

VOLUME 2

JANUARY, 1952

NUMBER 1

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A Blessed New Year!

By A. F. TARR

T is a great pleasure to me on the eve of another year to extend hearty New Year's greetings to the workers of the Northern European Division. I wish you God's richest blessing as you enter upon the privileges and duties that this coming year will bring.

New things are always interesting; new homes, new friends, new furniture, new clothes, and sometimes even a new government! Each is interesting because of the change it affords, or the added comfort or the enlarged usefulness. Sometimes we anticipate that usefulness before it is ours, and

when it is our own, we revel in our possession of it. All of which makes us ready to abandon the old for the new

The New Year that stretches before us is no exception. Its predecessor-however quickly it has passed -has been filled with failures of one sort or another. We bid it farewell, therefore, with no great regret. We want to be removed from its failures and mistakes. We want to start something new, something whose record is unmarred and untouched. We want a new book on which to write-or upon which angels may write. And the New Year seems to provide just such a book. For this reason we rejoice in its coming.

Moreover, no preceding year ever offered such an incentive to good deeds and words and thoughts. It is no ordinary new year. It is ushered in by world events which seem to mark it as a very critical year, and perhaps one of the last. That being so, it behoves us to "walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil." Eph. 5:15, 16. We want the evil things here depicted to have no hold on us. Rather do we want a faith and love so strong that those things that have so easily beset us in the past may now drop away as dead desires, having no longer any attraction for us.

In the New Year there are going to be fresh opportunities for service-such service as we have never rendered before. The needs of men and women about us were never so great nor ever so urgent. The world is rushing downhill at a pace as yet unknown, and no one seems able to stop it. Every nation is involved, with every man, woman, and child. The only remedy is in the message which in a special way has been committed to Seventh-day Adventists. During this coming year we must proclaim it with renewed fervour. It is a responsibility we owe to our fellow-members, to our neighbours, to our fellow citizens, yes to all [Concluded on back page.]

NORTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION

Second Winter Council NOVEMBER 26th to DECEMBER 3rd



The Story of the Council Day by Day

THIS issue of the NORTHERN LIGHT is being devoted to a day-by-day account of the proceedings as well as interesting extracts from the Resolutions passed at the Second Winter Council of the reconstructed Northern European Division which was held in the Stanborough Park church, Watford, Herts., England, from November 26 to December 3, 1951.

Representatives attending the Council from the General Conference as well as from the unions and mission fields of the Division were as follows:

General Conference:

R. R. Figuhr, E. D. Dick, W. H. Williams, N. H. Knight.

Northern European Division:

A. F. Tarr, E. B. Rudge, G. A. Lindsay, A. Andersen, M.D., T. J. Bradley, L. Mark Hamilton, G. D. King, E. L. Minchin, A. Varmer, Alf Karlman.

British Union Conference:

C. H. Anscombe, W. W. Armstrong, A. K. Armstrong, W. G. Baldry, J. H. Bayliss, C. R. Bonney, A. Carey, J. A. Clement, A. W. Cook, V. Cooper, J. H. Craven, O. M. Dorland, K. Elias, W. L. Emmerson, D. Handysides, A. W. Howard, J. M. Howard, H. T. Johnson, S. Joyce, B. Kinman, K. Lacey, A. W. Lethbridge, W. Maudsley, W. McLeod, J. A. McMillan, W. H. Meredith, G. Norris, J. H. Parkin, A. H. Thompson, R. A. Vince, A. C. Vine, R. D. Vine, E. R. Warland, Dr. A. H. Williams, A. J. Woodfield.

East Nordic Union Conference:

A. Arasola, E. Erenius, C. Gidlund, E. Luukko, A. Y. Rintala, T. Seljavaara, R. Svenson.

West Nordic Union Conference

Trygve Asheim, Elias Bjaanes, Paul Frivold, A. Lohne, H. Muderspach, T. Torkelsen, H. Westerland.

Netherlands Union Conference:

K. Tilstra, O. Van Oossanen.

West African Union Mission

J. O. Gibson, J. J. Hyde, H. Logan (under appointment), W. Futcher (under appointment).

Ethiopian Union Mission: E. Palm.

E. Paim.

Iceland Mission:

Julius Gudmundsson.

A spirit of deep earnestness and of hearty fellowship characterized the entire gathering and the contributions made by all and especially by Brethren Figuhr, Dick, and Williams of the General Conference, made the meeting one that will



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and one that we are sure will contribute greatly to the future work of the Northern European Division.

long be remembered by all who attended,

MONDAY EVENING NOVEMBER 26

 $S_{\ November \ sunshine \ as \ representatives}^{\ outh \ England \ was \ bathed \ in \ glorious}$ from the various unions, conferences, and missions of the Northern European Division assembled at Stanborough Park, Watford, for the second Annual Winter Council. Despite the cool breeze and the last remaining autumn leaves that were swirled into little clusters on footpath and roadway reminding us of the onset of winter, all who gathered at Stanborough Park, where so many times the Lord has met with His servants in blessing, were joyous in heart and warm in handshake. There were happy reunions of old-time friends and sincere greetings to the new as the hours of the afternoon slowly brought the setting of sun and the hour of 7.30 when the opening meeting of the Council was due to begin.

Stanborough Park church, where this Council is to convene, is very beautifully situated among tall oaks in one corner of the British Union property. In spring it is surrounded by bluebells giving an appearance of a lovely royal carpet surrounding this well-known place of worship. In the warmer days of summer the oaks cast a friendly shade as down the quiet walks the worshippers come to assemble and lift their voices in praise to God. But at this time of the year the voices of the birds are silent, the bluebells have not yet the courage to push their spiky shoots through the semifrozen topsol, and the oak trees stand bare-armed like Nature's guardians around the hallowed spot.

A few moments before the clock chimed 7.30 a benedictory hush fell over the audience as the Ambassadors' Male Quartette sang with reverence, "Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me." It was then that the ministers filed onto the platform and knelt reverently in the opening silent prayer. Pastor G. A. Lindsay, the Division treasurer, announced the opening hymn, in the Advent Hymnal No. 133, "Awake, O Lord, as in the time of old!" The vigorous singing of this hymn was followed by a scripture reading from the Psalms by Pastor R. R. Figuhr and then Pastor E. D. Dick prayed. His earnest petition was a plea that God would not only bless this Council which had just begun but that He would also never leave His servants to their own devices or attempting their service in human strength, but rather that the power of God would rest upon all for the finishing of the work. The Ambassadors' Male Quartette then inspiringly rendered the item whose words made an instant appeal to us all: "Oh, it is wonderful, and marvellous, what Jesus has done for this soul of mine." The effect of this harmonious rendering was evident in the warm "amens" with which the item was concluded.

Pastor W. W. Armstrong, the British Union president, was then invited to extend a welcome to all assembled in his field for the Winter Council. He expressed the hope that while peace was still with us and another Council opportunity was ours, that our minds would be directed toward vital issues in service and that the Council decisions about to be made, would aid in the quicker finishing of God's work in the areas for which the Northern European Division was responsible. He was sure that it would be the wish of all to reconsecrate themselves anew at this time for this purpose.

On behalf of the assembled workers, Pastor A. F. Tarr accepted this welcome and responded with appropriate warm expressions of fellowship. He also expressed pleasure at the presence of the three General Conference representatives, Pastor E. D. Dick, Pastor R. R. Figuhr, and Brother W. H. Williams. But there was one touch of sadness which crept across the minds of all delegates present and that was the absence of any representation from Poland.



A Boundless Ocean Full and Free

Into the world the Gospel goes Breaking forth as a river flows, Bursting its bounds in lands afar Where those in heathen darkness are; No power on earth can stop its flow But ever onward does it go, Fed by the fountain from God's throne No failing waters will be known And springs now flow to haste its course, Until united as one force The healing stream becomes a sea— A boundless deep for ever free.

Into the earth the message goes Streaming forth as the ocean flows. Bringing the truth to each and all-To warriors great and pigmies small, Washing away the stain of sin From China's hordes with yellow skin; From India's sons with darker hue; From Africa, Tibet, Peru, Ethiopia her gift will bring Of sons and daughters to the King; Switzerland with its towering heights And lands that sleep 'neath northern lights-Iceland, Finland, and Norway cold Their offerings will not withhold; To peoples of each tribe and race It flows-the stream of God's free grace.

Oh, let us now, to-day, recall That we are channels—one and all Through which the waters of grace flow From fountain-head to stream below; So keep the conduit clear and free That through us God's own ministry Of hope, of truth, of life, of love, May be supplied from Him above— Till all who will choose to possess The gift of Christ's own righteousness, A healing stream for you and me— A boundless ocean full and free.

STANLEY COMBRIDGE.

(Specially written for the Annual Meeting of the Northern European Division at Stanborough Park, Watford.)

Many thoughts and prayers ascended for our brethren in this far-away eastern European country and assurances of Christian love and remembrance were expressed for them.

In opening the session with his presidential address, Pastor Tarr referred to the motto of the Council, "Our Times and Our Task Demand Action!" This should never become a mere cliché, but should be the basis of aggressive action in the year to come. Two texts of scripture were quoted reminding us of the invitation of the Lord to be strong and work with willing hands. This is the more urgent, said Pastor Tarr, as we remember that it is in these days that God is to set up a kingdom and we are very near the end of all things. The finishing of our work received special mention and one quotation from the Spirit of prophecy was outstanding: "With almost impatient eagerness the angels wait for our co-operation." (Desire of Ages, page 297.) Rising forces of evil were challenging the church to strong, vigorous action and it was time we took the offensive against evil for the finishing of our Gospel commission. We should ever be reminded of two important considerations: The greatness of God who gave us this commission, and second, the greatness of the commission itself. In three ways we must meet the challenge of this hour:

1. Maintain a positive Christianity.

2. Conduct aggressive evangelism.

3. Increase our personal soul-winning effort.

In a clarion call which concluded his sermon, Pastor Tarr quoted the words from *Gospel Workers:* "Let those now take their place quickly in the work they have been trained to do." As we joined our voices in singing the closing hymn, "Go, labour on, spend and be spent," we felt that it was more than a hymn, it was a united purpose of dedication. Brother W. H. Williams from the General Conference concluded the service with a benediction in which God was invited to strengthen every new resolve made that night to finish His work.

T. J. BRADLEY.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

M EN of strong faith and resolute courage are needed because the times and the task confronting us demand action!" This was the challenging theme presented by Pastor R. R. Figuhr, vice-president of the General Conference, as he led the assembled workers in the nine o'clock devotional hour on the first full day of the session of the Winter Council. Calling upon those present for a consecration and faith commensurate with not only the current crisis in world affairs but the opportunities for heroic service for God on every hand, Pastor Figuhr pointed out that there had been repeated emergencies in almost every century of the long controversy between good and evil. But God had always prepared men to meet each one and thus to lead His people through to glorious victory.

In presenting this strong appeal, Pastor Figuhr drew a striking parallel between the demands of the present-day crisis and that confronting Israel when Nahash, the Ammonite, encamped against Jabesh-Gilead in the days of the prophet Samuel. To meet this threat to His chosen people, God had prepared a leader in the person of Saul, the son of Kish, and by his hand wrought great deliverance for the people of God.

From the experiences and life of Israel's first king, lessons were drawn illustrating the qualities of leadership which God expects of those who serve Him in the critical days in which we live. Modesty, humility, generosity, dependence upon God, and a responsiveness to the leadership of the Spirit are demanded of those who must carry the Gospel to the world in this crisis generation.

In conclusion, Pastor Figuhr pleaded that the unhappy latter experience of Saul may serve as warning to this latter-day leadership. Success, great or small, must never be allowed to turn our hearts from serving God, causing us to make shipwreck of our own lives after they have been largely spent in heroic exploits for God.

Morning Council Session

The first Council session was one of tremendous inspiration and challenge as Pastor A. F. Tarr, Division president, gave his report on the progress in all lines of work within the Division witnessed during the past year. With the large banner bearing the theme of the meeting just overhead, the Division leader made frequent reference to the marvellous way in which, under the leadership of God, achievements had been recorded meeting the demands of the task and times confronting us.

"My fatherland is every land, for every land is my Father's," said Pastor Tarr in commenting on the cosmopolitan membership of the unions and local conferences which make up the Division territory. At the call of the secretary, Pastor E. B. Rudge, each worker had risen to answer the roll call and had identified himself by giving the office he filled and the name of the conference, mission, or institution in which he laboured. It was almost as if a United Nations' meeting in miniature had been called except that the spirit of brotherly love and Christian fellowship, so conspicuously absent in contemporary international relations, was everywhere evident.

The workers were greatly cheered, as the believers everywhere will be, when President Tarr reported the great upsurge in evangelism during the past twelve months. More than three hundred and fifty campaigns had been conducted throughout the Division with the result that the baptized membership numbered in excess of 40,000 at the end of the third quarter of 1951. Many more will be added before the close of the year as the harvest of souls continues, a direct result of the earnest work of evangelistic seed-sowing and the prayers of God's people linked with the ministry of the Holy Spirit as it moves the hearts of men to repentance in every quarter of the field.

Excellent progress in the Medical Department was noted as Pastor Tarr commented on the widespread renown and influence of the Skodsborg Sanitarium and related institutions. Special mention was made of the health cafeteria work in Edinburgh, Oslo, and other centres. The younger medical institutions and clinics are likewise making an important contribution, with the Hultafors Sanitarium in Sweden having only recently celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary. The past year also witnessed the opening of the only Seventh-day Adventist clinic in the world field north of the Arctic circle at Tromsö, Norway. Workers in our medical institutions, clinics, food factories, and cafeterias within the Division now total more than one thousand.

Pastor Tarr brought us a cheering picture of the educational work. Having recently participated in the dedication of the secondary school in Iceland he told of the added strength which it provided for the work there. This institution has an enrolment nearly double that of last year. At Newbold College eighty graduates have completed the courses of training during the past four years compared with only thirty-nine in the preceding quadrennial period.

Onward progress in the publishing work was also noted as the president reported a gain of $\pounds 12,000$ in sales in Britain alone. It was a trend which was characteristic of the entire Division. But most important of all were the heartening reports of an everincreasing number of souls won to Christ through the efforts of consecrated colporteur-evangelists.

Closely coupled with public evangelism and the literature ministry was the work of the Voice of Prophecy. A good response in all unions was reported by Pastor Tarr with many contacts being made among the wealthy and influential classes through this means of preaching the Gospel.

In Home Missionary activity, Pastor Tarr noted the very encouraging results of the Harvest Ingathering campaigns and the home visitation programme throughout the field.

In conclusion the Division president called upon all to rededicate themselves to renewed consecration and earnest efforts for God during the critical days ahead.

Address by Arthur L. White

Following Pastor Tarr's presidential report, time was given to Pastor Arthur L. White, grandson of Ellen G. White, to present a report on an extended visit which he had just paid to many of the countries comprising our Division, and to correlate this report with the recommendations of the General Conference and the White Estate relative to the translation and publication of Testimony Treasures, Steps to Christ, and other volumes of the Spirit of prophecy books. Since the counsel contained in these writings is not generally available in the various language areas of the Division, Elder White made a plea that advantage be taken of the special assistance provided under the General Conference plan to meet the needs of the times.

Afternoon Committees

During the afternoon the Council recessed in order that the various committees might proceed with their work. Some of the recommendations and reports presented will appear elsewhere in this and subsequent issues of the NORTHERN LIGHT.

Symposium-East Nordic Union

At the evening hour appointed for the re-convening of the Council, the Stanborough Park church was filled with workers as well as members of the church and community. The special music for the evening was rendered by the King's Heralds Quartette, so greatly enjoyed by listeners to the Voice of Prophecy programmes over Radio Luxembourg. Our

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Workers in attendance at the Second Winter Council, 1951.

hearts were solemnized as they sang, "Come, Spirit, come" and "Near the Cross." As the East Nordic Union president, Pastor C. Gidlund, and his associates presented their reports on the way God has led in the onward progress in that far northern region, our hearts were warmed by what we heard. In evangelism, in the Harvest Ingathering, in literature sales, in radio and Bible correspondence schools, Pastor Gidlund had very encouraging reports with important gains in alconference. Everywhere most every ministers and conference presidents are actively engaged in public evangelistic campaigns which have resulted in important gains in churchmembers added during the year.

Five sanitariums and two training schools give great strength to these phases of the work in the East Nordic Union. More than 425 patients were accommodated in the medical institutions and sanitariums during the past summer months. And in the two training schools more than 150 young people are preparing for greater usefulness in the cause of God.

In the reports of the conference presidents, thrilling stories of the victories of the cross were related. Especially interesting was the story told by one of the lady evangelists in the Finnish conference. She related how the emergencies of wartime had given opportunity for public evangelism by young women workers. The work accomplished for God by these young women in public evangelism has resulted in the adding of many members to the church of God in these last days.

Pastors T. Seljavaara, A. Arasola, O. Svensson, E. Erenius, and E. Luukko related many experiences which had occurred in their respective fields which gave evidence of the mighty working of the Spirit of God on behalf of His people in these lands. Many contacts have been made with business and church leaders which have given wide and favourable publicity to the Advent cause in these lands. Individuals have been brought into contact with our work in ways that are reminiscent of the days of apostolic preaching.

On every hand and in every phase of the work in the East Nordic Union the influence of the Holy Spirit is signally blessing the people of God for a speedy finishing of the work in Sweden and Finland. L. MARK HAMILTON.

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28

W EDNESDAY, November 28th, dawned a mild, grey winter's morning. Again we assembled and offered our devotions to our risen Lord, seeking the baptism of the Holy Spirit in song and prayer. Pastor E. D. Dick directed our thoughts to the Word of God in connection with a phase of our Council's motto. "A wise man's heart discerneth both time and judgment," was his text. Quoting Revelation 7:1-3 and 12:17, he carefully studied three meaning-ful words namely: Holding; Sealing; Closing.

He said that at one time major wars were precipitated by a single minor hostile act. However, to-day this was not the case, as a series of serious incidents has provoked no major catastrophe. In *Great Controversy*, page 611, we read: "A few men will hold in check a powerful current of evil." This prediction was indeed in process of fulfilment. May we discern the times!

He pointed out that the sealing was much more than true Sabbath-keeping. It embraced allegiance to divine authority; loyalty to divine precepts, and the manifestation of Christ's character in us, wrought by our submission to the moulding influence of the Holy Spirit. This work was also in progress. May we discern the times!

He further emphasized that everything was closing. Frontiers of many nations were impassable by reason of the "iron curtains," but, worse still, minds were closing to Western thought, culture, and civilization: God's work is also closing. May we discern the times! "Our times and our task demand action!"

Morning Council Session

The morning session was devoted to a comprehensive statistical report rendered by Pastor E. B. Rudge and one on finance by Pastor G. A. Lindsay and Brother A. Karlman. Discussion followed each presentation. There was clearly felt on the one hand the urgent necessity of building up our membership, and on the other, the encouraging of the church to maintain a steady progress in mission offerings in the same proportion as the increments in the Lord's tithe.

Afternoon Council Session

The afternoon period was occupied by an excellent report presented by the publishing secretary, Pastor G. D. King. Progression in colporteur-evangelism was the key-note—increases in personnel and sales, as well as evidences of souls won to the faith under colporteur influences. The inauguration of the Voice of Prophecy has brought added opportunities for missionary endeavour to the colporteur ministry, and a large number of the best active students are enrolled by the colporteurs.

The business of voting a number of important resolutions followed, and the session was adjourned to permit the various committees to continue their work.

Evening Symposium—West Nordic Union

After the speakers for the evening had taken their places on the rostrum, the church was hushed as Mrs. A. F. Tarr earnestly presented the needs of all before the throne of grace in a prelude of song.

The evening meeting was devoted to a symposium of evangelism, conducted by the West Nordic Union president, Pastor A. Lohne and his associate local conference presidents. Let us introduce you to this fine group of men.

From the far-away North Norway Conference with its territory beyond the Arctic circle comes Pastor T. Torkelsen. The West Norway Conference is represented by Pastor P. Frivold, and the East Norway Conference with headquarters at Oslo is under the direction of Pastor T. Asheim. The other representatives are across the water from tiny Denmark, and yet to hear the stories of both Pastors H. Muderspach from East Denmark, and Thv. Kristensen, from West Denmark, is to be convinced that Denmark is an important section of the far-flung West Nordic Union. When one remembers that the union extends from the northernmost point of Europe which joins Russia to the east, and from Tromsö, the headquarters of our North Norway Conference, where the territory looks toward the frozen pole, to the southernmost part of Denmark which joins Germany to the south, one gets some idea of the enormous stretch of territory which is under the control of this particular union.

It was an inspirational evening to listen to the experiences of workers and lay people alike, revealing the guidance and power of the Holy Spirit in their service. For the second year in succession Pastor Lohne is leading out in a successful mis-

Our Need

"A fuller sense of God's relationship to those whom He has purchased with the gift of His Son, a greater faith in the onward progress of His cause in the earth — this is the great need of the church to-day." — "Prophets and Kings," page 243.

sion campaign in the city of Oslo, with an excellent attendance of 800 people being maintained night by night. From this same East Norway Conference there was a report of the Bible Correspondence School leading many to Christ and to a knowledge "this beautiful Advent message," to of quote an oft-repeated phrase from our Scandinavian brethren. Our hearts were made joyous when from Norway came reports of the high esteem of business people and others for Seventh-day Adventists as friends and citizens. A particularly encouraging note was sounded from West Denmark where all of the ministers and office staff are engaged in some form of public evangelism. No wonder this live conference does so well in soul-winning, Harvest Ingathering, and Sunday-school work. And one must not forget the tremendous influence of the Skodsborg Sanitarium which has provided this large field with so many loyal medical missionary workers, and is itself a soul-winning agency in and around the lovely city of Copenhagen.

Our hearts agreed with the final appeal made by Pastor Lohne, the union president, to remember them all in our prayers as they returned to their fields of labour. Souls are to be won from the land of the midnight sun, from the shores of the fjords, beneath the mountain peaks in West and South Norway and from the cities or the tulip-covered fields of Denmark. Yes, let us all pray for the work in the West Nordic Union. J. H. BAYLISS.

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29

I was a "straight-from-the-shoulder" message that came to the brethren in Winter Council at Stanborough Park from Brother W. H. Williams, under-treasurer of the General Conference, in the morning devotional hour of Thursday, November 29th. "Study to show thyself approved unto God," he quoted, "a workman that needeth not to be ashamed." 2 Tim. 2:15. The need for efficiency in the work of God was the theme. The servant of God, Mrs. E. G. White, has said that "a man will gain power and efficiency as . . . with his whole soul he seeks to qualify to serve Him aright, . . . to perform his work in fidelity."

We are in God's work for all there is in it and with all there is in us, and for this we need to make every moment and every talent count.

Brother Williams told an amusing story of a certain editor and his untidy methods —a man who had everything in every place, and who spent the time and energy of himself and his assistants on search and work which could have been avoided with a little planning.

Among the things which make for efficiency and fruitfulness in the work of God, the following were listed:

1. Have an objective; keep it ever in view; work ever toward it, counting everything else secondary.

2. Train yourself to think a way through every problem—reasoning from cause to effect, thus leading to balanced judgment and proper decisions. Some never come to decisions. Such are weak characters, and no credit to God's work, but if, as exhorted in *Ministry of Healing*, they will take the Bible as their guide and act upon its counsels, they will reach the highest attainments and their natural powers will be enlarged and their minds expanded.

3. Apply yourself to the task in hand. The output of some workers is dwarfed in comparison with that of such men as the apostle Paul and John Wesley, the latter of whom preached an average of three sermons a day for fifty-four years, wrote a four-volume commentary on the Bible, compiled a Bible dictionary, and a Hebrew and a Greek grammar, among many other



Northern European Division Committee Members.

Standing, A. Carey, Alf Lohne, Alf Karlman, C. Gidlund, T. J. Bradley, W. W. Armstrong, J. O. Gibsou, Y. Rintala, K. Tilstra. Seated: G. D. King, A. Andersen, G. A. Lindsay, E. B. Rudge, W. H. Williams (General Conference), A. F. Tarr, E. D. Dick (General Conference), R. R. Figuhr (General Conference), E. L. Minchin, L. Mark Hamilton, Axel Varmer.

achievements. Here were men who studied to show themselves approved unto God, whose records should provoke us to emulation.

4. Be accurate. People who are habitually inaccurate are not to be trusted and do not inspire confidence in themselves or in the holy cause in which they are employed.

Even with the best intentions in the world such people become just plain dishonest, and no reliance can be placed upon them.

The cause demands and is worthy of the services of men who, having studied to show themselves approved unto God, will work toward the highest goals, train themselves to think a problem through, decide, and act; accurate men whose words and works may be absolutely relied upon; efficient men. It is such men who will be filled with pentecostal power and will finish the work of God in the earth.

World-Wide Advent Missions Legal Meeting

The devotional hour was followed immediately by the twenty-third Annual General Meeting of World-Wide Advent Missions which was reconstituted on the re-forming of the Northern European Division at Edgware and has now become a private company, the legal holding corporation of the Division.

Morning Council Session

At 10.45 a.m. the Council session opened with a statement and an appeal from the editor of the NORTHERN LIGHT, Mrs. A. F. Tarr, to make the Division paper a composite picture of the activities throughout the field and to present the material submitted in the most interesting and attractive way, supplying pictures where possible. The support of all was earnestly solicited.

The Division M.V. Department secretary presented his report of the young people's work throughout our territories. Pastor E. L. Minchin told us that we have a great company of young people who thrill to the challenge of a great adventure. But they need wise, loving shepherding and courageous leadership. We are losing far too many of them—fifty per cent of our children and youth grow up and do not remain with us as members of the church. It is evangelism of the highest order to work for, to win, and to hold our own children and youth. And for this purpose the M.V. Department exists and is linked with every other department in our work.

An earnest appeal was made to the Council to take more seriously upon our hearts the responsibility for the spiritual, mental, and physical care of our young people.

Do we really want to finish the work of God soon? Hear the servant of the Lord: "With such an army as our youth rightly trained might furnish, how soon might the message of a soon-coming Saviour be given!"

Referring to Acts 2:17, Pastor Minchin said: "What a solemn thought to be a leader of our young people in the time when this outpouring takes place!"

Whatever his position in the work, each worker should bear upon his heart the young people and the organization designed to win, train, and hold them.

The highlights of Pastor A. Varmer's Home Missionary Department report were the thrilling experiences being enjoyed throughout the Division by our members taking part in the house-to-house visitation, or field-adventuring scheme, and the very successful Harvest Ingathering campaigns. Thrilling, too, was the report that in 1951, three hundred of our Voice of Prophecy Bible students had been baptized, and that 1,500 have accepted our message since the courses began. An appeal was made that all would pray that from the 160,000 students of the Bible courses there may come a rich harvest of souls.

Afternoon Council Session

In the afternoon T. J. Bradley reported for the Ministerial Association. After speaking of the ministerial institutes that have been held during 1951 in all parts of the Division except West Africa, Brother Bradley uttered the challenging statement, "Too many of us are contributing to soulwinning; there are not enough soul-winners!" With a smile at the M.V. secretary he said that we must be not only soulconserving, important as this is; but we must all be soul-winners-adding believers from outside. From the Division office downward, each worker should spend some time somewhere in aggressive evangelism. "Amen" responded all hearts.

A set of new prophetic symbols designed for the smaller meeting and the Bible study were introduced, and had a popular reception as was shown by the orders which came from practically every president and secretary present.

Evening Symposium—British Union

At 7.30 p.m. the "open meeting" commenced as to a full congregation the Philomel Ladies Choir sang, "Cover with His life." The programme was in the hands of Pastor W. W. Armstrong, president of the British Union Conference, who spoke of the steady advance of the cause in Britain where the growth of ungodliness and scepticism, the love of pleasure, and the attractions in the world, made our work progressively harder. But with the new emphasis our evangelists are giving in their public ministry to the lifting up of Christ and the power of the cross, God's work is beginning to move forward more definitely.

Pastors K. Elias, D. J. Handysides, B. Kinman, O. M. Dorland, and K. Lacey told of their evangelistic methods and the success that had come to them under the blessings of God. The stories they told of the individual victories gained as souls were brought to consider Calvary; of the fruitage "after many days" of seed sown years ago; of the way God has led even "displaced persons" from the Continent into His own family; of the breaking down of prejudice and acceptance

Mrs. J. J. Hyde in action in West Air.ca.

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Veteran missionary of nearly thirty years, Sister Hyde spoke in t h e Friday evening missions symposium.



of some of our most unpopular fundamentals even in difficult Northern Ireland —these stories will be remembered by all who heard them, and in them saw the hand of God leading, directing, gathering.

As in the other fields of the Division, the work of God is onward in Great Britain, the workers are of good courage, and beg to be remembered at the throne of grace by their fellow labourers in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Holland, and West Africa. A. C. VINE.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30

A ND as he thus spake for himself, Festus said with a loud voice, Paul, thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad." Choosing these words of the Roman governor as the basis of his early morning devotional study, Pastor R. R. Figuhr directed the attention of the workers and visitors to the problem of living with assurance and conviction in a world of uncertainty.

Many people to-day have placed reliance upon education as a solution to the problems of life, the speaker said. But education alone is not sufficient to provide a safe anchor on the stormy seas of modern life. Many a man learned only in the wisdom of the world has lost the way and sometimes betrayed the trust and confidence of his fellow-men. A marked increase in mental imbalance in recent years offers strikingly tragic proof that knowledge without understanding of God leads to madness and tragedy.

The present is an "ulcerous age" because of the widespread prevalence of digestive disturbances, said Elder Figuhr, and he pointed out that it resulted from a lack of the knowledge of how to live. The saving presence of Christ in the life provides the surest guarantee of mental and spiritual balance in a world which is mentally and spiritually ill.

The great need of God's work is men who have an "understanding of the times; to know what Israel ought to do," said Elder Figuhr, referring to the men of the tribe of Issachar when all Israel assembled to make David king. "We need men who know how to live and act in these uncertain times," he continued, pointing to the certainty and conviction of Paul's testimony before Festus and Agrippa.

The only happy people in the world are those who have the peace of God in their hearts, said the speaker in conclusion. And none have greater need of the indwelling Spirit than the leaders and laymen of the Advent cause who are called to heroic action by the times and task confronting us.

Morning Council Session

The Council session following the morning worship period was devoted to departmental reports.

The first was presented by the educational secretary. It was encouraging to learn that 138 schools of all categories are now operating within the Division territory. More than 525 teachers are engaged in the task of providing a Christian education for nearly 12,000 pupils. From Iceland to Finland in the north and from Eritrea to Sierra Leone in the south, these schools serve the Advent believers all the way from the Arctic circle to the equator.

To meet the growing needs for additional workers in all departments and in all fields, the secretary underlined the need for spiritualizing the educational programme in order to make these schools an effective evangelizing agency in winning our own young people and the thousands of non-Adventist youth now studying in these institutions. A greatly expanded system of church schools and the development of an adequate senior college for the entire Division at the earliest possible date was called for. In conclusion the need for a Division-wide educational council was emphasized in order to unify and strengthen teachers and educational leaders throughout the field.

Because of a lack of time when Pastor A. Varmer presented his departmental report, there had been no discussion of the Voice of Prophecy work. As a consequence, Pastor C. R. Bonney, principal of the British Union Voice of Prophecy and Bible Correspondence School was invited to amplify the report of this important department. It was cheering to learn that more than 150 baptisms had resulted from its work during 1950 and 112 more have been added during the first nine months of 1951.

Among the many interesting items related by Pastor Bonney were the stories of how the Voice of Prophecy was reaching men behind prison walls and in high walks of life. Sixteen ministers of other churches are enrolled, as well as a specialist of Harley Street and an official in the Ministry of Health. It was learned recently that nearly every house in a Scottish village of 2,500 was listening to the late Friday evening broadcast, and it was reported that the weekly average of test papers being processed by the Bible School staff now numbers more than one thousand.

A vigorous discussion of the entire radio and Bible school programme by the delegates followed the report of the British Union radio secretary.

Afternoon Committee

The short afternoon period was given over to committee work.

Evening Missions Symposium

At the vesper hour on Friday evening the Stanborough Park church was filled to overflowing with workers, Missionary Volunteers, and visitors to witness the presentation of the missions programme of the West African Union. The musical introduction was provided by the singing of sacred songs by Sister J. Watson, talented artiste of Watford.

Under the leadership of Pastor J. O.

Gibson, West African Union Mission president, a thrilling and swiftly-moving picture of mission life and work in that vast field was presented. Highlights of the evening were the reports provided by Pastor and Mrs. J. J. Hyde, veteran missionaries of nearly thirty years' service in all parts of the union field, and by the introduction of two new recruits, Brethren Logan and Futcher, under appointment to the East Nigerian Mission, and who will leave soon for their posts of duty.

Of great interest also was the encouraging report of a recent visit to his former field of labour made by Pastor G. D. King, Division Publishing Department secretary. He related graphically the great triumphs of the Gospel in recent months and years and pointed to the fruitful harvest now being reaped as a result of the patient and faithful work of seed-sowing in former years.

The evening closed with a showing of Kodachrome pictures of the medical work being carried on by Dr. John Hyde at the Jengre station in North Nigeria. Dr. Hyde, the son of Pastor and Mrs. J. J. Hyde, is the second generation of this missionary family to serve at this station, and is doing a splendid work for God on this frontier post. L. MARK HAMILTON.



SABBATH, December 1st, dawned fresh, clear, and sunny. It was one of those December mornings that everyone would wish for as a Sabbath day which, in its loveliness would bring benediction upon the assembled Council. Sabbath-school was due to convene at 9.45 a.m. and it was a noticeable feature of the many who were on time that their faces were lit with smiles and welcomes. When the Sabbathschool officers entered to lead the study hour, a glance around the Stanborough Park church saw just over 300 people in their places ready to enjoy the Winter Council Sabbath-school.

It was a unique Sabbath-school for Stanborough Park and this uniqueness was emphasized by the superintendent who

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welcomed delegates who had come from the farthest corners of the Division. Many, no doubt, thought of the Sabbath-schools being conducted in their home fields, but here was a wonderful sight as representatives from ten countries assembled to sing the opening hymn. Fervour was felt in the tones of the hymn, the opening words of which were: "I will sing the wondrous story of the Christ who died for me." The morning praver was offered by Pastor A. C. Vine who is the Sabbath-school secretary of the South England Conference. The ingenious device used as a chart for the Sabbath-school represented the Sabbath school as mining ore with which to provide fuel for enterprises in mission lands and as the amount of the goal was reached week by week it enabled the mechanism of the chart to slowly bring to the surface a good, heavy load of ore. Then followed a few brief moments led by Pastors E. L. Minchin and I. O. Gibson in which stories illustrating the efficacy of the Sabbath-school in soul-winning were related and there followed some congregational chorus singing based on the words, "There is so much for which to be thankful."

The morning study was conducted by Pastor J. J. Hyde, one of the veteran missionaries from West Africa, who has contributed successfully to building a strong work in that particular mission field. The lesson study was enthusiastically entered into by all as we learned anew about God in His creation. A stirring missions appeal by Pastor R. R. Figuhr on our work in the Inter-American Division led to the giving of a substantial offering which all prayed will be instrumental in bringing someone to a knowledge of Christ and salvation.

The hymn, "I sing the mighty power of God," and benediction brought a very pleasant Council Sabbath-school to a close and prepared all hearts for the service which was to follow.

During the few moments between Sabbath-school and church service the Philomel Ladies Choir, neatly robed, took their places in the choir seats behind the preacher's desk and with the congregation quietly awaited the moment when the strains of that lovely benedictory hymn, "Near to the Heart of God," would announce the opening of the service hour. Pastor R. R. Figuhr, a vice-president of the General Conference, was the speaker for the morning service, and associated with him on the platform we were glad to see present Pastor E. D. Dick and Brother

W. H. Williams of the General Conference, Pastors Tarr, Lindsay, and Bradley from the Division, Pastors Gidlund and Rintala from the East Nordic Union, and the pastor of the Stanborough Park church, Pastor A. K. Armstrong. In a devotional atmosphere the congregation sang the words of that lovely hymn, "Father, again in Jesus' name we meet," and as Pastor Dick led in prayer there was a solemn hush as we realized we were in the presence of God awaiting His benediction from the spoken Word and the sweetness of Christian fellowship. All will remember the appealing rendition of, "I need Thee every hour," sung by the Ladies' Choir, which preceded the morning address.

The text used was Psalm 137:4: "How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?" It was a question which was seriously asked and most helpfully answered. We must give ourselves, our sons, and our means, and in making these three choices we would deny selfishness and obey the call of Christ. We would spurn the love of the world and gladly accept the yoke of the Master's service. We would shun every semblance of ingratitude and consecrate our all and follow our Lord anywhere He may lead. Many moving mission stories were told revealing how heathen hearts were changed and yielded to the Saviour. The spirit of self-sacrifice as the basis of all missionary service was extolled, and at times a glance around the congregation revealed many a glistening tear, which showed how deeply the Spirit of the Lord was impressing the message of the hour upon those present. As the sermon concluded, we were reminded of the prophecy in the book of Revelation which forecasts "great multitudes with palms in their hands" as standing with the Lord in final victory. All were urged to make sure of their calling and election that that day of glory may find them a united band saved for eternity. In an atmosphere of solemnity the words of the closing hymn were sung: "Take my life and let it be, consecrated, Lord, to Thee."

During the interval between the morning service and the afternoon Bible study hour, the many visitors who had come to our denominational headquarters in Britain to share the joy and fellowship of the day, engaged in happy conversation and exchanged reminiscences, and one felt that the Winter Council Sabbath was not only one of blessing and an opportunity for renewing consecration, but also a happy occasion for strengthening those bonds of love and unity which we often feel as members of the Advent church. To precede the afternoon service the Stanborough Male Choir had planned a programme of music whereby the name and person of Jesus Christ could be uplifted. From that very beautiful hymn, "Jesu, the very thought of Thee with sweetness fills my breast," through to the closing of the service of song with, "Still, still with Thee when purple morning breaketh," our minds were led through many experiences that come to the Christian and yet we were assured of the final victory in the eternal kingdom.

The ministers were already on the platform and enjoying the choir's programme



together with the congregation and from among that group, Pastor Erenius, the president of the North Swedish Conference, led in prayer, and as the thoughts were phrased in the Swedish tongue we again felt the throb of unity as through different tongues we can express the same faith and hope and confidence in our Lord and in this message.

Pastor E. D. Dick was the speaker for theafternoon and introduced his remarks by saying that he desired to encourage us with a world picture of our movement, outlining the amazing progress that was being made in the various fields, both home and foreign. From Prophets and Kings, page 243, we were asked to contemplate the force of two statements which read: "A fuller sense of God's relationship to those whom He has purchased with the gift of His Son, a greater faith in the onward progress of His cause in the earth." In the days of the apostles a great work of evangelism was done. Pentecost was not only a remarkable ingathering of men and women converted to the Christian faith, but it was also a fulfilment of prophecy, for said Peter: "This is that which was spoken of by the

prophet Joel." Pastor Dick reminded us that the stupendous growth of God's work in the earth to-day was also an indication of prophecy being fulfilled. It was then that we went on an interesting imaginary world tour. We were encouraged as from Inter-America we learned that one thousand churches and eighty thousand members comprise our work there and of scores of baptisms from which hundreds more are being added to the church. South America also presented a glowing picture of success. From an inauspicious beginning when our first literature was distributed wrapped around bottles of liquor, to the present time when our message is being broadcast over fifty radio stations and thousands are teing enrolled in the Bible Correspondence Course, we can simply exclaim: "What hath God wrought!"

The word from Southern Europe was enough to assure us that even in far-away Jugoslavia, where for thirteen years we were cut off from fellowship with the brethren, God's work is advancing with unexpected success. In that Division a thousand baptisms in one week was a cheering note, which sounds as though the blessings of Pentecost are coming nearer and nearer to the church of God. We sped through to South Africa where eighty-six thousand members rejoice in this message and seventy thousand more are in baptismal classes awaiting the happy day when it will be their privilege to follow their Lord through the sacred waters. From this field an average of one thousand five hundred baptisms each month continued the pentecostal story. And how thrilled we were to receive this good news from Southern Asia, a stronghold of the three great non-Christian religions-Mohammedanism, Buddhism, and Hinduism. There is a new attitude toward the distribution and purchase of our literature and a new attitude to our evangelistic efforts. Prejudice is being broken down and baptisms are increasing.

The Far Eastern Division reported six thousand seven hundred baptisms in 1950. Surely these great sleeping masses of people are awakening to receive the warning message for to-day. And as this round-theworld story was concluded with a reference to Australasia with its forty-seven thousand Sabbath-school members in the home and island fields and the awakening impulse of evangelism in that great southern continent, we felt that God is fast gathering His people together for the final outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the finishing of the work. Pastor Dick called for a rededication of ourselves for the finishing of the work and the sentiments of our hearts were surely echoed in the words of the closing hymn, "Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah."

With the usual expectancy that accompanies a foreign mission programme, hundreds of members and delegates gathered in the Stanborough Park church for the report on our Ethiopian Union Mission field. We were happy to have Pastor E. Palm with us to give us a live missionary's commentary on the films which revealed the growth of our medical and evangelistic work in that central African field. Tropical conditions in the film from Ethiopia were in marked contrast to the Arctic conditions of the films screened by Pastor Gudmundsson from Iceland, and yet whether it was the dusty heat of Ethiopia or the frozen beauty of Iceland this enjoyable evening revealed to us the stirring progress of the work of God at the two ends of our far-flung Division field.

Prayers of gratitude ascended from all hearts as the day closed and the hour of retirement to rest drew near. It had been a full Sabbath, but a blessed one.

T. J. BRADLEY.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

"HE azure sky, the morning mist, the pale sunbeams piercing the leafless woods, and the frosted sward made the warmth of our Council sanctuary all the more inviting for Sunday's activities. The meditation hour was resident in the capable hands of Pastor E. D. Dick, who challenged our thinking and faith as he considered the basic psychological qualifications of the successful Gospel minister. He remarked that these qualities were twofold, namely, a clear vision of the essential purpose and objective of the Gospel message, and a clear conviction of the efficacy of the Gospel to meet the deepest yearnings of the human heart. In development of his theme he urged that the Gospel is peculiarly the good news of deliverance from the sins of the past, present, and future. It is righteousness by faith. We are warned that "the enemy . . . is not willing that this truth should be clearly presented; for he knows that if the people receive it fully, his power will be broken," and "it is Satan's studied purpose to keep souls from believing in Christ as their only hope."-Gospel Workers, pages 161, 162.

The application of the Gospel of deliverance adequately meets the deepest yearning of the human spirit. The profoundest cravings of man are for peace, freedom, and A view. of the motto, flags, and tasteful decorations that welcomed the Council members to t h e banquet on Sunday evening.



security. These desires are fully realized when the Gospel of Christ operates upon the human heart and life. Possessing this equipment the Adventist minister is basically qualified to be the purveyor of the everlasting Gospel to all the world.

A season of prayer, in which many joined, closed our devotional hour.

Morning Council Session

The business period commenced with a report from the medical secretary, Dr. A. Andersen. Profitable discussion followed, the trend of which was the urging of a closer integration of the medical work with evangelism.

The Council business proceeded with the consideration of recommendations presented by the Plans Committee until the lunch adjournment.

Afternoon Council Session

Upon reassembling we listened to an interesting report on the work in the Netherlands, rendered by the president, Pastor K. Tilstra, followed by Pastor J. Gudmundsson's story describing the development of the work in Iceland. He said that Adventists and their work were held in high esteem by the Icelandic population of 144,000. This was due largely to the vigorous Dorcas and educational programme fostered in the Iceland Conference.

A series of resolutions presented by the Finance Committee were then accepted.

Sunday Social Evening

The evening was a memorable occasion. As already stated in an earlier part of this report, the delegates had come from Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Great Britain, West Africa, and of course, we must not forget the General Conference delegates from America. It was thought, therefore, that if all could assemble in a time of social fellowship around the evening meal table, it would provide a splendid "get together" opportunity and give the privilege of freely conversing about the weighty matters of work or engaging in the lighter moments of friendly talk. The Annexe dining-room was chosen for this happy hour and one immediately caught the atmosphere of unity, for upon entering, it was noticed that the various national flags had been artistically painted on the windows by Pastor B. Belton from The Stanborough Press. Instinctively, the force of this spirit of unity was emphasized by one brief quotation also painted on a central window, "All One in Christ Jesus." This surely revealed the basic outlook for our denomination, composed as it is of thousands of members from the countries around the world.

The long tables were daintily prepared with appropriate fare and the decorative bowls of flowers in central positions on the tables added a touch of beauty to the happy atmosphere. The speeches with which the occasion was concluded were, according to one's point of view, fortunately, or unfortunately few. Pastor Tarr, as Division president, welcomed everyone anew to the united fellowship of service for another year, praying that God's blessing would be upon every effort made for the furtherance of God's work. Dr. Andersen replying for the assembled delegates, graciously acknowledged the privilege of past service and pledged a rededication of powers of mind and body to the finishing of the work.

It would have been very difficult for the delegates to have returned to committee

work and the giving and hearing of reports after such a memorable hour, and so a short programme of musical items and recitations, the General Conference film, and Kodachrome slides of our Division work in the home unions was planned. Shortly before 10 p.m. the evening concluded and it was a very happy group of brethren and sisters, united in heart and purpose, who found their way to the quiet of evening meditation before slumber.

J. H. BAYLISS.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

T HE last day of the Winter Council was Monday, December 3rd, and Pastor Figuhr, a vice-president of the General Conference, opened the day's proceedings as he spoke at the devotional hour. On his text, Luke 4:27, Brother Figuhr based some most interesting and encouraging lessons from the story of Naaman the Syrian and the captive Hebrew maid.

Naaman was a great man, mighty, valorous, "but—he was a leper." He was a great man, but—. Sometimes to-day it can be said of a minister, "He is a great preacher, but—," "He is a fine church elder, but—." One weakness of character can neutralize all the good, all the possible greatness. To God we need to go for cleansing, if we are to give Him acceptable and fruitful service.

The story of Naaman is well known, and Pastor Figuhr spoke of the significance of the seven-fold bathing in Jordan, showing that a little obedience to the will of God is not enough. Only as Naaman was prepared to go the whole way, to humble himself, turn a deaf ear to his doubtings, and do all that God had commanded him, could he experience the fulfilment of the promises of God and be cleansed.

Pastor Figuhr ended his kindly, but pointed and heart-searching discourse and then called for testimonies. There was no pause as, one after another, workers rose and expressed gratitude to God and reconsecration to the great task. This was a most impressive hour, and surely the good Lord was among us.

Council Sessions

Opening the session which followed at 11.15 a.m., Pastor Tarr read a brief but pregnant statement from *Gospel Workers*, page 255. Here it is: "When men are as devoted as Elijah was and possess the faith that he had, God will reveal Himself as He did then." In the light of the Carmel story, what a staggering statement this is. Pastor E, L. Minchin presented the report of the Sabbath-School Department. At present there are 1,106 Sabbath-schools and 62,923 members in the Division.

A most happy feature of this report was the fact that during 1950 three hundred and twenty-seven of our Sabbath-school members were baptized. That is soul-winning. Thank God again and yet again for the Sabbath-school!

For the support of our foreign missions programme \$96,660 was raised in the Sabbath-schools in this Division and it is good to know that a good portion of this amount was raised in the mission fields.

Brother Minchin remarked that 1952 makes a centenarian of the Sabbath-school institution and said that this fact is a challenge to us all to see that our Sabbathschools contribute their full share to the goal of doubling our church membership in this General Conference quadrennium.

The rest of this last day of the Council was given over to voting the recommendations of the Plans Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Budget Committee. Under the guidance of God many most important and far-reaching plans were laid for the pressing of the battle to the gates. Now we must devote ourselves to the implementing of these plans in our field and church work.

Judging by the smiles on most faces, and the expressions of thanks from the various field leaders, the proposals of the Budget Committee met with general approval. Pastor E. D. Dick rose to say how he rejoiced with the leaders in this newly reformed Northern European Division that such a generous budget could be possible. He reminisced concerning the budgets the Division had to handle in the pre-war years, and contrasted those stringent days with the present situation. He appealed to all to handle the funds with a devotion to the cause that God could bless.

Pastor Tarr, in concluding the business of the session, expressed gratitude for the good spirit that had characterized the gathering and bade the workers Godspeed as they returned to their respective fields of labour. He admonished them to remember the picture that had been before them during the days of the meeting, and particularly the challenge of the motto: "Our times and our task demand action!"

The Council rose to sing, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," the last prayer was offered, there was a general handshaking and bidding of good-byes, and the 1951 Winter Council came to an end. A. C. VINE.

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RESOLUTIONS

Passed at the Council

A CALL TO ACTION

WHEREAS, The church of God has reached not an important crisis, but the important crisis forecast in Scripture, the end of all things temporal is upon us, "everything that can be moved will be moved," stability has already become instability, drastic changes occur overnight, rising forces of evil challenge all things earthly and heavenly, while none knows what underground plans the enemy of all good has even now perfected ready to reveal an increased distress and disaster,

AND RECOGNIZING anew the exalted nature of our commission to take this message into all the world in this generation, the greatness of this task and its urgency in view of the lateness of the hour, and in harmony with the clarion call of the Division president, Pastor A. F. Tarr, in his opening address,

Voted, 1. That re-affirming our acceptance of primitive godliness for holy living, we move forward into a deeper experience of vital, positive Christianity.

2. That all our future planning be conducted in the atmosphere of aggressive evangelism whereby the whole church may take the offensive against evil for the finishing of the work.

3. That increased personal soul-winning effort be put forth *now*, while time lingers, and peace in some measure is still preserved.

4. That union and local conference executives give early attention to this challenge and to its strong implementation.

DEVOTION AND CONSECRATION

WHEREAS, The past year has been a period of growth and great progress in the onward march of the church, in which God has permitted us to witness many manifestations of His loving care and protection and many demonstrations of His power in holding back the forces of evil and furthering the work being carried on in His name throughout the earth; and,

WHEREAS, His hand has been strong to lead in spite of the obstacles of indifference, persecution, and inadequate resources of men and means, and His Spirit has invigorated His people and led them to give themselves in service; therefore, be it

Resolved, That unitedly we pledge our devotion and consecration to God for the early finishing of the work, and that, while fully aware of our sins and shortcomings, for which we are truly repentant, we seek and claim the salvation and strength which He has promised, and we go from this Council with renewed courage and a clearer vision of our task, and with the determination so to relate ourselves to God, and so to lead the church and the brethren by love and zeal and example, that the Spirit may have freedom through human channels to win souls and prepare a people for the coming of our Lord and Saviour Tesus Christ.

DAY OF EASTING AND PRAYER

Voted, That Sabbath, January 12, 1952, be set apart as a day of solemn prayer and fasting, summoning our people everywhere to plead most earnestly with God :

1. For the power of the Holy Spirit to rest upon our ministry and people for holy living and effective witnessing.

ing. 2. For the winds of strife to be held a little longer, that the work of God may go forward unimpeded.

a may go forward unimpeded. 3. For God to open, or re-open, doors in lands now closed to the preaching of the message of Christ's return.

4. For His hand of care and protection to be over our youth called to serve their countries in connection with national service.

5. For the lives of our leaders and people to be preserved in the lands of affliction.

6. For these brethren, and our people everywhere, to be endued with the mighty power of the Holy Spirit for soul-winning.

GREATER LAY EVANGELISM

WHEREAS, We are told that "a working church is a living church," and that, "there are ways in which all may do personal service for God," and further, that "careful instruction should be given... that the very simplest modes of work should be devised and set in operation among the churches" (6T. 431-433).

(6T. 431-433), *Voted*, 1. That during the year 1952 plans be made for the conducting of Lightbearer Courses or other courses to extend practical missionary work in the churches.

2. That the correspondence course "Lay Preaching," prepared by the Home Study Institute, be introduced among our churches in order to give a greater number of our lay members opportunity to educate themselves for soul-winning activities.

3. That Lay Workers' conventions be held in 1952 throughout the Division, as far as possible, and that we ask the Home Missionary Department of the General Conference to send one of their men to assist us in these conventions.

RADIO AND BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE SCHOOLS

WHEREAS, The radio broadcasting and the work of our Bible Correspondence Schools have resulted in creating great interest in the Advent message throughout many parts of our Division, and

WHEREAS, At the present time we are cultivating only a fraction of this tremendous field of opportunity, and

WHEREAS, This work has still unlimited possibilities for expansion before the outbreak of a world war, which might quickly make these missionary contacts well-nigh impossible,

 \tilde{V} oted, 1. That during 1952 strong efforts be put forth to contact the thousands of enrolled students and bring them into the church.

2. That as far as finances permit strong and well-planned advertising campaigns in magazines, newspapers, and by distribution of pamphlets, tracts, etc., be set in operation



Go-Preach-Baptize

in order to reach the masses in Northern Europe and the mission fields.

3. That the method of going from city to city and town to town holding one or more evangelistic meetings in order to interest people and enroll them in our Bible Correspondence Schools, be tried out, special efforts also being put forth to contact and invite all our Bible Correspondence School students and radio listeners with their relatives and friends.

Such rallies or meetings should be sponsored by the respective union and local conference committees in counsel with the Bible Correspondence School leaders and the Division and union Radio and Bible Correspondence School secretaries.

The best speakers should be chosen for such meetings especially for larger cities. The expenses of hall rent, advertising, literature, etc., should be the responsibility of the respective conference.

A CALL TO GREATER SABBATH-SCHOOL EVANGELISM

WHEREAS, There are great soul-winning possibilities within the Sabbath-school which as yet have not been fully utilized as indicated by the following statements from the messenger of the Lord :

"The Sabbath-school should be one of the greatest instrumentalities, and the most effectual, in bringing souls to Christ."— Counsels on Sabbath-School Work, page 10.

"Our Sabbath-schools . . can accomplish far more than they have hitherto accomplished. The Sabbath-school, when rightly managed, possesses marvellous power, and is adapted to doing a great work, but it is not now what it may and should be. The influence growing out of Sabbath-school work should improve and enlarge the church. . There is a most precious missionary field in the Sabbath-school, and if there are omens of good, they are only indications and beginnings of what may be done."— *Ibid.*, page 9 and,

WHEREAS, The year 1952 is the Centennial Year in our Sabbath-school work and offers an unusual opportunity for launching the strongest soul-saving evangelistic programme in our history,

Voted, 1. That every effort be made to place the strongest possible emphasis on the soul-saving aspects of Sabbath-school work, both for our own children, youth, and adults and for the general public; and,

2. That 1952 mark the launching of the strongest possible programme of soul-winning through better teaching, Branch Sab-

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bath-schools, Children's Story Hours, and Vacation Bible Schools, in order that we may make the maximum contribution to the denomination objective of doubling our membership throughout the world.

3. That at least once a month the time usually devoted to the lesson review in the Sabbath-school programme be used for the presentation of Sabbath-school evangelism and the relating of Sabbath-school soul-winning experiences.

4. That Sabbath, September 20th, be designated as Centennial Sabbath and that a suitable Sabbath-school programme be prepared and presented at the church service in all our churches on that day.

5. That we join with our Sabbath-schools throughout the world in endeavouring to reach a membership goal of 1,250,000 by the end of 1952, our objective in the Northern European Division being a membership increase of 25 per cent.

6. That we join with the General Conference in its plan to achieve a goal of \$6,000,000 in 1952 to forward the soulwinning work in mission fields, to this end making use of special material prepared by the General Conference Sabbath-school Department.

7. That in local conference workers' meetings consideration be given as soon as possible to the implementing of the Sabbath-school plans adopted at this council.

8. That local conference committees also endeavour to arrange for the holding of meetings for Sabbath-school officers, church elders, and missionary leaders, either on a district or conference-wide basis with the same end in view.

BIRTHDAY OFFERINGS

WHEREAS, For many years the Sabbathschool birthday offerings have been promoted on the basis of these offerings being used for new work and yet no specific projects have been designated, and,

WHEREAS, There would be greater promotional value in the raising of the birthday offerings if specific projects were designated, therefore,

Voted, that we accept the General Conference plan that the Sabbath-school Department be assigned definite projects which are listed in the annual budget for new work as special objectives for our Sabbathschools in the promotion of the birthday offerings during the year, these projects to be assigned by the Treasury Department of the General Conference.

CIVIL DEFENCE AND RELIEF WORK

WHEREAS, the relief of physical suffering has always occupied a large place in the work of Seventh-day Adventists, as it did in the work of their Master and Lord, and

WHEREAS, in time of national emergency and war there is vast scope for such help in community service and in organized national service,

Voted, 1. That union and local conferences in association with the Home Missionary, Missionary Volunteer, and Educational Departments urge our membership to give all possible aid to local civil defence. 2. That educational superintendents do their utmost to place the Junior First Aid training courses in our church schools.

3. That our members, and especially the youth, be urged to take accredited First Aid training courses and that suitable persons be encouraged to become accredited First Aid instructors in their respective territories, in order that they may render maximum service to the church, to their community, and their country in times of emergency.

PRIVATE SOLICITATION OF FUNDS

QUESTIONS have arisen from time to time with reference to fund raising activities in our churches and among Seventh-day Adventists by persons not authorized to undertake such solicitation. This problem is well covered by existing policies and we would therefore call the attention of our leaders, pastors, and conference workers to the policy on the solicitation of funds as appearing in the General Conference Working Policy.

Policy. "1. No conference, church, or institution, without special counsel and arrangement, is to plan work requiring solicitation of funds outside its own territory. Any solicitation within its own territory shall be in harmony with local, union, and General Conference policy.

policy. "2. For the protection of churches from unauthorized teachers and fraudulent and undenominational solicitation, the following principles and methods are recognized:

"a. Ministers and church officers should not grant the privilege of the pulpit to persons who have no recognition or recommendation from the conference.

"b. No permission shall be granted to solicit funds either publicly or privately without such recognition.

"c. Literature f or solicitation purposes shall be provided only to responsible persons.

"d. All funds contributed by our people for any cause in response to appeals, shall be passed through the regular channels of the church.

the church. "e. No authority is granted workers in the cause representing special interests in one part of the field to solicit help for that work in any other part of the field or in any other conference, without arrangement by the conference officers, with written authorization therefor.

"f. Conference and church officers shall take such steps as may be necessary to prevent unauthorized or illegal public solicitation.

"3. No campaign other than Ingathering shall be conducted for the solicitation of money by Ingathering methods, using our Ingathering literature, for either home or foreign missions, and local conferences shall take such steps as may be necessary to prevent violations of this regulation. "4. Mission field workers visiting the home

"4. Mission field workers visiting the home churches or in touch with the home base by correspondence, are asked to solicit funds only for enterprises included in the budget of appropriation, working in co-operation with churches and conferences to raise the funds required to meet the appropriation on which the missions depend, that funds thus raised be channelled as indicated in paragraph 2. In harmony with this, the following was presented by the missionaries and adopted at the session of the General Conference :

"'The band of missionaries present at this Conference desire to place on record their deep appreciation of the loyal way in which our people throughout the homelands are giving of their means for the maintenance of the work being conducted in the great mission divisions of the world field.

"'And while placing on record appreciation of the loyalty of our people in supplying funds for the conduct of the work, we also place on record our appreciation of the way in which these funds are being disbursed. It has been a source of incalculable good to the missionary operations everywhere to have a regular annual budget, with its regular appropriation balanced by the consideration of all the needs as they are presented in the appeals from the various divisions; and we hereby express disapproval of any solicitation on the part of missionaries for objects outside of the budget, and pledge ourselves to turn the attention of our people, when we make appeals for funds, to their opportunity to render a special service to the cause of missions by making substantial and extra gifts to help swell the general mission funds as the best means by which the work can be extended to the best advantage of each field and of the world generally that must be warned in finishing the work.'" We wish to call attention of our elders

We wish to call attention of our elders and pastors to the fact that even though a person may be a duly credentialed representative of an organization sponsored by Seventh-day Adventist churchmembers, that does not in itself give such a person the right to go to our churches to raise money for his enterprise. The solicitor may be a member in good and regular standing and be able to exhibit letters of encouragement from some of our leading workers, but such solicitation is a violation of the spirit of the regulations set forth above.

These policies are not drawn up to govern our people arbitrarily in their giving, but to protect them from inroads on their generosity by those who are collecting funds for enterprises or for personal use which are never audited by the denomination, as are all our regular church funds, and for which no account is ever given either to the denomination or the donors.

We wish to appeal, therefore, to our workers to guard carefully the liberality of our people and not to allow the funds which they are so ready to give to the work of God to be directed into channels of unauthorized enterprises or for the establishing of personal projects.

DEBT CONTROL AND LIQUIDATION

In accordance with our long-established policy providing that the world-wide work of this denomination shall be conducted in all its phases without incurring indebtedness, and particularly in view of the financial uncertainty and peril apparent on every hand at the present time, and recognizing that some of our organizations have become unfortunately involved and that diligent care must be exercised to remove the burdens now resting upon us,

Voted, That the policy of the Northern

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European Division be amended in harmony with the following General Conference recommendation :

"Organizations having incurred indebtedness shall be required to adopt this definite policy of liquidation.

"a. Not less than 12½ per cent of the entire indebtedness as at the close of the fiscal year ending not later than December 31. 1951; and, in the case of educational institutions, plus any note indebtedness incurred between the close of their last fiscal year and December 31, 1951, of each division and its subsidiary organizations, shall be liquidated annually. This indebtedness is to include not only notes payable and mortgages, but all accounts payable including interorganizational accounts, less net cash resources on hand after providing for reserve fund obligations. It is understood that the above per cent is a minimum and every effort shall be put forth to liquidate the indebtedness in a shorter time.

"b. It is the plan that the funds required annually for debt liquidation shall be raised within the respective divisions and shall be made up from regular and/or special appropriations received and any other funds available other than tithe. Where the indebtedness is especially large the question shall be made a matter for special consideration by the division committee in counsel with the General Conference.

"c. In Overseas Divisions, Union Conferences and Union Missions, officers shall make reports of the progress in debt liquidation at the annual meetings of the Division Committee."

STRENGTHENING OUR COLPORTEUR MINISTRY

WHEREAS, It is clearly indicated in the counsels of the Spirit of prophecy that our literature work will play an increasingly important part in the speedy finishing of our work, and

WHEREAS, The achievements of our colporteurs during this past year have been a source of real strength to our evangelistic programme throughout our Division territory, therefore

Voted, that we express to our faithful colporteur evangelists our appreciation of their loyal and fruitful service, assuring them of our prayerful support in their evangelistic endeavours. Further

Voted, That in all our conferences and missions every effort be made to strengthen this important phase of our witness by

a. The appointment of capable local publishing secretaries who wherever possible can give their full time to the literature ministry.

b. The increased recruitment of suitable brethren and sisters to full- or part-time colporteur service.

c. The emphasizing of the importance of this work in our schools and colleges by suitable rallies and institutes promoting the student scholarship plan, and a re-establishment of the policy whereby all graduates entering ministerial and Bible instructor service are required to have spent a specific period in colporteur work.

CHALLENGE TO GREATER EVANGELISM WITH PERIODICALS

WHEREAS, One of our great objectives is

to double our church membership by 1954, through a vastly increased effort in every phase of our evangelistic programme; and

WHEREAS, There is nothing so inspiring to every believer as a great, glowing spiritual objective, challenging larger soul-winning achievement for God; and

WHEREAS, The vision of the future assures us that "more than 1,000 will be converted in one day, most of whom will trace their first convictions to the reading of our literature,"

Voted, 1. That every churchmember be encouraged to endeavour, by God's help, to bring the spiritual blessing and uplift of our periodicals regularly into two or more homes each year.

2. That all of our churches be encouraged to form prayer bands, to pray for the readers of our periodicals, to the end that these journals might become instrumentalities in leading them to Christ and to an acceptance of the message.

DENOMINATIONAL BOOKS IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

WHEREAS, The hour is late and the masses of people in the world have not been warned, and

WHEREAS, God's servant has promised that a thousand will be converted in one day, most of whom will have received their first convictions from reading our literature, and

WHEREAS, Many contacts could be made if our denominational books were placed more extensively in public libraries, therefore

Voted, 1. That we endeavour to get our books wherever possible into public libraries. steamer libraries, etc., and into the hands of leading men of authority in our countries.

2. That the volumes be donated to the respective libraries or individuals, the Division, the local publishing house supplying the books, the union, and the local field each paying one-fourth of the cost.

3. That each union appoint a committee to implement the plans and to select a complete list of recommended books for this purpose. Where possible the complete set be placed in each library. If this is impossible, a part of the set be placed in as many libraries as possible and that we plan at a later date to add to the collection.

4. That these books be presented in a manner so as to bring publicity to our denomination, it being suggested that the sets of books be presented in person by the local field president or other appropriate officer and that a story of the presentation be placed in the local papers.

SMALL CHURCH EVANGELISM

WHEREAS. In the vicinity of many of our smaller churches a series of meetings on our doctrines has not been held for many years; and

WHEREAS, In many of these churches the membership has been reduced by loss of members from death, removal, or apostasy; and

WHEREAS, In many of these communities there are young people who have never become identified with the church, though their parents are members; and

WHEREAS, There are also found in the

vicinity of our churches those who formerly were with us but who have left the church, as well as others who have become interested in our doctrines but who have not yet taken their stand for the truth; therefore,

Voted, 1. That during the year 1952 plans be made by all our conferences and mission fields for the holding of a short series of meetings, of ten days to two weeks' duration, in their smaller churches, in order to strengthen the present believers, and in an effort to increase greatly the membership.

2. That in these meetings emphasis be given to our doctrinal beliefs and the need of repentance, and the new birth.

3. That, wherever consistent, pastors and district leaders exchange churches for such efforts so as to bring fresh talent into these meetings.

4. That special invitations be sent to all Bible correspondence school students in the respective communities to attend these meetings

ings 5. That the publishing houses be asked to supply each conference with lists of names of subscribers to our missionary periodicals resident in the conference and that invitations be sent out from the conference office to the subscribers inviting them to attend the meetings.

6. That from the very beginning of each series of meetings the goal of baptism and church membership be held before those who are not already members, and that special efforts be made to prepare a group for baptism as a result of these meetings.

7. That the district superintendents be asked to arrange follow-up work for those who have become interested but are not ready for baptism.

8. That these short efforts be conducted in addition to our regular city evangelistic programme where the meetings are held for a much longer period.

INGATHERING REDEDICATION

WHEREAS, Under the providence of God, Ingathering year by year is forging ahead in raising more and more funds to advance the work in all the world, and

WHEREAS, The Lord in a marked way has gone before His people and richly blessed them as they have made evangelistic contacts with neighbours and friends,

Voted, 1. That we rededicate ourselves and appeal to our whole membershipadults, youth, and children-to co-operate in the glorious task of raising funds to proclaiming the Advent message to "every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people."

2. That in our Ingathering work we continue to emphasize the evangelistic opportunity of contacting friends and neighbours with the Gospel message, and encourage and help a greater percentage of the church membership to participate in this soul-winning plan.

INGATHERING GOALS, 1952

WHEREAS, Opportunities for service in mission lands are rapidly multiplying, and consequently the increasing need for mission funds and missionaries is pressing,

Voted, That the Div	vision basic goal be
increased by 5 per cent	to 219,103 dollars, to
be divided between the	Unions as follows:

,000
,500
,500
100
,970
,438
\$820

\$219,103

APPEAL TO THOSE WITH MEANS

WE, the representatives of the world-wide work of the Seventh-day Adventist church within the Northern European Division, view with solemn concern the conditions prevailing throughout the earth. The day of the Lord is near, and hasteth greatly. Only a brief space of time remains in which to complete the task set before God's remnant people. As never before, we must summon every resource, and devote every energy to bringing the last invitation of mercy to a judgment-bound world. We acknowledge with grateful appreciation the faithful liberality of our devoted believers in maintaining a generous flow of tithes and offerings to the support of this movement. We pledge ourselves anew to prudence and economy in the administration of the fund provided. And with a view to further supplementing the treasury of the Lord, making possible an increasingly rapid advance of His cause during the days of grace which yet remain, it is most earnestly,

Voted, that while continuing to foster the regular sources of income, direct and special appeals, where possible for specific objectives, be made to our people, encouraging those whose faithful stewardship under the blessing of Heaven has brought them the custody of more than average means, to make unusually substantial gifts for the promotion of the Advent message throughout the world, calling particular attention to the following considerations:

1. The rapidly fulfilling signs of the end, which daily remind us that we are living in the last hours of soul-winning opportunity.

2. The economic and political conditions now prevailing throughout the world, which are progressively unfavourable to the preservation of private wealth.

3. The instruction which has repeatedly come to us as a people urging those of means to give liberally to the cause of God while there is opportunity, and before the destruction of the last days sweeps all their possessions away.

4. The calls for means from the needy regions beyond, calls which have never been more insistent nor more full of promise than they are to-day, and which make an urgent appeal to all our hearts. We need ever to remember that the doors now open will soon be for ever closed.

APPRECIATION OF VISIT TO DIVISION TERRITORY OF ELDER A. L. WHITE

Voted, That we express our deep appreci-(Concluded on page 16.)

NEWS FLASH

"OUR Times and Our Task Demand Action," was the motto of the Annual Meeting of the Northern European Division. In an attractive chart, this was kept constantly before the eyes of the members throughout the series of meetings.

Seventy-one persons representative of sections of this Division's territory were in attendance at the Annual Meeting.

General Conference representatives in attendance were Pastor R. R. Figuhr, Vice-President, Pastor E. D. Dick, Secretary, and Brother W. H. Williams, Under-Treasurer.

During the nine months ended September, 1951, 358 evangelistic campaigns were held in the Division.

The largest Missionary Volunteer Investiture ever held in denominational history was recently conducted in East Nigeria, when 993 young people received their insignia.

The colporteur force of the Division totalled 341 at September 30, 1951, representing a gain of 41 workers. This group of workers have attained the largest sales record in the history of the Northern European Division.

More than 100 student-colporteurs won scholarships in the 1951 college year. The achievement of one student-colporteur in Norway calls for special mention. This young man's sales in a period of 499 hours' work, exceeded Nkr. 32,000 (£1,718).

Our thirteen health institutions cared for 10,512 patients during the current year, administering some 14,000 treatments. The earnings of these institutions amounted to a little more than $\pounds 300,000$. Charitable work was done in excess of $\pounds 10,000$.

E. B. RUDGE.

Resolutions

(Concluded from page 15.)

ation to Elder A. L. White for the blessing and strength he has brought to our Division field during his extended visit among us, and to the General Conference Committee for making this visit possible.

APPRECIATION AND THANKS

Voted, That we express our thanks to the Northern European Division Committee for the privileges of this Council; to the General Conference visitors, namely R. R. Figuhr, E. D. Dick, and W. H. Williams, by whose spiritual ministry and valuable counsel we have been greatly blessed; to the British Union Conference Committee, the management of the Stanboroughs Hydro and Granose Foods Ltd., and to the Stanborough Park church board for their kind hospitality; and to all others who have ministered to our spiritual and material needs.

APPRECIATION OF GENERAL CONFERENCE LIBERALITY

Voted, That we convey to the General Conference brethren at Washington our heartfelt appreciation of the large appropriations granted to this field in the 1952 budget, amounting to almost \$1,000,000, and to assure them of the devotion and loyalty of the membership of this Division to the proclamation of our message and to the advancement of the work of God.

Church Calendar for 1952

-	January 5	Family Altar Day
	January 12	
	January 19	
	February 19	
	February 2	Sabbath-School Kally Day
	March 1	Every-Home Visitation Sabbath
	March 1-8	
•	March 15	Religious Liberty Day
	March 15-22	Missionary Volunteer Week (British Union)
4 · ·	April 5	Ingathering Rally Day (Netherland Union)
-	April 5-12	Missionary Volunteer Week
	April 26	Ingathering Rally Day (British Union)
-	June 14	
	July 5	
	August 2	Home Missionary Sabbath-Dorcas
	August 16	Ingathering Rally Day (Scandinavian Unions)
	August 16-October 11	Ingathering Campaign (Scandinavian Unions)
	September 6	Colporteur Day
	October 4	Bible Correspondence Day-Every-Home Visitation
	November 1	Health and Temperance
		Week of Prayer and Week of Sacrifice Offering
	December 6	Madazina Day
		rugumit tray

A Blessed New Year

(Concluded from front page.)

who by any type of service we can r-nder may be aided in their journey toward the kingdom.

As, therefore, we cross the threshold into the coming New Year, let us avail ourselves of its benefits to the full. Let us enter it with lives that are freed from sin, with hearts and minds that are adorned by the attributes of God, and with hands that are eager—as His ever were—to rescue from peril those whose feet are still treading the downward path. And if we do only this, we shall have no regrets when our journeyings and labours are over, and when in the great judgment day we face again the pages —then fully written up—of the diary of 1952.

Still upward be thine onward course: For this I pray to-day:

Still upward as the years go by. And seasons pass away.

Still upward in this coming year,

Thy path is all untried:

Still upward may'st thou journey on. Close by thy Saviour's side.

Still upward e'en though sorrow come And trials crush thine heart; Still upward may they draw thy soul.

With Christ to walk apart.

Still upward till the day shall break. And shadows all have flown:

Still upward till in heaven you wake, And stand before the throne.

-Selected

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NORTHERN LIGHT

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

PRICE 3/- A YEAR

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