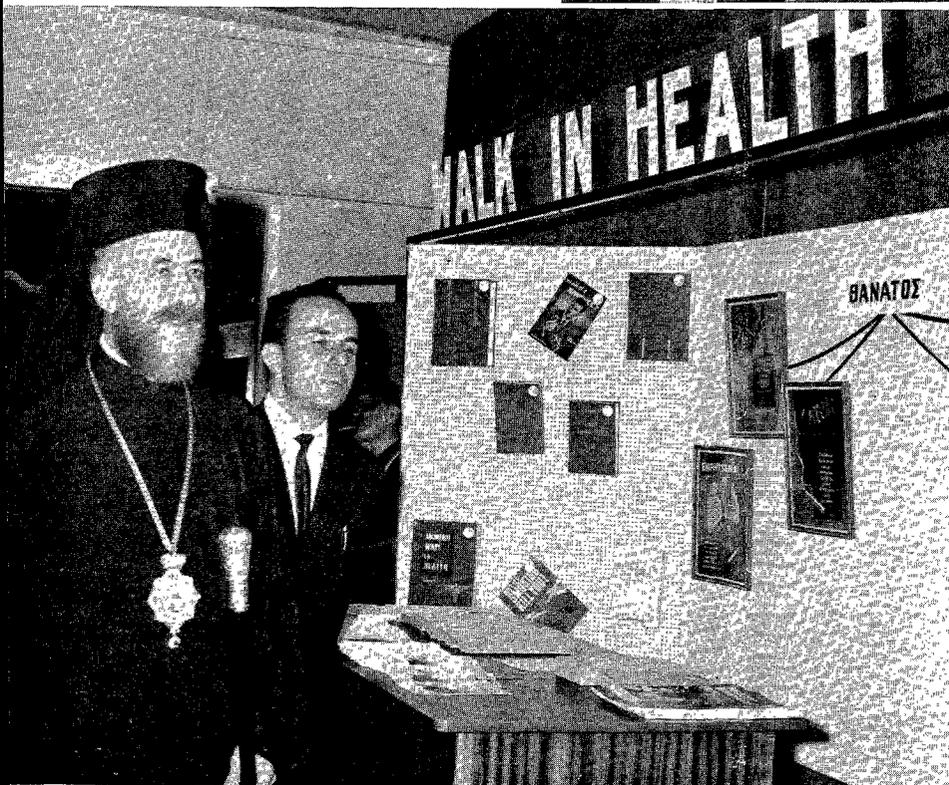
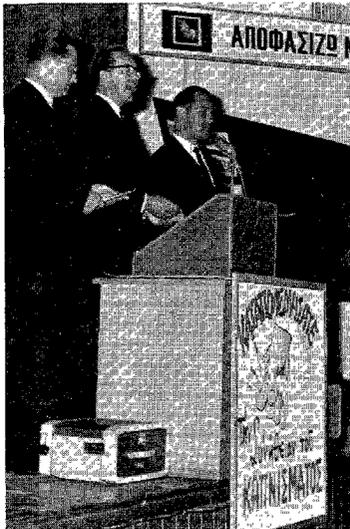
265 Pack Program in Upper Egypt

Division Evangelists Salim Japas and George Khoury report from Assuit, Upper Egypt:

"Last night 265 persons were present. We are using the pastor's office and the entry way in addition to the auditorium to accommodate the people.

"Next Sabbath we hope to baptize eight adults. The possibilities here are tremendous.

"Tell Dr. Lamp that 97 persons who attended The 5-Day Plan which preceded the campaign have been able to stop smoking. Many have attended our meetings."



It Works--Even in Greek!

LEFT: Archbishop Makarios, president of the Republic of Cyprus, visits the Cyprus Section-sponsored temperance booth at the 13th International Cyprus Fair. His guide is Temperance Secretary Moses Elmadjian.

UPPER LEFT: Middle East College President Kenneth L. Vine, Middle East Division Medical Secretary Herschel C. Lamp, and Greek Mission President Nick Germanis (Southern European Division) teamed for a successful 5-Day Plan in Nicosia—the first held anywhere in the Greek language.

ABOVE, Dr. Odysseus Ioannides, the mayor of Nicosia, opens The 5-Day Plan.