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New Year Greetings



INSTEAD of sending out greeting cards this year—end to only a comparatively few of our workers and people, as is usual, we wish to send a message of love and courage to all who are connected with God's people throughout the world.

By the grace of God we have grown into a large and widely scattered family. In practically every nation of earth men and women, hearing the mighty judgment-hour message, have responded to God's call and have united themselves with His people.

Thus we have all become brethren. We are of the household of God. Many, many have found the ties of church fellowship to be much stronger than those of nature. As with Jesus, it is often true also of His followers that they stick closer together than brothers in the flesh.

We therefore count you all to be our brothers and sisters and greet you as fellow-members of God's family upon earth.

We have now come to the beginning of a new year. The page that made up the record of 1952 has been turned, and a new page is before us. The record of the past year is made up. What we have written we have written.

But what of the new year? Its possibilities lie spread out before us. If, in our service for God, we have failed in any particular during the past year, shall we continue such failure this new year, or shall we rise in God's strength and write a record of success on the new page?

Never since the fall of Adam and Eve in Eden has the church been faced with such a tremendous task! The world is coming to an end. Probationary time is running out and yet all around us are legions of people who are unsaved. We meet them on the streets. We associate with them in our work. We pass them in the market places and on the great lines of travel. We pass many of their homes every day. But what are we doing to bring them into God's family before the curtain falls? Soon, very soon, it will be too late.

As the year opens, the hours of probation still linger. Whether that shall be true throughout the entire year, only God knows. If not during this new year, then some year soon the plan of saving men will be for ever over and our work shall be done.

The words of Jesus come ringing down through the years with peculiar emphasis at this time: "Work while it is called to-day; the night cometh, when no man can work."

The church to-day is engaged in a mighty effort to double its membership in four years. Three years of this time are now past. Only one year remains. Two or three

of our great Divisions report that they have strong hopes of reaching the goal. What a victory that will be! It will, however, require a miracle if it is to be a universal accomplishment. In some divisions the task is much more difficult than in others.

But yet the task is not impossible in any section of the world field. It really is so very simple. All that is required for our entire membership to be doubled by the end of 1953 is for each churchmember to bring one new person into the church.

One convert in a whole year!

Does that sound impossible?

With God's blessing and earnest effort on our part it can still be accomplished. We appeal to our workers and people everywhere to make this new year 1953 a year of very special effort in soul-winning.

Thousands of our laymen should lay down their usual vocations and go forth as colporteurs this year to sell our truth-laden books to the people. They should be scattered like the leaves of autumn. Scores of thousands should go to those in their neighbourhoods and distribute tracts and periodicals and give or lend our books to the people.

Our institutional workers should make special plans for bringing the message to the direct attention of all who come to them.

Most people will not come voluntarily to the church. We must go into the streets and lanes, into the byways and hedges, and



compel them, through love, to come in. Why would it not be well for our church leaders to call a very special business meeting in January or February of this year for the purpose of considering this all-important matter of doubling our church membership? Every member should be urged to take a part. This is our God-given task. Nothing else is so important.

May God lead and bless us as we all join hands to accomplish it in His strength and name.

Again we greet you in the name of the Lord.

Yours for a year of unusual service and blessing,

W. H. and ELIZABETH BRANSON.

accepts and lays claim to God's promise.

But we read also that the Spirit is promised to "them that obey Him." Might it not be that obedience to the divine commission is also involved in this—that when we "go and preach" the Holy Spirit will honour that preaching and attend our service by more abundant power?

We remember, too, that when the priests of Israel stepped into the swollen Jordan, God honoured their faith and action. We believe that a whole-hearted, enthusiastic advancement into soul-winning service will likewise be honoured of God to-day.

What a wonderful thing it would be if 1953 might usher in a fulfilment of this long-awaited experience! It surely will not be because God does not want it, or Himself is unready. It could only be because of an unwillingness or an unreadiness on the part of His messengers to accept this challenge.

The greatest blessing therefore, that I can wish for the workers and members of the Northern European Division for 1953 is that this might be the year when some of these long-anticipated promises might be richly fulfilled.

"Every soul a soul-winner" would, if carried out in 1953, more than double our membership in a single year. What better wish could we express from the Division headquarters on January 1st than this?

Every Soul a Soul-Winner in 1953

By A. F. Tarr, *President*



AS WE cross the thresho'd of a new year we are made deeply conscious of the increasing responsibility which each succeeding year imposes upon Seventh-day Adventists. To the world, and even to those of other Christian faiths,

the coming of a new year presents but little significance. True there are celebrations of various kinds, the exchange of greetings, the replacing of old calendars, the making of new resolutions—many of them unfortunately to be broken before scarcely a week has passed; and various other events largely secular in nature. But the actual evaporation of the years betokens but little.

With Seventh-day Adventists, however, the situation is vitally different. The passing of time is bound up with the prosecution of a divinely entrusted task and the fruition of our most cherished hopes. Every year that passes brings us nearer to the consummation of those hopes, and takes more heavy toll of the time allotted to our service. It is, therefore, with very solemn thought that we envisage the opportunities and developments that the coming year will bring. We believe that the few years between now and the completion of our task must witness the most diligent, energetic service for God that this world has ever seen. It must exceed the pleadings of Noah to his doomed generation, of Jonah to threatened Nineveh, of Lot to his children in a city about to burn. It must be more courageous and resistless and powerful than the apostolic proclamation of a crucified and ascended Lord.

Only by such service can we heed the divine injunction of "redeeming the time, because the days are evil."

Nor is it human effort alone that determines the duration and success of our task. Rather is it the degree of divine grace and power accompanying that effort. And strangely enough, it is not God who determines the time and measure of that power but we ourselves. For we read: "If ye shall ask anything in My name, I will do it." And, "Ask ye of the Lord rain in the time of the latter rain." It is through the showers of the latter rain that the church is empowered to complete its task, and those showers are ready to fall in still greater measure at such time as the church fully

"Our God is Marching On"

By E. B. Rudge, *Secretary*



THE onward march of time has brought us abreast of another milestone on our way to the city of God. The dawn of 1953 marks the ninetieth milepost in the advance of the Advent movement since the General Conference was organized

in 1863. The door of the year has opened 109 consecutive times upon this Advent people since the Judgment message began to sound forth its challenging call in 1844. Because through these years the church has marched with God, countless thousands sleep in the assurance of the

"blessed hope." Almost a million men and women in many lands of this troubled world, the fruitage of our message, live courageously in the certain knowledge that soon the Master will return, "without sin unto salvation" for those who wait for Him. With confidence in Christ we go forward.

He has sounded forth the trumpet
That shall never call retreat,
He is sifting out the hearts of men
Before His judgment seat.
Oh, be swift, my heart, to answer Him,
Be jubilant my feet—
Our God is marching on.

At the turn of the year in some countries the people say: "This is the time of separation or dividing." A time to separate from all the mistakes and failures of the days now for ever gone, a careful dividing of the good from the evil with a determi-

Our Stewardship in 1953

By G. A. Lindsay, *Treasurer*

nation to take only that which is good into the new year. In most lands men accept this challenge of the hour as a call to refection and contemplation. Reflection upon the past year and all the 109 years that have passed since 1844 reveals many mistakes and failures, collectively in the church as well as among us as individuals. But how puny and insignificant these appear when set side by side with the amazing transformation made by God's Spirit in many lives, in many lands. To-day we fix our gaze upon the vista of the years that lie ahead. Through the eye of faith we see the unfolding years bring cleansing and purity to the people of God and triumph to His waiting church. Soon all who serve Him are to hear these words: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: . . . enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

At such a time as this should not the prayer of Moses be also our prayer: "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." Psa. 90: 12. The wisdom of God clearly teaches that faith and works must harmonize. We have accepted a great trust from God in linking our lives with His message.

"The most solemn truths ever entrusted to mortals have been given us to proclaim to the world. The proclamation of these truths is to be our work." "Let the church arouse and go forth to do her appointed work."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, pages 19, 25.

Facing the dawn of this new year, sensing something of the immensity of our unfinished task, let us ponder over these God-inspired questions:

"Do you believe the declarations of His Word concerning what is coming upon the world?"

"Do you believe that God's judgments are hanging over the inhabitants of the earth?"

"How, then, can you sit at ease, careless and indifferent?"

"Every day that passes brings us nearer the end. Does it bring us also near to God?"—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, page 27.

As a church we have accepted the goal of a doubled membership by the end of 1954. If all could conscientiously answer these challenging questions in the affirmative, how speedily our church goal would be reached, and Christ's coming thus hastened.

Marching on with God as Guide, attempting great things for Him, expecting great things from Him, surely in all our lives 1953 must indeed be a "New Year."

THE end of another year is drawing nigh, and soon, as we are wont to speak of it, another leaf is turned over in the great book called TIME. Time passed is gone for ever. We cannot live over again a single moment of our life, no matter

how hard we try. We may turn our clocks back an hour, as is being done daily on the great ocean liners that plough the Atlantic on their west-bound course. But time is not turned back like that. We cannot blot out from time one single moment's thinking or action performed. No correction of what has passed on can be made by the actors. It stands as read until the great, solemn day when all accounts will be examined by the great and all-wise Auditor of the ages.

Surely we are, every one of us, most conscious of the fact that not one of us has ever squared his accounts before God as he should, leaving no balance when they are closed from year to year. Perhaps there has been unfaithfulness on our part regarding our stewardship of such things as time, talents, health, and wealth; or if we are not possessors of riches, then of the earning that we receive for our labours. How much of our time, talents, and means do we return to God who has



always dealt so generously with us?

We know that we fall short in many things, but we need not despair. We can tell our Advocate about it and resolve to mend our ways, making to-day better than yesterday, and the new year more perfect than yester-year. With the apostle Paul we shall be able to exclaim, "I know whom I have trusted, and I am certain that He is able to keep what I have put into His hands, till the great day." 2 Tim. 1:12. (Moffatt.)

As we are now beginning another year, a new leaf is given to us again. We ourselves determine from day to day what record it shall bear. May we resolve to re-consecrate ourselves and all that we have to God for the finishing of His work of grace in all the world. We have all read and sung many times, Frances Ridley Havergal's beautiful and impressive hymn which begins with the words,

Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee.

Let us read it again, and read it slowly. Let us meditate on every suggestion made in it, and know how much we really have to put to God's use.

May God richly bless us in our stewardship for Him in 1953, and may each of us be accounted worthy to hear the words, one day, from the Auditor and Judge of the universe: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."



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Do We Long for Heaven?

By O. J. Olsen, *Field Secretary*



BUT I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom." Matt. 26: 29.

I wonder: Does Jesus long for that day? Does He long for it more

than we do? I believe He does.

Many years ago, when I worked in Iceland and my children were very young, I came home one night about one o'clock in the morning after walking from a farm in the interior of Iceland about fifty miles from the capital. Fifteen hours continuous walking over a big mountain on the road is tiresome, and when I came in, where my wife was waiting, I just saw every-

thing black and fainted. My wife was waiting, yes, but with our little girl in her arms, very sick with a temperature of about 104 degrees, and I could not help. In the morning about six o'clock I woke up, and there she was still sitting with our sick little girl in her arms trying to comfort her. I asked her: "Were the hours of the night long, dear?" "Oh, yes," she said, "every minute was an eternity."

Some weeks later when the little girl had recovered and was standing beside Mother by the washtub, rubbing her doll's clothing and singing as she worked, I again asked Mother, "Are the minutes long now?" "Oh, no, certainly not." "Why were the minutes long the other night?" "Because our girl was sick and you—." Then and there a verse in the Bible stood clear in my mind, a verse I had often tried to understand. The verse is 2 Peter 3: 8: "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand

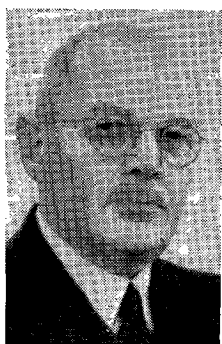
years as one day." This verse is found right in the middle of some prophecies speaking about things that will come to pass in the very last days. Brethren—one day with the Lord ("i Herrens oine," in the Norwegian Bible, that is: "in the eyes of the Lord") is as a thousand years. When He looks down upon us, rejected, despised, persecuted, in prison, I believe His love is so great, that one day to Him is like a thousand years. But when He can hear us sing songs of praise on the sea of glass, I don't think a thousand years will be a long time in His eyes.

Satan tries his very best to delay that day, but our business is to hasten it in co-operation with the Lord. If every church-member could get to work for the salvation of a soul, there would be much less strife and misunderstanding in our churches.

My New Year greetings to all my fellow-workers are: Let us put an example before our members, that they may see that we as workers are one in love, and thus teach them to love one another and get working for souls. That and nothing else will bring the latter rain upon us—the power for which we have been waiting so long. 1953 must be a year of consecration for every Adventist worker and churchmember.

Do We Use the 'Right Arm' Correctly?

By A. Anderson, *Medical Secretary*



LOOKING back upon the year 1952 I believe that all of us who are participants in our medical work have much to thank the Lord for. The reports which I have received tell of progress. Marvellous things are told about the

work in Africa whether it be in West Africa or from Ethiopia. But God has also abundantly blessed the work in the homelands. What a joy it was when the message came that our new clinic in Tromsø, Norway, was opened last June, and the authorities showed such great interest.

I think the Tromsø clinic is the northernmost health institution Seventh-day

Adventists have and the medical work in the Northern European Division extends now from far above the Arctic Circle to a little north of the Equator. It sounds like a miracle. Thanks to God's blessings, it has been possible to move the stakes from year to year.

A short time ago we had a week-end review course in Skodsborg for our physiotherapists in Denmark. About one hundred were present and on the Sabbath four hundred attended the meetings. It was a great joy to listen to the speeches and watch on the screen the proofs of God's blessings and leadership.

Now as the new year is before us the question is, Are we prepared to meet it? Are we ready to follow "the Master Doctor from Galilee"?

We speak about wielding the "right arm" of the Advent message and do it with a certain feeling of pride as we ack-

nowledge the importance which is ascribed to the "right arm." Nevertheless this question arose in my mind, Do we use "the right arm" correctly? For warriors in the past it was of great importance to have a strong right arm because it was with this that the sword was wielded. If we consider the equipment of the Christian warrior in Ephesians 6:17, we read, "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God." Here we are taught a serious lesson. The sword we have to use is God's Word. The conditions for using this sword are that we absorb the Word, make it a part of ourselves, and if we are filled with it, then we will be workers who bear witness to the people we associate with. We will not be silent Christians, who are the kind of Christians that the enemy likes the best, and the world will then know that we are here, and thus the members in the medical work will also be in the soul-winning campaign.

With all my heart I wish that we who represent the "right arm" of this message in 1953 will better understand our responsibility and give our whole life and strength to the Master's service. To help

us reach that mark the apostle gives us good advice in verse eighteen of the above mentioned chapter: "Praying always with

all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints."

Good-bye to the 'Old'— Greetings to the 'New'

By G. D. King, *Secretary,*

Publishing, Press Relations, and Religious Liberty



AS WE close our work for the year 1952 we can surely say with the Psalmist, "Thou crownest the year with Thy goodness." Psa. 65:11.

The Lord has richly blessed us during the past year and we are deeply conscious of His goodness.

In the field of publishing, press relations, and religious liberty there have been many victories and God's hand has been over His own work, guiding and leading into great achievements that His name might be glorified and His cause uplifted.

The year 1952 will certainly close with another record gain in sales of literature throughout our Division territory. For the first nine months of the year a gain of over \$61,000 was reported, and this should

be increased before the year's total is completed.

The student-colporteurs have acquitted themselves well this last year and another record number of scholarships have been earned.

The opening of the door for overseas students to enter the colporteur field in Britain will mean a great deal to those seeking an education at Newbold Missionary College in 1953. We praise the Lord for the favour He has given us with the Government department responsible for this concession.

Throughout our Division there has been an increasing interest in the value of newspaper publicity as we seek to use every means available to a progressive programme of evangelism. May the year 1953 be a greater year in spiritual growth and practical achievement. The following short poem, by Ella Wheeler Wilcox, expresses a prayer and a challenge for the coming year:

The Old Year and the New

As the dead year is clasped by a dead December,
So let your dead sins with your dead days lie.

A new life is yours and a new hope. Remember
We build our own ladders to climb to the sky.

Stand out in the sunlight of promise, forgetting
Whatever your past held of sorrow or wrong,
We waste half our strength in a useless regretting:
We sit by old tombs in the dark too long

Have you missed in your aim? Well, the mark is still shining.

Did you faint in the race? Well, take breath for the next.

Did the clouds drive you back? But see yonder their lining.

Were you tempted, fell? Let it serve for a text.

As each year hurries by, let it join that procession

Of skeleton shapes that march down to the past,

While you take your place in the line of progression

With your eyes on the haven, your face to the blast.

I tell you the future can hold no terrors
For any sad soul while the stars revolve,
If he will but stand firm on the grave of his errors,

And instead of regretting, resolve, resolve!

It is never too late to begin rebuilding,
Though all into ruins your life seems hurled:

For see, how the light of the new year is gilding

The wan, worn face of a bruised old world.

Oh, for the Spirit of the Pioneers!

By T. J. Bradley, *Ministerial Association*



AT THIS time of the year it is always appropriate and correct to think of each other as occupying a central place in the oft-repeated phrase, "A happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year." We need not be over-concerned as to

whether the "Happy Christmas" will be

realized, for it seems that everyone puts his best effort forward to attain the best wishes of the many friends who thus greet him! And while not desirous of detracting from this festive occasion we would fail ourselves, and above all fail our Lord, if we did not remember that with the close of 1952 we are one year nearer "Home." One Christmas less to enjoy! One festive season less to plan for! One year less of opportunity for evangelism and soul-winning. Yes! One less! Undoubtedly it is a sobering thought when most of us would prefer not to be reminded of duty at the time of gaiety. But with the world's dying

gasps it is beseeching us to arouse ourselves to broader planning for a mightier soul-winning work. Congratulations on any past achievements are entirely out of place when one contemplates the unfinished task. Its proportions are still staggering even to the most optimistic. We still need a clearer vision of the world's need; a clearer vision of our call as God's witnesses; and a clearer conviction of the truth of a soon-returning Christ.

And then, how inspiring it would be if we could recapture the sacrificial spirit of the pioneers of this message, who laboured untiringly to the end of their lives for the advancement of the message and the hastening of the advent of Jesus. Oh! where is that spirit? Could we pluck it from the air or dig for it in a mine, it would be an easy matter. But it can only

be found in the deep recesses of our individual hearts, planted and nourished by the sweet influences of the Holy Spirit.

In 1950 Hertzog and Lachenal led a French expedition to climb the mighty mountain peak of Annapurna (26,496 feet high). After weeks of intense preparation they succeeded in reaching the summit and planted the French flag on its icy snowcap. Then came the fearful descent! Hands and feet were badly frostbitten and without the necessary medical aid the flesh began to rot and putrify. But they succeeded again, and back in the hospital, after fingers and toes had been amputated,

Hertzog was asked, "Was it worth it?" He smiled as though it was a needless question. How greatly men struggle and suffer for ideal ends! Should we as ministers of God, commissioned as no others have been (except it be men like Noah), seek for the comforts of the world when the glories of eternity are within our grasp? Shall we not at this time of the year, while greeting each other with our sincere good wishes reorientate our thinking and rededicate our lives to our greatest and most challenging task. Yes, we say a "Happy Christmas" but better still, we add "a prosperous, satisfying, soul-winning New Year."

What has been accomplished thus far is good, but it is not enough. We have not done enough until we have made provision for a Christian education for every Seventh-day Adventist youth of every age level. We have not done enough until we have provided the facilities for the training of workers for every branch of service in God's cause with human ingenuity which His blessing can devise. We have not done enough until we have spent our resources for the salvation of our youth in the same proportion that their Father so loved them that He gave His only-begotten Son!

This, then, is our programme for the months to come:

1. Active, earnest, enthusiastic promotion of Christian education by the entire ministry of the unions and local conferences.

2. Establishment of church schools "wherever there are a few Sabbath-keepers."—*Counsels to Teachers*, page 174.

3. A broadened stream of secondary schools that none of the youth need be educated in a worldly, secular environment.

4. The development of a training college programme which will serve the needs of the Division field in every department of the work.

To accomplish this will impose fresh

Forward for Fifty-three!

By L. Mark Hamilton, Ph.D., *Educational Secretary*



GREETINGS and best wishes for the new year! Our deep appreciation for your loyalty and devotion to Christian education during the twelve months past, and for your labours on its behalf! It is a good record.

One hundred and seventy schools! Nearly six hundred teachers! More than twelve thousand pupils! Those are the totals that appear in the year-end report of progress in Christian education for 1952. They represent a heavy investment in buildings, equipment, and teaching personnel. They suggest something of the dimensions of our Division-wide educational effort. For a single department they are impressive figures—figures from which one could gain a good deal of statistical satisfaction if he were interested only in figures. The past year has been a good one, and we may rejoice in what has been accomplished. But is it enough for 1953?

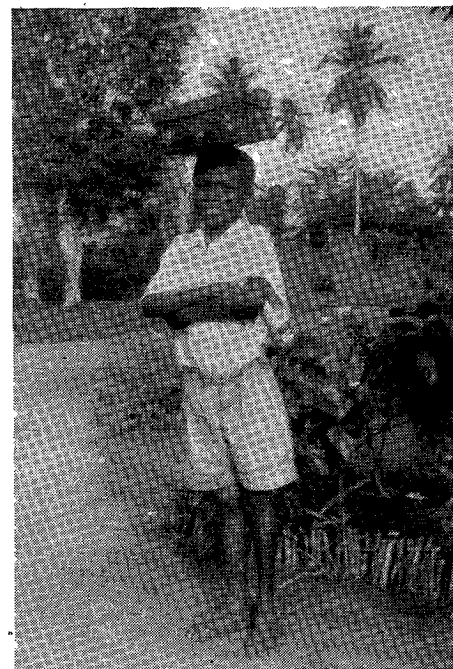
"Have we not done enough in the field of Christian education with a record like that?" I am asked. "What need can there be for more schools, for further promotion, for additional expenditures, for new calls for sacrificial giving? Is it not enough?"

Yes, twelve thousand pupils in Christian schools is an impressive figure. In answering that question, we must think

not only of the students enrolled in these schools but of the hundreds, yes, thousands more who are not. Less than one-eighth of the Advent youth of all ages in the home-base unions are represented in the figures given above!

That means that thousands of young people are daily exposed to the teachings and associations which are terribly destructive of their love for God and which quickly alienate them from the commonwealth of Israel. It means that hundreds of these young people will abandon the faith of their fathers, never to return. It means that we must listen with sympathetic ear to the parents' endangered youth as they plead for Christian schools that their children may be safeguarded from the dangers of secular education and worldly associations. It means that we must never forget that there is no period from childhood to maturity when we may safely commit the training and character-building of our youth to non-Seventh-day Adventist schools, however good they may be by secular standards.

We would count it a tragedy beyond words if our own son or daughter were lost to the kingdom of God because of any unwillingness on our part to sacrifice that they might "be all taught of God." It is no less a tragedy because we may know these lost ones only as figures in a statistical summary! How shall we answer the Good Shepherd at the end of the day if any youthful member of our flock is missing because we have said by word or example that the schools of the world were good enough?



This young African walks twelve miles each day, past other schools, in order to attend the Adventist Mission school in Nigeria. He thus walks 2,000 miles a year in order to get a Christian education.

demands on our time, our resources, our devotion, our willingness to spend and be spent for the education of the youth of this church. In this Heaven-appointed work the Master Teacher invites us to participate. He could have conferred no

greater honour upon us for it is the "nicest work" ever committed to human instrumentalities. May each of us respond to the gracious invitation and share in the joys that will be ours in the school of the eternal kingdom!

many an hour of temptation and difficulty.

One afternoon a few days before Christmas my fellow-worker and I came to our lodgings and learned that in a shop nearby there was some rice for sale. This was a rare delicacy in those days. We were sorry however that neither of us had enough money. All we could raise between us was one shilling and fourpence, and we did not know where to get any more, for we were evangelistic lay-workers without wages, and we sometimes got into trouble.

I went to the shop and asked the shopkeeper if he could trust me enough to give me four pounds of rice and I promised to pay him in the near future. He gave me the rice and debited my account with it.

Next morning a woman came to our room bringing a letter from the town of Joensuu. My fellow-worker and I were just having breakfast. I opened the letter and found in it 320 marks. When I realized that God had sent this help to us just when our situation seemed most hopeless, I was so happy that I could not help crying.

One year later I learned the story of the letter. A non-Adventist had been impressed to give a certain amount for charity so he gave the money to his neighbour, who was an Adventist. This person brought it to the secretary of the Advent church at Joensuu, and the secretary sent the money on to us.

This experience has wonderfully strengthened my faith and trust in God and His promises. I want to assure you, dear brethren and sisters, that "my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:19.

E. B. RUDGE.

Spirit of Evangelism

(Concluded from back page.)

Gold Coast. Our workers began here less than two years ago. During this year five efforts have been held in these territories. The population is largely Moslem and consequently the work is hard. The Lord has richly blessed the labours of His workers in this field and this year they rejoice in reporting ninety-six converts won.

"A MAN'S calibre may be measured by the amount of opposition it takes to discourage him."

1953 Challenges Our Youth

By E. L. Minchin, *Sabbath-School and M.V. Secretary*



TO OUR splendid and growing army of youth in the great northlands and mission fields of our Division we send joyous New Year greetings. We thank God for the blessings of the past year. It has been my privilege to fellowship with

thousands of our youth in rallies and camps during 1952. What a Division of great contrasts we have. In March and April I slept under tropical skies, swam with our youth in the jungle streams and watched our grand boys and girls of West Africa sharing their faith and extending God's kingdom in that great mission field. In June, July, and August I climbed with youth the hills of far north Norway and watched the glories of a sun that does not set in the summer. In the camps that followed, in beautiful south Norway, in lovely Sweden, and fascinating Finland, the most inspiring thing I witnessed was the consecration and the response in the hearts of the hundreds of youth in attendance. In Denmark, Holland, and Britain the same thrilling story is told. We thank God for these stories of youthful witnessing that have come in from every part of our Division.

In London our youth are enthusiastically assisting in the great campaign in that city. In Oslo they are holding their own evangelistic efforts. In Denmark they are conducting a record number of Sunday-schools. In West Africa hundreds of youth have organized 115 branch Sabbath-schools with wonderful results. God's youth are on the march.

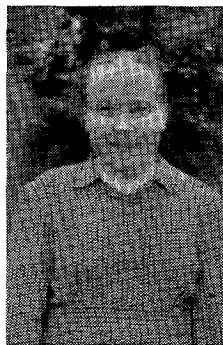
Now 1953 looms before us, challenging us to better and greater things. We stand

before a great and open door of opportunity. Our youth will press forward this coming year and give fresh impetus to the "double our membership" drive now on in all parts of the world field.

How much we need God for daily, personal heart consecration and for powerful witnessing. In this New Year we gladly join the youth of our Division in a new dedication of our hearts and our service to the greatest cause on this earth to-day. We join hands with the ever-widening circle of youthful witnesses in every land and set our faces toward the speedy accomplishment of our glorious task, "The Advent Message to all the World in This Generation."

JESUS CHRIST, THE SAME TO-DAY

By Ida Matilainen, *A Self-Supporting Lay Evangelist in Finland*



AND He said unto them, When I sent you without purse, and scrip, and shoes, lacked ye any thing? And they said, Nothing." Luke 22:35.

This is still a great truth to-day. I have been engaged in lay work for six years now

and during this time I have had many mighty experiences which have confirmed in my mind the sureness of God's promises to His children.

I want to tell you of one experience I had three years ago, which greatly impressed me and has helped me since in

NEWS FLASH

THE Biennial Council of the Northern European Division met at Skodsborg Sanitarium, Denmark, on December 11th. Pastor A. F. Tarr, together with other Division officers, led out in the work of the Council. Brethren A. V. Olsen, R. H. Adair, and E. W. Dunbar from the General Conference were also in attendance. This was the largest gathering yet in the Northern European Division councils; the total representation numbered about eighty-five delegates. A report of the Council will appear later.

Prior to the Biennial Council of the Division at Skodsborg, a special meeting was called to discuss the problems related to the establishment of the Senior College section at Newbold Missionary College. It is hoped that this college will be able to plan for the needs of the Division field. The meeting was attended by the Division officers, Dr. L. Mark Hamilton, the Educational secretary for the Division, the presidents of the home union conferences, and the principals of the training schools in the Division.

A Departmental Convention was also held in Skodsborg on December 8th, at which representatives of the Home Missionary Department, Sabbath-school Department, and Missionary Volunteer Department were present. Pastors Axel Varmer and E. L. Minchin led out in the work of this Convention.

Dr. L. Mark Hamilton, Division Educational secretary, returned to Edgware on November 26th from an exceedingly interesting visit to Iceland. He visited the brethren in that field to counsel with them concerning the development of the new Icelandic Training School which is experiencing such an encouraging growth.

Miss Sigrid Nilsen who came to London some weeks ago under appointment to the Ethiopian Union Mission has been unexpectedly held in London. During this waiting time she is busily engaged in studying in a secretarial college, thus widening her sphere of usefulness for mission service.

Brother D. J. Clarke with his wife and little daughter have returned to West Africa where formerly he served as secretary-

treasurer of the West Nigerian Mission. He now goes to Sierra Leone where he will be engaged in evangelistic work.

Brother J. C. Vetter with his wife and two children passed through England during the first week of December on furlough to the United States. Brother Vetter was Educational and Missionary Volunteer secretary at Kumasi in the Gold Coast Mission of West Africa.

Good news continues to reach us of the encouraging progress of the erection of the printing house at Accra, West Africa. Pastor Horace S. Pearce, manager of the press, has returned to Accra after spending his furlough in England. Mrs. Pearce and David are remaining in England a few months longer to enable David to complete a year of school work at the Secondary School at Stanborough Park.

On the invitation of the West African Union mission, J. H. Craven, manager of The Stanborough Press Limited, will visit West Africa in January, 1953, to counsel with the brethren in the general set-up of the new printing press at Accra.

E. B. RUDGE.

HE WHO SERVES

He has not served who gathers gold,
Nor has he served whose life is told

In selfish battles he has won
Of deeds or skill that he has done;

But he has served who now and then
Has helped along his fellow-men.

The world needs many men to-day,
Red-blooded men, along life's way,

With cheerful smiles and helping hands,
And with the faith that understands

The beauty of the simple deed
Which serves another's hour of need.

Teach me to lose my selfish need,
And glory in the larger deed

Which smooths the road and lights the
day
For all who chance to come my way.

Wishing you happiness in a world made a little better by the applied spirit of friendliness.

These beautiful lines, just received from Dr. H. C. Menkel, an old-time missionary friend in India, so aptly express my own wishes at this festive season, that I am constrained to share their message with you.

THE EDITOR.

The Spirit of Evangelism

THE month of August has been described as the month for all-out evangelism in West Africa. In the Gold Coast Mission, 42 efforts were operating in this field, and 138 workers and laymen united in carrying forward these efforts. Of these, 35 were evangelists, 40 were teachers, and 60 were lay members who left their homes and employment for the month of August to engage in this soul-winning work. The knowledge that 60 laymen were thus prepared to sacrifice for the work is not only heartening but significant. Partial reports to hand indicate that already 250 decisions for Christ and the message have followed these efforts.

One of the special efforts in the Gold Coast Mission was in a centre where at least sixty per cent of the population is reported to be Roman Catholic. Much opposition was in evidence in this place. However, the workers pressed on with their plans and now rejoice in the knowledge that approximately thirty souls have been won in this difficult place, and most of the new members have come from the church that gave so much opposition.

One of the difficult sections in West Africa are the northern territories of the

(Concluded on page 7.)

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EDITOR MRS. A. F. TARR

NORTHERN LIGHT

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