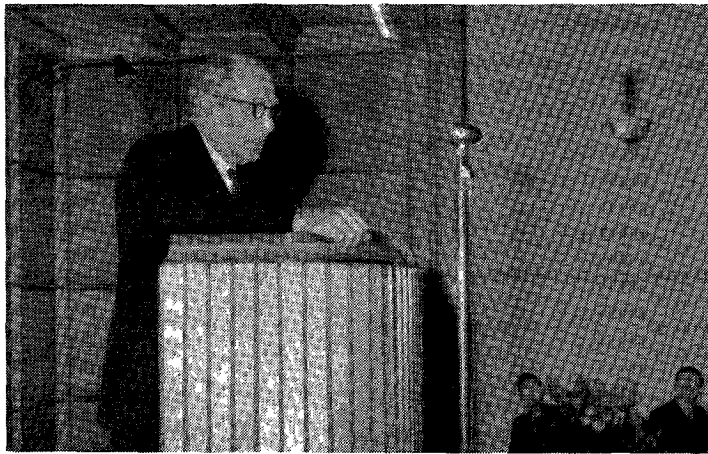




VOLUME 4

FEBRUARY, 1954

NUMBER 2



## *Evangelistic Campaign in Bergen, Norway*

By PAUL FRIVOLD

*President, West Norway Conference*

*Pastor O. J. Olsen, Division Field Secretary, preaching in Bergen, Norway.*

WE ARE very happy for the privilege granted us this winter of having the help of Pastor O. J. Olsen, Division field secretary, here in Bergen, a city of 115,000 inhabitants, and the headquarters of the West Norway Conference.

On October 18, 1953, Pastor O. J. Olsen with two Bible instructors, Sister Rebekka Krogsrud and Brother Olav Labianca, launched a public effort in the city. Prior to the opening night, 10,000 handbills were distributed. The entire church in Bergen has taken a very active part in the effort, and the members have willingly distributed the handbills. The children in the church school were just full of enthusiasm as they were also allowed to help in this work.

A large sign made of cloth had been prepared by one of the brethren in the Bergen church and was stretched across the main street. On it were the words: "Man's Longing for Peace—Hear Pastor O. J. Olsen in Handvaerk og Industriforeningen on Sunday at 8 p.m." (See back page.)

The mixed choir of the Bergen church

and the baritone singer, Aron Ellingsen provided the music. The hall was packed with between 500 and 600 people.

We are happy to report that the interest has been maintained in spite of the fact that we have had to change halls several times and have even held meetings

at mid-day in a cinema.

Ten meetings have now been held and the workers already have a list of approximately eighty names of interested people.

We are expecting great things to happen, and solicit an interest in your prayers on behalf of this enterprise.

*A portion of the large crowd on the opening night of the campaign in Bergen, Norway.*



# DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS FROM THE COUNCIL

## November 18 to 25, 1953

### ANCILLARY FORCES OF EVANGELISM

IT IS my privilege to bring to you a composite report covering what I am pleased to call the "Ancillary Forces of Evangelism." Our Publishing, Bible Correspondence Schools, Press Relations, and even Religious Liberty departments, are indeed a great asset in the total task of the church in bringing the light of the Advent message to the millions within our territory.

We are told: "The book work should be the means of quickly giving the sacred light of present truth to the world." (*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, page 69.) For that reason we have endeavoured to make our colporteur institutes not only periods of technical training in selling—important as that is—but times of spiritual refreshing and soul-winning instruction, in order that the supreme objective might be uppermost in the hearts and minds of our literature ministers. For this reason also, we have endeavoured to bring a new impetus to our student-colporteurs' service.

Our Division Publishing Council, held in March of this year, we believe was a source of inspiration to all our publishing leaders as emphasis was given to this evangelistic concept of our Publishing Department.

There has been an increase of sales of approximately \$200,000 for 1951 and 1952, with each one of our unions showing an increase in the value of literature delivered. Credit for this is due to our faithful colporteurs and book department leaders in each of the fields. We cannot give the total figures for 1953, but several fields (West Africa and the British Union particularly) are reporting encouraging increases.

West Africa for instance, already in the nine months of 1953, has sold more literature than in the whole of the year 1951 and will undoubtedly surpass the excellent record of 1952. The development of our publishing work in West Africa is one of the outstanding accomplishments of our publishing programme in this Division. It really is amazing to note the way in which our native colporteurs in West Africa, some of them almost illiterate so far as education is concerned, but full of a dynamic spirit of adventure in

the cause of God, are able to accomplish such outstanding results in selling and soul-winning. This year, an excellent new printing plant and publishing house has been erected and is now in operation at Accra in the Gold Coast. Incidentally, for the first time, the French Ivory Coast reports literature sales. Two colporteurs are now working there, and by September 30th, they had delivered £211 worth of

#### Summary of Reports

for Bible Correspondence Schools in the Northern European Division

##### Six Months of 1953

Enrolments .....	9,693
Graduates .....	6,257
Interests for follow up .....	3,399
Baptisms .....	340
Contributions .....	\$4,742.70
Expenses .....	\$27,074.90

##### From Beginning to June 30, 1953

Enrolments .....	109,378
Graduates .....	37,260
Baptisms .....	2,442
Contributions .....	\$63,112.04
Expenses .....	\$121,636.36

literature. Perhaps we could pin-point a few outstanding facts which will be of interest to you.

The territory of Greenland has been opened to the Advent message this year, our literature playing an important part in this missionary advance. It is reported by Pastor O. S. Sorensen of the West Nordic Union, that Brother A. Nielsen spent two months in Greenland and sold £200 worth of literature, distributed 1,000 tracts in the Greenlandic language and 250 in the Danish, and it is estimated that one-sixth of the population thus had access to the Advent message.

From Sweden, Brother E. H. Larsson, the manager of our publishing house, gives the good news that retail sales are in advance of last year and he mentioned some outstanding sales records as follows: One colporteur sold 133 books in forty-

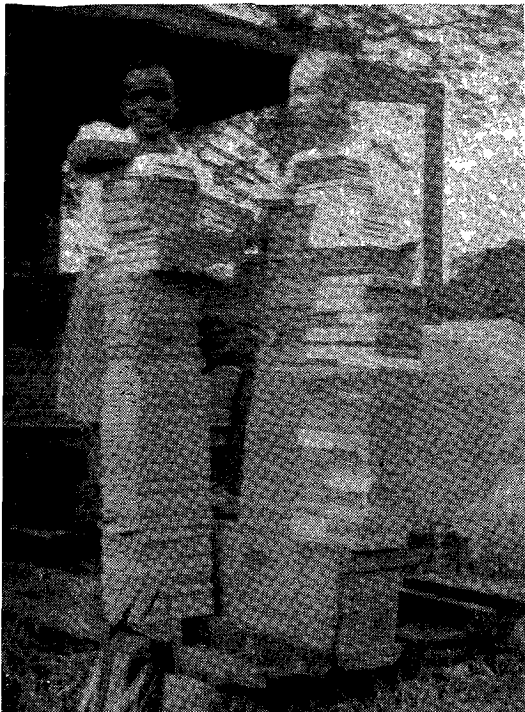
seven hours to the value of 1,873 Swedish Kroner (\$374 or £133). Another colporteur sold 180 books in sixty hours; that is, three books per hour, to the value of 2,035 Swedish Kroner (\$405 or £144).

Finland is always a fascinating land of thrilling accomplishments. Thirty students this year secured sales scholarships for Toivonlinna, twenty-one of them being full scholarships. One young lady, nineteen years of age, who six months ago became an Adventist and lost her employment, sold between 500 and 600 message books and is now in school securing a Christian education. Who can measure the worth of our Publishing work when experiences such as that are reported! We also heard of a man in Finland, who, twenty years ago bought the book *Great Controversy* but only this year has really studied the book and now he and his son (a student) are members of the church. "After many days" the fruitage is seen and reaped! You will also remember the experience of the colporteur—reported in the NORTHERN LIGHT—who won nineteen souls to the message in one small village.

Here in the Netherlands some encouraging experiences are reported and it is good to know that this year one student achieved sales of 2,637 Guilders (\$712 or £255), the highest in the experience of student sales in the Netherlands.

In the British Union 1953 sales are surpassing 1952 and student scholarship achievements have been excellent. One young lady sold £450 worth in 462 hours with the book *The Bible Speaks*. Another sold £353 worth in 374 hours, and a student from Germany sold £244 worth in 322 hours.

Thirty-seven students out of forty-four in the field, secured scholarship bonuses. By the way, Brother A. N. Daiety, a native from West Africa, has experienced a most encouraging success in the city of Glasgow and secured a sales scholarship for Newbold in six or seven weeks. Our senior college offers a bright future for successful scholarship students and Britain offers an open door to energetic student-colporteurs. Incidentally, our publishing brethren in the British Union have recently launched an excellent sales idea in the form of a set of three medium-priced books which have proved to be a very saleable proposition.



*D. L. Chappell, union publishing secretary for West Africa standing beside Richard Mawutor, with a stack of books valued at £187 delivered in Tarkwa, in one month. This is the largest delivery by a West African colporteur.*

During the past year, increased emphasis has been placed on linking our literature ministry with the ministry of our Bible Correspondence Schools. In most fields all our colporteurs now carry the Correspondence Cards and our large books and magazines feature the Correspondence School advertisement. As a result, more and more interested persons are being enrolled in the courses. The tremendous soul-winning possibilities of our nine Correspondence Schools have scarcely yet been realized.

For the first six months of 1953, 340 Bible Correspondence students were baptized and the appropriation involved is reported as \$27,000. It is now reported that for the first six months of this year, there are 3,399 "active interest students" who eventually should be followed up by our Conference workers.

Much more soul-winning achievement could be realized if these active interests were adequately cared for.

Since our Correspondence Schools began in this Division (some in 1947 and others in 1948), it is reported that 2,442 students have been baptized, the appropriation has been \$121,636, and contribu-

tions have been returned to a figure equalling more than half that amount. Here is a field surely worthy of our closest and wisest administrative attention.

In the field of Press Relations, an encouraging lift was given to this phase of public witness by the visit of Brother J. R. Ferren of the General Conference Press Bureau, who visited many of the annual meetings this summer. Here in our Press Relations work there is undoubtedly an opportunity to bring before the public

a better understanding of our churches' achievements and objectives, and by judicious use of the Press, much prejudice can be eradicated. In many of our fields in this Division more favourable publicity is being given to our denominational news. We therefore commend to your wise administrative care these ancillary forces of evangelism, believing that under God's blessing, much more will be accomplished through their ministry in coming days.

G. D. KING.

## Missionary Volunteer Report

COME with me to Ethiopia, that ancient and fascinating corner of our Division and see what God is doing for the hundreds of youth who are crowding our schools and churches there. The outstanding impression I gained while visiting that land earlier this year was that our work out there is almost wholly youth work. Sixty to eighty per cent of every audience I faced were youth and children who are literally stretching out their hands toward God.

Young men are coming to us from the Coptic church. Boys of sixteen to eighteen years from our schools are hurrying to their villages proclaiming this message. Hundreds of eager, spiritually hungry youth are crowding into our schools, and our teachers are finding it difficult to know how to take them all in.

Atomose was a student in the second grade of our Gimbie Training School. He had only been at school for two months when he went home apparently discouraged, but the seed sown in his heart soon bore fruit. His people were heathen and under the control of the witch doctor. Atomose began to teach his people all that he knew of the Word of God. After two years Brother H. Palm, the director of our school, received a letter requesting baptism, signed by twelve men from the village of Atomose. Brother Palm journeyed on foot for six hours to these people. Over forty came to the meeting, including the witch doctor. Brother Palm was amazed at the knowledge these people had of God's Word, received from a boy who had only been at our school for two months. Two men were ready for baptism and Brother Palm proceeded to baptize them.

Another little fellow of eight years who came to a branch Sabbath school near Gimbie began to keep the Sabbath in his

own home. His father sent for our native worker. He said they could not understand the boy. He was acting strangely. He refused to eat bread baked on the Sabbath and to drink water that was carried up from the river on Sabbath. The family said, "You have bewitched the boy." Now the whole family is in the baptismal class and keeping the Sabbath.

This year we have had the largest number of baptisms among our Ethiopian youth in the history of our work there. It was my great joy to baptize over forty in two centres earlier this year. This year also we have issued the largest number of badges and honour tokens ever given out in one year. What does this indicate? Surely it means that God desires to do a great work through these youth. It is our responsibility to provide these young people with the leadership that their need demands.

Over in West Africa the same story can be repeated. Brother D. V. Cowin writes of continued evangelistic zeal among our youth. In a recent letter he tells of a great youth camp just held in the Gold Coast, when hundreds of honour tokens were awarded in front of a tremendous camp fire.

I have not had the privilege of visiting this year our gallant little group of youth who are holding the banner aloft in Iceland. Their leader, Brother J. Gudmundsson, writes encouragingly of their loyalty and activities.

Over in the other corner of our Division, among the beautiful lakes and pine forests of Finland, hundreds of Advent youth continue to inspire us with their beautiful faith and consecration. This summer I attended two summer camps there, one for the Finnish-Swedish, and one for the Finnish. Our youth entered just as wholeheartedly into the spiritual




---

*Pastor E. L. Minchin in council with youth leaders in Denmark.*

---

activities of the camps as they did in their recreation. Over thirty youth of tender years came forward for baptism at these camps. The editor of one of the leading newspapers at Mikkili, near our Finnish youth camp was deeply impressed by his visit to the camp. He gave unusual publicity to us and published daily reports and pictures of the camp, with something of our beliefs and world work.

Swedish youth are marching forward under the earnest leadership of Brother Harry Andersson. Västeräng, the name of our permanent camp, is the Mecca for nearly three hundred senior youth and hundreds of children and juniors each year. It would be impossible to estimate the blessing and influence of the recent gathering there. Some of my happiest and most blessed memories of the work in this field will be of the days spent with Swedish youth at Västeräng.

The youth work in the West Nordic Union is moving forward encouragingly under Brother David Gulddammer and his associates. Away up in the far north Brother Roald Guleng writes that they have now purchased a permanent camp site for our boys and girls up there. Brethren Jordal and Reichelt of Norway continue to lead their youth into active service. Last winter the Oslo youth ran their own evangelistic effort and great blessing attended it.

This summer 500 Danish and Norwegian youth at Mandal, in South Norway, spent over a week together. It was a well-organized gathering, crammed full of joy and blessing. The climax was reached on Sabbath morning when fifty-one youth between the ages of twelve and seventeen came forward for baptism. It was a quiet and spontaneous response to the call of

God, and a most beautiful sight. Truly the Lord is speaking to the hearts of our children and we give thanks for the response we are seeing among them.

It is with sorrow that we record the passing, early this year, of our esteemed brother and youth leader, Pastor H. T. Johnson, who gave many years of unstinted service to the youth of Great Britain. We have a splendid army of youth in Great Britain, led by Brother R. A. Vince and his associates. Our British youth respond eagerly to every call that is made upon them. In the yearly Ingathering Campaign they set a remarkable record each year. They enthusiastically assist in every evangelistic campaign. They flock to their annual summer camps and their societies are well organized with a growing programme of junior and Master Guide courses.

We are encouraged by the growth of our youth work in Denmark. Recently I attended a splendid youth leaders' convention, when ninety officers from all over Denmark gathered for three days at Aarhus. It was especially inspiring to see the union president, Pastor A. Lohne, and the two local presidents attend the convention, leading out in talks and discussions and revealing a deep interest in the youth work in their conferences. This brought great encouragement to those present. This gathering was marked with unusual spiritual blessing and will long be remembered.

The Sunday-school work in Denmark is still growing in influence. The growing army of Master Guides is giving special attention to forming hobby clubs for our juniors. Practical demonstrations of hobby work at the convention aroused the interest of all present.

Here in Holland we are deeply impressed every time we visit, by the many splendid youth we have in our churches. In one town I have just visited we have a church membership of eighteen with a Y.P. and JMV Society membership of twenty-eight. Some of these are non-Adventists, but an enthusiastic youth leader is doing a remarkable work among them. Brother Vink and I have just practically covered the whole field. In every place young people and juniors responded whole-heartedly. There is a growing interest in the junior work and we are encouraged to see many Master Guides in uniform leading the work for the juniors.

We thank God for these evidences of His blessing on the hearts of our young people in this Division. However, there is much more that could be done. There are weaknesses in our work which should be strengthened. The strength of our youth work will be in proportion to the strength and the vision of its leadership. Last year at our Council we took action urging that weekly devotional and missionary societies be organized in each church where possible. Recreational and other activities should be in addition to these weekly devotional meetings.

This is the heart of our youth work. We are deeply concerned that earnest efforts be put forth to establish this practice. We appeal for renewed efforts to make these society meetings the centre of missionary activity, when regular reports of missionary work are given. Our reports at present are far from satisfactory. If we as leaders have a clear vision of this and plan rightly, the youth will gladly respond.

As an illustration of what can be done in winning back those who have left the church, I refer to a letter just received from an earnest soul-winning youth leader in one of our large Danish churches. He says that last Christmas he and several others began to pray and work for sixty-eight youth from three churches who had wandered from the Lord and away from the truth. Altogether they wrote by hand eighty-four letters and made twenty-seven visits. They have received forty-seven letters in return, three have come back to church membership again, five others come regularly to Sabbath school and church service, fifteen others came to the conference session this summer, nine subscribe to our youth paper, four subscribe to *Signs of the Times*, and one has gone to Vejlefjord College. Our brother says that when visit-



ing these youth he was given twelve packets of cigarettes and four pipes to destroy.

One young man had wandered far, having become a drunkard. At first he did not reply. Our brother wrote again and again, seven times. The last time he told him that the man who was the principal at Vejleffjord when they were both there as students, had just died. This principal was greatly loved, and a few days after his

funeral our brother received a letter from this young man with money for flowers for the grave, and at the bottom of the letter was a postscript: "Pray for me; I am coming back again."

We thank our God for the precious heritage we have in our children and youth. May we be faithful to the trust that has been given us and labour on in the strength of the Lord until every treasure He has given us is gathered into the fold.  
E. L. MINCHIN.

materially improve the operation of the institution from a fiscal point of view.

Training opportunities, formerly limited largely to the ministry and Bible work have been materially widened by the addition of courses of study in Business Administration and Secretarial Training, to which will be added Teacher Training and other lines as rapidly as faculty and facilities can be provided.

Development of the faculty has been planned to keep pace with the altered status and widening scope of service of the new institution. The three men added this year: Elder W. R. French, Bible; Dr. P. T. Gibbs, English; and Dr. P. P. Schuil, bring a cumulative total of nearly 100 years teaching experience in their combined fields of specialization.

The great need for a fully recognized senior college programme is emphasized by a report prepared by the General Conference Department of Education which analyzes the enrolment of students from overseas Divisions, attending Seventh-day Adventist colleges in the United States. This indicates that ninety of these young people report unions in the Northern European Division as their home, and exactly one-half of them are from the British Union Conference. The development of the Division College will go far to meet this need for a widely recognized denominational training, while meeting the growing needs for workers in the Division as a whole.

Elsewhere in the Division field, it can be reported that at Vejleffjord High School the new residence hall for young women which has been in process of con-

## Report of the Department of Education

OTHER departments may lay claim to privileged position in the body of the church of Christ, but the Department of Education asks only to be regarded as the service department of the church of God, aiding all the rest in carrying on their indispensable and vital activities. It is sufficient to regard the task of developing character for the Advent youth as all-important—characters that will stand the test of today's and tomorrow's temptations and trials; characters that will be the only thing that their possessors can take with them through the veil that divides time from eternity.

Because neither schools, nor characters, nor workers are the product of a day, or a month, or even a year's labour, the report of this department does not readily lend itself to the usual technique of statistical comparisons which visibly demonstrate the progress made during the past twelve-month period. It is not possible to produce consecrated and competent Bible workers, much less ministerial interns, at the rate of a dozen a week or a month. If it were, it is safe to predict that a considerable volume of business could be done by our school principals before the session ends. Today, it is well to keep in mind that it takes from twelve to fourteen years to train a Bible worker, an equal amount of time for an elementary school teacher, up to sixteen years to train a ministerial intern, and from sixteen years to twenty years or more to train teachers for secondary school and college teaching and an even longer period of time for more specialized lines of medical, educational, and administrative work.

### INSTITUTIONAL GROWTH

The most important single item has been the development of the Senior College. It began its first full year under Division direction on September 15, 1953. During

the past summer, urgently needed repairs and redecorations have been carried out which greatly improve the interiors of Moor Close and Binfield Hall and contribute much to the pleasant atmosphere in the institution. Student living quarters have been seriously overcrowded for some time, and the acquisition of a property adjacent to the main building, during the early part of the summer, has helped to solve this problem. This has been occupied by a number of boys and has made possible an increase in enrolment for the current school year.

Plans have been approved for a long-term campus development. The first item of major construction will be a centrally located administration, chapel, and class-room block. Coupled with the remodelling of Egremont to provide adequate housing facilities for the young men, this will make possible the development of a compact, efficient campus which will

*Newbold  
Missionary  
College*

*Division  
Senior  
College*



struction for the past several months, will be ready for occupancy following the Christmas holidays. We all rejoice at the completion of this much-needed addition to the Danish Mission School campus.

Other new buildings have been constructed at the Nigerian Training School at Ihie and at the Gold Coast Training School at Bekwai, while Konola School in Liberia is utilizing a partly completed dormitory for boys which provides housing space for a rapidly growing enrolment.

Another new school plant has been completed in Asmara, Eritrea, in the Ethiopian Union Mission. This newest building is the main unit in an overall plan for developing a boarding school for this area of that field. Basic worker-training, as well as practical instruction along agricultural and industrial lines, will be a feature of the educational programme for Eritrea, which serves a separate language area in this rapidly growing mission field. At the opening exercises held a few weeks ago, personal representatives from the Emperor and the Eritrean administration were present with business men and officials from the city of Asmara and the surrounding territory. They were greatly impressed with the new construction and the programme of Seventh-day Adventist education, and the opening exercises were generously reported in the Asmara press with favourable comments on the work being done by the school and the mission.

Last, but by no means least, mention must be made of the opening of the youngest school in the Division field in Orstervraal, Denmark. Although the enrolment is not large, it means nevertheless that fifteen boys and girls from Seventh-day Adventist homes will have the blessings of Christian education during decisive character forming years of their lives, with all that such a programme means in saving our youth for the kingdom of God. It also gives the West Nordic Union and the West Danish Conference particularly, the unique honour of having both the youngest and the oldest continuously-operated church school in the Northern European Division, if not in all of Europe. Those in attendance at last year's session will recall special mention was made of the school at Jerslev, not far away, where the light of Seventh-day Adventist Christian education has never flickered in sixty-one years of service to the Advent youth in this West Denmark Conference. There are men here today whose lives have been moulded to some extent by this small, but honoured school.

IN-TRAINING SERVICE

While many business organizations today carry on the plan of conducting training programmes for those already in their service, it is a basic and fundamental principle of Seventh-day Adventist education to supplement theoretical class-room procedures with actual participation in regular activities which further the cause of God. In this fashion we reverse the procedures carried out in many business organizations by providing in-training service rather than in-service training. This is productive of the very best results in the preparation and training of workers for the cause of God.

If you listened carefully to the report

**GOD requires the training of the mental faculties. He designs that His servants shall possess more intelligence and clearer discernment than the worldling, and He is displeased with those who are too careless or too indolent to become efficient, well-informed workers. . . .**

**The Lord desires us to obtain all the education possible, with the object in view of imparting our knowledge to others. — Christ's Object Lessons, page 333.**

of the Publishing Department, you noted the important part which student-colporteurs play in the circulation of our message-filled literature. Some of the best records in book sales were made by youth in training for further service in the cause of God, and this excellent and very encouraging report has been made possible in a very substantial measure by the work of the student-colporteur group. That is not to say that the Publishing Department could not continue its good work without their help, nor is it to suggest that the schools would close without the opportunities for financial self-help which this work provides for a large number of students. But the work of God would suffer immeasurably without this happy and profitable co-operation in the cause of practical, effective evangelism.

Annually, our schools participate in the Harvest Ingathering campaign to contri-

bute an important share in the funds gathered for the carrying on of the worldwide work of the Advent cause. Students and teachers at Newbold Missionary College, in three days raised more than £1,050. Those at Vejleford collected Dkr. 15,000, but the honours go to Ekebyholm where less than 100 students and teachers gathered in more than Skr. 22,000. Altogether six of our schools—Newbold Missionary College, Zandbergen in Holland, Vejleford in Denmark, Ekebyholm in Sweden, Toivonlinna in Finland and the Stanboroughs Secondary School at Watford—raised more than \$11,000. It is a record of which we can be justly proud in comparison with the schools from any Division of the world field.

In addition to these annual campaigns, students in our various schools participate in the conducting of specific evangelistic activities during the school year in connection with their ministerial training programmes. At Toivonlinna the young people in training for the ministry have participated in the carrying on of an evangelistic effort in the neighbouring town of Piikkio with excellent results. In West Africa the seminary students at Bekwai Training School have conducted, or participated in, nine evangelistic campaigns. At a baptism held recently in the vicinity of Bekwai, more than eighty persons were baptized, a large number of whom had been brought into the Advent church by the work of the ministerial training group at Bekwai. In the Nigerian Training School at Ihie, a public evangelistic campaign has been held by the students training for the ministry under the direction of Pastor A. E. Brendel. The new Forsythe Memorial church had been employed for this purpose, and a large number of hearers have been attracted and given the elements of the message by the students and their teachers. Surely this is work of the utmost importance in the preparation of those who will carry the burden of responsibility in the days to come.

One of the most important contributions made by our schools is the saving of our youth for the kingdom of God. It is a matter of real encouragement therefore to report that the baptisms which resulted from the Weeks of Prayer and the daily contact with Christian teachers reached the reported figure of 289 for the year. This is no mean contribution to the total number of souls saved, particularly when it is remembered that in some of our schools, the student group is almost entirely composed of baptized members in training for

service. This excellent report is due in part to better reporting, but in a very large measure it must be credited to the faithful services of the Christian teachers and leaders in our schools throughout the Division field. They have given themselves untiringly to the cause of saving these youth for the kingdom of God.

It is not the growth in number of new buildings which have been added to plant facilities, nor the significant increase in the teaching staff and pupil enrolment that we find the greatest source of encouragement. It is rather in the number of students who have been trained in these institutions who have gone directly into the service of the Master during the past year. A little more than 150 young people, so trained, have taken up posts of duty at various points in the far-flung battle line of the army of the Lord. They are at work as ministers of the Gospel, as Bible workers, as teachers, as nurses and dressers, as missionaries in the remote corners of the Division field. They are giving excellent service and it is in them that we find the fullest justification for the time, the energy, and the money that has been invested in providing the schools, where they have secured their preparation for this closing work.

During the year 1952 a number of other important projects were carried out by the Department of Education. A careful survey of the schools and their programme in Ethiopia was conducted, with Professor E. E. Cossentine of the General Conference assisting. Later in the year a similar survey was carried out, with Dr. K. J. Reynolds participating, for the schools in the home-base unions in Northern Europe. As a result of these examinations, the way has been charted for wider and more effective service in training the Advent youth for filling the ever-increasing needs in the cause of God.

Early in June a council of School Homes Leaders was held at Vejlebjerg in Denmark with participation by all of the training institutions in the northern part of the field. For the first time in Northern Europe, the leaders of this important phase of the educational work had opportunity to counsel together and plan increasingly effective methods of providing the home and spiritual atmosphere so necessary for the students in our boarding institutions.

Another important "first" in the Division field was an institute for the elementary teachers of the Norwegian conferences. This was the first time such a period of fellowship had been arranged

for them and all participated actively in the discussions, and went back to their respective schools encouraged and strengthened for the task which they carry on from day to day.

Thus the schools of the Northern European Division continue in their constant effort to improve and expand the programme of Christian education to make it more effective in training workers and laymen fit for the tasks of these last days of history. They are dedicated to the programme of preparing the youth for a "closer walk with God;" a "richer fellowship" in service; and a "mightier witness," not only on the mountain tops of human experience but in the shadowy vales of the world's great needs in these climactic hours.

L. MARK HAMILTON.

## SABBATH SCHOOL REPORT

NO OTHER institution given to this people has done more to establish them in the Word of God than has the Sabbath school. Many thousands of churchmembers and conference leaders owe much of their knowledge of the truth to the regular study of the Word of God in the Sabbath school lesson, and to the efficient and consecrated teaching of that lesson in the Sabbath school.

We see much of strength and of weakness in the Sabbath school work of this Division. Of strength, because of the blessed influence the Word of God is having in the daily lives of 67,084 faithful Sabbath school members in 1,098 schools in our Division. Of strength, because of the 192 branch Sabbath schools and Sunday schools established in the great West African mission field. Of strength, because of the flow of \$146,523 to the cause of God in the regions beyond through our Sabbath schools. Of strength, because of the growing interest in the needs of our children in the Sabbath schools. Many more churches are now equipping the children's rooms with pictures, flannelgraphs, sand trays, and small chairs. This is as it should be.

But we have much of weakness in our Sabbath schools. There are at least 20,000 missing churchmembers from our schools in this Division, and these are mainly found in the homelands. Some we know are not able to come, but they should be cared for in the Extension Division. Let us remember that every willing absentee from the Sabbath school is a potential apostate. What can we do to bring these

members into the fellowship and blessing of the Sabbath school? This is a solemn responsibility resting upon every worker here today.

On the other hand, are our Sabbath schools attracting our people? What constitutes the greatest attraction of our Sabbath school? Is it not the strong, consecrated and able teaching of the Word of God by shepherd-hearted teachers in Sabbath school classes?

It seems that one of our greatest needs is better teaching of the Sabbath school lesson. We regret that many of our teachers on the Continent do not have access to the teacher helps provided by the General Conference Sabbath School Department. Parts of the *Worker* are translated in some fields. These should be made use of in regular teachers' meetings, where the teachers are helped in giving a better presentation of the lesson. We wish it were possible for all our fields to provide at least two lesson pamphlets for the children, the junior and primary. Then again, we believe our work can never be as strongly effective when we continue even in our large churches to hold our Sabbath schools as one large class. As leaders I believe we should bear it on our hearts to give earnest direction in this matter in those churches where this situation prevails.

Are we the people of the Book that we used to be? It is the constant aim of the Sabbath school to foster and increase love for God's Word in the hearts of His people, and we should study every method possible for bringing this about. Are we still promoting the daily study plan? It has never been dropped. The giving of awards has.

It is my conviction that our Sabbath schools in many places in this Division need brightening up considerably. Some special music, an offering and an attendance chart, a map of a field to which the Thirteenth Sabbath Overflow is going. A gripping missionary story told and not read. This will all help to create an atmosphere of interest.

We would like to draw attention to the financial aspect of our work. Over fifty per cent of all offerings to foreign missions come through the Sabbath school. As the end draws nearer and the message speeds on, the financial needs of God's work will become greater, and we must constantly and in a spiritual way keep these needs before our people who always respond willingly. On the whole our Sabbath school offering has not increased in pro-

(Continued on back page.)

# NEWS FLASH

## From the British Union

COLPORTEURS from all parts of the British Union have been together for an eight-day council held at Stanborough Park, Watford. They were privileged to have the services of Elder B. E. Wagner, associate publishing secretary of the General Conference.

From reports received it is evident the colporteurs have had a "lively" time. Elder Wagner spoke out of his thirty-six years of experience in the colporteur work, and he combined a deep spiritual message with all his instruction. We believe the colporteurs have gone back to their work strengthened and fortified as the result of this council.

We are happy to report that Pastor Ian McGougan is holding a successful evangelistic campaign in the city of Glasgow, which has one million inhabitants. Last year he baptized over forty as the result of his campaign in this city, and this year is his second campaign. His attendances average between 700 and 1,000 each Sunday and there is every prospect of another good baptism this year. The membership of the Glasgow church is growing so much that the pastor is now seeking a larger church building.

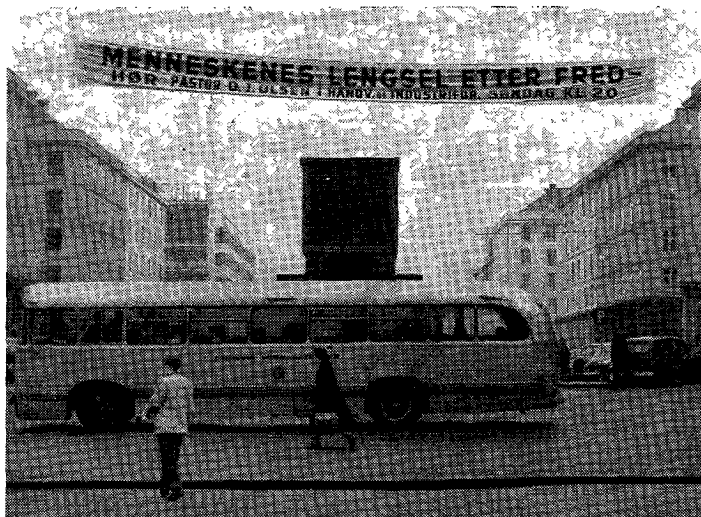
At the New Gallery, our new London Evangelistic Centre, a coloured religious film, "I Beheld His Glory," has been shown to the public three times each weekday for over three weeks. It has drawn a large number of people, and some days more than three thousand have attended the showings of this film. We believe it has done much to establish in the minds of the public the fact that we are fundamental believers in the sacrifice and cross of Christ.

Although no charge was made to see this film, splendid donations have come in every day.

Free copies of the pocket edition of *Steps to Christ* were placed on tables in the foyer so that any who wished might be free to take a copy. We understand that thousands of copies of this wonderful little book have been distributed in this way, and we believe that much good will come as the result.

Another direct result of the showing of this film is that the attendance at the Sunday evening evangelistic services, which

*The sign across the main street in Bergen, Norway, advertising the opening meeting. The subject was "Man's Longing for Peace."*



are still ably conducted by G. E. Vandeman, has increased by 300 or 400.

The evangelistic campaign commenced in Birmingham early in September by Pastor T. J. Bradley and a group of associates from the North England Conference, is making most encouraging progress. We learn that the average Sunday night attendance over the past weeks has been between 1,100 and 1,200. The interest on the part of the regular attenders is deep, and it is expected that from this campaign a good harvest of souls shall be gathered.

W. W. ARMSTRONG,  
*President.*

dren. It should be our constant aim to equip even the smallest schools with such facilities.

Again, we thank God for the thousands of loyal-hearted Sabbath school members scattered from the Arctic Circle to the Equator. Our prayer is that God will give us as His servants the vision, the consecration, and the strength we need to go forth this coming year determined to make this great institution a still mightier power in the preparing of a people to meet their Lord.

E. L. MINCHIN.

## Sabbath School Report

*(Continued from page 7.)*

portion to the income in tithe. In many instances our members are giving much about the same as they did ten or twenty years ago. In this Division, except in one or two fields, we are doing nothing in regard to the Birthday Offerings and Investment Plan. This is not due to the unwillingness of our people. These avenues of giving always provide great interest and pleasure to our people, and they bring in thousands of dollars to the cause. If we do not bring this vision and interest to our Sabbath school leaders, our members will never receive it.

Earlier this year we were favoured by a visit from Elder W. W. Harris from the General Conference Sabbath School Department, who toured our Division in the interest especially of the children's division. As stated before, we are encouraged to note in a number of centres a growing recognition of the importance of providing better teaching equipment for the chil-

## DIVISION DIRECTORY

- A. F. Tarr ..... *President*
- E. B. Rudge ..... *Secretary*
- G. A. Lindsay ..... *Treasurer*
- Alf Karlman ... *Auditor and Asst. Treasurer*
- O. J. Olsen ..... *Field Secretary*

### DEPARTMENTAL SECRETARIES

- A. Andersen, M.D. .... *Medical*
- G. D. King ... *Publishing, Press Relations,  
Radio, and Religious Liberty*
- E. W. Pedersen ..... *Home Missionary*
- T. J. Bradley ..... *Ministerial Association*
- L. Mark Hamilton, Ph.D. .... *Educational*
- E. L. Minchin ... *Sabbath-School, Missionary  
Volunteer, and Temperance*
- EDITOR ..... MRS. A. F. TARR

## NORTHERN LIGHT

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

PRICE 3/- A YEAR

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