



VOLUME 1

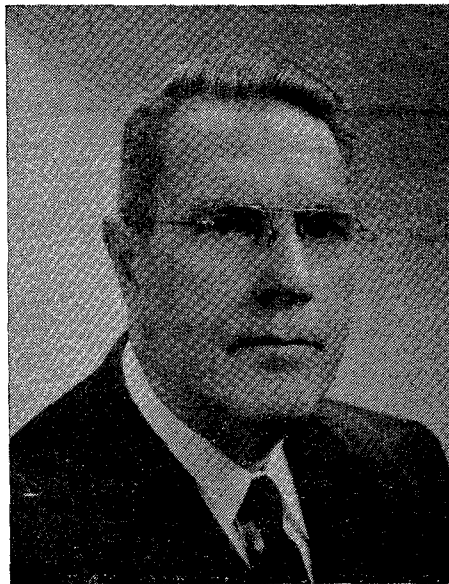
MARCH, 1951

NUMBER 1

Greetings From the President

THIS first issue of the *NORTHERN LIGHT* carries heartiest greetings from Division headquarters in Edgware to workers and members in all of the countries comprising our new Division territory. We rejoice greatly in the bonds of fellowship and service that bind our very interesting countries together in one big, united family. Our rejoicing is the greater when we consider the widely diversified groups and areas comprising our field. From the lands of the midnight sun—Iceland, Greenland, and Scandinavia—and through Britain and nearly all of Northern Europe, including Holland, Finland, and Poland, we go to the torrid heat of low-lying West Africa, and then on to the altitudes of that ancient land of Ethiopia. Our constituency constitutes a veritable United Nations—without, however, the disunity so often prevailing there. At a time when on every hand national and other barriers seem to be accentuated, how good it is to belong to a movement that moves unitedly on to a common and glorious objective. And not only does the movement move on, but it gathers from every nation, kindred, tongue, and people, those whose lives have been illumined by the light of the blessed third angel's message.

As a reminder of that light, and as a means of inspiring and guiding this happy band, and binding them together, our



Division paper, the *NORTHERN LIGHT*, is to play an important part. We want it to create a Division-consciousness and to meet some of our individual and peculiar needs, making and keeping us acquainted with each other, and enlisting the forces of all of our fields in accomplishing our own entrusted task.

Our Division has come into existence at a critical time—probably the most critical time in the history of the world. Men's hearts are failing. The long-predicted darkness is covering the earth, and gross darkness the people; but thank God,

despite the encroaching gloom, this promise to His people shines in brightest splendour: "The Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising." Isaiah 60: 2.

It is not to a lethargic, apathetic people that this promise is given. It is to a people who have heeded the injunction, "Arise, shine; for thy light is come." In the Northern European Division there are 36,965 such, and what a glorious privilege it is to be among them!—To have **EVANGELISM** as our constant watchword—Evangelism in every community, and that means a daily lay-witnessing in countless ways. Evangelism in our home conferences and fields, and that means united, organized efforts to proclaim this message mightily from every platform and pulpit that we can enter, and utilizing every possible means that we can lay hold of—literature (our own and the public press), our hospitals, sanitariums, and schools, the radio, Bible Correspondence Schools, and every other God-given agency in an all-out endeavour to present our message in the quickest possible time to the greatest possible number. And finally Evangelism abroad, and that means the vast mission territories now placed under our responsibility. By our gifts, our prayers, and our sons and

daughters, we have an unparalleled task to achieve. We must do it with our eyes on the clock—God's great clock—whose hands even now point to the closing hours of human history. We must rescue men and women everywhere, including our own loved ones, from the clutch of the evil one, with a realization that mercy's door is about to close, and a terrible doom is the lot of those we fail to save.

We look for GREAT TRIUMPHS in the coming days. They are long overdue, and we must now claim them under the promised power of God. From every part of our great Division we want trophies to present at the coming of the Master.

In the undertaking of this great task

our hearts are going to be gladdened and new inspiration is going to come to us as the cry of victory is heard from every corner of our field. As a medium for the sounding of that cry we commend the NORTHERN LIGHT. Read of the experiences of others and send in your own experiences, and from lip to lip let the story of conquests be passed. Thus will new inspiration and new power stimulate our service for God.

May God bless you all in your service and may conquests for Him be recounted, not only in eternity, but now in this present hour, when men's hearts need just such inspiration and blessing that your experience can bring. A. F. TARR.

GREETINGS FROM THE M.V. DEPARTMENT

By E. L. Minchin

TO THE thousands of loyal-hearted Advent youth and to the leaders of youth throughout our far-flung Northern European Division, we send our warmest greetings. We are a large and happy family reaching from beyond the Arctic Circle in the Land of the Midnight Sun, where our most northerly church in the world is found, to ancient Ethiopia and the great West African Union.

In the centuries gone by, God has raised from these ancient lands many champions of faith and righteousness and mighty spiritual awakenings have stirred the world. In these momentous days God will do such a work again. Our youth stand ready. Given right leadership they will attempt anything and go anywhere for God.

At first I wondered whether differences of nationality and language might make it difficult to come really close to our youth in other countries. But from my first visit to Denmark and then to Holland, Scandinavia, and Finland, we have felt no barrier at all, for we have in our hearts something that lifts us above national boundaries and unites us as one in Christ Jesus and members of the same wonderful family. In this spirit of love and unity and by His grace, the youth of Northern Europe must go forward in a new crusade for God and for souls. Thousands of Christless youth throng our cities. Many youth in our own churches must be soon led into a saving knowledge of Christ or they will be lost. Time is short, and what we do we must do quickly.

With the urgency of this task in our hearts, we are this year planning and praying for the greatest Advent Youth Congress in the history of our work in Europe, to be held in Paris from July 24th to 29th. God will meet with His youth at that time. They will hear a mighty call and arise in the power of a new consecration and go forth with crusading zeal to the accomplishment of their glorious task—"The Advent Message to All the World in This Generation." God bless our Missionary Volunteers.

GREETINGS TO THE FIELD

By G. D. King

THE CALL has been sounded for a more aggressive and effective evangelism throughout the world field. It has been clearly indicated that our times and our task demand of us all deeper consecration and keener efficiency in the service we render to the Lord and to our cause. As we send this word of greeting to the field we wish to emphasize the fact that the Publishing, Religious Liberty, and Press Relations interests are weapons of evangelism that must be fostered and mobilized throughout our Division territory. It is our desire to serve the field, not merely in "departmental promotion," but in such a way as to harness these great interests to the total task of real soul-winning progressive evangelism in every field.

It is not necessary to emphasize here that the publishing work has been ordained of God and has been used mightily in pioneering and strengthening our work in every part of the world. That it will be used even more mightily in the finishing of the work of God is clearly indicated in the writings of the Spirit of prophecy. It is for every leader and every colporteur to be prepared to move forward into the larger possibilities which God has for us.

It is also apparent that in these crisis days the issue of religious liberty will be more prominently enforced. The trend toward state control and monopoly is

world wide and the consequent clash between religious and state interests is in many countries already an issue of freedom of conscience. It is, therefore, vitally important that every leader in the church shall be aware of the trends in his own field and district in order that he may rightly advise and guide those who will stand in need of counsel in the crisis hour. It will be our purpose to assist whenever possible, but it should be remembered that "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

Proper publicity is a great "hand-maiden" of evangelism, and newspaper publicity is undoubtedly the most effective because it is the most widely read. More and more ways and means must be found of bringing the Advent message to the attention of the newspaper-reading millions. Here is a field of evangelism which should be intelligently explored by our evangelists and pastors in such a way as to open the doors to a much wider publicity for the great principles of our message. Newspaper clippings reaching us indicate that in some parts of the Division this avenue of approach is being fruitfully used. "There is great need of men who can use the press to the best advantage, that the truth may be given wings to speed it to every nation, and tongue, and people."—"Gospel Workers," page 25.

May the Lord lead us all into a more effective use of these great assets that are ours as we foster the Publishing, Religious Liberty, and Press Relations interests in every part of the Division.

GREETINGS FROM THE MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION

By T. J. Bradley

IN THIS first issue of the voice of the Northern European Division, the NORTHERN LIGHT, I take pleasure in sending greetings to our evangelists and pastors and Bible instructors from the Ministerial Association. Somehow our task brings us very close to each other in prayerful understanding, and binds us all together as a family, possessed of one great purpose. We understand the needs and the challenge of our various fields. We interpret life and time from the same prophetic sources. We look for the same joyful climax to our efforts, and share in the determination to consecrate our powers to the finishing of God's work in the earth. Surely there is already realized among us some measure of the desire of Jesus for His church when He said: "That they may be one, as We are."

And this unity constitutes part of our power in proclaiming the message for to-day. But as we look upon the territories of our Northern European Division and see the teeming millions of people still wandering aimlessly along the world's highways and giving little thought to the implications for them of our Lord's return, we are impressed again with the urgent necessity of having God's Holy Spirit empower us to do with greater speed and more success the work of warning the world and bringing to men a saving knowledge of the truth.

The hour is very late. The structure of civilization is showing serious signs of collapsing. The perplexities of national leaders increase with each passing hour. We cannot turn to them for guidance in our work. Their problems are greater than they themselves can solve. Brethren and sisters, let us turn to God in a new spirit of dedication to our work, and rest not content with former accomplishments. Keep our eyes upon a world perishing without Christ, and labour on with commensurate zeal. But let us also remember that God's gracious heavenly power is for us and is intended to be our equipment in this closing battle for truth. Determine

that the Spirit of God will equip us and use us as never before that soon we may all go home to "see His face." I pray God to give us each fruitful years in soul-winning as a prelude to the rest of our eternal home.



"Northern Light"

DURING the recent Winter Council at Skodsborg it was voted that the Northern European Division Committee issue a monthly paper in order to foster the interests of the newly organized Division. It was in December, 1939, that the last issue of the *Advent Survey* appeared.

In this first issue of our new paper, the NORTHERN LIGHT, we have endeavoured to give you a glimpse of what has recently transpired in the organizing of this great and interesting Division. In our next issue we plan to give reports from the six unions which constitute our field of labour. Thus may we all become better acquainted and, as we face the future together, may we the more intelligently hold up one another's arms in prayer.

It will ever be the aim of this paper to bring before the workers in this scattered Division the triumphs and progress of the message. From the inception of the Advent movement the printed page has played an important part in keeping before the workers the needs of the hour and arousing the church to constant action. Never in all time have the Advent people been challenged as they are to-day to do

better and greater things for God. Certain it is that no group of men since the dawn of time have faced a task of such magnitude. May the spirit of this paper ever constitute an incessant urge to go FORWARD into the fields that are white already to harvest.

The title of our paper, the NORTHERN LIGHT, has been chosen with no little thought. When the ministry in this Division become ablaze for God, they will shed abroad Heaven's burning, shining light into every corner of this field as they raise aloft the mighty torch of truth. Thus will this great land become lightened with the glory of the Lord. Sister White says: "As they [workers] make God their dependence, He will give them His brightness to reflect to the world."

Oh, may the NORTHERN LIGHT shine on until this great Division is flooded with the light of the Sun of righteousness, and our task on earth completed.

Miss Louise C. Kleuser has very appropriately expressed these thoughts in the following stanzas dedicated to the Advent ministry:

Aflame for God

"His ministers a living flame
Of glory, truth, and power,
Ablaze for God in ev'ry land
In earth's great judgment hour!
Anointed lips, touched with the warmth
Of heav'nly altar fired;
All sin consumed, the heart renewed
Yields service love inspired.

"God's ministry, ablaze reveals
Heaven's burning, shining light;
The Spirit's piercing rays dispel
The gloom of Egypt's night!
With vision clear, with zeal they raise
Their mighty torch of truth;
Each veteran of the cross well vies
With stalwart Advent youth.

"Aflame for God! Empowered anew!
His messengers proclaim
The Gospel's solemn, final call
In Jesus' holy name!
Clothed with His robe of righteousness,
Each lifts his torch on high;
Earth's darkest bounds reflect their light—
The King of kings draws nigh!"

We solicit the aid of every worker in bearing the responsibility of making this paper a mighty force for good in this the Northern European Division.

THE EDITOR.

GREETINGS TO THE HOME MISSIONARY WORKERS

By Axel Varmer

A GREAT work is before us in the Northern European Division. Our territory extending from Iceland in the far north, with its thousands of hot springs, volcanoes, and storm-beaten highlands, to palmy, tropical Nigeria; from the boundary post along the Polish-Russian border to the British Isles, is of tremendous dimension. And then think of the many interesting people living inside our borders! The Laps on the roof of the world, the high cultural nations in Europe, and the awakening millions in Africa.

The weighty obligation of warning this galaxy of peoples, tongues, and nations of the coming doom and bringing to them the light of salvation is upon us as workers in the Northern European Division. We must not only enter territories, cities, towns, and villages, but we must "go from house to house." "Not one soul is to be left in darkness."

For this work the whole church must be educated and trained, it must put on Christ's working clothes of love and self-sacrifice.

How can that be done?

Home Missionary secretaries are God's men for just that kind of work. By training the laity to co-operate with the ministry, we are multiplying the very limited staff of workers into thousands. "Were every one of you a living missionary, the message for this time would speedily be proclaimed in all countries, to every people and nation and tongue."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, page 438.

Personally, I count it a great privilege to be associated with my fellow Home Missionary secretaries in the unions and local conferences in this work. Through the NORTHERN LIGHT I hope we all can exchange ideas and experiences in order to foster and develop missionary activities in our churches.

May the love of Christ be our motive in service; prayer our source of power, and the unsaved millions in our Division the mighty challenge.

Itinerating in Sweden and Finland

By E. L. Minchin

FOR many years I have secretly cherished a hope that some day I might visit what seemed to me the most fascinating countries in the world—Norway and Sweden. I had read and seen pictures of beautiful fjords, snow and sports, the midnight sun and friendly, hospitable people. Now God has granted me my desire in a way that, until recently, I never thought would be possible. And I have not been disappointed even though I have not yet been to the far north.

I have, in recent months, visited Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and Finland. It was winter and in most places the snow lay deep, but that seemed to lend enchantment to the scenery. Above all, the love and hospitality of God's people in every place, even though I could not speak the language, made me know that indeed it was a privilege to belong to the Advent family. I was greatly inspired by the many groups of loyal-hearted, earnest youth in all of these lands. How wonderful it is to witness the triumph of God's message in human hearts of every nationality.

I was especially impressed with the splendid army of young people in our colleges and sanitariums. I found our folk hungry for spiritual blessings and responsive to the call for a deeper consecration.

At our Ekebyholm College, the Lord's presence was markedly felt. The principal, Brother Gidlund, has for many years held the affection and esteem of our young people in training in Sweden. In all the places we visited, our youth loved to learn and to sing our English choruses. Shall we ever forget the joy and inspiration of singing together "He Lives," "It Is Morning in My Heart," and "Roll, Roll Your Burdens Away"? I can still picture the faculty and students in the three colleges, Onsrud, Ekebyholm, and Toivonlinna, standing in the snow singing these songs as we parted.

The morning I arrived in Turku, Finland, it looked as though we had come to the North Pole. Our ship ploughed her way through the sea of thick ice which had been broken up to make a pas-

sageway. Sea birds sat disconsolately on the ice blocks watching for food from the boat. The harbour sheds were heavily loaded with ice and snow and the workmen were cutting it and shovelling it from the roof. Icicles at least two feet long hung from the eaves. And an Australian stepped off the boat into this! Brrr—! People went around muffled up with Russian-looking headgear and wearing heavy top coats. They laughed at my summer overcoat as they called it! I thought it was heavy according to English standards. However, the warmth and hospitality of our people in beautiful Finland made up for the cold.

God has greatly blessed the work in this land and we have now over 5,000 members. The first evening I spoke to about 300 members in the Turku church, a beautiful building with lovely light furnishings.

I enjoyed a memorable three days with the faculty and students of the Toivonlinna Mission School and Brother Karstrom is a godly man and one of Finland's leading scientists—a biochemist.

While on the Continent some wonderfully interesting news was told me about our work in Russia.

Since the war two Russian ministers of religion came over from Moscow. Some of our brethren contacted them and inquired as to whether they knew anything of our work or people in Moscow. They said, yes, they did. They gave the names of two of our leaders and the address of our headquarters. Our brethren sent a letter to our leaders in Moscow inviting them to a conference shortly to be held on the Continent. They received a telegram in reply from our brethren in Moscow sending greetings and wishing them God's blessing, but stating that the invitation came too late for them to make the necessary arrangements.

One of our leaders also told me of the experience of a certain man who had received his education in Canada as a wood factory engineer. He travelled from Canada through Siberia to Russia and

(Continued on page 10.)

Winter Council of the Northern European Division

Held at Skodsborg, December 13 - 20, 1950

DECEMBER 13, 1950, was a day long to be remembered in the Skodsborg Sanitarium, for it saw the assembling of the delegates of the newly-organized Northern European Division to what was to be their first Council in session. Warm indeed were the handshakes as workers met those from whom they had long been separated. Others were glad to meet for the first time those with whom they would be associated in service in future years.

In order to show their appreciation of the honour which they felt had been shown them by the Council's coming to their beautiful Skodsborg Sanitarium, the Board had placed in the hands of each delegate on arrival the following welcome contained in a neat little folder:

"Dear Brother,

"First of all we wish to welcome you heartily to our Sanitarium. As this may be your first visit to Skodsborg, we thought you might like to have a few facts regarding the Skodsborg Sanitarium.

"This Sanitarium was established in 1898, due largely to the initiative of Dr. Carl Otosen, who had recently returned from Battle Creek Sanitarium where he had been inspired by Dr. Kellogg. In the beginning the Sanitarium could accommodate only about twenty patients, but to-day we are able to take in about 260 patients. However, we have more than 300 patients during the season of June and July. In 1949 we had the best year in the history of our work, reaching an average of 223 patients a day. This year we hope to do equally well. The staff includes about 270 workers—one for each patient. During the last two years we have become free of debt and have been able to repay Dkr. 150,000 to the mission, for which we sincerely thank the Lord.

"We do hope you will enjoy your stay with us. May the Lord bestow rich blessings on your own heart during these days as well as on the work as you lay plans for the future."

In order to understand the reason for this unique assembling of delegates, we must go back a few months to July 10, 1950, when the General Conference was in its Forty-sixth Session in San Francisco,



Delegates Attending the Winter Council in Skodsborg.

Seated: (left to right) A. Y. Rintala, O. J. Olsen, E. L. Minchin, T. J. Bradley, Axel Varmer, Dr. A.

Andersen, W. H. Branson, C. L. Torrey, K. J. Reynolds, E. B. Rudge, G. A. Lindsay, G. D. King.

1st Row Standing: (left to right) Dr. E. Hansen, S. Lundstrom, H. Westerlund, Thv. Kristensen, J. Hansen, A. Lohne, O. S. Sorensen, O. van Oossanen, K. Tilstra, D. V. Cowin, W. W. Armstrong, P. G. Nelson.

2nd Row Standing: (left to right) M. Duploux, B. Albertsen, A. H. Thompson, J. A. McMillan, A. Carey, W. R. A. Madgwick, A. J. Mustard, H. Muderspach, W. McClements.

3rd Row Standing: (left to right) D. Guldhammer, M. Bakke, S. A. Broberg, R. Jensen, P. Stearman, J. Lankhorst, F. Nielsen, O. M. Dorland, R. Svenson, J. H. Bayliss, E. Erenius, Dr. J. Henriksen, E. Luukko, T. Seljavaara, J. M. Howard, J. Gudmundsson, B. Walton.

Inset: A. F. Tarr.

California. During this session a special committee made up of home officers, division presidents, delegates from the British Union, the West African Union, and the Middle East Union, and the provisional Northern European Division, was appointed to bring in recommendations to the session on the rearrangement of certain territories. This committee presented the following recommendations during the fourteenth meeting of the session, July 23, 1950, which read as follows:

"WHEREAS, The British and West African Unions are not now attached to any division organizations, and,

"WHEREAS, It is our policy to provide divisional supervision for all fields throughout the world in order that they may reap

the benefits that accrue from such affiliation; therefore,

"We recommend, 1. That a new division be organized comprising the territories of the British Union, the West African Union Mission, and the territory of the present Northern European Provisional Division.

"2. That the headquarters of this new division be located in Edgware, near London, in the property formerly belonging to the Northern European Division.

"3. That plans for this new division be perfected by the end of 1950, so that it may begin to function January 1, 1951.

"4. That the Nominating Committee be authorized to nominate officers for this new division at this session."

In speaking to this recommendation, Pastor W. H. Branson, the newly-

GREETINGS TO THE ADVENT PEOPLE IN THE NORTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION

From the Delegates

Assembled at Winter Council, Skodsborg, Denmark

The Committee of the Northern European Division together with the representatives from Great Britain, the Netherlands, West Africa, Scandinavia, and Brethren W. H. Branson, C. L. Torrey, and K. J. Reynolds from the General Conference, as our special counsellors, assembled at the annual Winter Council to re-organize the Northern European Division and lay plans for the work of the future, send greetings and encouragement to all our dear brethren and sisters in this Division.

We have been here at Skodsborg Sanitarium, Denmark, for a number of days. The seriousness of the present time and the solemn messages we have listened to at this Council have given us a new vision of what the Lord expects from us. The hour is late. World conditions testify that the close of probation looms ahead. Multitudes are perishing without a saving knowledge of the Gospel, and will not hear God's last message of mercy unless the remnant church in concerted action quickly enlightens the earth.

It is made clear to us by the Lord's messenger that if the Advent people fulfil certain conditions they will arrest the attention of a world plunging blindly on to doom. We read: "If Christians were to act in concert, moving forward as one, under the direction of one Power, for the accomplishment of one purpose, they would move the world."—"Testimonies," Vol. 9, page 221.

To us it is clear that the "one Power" is the Holy Spirit. "The accomplishment of one purpose" can mean nothing less than the finishing of God's work on earth. To "act in concert, and move forward as one" is a clarion call to all God's children. This call challenges adult churchmembers, youth, and children everywhere to mobilize and co-ordinate now their resources, talents, and efforts in a concerted, unparalleled, and world-wide evangelistic campaign. To our supreme objective we should subordinate every other interest.

In view of the lateness of the hour, and this call from Heaven for united and co-ordinated action under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, and recognizing that the outpouring of the latter rain cannot be given in its fullness until all sin is put away, shall we not surrender our hearts fully to the Lord?

We want to work unitedly toward the immediate objective of doubling our world membership.

The minister's urgent task is the gathering in of the lost. We call upon church officers to assume greater responsibility in the effective operation of the church, and trained laymen to be directed in neighbourhood evangelism.

Standing as we are at the opening gates of the eternal world, when all earthly possessions will perish, we urge our members now to support the cause of God by a faithful stewardship of the means which God has placed in their hands, while such means can be used for the salvation of souls.

We fully believe that the Laodicean message should sound in our churches, resulting in a genuine revival of primitive godliness. All of us need such an experience, a humbling of our hearts before the Lord. We need victory and power in our lives. Jesus stands at the door of the heart and wants to come in. He is our greatest need. When our hearts are filled with His love, we shall have that wisdom that winneth souls, yielding an increasing fruitage for the kingdom of God. The infilling of the Holy Spirit is therefore our supreme personal need. For this we must seek and pray, and believe that God is willing to bestow this blest heavenly gift in all its fullness. The need of the world demands it—the promise of God has pledged it—the call of the hour requires it—we must not fail.

From the Delegates Assembled at the Winter Council.

appointed president of the General Conference, pointed out that there were a number of unions that had not been attached to divisions and that it had been felt that unions, wherever they are found in the world, ought as soon as possible to be affiliated with some divisional organization. He said he believed that our divisional organization was a plan that God had given to this people and that it had been a great strength to our work in all parts of the world; wherever there could be continuous counsel on the part of the division officers with these respective unions their work was much better directed and safeguarded than where they were alone and must make their contacts directly with the General Conference. Some of the unions he made reference to, were the British Union, which since the war had stood alone, the West African Union, the Middle East Union and for a time the union with headquarters in Hong Kong, China, all of which had had direct relationship with the General Conference. Pastor Branson continued: "This recommendation you will notice provides that the British Union, the present West African Union, and the unions of Northern Europe—the two Scandinavian unions and Poland—and also the mission territory of Eritrea and Ethiopia now be incorporated in one new division. I am happy to strongly endorse this recommendation. I hope it will be passed by this session and that God will greatly bless this realignment of these territories as they are thus united together in a strong divisional organization."

Thus was born the new Northern European Division, and here at Skodsborg was the new division in action.

Pastor A. F. Tarr, the Division president, welcomed the delegates and introduced the motto which had been chosen for the session: "So Little Time." Pastor Tarr said he hoped that these words would ring in the ears of every worker in this Division and that they would ever keep their eyes fixed on the time, realizing that the work to be done must be done quickly. The alarm which God had admonished His church to sound was long overdue, as was indicated by the state of the world as well as the state of the church. God's Holy Spirit was gradually



The Committee Members of the Northern European Division.

Seated: (left to right) Axel Varmer, Dr. A. Andersen, O. J. Olsen, E. B. Rudge, G. A. Lindsay, E. L. Minchin, G. D. King.
 Standing: (left to right) T. J. Bradley, P. G. Nelson, K. Tilstra, A. Y. Rintala, W. W. Armstrong, W. McClements.
 Inset: A. F. Tarr.

being withdrawn from the earth and while the light of the world was going out, it was the duty of all Seventh-day Adventists not only to have the light of hope burning brightly in their own homes, but to disseminate the light to the uttermost parts of the earth. At the close of the service all present dedicated their lives to this end.

At the close of Pastor Tarr's address, Pastor W. H. Branson, president of the General Conference, and Pastor C. L. Torrey arrived and were given a warm welcome. The delegates expressed particular pleasure at being honoured at this most difficult time with their presence and counsel.

It was most unfortunate that soon after the opening of the Council, Pastor Tarr, with a number of other delegates, was taken ill with influenza, and Pastor Branson acted as chairman for the remainder of the Council. This accounts for Pastor Tarr's absence when the photographs of the council and committee were taken.

Elsewhere in this issue appear the greetings which the Council extended to the Advent people and to the ministry of the Northern European Division.

The following are some of the recommendations passed during the Council:

Dedication

WHEREAS, We face a world situation unprecedented in its frightful possibilities of mass destruction; and

WHEREAS, There is so little time in which to accomplish so much;

Resolved: That we meet the challenge of this hour by a whole-hearted consecration of body, soul, and spirit, claiming an in-filling of the Holy Spirit, so as to finish the work of God quickly in all parts of the Northern European Division.

General Promotion of Revival and Evangelism

WHEREAS, The work of revival called for at the recent session of the General Conference has already brought much blessing to our people, and

WHEREAS, The Lord has graciously visited us through His Spirit during this Winter Divisional Council and has laid a new burden and passion for lost souls upon our hearts;

Resolved: 1. That the work of revival and reformation now in progress be continued until all of our people in the conferences and institutions shall have been reached and given the opportunity of entering into this renewed experience under the outpouring of the Holy Spirit; and

2. That constant effort be put forth to

implement the recommendations on evangelism adopted at the last General Conference Session, in order that the Advent message may be quickly carried to the uttermost parts of the world.

Ingathering Aim

WHEREAS, The Ingathering effort has been blessed of God so that since 1908 nearly \$50,000,000 have been raised to advance the three angels' messages, and

WHEREAS, The Ingathering Campaign gives our members invaluable opportunities for personal missionary work in friendly, spiritual contacts with business associates and neighbours;

We recommend, 1. That special emphasis be placed on the evangelistic phase of this campaign in 1951, and that whenever practicable each churchmember be encouraged to pray with those visited, and be on the alert for openings for Bible studies.

2. That continual emphasis be placed on following up missionary contacts so that the Ingathering programme may bring rich spiritual as well as material benefits.

3. That the Division-goal of \$206,195 be divided amongst the Unions as follows:

British Union	£30,000	\$85,500
East Nordic Union	Skr. 200,000	\$40,000
	Fmk. 2,000,000	\$10,000
Ethiopia	Eth. \$2,000	\$820
Netherlands	Hfl. 30,000	\$8,100
West African Union	£4,000	\$11,400
West Nordic Union	NDkr. 315,000	\$47,250
Iceland Mission	Ikr. 50,000	\$3,125

Missionary Volunteer Societies' Offerings

The treasurer mentioned that he had received word from the General Conference treasurer that the fifty per cent of our Missionary Volunteer Societies' offerings formerly passed through to the General Conference may now be retained in the Division for special projects sponsored by our young people, it was therefore,

Recommended, That for the year 1951 the Missionary Volunteer Society offerings for the year be retained by the unions to help meet the young people's expenses in attending the Youth's Congress to be held in Paris.

Appreciation to Our Youth in North America

Voted: That we express to our youth in North America on behalf of the youth of the Northern European Division our deep appreciation of the generous offer of financial help for the Congress, thus making it possible for a much larger number of youth to attend this meeting.

Evangelization of Large Cities

WHEREAS, In this modern world our large cities have become increasingly a problem for evangelism, and the expanding urban populations, the concentrations of power, and the line-up of our modern social life challenge us to broader planning in our approach to bringing our message before these cities, and

WHEREAS, The General Conference has renewed its call to the world field to give our message a clearer, stronger voice amidst our city multitudes;

We recommend: To the union committees that earnest, prayerful consideration be given immediately to the forming of plans according to the counsels of the Spirit of prophecy whereby our large cities may be effectively evangelized by strong representative campaign teams.

Educating the Laity for Evangelism

WHEREAS, The supreme task of the church of God is to give the everlasting Gospel of Christ to a perishing world, and believing that to finish our God-given task the laity must be trained and educated to assume greater responsibilities in the care of our churches and for evangelism,

We recommend: 1. That wherever possible union and local conferences hold church institutes and missionary conventions to assist and train officers and members to conduct their work more efficiently.

2. That our workers be urged to use more time to educate and train the laity, to work for God and depend on Him rather than on the minister. (*Testimonies*, Vol. 7, page 19.)

3. That at workers' meetings some time be given for considering and discussing problems relating to the duty of our workers to make our churches training centres for missionary endeavours, thus putting into practice the teaching of the Spirit of prophecy. "The people have had too much sermonizing; but have they been taught how to labour for those for whom Christ died? Has a line of labour been devised and placed before them in such a way that each has seen the necessity of taking part in the work?"—(*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, page 431.)

4. That each union plan as soon as possible to translate and arrange for issuing "The Course for Lay Preachers," published by The Home Study Institute, in order to give the laity in our churches oppor-

O Brother, Be Faithful

BY URIAH SMITH

O brother, be faithful! He soon will descend,
Creation's omnipotent King,
While legions of angels His chariot attend,
And palm wreaths of victory bring.
O brother, be faithful! and soon shalt thou hear.
Thy Saviour pronounce the glad word,
Well done, faithful servant, thy title is clear,
To enter the joy of thy Lord.
O brother, be faithful! eternity's years
Shall tell for thy faithfulness now,
When bright smiles of gladness shall scatter thy tears,
A coronet gleam on thy brow.
O brother, be faithful! the promise is sure,
That waits for the faithful and tried;
To reign with the ransomed, immortal and pure,
And ever with Jesus abide.

tunity to educate themselves for a more efficient service for Christ.

Enlarged Welfare Programme

WHEREAS, We have received the following counsel: "I cannot too strongly urge all our churchmembers . . . to consider the message of the fifty-eighth chapter of Isaiah. The work of beneficence enjoined in this chapter is the work that God requires His people to do at this time. It is

a work of His own appointment. . . . The nearer we approach the end, the more urgent this work becomes." (*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, page 265), and

WHEREAS, It is now evident that we are entering the last stages of earth's conflict, with wars, famines, epidemics, fires, floods, earthquakes, etc., each a clarion call upon the Christian church to demonstrate the spirit of the Good Samaritan,

We recommend: That conferences and missions initiate a well-balanced welfare programme geared to current conditions, to serve the needs of humanity; and that the churches be organized, and the members trained: 1. To do disaster relief, and 2. To engage in every form of Christlike ministry in their immediate communities.

We further recommend, In order to facilitate this programme: 1. That provision be made in our larger churches for as many Dorcas Welfare working units as may be deemed advisable; 2. that the leaders of these various working groups shall be elected by the church in the usual way; 3. that from among the Dorcas Welfare leaders thus elected one shall be chosen by the church to represent all Dorcas Welfare interest on the church board.

In bringing the session to a close, Pastor Branson expressed his personal pleasure in the enjoyment of the association of the brethren in this Winter Council. He further urged all to consecrated endeavour to the finishing of the work and expressed the hope that under the blessing of God all would unitedly continue in active and aggressive service for the Master.



Delegates Seated in the Beautiful Dining Hall in Skodsborg Sanitarium.

Reflections

By T. J. Bradley

IT WAS a lovely place, and most fitting that it should be linked with the beginnings of the new pages of history about to be written for the Northern European Division.

The Skodsborg Sanitarium! What memories come streaming back to us of those happy days of fellowship! From Scandinavia, the Netherlands, Britain, and West Africa came smiling faces and strange languages to mingle in a never-to-be-forgotten session, where the foundations for the forward strides of God's work in the Northern European Division were "well and truly laid."

It mattered little that many of us were making our first visit to Skodsborg, for the genial welcome given by the Sanitarium manager and his staff, made all feel at home immediately. There was a kindly, hospitable atmosphere always present and that this should be so noticeable, reflects much credit on those who took personal pleasure in producing it. We had our usual difficulties with the language problems, and they were not always humorous either.

Then, too, I suppose the keen, chilly breeze that swept the streets and platforms didn't help to produce patience and a smiling tolerance in everyone. But that was all changed when I reached Skodsborg, and found that the traditional Danish friendliness was not a legend plucked from Anderson's Fairy Tales, but a lovely, wholesome reality. I had always heard that the Scandinavians were a strong, virile race of well-built people and I had that impression deepened as I met one after another of the stalwarts of those famous countries.

I was able to watch the arrival of the various delegations, and if it had been the arrival of statesmen for a United Nations assembly, I couldn't have been more pleased, for to meet the ambassadors of the King of heaven was indeed a deep thrill. Most delegates spoke and understood English, and that was helpful to the general freedom of conversation noticed everywhere. The little knots of ministers grouped here and there in earnest conversation changed personnel as the session proceeded and we all became more acquainted with each other. The dining hall was a grand place for happy fellowship. Those who had the misfortune to fall sick must have envied those who were well—for the

sanitarium management did its utmost to cater for the needs and tastes of everyone. The dining-room matron was almost like Florence Nightingale as she moved among the food-laden tables encouraging us in our endeavours. But I can never forget the happy spiritual unity of those session days. It might have been a prayer-meeting—one would pray in Danish, another would follow in Norwegian, another would follow in English, but we each were conscious of a coming together before God in earnest petition. And then when singing—the tunes were familiar at times, but not the words and so our voices would well up in harmony and praise in two or three languages, and I know that to our heavenly Father it

was very sweet and well understood. And no gathering like this would have been complete without a photograph. And for the one and only morning when the sun shone a little, we planned to have the photos. It was a happy relaxation as each sat or stood in his allotted place. The usual little humorous remarks were introduced and even the General Conference delegates could feel their heavy burdens lift a little as they shared this pleasure with their fellow-workers.

All too soon we were scattered in body, but not in spirit. All too soon we had sped back to the paths of our service, but our feet still walk the King's Highway on to the Golden Gates.

A MESSAGE TO THE MINISTRY OF THE NORTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION

From the Delegates
Assembled at the Winter Council, Skodsborg, Denmark

At the Skodsborg Sanitarium, we, the delegates attending the Winter Council of the Northern European Division, send greetings to the workers in every field throughout the Division territory. We would take this opportunity of re-emphasizing the message given by Elder W. H. Branson at the Council meetings. This may be summarized under three headings:

Our Responsibility

The Word of God prophesies that prior to our Lord's return the Elijah message will be proclaimed throughout the world. That means the Gospel is to be preached in the power and spirit of Elijah. As we view the tragic and lost condition of mankind, and sense our impotence in this momentous hour, we ask, "Where is God's Elijah?" Our responsibility is to dedicate ourselves to God and to His cause. We need, by living and abiding faith, to lay hold on the mighty power of the Spirit of God. Ask, and ask in faith. "The Spirit awaits our demand and reception." These are the conditions on which the latter rain will be poured out. The crying needs of the nations to-day demand a whole-hearted consecration on the part of the entire worker force of the Advent movement. This is our responsibility.

Our Response

As we look our work squarely in the face, and acknowledge our need for spiritual power, our response should be, "Here am I; send me." We feel we should appeal to our workers everywhere to lay aside every weight and sin that clogs and hinders their soul-winning witness, in order that the fullness of God's Spirit may rest upon us. The earth is to be lightened by the glory of God's truth for these last days, and we must open our hearts fully in order that the grace and power of the latter rain may fall upon and refresh us.

Our Reward

When we respond to God's gracious provision of power, we shall then see the Gospel of the kingdom preached as a saving witness unto all nations. It will be our privilege to say, as Jesus said: "We have finished the work which Thou hast given us to do." This should ever be kept before us as the divinely-appointed objective. Let us then confidently accept the responsibility laid upon us by the Lord, let us respond by yielding our hearts and claiming the fullness of the Holy Spirit and so pressing on to finish quickly the work of God both in the world and in our lives.

Winter Council Delegates.

ITINERATING IN WEST AFRICA

By A. F. Tarr

I WRITE this from Bo, the headquarters of our Sierra Leone Mission, where Pastor G. A. Lindsay and I have now arrived. The seventy-two hours that now separate us from London have been very interesting ones. Our first stop after leaving London airport was to have been at Madrid, but because of weather conditions we proceeded to Lisbon, Portugal, where we landed safely. From there we went to Dakar for the night, but were awakened again at 4.50 a.m.

It was in pitch darkness that we started off for Bathurst, the capital of Gambia. Here we felt honoured in having Viscountess Mountbatten join our plane. She was touring the British colonies on behalf of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, of which she is Superintendent-in-Chief. Having resided in India during Lord Mountbatten's term as India's last Viceroy and first Governor-General, it was a much appreciated privilege to chat with Lady Mountbatten, who also had so courageously and unselfishly served India's cause in its uncertain days.

The airport for Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone, seemed unaccustomed to handling as big a crowd as our plane turned over to it, and it required several hours for all of the passengers and their baggage to be approved by the Immigration and the diligent Customs officials.

A short bus ride to the jetty and then an hour's trip by launch brought us to Freetown, where Pastor Keslake, president of the Sierra Leone Mission, was waiting to meet us. It was then after 2 p.m. and there were 162 miles to travel to the mission headquarters at Bo.

It was already dark when we arrived, but Brother Lindsay and I were surprised to see great crowds of people on both sides of our road opposite a big vacant area in the town. Here Brother Keslake stopped his car, and much to our surprise we discovered that this was the overflow portion of Pastor Wilson's evangelistic meeting. A loudspeaker conveyed to these, as also to those seated within the big en-

closure, the message that was preached from the 12ft. by 24ft. open-air platform, protected, however, with sides and roof of aluminium, which had been ingeniously constructed by Pastor Keslake for these meetings. It was thrilling to listen to several thousands of Africans, many of whom were Mohammedans, singing from the screen such songs as, "Roll, roll your burdens away," and, "Into my heart."

Following the songs, Pastor Wilson, a veteran African preacher, delivered a message aided by pictures thrown on the screen. Periodically his audience would burst into clapping as something he said, or something thrown on the screen, found a hearty response in the hearts of his great congregation. Sister Wilson, the wife of the speaker, had been bitten by a snake three days earlier and still lay seriously ill in bed. We were happy to visit at her bedside the following day.

A training institute had been in session for several days at the mission, and the leading ministers and teachers were all in attendance. It was inspiring to meet with these under the chairmanship of Pastor D. V. Cowin, departmental secretary for the West African Union. Associated with Brother Cowin were Miss A. S. Nuka, secretary-treasurer of the Mission, Pastor C. A. Bartlett, and other workers, together with Pastor Keslake, the Mission superintendent.

Time was taken on the first day after our arrival to pay a visit to Mr. Goodwin, acting senior educational officer for the Protectorate, who has taken a very keen interest in the educational work.

The institute ended last night, and today the workers are returning to their homes. Pastor Lindsay and I will be remaining a few days longer, attending the Sierra Leone Mission committee, and visiting with the workers before proceeding to our next place of call, Liberia.

Itinerating in Sweden and Finland

(Continued from page 4.)

later farther west, just prior to the war. While in East Siberia he stayed in two villages with a total population of 5,000 who kept the tenth-day Sabbath. They

belonged to a sect called the "Stareo Bratsi" or "Old Brethren." They not only kept the Sabbath but believed in the second advent and paid tithe. Their faith seemed almost identical to the Adventist faith. Like the disciples of old they have everything in common. When a young couple marry, the village people give them a house, a cow, and some land to cultivate. He attended their meetings and was quite impressed by their fervour. Later he came to Russia where he worked in a factory. Here he noticed a large number of the employees left work before sunset on Friday. He asked the reason and was told that they were *Sabbathmaki* or Sabbath-keepers. He discovered that we had a church of 400 members in this city. These instances prepared him to accept this message when he met our believers later on.

Another interesting story was concerning a German Adventist officer who had been in South Russia. This officer visited our churches and told our brethren that he had met with our believers when in South Russia. He told the brethren where our headquarters are in that area and that he was told we had 100,000 believers in South Russia.

This figure was also given by a German non-Adventist officer during the war. He too, had been in South Russia and told one of our brethren that they had taken a number of Russian prisoners, among whom were a number of Seventh-day Adventist boys who would not perform duties on the Sabbath. The officers questioned the boys and upon inquiry as to how many people we had in Russia, was told that we had 100,000 in South Russia. While perhaps we cannot state with certainty the accuracy of these figures, it is a cause for great rejoicing to know that God's work is onward, and that this message is triumphing in this land is a proof that God has many children who are keeping His holy day and waiting for His coming, and who are not included in General Conference statistics.

Finland is the only country in the world that I know of where we have lady evangelists. We have several in this land. One in particular is a young woman who has done a remarkable work and for a number of years has been bringing into the truth from fifty to eighty souls from each

mission she holds. She has had, we believe, a real experience with the Holy Spirit and her gifts have been sanctified and enlarged. The spirit of revival is found in many of our churches in Finland. Large crowds of people are coming out to hear our evangelists who are few in number, but who are proclaiming the truth with power. Our membership has doubled itself in ten years in Finland.

We thank God for those glimpses of the growth of His message and the loyalty of our people in Russia. We praise Him for the thousands of devout believers in all of these northern lands. It is a living message. God is in it. Soon it will light the whole earth with its glory, and the children of light from every land will gather around His throne. We must all be there.

proclaimed by colporteur and evangelist throughout the delightful country of Sweden. The colporteurs left the town of Orebrö at the close of the Council, having pledged themselves to a year of faithful and energetic service in the field. We are confident that the Lord will bless their labours with increasing sales and many souls won to the message.

The British Union Colporteur Council was held at Stanborough Park, January 16th to 23rd. This delightful headquarters, centre of the British Union, is an ideal place for such a gathering, and an ideal programme had been arranged by Pastor A. W. Cook, the Union Publishing Department Secretary, and his publishing associates.

Pastor W. W. Armstrong, the Union president, opened the Council with a most appropriate address, emphasizing the call to service and the assurance of certain success and a sure reward to every faithful labourer. About a hundred colporteurs were in attendance throughout the gathering and an excellent spirit of devotion and earnestness prevailed. The programme was well balanced in time allotted to spiritual and sales instruction, as well as to solid class recitation. It was indeed a great joy to meet with old friends again and to greet so many new workers "growing up" into efficient and successful colporteurs. We are confident that 1951 will be another outstanding year of publishing records in the British Union territory.

Colporteur Councils in Sweden and Great Britain

By G. D. King

THE colporteur force throughout our Division is composed of consecrated and efficient workers who, under God's blessing, plan to make 1951 the best year in their experience. Excellent colporteur councils have been held in Norway, Sweden, and Britain and at each of these meetings there was manifest a spirit of dedication for service and of determination to face the future with courage. Really our colporteurs are the "Commando Force" in evangelism, and as plans are made for a progressive programme of evangelism throughout the Division territory, these "Commandos" will play an increasingly important part.

It was a privilege to meet with the

colporteurs in Sweden and to enjoy the warm fellowship and enthusiastic spirit prevailing at the gathering. About thirty colporteurs were in attendance under the able leadership of the two local Publishing Department secretaries, Brethren Axelsson and Klingstrand. The little town of Orebrö is a picturesque Swedish town with a grim mediæval castle right in the centre. It was in this forbidding prison that two Adventist preachers were incarcerated many years ago because of their fearless preaching of the Advent message. As we walked past the old castle each day during the Council, held January 4th to 9th, we thanked God for the religious liberty now enjoyed as the message is



British Union Colporteurs
in Conference at Stan-
borough Park, Watford.

NEWS FLASH

PASTORS A. F. Tarr and G. A. Lindsay left England on February 3rd for an extensive tour through the West African Union. While there they plan to attend committee meetings and visit as many of the institutions and mission stations as can be arranged. From West Africa these brethren plan to visit Ethiopia. They hope to return to headquarters in April.

Pastor E. B. Rudge arrived back in Edgware on February 13th after an extended tour through the East and West Nordic Unions. He met with the union and audit committees, returning by way of the Netherlands. He spent the last Sabbath with the Advent church at Grindleberg, Hamburg, Germany:

On January 19th Pastor T. J. Bradley, Ministerial Association secretary for the Division, visited the Netherland Union headquarters in Utrecht, Holland, in the interests of workers' meetings. On the Friday evening Pastor Bradley addressed a combined meeting of the churches and on Sabbath afternoon had the privilege of visiting the believers in the little country church at Baarn. Pastor Bradley enjoyed a very happy fellowship with this little company, for they are off the beaten track and seldom see ministers from other parts of the Division.

It has taken much planning and a great deal of hard work to house the headquarters and workers of the new Division in Edgware. Once again 41 Hazel Gardens has become the centre of much activity. The beautiful office furniture which was used in the offices of the Provisional Northern European Division in Stockholm has been shipped across and now adorns the offices in Edgware. While it takes time to have property vacated which has been in occupation for a period of years, yet gradually this has been accomplished and now Pastors Tarr, Rudge, King, Minchin, and Bradley are with their families in residence in Edgware. It is hoped that soon Pastors Lindsay, Varmer, and Karlman will be able to move in, too, thus making the Division family complete.

Mr. M. Omland, who went to Asmara, Eritrea, to join Pastor J. H. Wollan in the work there, has started a series of meetings in that town in the new, commodious

church near the mission compound. We are glad to hear that at the first meeting the church was full to capacity. Let us pray that God will abundantly bless our workers and that they may have souls for their labour.

We extend a hearty welcome home to Pastor and Mrs. W. McClements who have returned from the West African Union.

Congress Enthusiasm in Northern Europe

THEY are coming from Iceland, from the Arctic Circle, from the fjords of Norway, from beautiful Finland, from Sweden, Denmark, from the land of the wooden shoes, from the highlands of Scotland, from colourful and ancient Ethiopia, and from tropical West Africa—thousands of them to join their fellow Missionary Volunteers from a score of other countries in Southern Europe and to clasp the hands of hundreds of earnest youth from Germany in Central Europe. Many more will join them from North America and other more distant lands.

To what place are they coming? To Paris, of course, from July 24th to 29th. To the greatest gathering of Advent youth in the history of our work in Europe.

Everywhere enthusiasm is growing. Everyone, young and old, is talking Congress. Our parting words everywhere are, "I'll see you in Paris." They are coming by bus, train, car, and bicycle. Our previous estimate of the possible attendance is too low. How small our faith was! Nothing can quench the fire alight in the hearts of God's youth. They are on the march. Pray for them and their leaders as they meet in Congress to lay plans and gather inspiration to go out to old Europe and strike heavy blows for God.

And so, dear friends, "We'll see you, too—in Paris!"

Pastor McClements has served through the years in various capacities in this union and until recently was the union president. These pioneer workers have spent over thirty years in valuable service in this mission field and have watched this territory grow into the strong union that it is to-day. At the recent Winter Council, Pastor McClements was invited to take over the

presidency of the Ethiopian mission field, but on account of his wife's health he was unable to accept. Pastor McClements has now accepted ministerial work in the British Union and will be located in the South England Conference. We wish these workers much of God's continued blessing and good health as they labour on in the Master's vineyard.

Word has reached us from the Netherland Union that their radio programmes are being very well received by the public. During 1950 about 1,000 letters of appreciation came in from the listeners of the broadcasts and 940 joined the Bible Correspondence School. We look forward to further good reports from this union.

On the last Sabbath of the old year the churchmembers in Asmara, Eritrea, had the joy of seeing fourteen souls baptized and of welcoming them into church fellowship. We are glad to note that there are still others who are preparing for baptism.

Pastor J. O. Gibson, president of the Gold Coast Mission, has recently been appointed president of the West African Union. We extend to Pastor Gibson our sincere good wishes as he takes up this responsible work and pray that his service may be attended with great power as he launches out into the great programme of preparing West Africa for the coming of the Lord.

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EDITOR MRS. A. F. TARR

NORTHERN LIGHT

Published monthly as the Official Organ of the Northern European Division of Seventh-day Adventists, 41 Hazel Gardens, Edgware, Middlesex, England.

PRICE 3/- A YEAR

Printed at The Stanborough Press Ltd., Watford, Herts., England.