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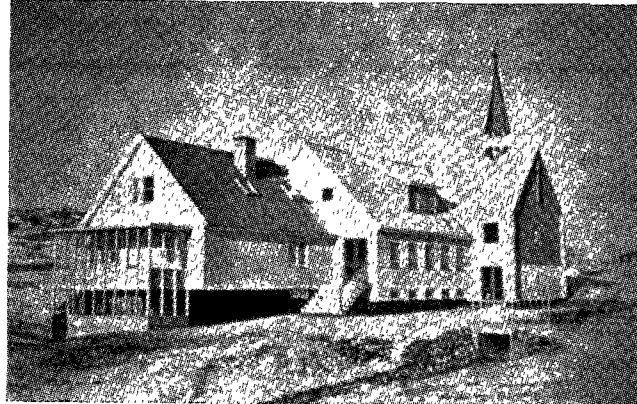
NUMBER 4

Physiotherapy Clinic in Greenland

By Andreas Nielsen

GREENLAND, the world's largest island stretches over twenty-four degrees latitude, or roughly 2,700 km., which is more than the distance from Oslo to Tunisia. East to west it is 1,050 km. wide or approximately the distance from Copenhagen to Paris. The total area is 2.17 million sq. km., or approximately the same as Hungary, Germany, France and Spain together. Five-sixths of Greenland is covered by ice, which in places is up to three km. thick. This mighty country is inhabited by only 26,000 people, of whom 2,000—3,000 are Danes.

It was in 1721 that Hans Egede, the apostle to Greenland, came from Norway to bring the Gospel to the heathen Eskimos. Twelve years later Zinzendorf missionaries arrived, and they have worked in Greenland right up to the beginning of this century. Otherwise, it has been the Evangelical Lutheran Church which has had a monopoly, so to speak, on religious preaching and instruction. When the Danish Constitution was revised in 1952, Greenland, which up to then had been closed for all practical purposes, was declared a part of Denmark proper, and



The new church, clinic, and minister's home in Greenland.

the doors were thrown open for the third angel's message.

As we could no longer be prevented from entering Greenland, attempts were made to put our church and beliefs in the most unfavourable light, and we have met with persistent, aggressive opposition. Warnings against us and our work have been given from the pulpits, in church papers, through the public press and the radio. It has been hard going, and visible results are meagre. Nevertheless we have been strengthened in knowing that brighter times are ahead of us.

Thanks to our truth-filled and Christ-centred literature—as for instance *Steps*

to Christ, which has been translated into Greenlandic, and is now being read and re-read in many places—many are becoming favourably acquainted with us. *The Great Controversy*, by E. G. White, is now ready in manuscript form. The translation was done by the only authorised translator in Greenlandic, and he did it free of charge because of his great interest in the book. He has even offered to translate *The Desire of Ages*.

In a twenty-minute radio broadcast about our faith and missionary activities throughout the world which I had the privilege of giving over the Greenland radio, and which was published in the vernacular, we have had a wonderful opportunity to testify before many. Also, a public meeting which the district Lutheran minister had arranged at the Seminary at Godthaab, at which both he and I spoke, has done a great deal to make us known and respected as fundamentalists, Christians who really believe in the Bible.

The young Greenlander with whom I have had contact since we met for the first time at Holsteinsborg in 1953, took his stand for present truth under great

opposition from his fellow-countrymen. He had been convicted of the truth through reading our literature, through the Bible Correspondence School lessons which I had the privilege of studying with him, and by his attending a few public meetings in our home. When this young brother came out of the waters of baptism he folded his hands in front of him and said, greatly moved: "I thank Thee, my God, that Thou hast shed Thy blood for me. Thou hast helped me to help Thee." Joyfully he himself paid the great cost of the ticket—practically all his savings—in order to go to Denmark to get an education which will make him better fitted to work for his own people. Today, he is at Vejlefjord High School and is looking forward with great joy to the day when he will be able to return to his beloved Greenland and help in saving his own people for the kingdom of God.

During the past two winters we have opened our home for public meetings which have been fairly well attended. However, we are happy that in a very short time we shall be able to invite to public meetings in our new church which will seat eighty-four.

In the beginning of February we opened our new clinic, which is built in connection with the church and our house. Both press and radio commented very favourably on this new venture. The broadcast was in the form of an interview between the editor of the radio press and the district doctor for Greenland. The commentator asked, among other things: "Does this clinic meet a real need of which we have been aware in Godthaab?" The doctor's reply was: "Yes. And I would say not only in Godthaab, but as a practising doctor all over Greenland I have time and again met situations where it has been highly desirable that we should be able to prescribe to patients the kind of treatment that is being offered here. But unfortunately there are no other facilities for it. I can definitely say that this clinic will meet a real need." In the local newspaper, *Sermitsiak*, under the heading: "Greenland's First Physiotherapy Clinic," the district doctor ended up by saying: "The Medical and Health Authorities extend the most cordial welcome to this clinic. We have no doubt

but that it will meet a long-felt need on the part of both patients and doctors."

In this development we see confirmation of the following testimonies of the servant of the Lord: "Medical missions should be opened as pioneer agencies for the proclamation of the third angel's message. . . . There are many places that need Gospel medical missionary work, and there small plants should be established. . . . They are to be so conducted that by their work attention may be called to the message God has sent

to the world."—*Counsels on Health*, pages 500, 501.

Sister Anna Hogganvik, who has come to us from Norway, has taken over the leadership of the clinic, while Sister Ella Praestin is working as a district nurse in Godthaab. We believe that a proper combination of our medical and evangelical work here in Greenland will prove itself to be that of a God-ordained method for the proclamation of this last message of grace in this northernmost part of the globe.

R. R. Figuhr Visits Ethiopia

By A. F. Tarr

IT WAS a great privilege during the latter part of 1958 to welcome Elder R. R. Figuhr to the Ethiopian Union. Never, so far as we are aware, has a president of the General Conference visited Ethiopia before. To coincide with this visit the biennial meeting of the Ethiopian Union committee was set for December 11-17, 1958.

Arriving in Addis Ababa from Beirut on December 5th, Elder Figuhr was taken that same afternoon by car to the union training school at Kuyera. Here the Sabbath services were greatly enjoyed by several hundreds of members and friends, both from the school and from surrounding homes and villages. Our dear blind brother, Pastor Tekle Heimanot served as interpreter for Elder Figuhr's services. It was a pleasure also, while here, to meet with a number of our overseas missionaries: Brother and Sister Berkley, Brother and Sister A. G. Ellquist, Miss Gladys Martin of the United States; Brother and Sister N. L. Tew of Great Britain, Pastor and Sister Erik Palm of Sweden, and Miss Lughtenberg of the Netherlands. Sister Toppenberg, whose name with that of her late husband has been so closely associated with Ethiopia through the years, was also at Kuyera for a further period of service following their retirement several years ago.

On the Sunday morning an inspection was made of the farm and school with their many and varied activities. The progress made in the past twelve months, both industrially and educationally, was most marked and highly gratifying. This institution serves as training school for the whole of Ethiopia, and now has an enrolment of 250, of whom 150 are boarders.

The long road from Kuyera in the south, as it approaches Addis Ababa to the north, passes the front gates of our Akaki Mission School. Here our journey back to Addis Ababa was broken so as to spend several hours with the staff and students. Headed by Brother Negassa Aga, the school with an enrolment of 257 students, 140 of whom are boarders, is making splendid progress. The carpet-making industry and the garden particularly captured our interest. Present at the school also were two former staff members greatly loved by the entire Ethiopian field, Pastor and Sister H. A. Hanson. Sister Hanson has been invited by the Emperor to return for special responsibilities in the palace, and both are giving strong help to the school which Brother Hanson formerly directed.

Early on the morning of December 8th we left by one of Ethiopia's domestic planes for Debre Tabor, to the north,

making several stops on the improvised grass-covered landing fields *en route*. The last stop before reaching our destination was on the shores of beautiful Lake Tana, the headwaters of the Blue Nile. Then as our little plane with its conglomerate freight jauntily alternating between leaps and bounds finally came to a standstill on Debre Tabor's grasslands, a great concourse of people was seen to be lining what was evidently considered the edge of the air-strip. How happy we were to discover that these were all Seventh-day Adventists, come to welcome our arrival. For two days and two nights we were blessed in our association and fellowship with these hundreds of believers who had come from far and near to be refreshed by the spiritual food that it was our privilege to enjoy together. A baptism of fifty-one new members, including some from the Jewish faith among the Falasha people, was most heartening. Leading out most enthusiastically and energetically in this field is Pastor Tebedge Guddaye. Among the overseas workers associated with him are Dr. and Mrs. Hogganvik of Norway, Brother and Sister Saarinen of Finland, and Miss Else Schantz Christensen of Denmark.

The remaining days before Elder Figuhr's departure were spent in Addis Ababa where the union committee with additional invitees had been called, and where twice each day and several times on the Sabbath, special meetings had been arranged for workers and their families and for all local churchmembers who found it possible to attend.

Not only were strong plans laid by the committee for the coming year's programme, but most inspiring reports were presented by representatives from all parts of the union. Particularly cheering was the word that in the past five years the church membership in Ethiopia has more than doubled. All over the field new interests are springing up, many in most unexpected places and where to our knowledge no seed had consciously been sown. One man, at a testimony service following his baptism at which we were present, traced his first contact with Seventh-day Adventists to the time when over twenty years earlier, as a criminal he had shared a prison cell with one of our churchmembers imprisoned for propagating his faith.

Surely the Captain of our cause works in ways we little dream of, and what a story we someday shall hear, and tell of His providences over our work and our individual lives when we are all gathered together in His kingdom.

The final touches to the Addis Ababa church plans, the coming evangelistic campaign which Pastor L. Rasmussen will shortly conduct in Addis Ababa, assisted by workers from all over Ethiopia, and the distribution of our increasingly inadequate personnel to meet the field's increasing demands, were some of the many items featured on the committee agenda.

All too quickly our stay in Ethiopia ended. It had been so thrilling to associate with men and women whose service has been so fruitful and so richly blessed of God. Elder Figuhr's visit had brought much inspiration and blessing to the entire Ethiopian Union, and will be long remembered by workers and members alike. To Elder and Sister A. C. Varmer and their happy, courageous band of workers scattered all over Ethiopia, in hospitals, schools, evangelism, and every other branch of service, we wish much of the Lord's rich and continued blessing in the challenging days ahead.

Greet the Faroe Islands

By Thorvald Kristensen

ON FRIDAY, November 28, 1958, the Faroese steamer, *Tjaldur*, left Copenhagen on its 1,400 km. voyage to the most northern section of the East Danish Conference, the Faroe Islands.

Taking into account the time of the year, the weather was fine, apart from a storm centre near the Shetlands.

The Faroe Islands toward which I was sailing, consist of eighteen islands with a population of 30,000. In bright weather most of the islands look like an enormous mass of mountains, in many places rising from the depths of the Atlantic as mighty pyramidal peaks to close on 800 metres.

One of the sights that always thrills me whenever I visit these islands is the wonderful light effects over land and sea. It is simply fantastic—how unceasingly the colours change! These islands, rising out of the sea, can be observed in many moods according to the changing of the colours in the heavens. At times they look like black and defiant profiles, standing threatening and immovable like watchmen in the North Atlantic. In stormy weather they look like a mighty pack of dogs, wild and snorting, rushing away in the uncertain light of the showery weather, only to be dissolved in the grey and wet embrace of the rain. In sun-

shine the mountains and clouds mingle together as a lovely dream above the reflecting and shiny surface of the ocean.

The Faroe Islands are a little kingdom of their own with their own government, language, and customs service.

The capital of the islands is Thorshavn, where our annual meeting was to be held. It has 6,000 inhabitants and forty taxis. When the cars come rushing round the corners and through cross roads, this is one of the places where people must jump for their lives! However, eventually, one becomes accustomed to this, too.

Setting out from Thorshavn, whether on foot, on horse-back, or by car where there are roads, one passes through regions as desolate as they must have appeared after the Flood. Not a tree or a bush, just stone upon stone. Here and there a flock of sheep can be seen nibbling the grass and moss that grow between the stones. The former is green almost the year round.

Such is the picture of most of the islands; but everywhere people have built their homes and formed their villages, working their farms, on the slopes and hillsides, or in the valleys where there is so little chance of cultivating the soil. More recently, however, fishing has become the principal trade.

The old and the new mark the Faroe Islands of today. Houses with turf roofs are to be seen alongside very modern villas with roofs of galvanized corrugated iron in bright colours of red and green. Small cottages with smoke-blackened rooms are still to be found next to homes where the people delight themselves with their electric model kitchens.

In the larger towns we find up-to-date stores, where they keep all sorts of merchandise as in other European countries, even some co-operative stores with self-service. But above it all the clouds of heaven drift by, giving their flickering light and brooding shadows to everything old and new.

It is very interesting to visit again our fellow-believers on the Faroe Islands. There are today sixty members besides many interested friends. In few places are the Adventists so well known as on these northern islands. In Thorshavn we have our own church building, Bethel, situated in the centre of the town. We also have a large building with a clinic on the ground floor, named "Skodsborgbadet." On the first floor the physiotherapists, Brother and Sister Hans and Lis Frederiksen, have their private flat. They run the clinic. On the second floor lives our minister, Børge Schantz, his wife, Iris, and their two boys, also Brother A. Vingå, who is at present canvassing on the islands.

We commenced our annual meeting by holding public gatherings on the first five evenings, and we had the joy of seeing the congregation increase until on the last evening our church was crowded. On Friday our churchmembers from the more distant places arrived in Thorshavn, staying until Monday morning. Some of them slept in the clinic on the massage benches, and don't for a moment think that these are hard plank beds! No, the clinic's massage benches are made of fine soft nylon pads!

Our sister, Iris Schantz, with the help of a few sisters, provided the meals for twenty-five persons three times a day.

On the Sabbath came the climax of the meetings. We started in the morning with prayer and a testimony meeting. After this, Sabbath school in the Faroese language was held, led by N. P. Niclasen and John Sivertsen. In the afternoon and

Our Clinic, "Skodsborgbadet," Thorshavn, Faroe Isles.



in the evening some more meetings were conducted, and our members were very faithful in attending. As a visitor, I had to speak at most of the services, but N. J. Viderø and Børge Schantz also helped out.

It was encouraging to feel the good will and fellowship among the believers; we felt the oneness of Seventh-day Adventists all over the world, one in faith and one in the great task of preaching the message of God for our time, preparing men for the soon coming of Christ.

The Faroe Islands have their own radio station and our meetings were announced over the air. Through the concert section we had the opportunity of broadcasting the following message: "The Seventh-day Adventists, gathered at their annual meeting in Thorshavn, send all of their fellow-believers and friends on the Faroe Islands their hearty greetings, wishing you the blessing of God." Then followed the "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's oratorio, "The Messiah."

Plans were made for the establishment of a Bible Correspondence School in the people's own language on the Faroe Islands, and as you read this, the course no doubt is now a reality. In this way we hope to reach the many people scattered in the villages and towns in order to lead them to Christ.

A hymn book in the Faroese language is almost ready for the press.

At the close of the annual meeting, we visited some of our people on the most southern island of Sudero, having a communion service with them, and in

the evening showing them some slides taken at the General Conference.

On our return journey, a south-easterly storm beat the North Atlantic into high and raging waves, playing ball with our little steamer, the *Smigril*, for eight hours, as the boat slowly worked its way back to Thorshavn, rather reminding us of a submarine!

We had to call at a small village to deliver mail and provisions, but as there was no harbour or even a pierhead, the steamer had to go as near as possible to the rough and rocky coast. Then three men in a small open boat came out through the breakers to fetch the necessary supplies. Several times they disappeared altogether in the spray of the waves, but back they came into view again. They had to make this trip twice—clever and brave sailors that they are!

We felt very thankful as we leapt ashore and once more felt solid rock under our feet. This episode made us remember so well the words of the apostle John in the book of Revelation, when he pictures the new earth: "And there was no more sea."

Our Youth in Wales

(Concluded from page 5.)

men and women to stay with the Lord. And it is here where we pray that the spark will be ignited that will flash into the flame of enthusiasm to share our faith with the lonely and the lost.

C. D. BAILDAM, *MV Secretary, Welsh Mission.*

Our Youth in Wales

THE WORK of youth in Wales has in the past been fairly progressive. Latterly, however, a rise in apostasies had diminished the strength of the Mission Society and in 1957 it was felt that Wales should form its own Youth Department. At the moment we have six active societies, and our churches in Wales report a total of 109 youth—seventy-three of them under the age of fifteen, and thirty-six between the ages of fifteen and twenty-five.

We felt that the obvious answer to a rather waning Mission society was a combined effort in youth evangelism. Three centres have put this to work, but it is in the headquarters church, Cardiff, where the greatest activity has been experienced. Here one year ago the attendances at youth society meetings were in the region of a dozen or fifteen. A small "internal" crusade was commenced in the church hall. No advertising was done, except that of each member, who was asked to be responsible for bringing at least one other to the crusade meetings. In three months between fifty and sixty people were attending the specially prepared and streamlined meetings. Six people have been baptized and four others are preparing.

The spirit of youth evangelism in Wales is not only catching, but competitive. Newport, having sensed the challenge of her sister church, Cardiff, commenced a "Best Saturday Night in Town" a few weeks ago. Barry has also asked if some special activities can be set in motion there.

The latest venture is the organization of Wales' very own Youth Week-end—the first if its kind here. Booking a youth centre named Kilvrough Manor by the sea, which can accommodate forty people, we set out in faith to find enough youth between fifteen and twenty-five to fill it. Within two weeks of advertising the project almost all the places were filled. Later we shall plan to follow a similar plan for children under fifteen. Taken care of, young people obviously respond. It is here at Kilvrough, where we hope for a fine spiritual and social week-end, that we shall endeavour to help these young

(Concluded on page 4.)

Our Youth A Vitalizing Force "United in Christ"

JUST recently, a young Danish medical student gave her brief testimony at a "Share Your Faith" meeting at Vejlefjord College.

One day, she, together with a number of other medical students, was working in the X-ray Department. They were being assigned some special duties for "next Saturday." Our young sister informed those in charge that it would be impossible for her to participate in any assignment on a Saturday, as it was her Sabbath. Another medical student became interested in her peculiar belief and admired her steadfast stand for her faith. He inquired if he might be permitted to visit her church the following Sabbath. To this she gladly agreed. However, she had a few misgivings when she discovered that the Ordinance Service was going to be observed that day. After the service she asked the young medical student about his reactions. To her relief, she found that he had become intensely interested in the service and also in our beliefs.

How thrilled we all were at Vejlefjord to learn that this young man had fully accepted the truth and had been baptized. We further learned that he had recently married the young lady who was instrumental in leading him into the truth. Both of these young people are now looking forward to serving the Lord as medical doctors in the mission field. "The Lord has appointed the youth to be His helping hand."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 7, page 64.

"Share Your Faith" activities which the Missionary Volunteer Department sponsor, are many and varied. They prove more than any theorizing thesis could ever hope to prove, that in our youth we have a vitalizing force which it is our duty and privilege to train for the Lord. "The youth if right, could sway a mighty influence. Preachers, or laymen advanced in years, cannot have one-half the influence upon the young that the youth, devoted to God, can have upon their associates. They ought to feel that a responsibility rests upon them to do all



Youth leaders in session, laying plans and discussing the motto for the 1960 Youth Congress to be held in Holland. From left to right: M. E. Lind, T. Ketola, D. Vink, S. Christensen, C. D. Watson, Alf Ulland, E. Sonestam, K. Abrahamsen.

they can to save their fellow mortals, even at a sacrifice of their natural desires."—*Messages to Young People*, page 204.

LEADERCRAFT COURSES

It will be appropriate here to quote 1 Samuel 13:20:

"But all the Israelites went down to the Philistines, to sharpen every man his share, and his coulter, and his axe, and his mattock."

Our youth are engaged in a great war with the Philistines of evil. The twentieth century, in spite of its tremendous scientific achievements, remains nevertheless a century which offers to our young people subtle temptations and exerts a greater evil influence than that of any other age. Therefore, every weapon within our reach must be used to combat this evil influence. Preaching, teaching, praying, giving, all these must be brought into action. Talents which have been thought too insignificant or unimportant, must now be trained and employed. Sensing the need for stronger youth leadership, twenty-eight leadercraft courses have been conducted around our Division.

SUMMER CAMPS

The summer camps have become a great annual event to many thousands of Seventh-day Adventist youth. The main objective of these camps is more than merely to give our young people a "good time." They serve as opportunities where our youth may develop that sense of fellowship which, sad to say, is so outstandingly lacking in our time.

We are happy to report that during the past two years, forty-seven summer camps were operated in our Division. They were attended by 4,321 juniors and 3,684 seniors, making a total of 8,005 young people. On an average, therefore, we see that about 4,000 of our youth take part in these events. Last summer alone, sixty-seven people joined baptismal classes.

YOUTH AND THE MORNING WATCH

The latest figures show that there are now 7,739 young people who take part in this soul-refreshing exercise. This is a good increase over the number which

was reported in 1956 (5,066). That number in turn was an increase over the previous year of 704. But your Division MV secretary is still deeply concerned about the hundreds and hundreds of our children and youth who apparently do not participate in this morning devotional exercise. Your secretary is going to be concerned about this matter until all our youth take part!

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

During 1957, the MV movement celebrated its Golden Anniversary. Throughout the Division, youth congresses were conducted, featuring the early beginning and growth of the work. The summer camps had record attendances. In Sweden 500 young people from many countries, including Germany, came together for the senior camp. In Norway an International youth camp with an attendance of 400 was conducted, including a contingent of thirty-two British youth who arrived in their own chartered aeroplane.

During the year, almost 600 young people were enrolled in our youth societies and 898 young people were baptized during this Golden Anniversary Year!

YOUTH AND THE SUNDAY SCHOOL WORK

Although Sundays schools are officially listed with the Sabbath School Department, we feel the fact should be emphasized that the care of more than 3,000 children who attend 117 Sunday schools, largely rests upon the shoulders of our young people.

We are glad to report that Sunday schools are being operated in six of the home countries of our Division. Whenever possible, the older children are encouraged to enrol as members of our JMV societies, thus providing us with an opportunity of working for them a little longer.

YOUTH AND PUBLIC EVANGELISM

The direct results obtained from youth evangelistic efforts, in Stoke-on-Trent, in Edmonton, in Stockholm, and elsewhere, have thrilled us all. The most recent youth effort, in Cardiff, is now well under way, and already six souls have been bap-

tized. We understand that the Welsh Mission Committee is so encouraged by these results, that they plan to extend the duration of this effort. Other youth efforts are being planned, both in Bergen and in Oslo, where the conference MV secretary will be in charge. Here, as elsewhere, stress is being placed on the training of the young people who are going to participate in these efforts.

THE INGATHERING CAMPAIGN AND YOUTH

We believe that the following figures will show that our youth again in a signal manner have actively participated in this important campaign.

In 1957 they gathered \$31,142.65. During the first six months of 1958 they had reached a total of \$30,073.35. In addition, incomplete reports received from Finland show an amount of Fmk. 520,000; from Holland, 10,100 guilders; from Sweden, Kr. 28,700; from Denmark and Norway, Kr. 134,700.

The following story of determination is well worth noting:

"Frankie West of Liverpool was only twelve years old. He was too young, according to British law, to be permitted to solicit funds for missions, but little Frankie, like the good JMV that he was, determined to take part. He had a little home-made waggon. Going from house to house with his little cart, he began soliciting empty jam jars. (There is no law against this.) Altogether, little Frankie collected 3,640 such empty glass jars. (One would imagine that he must have covered all Liverpool!) These he sold and received in return £4. 16s. which he gave to the Ingathering Campaign."

SUMMING UP AND LOOKING AHEAD

The 19,327 young people organized in 774 societies, conducted during the past year 18,944 cottage meetings and made 35,322 missionary contacts. In addition, they distributed 476,190 pieces of literature. Largely through their efforts, 1,752 persons were won to the truth during the past two years, and 297 young people were trained and invested as Master Guides.

Looking ahead, we wish to stress our intention to press on with more training

courses for our youth leaders, and trust that the 1960 Youth Congress in Holland will provide further inspiration to our youth and that its motto, United in Christ, may take on a deeper meaning.

In closing, may I express my sincere

thanks to all conference and union MV secretaries who have so diligently and enthusiastically sponsored the MV ideals and made this report possible.

M. E. LIND, *MV Secretary.*

Report presented at 1958 Division Council.

of reaching such as are "not of this fold." In the mission fields the Branch Sabbath schools feature largely in bringing the message to those not of our faith. Thus we have in Ethiopia 42 Branch Sabbath schools, and in West Africa, 186. Four of our home unions are promoting a similar plan and we feel confident that others will very soon follow. Altogether, we have 258 Branch Sabbath schools.

When it comes to the Sunday school, the picture is reversed. Here it is the home unions that strongly promote this phase of the Sabbath school work. We have a total of 117 Sunday schools in our Division with an enrolment of more than 3,000 children. To the best of our knowledge this is the largest number reported anywhere within our world-wide organization. Although results from the Sunday schools seem to take longer to "mature," yet we are able to report that a number of non-Adventist Sunday school children have remained with us until they have reached the age when they could enter our colleges and where some have already been baptized. One of them is now preparing to become a minister.

Strengthening the Church

THIS DIVINELY appointed institution, the Sabbath school, has been in our church for over a century. It is an incontrovertible fact that during this time it has acted as a wonderful stabilizer to our church, and is an abundant provider for the needs of our far-flung missions.

It has appropriately been stated that: "The Sabbath school should be the place where through a living connection with God, men and women, youth and children, may be so fitted up that they shall be a strength and blessing to the church." —*Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, page 11.

MEMBERSHIP

The Sabbath school membership during the past few years has risen sharply. Today it stands at 85,287 members. By far the largest increase in membership has been in the mission fields. We must not, however, lose sight of the fact that in all our home unions, energetic and persistent attempts are made to stimulate and maintain interest in our Sabbath schools.

We are convinced that our 1,366 Sabbath schools, divided into 3,077 classes, which stretch from Greenland to the Equator, constitute a real force for good in our church.

CONVENTIONS AND RALLIES

Your Sabbath school secretaries throughout the Division have been constantly endeavouring through the means of conventions and rallies, during the past two years, to raise the standard of teaching in our Sabbath schools. Most of these institutes were "beamed" toward the teachers. Some were conducted for "Sab-

bath school officers" only, dealing with problems related to the administrative part of the school. Keen interest has been shown by our teachers in these conventions, which have not been restricted to the more populous areas of our Division. On the contrary, three very successful ones were held 400 miles north of the Arctic Circle during the winter months of this year.

We are convinced that the 127 training courses conducted during this period of time, will result in stronger Sabbath schools. As there has been a tendency in certain parts of our Division to adopt the "one class Sabbath school," these courses were meant to strengthen the teachers and the class-system as a whole.

THE THIRTEENTH SABBATH OVERFLOW OFFERING

During the fourth quarter of 1957, our Division benefited by this offering. In spite of a recession which affected the United States during that particular time, the world family of Sabbath school members contributed an offering totalling \$68,090.70! This amount was only \$220 short of breaking an all-time record. Four projects benefited from this offering: a small chapel in Greenland; a dormitory for the new Norwegian school; mission headquarters in Liberia, and a mission station in Ethiopia.

We wish to record again our sincere gratitude to the General Conference for this practical demonstration of their assistance toward the work in our Division.

BRANCH SABBATH SCHOOLS AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS

In these two features of the Sabbath school work, we have the potential means

SABBATH SCHOOL OFFERINGS

During the past two years, 1956 and 1957, we have received a total of \$380,948.01. (£136,052. 17s. 2d.) Compared with the \$337,475.59 (£120,526. 19s. 11d.) which was the amount given during the previous two-year period, 1954 and 1955. This shows an increase of \$43,472.41. (£15,525. 17s. 3d.)

We are truly grateful for the loyalty and liberality shown by our dear Sabbath school members throughout the Division.

It should be pointed out that these offerings, 1956-1957, represent 14.18 per cent of the total tithe received during the same period of time.

In closing we wish to express our sincere thanks to all Sabbath school workers for the excellent co-operation shown during the past. Together with them, we are convinced that the Sabbath school will continue to play its part as one of the finest means of winning and preserving souls for the kingdom of God.

M. E. LIND,

Sabbath School Secretary.

Report presented at 1958 Division Council.

NEWS FLASH

A RECENT letter from Poland indicates that the cause of God in the Polish Union is making encouraging progress. The secretary-treasurer, S. Dabrowski, writes that last year 308 souls were added to the church in that field. The Mission Training School has been re-opened, and at present has an enrolment of thirty-three students. Another encouraging feature is that the Polish *Signs of the Times* is again being distributed as a missionary magazine, our membership in Poland taking full advantage of the opportunity to engage in missionary service with the use of this magazine. The courage and confidence of our believers in Poland is demonstrated by the practical fact that the tithes and offerings show a reported increase of thirty per cent over the previous year. One factor that undoubtedly has brought great blessing to the Polish field is the visits which have been made from the Division office to that union during the past year, and also two of the leaders of our work in Poland were able to be in attendance at the General Conference session and three at our Division Winter Council. The renewal of these contacts undoubtedly means much to these believers so long isolated from us.

E. B. Hare, having completed his itinerary in West Africa, has been visiting the British Union, where his ministry in various places throughout Britain has been much appreciated. By the time these notes are published he will have completed extended visits to our Continental unions. We are confident that Elder Hare's ministry will add great strength to the Sabbath school work throughout the Division field.

At the present time the annual reports are coming in to the Division office from various parts of the Division territory. In connection with these reports, an interesting news item reached us from our Jengre Mission Hospital, North Nigeria. This hospital was established by Dr. J. Ashford Hyde about eight years ago, and is situated in the midst of a Moslem and Pagan area. This recent report indicates that some patients have travelled

as far as 500 miles for the medical and surgical treatment offered by the hospital, and while conversions to the Advent message are hard to make in that area, prejudice is being broken down and a widespread interest is being aroused as a result of the witness of this outpost of our medical work. This hospital has thirty-six beds and has been full to capacity continuously. In addition, there has been a grand total of over 56,000 out-patients treated, 12,285 of these being leper cases.

Several missionaries have recently returned for well-earned furloughs in the homeland. Brother and Sister F. C. Barfoot and two children have returned to Britain following their first term of service in West Africa, where Brother Barfoot is the Union Publishing and Sabbath school secretary. Brother and Sister H. Dunton have also returned after their first term of service in West Africa, where Brother Dunton has been acting as head of our secondary school at Bekwai. While on furlough Brother Dunton will be engaged in some special study prior to his return for further mission service. Pastor and Mrs. W. J. Newman have also returned to Britain, Brother Newman having completed over twenty years of service in West Africa, where he has served in various capacities, more recently as president of the large Ghana Mission. Pastor Newman is under appointment as Publishing Secretary for the South England Conference. Miss Petra Hovig has recently returned to Norway after twenty-six years of mission service, including work in Ethiopia, Angola, and various parts of the Southern African Division as a mission nurse.

Dr. Harold M. Cherne, of Ahoada Hospital, East Nigeria, sends the encouraging word that construction work has begun on the second doctor's home, and that it is hoped to complete it by May 1st. Dr. Cherne also writes that a lease has been granted them of a beautiful site opposite the hospital for a church building and a chaplain's home, and that work will shortly be begun on the erection of these.

Axel Varmer, president of the Ethiopian Union, writing to A. F. Tarr gives

this encouraging word: "The prospects of our work in the Wollega Province are most encouraging. We have just visited four new places where groups of believers have been raised and new churches erected, the cost being almost entirely met by the believers themselves. In one place the church can seat about 200 people, and we had about that number present on the Sabbath during my visit. We baptized sixty-two new members on this trip. This brings up to 100 the number of new members baptized in Wollega during this first quarter. I believe there are a further 100 preparing for baptism.

"Last week-end we had a large camp meeting in Gimbie. On Sabbath the church hall was crowded, and on Sunday we met on the airfield in a tent which Brother Palm had rented in Gimbie. After the meeting twenty-five enrolled in the baptismal class."

Brother Varmer also tells of a visit to Aseita in company with Dr. Bokovoy. Here, 300 miles east of Dessie, it is planned that new work be begun. Two interviews were had with the Sultan who has promised to assist them in every way possible. Arrangements have also been made to purchase at a most economical figure two buildings from a Dutch company which formerly operated there. Permission has been granted for the opening of a clinic, and they are now negotiating with the Crown Prince to secure a contract for land on which homes will be built. Our evangelist, Solomon, of Asmara, with his wife, Lydia, a qualified nurse, has accepted the call to labour here. The workers in the Ethiopian Union are most enthusiastic at this providential opening of work in the Danakil country which they have long hoped to enter.

NORTHERN LIGHT

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