



Missionary Volunteers in West Africa

By ²M. E. LIND, *Missionary Volunteer Secretary*

THE HUGE rain forest which covers such vast areas of West Africa, exerts its influence on visitors and indigenous people alike. For hundreds of miles this dark, terrifying jungle seems to stretch out its ever-green arms embracing everything within its reach. Seen from the air, towns and villages look like pebbles, lost on a gigantic green carpet.

My assignment to West Africa was for youth activities. Upon my arrival at Accra airport, Pastor H. J. Welch, MV Secretary of the West African Union, took me to the first youth camp ever to be conducted in the Gold Coast. I greatly benefited by Pastor Welch's intimate knowledge of the people and the country.

Some fifty miles west of the Gold Coast capital, Accra, we came to a small fishing village called Anomabu. It was from this little humble fishing village that the great Dr. Aggrey Kodwo Kwegyir came. Here we found an old historic fort which originally had been built by the Dutch in 1670.

This old fortification, where formerly slaves were kept while awaiting shipment to foreign countries, is situated on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean. It commands a wonderful view of the huge, restless sea, where the tireless waves roll on and on, and where the mighty breakers constantly crash onto the sandy shores encircled by majestic palm trees. The old fort, which had been renovated and whitewashed, gleamed like a jewel in the

bright sunshine. I can imagine no more romantic place for a youth camp than this old castle. Brother Ackah, the MV Secretary of the Gold Coast, had prepared an ambitious programme for the eighty senior youth campers who had come from all parts of the country and also from the Ivory Coast.

Beginning at 5.45 each morning, we were kept to a tight schedule throughout the day until 9.30 p.m. Classes in leadership and handicrafts of various kinds were conducted. "Share Your Faith" activities were energetically carried out. On several afternoons the whole group divided up and visited some of the neighbouring villages, preaching and singing. As a result, twenty-two adults were enrolled in baptismal classes at the

close of the camp. Some of our young people went out distributing literature, and on one occasion a handful of them sold, in the course of an hour, more than six pounds' worth.

At Kumasi, Gold Coast, a fine youth rally, with 300 in attendance, was conducted. Several of our young people had been threatened that if they attended this meeting, they would be beaten. The reason for this was that strong political activities were going on in that area. Certain people thought that our rally was serving as a cloak for a rival political party. In spite of unfriendly demonstrations, the rally got off to a fine start. A jeep full of political stewards encircled the area where the rally was being conducted, but in spite of this, a number of

Prepared for destruction. Idols worth £40 on their way to the flames. Second from the right, is their owner. Second from the left, the young evangelist.



the demonstrators succeeded in entering the campus. Here they were soon convinced by what they saw and heard that this rally was a Christian one, and a very interesting one at that. Several demonstrators sat down in the meetings and stayed there for a long time.

In West Nigeria, two interesting junior camps were conducted, with attendances of 270 and 217 respectively. Pastor G. M. Ellstrom and Brother Aوسي, newly appointed MV Secretary of West Nigeria, were in charge. In all of these youth camps and rallies, great emphasis was placed on practical Christian endeavour. Around the camp fires, on the fringe of the dark jungle, many young hearts were touched as they listened to character-building sermons and stories.

Arriving in East Nigeria, we spent two interesting weeks, participating in a number of rallies and leadercraft courses. Brother Nwoabia, the MV leader, has an exceedingly large field of labour with thousands of youth under his care. Here we saw youth in active service for the Lord. On Sabbath afternoon Pastor A. E. Farrow, president of East Nigeria, took us some six miles from our headquarters to a new company. A young man who recently had raised up this company, had had the joy of seeing the power of God constraining a new convert to give up his gods and fetishes. On this particular day, Brethren Welch, F. C. Barfoot (newly appointed Sabbath school Secretary of the West Africa Union) and the writer were taken by Pastor Farrow to witness the burning of these idols.

Arriving at the newly built church, we found thirty-two people awaiting us. After a song and a short sermon, the little company marched along the jungle road to a village half a mile away. Singing as they went, they testified to on-lookers and passers by what God had wrought on their behalf. What a wonderful sight it was to see this group of new converts marching on to new victories!

The destination proved to be a small house within a large enclosure. Arriving at the house we all stopped. The man whose idols and fetishes were to be destroyed went into the house first, and then four or five of the company followed him. After a few minutes they all returned, carrying the idols and fetishes. Others of the company had gone into the garden

On the way to destroy the gods. Brother Barfoot leads in front and Pastor Farrow follows.



and had dug up two sacred trees. Carrying the trees, idols, and fetishes, the group returned to a place near our little church. All the while songs of praise rose from this staunch group of new converts to the Christian faith. Firewood was collected. The man whose idols were to be burned took up his position close to it. With him was his wife, mother, and his five-year-old child. There they stood defiantly looking at the idols and fetishes for which had been paid forty English pounds! Then the fire was kindled, and again shouts of victory rose up above the crackling flames as the gods of this world were consumed by the fire. How thrilled we all were as we watched this concrete evidence of what the power of the Gospel can do in transforming the hearts of men and women.

At several of our youth rallies we heard and saw demonstrations of how our youth had been instrumental in bringing about the downfall of heathen gods. Only those who have witnessed at close range the power of dark superstition and spirit worship can, to some degree, comprehend the tremendous power which is needed to cause such a transformation.

It was a privilege for me also to be able to visit our educational institutions at Bekwai, Otun, and Ihie. In addition, I saw our hospitals at Kwahu and Ile-Ife. What a testimony it was for me to see the youth from the home countries giving of their very best in assisting those who are in dire need of so much help.

Our leaders of this huge union are constantly faced with a variety of difficult and often perplexing problems. This is largely brought about by the rapidly changing face of the political and social outlook in West Africa.

May God richly bless our dear people in those territories.

NEWBOLD MISSIONARY COLLEGE

THIS is a good time to be at Newbold College. It is always good to be associated with progress, and progress is seen all around at Newbold. Our Senior College programme in affiliation with Washington Missionary College is in full operation, we have the biggest enrolment since coming to Binfield, and our dream of years—a new Administration Building—is progressing well.

The new building gives us all a thrill as we imagine ourselves in the various rooms which are now taking shape. We have been praying that God would guide the architects and builders, and we can see evidences of His hand on our behalf. While other school buildings being erected by the same firm of contractors have been held up for supplies of bricks, there has been a continuous supply at our building—enough to keep more bricklayers busy than on any of the other buildings. Some of the workmen have stated that they enjoy working on our building because it is running so smoothly. One man said he had not worked on a comparable building where there had been so few “snags and upsets.” The last progress report we had indicated that they are four weeks ahead of schedule—not a very common report in these days!

We believe the Lord is with us and pray for His continued blessing and guidance. A. W. LETHBRIDGE.

A News Flash from The General Conference Fall Council

By G. A. Lindsay

I HAVE just returned from the Autumn Council of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists as this issue of the NORTHERN LIGHT goes to press, and I wish to convey to all our readers Christian greetings from those who were assembled in that important session.

It was my privilege, together with Pastors A. F. Tarr and E. B. Rudge, to attend the Autumn Council which convened in the commodious and beautiful Takoma Park church, located just across the street from the denominational world headquarters. All the divisions of the world field with the exception of the one in the U.S.S.R. were represented by their officers.

The session convened from October 23rd to 30th. Several pre-council meetings were held from October 14th to prepare some of the items that were to be dealt with by the council itself.

It is indeed a privilege for us from the various divisions to be able to meet with the brethren at the General Conference headquarters as well as with many of the church leaders in the great North American Division, to discuss common problems and to lay plans for the extension of the work of God everywhere.

The meetings were indeed blessed by the presence of the Spirit of God—the business sessions as well as the devotional services. The brethren who broke the Bread of life to us brought “meat in due season” to the delegates and others present.

The reports rendered were heartening and cheerful. The total world membership is now well over the million mark. Last year alone no less than 78,802 members were added to the church either by baptism or on profession of faith. The Southern African Division alone received 19,462 of these. Over \$20,000,000.00 worth of literature is being sold annually by our colporteurs and publishing houses around the world. The Radio and Bible Correspondence schools are doing a wonderful work. In America the

Advent message is also being televised and the work done in this way brings much credit to our denomination.

Expressions of gratitude to the leaders in the conferences and the churches and to the rank and file of the membership were also recorded. It truly is wonderful the way Adventists around the world respond to the numerous calls that come to them. Surely God is making His people willing in the day of His power, and to Him do we ascribe all the praise and glory.

Inasmuch as Pastor and Mrs. E. B. Rudge, much to our regret, have found it necessary for family reasons to return to their homeland, Australia, it was the responsibility of the General Conference to appoint a secretary for our Division to fill the vacancy left upon the resignation of Pastor Rudge. The nominating committee at the Autumn Council rendered its report and we are glad to tell you that Pastor G. D. King, now serving as Publishing, Radio, and Public Relations secretary of the Division, has been elected secretary of the Northern European Division for the remaining time of the present quadrennial period. While we are sorry that we must sever the ties of intimate fellowship in labour with Pastor E. B. Rudge, we are naturally happy that his successor is Pastor G. D. King. Having already been connected with the Division staff for about six years, he is well acquainted with the field and its problems. On behalf of the Division Committee and may I add, on behalf of the whole Division, we extend a most hearty welcome to Pastor King as he takes up the duties of the secretary, wishing him the blessing of God in his service.

To fill the post of secretary for the Publishing Department in the Division, the General Conference has passed on an invitation to Pastor L. A. Vixie of the Colorado Conference to return to the Northern European Division. Pastor Vixie has served here in this capacity before and is greatly beloved by all who know him. His service was broken off

after four years in 1940 because of World War II and in the meantime he became Publishing secretary for the Southern African Division. Pastor Vixie returned to this Division in 1947, but due to illness, he had to go back to America. He has now fully recovered and is at present doing efficient pastoral work in one of the large churches in Colorado. We do hope that we shall be privileged to have Pastor and Mrs. Vixie with us again. We are now awaiting word from the General Conference and hope that with it will come Pastor Vixie's acceptance of the call to our Division.

As we face the new year, let us press forward with courage and determination in the work of our high calling. The seriousness of the times should be a mighty challenge to each one of us both at home and in mission lands to greater activity while doors are still open.

PASTOR KING APPOINTED DIVISION SECRETARY

By J. A. Simonsen

THE General Conference Fall Council appointed Pastor George D. King to be Secretary for the Northern European Division. Pastor King succeeds Pastor E. B. Rudge who held this post from 1950 until October 30, 1956. Pastor King is eminently qualified for his new duties by his training and experience. He has been associated with Seventh-day Adventists most of his life.

Pastor King was born in Rushden, Northamptonshire. When he was a little boy, his mother became interested in the persuasion of the Adventist church through a magazine worker who called at their home. Eventually this worker invited Mrs. King to attend an evangelistic tent meeting which was being held in Rushden. The result was her baptism in 1908 and membership in the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

As a youth Pastor King attended the Kettering Grammar School and upon completion of his training, entered Stanborough Park College, which later became Newbold College, from which he graduated in 1923. Following gradua-

tion he accepted a call to the North England Conference as Local Publishing Secretary. An invitation to enter mission service in West Africa was received in 1924. Before accepting the invitation he was joined in marriage to Gladys Lister, whom he met at Stanborough Park College and who graduated with his class in 1923 from the teachers' training course.

Pastor and Mrs. King soon sailed for West Africa, where they served in Sierra Leone and the Gold Coast.

In 1926 Pastor King accepted a call to be an evangelist in Scotland. After two years of successful work in Scotland, he was invited to become city evangelist in the great industrial centre of Birmingham. Here, he and Mrs. King laboured for four years, until 1932 when they moved to Cardiff, Wales. Here, as president of the Welsh Mission, Pastor King conducted a series of evangelistic campaigns, adding members to the church and raising a new church at Barry.

He joined the British Union Conference as Publishing Secretary in 1936, and in 1939 he accepted a call to be president of the South England Conference. This position he filled through the difficult war years. He became vice-president of the British Union Conference in 1946 and also held the offices of the Ministerial Secretary and Secretary of the British Union Conference.

When the Northern European Division was re-organized in 1950, Pastor King accepted a position as one of the departmental secretaries. During the past six years he has enthusiastically promoted the work as Publishing Secretary as well as secretary of Public Relations, Radio, and Religious Liberty. With a wide experience in the denominational work at home and abroad, he will continue giving a wider and even greater service in his capacity as Secretary of the Northern European Division.

We welcome Pastor and Mrs. King to their new responsibilities. To Mrs. King, who is not privileged to become acquainted with the far corners of the Division field, we extend special congratulations for her husband's success. There is much truth in the familiar statement, "For every man who climbs the ladder, there is a woman at the bottom steadying it."



Pastor G. D. King.

A MESSAGE TO THE FIELD

FOR the past ten years it has been my privilege to be closely associated with Pastor E. B. Rudge—four years of service in the British Union, and six years in the wider territory of the Northern European Division. It is therefore with a deep sense of responsibility that I take up the work he has laid down as secretary of this interesting and challenging Division. All of my thirty-three years of ministerial and administrative service have been confined to the territory of this Division, both at home and overseas, and I confess to an intense desire to see the cause of God triumph here in our own beloved countries, and I share with my fellow workers and believers a burden to propagate the message throughout all our lands.

We are living in a dangerous time, dangerous for the world and for the church. The dangers which beset the church are more to be feared and fought. The dangers of the world are but to us an evidence of the certainty of God's Word, and a fulfilment of all which we have believed and preached. The spiritual dangers which beset the church are more insidious, for they spring from the attempts of the enemy to weaken

our personal witness. It is against these dangers that we must fight, fortified with the weapons which are "mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds." Our greatest need is that we should not be moved from our spiritual objectives and purposes in the great programme of evangelism in which we are engaged in these closing and glorious days of earth's history.

It is with that deepening sense of the urgency of the task that I take up my new duties with my fellow workers in this Division. It has been encouraging to receive assurances of prayerful support, and I hasten to assure you all that it is my desire to serve willingly and loyally the cause of God in humble dedication to the service of mankind for which He has called us all.

G. D. KING.

CHURCH DEDICATION AT GRONINGEN

By P. van Oossanen

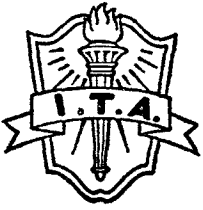
MEMBERS of the Seventh-day Adventist Church came in great numbers on Monday, September 24th, to the dedication of our new church building which has been erected on Hofstraat in Groningen, Holland.

Large footpaths, laid out between wide lawns, have made way for the church which has been erected in a modern style and which accommodates about 300 persons.

The dedication service commenced by the singing of Psalm 138, after which C. P. de Ruiter, of the North Netherlands Conference, presented the pulpit Bible, which was accepted by S. Bouwer, the local pastor. Brother Bouwer expressed the wish that the Bible should be the symbol of the continuous abiding of the Bread of life. Mr. P. van Loo transferred the church building to the local church. Also on behalf of his companion, Mr. S. v. d. Mei, the speaker thanked all fellow workers who had had a part in the erection of the building. The writer extended a warm welcome to all present.

Fellow believers, just a few years ago

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TEMPERANCE HEADLINES

By E. W. Pedersen

THE ISTANBUL CONGRESS

THE OUTSTANDING temperance event of the year was no doubt the twenty-fifth International Congress Against Alcoholism, held at the University of Istanbul, September 10th to 15th, by special invitation of the Governor of the city, Professor Fahrettin Kerim Gökay and under the high patronage of His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Turkey.

Istanbul, astride two continents, is, as someone has said, "a miracle, born of the union of prodigal nature with perfect art. Nowhere else on the earth's surface has architecture been so harmonious with nature and with such magical effect." Istanbul has been called "the eyes, the light, and the tongue of the Mediterranean," and it claims 1,600 years as a metropolis. But had it not been for the seven hills on which she rides, the crystal blue waters of the Bosphorus and the Golden Horn and the splendour of her mosques—the Blue Mosque, the prettiest of them all—she would not have had much to commend herself. The city itself is a disappointment. On the other hand the friendliness and helpfulness of her people were a happy surprise to one who, in his childhood, had seen blood-dripping pictures of Turkish fierceness and brutality.

Approximately 350 delegates from forty different countries were in attendance at the opening session in the New Science and Arts Building of the old university. And a colourful assortment of the human species they were! However, common to them all was their apparent devotion to the temperance cause.

The lectures were held in English, French, or German and included such topics as "Alcoholism, a World Problem in Its General, Medical, and Social Aspects," "Scientific Researches," "Treatment of Alcoholics," "Road and Air Safety," "Alcoholism in Industry," "Education," "Non-alcoholic Beverages,"

A group of the delegates who attended the Temperance Council in Odense, Denmark.



"Alcohol and Sport," "The Prevention of Alcoholism," "The Temperance Movement, Its Philosophy and Programme," etc., etc. And under these headings were numerous sub-headings which mostly were lectures by themselves. The programme contained no less than sixty-four items exclusive of excursions and banquets. Secretary Archer Tongue had a hard time keeping things running efficiently and smoothly. The first session was a model of planning, dignity, and efficiency. Later it became apparent that the congress was not a congress in the Seventh-day Adventist sense of the word. But much valuable information was given by prominent scientists and world temperance leaders, some of whom we had already made acquaintance with at our Geneva Institute.

Professor Gökay, a charming personality of small physical stature but otherwise great, was the perfect host throughout. His name was a sesame that opened doors for us which otherwise would have been shut. Even the special badges we had been issued with, and which entitled us to free rides on trams and buses, were useful on other occasions as well.

This was not an Adventist congress. Ten Adventist delegates were present, yet our influence must have been felt out of proportion to our number, for one delegate was heard remarking to another, "Have you noticed all the Adventists that are here?" There is no doubt that our temperance cause has given us wonderful opportunities to show what we really are and to witness for that which we believe in and stand for. At one of the banquets eight Freedoms of the City of Istanbul

were bestowed upon eight of the delegates for the contribution they had made to Turkish and international welfare, betterment, and understanding, and two of these were awarded to Seventh-day Adventist temperance workers, Brother W. A. Scharffenberg and Brother Chad B. Israel of India.

From a Seventh-day Adventist point of view the most cheering sight in Turkey was neither the Blue Mosque, the Golden Horn, nor the smiling faces of friendly delegates, but the foundation of an Adventist church in the city of Istanbul, the first Christian church to be erected in that country since 1923. And it was our temperance work that paved the way for it. When Dr. Nussbaum approached the Turkish authorities on behalf of our mission he met with refusal until it became known that he belonged to the church which, through Brother Scharffenberg, had given the world such a wonderful lead in true temperance. Then there were no hindrances, and today our church and mission is recognized and on friendly terms with the people and the authorities.

Yes, the temperance message influences people and wins us friends.

THE FIRST NORTHERN EUROPEAN DIVISION TEMPERANCE SECRETARIES' COUNCIL

THE DATE: October 5th to 7th; the place: Odense, Denmark; and the occasion: The first Church Temperance Secretaries' Convention to be held in the Northern European Division. The West Nordic Union and the two Danish conferences are to be congratulated on this initiative and evidence of their interest in the temperance cause.

Union Temperance secretary, B. Olsen, was in the chair, and a well planned programme was efficiently carried out. Prior to our convention, a workers' meeting for all Denmark had been held at the same place and the executives wisely and considerately arranged for everyone to remain for the temperance meeting. We greatly appreciate such splendid co-operation, for indeed without the full support of a full working force we shall not be able to carry through our work as we want to and must do. A few workers from Norway were also present.

Brother F. A. Soper, of the General Conference Temperance Department, who was on his way back to the States from the Istanbul Congress spent a couple of weeks in our Division and attended the Odense Convention. His instruction was most helpful, inspirational, and instructive.

In Denmark our national temperance society is recognized by the state which gives an annual grant to our temperance work, and we are on the friendliest terms with all other temperance societies. Mr. F. Markersen, chairman of the Danish Temperance Federation, had accepted an invitation from us to speak to the delegates. This he did in a most interesting and illuminating lecture. He pointed out that though there are only 50,000 organized temperance people in Denmark of which 30,000 are members of Christian temperance groups, the number of temperance people is much larger. Mr. Markersen paid special tribute to the very fine temperance issue of our Danish *Signs of the Times*, which we publish once a year. It was, in his opinion, the finest publication in Denmark. His eagerness for us to continue and extend our co-operation with other temperance people in Denmark was sincere. Incidentally, the Seventh-day Adventists in Denmark were once in the forefront of the battle. It was our pioneer, Matteson, who, back in the eighties, put the temperance cause before the people, and Dr. C. Ottesen was for almost a generation the country's most outstanding temperance advocate and promoter.

Some of the resolutions adopted at the convention were:

1. That our special annual temperance issue of *Signs of the Times* henceforth be published twice yearly under another

name and with the view ultimately of making it a quarterly national temperance magazine.

2. That we organize special temperance sections for children and youth.

3. That we publish suitable temperance tracts and leaflets.

We hope that this first convention will soon be followed by others. Our opportunity is greater than ever to let our light shine forth in the beauty of the temperance message. Let us seize it and turn it to good account.

F. A. SOPER'S VISIT

BECAUSE of our proposed convention in Denmark and knowing that Brother Soper would pass through Europe on his way from Istanbul to the U.S.A., we approached the General Conference with a request that he be permitted to assist us. The General Conference kindly consented to this.

Though we had but little time in which to plan an itinerary we succeeded in arranging for worth-while visits to the capitals where meetings were held and valuable contacts made with men of standing and influence. In the course of this short time Brother Soper managed to cover London, Newbold College, Amsterdam, our Dutch college, Copenhagen, Skodsborg Sanitarium, our Danish college, the Odense convention, Stockholm, our Swedish college, Helsinki, our Finnish college, and Oslo. It was very easy to make important appointments for this quiet, unassuming but charming and convincing temperance ambassador. So well is *Listen* known that Brother Soper needed no other introduction to receive a warm welcome that the simple words: "The editor of *Listen*."

We would have liked to have kept him longer and to have done more for him, but as it was, we feel that his short sojourn on this occasion was timely and profitable from our point of view as well as for his and *Listen*.



**If there is a harvest ahead,
Even a distant one,
It is poor thrift
To be stingy of your seed.**

—Thomas Carlyle.



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ICELAND MOVES ONWARD

By J. Alfred Simonsen

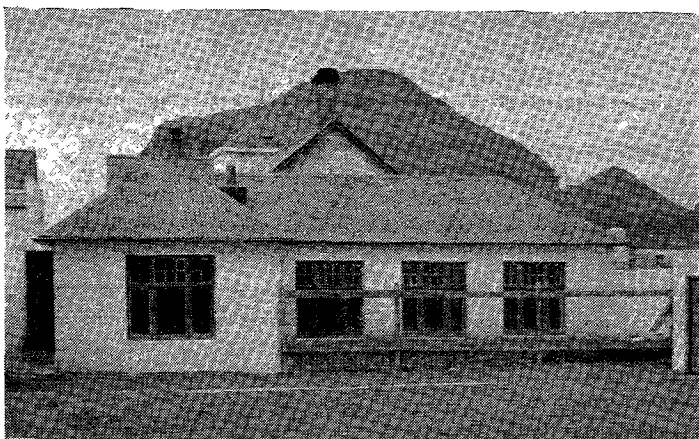
Secretary, Department of Education

THE BARREN hills and mountains of Iceland do not give a newcomer the impression of the existing warmth and friendliness of the people. This one soon discovers as he disembarks in this wonderful land of volcanic mountains, spouting geysers, and natural hot springs.

Under the leadership of Julius Gudmundsson, the great Advent message is reaching the 160,000 inhabitants. The church school in Reykjavik, with twenty pupils, meets during the late afternoons. There were no teachers available for the morning session. Rather than close the school, the church employed two young men, Reyner Gudsteinsson and Arni Holm, who are senior students in the Teachers' College, to teach the pupils from 3 to 6 p.m. The children are happy and contented with this arrangement and the young men are receiving valuable experience as they complete their teacher training preparatory to full time employment next year. The school is conducted in one of the Sabbath school rooms of the church and a smaller room on the ground floor of the church building. The church is an attractive building almost in the centre of this modern, busy metropolis. The school is a light, the rays of which are penetrating farther than one may often realize.

A ride on the ss *Largarfoss* to Westmann Island is an experience long to be remembered. A strong wind was blowing when we left the Reykjavik harbour. It grew to gale proportions. As we proceeded south-eastward toward the Westmann Island the ship was parallel with the heavy seas. This caused a roll that at times appeared and felt as though the vessel would come to rest on its side. Many passengers had difficulty in lying in their bunks, constantly fearing they might be rolled out onto the floor.

The next morning the waves were still high and the turbulent seas caused the milk boat, that carries milk to the Westmann Island, to turn so far on its side that the milk cans rolled over and spilled the milk. Two passengers on that little



The church school in the Westmann Island.

boat were badly injured from being thrown about in the heavy seas. It was comforting to find passage after three days of waiting, in an aeroplane back to Reykjavik. Instead of twenty-two hours on the boat, we spent one hour in the plane.

The Westmann Island church school has forty pupils attending two half-day sessions under the tutelage of Bragi Strömfjord. Many non-Adventist children attend the school. This school is appreciated by the townspeople. The government, in appreciation of the work done by the school, makes an annual appropriation toward its operating expense. The school is well known by the 4,000 people that live on this little island.

It was my privilege through the assistance of the teacher, Bragi Strömfjord, and the local elder, Sigfus Hallgrímson, to show the picture of the effect of tobacco smoking on the human lungs, "One in Twenty Thousand," to the high school students in the Westmann Island high school. The principal was delighted with the film. He publicly told the audience that this was the best film that had ever been shown in the school during the twenty-eight years that he had been on the faculty. He expressed a desire to purchase a copy of the film for the school library. It is his intention to show the film two or three times a year to the student body.

Our largest evangelizing agency in Iceland is the "Hlidardalsskoli," the boarding school, which is located about forty miles from Reykjavik on a 25,000-acre mountain estate. This growing educational centre is already famous throughout Iceland. It has only operated

three years, but it is considered a model school. Students from influential families in all parts of the island are in attendance. Although there are only forty-one pupils enrolled, this group represents a good cross-section of the people of Iceland. The majority of the students come from non-Adventist homes, but they adjust themselves admirably to the programme of an Adventist school. The Bible lessons bring surprises and awe-inspiring themes that are revealed in their faces. The Bible truths take root in the young hearts and minds. Reports come to the school of the stand many of these young people take regarding Sabbath observance and other principles of truth when they go home. It brings encouragement and joy to the faculty, who are working untiringly to make this school one of the best in Iceland.

We rejoice in the fact that this mission school is fulfilling the need of evangelizing the youth. Here a foundation is being laid which will prepare hearts for a rich harvest. The school has made friends with the rich and the poor. So desirable has the three-fold educational plan of the Seventh-day Adventist Church become, that influential non-Adventists are making requests that space be reserved for their children two or three years in advance.

We congratulate Iceland on their achievement. There are many needs as the school plant continues to grow and expand. Better housing is needed for teachers and workers. Additional dormitory space is needed for housing the boys. The foundation and basement or ground floor has been built, but construction cannot proceed due to insufficient

funds. Another sheep barn for 150 sheep is needed. This will double the farm income from the sheep.

The summer sanitarium, operated from June to September, is filled to capacity. The new dormitory will provide space for another twenty-five guests. There is a waiting list of people who want to spend a few weeks at this quiet spot during the summer. The guests praise the school for the excellent service and treatment received. Newspapers have been generous in publishing articles about the school and sanitarium.

The school management is looking forward to the day when money will be available with which to drill down into the mountain to obtain natural heat for the school plant. Much of the heat for the cities and villages in Iceland comes from wells drilled down into hot springs and steam vents. When this enterprise is developed the school will save approximately 35,000 kroner a year on fuel. In four to five years the saving would pay the cost of the original investment, which is estimated at from 150,000 to 200,000 Icelandic kroner.

Iceland is an important part of the Northern European Division field. Let us remember the faithful workers and members in this part of the vineyard that the Lord of harvests may pour out His Spirit in an abundant measure on the honest-hearted, that they may be gathered into His kingdom.

News Flash

Pastor A. F. Tarr, Division president, arrived back in Edgware on November 18th after attending the Fall Council in the United States. On November 23rd, Pastors V. T. Armstrong and E. E. Roenfelt from the General Conference arrived in Britain to attend the Division Council which convenes on November 27th.

Pastor L. Rasmussen, formerly president of the Arussi Mission and principal of the Kuyera Training School, is now located with his family in Takoma Park, Washington, D.C., where he is attending the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. Pastor H. E. Davis, formerly Educational secretary of the Ethiopian Union Mission is also attending the Seminary.

NEWS FLASH

THE Educational secretaries of the British Union Conference and the Netherlands Union Conference spent three days, October 30th to November 1st, studying ways and means of improving and promoting the educational work in their respective areas of the Division field. In attendance at this council were: J. Alfred Simonsen from the Northern European Division, A. C. Schmutzler from the Netherlands Union, C. D. Watson from the British Union, A. C. Vine from the South England Conference, and J. Mahon from the North England Conference. The meetings were held in the British Union board room.

GOOD NEWS FROM FINLAND

The Finland Mission School at Toivonlinna reports an enrolment of 124 students. Dr. H. Karstrom, the principal, states that there are 121 students in the four secondary school classes and three students in the seminary classes. There are a number of outstanding young people in these classes who have expressed a special interest in preparing for the Lord's work.

At last the water problem at the school has been solved. A new well has been drilled to a depth of 205 feet and a supply of water estimated to equal 600 gallons per hour has been reached. This is an answer to prayers which have ascended from the brethren in Finland as they have endeavoured to solve this critical water shortage by drilling three wells. The first two wells did not furnish enough water to be practical. The third well will now supply all the domestic water needs.

The two greenhouses have produced a bountiful supply of cucumbers and tomatoes. The large building yielded 7,740 Kg. or about 16,500 lb. of cucumbers, and the smaller greenhouse supplied 1,300 Kg. or about 2,600 lb. of tomatoes. This is a real asset to the school.

The summer sanitarium was well patronized. There is no problem in keeping the place filled to capacity. The vegetarian meals served to the guests are greatly appreciated. Dr. Karstrom states that they can easily prepare vegetarian

menus that satisfy all patients, regardless of their former eating habits. The greenhouses have helped to keep the institution supplied with fresh vegetables. The income from the summer sanitarium amounted to approximately 2,000,000 Finnish Marks, or more than £3,000. This revenue is a great help in keeping the school financially sound, and provides work for both teachers and students during the summer months.

STOP PRESS NEWS FROM LIBERIA

A CABLE just to hand from Monrovia reads:

"Liberian Cabinet and entire diplomatic corps, representing 19 nations, with high government officials and other élite society from Capital, attended première Lung Cancer Film, personally sponsored by Secretary of State. Reception enthusiastic. American Ambassador especially appreciative.

"ROGER COON,
"M. T. BATTLE."

Church Dedication at Groningen

(From page four.)

we possessed absolutely nothing here—only faith. We have believed and prayed and by the help of God we have won the victory. By the financial and spiritual help of the Northern European Division and the assistance of the Netherlands Union we are now able to enter this house. We desire here to thank the brethren of the Northern European Division, the Netherlands Union, and the North Netherlands Conference for all they have done. Our greatest feelings of gratitude go out to our heavenly Father. By His help and assistance we have come thus far. We sincerely hope that many people in Groningen may find rest at Jesus' feet in this building.

E. B. Rudge, then secretary of the Northern European Division, also spoke to us. He was deeply impressed by this beautiful building. Here simplicity,

dignity, and beauty are to be found. It was the hope of Pastor Rudge that all who entered this house of worship might find inspiration to serve our Lord and become the happy children of God.

The last to speak was F. J. Voorthuis. He thanked those who had given us hospitality in years past and he hoped that others would find the same hospitality in this church in years to come. He drew our attention to the significance of the house of God in the Old Testament and New Testament, and the responsibilities of the faithful. He concluded by expressing his desire that this church building might truly be a "Bethel" in Groningen.

Brother A. C. Schmutzler then offered the dedicatory prayer, dedicating the church building as well as the believers to the service of God.

The church choir, which was conducted by Brother Bouwer, sang some very beautiful hymns which all contributed to making September 24, 1956, an unforgettable day.

The ceremony was brought to a close by the singing of Luther's hymn and the writer pronounced the benediction.

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