



# CENTENNIAL GREETINGS

By E. L. MINCHIN

*Secretary, Sabbath-School Department*

IN THIS centennial year 67,000 Sabbath-school members found in 1,106 schools throughout the Northern European Division send loyal greetings to the readers of the **NORTHERN LIGHT**. From beyond the Arctic Circle in Norway right down to near the Equator in the great West African mission field and to Ethiopia, our members are found each Sabbath enjoying the blessings of the Sabbath-school. With our Sabbath-schools throughout the world they celebrate with joy the centenary of the birth of one of the first and greatest institutions given to the Advent people. From those humble beginnings when James White first wrote the Sabbath-school lessons in the *Youth's Instructor*, we now have over one million Sabbath-school members in 17,000 schools in practically every country in the earth. Here in Northern Europe we accept this centenary year as an unusual opportunity for launching the greatest evangelistic and soul-saving programme in our history. The first Sabbath-schools were organized in this Division as far back as 1877-1890. It was in 1877 that the first Sabbath-school was organized in England.

From every country of our Division come reports of increasing love for the Sabbath-school and of renewed zeal in Sabbath-school evangelism. We believe that

the best way in which we can commemorate this centenary is to double our membership as quickly as possible.

In Denmark, Norway, and Great Britain

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## A CENTURY OF SABBATH-SCHOOL PROGRESS 1852 - 1952

1,034,160 Sabbath-school Members

17,373 Sabbath-Schools

\$5,000,000 Sabbath-school Offerings in  
1951

\$41,706 Thirteenth Sabbath Overflow in the  
first quarter of 1952 to the Northern Euro-  
pean Division

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we are seeing a remarkable growth in the number of Branch Sabbath-schools. A total of 124 such schools are now being conducted in these countries, and in our mission field in West Africa our Sabbath-schools now number 425 with 115 Branch

Sabbath-schools. In Denmark alone over one thousand children are gathered off the streets of the cities and towns of that country into Sunday-schools where the Sabbath-school lessons are taught to them by a great army of eager, consecrated Sabbath-school members, most of whom are our youth.

Joseph, one of our boys in Sierra Leone, West Africa, has been in this message just three months. He went back to his heathen village with a burden to work for others. He and his young brother invited their friends and neighbours into a Branch Sabbath-school. They had no church building, so these lads set to work and built their own church. They organized a Sabbath-school of eighty members, fourteen of whom are now baptized. Think of it, and these boys have only been in the message three months themselves!

In our Bristol church in South England there is a little girl who loves the Sabbath-school. She invited her girl friend to join her in the Adventist Sabbath-school. Her friend came and enjoyed it so much that she begged her mother to come too. The mother at first refused but eventually, because of the pleadings of her little girl, she went. She enjoyed it so much that she went back to her husband and said, "You too

*(Continued on the back page.)*

# SABBATH-SCHOOL CENTENARY

By A. FLOYD TARR, *President*

TO Seventh-day Adventists the Sabbath-school is a much cherished institution. And in the light of the service it renders how could this be otherwise? Its influence is at work in the lives of its members from their very earliest to their latest years. Long before little children are old enough to attain to church membership the Sabbath-school guides their growth in Christian grace, and directs their tender steps in the way of the kingdom. By it, too, their eyes are turned from their own personal and often selfish desires to the needs of others, and in their impressionable hearts a spirit of unselfish, loving service is awakened as week by week they place their gifts in its hands to carry the Gospel message to the less favoured ones in every land.

Then, as these little ones grow older in the service of their Master, and find their places in the various walks of life, the Sabbath-school continues to nourish them with spiritual food and to inspire their hearts in giving and working for the needs of others.

But there are many who unite with our movement in later years and who have not

been privileged as children to be nurtured in this message. It is the Sabbath-school that welcomes them to a systematic study of the Word and that guides their minds into its ever-deepening spiritual truths.

There is not a day in the week that the Sabbath-school is idle in its service for the church. Its goal is to impart its spiritual food with the same regularity and system that physical food is partaken, and to make it the "joy and rejoicing of the heart."

But its blessings on the Sabbath day are the crowning act of its service. Gathered together in companies all over the world are those who throughout the week have studied its lesson and been preparing to share with others new spiritual truths. Now as they sit together, and as they pray and sing and talk, the Lord comes preciously near and there seems to be enacted in their midst that beautiful experience recorded of those two travellers journeying toward Emmaus: "And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus Himself drew near, and went with them." Luke 24:15.

The Sabbath-school that has thus so

greatly enriched the Advent movement celebrates this year its hundredth anniversary. What greater tribute can we pay it than to avail ourselves afresh of the unique blessings it continues to afford.

(1). By a daily systematic searching of the Word.

(2). By unflinching attendance each Sabbath to worship and study at the feet of the Divine Teacher.

(3). By the enjoyment of fellowship and association with fellow-students in a spiritual environment.

(4). By more generous giving to advance the message we love so well.

(5). By a personal, unremitting witness to others of the truths sown in our own hearts through the lessons of this wonderful school.

If this hundredth anniversary will be marked by such re-dedication on the part of every Sabbath-school member, an influence will be felt in the church and in the world which will mightily expedite the completion of our task and help to ensure our own admission into the glorious assembly of the Sabbath-school above.

## A Century of Progress in Sabbath-School Work

By L. L. MOFFITT

*Secretary of the General Conference Sabbath-School Department*

ONE HUNDRED years ago the Sabbath-school idea began to crystallize in the mind of Elder James White. Carrying a burden for the youth, he conceived the idea of furnishing Bible lessons to be used in the homes of Adventists on Sabbath. He set forth his plan in the July 8th issue of the *Review and Herald* in the year 1852. This plan called for the publishing of a small monthly paper for the youth, in which he designed to present "four or five lessons, in the form of questions and answers, in each number, one for each week, for Sabbath-school lessons." This plan was carried into effect in August of that year, when the first issue of *The Youth's Instructor* came from the press in Rochester, New York. Four Sabbath-school lessons appeared in this first issue and composed the major part of the paper.

### A WORLD-WIDE BIBLE SCHOOL

Thus from the very beginning of the Sabbath-school work, great emphasis has been placed upon the study of the Bible. The Sabbath-school lessons have done much to unify the thinking and mould the lives of our believers around the world. In the early days, there was often a struggle to keep the Sabbath-school lessons supplied. In fact there were times when no lessons were provided. As the need for a consistent programme of study and regular lesson material became more and more imperative, however, effective plans were laid to keep the lesson material rolling from the presses. Among the important contributions to the Sabbath-school literature of those early days was a book prepared by Prof. G. H. Bell entitled, *Bible Lessons for the Sabbath-School*. Elder R.

F. Cottrell and Elder Uriah Smith were also among the early writers of Sabbath-school lessons.

It is of interest to note the growth in lesson material through the years, as step by step the organization of the Sabbath-school developed. Now the Sabbath-School Department is preparing lessons for every age-group—cradle roll, kindergarten, primary, junior, youth, and adults. Sabbath-school lessons are sent out to all the world divisions and are being translated into many languages. In addition to the regular Sabbath-school lessons, there are branch Sabbath-school lessons and camp meeting lessons. Besides all these lessons, the monthly journal of the Sabbath-School Department, *The Sabbath-School Worker*, carries teaching helps on the various lessons. In the foreign divisions

there are similar publications, so that the Sabbath-school lesson material alone comprises a very considerable proportion of our publishing work.

A WORLD-WIDE MISSION PROGRAMME

One of the great contributions of the Sabbath-school work to our denominational advance is its support of the world-wide mission programme. This, too, began in an inconspicuous way. The first Sabbath-school gift to missions was made in the far west by the Milton, Oregon, Sabbath-school in the year 1855. That was, as it were, the first little rill that has flowed on through the years to the ever-increasing proportions of a mighty river. Although it took our Sabbath-schools twenty-five years to raise the first million dollars for missions, our Sabbath-schools are now contributing more than a million dollars to our world-wide work every three months. In other words, our Sabbath-schools are now doing in a quarter of a year as much as it took a quarter of a century to do in the early days of our mission giving.

A very popular phase of the Sabbath-school's mission fund-raising efforts is the Thirteenth Sabbath Offering. The overflow from this offering once each quarter goes to specific projects. In the forty years that this plan has been operating, over two million dollars have gone out to build churches, schools, mission homes, hospitals, and dispensaries. The total from 1912 to the close of 1951 of Thirteenth Sabbath overflows amounted to \$2,199,066.46. The birthday thank-offering plan has also produced more than a million and a half dollars for the mission fields. This plan was begun in 1919, and by the close of 1951 the birthday thank-offering gifts amounted to \$1,510,644.41. The Investment Fund also has brought several million dollars into the mission treasury. From 1925 when this plan began to operate as a part of the Sabbath-school mission efforts, until the close of 1951 the total Investment returns amounted to \$4,531,929.38. The total Sabbath-school offerings for 1951 reached the high-water mark for any single year, amounting to \$5,084,083.59. Adding this to our previous annual totals brought the grand total of Sabbath-school mission giving from 1886 to 1951 to the sum of \$81,202,325.48. Hence, it can be seen from these figures that the Sabbath-school has been a great



The Sabbath-School guiding the steps of the youth in Ethiopia.

factor in financing our world-wide mission work.

A WORLD-WIDE SOUL-WINNING EFFORT

A third distinctive service of the Sabbath-school is its direct evangelistic work. In God's plan the Sabbath-school is to be more than a Bible school. It is to be more than a foreign mission fund-raising organization. It is to be a great soul-winning factor in its own community in every land. "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.

This service should be performed first within the Sabbath-school itself, in concern for the souls of the children, youth, and adults who are members of the church. We should be vitally interested in the conversion of every child in the Sabbath-school. This is emphasized by the following quotation: "Never rest till every child in your class is brought to a saving knowledge of Christ." (*Counsels on Sabbath-School Work*, page 125.) We rejoice in the interest our Sabbath-schools are taking in the salvation of the children. Many of the youth and adults also need the heart-warming, soul-stirring appeal of Christ-centred teaching. The importance of an active evangelistic spirit in our Sabbath-school classes cannot be over-emphasized. The Sabbath-school when rightly conducted will be one of the church's greatest soul-winning assets right within its own walls. Pastors will be reaping a continuous harvest of souls from such Sabbath-schools.

The influence of the soul-winning Sabbath-school will be brought to bear in an effective way in the community where it is located. Much more, we believe, can be done by our Sabbath-schools in maintaining a friendly attitude toward the people in the immediate environs of the Sabbath-school and among the friends and neighbours of the Sabbath-school members. A Sabbath-school visitation and invitational programme should be planned by every Sabbath-school council. We hope that will become one of the soul-winning features of our Centennial Day preparations. There are radio interests as well as Ingathering contacts that could be effectively followed up by this sort of missionary endeavour. There are in many communities former members of the church who have grown indifferent or cold. The realization that the world has come into very serious times probably is causing many of them to recall their former associations with the church. Some of them may be waiting for your call and invitation back to Sabbath-school.

Another phase of community Sabbath-school evangelism is the conducting of branch Sabbath-schools, Sunday-schools, and Vacation Bible Schools. Reports are continually coming into our headquarters office of the success attending this phase of our work. We are greatly encouraged as a new impetus is being given to this branch of Sabbath-school work in many fields during this centennial period.

As we celebrate the Sabbath-school's one hundredth birthday, may its observance call forth a renewed dedication in all our lives to the noble aims and objectives of the Sabbath-school.

JOIN our Sabbath-Schools all round the world who are meeting on September 27th in thanksgiving to God for the blessings of the Sabbath-School.

# DISCOVERING and HONOURING the SABBATH-SCHOOL

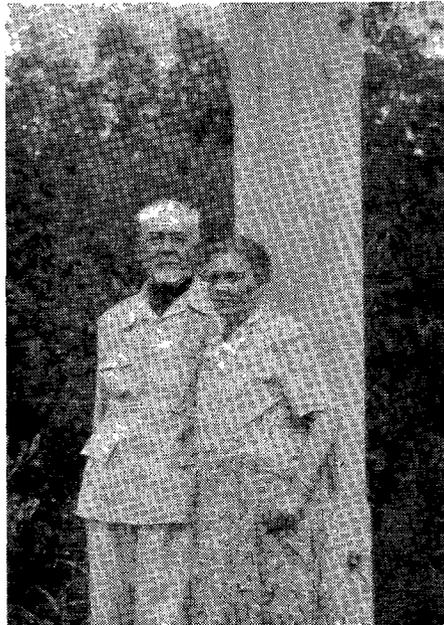
**B**ROTHER C. M. Scott, of Norway, wins the laurels in the Northern European Division for being the Sabbath-school member with the longest record of membership—seventy years!

Brother Scott writes: "I am very grateful for the Sabbath-school. Firstly, because through it I came into the truth, and secondly, because it has been by the grace of God a mighty instrument in keeping me in the truth. I shall be true to it as long as God gives me grace and strength. 'Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.' Rev. 2:10."

It should be mentioned here that Brother Scott is still joyfully engaged in the Lord's service. At the dedication of the new Tromsø Kurbad on June 29th, much tribute was paid to Brother Scott for his untiring work which has resulted in the successful completion of this fine, modern treatment rooms for North Norway.—ED.

*Gratulerer deg med de mange år du har vært med i Sabbatsskolen, bror Scott. Ma Herren rikelig velsigne deg, og la deg fa mange flere år i tjenesten, slik at du kan gi dine gode råd til ungdommen som kommer etter deg.*  
—Ed.

## NORWAY WINS THE LAURELS in the Northern European Division



Brother and Sister Scott

school where one can learn to know Him, who 'was the true Light, which lighteth every man.' John 1:9."

## FINLAND

Sister Elisabet Ostring is now seventy-four years old and lives in Oulu, Finland. She was baptized by O. Johansson in 1896 and has been a faithful Sabbath-school member ever since.

In writing of her conversion and life she says: "I received the book, *The Prophecies of Jesus*, from a col-

porteur, Miss Bertha Jonson. I started to study it. The truth was wonderful. I also read my Bible, and by the grace of God I accepted the whole truth. Then I felt I wanted to share with others what I had received from God. I went out with this fruit in my heart. I sold the books *Steps to Christ*, and the *Christian's Inheritance*. Sister Ostring comes from a land where the women make not only good colporteurs but also splendid evangelists.



Sister Elisabet Ostring, a Sabbath-school member for fifty-six years.

## ICELAND



Brother Loftur Sigurdsson, a charter Sabbath-school member in Iceland.

He is an active member of the church in Reykjavik showing great affection for and

the member with the oldest Sabbath-school membership record in Iceland is Loftur Sigurdsson who is now seventy-seven years of age. He was baptized in 1907 by Pastor D. Ostlund and so forms one of the charter members of the Sabbath-school in Iceland, and he is still attending regularly.

faithfulness in his work. He is healthy and his courage is good and he still works at his occupation as, did his Master, at the carpenter's bench.

Brother Sigurdsson writes, "I have attended the Sabbath-school for twenty-eight years and as time goes on it has become more and more precious to me. There I have learned to study my Bible, learned to understand better each individual book and its message. The Sabbath-school has been called the heart of the church and this is true when the message of the Sabbath-school has conquered the hearts of its students. The Sabbath-school gives a special opportunity to study so that we can 'be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you—a reason of the hope that is in you.' 1 Peter 3:15. There is no more suitable place than the Sabbath-

## My Sabbath Home

Sweet Sabbath School! more dear to me  
Than fairest palace dome,  
My heart e'er turns with joy to thee,  
My own dear Sabbath Home.

Here first my wilful, wand'ring heart,  
The way of life was shown;  
Here first I sought the better part,  
And gained a Sabbath Home.

C. R. BLACKWELL.

MEMBER with the LONGEST RECORD of MEMBERSHIP

GREAT BRITAIN



Sister C. Green, a Sabbath-school member for sixty-six years.

Miss C. Green, of 176 London Road, Boston, Lincs., and Mrs. L. Osborne, Laurel Bank, Diblen Purlieu, Hythe, Hants., have been Sabbath-school members since 1886. Miss Green remembers the visit of Mrs. Ellen G. White to this country very well, for she was then about fourteen

years of age. Of course, the Southampton church which Mrs. Osborne attends is one of our oldest British churches, and so is Ulceby—the church nearest to Sister Green's home. So it is natural that these churches take the laurels for Great Britain.



WEST AFRICA



Brother Mensah Nawblay of Kikam, Gold Coast, a Sabbath-school member for forty-two years.

After a rather difficult search for the Sabbath-school member with the longest membership record for West Africa, Pastor D. L. Chappell, Union Press Relations and Publishing secretary, enclosing the photograph of their final discovery, writes: "This just came to-day.

If you have not closed the oldest Sabbath-school member plan yet, please consider Brother Mensah Nawblay of Kikam, Gold Coast, as having the longest record of membership in the Sabbath-school in West Africa."

THE NETHERLANDS



Sister Toben, a Sabbath-school member for fifty-one years.

"My husband and I embraced the truth soon after we were married. From the very start we have been members of the Sabbath-school and it has been a source of strength and blessing to us. Often we have had to stand all by ourselves but we have always had the Sabbath-school. Through it

we have gained a better understanding of the Word of God and we have been able to explain to others the things that God requires of us. I feel sorry for the church-members who do not regularly come to the Sabbath-school. They miss a great blessing. I would, therefore, encourage them to study the lessons, because they prepare us for the time of trouble. The Spirit of God can only bring those things which we have studied to our remembrance. (John 14: 26.) This we do in the Sabbath-school. May the Lord bless His Sabbath-school and all the members."



DENMARK



Brother Marinus Harlund, a Sabbath-school member for sixty-four years.

Brother Marinus Harlund of the Dronninglund church in Jylland, was baptized by E. G. Olsen on June 4, 1888. He has been a member of the Sabbath-school ever since that time and still loves to attend and to study the Word of God. He is in good health and is a faithful member of the church.

SWEDEN



Sister Hilda Forsberg, a Sabbath-school member for sixty-five years.

Sister Hilda Forsberg who is now seventy years old writes: "I shall never forget when as a child of about five years old, and that was sixty-five years ago, I was taken to the Sabbath-school at Langbanshyttan. My parents were members of the second Adventist church to be established in Sweden.

As a child I went with them to the senior Sabbath-school for we did not have a junior Sabbath-school at that time. However the little paper, *Light in the Home*, was very much treasured by us children. The Sabbath-school lasted for two hours and it was very often difficult for us to sit still and be quiet and follow the study for so long a time. When I grew up and was able to read for myself, my interest in the Sabbath-school also grew. We young children enjoyed greatly seeing who could find the texts first and then reading them.

"Out in the country where we lived, our members were very scattered. Sometimes they had several miles to walk to the Sabbath-school. We lived quite near a lake, and during the summer we crossed by boat to attend Sabbath-school. The Sabbath-school meant a lot to me for it was through it that I received the Advent message and was rooted and grounded in the truth and learned to believe in Jesus Christ. So from the depth of my heart I can say that it is very important that every churchmember should be a Sabbath-school member, because the Sabbath-school is the heart of the church. During the years of my life when I could not attend a church the Sabbath-school lessons were my 'minister,' and it has brought me many blessings. May the Sabbath-school continually be a means to lead many people to the way of peace and truth.

*We regret that no report has been received from Ethiopia and Poland.*

## A FAREWELL MESSAGE

JESUS saw in every soul one to whom must be given the call to the Kingdom." This view and understanding of men Jesus desires to impart to every one of His followers. He not only wants us to lift up our eyes, and to look on the field, but to look down and straight into every man's eyes, recognizing a fellow-man for whom Christ died.

The invitation to the Kingdom can only be given by the church. "Every true disciple is born into the Kingdom of God as a missionary. . . . The receiver becomes the giver." It is God's plan and will to save all men. (1 Tim. 2:4.) As Christ took the form of man to save men, so it is God's plan to bring Christ to the world through human beings, compassed with infirmities. "As Thou hast sent Me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world." John 17:18.

There is hardly any distinction in the Bible between the work of the ministry and that of the laity as regards soul winning. It has been truly said, that the only man called an evangelist in the Bible was a lay-preacher—Philip. Out of 178 prophets mentioned in the Bible, all except four were un-ordained laymen.

"So vast is the field, . . . that every sanctified heart will be pressed into service as an instrument of divine power." (*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, page 47.) Men and women—not ministers, not paid workers—will complete God's work on earth.

One of the greatest responsibilities of the ministry is to educate, inspire, and train every churchmember to work for God. Let us by all means re-address ourselves seriously to make every church a training school for Christian workers "not sermonizing, but planning work for them."—Vol. 9, page 82.

Let us recognize the tremendous value of every feature of our Home Missionary work:

1. House-to-house visitation.
2. Reading the Bible in the homes of the people.
3. Welfare work.
4. Bible Correspondence School work.
5. Lay evangelism.
6. Ingathering Campaigns.
7. Tract distribution, etc.

We must confess that often there is a lack of spiritual power behind our efforts. The following words, taken from an article in one of our papers, are worth prayerful consideration:

"We sometimes think we have unprom-



Pastor Axel Varmer, until recently Home Missionary and Radio Secretary of the Division. Now, Principal of Vejlebjerg Mission School, Denmark.

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## IN APPRECIATION

ON the call of the West Nordic Union Conference, our Division Committee has reluctantly agreed to release Pastor Axel Varmer, the Home Missionary and Radio Secretary of this Division, in order that he might serve as principal of the Vejlebjerg Mission School, Denmark.

Pastor and Mrs. Varmer left us on August 20th to take up their new work. Brother Varmer has been associated with the Northern European Division for a period of six years. During this time we have greatly appreciated the efficient, faithful, and devoted service of Brother Varmer. His long and varied experience in evangelical, departmental, and administrative work has proved to be of much benefit in the counsels of the Division Committee.

Now that Brother and Sister Varmer are leaving the Division Office to take up the work of leadership in training the youth of Denmark for service in the cause of God, the members of the Division family unitedly express to them their sincere and prayerful wishes for the rich blessing of God to be with them in the years of service that lie ahead at the Vejlebjerg Mission School.

E. B. RUDGE.

ising material in our churches. How do we go about forging them into a military army that will carry the Gospel 'to all the world in this generation'? Fellow-workers, you know how we proceed. The writer has failed as miserably as anyone. We hold a big church rally to discuss methods. We tell them what is expected of them. We read it to them out of the Bible, and from last-day outpourings of the Spirit of prophecy. We urge them to give more time to God's work, more money, more earnest effort. The lay members agree with us. A nucleus, to whom the triumph of the cause of truth means more than ease and comfort, attend a course of studies in lay evangelism. Out of the group, one or two, having been shown how to go about it, start giving Bible studies. The rest settle back into inactivity. Soon the devil sets most of them to work."

The only remedy for this situation is the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Self must be forgotten.

"By His cross He saves us out of our self,

By His resurrection He saves us into service."

The lost want to be let alone. Satan wants the lost to be let alone. What a tragedy if the church leaves the lost to themselves and their fate. The love of Christ in us simply cannot let sinners alone.

In his book, *Enjoy Your Bible*, the Rev. G. R. Harding Wood gives a free paraphrase of Romans 8. From this we have extracted the following verses:

"6. Putting self first brings separation from God; but putting the Spirit first brings union with God and inward peace.

...  
"8. The truth is that all who are controlled by the self-life cannot fulfil God's purpose for their lives.

"9. But you are not controlled by self, but by the Spirit, seeing that the Spirit of God has taken up His abode in you. Of course, anyone who has not admitted the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Christ.

...  
"12. Therefore, my fellow Christians, we owe it to God not to allow the self-life to control us.

"13. For if we live with the self-life in control, then our spiritual life will decay. But if, by having the Spirit of God always in control, we 'cut dead' every attack of Satan upon our bodies, then our spiritual life will show every sign of life toward God."

"Only when selfishness is dead, when

strife for the supremacy is banished, when gratitude fills the heart, and love makes fragrant the life—it is only then that Christ is abiding in the soul, and we are recognized as labourers together with God.”—*Gospel Workers*, page 507.

Looking back over the six years it has been my privilege to work in the Northern European Division as secretary for the various departments, a feeling of gratitude grips my heart. It certainly has been an enriching, heart-warming experience to visit churches and be acquainted with fellow-workers all over Northern Europe and in Africa. Further I want to express my deep gratitude for all the sympathy, love, and happy co-operation I have met in the Division Committee and among the workers in the unions, the local conferences, and in the mission fields.

In accepting the call as principal of the Danish College, my dear wife and I have taken upon us a new responsibility for which we are not sufficient in our own strength and wisdom. We solicit your prayers.

The Home Missionary work will always be close to my heart, and may God continue to be with you and bless you in the tremendous task of warning the whole world and prepare a people ready to meet their God.

Faithfully and gratefully yours,

AXEL VARMER.

WHAT HATH GOD  
WROUGHT!

By H. M. S. Richards

THE Voice of Prophecy is a work of God. His providence built it in the beginning. His hand has guided it until to-day, and we expect Him to open the doors of to-morrow.

Had the Voice of Prophecy not had the blessing of God, it would have faded out long ago. Prayer is its very life. From its birth in a lean-to shed at the rear of a small garage, to its present world-wide scope, the Voice of Prophecy has moved forward on a wave of prayer. And the prayers of God's people keep it going—we must never forget that.

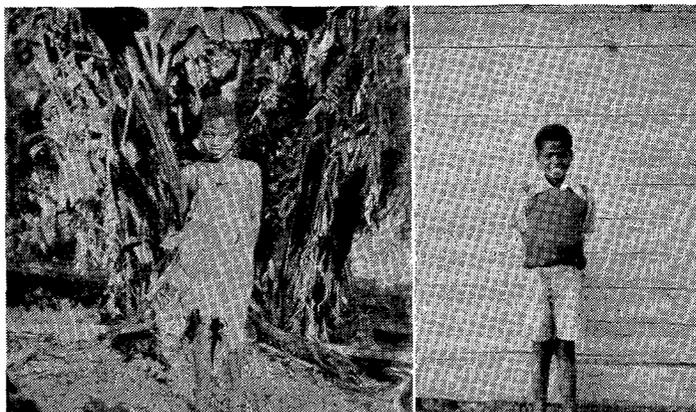
Whenever God wants us to do something for Him and we are willing to do it, we need never worry about its success.

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations,” was the command of Christ. And He

added, “I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.” Matt. 28:19, 20. So we can go “Forward in Faith,” knowing that it is God's work and that Christ is with us.

When we see the blessed fruitage of the

proclamation of His Word by radio and the Bible Schools, we can only exclaim, “What hath God wrought!” The work of the Voice of Prophecy is His work, and may His blessing rest upon it and upon us all until Christ comes.



The Gospel at  
work.

Toma, the little  
herd boy becomes  
Toma, the pro-  
spective Christian  
teacher.

T o m a

By Gladys Martin,  
Kuyera Mission

ONE evening in May, 1951, I noticed a group of school boys just outside my house talking to a little boy dressed in a skin. I could see at once that he was not an Arussi from the country around us and I could hear that he was speaking another language. After finding someone to translate we learned how he happened to be here.

His country is to the west of us, about five days' journey by foot. One day in September, 1950, when he was on his way home from market, a slave trader found him on the road alone and at once stole him away. Toma was taken away from his home country. The clothes he was wearing when he was stolen were taken away from him and he was dressed like an Arussi. His master put him to herd cattle, and somehow he learned that there was a mission school nearby where boys and girls were treated kindly. Every day he herded his cattle a little closer to the mission and finally the day came when he decided to try to gain his freedom by running to us.

From the very first he showed a very receptive attitude toward religious teaching and a keen desire to learn. He would ask nearly every day when it would be Friday, so that he could wash his clothes. And on Friday he would wrap himself in a sheet while he washed his shorts.

After he had been here several weeks he had a quarrel with another boy on Sabbath. He came to me and said that he would explain the next day because he couldn't talk about such things on the Sabbath.

When the Arussi man who had stolen Toma learned that he had run away to our mission, he knew that he could get into great trouble because it is a grave offence to do any slave trading. The man came to the mission and begged our native pastor to shield him by saying that he was the father of Toma and had put him in our school. Of course we would not agree to that, but took Toma to the police where he told his story. Through some other missionaries, we were able to get in touch with Toma's father and he came to see Toma last October. You can imagine how happy he was to see his son alive, because it was like receiving a son back from the dead. Even though Toma was happy to see his father he did not want to go back home. He said that he wanted to become a teacher and then go home and teach his people. He is from a language area where we have no work.

For a little lad he is an unusually good worker. He has already harvested two crops of potatoes from his own little garden patch and has bought some clothes, pencils, and notebooks with his own money. Recently when his father visited again, he sent a dollar home to his mother. He is very determined to be a Christian teacher, and who knows but that Toma will be the first Seventh-day Adventist teacher for his people!

# NEWS FLASH

PASTORS A. F. Tarr and G. A. Lindsay sailed on August 13th for New York on their way to attend the special Bible Conference commencing September 1st, and the Biennial Council of the General Conference which is to follow the Bible Conference. They expect to be absent from this office until mid-October.

The following brethren will represent the Northern European Division at the special Bible Conference convening in Washington on September 1st:

A. F. Tarr, W. L. Emmerson, F. J. Voorthuis, G. A. Lindsay, A. Lohne, and G. Berglund.

These brethren will also attend the biennial council of the General Conference. In addition, representatives of the West African Mission will be sharing in the special privileges of the Bible Conference.

Of special interest to the believers in the British Union Conference, is the arrival of Elder G. E. Vandeman and his family in London. Elder Vandeman comes to launch the great evangelistic crusade in the City of London in association with Pastor T. J. Bradley, the Ministerial Association Secretary of our Division, and a large group of selected workers from different parts of the British Union. Evangelistic workers from other sections of our Division are also expecting to share in the privileges of this great campaign, and its related School of Evangelism.

A recent brief report from the East Nigerian Mission gives a most encouraging word about the progress of the evangelistic work in that field. In the half year ended June 30th, 526 members were admitted to the church by baptism. Ten evangelistic efforts have just concluded. With the month of August it is planned to begin twenty additional evangelistic campaigns. The expectation of the workers in this field is that by the close of the year 1952 at least 1,000 new members will have been added to the church.

An outstanding feature of the aggressive work being carried on in the West African Mission is the development of our mission school activities. A recent report indicates that at the end of June, 1952, 10,812 students are enrolled in our schools. This represents a gain of 600 in enrolments over the previous year for the same period. The total number of schools operated by the Union is 121, an increase of twenty over the previous period. The teaching staff has increased since mid-1951 from 398 to 444 teachers. These schools provide a most fruitful source for successful evangelism.

The regular colporteurs within the British Union Conference for the first half of this year have attained an all-time record in sales. 1951 was the peak year for the sale of literature in the British Union Conference, and 1952 promises to be a much better year still in this respect. At the half year, the reports indicate an increase of £4,087 over the same period in 1951. Surely our prayers should follow the devoted band of men and women who are being used so mightily by God for the sowing of the seeds of truth.

On the call of the West Nordic Union, a valued member of the Division office family, Miss Gudrun Johansen, has been released to serve as secretary-treasurer of the West Norway Conference in succes-

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## The Tithing Corner

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"THE Lord has made us His stewards. He has placed His means in our hands for faithful distribution. He asks us to render to Him His own. He has reserved the tithe as His sacred portion, to be used in sending the Gospel to all parts of the world. My brethren and sisters, confess and forsake your selfishness and bring to the Lord your gifts and offerings. Bring Him also the tithe that you have withheld. Come confessing your neglect. Prove the Lord, as He has invited you to do. 'I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts.' Mal. 3:11."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, pages 51, 52.

sion to Miss Hildur Tobiassen, who is under appointment to the Ethiopian mission.

Miss Johansen has been with the Division since its reorganization in 1950. Her services in this office have been warmly appreciated by all members of the office family. It is our united wish that as she takes up her new responsibilities she shall enjoy the rich blessing of the Lord in her home field.

It has been our pleasure to welcome to the office staff Miss Valmae Minchin, daughter of Pastor E. L. Minchin. Miss Valmae comes to us as our office telephonist and stenographer.

E. B. RUDGE.

## Centennial Greetings

(Concluded from page 1.)

must come to the Adventist Sabbath-school. It is wonderful." Because of his wife's persistence he came and greatly enjoyed it too, with the result that the father and mother are now baptized members of the church and their two children are with them in Sabbath-school each week. This was all because of the faithful witnessing of one of our little Adventist girls, and her love for Sabbath-school.

In the Gold Coast in West Africa, a lad of fourteen who had been reared a Roman Catholic came to our school. He went back to his village and commenced a Branch Sabbath-school. When our workers arrived at this village they found thirty souls nearly ready for baptism. It is truly wonderful what our young people can do when they are fully consecrated.

Our loyal-hearted Sabbath-school members in the Northern European Division assure you of their love for this great message and join you in a new dedication to the glorious cause of Sabbath-school evangelism. Sixty-seven thousand Sabbath-school members in this great Division wish, by the grace of God, to make an appointment with you to meet in the Kingdom, where we shall sit at the feet of the Master in the greatest and most wonderful Sabbath-school of all time.

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## DIVISION DIRECTORY

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 G. A. Lindsay ..... *Treasurer*  
 Alf Karlman ... *Asst. Treasurer and Auditor*  
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 E. L. Minchin ... *Sabbath-School, Missionary  
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 EDITOR ..... MRS. A. F. TARR

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## NORTHERN LIGHT

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