



1955 UNION SESSIONS

By A. F. TARR

ATTENDING meetings in the Northern European Division is always a happy experience. Especially is this so at the quadrennial sessions when the brethren and sisters gather in from distant places in their respective union conferences. Their fellowship one with the other and with those of us from still farther afield constitutes, to our way of thinking, a little foretaste of the larger fellowship that we all expect some day to enjoy in the kingdom of heaven. Nor have the recent union conference sessions in Oslo, Stockholm, and Amsterdam been any exception—except as that exception consists in their having been exceptionally good.

The West and East Nordic Unions had each arranged for a workers' meeting prior to their union sessions, and at these meetings some very practical problems connected with evangelism and other denominational activities were considered, as well as time being spent in devotional talks, testimony, and prayer services. It was most refreshing to compare methods of intensifying our programme in all of its branches and to unburden our hearts of some of those problems that have lain heavily upon them as we have sought rightly to relate ourselves to the great task committed to the remnant people.

Present with us at the Scandinavian meetings were Elder H. L. Rudy and

Elder and Sister E. E. Roenfelt, of the General Conference. Elder Rudy many years ago served in the Northern European Division, and to the older workers at least, he was no stranger. Elder Roenfelt, too, has visited our field on previous occasions, and the welcome accorded him also by workers and members was a very hearty one.

In the West Nordic session the following workers were elected to serve the union during the coming term:

- President Alf Lohne
- Secretary-Treasurer
and Auditor R. Abrahamsen
- Sabbath School and
Missionary Volunteer ... Borge Olsen
- Home Missionary and
Publishing Paul Frivold
- Medical Axel Milholt, M.D.
- Educational Axel Varmer
- Religious Liberty and
Press Relations Alf Lohne

An interesting development at the session of the East Nordic Union, and one which we trust will make for greater progress in both Finland and Sweden, was the decision to divide the union into two unions, the one to be known as the Finland Union, and the other as the Swedish Union. This decision will, it is hoped, meet a number of problems which our brethren in Finland have faced. It

will, of course, require the approval of the Division and General Conference Committees. Assuming that the necessary authorization would be granted, the nominating committee elected the following officers and departmental secretaries: For the Finland Union:

- President O. Peltonen
- Secretary-Treasurer
and Auditor U. Rouhe
- Home Missionary, Missionary Volunteer,
and Sabbath School ... S. Alftan
- Publishing U. Hongisto
- Educational and
Temperance H. Karström
- Medical Dr. Leo Hirvonen
- Press Relations Olavi Aarrejarvi
- Religious Liberty O. Peltonen
- Bible Correspondence
School T. Seljavaara

For the Swedish Union:

- President C. Gidlund
- Secretary-Treasurer
and Auditor R. Unnersten
- Home Missionary, Sabbath School,
and Bible Correspondence
School K. Utterback
- Missionary Volunteer D. Carlsson
- Publishing O. Spanghagen
- Medical Dr. U. Sucksdorff
- Educational and
Religious Liberty C. Gidlund
- Press Relations G. Berglund

Probably the largest attended meetings of all were the Sabbath services connected with the Netherland Union session in Amsterdam. Here about 1,500 members gathered in a public hall in the centre of the city. From all parts of the Netherlands the brethren and sisters had come to share in the blessings that they felt awaited them. All through the early meetings in the Amsterdam church, and later in the week-end services in the public hall, a great banner had over-hung the rostrum. It was the motto which F. J. Voorthuis and his associate workers had selected for the session: "Zend ons stroomen van zegen, O Heer." ("Send us streams of blessings, O God.") Hardly a sermon was preached or a prayer offered or a testimony borne, that did not in some way give expression to this earnest appeal that was ever before the eyes of the people. And from their radiant countenances and their expressions of joy and gratitude throughout the meetings, and especially at the closing Sunday afternoon service, it was clearly evident that their appeal had not gone unanswered, but that God had heard their cry and honoured this gathering, as He had done those also that had gone before, with "Streams of blessings."

The elections for the Netherland Union included the following:

- President F. J. Voorthuis
- Secretary A. C. Schmutzler
- Treasurer and Auditor K. Beijer
- Home Missionary B. Slond
- Missionary Volunteer,
Temperance and Welfare ... D. Vink
- Sabbath School and
Voice of Prophecy P. Voorthuis
- Educational A. C. Schmutzler
- Religious Liberty and
Radio F. J. Voorthuis

We who from the Division office were privileged to share in the blessings of the Oslo, Stockholm, and Amsterdam meetings returned to our homes with a new appreciation of the devotion of our workers and members to the cause of God, and of their rich fellowship one with another. With such a spirit inspiring their service, we look for new advances and greater blessings in days to come.

TIMES OF SPIRITUAL REFRESHING

By J. Alfred Simonsen

CAMP-MEETING time is a high day in the experience of Seventh-day Adventists. It is also a refreshing experience for those who have the responsibility of presenting the message of hope, inspiration, and courage to the assembled congregations.

It was the privilege of the writer to accompany G. D. King to the meetings held in the East and West Denmark conferences.

EAST DENMARK CONFERENCE

Promptly at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday evening, June 9th, the first regional meeting of the East Denmark Conference began. The Ebenezer Seventh-day Adventist church was filled to capacity and there was a large attendance throughout Friday and Friday evening. Sabbath, June 11th, the Oddfellows' Hall was the centre for all the meetings. The hall was filled with eager worshippers, for the morning service as well as in the afternoon and evening. The report of seventy-five years of the Advent message in Denmark was interesting and encouraging. The experiences of J. G. Mattison as he began to preach and publish the glad tidings of a soon-coming Saviour, were told. The thrilling account of the beginning of the work, the organization of the first conference in Europe centred in Denmark, the establishment of the world-renowned Skodsborg Sanitarium, and the development of the work until the present time, held the interest of the audience in the Sabbath afternoon meeting.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Denmark is blessed with the presence and counsel of L. Muderspach, who has given more than sixty years of service in the ministry and conference leadership. Pastor Muderspach gave a concise history of Denmark's part in heralding the Advent message to the world.

Sabbath evening the Missionary Volunteer Department gave an impersonated review of the many branches of the work, and the opportunities for service. Everyone present had a more complete idea

of the work of the church and the privilege and opportunity each has to serve in some phase of Christian activity.

The Sabbath offerings to missions and the church work, both through the Sabbath school and the church service, were the highest on record. The Lord has blessed His people and they remember Him as they come to worship, both in spirit and in substance.

The meetings were concluded on Sunday in the Ebenezer church. The friendliness and sincerity of the people was contagious. The presence of the Holy Spirit was evident. The people returned to their homes and their work with increased zeal and a sure confidence in the triumph of the message they have learned and love so dearly.

WEST DENMARK CONFERENCE

The beautiful campus of the Vejle fjord Höjskole and the adjoining junior camp gave the setting for the West Denmark camp meeting. All day Thursday, June 16th, families and individuals were arriving for the three-day feast of spiritual food. The quietness of the wooded campus, the glimmering waters from the ever visible fjord, and the quiet, balmy air of sunny summer days on the Sabbath and Sunday, helped to make the experience at this camp meeting a joyous occasion.

The meetings were well attended during the week days, and on Sabbath the hall was packed to capacity; chairs and benches were provided outside for the overflow audience. Loud speakers carried the message to this large audience. It was estimated that more than 1,200 people were in attendance on the Sabbath.

In the West Danish Conference the faithful gifts of God's people through the Sabbath school and the church offerings reached unprecedented totals. Sabbath afternoon a review of the way God has led His people in Denmark was given by L. Muderspach. The Lord has blessed His people in Denmark. The membership is of good courage and are pressing forward to finish the work.

The response to the calls for consecration and re-dedication was encouraging. There were indications that the Spirit of God was speaking to individual hearts.

We believe that many of our dear people returned to their homes refreshed in spirit and strengthened in faith. The work in Denmark has a bright future. The consecrated individual effort of these earnest people will do much toward the success of the final harvest.

The friendliness and kind hospitality of our bretheren and sisters in Denmark compels one to say in the words of our late Pastor Spicer, "It is a good family to belong to."

IRELAND REVISITED

By G. D. King

IT is always a pleasure to return to a field after many years and to find signs of progress and blessing upon the work of God.

I had not visited Ireland for at least six years and as I returned to attend the annual meeting of the Irish Mission held in Belfast over the week-end of June 24th to 26th, it was with memories of my own colporteur experience in that field as a student-colporteur some thirty-five years ago.

Naturally, I was happy to find that student-colporteurs still experience outstanding success in sales as they are able to visit the Protestant communities in the north and it was also encouraging to find that Adventist literature is being sold successfully down in the south where Catholicism is not merely prevalent, but is dominant.

The main meetings on the Sabbath day were held in the Ballynafeigh Methodist Church Hall—an indication that our Methodist friends of this church do not exercise the same prejudices toward us that are still a marked feature among many of the Protestant communities in Northern Ireland.

Pastor O. M. Dorland with his small band of workers is maintaining a progressive policy of evangelism which has been outstandingly successful in the town of Portadown under the energetic leadership of Pastor W. H. Frazer. At the last Irish mission annual meeting I attended, Pastor Frazer and his wife were new converts to the Advent message and were on that occasion baptized. It indeed was a most inspiring experience on this occasion to be

in attendance at a baptismal service conducted by Pastor Frazer himself. Seven souls were added to the church. It is reported that at Portadown at the present time there are forty Sabbath-keepers and the urgent need is for a suitable church building so that our work can be respectably established in this seat of Northern Irish Protestantism.

It was good to learn that plans are well in hand for the building of a central church situated on the Lisburn Road, for our believers. For many years our only place of worship has been in Florenceville Avenue and this has been by no means representative for the Advent cause. It will be a real step forward for Advent witnessing in Belfast when this church building project is completed.

Down in Dublin, the real seat of Irish Catholicism, the Advent cause has been well represented by the establishment of a well-appointed health centre known as the Ranelagh Health Institute. Each year the number of treatments given has encouragingly increased until today, Brother and Sister Nix and their small band of helpers are kept more than busy with over eighty treatments each week.

Pastor W. G. Nicholson is most energetically caring for the work in Dublin and at the present time is in the midst of a building programme adjacent to the Ranelagh Health Institute and in a few months a church building and youth hall will be completed. The building of this Seventh-day Adventist church in Dublin is an outstanding event inasmuch as it has been reported to Pastor Nicholson by one of the city officials, that no Protestant church, so designated, has been erected in Dublin since the year 1890. The securing of permission and materials for this edifice has been a real answer to prayer and is an indication that the hand of God is guiding His own work in the Emerald Isle. The prayers of our believers throughout the whole Division are solicited on behalf of our work in this, one of the hardest of our mission fields.

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"TO BEMOAN THE PAST IS TO  
BECLLOUD THE FUTURE."

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GREENLAND

THE following interesting report comes from our missionary to Greenland, Pastor Andreas Nielsen. He writes: "I have now been working here in Juilanaab for almost four months. During this period I have had a series of public meetings. The canteen where I have been holding my meetings is not available any more, so on Sunday night I had another place for my meetings. In the afternoon I had a children's meeting and in the evening meeting there were so many present that all the seats were occupied and only standing room was available. There were seventy-six present in that little room. My subject was, "Christ in Prophecy." During the meeting I displayed my charts and after the lecture I used some film-strips.

"Last Sabbath morning I was glad to have my first Sabbath school in the home of a young Greenlander. The only furnishing in the living room was a table. We were both sitting on a little trunk which was not too comfortable, but I was surprised to see that we studied for two hours. Komelius, the Greenlander, read the texts from the Greenlandic New Testament. He was very interested in the subject, 'A faith stronger than death.' The same evening I again visited that dear family and this time Komelius's wife and her sister from another place and a neighbour were also present. My subject was Daniel seven and eight and they were very interested in my charts. Komelius translated for me that evening, and also again last Sunday afternoon in the children's meeting.

"The Pentecostal Church has two missionaries working here and another two not far from here, in Nasrrak. In Godthaab there are two other missionaries and two from another congregation.

"If I continue to pray and work I am sure the Lord will soon grant us more souls converted and confirmed in the present truth. But we must be patient, working by faith, and then leave the results to God.

"I am glad to know that you are all praying for me. It is no easy task which has been committed to me, but I am glad for the great privilege to be here."

Newbold Missionary College Highlights

1954-55

By W. I. Smith, *Principal*

IN RETROSPECT the college year 1954-55 at Newbold is a happy memory. The beautiful environment of the College, the friendly courtesy of the students, the cooperative helpfulness of the faculty, and the wise guidance rendered by the College Board, all have contributed to make the school year a continuous succession of pleasant and precious experiences.

Looking backward in time, we think of our two weeks of prayer as spiritual high points in the progress of the year. Pastor G. Keough presented the message of inspiration in the autumn, and Pastor C. D. Watson of the British Union Missionary Volunteer Department, and Pastor M. E. Lind of the Northern European Division Missionary Volunteer Department, shared the appointments in the spring. Both of these periods were much appreciated by the students and faculty, and permanent helpful values were gained by all. Three students were baptized, and thus almost 100 per cent of the student group are members of the church.

Another feature of the past year was an overall plan for guest speakers on chapel occasions and for Sabbath services. These speakers (more than thirty in number), represented General Con-



Newbold Missionary

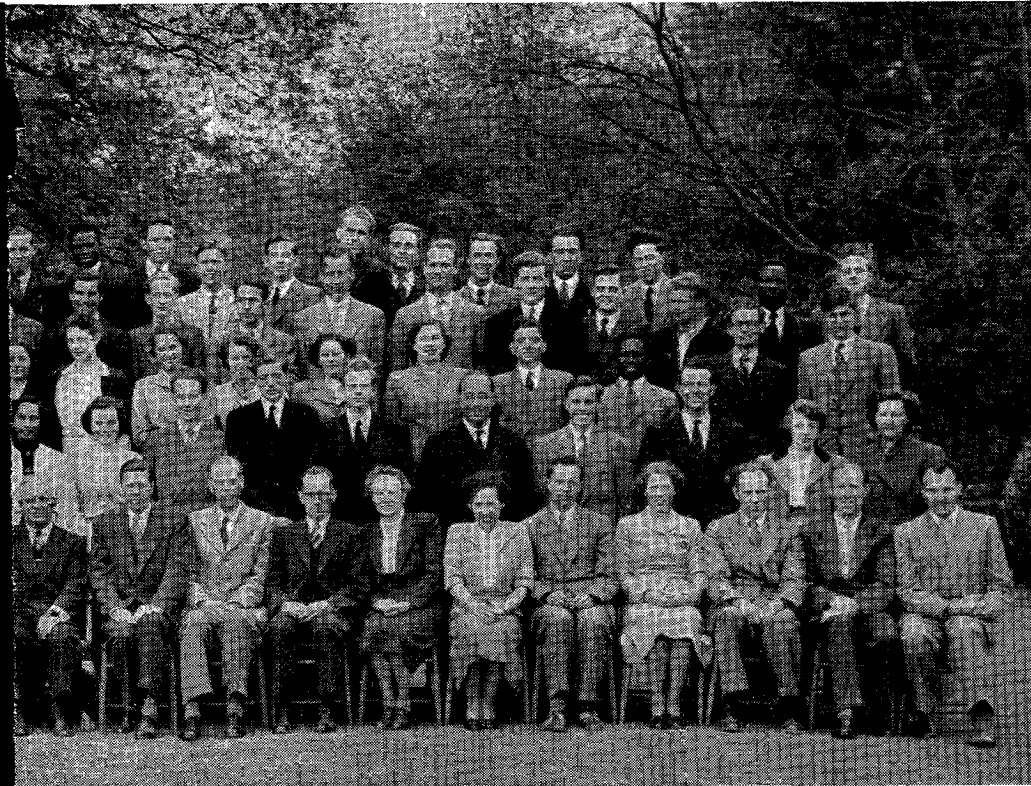
ference, Northern European Division, British Union, and local conferences. Their messages were spiritual and they contributed much to the general education and broadening of our students. The Colporteur Institute, the Big Week, and Ingathering occasions were successfully participated in, and from them many young people gained inspiration and urge to engage in the colporteur work this summer. First reports of these indicate that they are having good success.

Early in the calendar year, 1955, Elder Cossentine, of the General Conference, and President Shephard, of Washington Missionary College, met with the College Board and the Northern European Division Committee to formulate plans for an affiliation that would make it possible for four-year graduates of Newbold to receive the Bachelor of Arts degree from Washington Missionary College. Gradually the intricacies of this affiliation are being clarified and agreed upon so that it is confidently expected that several of our young people will receive the degree at the 1956 graduation. Dr. LaVeta Payne from Washington will connect with Newbold faculty in September, 1955, coming to us as the first representative and liaison officer of the American college.

Naturally, all of our readers are deeply interested in the progress that is being made on the plans for the new administration and classroom building. The executive committee of the College Board have finally approved the architect's drawings and have authorized the building committee to order the building to be constructed accordingly. Detailed drawings



A section of the 1,300 guests who attended the 1955 graduation ceremony at Newbold Missionary College.



ry College of 1955

will now be made. Tenders will then be called for and in due time actual construction will begin. Many problems are involved in the construction of such a building; important decisions must be made after careful consideration. We are happy for the progress to date on what is a project of great importance to the future welfare of the College.

In closing, may I comment that Adventist education is an accepted doctrine of the church. As we "share our faith" let us include encouragement to the youth to make it the goal of their endeavour to secure a preparation in our own schools that will fit them for active service in the finishing work that God is doing in the earth. We have the assurance that "with such an army of workers as our youth, rightly trained, might furnish, how soon the message of a crucified, risen, and soon-coming Saviour might be carried to the whole world!" (*Education*, page 271.) May we as individuals provide the verbal encouragement and the financial help that will greatly increase the number of workers who may go out to herald the message of the soon coming of our Lord.

GRADUATION

By F. Wood, *Preceptor*

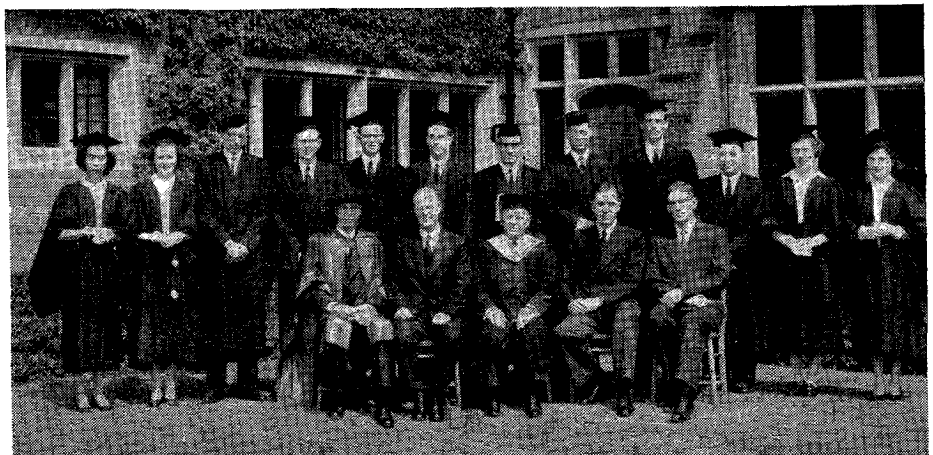
WE ARE often reminded that the final events in our school calendar come and go in quick succession. After an unusually crowded and eventful term, the end of the year was vividly realized, as workmen busied themselves in erecting

a large marquee for the graduation exercises. This, however, was by no means the end of all preparation and organization. Requests for tickets continued to come in steadily from far and near, indicating the lively interest of our members and friends in the work of the Senior College.

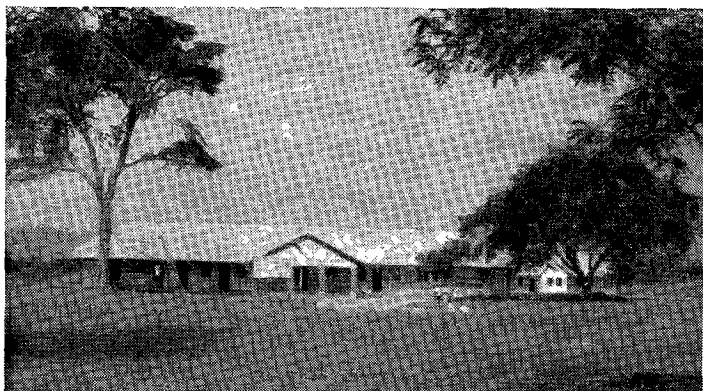
Class Night began the services of the week-end on Friday, May 27th. The marquee had been tastefully decorated with hanging floral baskets and in the artistic platform decorations the class colours of red and white predominated. After an introduction of suitable organ music by Mr. Llewellyn Meredith, the twelve graduates, accompanied by their beloved faculty adviser, Pastor G. D. Keough, quietly took their places. With characteristic candour graduates introduced each other; presented their Motto and Aim—"Our All For God," "To Preach the Unsearchable Riches of Christ"—and made their farewell to all they had learned to love so well.

Sabbath services proved an inspiration both through the ministry of the Word and the ministry of song. The Valedictory service was conducted by Pastor K. Lacey, whose message was practical and inspirational. Our music teacher, Mr. R. W. Scarr, had prepared a programme of music, vocal, choral, and instrumental, and we enjoyed this refreshing melody hour in the afternoon, introduced by Pastor A. J. Woodfield. It is difficult to compare and contrast the services of graduation, but many consider the Consecration service of Sabbath evening to be

(Continued on page 6.)



Graduation Class of 1955. Seated are the Registrar, Faculty Adviser, Principal, and the two guest speakers, K. Lacey and E. J. Folkenberg.



New Jengre Hospital in North Nigeria

A FEW weeks ago almost 1,200 persons, among whom were twenty-five local chiefs, some prominent government officials, including medical officers, and also representatives of the West African Union Mission and the Northern European Division, gathered together at the Jengre mission station. This large gathering came to rejoice with the missionaries in the attainment of long-cherished plans for the development of a well-rounded mission centre among the millions of needy people of Northern Nigeria.

General mission and dispensary work were commenced at Jengre by Pastor and Mrs. J. J. Hyde in 1932. They began their work without facilities of any kind beyond a small place in which to live. Now the mission is in the happy position of having a fine new church, an effective primary school, and a hospital with facilities for the care of medical, surgical, and maternity cases.

The Jengre mission station is located strategically near the confluence of four Northern Nigeria provinces, where both pagans and Moslems live in large numbers. At one time, medical work was carried on at this station by Mr. and Mrs. L. Normington, but was suspended during the recent world war. In 1947, Dr. J. A. Hyde, son of Pastor Hyde who began the work at Jengre, was appointed to the leadership of this area. He began his work with a small dispensary building and a number of small mud huts thatched with grass. Surgical work was performed on a rather crude wooden examination table in the dispensary building. Patients were then cared for in the mud huts. Today, facilities available make possible satisfactory care of surgical, medical, and

maternity cases. Associated with Dr. Hyde in this work are Mr. and Mrs. Acton-Hubbard, trained nurses from London, and a number of young people trained at Jengre and at Ile-Ife, who serve as nurses and dispensers.

In 1932 a few dozen people were cared for in the early dispensary. In 1947, 700 patients received the help of the doctor. Returns for the year 1954 show that 350 in-patients were cared for in addition to help being provided for some 25,000 others who came to the hospital clinic for outpatient care. Patients come to the hospital from a radius of a hundred miles.

This new hospital, recently opened by the Minister of Health for Northern Nigeria, represents an investment of some



The Minister of Health opens the new administrative block at Jengre.

£15,000. In addition to the administration block with operating theatre and staff houses, there are two wards capable of accommodating seventeen patients in each. Plans are in hand for an additional building to give special care for maternity and other cases. It will also be necessary at a later date to provide additional housing accommodation for the nurses and their associates. Dr. Hyde and his associates have also planned for the development of dispensaries in the outlying districts.

Throughout the years, the hospital staff at Jengre have made the winning of men and women for Christ the primary purpose of all their service. Today, hundreds of men and women, with their families, rejoice in the knowledge of salvation as it is in Christ Jesus because these consecrated men and women, who have through the years cared for the sick and afflicted in this community, have held up before them the claims of Christ, the Light of the world. D. V. COWIN.

Graduation

(Continued from page 5.)

the most inspiring of all, when the students offer themselves to God's service in an act of consecration. Pastor M. E. Lind, Missionary Volunteer leader of the Northern European Division, thrilled us with his warm-hearted message, while simplicity, sincerity, and spontaneity marked the responding testimonies of all graduates.

Activity even increased in all quarters of the campus on Graduation Day. Visitors, parents, and friends began to arrive in the morning, having travelled by car, coach, and rail, to do honour to the sons and daughters of their churches on this important day. It was estimated that some 1,300 people were present, and quietness fell on the eager assembly as faculty, speakers, and graduates filed in. Elder E. J. Folkenberg, of the New Gallery Centre, gave the Graduation address characterized by forthrightness and clarity. Music was rendered by Elder R. Kranz, also of the New Gallery, and by the Newbold Men's Choir. As the diplomas were presented by Principal W. I. Smith we all shared with our graduates in the joy of accomplishment and success.

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KUYERA'S GREATEST DAY

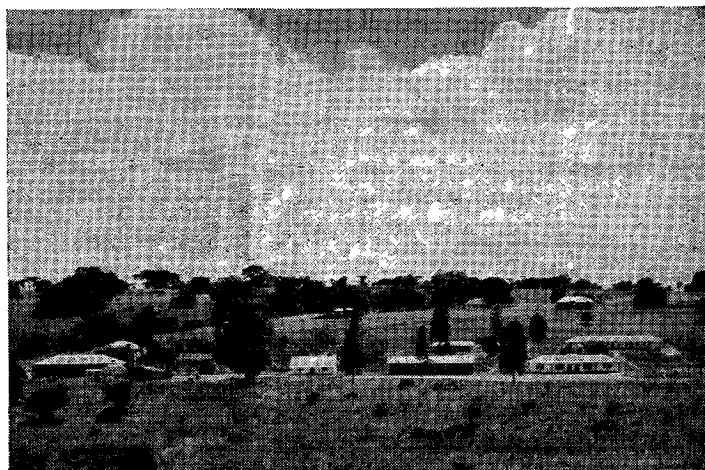
By **Belaineh Chereneth**
Student

MAY 6, 1955 was the greatest day we have ever had here at Kuyera, our Ethiopian Adventist Training School. Our visitors, H. Westerlund, business manager of Skodsborg sanitarium, and S. A. Broberg, president of the Ethiopian Union, whom we had been expecting for a couple of days, arrived on May 5th. The next day was the day we shall never forget for on that Sabbath day forty-seven young men and women took their stand for the Lord Jesus Christ and were baptized.

These are the fruits of the faithful work of four men who have been winning souls for the Lord in and around Kuyera.

Nine of these newly baptized members are the fruits of Aleka Gebre Kristos, who worked at Neghelle, five miles from here; three are from Dadaba, nine miles

*A view of Kuyera,
the Ethiopian
Training School.*



away, where Brother Debele works; six are from Mount Durro, sixteen miles away, where Bayenne Daba is working, while the other twenty-nine are from among the Arussis who live around the training school and from the regular boarding students who have been taught by Ato Teklehaimanot.

Looking back over the years we find that the church membership at the end of 1953 was fifty-nine. During 1954

twenty-seven were added so that the total church membership at the end of 1954 was eighty-six. The churchmembers added during the first part of this year are almost equal, therefore, to the churchmembers we had at the end of 1954, for eighty-four have been added during the first five months of 1955. We can say that God has poured out His blessing abundantly upon our church and our hearts are filled with great joy.

A RECORD IN SERVICE

PASTOR O. S. SORENSEN, for many years leader of our Literature Evangelists in Denmark, and since 1946 Publishing Department secretary for the West Nordic Union, has recently retired from his more arduous duties of leadership.

Pastor Sorensen began his colporteur ministry in the year 1920, when he did part-time work with our smaller books and magazines. He entered the full-time colporteur ministry in 1922, and in 1928 was elected the colporteur leader for Denmark. Thus for twenty-seven years Brother Sorensen has maintained an unbroken record of leadership for our work in Denmark. This undoubtedly is in many respects, a record in service, and during those years, Brother Sorensen has greatly endeared himself to our membership, ministers, and colporteurs, throughout his field of labour. All who have been associated with Pastor Sorensen have found him to be a most co-operative and helpful worker and in his leadership he has always exercised great patience and



has shown outstanding wisdom in his dealings with the many problems and perplexities that have been his to solve during the long years of service.

It is with regret that we see Pastor Sorensen lay down his duties, but we know that he has well earned a period of more leisure and relaxation, and Brother Sorensen's heart and interest will continue to lead him into fruitful service for God.

We salute our brother as he enters into his years of retirement and wish him much of the Lord's blessing during coming days.

G. D. KING

Graduation

(Concluded from page 6.)

Class responses were clearly and ably presented on behalf of eight Ministerial graduates by the class president, L. P. Anderson, on behalf of the three Bible Instructors by C. Laval, and V. N. Houston responded as a Teacher.

So ended yet another memorable graduation. We confidently believe that your prayers will follow the graduates of 1955 as they take up their various lines of service, and ask you to remember also the students who will be filling their places in the school year to come.

Further News from the Soviet Union

By A. F. Tarr

FOR some time now we have been in touch with the Soviet Embassy in London, in an endeavour to secure authentic word regarding our believers in the Soviet Union. We have also discussed with responsible officials the possibility of sending a small delegation from one or more of our countries to make personal contact with our churches there. During a recent discussion it was suggested that the present visit to England of a group of Soviet churchmen, comprising the leaders of the Orthodox, the Lutheran, and Baptist churches, might afford a good opportunity of learning more about our members and also of ascertaining how best to bring about our desire for a personal visit to be made to them. The Soviet officials suggested that a good time to meet these churchmen would be at a reception which they were planning shortly to give at the Soviet Embassy. They also very kindly extended an invitation to three Division workers, G. A. Lindsay, G. D. King, and the writer, to be present.

In attending the reception, which was held a few evenings ago, we were first of all introduced to Mr. Malik, Soviet Ambassador to Great Britain, who received us most cordially. Then followed our introduction to the Russian Baptist leaders whom we had wanted particularly to meet. When the General Secretary for Russia caught the name Adventist, his enthusiasm knew no bounds. "Adventista, Adventista," he exclaimed as he grasped my hands in his, his face aglow with delight. And time and time again as we talked of our respective churches in Russia, he distinguished between the two by saying, "Your Baptist brothers," or "Your Adventist brothers."

He then stated that the Baptists have seven ministers and almost 5,000 members in Moscow, and that we have three ministers and some 500 members. He then emphasized good naturedly that despite his own church's larger membership, "You are much richer than we." I inquired what made him think this; did we pay our ministers more? "I do not know what you pay your ministers," he

said, "but it is the tithe that makes the difference. Our Adventist brothers bring up their people in the right way."

He told also of what a wonderful man our former leader, Pastor Mazanov, was, and what a godly man. Now he had been transferred to Rostov, and at this point he wrote in my diary the name and address of the present leader, to whom he asked me to write, and whom he promised to greet on our behalf immediately on his return to Moscow. He told also of the wonderful choir we had in Moscow and how everyone loved to listen to it. It was led, he said; by an outstanding lady musician, one of our own churchmembers. He regretted that our church had not seen their way clear to join the Union of which the Baptists, the Lutherans, and other evangelicals were members, but had formed our own separate union. He was not sure of all our reasons, but in response to my question, said it was not the Sabbath that constituted the barrier. When I asked if we could preach our doctrines with freedom, he asked what I meant. I said, "Doctrines like the second coming of Christ." I added, "You believe in the second coming, do you not?" "Yes," he said, "but not on a particular day." "But," I said, "you believe that His coming is near, do you not?" "Oh, yes," he said, "there are so many symbols that it is near." "Well, can you preach that?" I asked. "Yes," he said, "with complete freedom in all our churches."

While I talked with him, Elder Lindsay conversed in German with another of the Baptist ministers, this one from Kiev. As we compared notes later we discovered that when we asked of their problems, both had spoken immediately of the power that had attended their service for God. One had termed it "rivers of power of the Holy Ghost." As we listened to them, and also to the president of their organization, we could not but be impressed with their deep earnestness and sincerity, and their unwavering allegiance to God. Time and again as we mixed with other guests, including churchmen and Soviet officials, we found ourselves drawn again to our "Baptist brothers," and

again we talked of our mutual endeavours that lay so heavily on our hearts. They assured us that when our "Adventist brothers" in the Soviet Union learned of our desire to pay them a visit (and they will probably ere this have received letters from us conveying this word) a cordial welcome will be extended; for it is only on the basis of such invitations sent through government channels that visits to Russia are arranged.

Following that first meeting in the Soviet Embassy it was my privilege to meet again with the Baptist president of the Soviet Union and some of his colleagues. This time it was in the Royal Albert Hall where they were attending the Jubilee meeting of the World Baptist Alliance. Dr. E. A. L. Payne, the secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland had very courteously invited me there. During our discussions Pastor Zhidkov, the Russian leader, gave me an even closer-up picture of the Baptist and Seventh-day Adventist work in Moscow. He told of a recent large baptism, of the great work being done by the women in "home evangelism," of how, in the absence of denominational training schools, "young preachers are taught preaching by preaching." And he promised, as did the secretary, to convey to our churchmembers the very sincere greetings of their fellow-believers in other parts of the world.

We said good-bye to these stalwart Christian leaders with renewed confidence in God's great programme, and a new awareness of His protecting, prospering hand over His work in every land. We were impressed, too, that the hope of an even more direct contact with our brethren in the Soviet Union may now be not far distant.

NORTHERN LIGHT

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