



OUR SUPREME TASK

Address given by Erwin E. Roenfelt at the opening
of the 1963 Annual Meeting of the Division in
Helsinki, Finland, November 26, 1963.

ALMOST two thousand years ago Jesus and His disciples were seated on the eastern slope of the Mount of Olives, overlooking the city of Jerusalem—Jerusalem which had rejected Him and His offers of salvation. The Master had been speaking of the city's overthrow. At the moment, however, it was bathed in the splendour of the declining sun. That so great a calamity as the destruction of the sacred metropolis could take place could only be in connection with the final destruction of all things at the time of Christ's return as King of kings and Lord of lords. So at least the disciples thought, as they approached Him with the threefold question: "Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of Thy coming, and of the end of the world?" Matt. 24:3.

In response to this query, Jesus foretold some of the events that would immediately precede the overthrow of Jerusalem and also outlined the events that would occur, and the conditions that would prevail just before the end of all things. He spoke of many signs for which the people of God were to watch, the most outstanding and specific being that which is recorded in Matthew 24:14.

There Jesus says: "And this Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and *then* shall the end come."

In Revelation 14:6-16 we are given a prophetic picture of this final phase of God's work—of which Christ spoke. Beginning in 1844, when the hour of God's judgment struck, the everlasting Gospel was to be preached to "them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people." In fulfilment of this prophecy the Advent movement, of which we are a part, was raised up in 1844, and to us has been given the solemn responsibility of heralding this final message to all men everywhere.

The proclamation of this message brought into existence the "Remnant Church," of which Bible prophecy also speaks, a Church keeping "the commandments of God" and having "the testimony of Jesus Christ." Rev. 12:17. This Remnant Church, beginning its history and its work in 1844, has spread out, and today its members are found in almost every part of the globe. A comparatively large membership has been gathered, numerous institutions, many of them large;

have been established, and a strong force of ministerial and other workers is being employed. What has been accomplished is amazing. Divine power and divine providence have been manifestly at work in the development of this remnant people.

In this phenomenal growth and development, however, there comes to the Advent people today a very grave danger, the danger of the working force and the laity of the Church devoting their time and energies to conserving that which has been built up through the years, and of using the financial resources of the Church largely for the support of that which has been established. In other words, we are inclined to forget that we are designed to be more than a church, that God raised us up to be a movement that was to spread to the very ends of the earth heralding His final message to men everywhere.

Today altogether too many of our ministers and other workers are spending their time hovering over our churches when they should be out engaged in full-time evangelism. The established churches should largely care for themselves. The local church officers should take more and

larger responsibilities in ministering to their congregations, thus freeing the conference workers to engage in the preaching of God's message to the public.

To my fellow-workers, I wish to say: We are in this world to herald the message of God for this hour. I do not believe that the time has come when the preaching of the message is going to fade into a mere whisper and when we cannot expect people in large crowds as well as in small groups to come and hear the Word of God for this hour. I still believe in the public preaching of the truth. Almost two thousand years ago the apostle Paul declared that "it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." 1. Cor. 1:21. Brethren, I pray that in the Seventh-day Adventist Church today there will be found men who somehow will hear the challenge of God, and who will arise and become mighty preachers of His Word.

In *Testimonies*, Volume 9, page 25, I read: "Everything in the universe calls upon those who know the truth to consecrate themselves unreservedly to the proclamation of the truth as it has been made known to them in the third angel's message. That which we see and hear calls us to our duty. The working of Satanic agencies calls every Christian to stand in his lot."

"The proclamation of the truth," that is the great and primary thing that we are to do. In our organization we have many departments and many interests, but we must never forget that our supreme responsibility is to proclaim God's message to the world. Everything else is merely secondary or incidental to that. Should any department, or institution, or service connected with the movement not be making a definite and important contribution to that great purpose, study should be given to changing its attitude and its function.

"In connection with the proclamation of the message in the large cities, there are many kinds of work to be done by labourers with varied gifts. Some are to labour in one way, some in another."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, page 109.

This is a challenge to us. We say that the multitudes will not come out today and listen to the preaching of the Gospel. We must find a way to get them out.

We must seek from God the ingenuity that is needed to get them out; yea, to impel them to come out. "The Lord desires that the cities shall be worked by the united efforts of labourers of different capabilities." Not only strong and able preachers should go into the cities, but men of varying capabilities. Health talks should be given, cooking demonstrations should be arranged, homes should be visited by earnest and wise colporteurs, and the message should be proclaimed by men who have the fire of God's Spirit burning in their souls. It is not surprising that so often people will not come out to hear us. We go along in our work in a stereotyped manner instead of studying the psychology of the people, and then proclaiming the message in a manner that will appeal to their thinking.

"The Lord has given some ministers the ability to gather and to hold large congregations," we are told. I am glad that we still have such men in our movement. I think of some of our evangelists preaching in the cities of Australia and Southern Africa to congregations of up to 8,000 and more each Sunday. Some of our preachers for months have had to preach their sermons four times each Sunday; twice in the afternoon and twice in the evening, to reach the people who come out to hear them. What can be done in other parts of the world can be done in our Division: in the British Isles, in Sweden, in Norway, in Denmark, in Finland, and in other countries. Brethren, let us have faith in our message. Let us again experience the conviction of it in our souls and then, seeing the multitudes all about us, let us lead our fellow-workers in a great evangelistic crusade for God and our fellow-men.

Notice some of the expressions of the servant of the Lord as recorded in pages 109 and 110 of *Testimonies*, Volume 9, where she writes concerning the methods that should be followed in our evangelistic programme: "Tact and skill" are called for; "people can be interested by no ordinary efforts;" "extraordinary efforts" must be put forth to arrest attention; "messages of a character so out of the usual order" will have to be borne; "every means that can possibly be devised for causing the truth to stand out clearly and distinctly" must be used; "the hearers must be startled and led

to desire to study the Scriptures," etc. As God's messengers "labour with simplicity, humility, and graceful dignity, avoiding everything of a theatrical nature, their work will make a lasting impression for good."

Often conference leaders and their workers say: "We cannot engage in a really aggressive evangelistic programme for we do not have the needed money." Our work is not so dependent upon money as we oft-times think. God can use us and our fellow-workers without a great amount of money. Our primary need is the power of the Holy Ghost in our lives and in our ministry—a consuming desire to see men and women saved, and a complete dedication to the task of proclaiming to them the message of God's redeeming love. If we preach God's message as we should, feeling as did the apostle Paul when he wrote: "Woe is me if I preach not the Gospel," the Lord will move upon the hearts of men and women, both in and outside of the Church, to give us money to finance our programme. How often men and women not of our faith have said to me, when leaving my meeting-place: "Pastor, you need some money for your work, don't you?" and have pressed a sum of money into my hands!

The lack of money is not a valid excuse for neglecting aggressive evangelism. The silver and the gold of this world belong to God. The cattle upon a thousand hills are His. He can so arrange matters that resources sufficient to meet the need will flow into our hands. If His love fills our hearts and becomes in us a consuming fire, we shall find ways and means of heralding His message to men without being dependent upon large and generous budgets. "There is a necessity," we are told, "for expending money judiciously in advertising the meetings and in carrying forward the work strongly. Yet the strength of every worker will be found to lie, not in these outward agencies, but in trustful dependence upon God in earnest prayer to Him for help, in obedience to His Word."

The judicious spending of money in connection with our evangelistic programme is necessary, but our strength and effectiveness as workers is dependent upon our obedience to the divine

commission, "Go and preach." Not one of us is excused from this commission. This command applies to each one of us, to conference presidents, union conference presidents, departmental secretaries, institutional leaders, and also to the Division personnel. I am thinking of the more than 200 million people of this Division, the overwhelming majority of whom have not yet been touched with our message. When are we going to discharge our responsibility to these masses of humanity?

On page 111 of Volume 9 of the *Testimonies*, I read: "Of equal importance with public efforts is the house-to-house work in the homes of the people. In large cities there are certain classes that cannot be reached by public meetings. These must be searched out as the shepherd searches for his lost sheep. Diligent personal effort must be put forth on their behalf. As a result of the presentation of the truth in large congregations, a spirit of inquiry is awakened, and it is especially important that this interest be followed up by personal labour."

Of equal importance to public preaching is work in the homes of the people. Unfortunately, this is not today recognized as it should be. How few workers these days go regularly into the homes of people for the purpose of studying with an individual, a family group, a group of relatives, or neighbours, the truths of God's Word! One of the greatest preachers of these modern times declared: "Public preaching is the minister's excuse for getting into the homes of people." It would be interesting and enlightening to know how many individual Bible studies these days are being given regularly by each of us, and by our fellow ministers each week or each month. It is in their homes, through the regular study of the fundamental truths of the Gospel, that converts are established in the truth and prepared for baptism and acceptance into Church fellowship. A faithful adherence to this programme on the part of every worker would result in a considerable reduction in the number of apostasies that the Church sadly witnesses today.

Today when we plan an evangelistic campaign, we advertise our meetings in the newspapers or place announcements in people's letter-boxes. The latter is a

poor way of advertising. Every handbill should be delivered personally. This affords opportunity for meeting the people and getting to know them. In my work of evangelism, through personal hand-billing on the part of myself and my associate workers, and any church-members who might assist, we always discovered a good number of interested people before the first or opening meeting. Homes were open for visits and Bible studies before our campaign actually began. That is important.

"The servants of Christ should labour faithfully for the rich men in our cities as well as for the poor and lowly. There are many wealthy men who are susceptible to the influences and impressions of the Gospel message, and who, when the Bible and the Bible alone, is presented to them as the expositor of Christian faith and practice, will be moved by the Spirit of God to open doors for the advancement of the Gospel. They will reveal a living faith in the Word of God and will use their entrusted means to prepare the way of the Lord, to make straight in the desert a highway for our God."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 9, pages 113, 114.

What are we doing for the wealthy people and the higher classes of society

in our Division? Out there in the world, there are in these groups people who are just as susceptible to the message of God's love, grace, and mercy as are the people of the middle and lower classes. They are hungering and thirsting for better things than the world can offer. One of these days you and I, who have been favoured recipients of God's wondrous truth for this time, will be required to give an account of how we have discharged our responsibility to them. Brethren, let us not pass by these people with cold unconcern.

I do hope and pray that the Spirit of God has spoken to all of us here today, and that we shall make this Council not only a meeting for the hearing and study of reports, the voting of budgets, and the adoption of plans and recommendations, but one that will mark the beginning of a new day in soul-winning in this Division.

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(This address was followed by earnest prayers by the union conference presidents of Sweden, the Netherlands, Poland, West Africa, Great Britain, Ethiopia, and the West Nordic, and the president of Iceland.)

General Report of the Division

Winter Council

Helsinki, November 26 to December 3, 1963

by Dr. J. Ashford Hyde

"WHY Finland?"

This seemed to be the question exercising the minds of delegates as they winged their way over to Helsinki for the 1963 Winter Council.

"True, Finland is beautiful, its people kind and the message strong; but why go there in November? Surely they must know that Helsinki is only a few hundred miles from Leningrad, and at this time of the year it is cold."

I must say that I shared this opinion. Returning just three weeks before to Northern Europe after seventeen years in West Africa, where we felt chilled

if the temperature dropped below 32 deg. C., I wondered how I was going to take it.

It was a typical English November when we left London—cold, wet, thick clouds, and a touch of fog. As we flew across the North Sea the weather cleared and, below, the fields and forests were covered with crisp snow. Dead on time, the plane landed us at Helsinki airport, the doors were opened and the icy blast whipped in, stimulating the most sleepy passenger into action. Into the airport building we tumbled, slipping and sliding across the frozen ground, on through

immigration and customs formalities and then—it happened.

Waiting to greet us was the Union secretary-treasurer, L. Harju, like myself a former missionary to West Africa, who came as an advance guard of the love of the Finnish believers as warm in their welcome as their weather was cold. Hustling us into a warmed microbus, we were taken to our hotels, where Finnish house-proud practices were everywhere apparent. Their good sense was instantly appreciated in their double-glazed doors and windows. Our blue thoughts were cleared away for ever.

The keynote address was given by our Division president who seemed to shed twenty years as he launched into his favourite theme, the need to evangelize. In the mind's eye one could see him once again standing on street corners in Australia—I hope the wind was warmer than in Helsinki—calling on passers-by to come and hear the message.

Sitting in front of the Swedish-Finnish church, so ideal in size for the delegates, were our Division officers and our three distinguished guests: Elder Figuhr, the General Conference president; Elder Blake, the under-treasurer; and Dr. Hirsch, the president of Columbia Union College, with which our own Division college at Newbold is affiliated. What sage counsel was to come from these men in the week to follow!

After the keynote address, the council was organized and most of us found ourselves on the Plans Committee. This committee dealt thoroughly and expeditiously with its work, and you will see in a later issue of NORTHERN LIGHT, the resolutions adopted. We wonder as we view the growing mountain of paper, just how much is distributed by Seventh-day Adventist councils around the world.

To find out what happens behind the scenes, I run down the stairs—four flights of them—from the church, across the yard, and puff up the six flights of steps, going slower, ever slower, until reaching the East Finland Conference office—I find it locked! Oh well, ring the bell. This results in a buzz, but nothing happens. Ring again; still the buzz. Finally, the East Finland Conference secretary-treasurer comes out to

(Continued on page 23.)

Reports presented at the Winter Council

The Division Secretary's Report

By E. W. Pedersen

THIS Biennial Council of the Northern European Division convenes in the one hundredth year of our denominational existence as a General Conference, and our entrance upon the stage of history as a distinct Church of Seventh-day Adventists.

BRIEF HISTORICAL REVIEW

It was in 1863 that delegates representing 3,500 believers met in Battle Creek, Michigan, and the step was taken which should prove of such momentous import to the Advent cause. "It was a harmonious, affectionate, even jubilant

gathering." (*Origin and History of Seventh-day Adventist*, Vol. 1, page 307.) Yet, the General Conference was born only after spiritual heart-aches and physical pains. Miller and his associates never thought of organizing a new church. And before the great disappointment of 1844, George Storrs had written: "Take care that you do not seek to manufacture another church. No church can be organized by man's invention but what it becomes Babylon the moment it is organized. . . . The Lord organizes His own Church by the strong bonds of love. Stronger bonds

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Name of Field	Membership Dec. 31, '60	Membership Sept. 30, '63	Accessions	Accessions in Percentages	Membership 1928
British Union	9277	10072	795	8.56	4473
Ethiopian Union	3817	6539	2722	71.31	106
Finland Union	5253	5356	103	1.96	1493
Iceland Conference	416	446	30	7.21	305
Greenland Mission	8	11	3	37.5	—
Netherlands Union	2700	2911	211	7.78	—
Polish Union	3622	3880	258	7.12	2260
Swedish Union	3809	3779	30	.07 Loss	1864
West African Union*	24696	29383	4687	18.98	1126
West Nordic Union	8972	9195	223	2.48	5060
DIVISION TOTALS	62570	71572	9002	14.39	16687

ACCESSIONS BY WORKERS AND MEMBERS, 1961-1962

Name of Field	Average Membership	Accessions	By Evang. Workers	By Total Workers	By Members
British Union	9721	605	2:1	1.86:1	1:16
Ethiopian Union	5308	2102	22:1	4.38:1	1: 2½
Finland Union	5366	118	0.82:1	0.66:1	1:4.5
Iceland Conference	433	20	1.8:1	1.17:1	1:21
Greenland Mission	11	3	1:1	1.0:1	1:1
Netherlands Union	2828	175	3.2:1	1.37:1	1:16
Polish Union	3756	180	3.39:1	3.39:1	1:20
Swedish Union	3787	36	—	—	—
West African Union	27919	4129	3:1	2.49:1	1: 6½
West Nordic Union	9063	142	0.59:1	0.20:1	1:56
DIVISION TOTALS	68192	7438	2.86:1	1.92:1	1: 9

NB. Figures for 1961 and 1962 only, as complete returns of "other" workers are not yet available.

MEMBERSHIP IN RELATION TO POPULATION

Name of Field	Population Dec. 31, '60	Membership Dec. 31, '60	Approx. Ratio	Population Sept. 31, '60	Membership Sept. 30, '63	Approx. Ratio
British Union	54249757	9277	1 in 5847	58204135	10072	1 in 5778
Ethiopian Union	23570000	3817	1 in 6175	23570000	6539	1 in 3604
Finland Union	4000000	5253	1 in 761	4103000	5356	1 in 766
Iceland Conference	170000	416	1 in 408	180000	446	1 in 403
Greenland Mission	37368	8	1 in 4671	37368	11	1 in 3397
Netherlands Union	11000000	2700	1 in 4074	11000000	2911	1 in 3778
Polish Union	3000000	3622	1 in 8283	3000000	3880	1 in 7731
Swedish Union	7709000	3809	1 in 2023	7821066	3779	1 in 2069
West African Union*	48200000	24696	1 in 1951	59290730	29383	1 in 2017
West Nordic Union	7645468	8972	1 in 852	8291259	9195	1 in 901
DIVISION TOTALS	186581593	62570	1 in 2981	202497558	71572	1 in 2829

* June 30, 1963

than that cannot be made; and when such bonds will not hold together the professed followers of Christ, they cease to be His followers."—*The Midnight Cry*, February 15, 1844.

These sentiments were still voiced in 1863, even though Mrs. White in 1854 had written: "The Church must flee to God's Word, and become established upon Gospel order which has been overlooked and neglected. This is indispensably necessary to bring the Church into the unity of the faith."—*Supplement to Christian Experience and Views*, pages 18, 19.

Our pioneers' qualms over Church organization are understandable. They had no encouraging experience behind them, and only an unknown future before them. We today can look back over a hundred years of remarkable progress, and upon clear evidences of God's leading in what was done.

Imagine, if you can, Elder John Byington, the first president of the General Conference, sitting here in 1963 together

with Elder Fiquhr. Imagine them speaking together, the one unfolding the dusty scrolls of yonder years; the other bringing his forbear up-to-date in denominational history; both paying homage to God who hath wrought so marvellously.

From 3,500 members in six local conferences and 125 churches in 1863, to 1,362,775 members in 447 conferences and missions (union and local) and 13,588 churches at the close of 1962! Then our total working force (exclusive of institutional workers) was 30, all labouring in one country, all using one language. Now our total number of workers stands at 53,157, deployed in 189 countries, proclaiming the message by word and pen in 928 languages. Then we had one institution. Now we operate 768. Then our total annual income amounted to \$8,000. Now it is \$110,103,711.00. Then our book and periodical sales stood at \$3,000 for a whole year. Now it has risen to \$28,606,603.00. But it must remain outside the scope of my report to continue this revealing comparison. Suffice

it to say that God has wonderfully blessed His people through our Church organization.

Yet we might profitably ponder this pertinent statement from the Spirit of Prophecy, penned for our admonition even today:

"Had the purpose of God been carried out by His people in giving to the world the message of mercy, Christ would, ere this, have come to the earth, and the saints would have received their welcome into the city of God."—*Christian Service*, page 86.

Should not this solemn indictment humble us to the dust and stir us to a new realization of our unfinished task? Should it not rekindle within us a living flame of holy fire, and send us forth with new zeal and new power to complete that which the past should have seen fulfilled?

The first Conference to be organized outside of North America was in Northern Europe, namely, the Danish Conference in 1880.

The Northern European Division as we know it today—with the exception of the East African Union and the Baltic Union, but with the inclusion of the Netherlands Union in 1964—came into being in 1928 under the presidency of Elder L. H. Christian.

During these past thirty-five years our membership has grown from 16,687 (excluding the three unions mentioned above) to 71,572, the greater accession having come from our African mission fields (34,690).

After this brief historical review, may I now invite your attention to the period January 1, 1961 to September 30, 1963.

DEPARTMENTAL ACTIVITIES

As each Division department secretary will render his report, I shall confine myself to stating that all our departments are flourishing under able and dedicated leadership. Without prejudice, I might perhaps be forgiven for calling special attention to the Home Missionary Department, because of its Golden Anniversary which this year has been celebrated with an ardour and in a spirit befitting this illustrious organization. But for this round figure of fifty, there would have been equal justification for mentioning

SUMMARY OF WORKER FORCE

	Year	Ordained Ministers	Licensed Ministers	Missionary Credentials	Licensed Missionaries	Others	TOTAL WORKERS
British Union	1961	83	31	24	1	206	345
	1962	85	25	29	21	144	304
	June 1963	105	24	39	9	114	291*
Ethiopian Union	1961	12	14	33	29	397	485
	1962	13	11	32	22	395	473
	June 1963	17	9	35	25	74	160*
Finland Mission	1961	13	9	7	22	131	182
	1962	12	7	6	27	122	174
	June 1963	15	5	8	25	91	144*
Greenland Mission	1961	1	—	2	—	—	3
	1962	1	—	3	—	—	4
	June 1963	—	—	2	—	—	2*
Iceland Conference	1961	2	3	—	4	8	17
	1962	2	3	—	4	9	18
	June 1963	2	3	—	4	3	12*
Netherlands Union	1961	23	5	16	17	61	122
	1962	24	5	19	17	67	132
	June 1963	25	5	5	6	36	77*
Polish Union	1961	17	13	—	21	—	51
	1962	16	11	—	29	—	56
	June 1963	16	11	—	29	—	56*
Swedish Union	1961	27	13	46	35	214	335
	1962	27	12	47	35	215	336
	June 1963	33	12	92	58	26	221*
West African Union	1961	93	71	31	193	983	1371
	1962	95	78	43	210	1515	1941
	June 1963	95	79	31	178	1012	1395*
West Nordic Union	1961	52	11	48	20	561	692
	1962	52	9	49	18	561	689
	June 1963	41	7	2	10	94	154*
Northern European Div.	1961	11	—	13	5	7	36
	1962	10	—	14	7	3	34
	June 1963	11	—	15	7	1	34*
DIVISION TOTALS	1961	334	170	220	347	2568	3639
	1962	337	161	242	390	3031	4161
	June 1963	360	155	229	351	1451	2546*

* Institutional workers not included.

each department by name commending them on their contribution and accomplishments.

EVANGELISM

Although our evangelists are experiencing increasing difficulties in gathering large numbers to their public efforts, evangelism has not ceased to be our main concern. And it never must. New methods are being adopted where the old ones are proving inadequate. In many places greater emphasis is being placed on cottage meetings and Bible study groups. Bible lay-evangelism is assuming a more prominent place in our thinking, planning, and working. Thus the West Nordic Union—just to mention one instance—has made a noteworthy contribution in the field of lay-evangelism by the preparation and use of 2,500 sets of Bible studies on slides and tape. The great potentiality of such an aid will be evident when we report that alone in one church in Western Norway, laymen have won twelve souls by using this equipment. However, whatever methods employed, we believe that our greatest day of evangelism, also public evangelism, is still before us.

THE DIVISION COLLEGE

The principal of our senior college will in due course present his report. Here I merely want to record what our college stands for and means to us as a Division. In Newbold we have an educational institution for which we are grateful, and of which we can be truly proud. Its product is a credit to the leadership and staff. We are especially indebted to the Columbia Union College for the assistance they are giving us by virtue of their interest in us as evidenced by the affiliation programme. To Newbold the Division will continually be looking for an ever increasing supply of well qualified workers, both for the home unions and for the mission fields overseas.

DIVISION WORKING FORCE

During the period under review an annual average of 1,099 evangelistic workers have been employed within the Northern European Division. Based on the June/September 1963 figures, the ratio between these credentialed and licensed workers to the church membership of the unions is as follows:

British Union	1:56
Ethiopian Union	1:76
Finland Union	1:101
Greenland Mission	1:1
Iceland Conference	1:49
Netherlands Union	1:71
Polish Union	1:69
Swedish Union	1:19
West African Union	1:76
West Nordic Union	1:153

NEW MISSIONARIES, 1961-1963

The challenge of our African mission fields has not abated with the granting of independence and nationhood to former colonial dependencies. On the contrary. The call of missions is as distinct as ever. We are happy that a total of 100 missionaries left their homelands during this period for service in our mission territories, as follows.

1961

Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. A. R.	From Britain to Ethiopia
Anscombe, Miss Sheila	From Britain to Ethiopia
Barham, Mr. and Mrs. M. E. and Family.....	From Britain to Ethiopia
Christiansen, Pastor and Mrs. B. S.	From Denmark to Ethiopia
DeShay, Dr. and Mrs. S. L.	From U.S.A. to West Africa
DeWinter, Mr. and Mrs. G. and Family.....	From Belgium to Ethiopia
Hammond, Mr. and Mrs. J. M.	From U.S.A. to West Africa
Hill, Mr. G. H.	From U.S.A. to West Africa
Jackson, Miss C. E.	From U.S.A. to West Africa
Janssen, Miss G. R.	From U.S.A. to Ethiopia
Karkkainen, Miss S. M.	From Finland to West Africa
Kristensen, Pastor and Mrs. Th.	From Denmark to West Africa
Lemin, Dr. and Mrs. B. F.	From Britain to West Africa
Maszcak, Mr. L.	From Poland to Ethiopia
Norris, Mr. and Mrs. D. J. and Family.....	From Britain to Ethiopia
Oosterwal, Mr. and Mrs. and Family	From Netherlands to New Guinea
Powell, Mr. and Mrs. B. J.	From Britain to West Africa
Read, Mr. and Mrs. L. and Family	From Britain to West Africa
Risk, Miss J. A.	From Britain to West Africa
Zimmerman, Dr. and Mrs.	From U.S.A. to Ethiopia

1962

Berlin, Mr. and Mrs.	From U.S.A. to West Africa
Blake, Mr. and Mrs.	From U.S.A. to West Africa
Bonney, Pastor and Mrs. C.	From Britain to India
Bourne, Miss Joyce	From U.S.A. to Ethiopia
Cruz, Dr. and Mrs. de la	From U.S.A. to West Africa
Daniels, Miss L.	From U.S.A. to Ethiopia
Douay, Mr. and Mrs.	From France to West Africa
Gammon, Pastor and Mrs. K. H.	From Britain to India
Gustavsson, Mr. G.	From Norway to Ethiopia
Halonon, Miss L. H.	From Finland to West Africa
Hartman, Dr. and Mrs. A. G.	From U.S.A. to West Africa
Holm, Mr. and Mrs. G. and Family	From U.S.A. to Ethiopia
Jones, Miss Carol A.	From U.S.A. to Ethiopia
Jordal, Pastor and Mrs. O. and Family	From Norway to Ethiopia
Kuhn, Miss Dorothy	From U.S.A. to Ethiopia
Kuhn, Mr. L.	From U.S.A. to Ethiopia
Krum, Dr. and Mrs.	From U.S.A. to West Africa
Lycett, Dr. and Mrs. and Family	From Britain to West Africa
Martin, Miss Judith L. A.	From Britain to West Africa
Mattson, Mr. and Mrs.	From U.S.A. to West Africa
McDuffie, Dr. and Mrs. J. F.	From U.S.A. to West Africa

Miinalainen, Miss L.	From Finland to West Africa
Paulsen, Mr. and Mrs. and Daughter	From Norway to West Africa
Phillips, Dr. Clemency	From Britain to Ethiopia
Porrvik, Dr. and Mrs.	From Sweden to Ethiopia
Poulsen, Miss Birthe	From Denmark to Ethiopia
Wahlen, Mr. and Mrs. K. L.	From U.S.A. to West Africa
Walton, Mr. C.	From Britain to West Africa

1963

Benwell, Mr. and Mrs. W. and Family	From Britain to India
Bjerkan, Mr. and Mrs. O and Family	From Norway to Ethiopia
Bryson, Mr. and Mrs.	From U.S.A. to West Africa
Gjertsen, Mr. and Mrs. and Family	From Norway to West Africa
Jensen, Miss Anna K.	From Denmark to Ethiopia
Lennox, Miss Janet	From Britain to West Africa
Knudsen, Miss R.	From Norway to Ethiopia
Ludgate, Mr. and Mrs. and Family	From U.S.A. to West Africa
Madgwick, Dr. and Mrs. and Family	From Britain to West Africa
Pifer, Mr. and Mrs. C. E.	From U.S.A. to West Africa
Sbaachi, Mr. and Mrs. A.	From Italy and Sweden to Ethiopia
Thorvaldsson, Mr. and Mrs.	From Denmark to West Africa
Tonnesen, Miss W.	From Norway to Ethiopia
Unsell, Dr. and Mrs.	From U.S.A. to Ethiopia
Wilson, Mr. Sherard	From Britain to Ethiopia

Britain	29	Belgium	2
Denmark	8	France	2
Finland	3		
Netherlands	2		
Norway	11		Total 100
Sweden	2		
Poland	1		
U.S.A.	40		

OUR GRATITUDE

I would not wish to end this brief report of mine without paying tribute to

everyone who has contributed to make it possible.

All honour and praise are due to our loving Heavenly Father to whom we pay homage for every blessing so graciously and richly added to our inadequate efforts.

To our fellow-workers throughout the Division I address myself in sincere words of commendation for their loyal co-operation and unstinted service. They would join me, I am sure, in expressions of gratitude to our truly wonderful lay people for their loyal support and faithfulness in Christian service.

And I know I bespeak the entire Northern European Division when I convey to the General Conference, and to the Unions of North America with their remarkably liberal constituencies, our heartfelt thanks for their generous support and constant interest in us.

May the Lord richly bless His people everywhere.

FACING THE FUTURE

It is our privilege to face the future with courage and fortitude, for ours is a grand cause, a dedicated ministry, a willing people. And above all and behind us all stands supreme a gracious Lord and mighty God who shall pursue His own eternal purpose till it soon shall meet its fulfilment in triumph and glory.

Treasurer's Report

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 1962 AND THE CHALLENGE OF THE FUTURE

By Alf Karlman

It is with a keen sense of gratitude to God and an appreciation for His mercy, that we bring you a report of the Lord's work and the achievement made in 1962 and the challenge of the future.

Today, as ever, we have the opportunity of working. Today the doors are open wide for the Message to be taken to every part of our Division. When we take a retrospective look at how, year by year, God has blessed us with a permanently growing membership, and an

ever-growing income, which has enabled us to extend our work through the years, we have reason to thank Him. And, likewise, we wish to extend our thankfulness to our faithful membership from Greenland and Iceland in the north, down to the African fields in the south, which now numbers 72,004, according to the latest report. Also we look forward, with confidence, to still greater achievements in the future, for "God in His providence is calling His people out of their

limited sphere of action, to enter upon greater enterprises."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 3, page 405.

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

During the year 1962 a total sum of \$3,118,189.42 was contributed to the Cause, which, compared with the previous year, is an increase of \$252,001.99, or 8.79%. This large amount is made up of \$2,103,829.05 in Tithes and \$1,014,360.37 in Mission offerings. The Tithe increased by \$174,509.92, or 9.04%, compared with the preceding year, and the Mission Offerings by \$77,492.97, or 8.27%. In these amounts we have not included gifts for Home Mission work of \$97,910.76 and for Local Church work of \$128,149.57. The most encouraging result is certainly that of the In-gathering, which, apart from the tithe, is now the greatest source of income.

The Ingathering amounted to more than all the other offerings put together, or about 61%. In 1962 our loyal workers and members brought into the treasury the sum of \$620,255.65, an increase of \$37,998.47 over 1961. The results have more than doubled in ten years.

Usually in a report such as this, there are also some things which do not compare altogether favourably. Thus, when comparing the special offerings with the previous year, the Week of Sacrifice shows a downward trend. The same applies to the Missions Extension and the Investment Fund. Another source of concern is the decline in the relationship between the Tithes and the Sabbath school offerings. In 1952 the Sabbath school offering amounted to 1.54% of our total income, but ever since then it has decreased so that in 1962 we can only report that it is 1.36%, or 13.64% of our Tithes. Let us remember that the biblical rule for giving is "as God has prospered you." If we would follow the "Three Per Cent" Plan recommended by the General Conference, of giving 3% of our income to the Sabbath school, which actually should be our minimum goal, then our Sabbath school offering would rise more than 100%. What would that not mean for the progress of our mission work?

It is true that the total amounts contributed in Tithes and Offerings have increased considerably during the year; especially should we notice the increase of \$23,881.04 in miscellaneous offerings which this quadrennium includes the Million Dollar Offering. Our people are very loyal in supporting the work, and what a privilege it is to be workers with God. The question is not, if one *cannot afford* to pay Tithe and tributes to the Church, but, whether one *can afford not* to do so.

NINE MONTHS' REPORT COMPARED WITH 1962-1963 REPORT

With regard to the comparative statement of Tithes and Offerings for the first nine months of 1962, and again in 1963, we would refer you to the separate statement. It is difficult to predict the final result, and at first glance it would seem that there is a decrease in mission offerings, for the total mission offerings have decreased by \$7,014.57. However, this is not a true conclusion to draw.

In 1962 we had the special Million Dollar Offering, which amounted to \$30,385.71, so if we exclude that offering from the picture we would have a gain of \$23,371.14 which I think is more like the true result.

Ingathering increased during 1962 by \$18,105.39; an increase is also evident in the Sabbath school offering, but not in the Birthday offering and Investment Fund. Tithe income increased as follows:

9 months, 1962	\$1,505,641.48
9 months, 1963	\$1,614,153.49

Increase \$ 108,512.01 or 7.20%

INDEBTEDNESS AND DEBT CONTROL

Debt Reduction is an item that has been on our agenda all the years I have served in the Division. We have tried hard to follow the outlined policy. In our budget distribution to the different Unions we have appropriated big amounts toward debt reduction, and we must continue to do our utmost to get rid of existing debts and see to it that no new debts are incurred. There are numerous problems in this connection; many schools have extended their teaching programmes and need more dormitories and housing for new personnel. Many of the old buildings are dilapidated and must be replaced or repaired, and some schools have gone ahead without counting the cost. Such things must not happen; we have to follow the programme as outlined in our policy. It has been stated again and again that we should "owe no man anything." We must emphasize that all operations should be conducted on available funds and no debts should be incurred except in emergencies, as provided for in our policy. I am afraid that during the year we have not been so successful in reducing indebtedness as we should have been.

APPROPRIATIONS

The total Appropriation Requests for 1964 amount to \$3,352,728.92, plus requests for Church Extension amounting to \$476,569.50, and that for Radio and Bible Correspondence Schools of \$57,000, making a grand total of \$3,886,298.42. We wish that we could meet all the increasing demands to cover ex-

panding costs of work in hand, new workers, new equipment, and new projects; but that is impossible, although the General Conference has been as generous as usual and we have tried to add from available funds in the Division all that we possibly can.

We want to express our gratitude to the General Conference for the ever-increasing appropriations which help us to build up our work throughout the whole Division field. Through the aid of the Million Dollar Offering, which is given back at 100% plus the usual appropriations for that purpose, we have given extra funds for evangelistic work.

EXTENDING INTO NEW FIELDS

In order to help our fields in Africa we have, for several years, added the increase received for Base Appropriations to the budgets. From the total appropriations, including both Base and Specials, the fields in Africa received 50% in 1962 and 59% in 1963. This, of course, included transportation, outfitting, and freight allowances.

Complete financial self-support should be the goal in all our Unions and Conferences, especially where the work has been developed over many years. But this does not seem easy to attain. We have still thousands of cities and towns which have not been touched by our workers in what we call the "home fields." We are still in great need of the Base Appropriations received for use in the fields in Europe. But great efforts should be made, and frequent appeals with regard to faithful tithe paying are needed, so that the Budget requirements of the various fields may be met and funds released from the Budget for the extension of the Message into unentered regions.

We have our work established in Ethiopia, in Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, and Nigeria, but there are big regions still unentered, for which we are responsible; e.g., Gambia, part of the Cameroons, Togoland, Upper Volta, Dahomey, French Somali Coast, and Somalia. The question is, How shall we finance such projects when our present budgets are so tight? Again I would like to refer to the servant of the Lord who says in *Testimonies*, Volume 3, pages 388 and 389: "He has given His people a plan

for raising sums sufficient to make the enterprise self-sustaining. God's plan in the tithing system is beautiful in its simplicity and equality. . . . Great objects are accomplished by this system. If one and all would accept it, each would be made a vigilant and faithful treasurer for God, and there would be *no want of means* with which to carry forward the great work of sounding the last message of warning to the world. *The treasury will be full if all adopt this system.*"

To educate our members into realizing this blessing seems to be a continuous process, but it would solve the problems we face in balancing the budgets, and enable us to enter new fields.



Delegates to the Departmental Council, Helsinki.

*Report of the Departmental Secretaries' Council, Helsinki, Finland,
November 19-24, 1963*

Dedicated to Service

By A. C. Vine

Secretary, Home Missionary and Sabbath School Departments, British Union

"We have heard nothing new here. We have talked in this same way during department secretaries' councils for years past," said one of the delegates at the Home Missionary and Missionary Volunteer secretaries' pre-council at Helsinki, in November.

That was not all he said, but this gambit was challengingly true.

Time-honoured clichés, new problems with a striking family likeness to the old ones, some new ideas, many expressions of dedication to "the task," and hopes for the days ahead, were expressed by the Home Missionary and Missionary Volunteer department secretaries during their memorable council.

We listened to presentations and discussions of various aspects and difficulties of our work. We were happy to meet one another, and talk about the work in our own areas. We spoke of equipment, of budgets, of methods of working, of administrative relationships, of soul-winning goals, and many other things.

There *were* some new secretaries at this council, but the *subjects*, hopes,

frustrations, and determinations, were old friends.

So was this secretaries' council a waste of time and means?

Not at all!

We came from Kirkenes and Tromsø, from Warsaw, Nottingham and Rejkjavik, from Debre Tabor and Amsterdam, and from Accra, Stocksund and Copenhagen to Helsinki to rekindle the God-given fire together—to gather strength from "togetherness." Men of many nations with one basic problem—ourselves—met again the challenge to consider what God by His Spirit can do through fully consecrated servants.

Highlights of the council were the addresses given by Elders Figuhr, Blake, Roenfelt, Foster, and Watson. Brother Foster's opening message was a standard-setter, indeed. He read the words of the twelve-year-old Jesus to His mother: "I must be about My Father's business." Brother Foster said that this must be *our* attitude at all times. Our Father's business requires devotion to the task, understanding of the task, a sense of

urgency, business acumen second to none, and a saving interest in the people around us. We must be about our Father's business, and nothing else.

Certainly, we must consider new ideas and use such as God can bless. Certainly, we shall meet barriers and problems. Certainly it is good to meet and discuss these. But surely the secret of success in God's work is still the same as it has been since time began. The one thing that does not change and the source of all strength, when all is said and done, is in prayer and work.

So we plan Laymen's Bible Schools, youth camps, training courses in many different lines of endeavours (and there were some very fine presentations on these at the council), but always realizing that basically the need is living contact with God and men.

There was one resolution passed at this council, and that was that we were God's men, and would be wholly His for service in the days to come, in whatever phase of His work He has called us to serve.

It was good to meet in council, and thus have more sharply etched the realization that we are all "links in a chain let down from heaven to save the lost."

And it was most heart-warming to experience the hospitality of our brethren and people in Finland. The arrangements for our accommodation and entertainment were immaculate, and earn for

Brother Pekka Peltonen a sincere "Thank you."

The meetings with our members in the two Helsinki churches (and who of us who were there will readily forget

the guitars and singing?) were times of rich fellowship.

May God bring fruitage to His glory out of the department secretaries' council at Helsinki.

Newbold College

Report by V. Norskov Olsen, *Principal*

WE are happy to report a record enrolment for the present College year of two hundred and thirty-two students all doing college work. This is an increase of about one hundred college students during the past three years. Enrolled in the four-year ministerial course leading to the B.A. degree in Theology we have eighty-nine students, and in our Bible Instructor course twenty-one. Thus close on half of the total student body is enrolled in a ministerial training programme. Furthermore, several ministerial workers are with us as "special" students in order to learn English and to take advanced Bible classes. This year we hope to have a graduating class of more than thirty. Twenty of these are candidates for the B.A. degree in Theology. Including this year's class about one hundred and ten will have received the B.A. during the eight years we have graduated students with the degree, in affiliation with Columbia Union College. That the graduating classes may be even larger in the future is indicated by the thirty second-year ministerial students all working toward the B.A. degree.

At this point I wish to express my personal appreciation and that of the College Board to Dr. Hirsch, and through him to Columbia Union College, for making this affiliation possible. It is a most unique experiment in the field of education.

Our Business and Secretarial courses are developing very well. The special course for foreigners continually draws many students to Newbold. Last summer we had one hundred and twenty students enrolled in our eight weeks' summer school. This enrolment has doubled during the past three years.

The young people come to Newbold in order to benefit from the fine Chris-

tian spirit which prevails, as well as from the teaching in the classroom. The reputation Newbold has is created by its consecrated and well-qualified staff of more than twenty full- and part-time teachers. Of these, five have Ph.D. degrees, two have B.D. and M.Th. degrees, and two will shortly complete their Ph.D. programmes. And what has been said about the teaching staff can also be said about the other employees.

A vital part of our ministerial training is the colporteur work. Last summer eighty-seven Newbold students were selling our literature and most of them did so, very successfully. During the school year, a number of students canvass on Sundays. The highest sale of any student

has been a little more than £9. The average Sunday sale is £4. 11s. 6d.

With a growing enrolment and increased fees, the question of a profitable industry should be studied. We believe in manual training as a part of Christian education. However, I am pleased to report that during the last few years, we have paid out more than £7,000 per year for student labour.

An increased enrolment creates new problems and demands. Our dining-hall is not able to accommodate the present student body. Next year we hope to accept fifteen more young men by making some alterations in one of the old buildings; then the dining-room problem will be acute. With a college and church community of about 400, a gymnasium also is greatly needed. We are all happy for the demands for expansion in our education work. It testifies to the fact that God and the youth are responding to our prayers that labourers should be sent into the harvest field.

The work within Northern Europe, with its large mission fields, was pioneered to a very large degree by students from Newbold. The work thus begun and now being carried on by alumni of Newbold will also, we trust, be finished by alumni of our senior college.

Newbold College

Business Manager's Report

By U. Rouhe

WE have all reason to thank God for the material progress experienced by Newbold College in the year that has passed. As can be verified from the summary of income and expenditure, the income and expenditure have increased respectively by £7,837 and £4,306 over the previous year, thus bringing the operating loss, without subsidies, to £22,575. 3s. 4d., which is £3,530. 11s. 8d. less than the year before.

With the substantial regular appropriations from the Division, we have been able to cover the operating loss, and also been able to show a small beginning to a well needed Operating Capital, al-

though it does not yet by far come to the authorised amount.

Some of the departments, especially the Rooms and the Garden, are still operating with a heavy loss and will be needing our special attention. However, our losses have not been as heavy as we had budgeted, and so we are able to report a gain of £4,233. 1s. 1d. and with some non-operating income included, an increase of £6,549. 14s. 8d. to the Regular Net Worth.

With continued efforts for collecting students' old debts and preventing new ones from accumulating, a difficult task, the amount of Student Debts has continued to recede, being now £1,147, having been in 1959 as high as £6,071.

During the year £6,515 worth of new equipment has been acquired, while at the same time we have depreciated the equipments account by £4,934, so that the residual value has not increased more than £1,581.

Home Missionary Department

By E. H. Foster

IN presenting this report, the writer is in the unusual position of having had no connection with the Division departmental work during the period under review, and furthermore the department has been without a regular secretary since Pastor Jordal left for Ethiopia. However, it speaks well for the thorough organization of my predecessor and the interest of the acting secretary, that in spite of the foregoing disadvantages it is possible to present a picture of progress in the purposes of the department during the past two and a half years; although under the circumstances this may not be as complete and informative as one would ideally wish it to be.

The interest and accuracy of Division departmental reports are to a large degree dependent upon the efficient co-operation of the Union and local secretaries. In a very special sense is this true of the present report. The writer, having had very limited first-hand knowledge of the progress of home missionary endeavours in the various fields, has had to rely almost entirely on the information supplied by the Union secretaries; and for their kind assistance in this respect, for their cordial welcome as a colleague in home missionary service, and for their anticipated whole-hearted co-operation, would express his sincere appreciation.

Before making brief reference to the statistics, let us present the following snapshots of home missionary service in the various Unions as provided by the departmental secretaries.

1. *British Union*.—During the past two years Pastor A. C. Vine reports that the laymen have been instrumental in bringing 643 persons to a decision for Christ and for the church. With seventy projectors, film-strip studies have been the chief medium of laymen evangelism. Five million pieces of literature have been distributed in Britain during the past two years. In the field of Welfare service many valuable contacts have been made with national societies such as the National Children's Home for the Physi-

cally Handicapped, the Prison Commissions, the Multiple Sclerosis Society, and many Old Folk's homes. The latest word on the 1963 Ingathering Campaign shows this year's collection to be the largest in the Union's history—£80,155 (\$224,434.00).

2. *Ethiopian Union*.—Pastor H. Palm reports that the great revivals witnessed in the south and west of Ethiopia in late years were mainly started through lay-evangelism, and the work is continuing to increase to a great extent because of the efforts of lay workers. "One man brought more than 60 people to be baptized in 1962; and another man started, and still is, working in a pure heathen district where we now have 450 baptized members. This lay worker was about sixteen years old when he started this work seven years ago, and even if he himself has not taught all these people he has been the pioneer, and has helped to win all these people from witchcraft and the worship of idols to become Adventists." During 1963 three lay workers' institutes have been held which, it is confidently believed, will increase the number of souls won.

3. *Finland Union*.—Here the Home Missionary Department has emphasized the Win-One Campaign. Pastor Pekka Peltonen stresses the need to teach the members to do personal work, and all workers have held special courses for the churchmembers. In connection with the Welfare work, Finland has inaugurated a home-collection for the needy. A collecting tin is placed in a prominent position in the home, and friends and members of the household are invited to deposit their loose change. This year the proceeds from this collection have been applied to needy students. "Forward fighting" is how Brother Peltonen sums up the endeavours of the laity in Finland.

4. *Netherlands Union*.—According to Brother Contant, enthusiasm and perseverance characterize the efforts of our Dutch lay members. Missions Extension and Ingathering are the biggest evange-

listic efforts to contact the people. Thousands and thousands of our papers are sold from house to house by members who go out evening after evening for several weeks. Twenty-seven souls were won by lay-members during the past year. There is an increase in mission contacts and Bible studies.

5. *Polish Union*.—The loyalty of the membership to the Cause is demonstrated not simply by their love of Christian fellowship, their appetite for the Word of God and their obvious joy in worship, but more specifically by the fact reported by Brother Lyko that forty per cent of the 600 accessions during the past two years have been through the work of the lay membership. The lay members are the evangelistic advertising media; they bring their friends and relatives to the services, and by friendly contact maintain their interest. During the past winter one layman won seven souls through projector evangelism.

6. *Swedish Union*.—The Ingathering Campaign has gone from strength to strength in Sweden during the period under review, and this Union holds the per capita record for the Division. The first Laymen's Bible School was held this year with forty-four in attendance. Brother Svenson also mentions the welfare activities to meet the needs of Finland and Ethiopia. 4,000 Kg. of clothing and bedding have been sent to the latter place.

7. *West African Union*.—According to Pastor M. T. Battle, emphasis has been laid on training institutes in West and North Nigeria, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. Nearly 200 church officers and members have received instruction at these institutes. A new series of tracts designed especially for the West African reader entitled "Your Bible Speaks" have been printed. "Forward with Greater Lay-Evangelism" is the central aim of the lay membership. They are looking forward to Elder Esteb's visit from the General Conference for a school of lay evangelism when 600 selected lay preachers are expected to attend from the three Nigerian missions.

8. *West Nordic Union*.—A heartening report comes from this Union. Pastor Wollan reports that "Education for Soul-Winning" has been the departmental

theme. During 1962 and a part of this year (1963) more than 100 home missionary courses have been conducted, and during the same period five large institutes have been held. Slide and tape home-evangelism has been a particular feature of home missionary endeavour. One hundred and twenty-five twenty-subject sets are circulating in the Union. Many of the lay members are holding public efforts using these aids. Ingathering is on the increase and it is hoped that this year will see the million Nkr. mark reached and passed. There is a spirit of courageous advance under the virile leadership of Pastor Wollan.

* * *

Nineteen-sixty-one was the banner year for souls won by the help of laymen. Significantly, the total missionary contacts and Bible studies were highest in that year. The law of averages prevails:

More contacts—more studies

More studies—more souls

We are glad to note the emphasis placed on *training* the laity for service. This aspect of the work needs constant attention, so that willing instruments may be sharpened for more efficient and effective soul-winning. In this connection the laymen's Bible Schools are making a worth-while contribution. These were pioneered in this Division five years ago by the West Nordic Union and have become annual gatherings in that field, in the British Union for the past four years, in Finland, and now in Sweden, where the first was successfully held this year. It would be good for each Union to plan for these schools to be conducted each year.

Nineteen sixty-one was the best of the years under review for the Missions Extension Offering.

Almost one and a quarter million dollars' worth of Welfare aid has been reported in the present period, but there is considerable scope for development in this sphere. The organization of more Welfare Federations and the establishing of further Welfare Centres would broaden the horizons and stimulate the efforts of the local units and ensure a much more effective service.

The Ingathering Campaign achievements show a wholesome upward trend,

Message to Our Believers from the Division Council

WE, the brethren of the Northern European Division assembled in Winter Council at Helsinki, send you greetings of fraternal fellowship in the Lord.

As we review the significant conditions of our world today, the conviction is deepened that the coming of our Lord is near, even at the door. Because of this conviction, we appeal to all our workers and believers in all our churches to prepare in heart and life to stand before Him in peace when the Lord appears.

Furthermore we urge our believers to assume their God-given responsibility to witness most earnestly for the faith. The apostle Paul reminds us that "we have this treasure." He is speaking of the treasure of Gospel truth. This we must share with our friends, our neighbours, and all men everywhere, in order that the Gospel may be preached to every creature.

Because of the ever-extending lines of our missionary endeavour, we urge all our believers to sustain the various projects and programme of the Church in the coming year. Our dedication to the Lord, and the task He has entrusted to us, must entail a vigorous promotion of Sabbath school mission offerings, Big Week, Ingathering, and

Annual Sacrifice. But above all, we invite our workers and members to work for the salvation of souls. We must unite our forces to advance the kingdom of our Lord in the hearts and minds of all men of goodwill.

We also appeal to all our members to maintain a proper observance of the Lord's Day. True Sabbath-keeping is an index of spiritual experience, and the Lord has promised that if we keep His day holy, we shall delight ourselves in the Lord and walk upon the high places of the earth.

Furthermore, we would remind our believers of the rich promises of God to all faithful tithe-payers. The treasury of the Lord must sustain the work of God in every land, and the Lord loves the cheerful giver. May we all enjoy God's assurance that His blessing rests upon those who honour the Lord with the first-fruits of their substance.

We are living in the time of the latter rain, and we call on all our people to ask of the Lord, rain in the time of the latter rain, that the Spirit of God may so fill us, that we shall be enabled to glorify our Father in heaven, and complete our work in all the world.

J. A. McMILLAN,
President, British Union.

keeping in line with the increased membership. There is, however, a need to watch carefully the percentage of membership participation, for this is the basic deciding factor in maintaining and increasing the results from this important annual campaign.

In conclusion we are reminded of a statement attributed to Dr. William Barclay which says: "There is enough Christian talk to reform a half-dozen worlds. The pity is that these mighty words are not followed by mighty acts."

So with reports. They can be just vain words and sterile statistics unless through their presentation we gain encourage-

ment from the successes of the past and experience from the failures, above all a renewed determination that the future shall eclipse all former efforts. In the membership of our churches lies a mighty unused potential for soul-winning advance. May the leadership throughout this Division have eyes to discern these possibilities and the urge to transmit to their workers the vision of a finished task through the closely united efforts of the ministry and the membership.

To the accomplishment of this purpose the Home Missionary Department of the Division dedicates its time, talent, and tools.

Missionary Volunteer Department

By C. D. Watson

WE are happy to present our report of progress and development in the Youth Department of the Northern European Division.

We have just completed a very successful leaders' convention in which plans have been made for the biggest evangelistic drive in our history. These will reach their climax in the Youth Congress to be held in Helsinki in 1965.

From our statistics you will notice that Iceland has the highest proportion of young people in relation to the total membership. We have one young person to every 1.57 of the membership. In visiting the churches in Iceland it is most encouraging to see how many young people attend the church meetings. This, of course, is largely due to the attention which has been paid to the needs of young people, and the splendid efforts which have been made not only to conserve our own youth but also to win other young people. Due emphasis has been paid to education and youth work, and now the harvest is being reaped in a young and active church membership.

In West Africa the proportion is one young person for every 2.24 of the membership. The West African Union has a tremendous territory. This in itself constitutes a problem in attempting to create a cohesive and united Youth Society. When you add to this the problems of language, and the various standards of living and education in this Union, you can see that Brother Henri has more than a human task in attempting to care for all the needs of the youth in his field. However, great strides have been made and greater ones are in embryo. Last year a series of Youth Congresses were conducted in Liberia, Ghana, and Nigeria. These were the first ventures of their kind. All who helped in the planning and execution of these meetings are to be congratulated, for they have established a good foundation on which similar gatherings can be planned. The great need in Africa is for trained local leadership, and plans have been laid to meet this.

From the West Nordic Union Brother Henning Jacobsen sends in a splendid report of the activities of the past two years. During this period twenty-two JMV Camps were held with a total attendance of 2,655. At least twenty-six special week-end gatherings or rallies were held for young people. Several of the MV Societies in the West Nordic Union have conducted public efforts which have been successful in leading souls to salvation and baptism. Plans are on foot to establish Pathfinder Clubs in every church possible, and arrangements are being made for closer contact with the isolated young people so that they too, can play their part. The West Nordic Union has a Youth Department membership of 4,480.

In the Swedish Union, Pastor Mandell has a heavy load of departmental responsibilities. During the past two years he has been working on a new MV Handbook. This has entailed a great amount of detailed work, but it is essential for a good foundation for MV activities, and will strengthen the work in the entire field. The camping programme has been vigorously promoted each summer and plans are being laid for youth evangelism during the coming year.

From Finland we present a very encouraging report. Pastor Pekka Peltonen has very enthusiastically undertaken his responsibility in caring for the youth of this Union, and as a result we are quite sure that the proportion of young people in this field will very quickly change. During the past three summers six different camps have been held each year, with as many as 250 in attendance. Each year a Union Youth Congress has been held which has been very well attended. Regular Youth Conventions have been conducted throughout the Union, and as a result hundreds of potential youth leaders are being trained in the various conferences. Young people take a very active part in the Ingathering work. At Toivonlinna £1,220 was collected. One boy aged nine sold 500 Ingathering magazines and raised over £100. Brother

Peltonen has been working on a new Handbook for Juniors, and other plans have been laid to strengthen greatly this department of our work. We are looking forward to the time when all our young people will be gathering at the Youth Congress which will be held in this beautiful city.

During the past thirteen years Pastor D. Vink has given a splendid lead to the MV Department in the Netherlands Union. At the recent Union Session it was recognized that the departmental activities have increased to such an extent that a division of responsibility is necessary. Pastor Karl Oossanen, therefore, has been appointed to take over the MV Department. We would like to express our appreciation to Brother Vink for the long years of tireless service which he has given to the Missionary Volunteers in the Netherlands Union. We believe, however, that the appointing of another departmental secretary will bring strength to all the departments so that even more attention can be given to the needs of the youth. During the few months that Brother Oossanen has been in office he has indicated that he has a very clear grasp of what is required in the department, and how to meet the growing needs of our young people. MV Leaders' Conventions have been arranged, and the response indicates that the Netherlands Union will go from strength to strength.

We are pleased to report from our observations, and reports received from the Polish Union how well our young people are maintaining their loyalty to the faith and are witnessing for the Lord. All who have visited Poland have expressed their pleasure in seeing so many young people attending church services and so active in the Lord's business. We are proud of this fine body of youth, and that the work is growing in this field.

From the British Union Pastor Kinman has a good report of the strengthening of the youth activities and introduction of many new interests for our young people. The strong camping programme has a definite spiritual emphasis. Each Missionary Volunteer Camp has become an evangelistic campaign in which we are reaping decisions for Christ among our own young people.

Among the Senior youth there has been introduced a number of variations on the camp theme—Motor Camps and educational tours; other projects are envisaged in the near future.

The spiritual needs of our young people and the intellectual problems which many of our youth face in schools and colleges have been recognized. To meet this need, week-end conventions, spiritual retreats, and study groups have been arranged. Sometimes these gatherings are to study the Bible or to discuss the problems of evolution, or other youth problems which face our young people today. Selected speakers from our schools and colleges and from the ministry have been chosen to lead out in these meetings, and they are proving to be a great source of blessing and inspiration for the youth, and a valuable contribution in holding our youth for the church.

Ethiopia has, unfortunately, been without a Missionary Volunteer Department Secretary for a number of years. This fact is sadly reflected in the figures which we give at the end of this report. However, I am pleased to report that the Ethiopian Union has appointed Brother Trunch Wolde-Selassie—a splendid young Ethiopian—to care for this department, and he has already done a great deal during the few months that he has been in office. The Union Committee is supporting him in every way possible, and Pastor Jordal, who has had a great deal of experience in the MV Department, is giving invaluable help and guidance to the MV projects. Already MV Leadership Conventions have been held, MV Camps have been conducted, and we believe that before long there will be a tremendous change in the figures which we can report from the Ethiopian Union. There are in our schools and in the college a wonderful group of young people, whom we hope we will be able to interest in MV activities and lead into full church membership.

In closing this report I would like to express my sincere appreciation to my MV Departmental colleagues in each of the Unions. We have a splendid group of men who are in charge of this work. Some of them are heavily laden with other responsibilities, and so find themselves frustrated by the many calls made on them. We would like to thank the

various Union Committees for their wonderful co-operation in the suggestions which we have made, and their kindly interest in the activities which we have promoted in the various fields. As MV Department Secretaries we pledge you

that we will, during the coming two years, do all that we possibly can to harness our young people's energies into active missionary work, and so make our contribution toward the finishing of the task which God has entrusted to us.

MEMBERSHIP RATIO, June 30, 1963

	Church Membership	MV Membership	Ratio
British Union	9986	2014	4:95
Ethiopian Union	6273	764	8:21
Finland Union	5363	700	7:66
Netherlands Union	2906	772	3:76
Polish Union	3802	1258	3:02
Swedish Union	3795	700	5:42
West African Union	29383	13098	2:24
West Nordic Union	9226	4480	2:05
Icelandic Conference	445	283	1:57

MV MEMBERSHIP

	1960	1961	1962	March 1963	June 1963
British Union	2017	1899	2014	2014	2014
Ethiopian Union	481	466	210	873	764
Finland Union	500	600	700	700	700
Netherlands Union	734	856	779	772	772
Polish Union	1163	1163	1163	1163	1258
Swedish Union	715	700	700	700	700
West African Union	13000	13882	14082	11719	13098
West Nordic Union	4048	4170	4429	4476	4480
Icelandic Conference	240	227	283	270	283

MV SOCIETIES

	1960	1961	1962	March 1963	June 1963
British Union	100	115	115	108	106
Ethiopian Union	7	8	6	10	9
Finland Union	17	19	19	19	19
Netherlands Union	26	29	34	34	34
Polish Union	52	52	52	52	52
Swedish Union	36	36	36	36	36
West African Union	373	409	416	397	437
West Nordic Union	114	112	118	124	124
Icelandic Conference	6	6	8	8	7

NUMBER OF YOUNG PEOPLE BAPTIZED

	1960	1961	1962
British Union	135	48	74
Ethiopian Union	60	93	15
Finland Union	13	55	24
Netherlands Union	29	52	52
Polish Union	—	—	—
Swedish Union	10	—	46
West African Union	655	691	344
West Nordic Union	37	63	5
Icelandic Conference	9	13	9

Sabbath School Department

By B. B. Beach

A GREATER SOUL-WINNING AGENCY

THERE are few statements that are more pregnant with meaning than the following declaration from the pen of inspiration: "The Sabbath school should be one of the greatest instrumentalities, and *the most effectual*, in bringing souls to Christ." (*Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, page 10.) The Sabbath school has often been called "our greatest single, evangelizing agency," and we in the Sabbath school department are more than convinced that no department of the church offers a greater soul-winning potential.

The Sabbath school is a builder of churches. It is the best-organized department of the Church, and certainly will pay dividends on a mass scale. We can say, without much fear of exaggeration, that the Sabbath school is one of the greatest religious institutions in the world today.

WIN-ONE CAMPAIGN

Since "the object of Sabbath school work should be the ingathering of souls" (Ibid., page 61), this department has not been satisfied to play the rôle of a "sleeping giant," but has given its full support to the Win-One Campaign launched throughout the Division territory in Stockholm three years ago. The Sabbath school department put a ten-fold programme of evangelism at the service of the Church. Some of these ten aspects have operated in high gear, while other phases are still on the launching pads of the various unions.

SABBATH SCHOOL CONVENTIONS AND WORKSHOPS

The highlight of departmental activity since we last met in full biennial council has been the Sabbath school conventions and workshops conducted in the various European unions during the spring of 1963. The fields have been unanimous in praising the good work done by Elder W. J. Harris and Mrs. L. Hardinge. While primordial emphasis was given to child evangelism, Branch Sabbath school evangelism was also strongly underlined,

and the Vacation Bible School plan presented. The delegates in attendance from the various churches were especially appreciative of the practical help on how to make teaching aids which was received during the all-day workshops.

In the British Union a number of week-end institutes have been held, and the demonstrations there given have awakened considerable interest in the Sabbath school work for children. In Iceland several workshops and institutes have also been held, resulting in marked improvements in both children and adult divisions.

TEACHER TRAINING COURSES

The film "No Vacant Chairs" and the accompanying film-strips and teaching manual, have been introduced in the various unions, with good results wherever they have been used. There is no question in our mind that teacher evangelism is the core of the Sabbath school, and therefore every effort exerted in improving our Sabbath school teaching staff is time well spent. In Finland alone, about 100 smaller training courses have been sponsored by the department.

NEW SABBATH SCHOOL PUBLICATIONS

In the Netherlands the "Successful Teaching" training course manual has been translated. The same course has been translated, mimeographed, and distributed in the West Nordic Union. In this same union since January, 1962, the Junior Sabbath school lesson has been provided in mimeographed form, and beginning for the first time in 1963 the Primary Lesson Helps are being provided.

In the Swedish union new materials have been put out for the children's divisions. Especially worthy of mention is the introduction of the Junior lessons two years ago. The already mentioned training course "Successful Teaching" was translated into Swedish.

MEMBERSHIP

During the past few years, there has been a rapid growth of Sabbath school membership. This is where our two

African Unions shine. Since the last biennial council our membership has passed the 100,000 mark and has now reached about 113,000. From December 31, 1960, to June 30, 1963, Church membership increased by 13.78%. Sabbath school membership by 13.94%. In 1960 Sabbath school membership was 158.5% of Church membership. June 30, 1963, it was 159% of Church membership. We are especially thankful for the 10,745 Sabbath school members who have been baptized during the past two and a half years. However, we know this is only a partial figure.

BRANCH SABBATH SCHOOLS AND VACATION BIBLE SCHOOLS

Certainly one of the most effective means to win souls is through the evangelistic outreach of Branch Sabbath schools. This is a field of fruitful activity which beckons us to increased action, especially in some fields where the full potential of Branch Sabbath school work has hardly been put to the test. All the more we are thankful for the exactly 400 Branch Sabbath schools and Bible Schools with a combined membership of 7,452 which were in operation at the beginning of 1963. Especially West Africa, Ethiopia, and Finland, and to a lesser extent, the West Nordic Union, have been active in this promising field of endeavour.

So far, the Vacation Bible school plan has not been tried in the Northern European Division. It is our hope that not one of our unions will fail to start at least one of these Holiday Bible schools in each of its conferences during the coming summer. There is hardly a better method for breaking down prejudice, creating good will, and gaining the confidence of the community.

LOYALTY TO MISSIONS

One of the distinguishing marks of the Advent Movement is its abiding loyalty to missions in all parts of the world. Through its four offerings the Sabbath school department has forged a bond uniting Seventh-day Adventists around the circle of the globe. The total Sabbath school offerings during 1961 and 1962 amounted to \$557,038.44. This is a wonderful increase of \$83,788.28 or 17.7% over the previous two years. We are truly thankful for the financial liberality of our members. On the other hand,

	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963 (June)
Sabbath School Membership ...	96082	99200	105960	113866	113029
No. of Sabbath Schools	1440	1429	1453	1516	1522
Total Sabbath School Offerings	\$224661.13	\$248589.03	\$270087.41	\$286961.03	\$137901.27
Regular S.S. Offerings	\$163089.11	\$181536.68	\$194795.56	\$206268.79	\$100805.09
Thirteenth S.S. Offering	\$58053.48	\$63523.13	\$67839.74	\$72303.68	\$33801.04
Birthday Thank Offerings	\$2920.30	\$2866.71	\$2714.38	\$4090.12	\$1784.66
Investment Offerings	\$598.24	\$662.46	\$4737.73	\$4289.44	\$1510.48

it should be pointed out that for some time there has been a small, but rather constant drop of Sabbath school offerings in relation to the tithe. In 1955 Sabbath school offerings amounted to 14.6% of the tithe. In 1962 the percentage was 13.06%. As we pointed out in our last report three years ago, if we really and literally doubled our efforts and Sabbath school offerings, then we would be giving to our world-wide mission programme approximately 3% of our income, and this is the goal the Sabbath school department is aiming at.

During the past three years we have tried to bring the attention of our fields to the tremendous financial and interest-awakening potential in the Investment offering. We are gratified that our voice is no longer a voice crying in the wilderness, and we hope that in the period ahead of us new and vigorous voices will lend their support to the growing Investment programme. Already there has been an increase of over 700% during the past two years.

We trust that all delegates will consider it a privilege and responsibility to carry back to their fields of labour the challenge of Sabbath school evangelism. Surely we are living in a time when we should expect great things from God and attempt great things for God.

During the past year, three Union Sabbath school secretaries, E. R. Warland, A. C. Schmutzler, and U. Hongisto have left the responsibilities of the Sabbath school department for other duties in the work. We want to take this opportunity to thank them, and with them their successors, our present co-workers, and the 1,500 Sabbath schools from Greenland to the equator, who made this report possible and are lifting Sabbath school evangelism to a higher level.

"No-one can labour in the Sabbath school work without reaping a bountiful harvest;" and "if there are now omens of good, they are only indications and beginning of what may be done."—*Counsels on Sabbath School Work*, pages 12, 9.

In many ways the situation we face as a denomination is parallel. The bridgehead has been established in the enemy land. We are becoming accepted as a denomination, but we are not finding that the work is becoming any easier. As wise generals in command of the situation, we must bring in new forces to weaken the enemy's defences in order to win new ground. The Public Relations Department has as its prime objective to correct the distorted impressions about the Seventh-day Adventist Church by presenting a true picture of our beliefs, actions, and objectives, and so prepare the ground for further advances.

In the West Nordic Union Pastor A. Lohne is also acting as Public Relations Secretary. Along with him there are one hundred local Press Secretaries who week by week are managing to secure column inches in hundreds of different newspapers. It has not been possible for us to get an accurate figure of the number of these, but as Pastor Lohne states in his report, these now need to be "measured in metres and not inches." The booklet *Who Are the Seventh-day Adventists?* has been printed in both Norwegian and Danish, and over 200,000 copies have been distributed during the past two years.

Personal contact with leading editors and authors has proved to be very successful. A correct picture is now being presented of Seventh-day Adventist work and activities, and friends have been made among men who influence public thinking.

News coverage has ranged over several subjects, one of the most prominent being the opening of new churches. National television reports were given on the opening of the new churches in Roskilde, Denmark, and Haugesund, Norway. During Pastor Lohne's visit to Greenland he was invited to speak over the national radio. His message was translated and he was given a full hour to describe the work of Seventh-day Adventists in various parts of the world.

"Dial-a-Prayer" has been introduced in Oslo and was so well patronised that the counting machine broke down!

Pastor Julius Gudmundsson sent a good report of Public Relations activities in the Icelandic Conference. Because of the very small population the Iceland figures

Public Relations Department

By C. D. Watson

TIMES and conditions have changed since the message was first preached in the lands of Northern Europe. Methods used to establish a foothold for the work are not proving effective in its expansion.

In war, the first troops into enemy territory are the commandos who are trained in the practice of total war. They go in, disguised, secretly, and often under the cover of darkness. Once a beach-

head has been established a new phase begins. New tactics are employed. Not only must battle continue with the enemy, but efforts made to change his point of view. The twisted and distorted ideas which he has (as a result of the false propaganda to which he has been subjected) must be corrected. This will not be accomplished by a gun or bomb, but by the process of re-education.

may not compare very favourably with larger figures which come in from bigger Unions in more populated areas, but those who have visited Iceland will know the very high respect which our denomination enjoys in this country. This has been accomplished through many articles which have appeared, totalling many hundreds of column inches, and through good public relations through the years. Regular radio broadcasts by Adventist ministers have also been making their impression. Cordial relationships with leaders of government and leaders of other denominations, indicate that the prejudice against Seventh-day Adventists has to a very large extent been overcome.

From the British Union Conference we have an inspiring report from Pastor V. H. Cooper, the Public Relations Secretary for the Union. Well over a hundred secretaries have been appointed in the various churches and institutions throughout the field. There have been so many articles printed during the past two years that it has been impossible to count them. For example, one secretary, a layman, was able to publish twenty-six articles in the two local newspapers during the third quarter of 1963.

One of the most successful ventures of the Public Relations Department has been the introduction of the "Dial-a-Prayer" programme in the Midlands. The immediate response from the public was fantastic. So much so that newspapers, television, and national dailies were covering the story. Twenty-five thousand people are estimated to have dialled during the first four weeks that the service came into operation. After the BBC television interviews with Pastor Benefield, the local pastor, and Pastor Cooper, the lines became so jammed that the machine broke down. The break-down was announced over the BBC and TV news. This brought in an even greater interest and thousands of people began to dial from all over the country.

Church exhibitions at county shows and fairs have become an established custom in the British Union. These exhibitions are proving to be a very successful means of contacting new interests and creating favourable impressions on the public about the activities of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. We believe that

the success which has come in favourable publicity by newspapers, television, and other news media in the British Isles, is simply the beginning of a crescendo, as more members and ministers realize how very important this departmental activity is in preparing the ground for the successful evangelization of the millions that live in the British Isles.

From Pekka Peltonen we have a very encouraging report of the Public Relations work in Finland. Twenty lay-workers have been appointed as Press Relations Secretaries, and many of our workers are interesting themselves in this work. Many have been successful in getting articles printed each month. We are pleased to report that in at least two of the newspapers in Finland there are published regular weekly articles of a devotional nature bringing spiritual help to the general public.

Reports from the mission fields are readily accepted by popular magazines. Several pages of articles have been published with news and information of the mission work of Seventh-day Adventists. One hundred thousand copies of the booklet *Who are Seventh-day Adventists?* are in the course of preparation for distribution throughout Finland in 1964.

Opportunities have been given for Seventh-day Adventist ministers to speak on the Finnish radio. On seven occasions during the past year Adventist ministers have been invited to conduct morning worship and on one occasion the divine service Sunday broadcast. These have been favourably received by the public, and many complimentary reports have been published in newspapers as a result. Because of this response from the public for Seventh-day Adventist sermons, the radio corporation has invited the church to prepare evening worships for transmission in the near future.

In the West African Union, Pastor M. T. Battle has been very busy trying to follow up the many openings which have presented themselves in the field of Public Relations. Newspapers, radio, and television stations are all very keen to receive news of the Adventist church activities, and excellent relationships are maintained with government officers and various departments of state.

From the Netherlands we are pleased to report that the official Press Depart-

ment which was reported in our last Council in Stockholm is continuing to disseminate news in the Netherlands. Various newspapers publish a weekly announcement regarding the Radio Luxembourg broadcast free of charge, and some give reports of the talk by Pastor Voorhuis. Last summer *Provinciale Zeeuwse Courant* published an article by Dr. Osteveld, one of our missionaries in the former Dutch Guinea.

The Netherlands Union was the first in our Division to begin a "Dial-a-Prayer" service. The result was overwhelming and as a result a whole network of stations have been opened in the Netherlands.

Plans are on foot for a wider participation throughout the Swedish Union, but we know that a number of men in this field are already actively engaged in excellent Public Relations activities.

There is a certain amount of reticence in some parts of the Division in encouraging laymen to act as Press Relations Secretaries either in local churches or institutions. From experience we would like to assure you that there is no reason to fear, for it has been proved that consecrated, capable laymen are usually much more successful than ministers and have the following advantages:

1. In journalistic ethics, for a leader to report his own speeches and the success of his own organization is suspect (especially when he is in competition with others, and ministers are so regarded). With most editors it is quite acceptable for a member of the congregation to act as reporter.
2. A layman is usually not subject to frequent moves, therefore continuity of contact is his advantage.
3. A layman can usually devote more time to this work, and finds great satisfaction in making his contribution to help the pastor.

In most cases we have found that a little kindly instruction, supervision, and encouragement by the pastor is all that is needed to launch a successful lay Press Secretary. We would, therefore, like to take this opportunity of urging our Conference Presidents and Committees to arrange for a local Press Relations Secretary to be appointed in every church and institution throughout the Division. We be-

(Continued on page 23.)

Publishing Department

By J. W. Nixon

"OUR publishing work was established by the direction of God, and under His special supervision. It was designed to accomplish a specific purpose."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 7, page 138.

What is that "specific purpose"? "The world is to receive the light of truth through the evangelizing agency of the word in our books and periodicals." "The press is a powerful instrumentality which God has ordained to be combined with the energies of the living preacher."—*Colporteur Ministry*, pages 145, 100.

Experience has demonstrated, moreover, that where there is a close tie-up between the publishing interests and the overall plan of evangelism, it has produced good soul-winning results, and brought real encouragement to the literature evangelist in his door to door work.

Indeed, when this plan is operated our colporteurs are among the most effective soul-winners, and this is possible because they contact personally more non-Adventist people than do any other workers in any other branch of denominational work.

A very conservative estimate shows that since the last Winter Council in 1960, our colporteurs have contacted over 5,000,000 people throughout this Division, mostly in their own homes.

These personal visits resulted in the sale of nearly \$3,000,000 worth of literature. Actual figures show that during the three years 1961, 1962, and for only nine months of 1963, we delivered \$2,869,412.63 worth of literature.

In comparing the four-year periods 1956-59 with the 1960-63 we find that deliveries have increased by just over \$1,000,000. This is based on an estimate that the last two months of 1963 will be equal to that of 1962.

Deliveries for 1956-59 — \$3,073,921.00
Deliveries for 1960-63 — \$4,093,098.00

Increase \$1,019,177.00

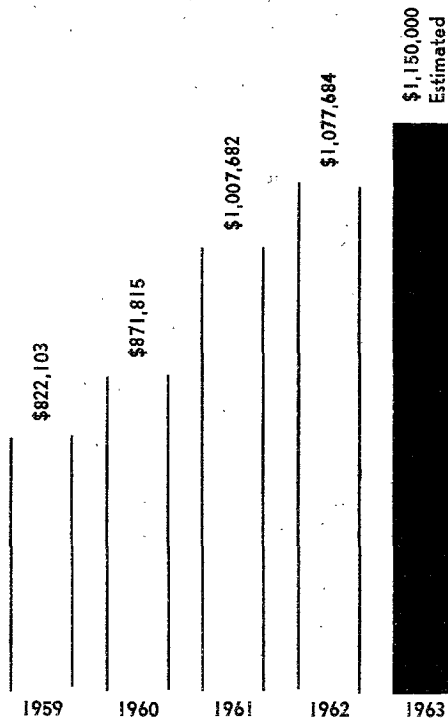
Sales for the two-year periods show a substantial growth—

1959-60 — \$1,693,919.03

1961-62 — \$2,085,366.76

Increase \$ 391,447.73

This graph shows the upward trend in sales for the past four years and an estimate for the present year, 1963.



Progressive figures for 1963 support this estimate as deliveries for January—September were \$784,045.87—an increase of \$74,131.18. Student literature evangelists have contributed very substantially to these impressive results.

The number of literature evangelists, just under 400, has remained about the same during the period under review. Our staff has not grown with the increase

in membership. This is disappointing and calls for enthusiastic recruiting by the whole church, workers and laity.

Many splendid and attractive new books have been published in the past three years, such as *Patriarchs and Prophets* in the Danish language; *Footprints of Jesus* in English, Swedish, Danish, and Icelandic. Norway has produced *Health and Happiness* and *Your Bible and You*. Finland has brought out a fine two-volume edition of *Great Controversy*. The Netherlands has also printed an abridged copy of *Great Controversy*. Several small books have also appeared on the publishing horizon.

An outstanding event of the period was the opening of "Kirjatoimi" the new Finnish Publishing House at Aitolathi. This is a splendid building, and a credit to Finland and the denomination. It reveals faith and foresight on the part of the Union Publishing Department, and is already demonstrating the wisdom of undertaking this heavy financial commitment.

Future plans include the publishing of *Great Controversy* in Norwegian by the Norwegian Publishing House and in English by The Stanborough Press. The Advent Press in West Africa is also working on their first major subscription book which will be an edition of *Your Bible and You*. When this book comes out, it will be a big step forward in West Africa's publishing work.

SPECIAL MISSIONARY WORK

In this area of activity, results have been impressive. During the three years 1960-62 the following results have been achieved. We call your attention to the overall accomplishments.

These are just the results that have been reported, but what of the impact which this literature is making on the lives of children, young people, and adults. Referring to our books, Dr. Holzschuk, a prominent judge of the Juvenile Court in Germany, made this

	1960	1961	1962	Total
Pieces of Literature Given Away	196652	91934	59233	347819
Number Enrolled in Bible Courses	3227	19155	10054	32436
Number of Homes in which Prayer was Offered	25843	10207	9856	45906
Bible Studies Given	3898	8779	5970	18647
Baptisms from Contacts	320	117	127	564

statement: "These books are like shining stars which lighten the background of our literature which is so materialistic. They are like guide-posts for parents, and educators especially for the youth. Every book is a precious jewel reflecting a glimpse of eternity. These books should be found in every home, in every library, in every factory, in the ministry, in the court library, in educational institutions, youth-arrest buildings, and prisons. If only a small part of all the thoughts written in them were put into practice a lot of our problems would never exist."

Our ten publishing houses are kept busy providing the necessary literature for this expanding programme. We thank God for His abundant blessing and for the faithfulness of the workers who have made it possible, the press employees

and managers, the literature evangelists and the Publishing Department Secretaries. Their combined efforts have accomplished these far-reaching achievements.

THE FUTURE

Looking forward to the closing days of this work, the servant of the Lord saw a great harvest of souls from the literature work. "More than one thousand will be converted in one day, most of whom will trace their first convictions to the reading of our publications." (*Colporteur Ministry*, page 151.) The greatest harvest of souls from this truth-carrying literature is still ahead of us; with this assurance we press forward regardless of obstacles and opposition, to meet the challenge of this stupendous hour.

Medical Department

By Dr. J. Ashford Hyde

THE Medical Department is the latest department of the Northern European Division to acquire a full-time Medical Secretary. For many years this department was carried by Dr. A. Andersen of Skodsborg, and following his retirement in 1956, it was absorbed into the work of the Secretary. During this time the department has grown until in 1963 with nine mission hospitals, six home based sanitariums, and three summer sanitariums, together with many clinics both privately and denominationally owned, the Division has the largest medical work of any Division outside of North America.

It has been my privilege during the past twelve months to visit all but two of the full-time sanitariums, and I am reporting here on what I have found.

HOME UNION SANITARIUMS

These sanitariums with the possible exception of the Stanboroughs Hydro are essentially physiotherapeutic institutions. Skodsborg Badesanatorium, the mother institution, largest of them all, and so fortunately situated by the seashore, remains today, as always, the standard by which others are judged. Well admini-

stered, staffed by dedicated doctors, physiotherapists, nurses, and other workers, it is a credit to the cause.

All of them are good representatives of traditional Adventist medical practice, and during the summer at least are filled to the doors with patients. Most of the sanitariums are completely full during the twelve month cycle.

With the exception of Skodsborg, the Home Union sanitariums have all had problems arising out of the introduction of free medical care. The Stanboroughs has had to develop its maternity and geriatric services, although there are signs that indicate that some of the geriatric beds may soon be taken over by a younger age group. The Scandinavian Sanitariums have established a *modus vivendi* with the National Health Services whereby certain types of cases, such as rheumatology and the more chronic internal diseases are referred to the sanitariums, and the Government Health or Insurance Schemes make a contribution on an agreed scale toward the costs of treatment. The patient pays the difference between contribution and medical charges.

In order to make the best economic

use of the sanitariums, it would be wise to increase their available beds wherever they are working to full capacity. This would minimize overheads, and at some of our sanitariums allow for essential modernization of the Physiotherapy Departments. These departments are the reason for our success, and indeed our very existence as a health oriented people has been historically associated with inspired counsel on the use of natural remedies.

It has been a pleasure, when visiting the sanitariums, to observe the good Christian spirit that is maintained. We operate medical institutions for two reasons: to bring healing to the body, and even more important, to bring healing to the soul.

In the midst of our many technical and financial cares, we must always remember our duties as Christians. I have seen the results of true practical Christianity in our sanitariums, in souls won to the Master.

MISSION HOSPITALS

In the African Unions medical problems are different. In the Home Unions our medical services are ancillary to those of the government, leaving us free to develop special interests and departments. In Africa, often the mission hospital provides the only medical care available to the people. Because of this, all departments have to be represented.

In Africa today, there is still much poverty, and to expect the hospitals to be economically viable without subsidies, places an intolerable burden on the patient and the administration. It usually results in "conveyor-belt" medicine, with lowering of professional standards. An illustration of this may be seen at one hospital where two doctors alone carried the medical and administrative load, and made it pay. Now the work has grown and the staff with it. The work now justifies the addition of specialists to the staff, but economically the hospital is much less sound than before. Increased difficulties in surgical operations too, cut down the income from \$60 per theatre hour to \$12. Except in a few very limited areas of Africa, increased proficiency and higher standards mean a greater rather than a lesser dependence on subsidies.

Capital needs go hand in hand with

operating needs. Many of our mission hospitals built in times of financial stringency as one or two doctor institutions, are in urgent need of replacement. Sun dried mud blocks are becoming termite infested.

The General Conference has been generous in making funds available for Addis Ababa, and to a lesser extent, Ife. With so many other calls, they have not been able to grant us the funds so urgently required. The hospital in Addis must be rebuilt owing to a re-zoning of land. His Imperial Majesty, the Emperor of Ethiopia, has generously donated the land. We must either get on, or get out. Ife Hospital must be modernized to make it attractive to the new upper classes of the Republic of Nigeria. The administration has done wonders with what it has, but they are the first to admit it is not enough. Ahoada needs \$50,000 to establish it as a denominationally owned hospital, an opportunity that may knock but once. Jengre needs about \$40,000 to provide its third ward, a home for its Director of Nursing Services, and a building for its economically paying Jos Clinic.

Probably the greatest headache of all to the Division has been the staffing of these institutions. Over the years a succession of doctors, nurses, and administrators, have gone out to Africa from our Home Unions. Let us never forget that but for the devoted skill and dedicated service of our brethren and sisters from the U.S.A., our African medical programme would never have been possible. Today, of the twenty doctors in the African hospitals of the Division, fifteen come from outside the territory of our Division, fourteen from the U.S.A. For supplying so many first class physicians, our thanks are due to the Secretarial and Medical Departments of the General Conference.

Here is a tremendous challenge for the youth of our Division. All our administrators, and most of our nurses come from within the Division, but there is an acute shortage here mainly of personnel skilled in training the national nurses and midwives.

LEPROSY WORK

I am very happy to be able to report that it appears likely that the Seventh-day Adventist Church is to be entrusted

STATISTICAL REPORT, 1961-1962

	Bed Capacity	In-patient Admissions	O.P.D. Visits
Ahoada County Hospital, Nigeria	30	1600*	28919
Ekebyholm Summer Sanitarium, Sweden	60	197	—
Empress Zauditu Hospital, Ethiopia	87	7924	69023
Gimble Hospital, Ethiopia	50	3202	7381
Haile Selassie Hospital, Ethiopia	26	2504	24144
Hopeaniemi Sanitarium, Finland	40	1200	—
Hultafors Sanitarium, Finland	140	3880	—
Iceland Summer Sanitarium, Iceland	60	672	—
Ile Ife Hospital, Nigeria	130	12322	299244
Jengre Hospital, Nigeria	36	2196	142886
Kwahu Hospital, Ghana	86	5738	142320
Nyhyttan Sanitarium, Sweden	118	2885	600
Skodsborg Sanitarium, Denmark	256	9054	16500
Skogli Sanitarium, Norway	85	2466	—
Stanboroughs Sanitarium, England	68	1363	2006
Taffari Makonnen Hospital, Ethiopia	35	1277	8395
Toivanlinna Summer Sanitarium, Finland	86	150+	—

* One year report only.

with the task of operating the Leprosarium at Masanga in Sierra Leone.

Sierra Leone has the heaviest concentration of lepers in the world, and Masanga is the only leprosarium available for approximately 200,000 lepers. It is also the training school in leprosy for Medical Officers, Dispensers, and Leprosy Control Officers.

The Leprosy Control Board has recommended to the Cabinet of Sierra Leone that we be asked to operate this leprosarium, choosing the Seventh-day Adventist Church in the face of strong pressure from another non-Protestant church. If this is approved, then a Seventh-day Adventist trained officer will be found in every town and village in Sierra Leone. What a wonderful opportunity for evangelically minded medical and nursing staff.

I would like to recall that Jengre in North Nigeria already is treating about 400 lepers, so that leprosy work is not new to the medical department of this Division. I wish that we could do more of this humanitarian work, bringing reprieve to the condemned, hope to the hopeless, life to the dying, and salvation to the lost.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Our message is not directed to teach men how to die, but rather how to live.

Dr. H. Lamp and others in Africa are using health education as a means to teach people a healthy way of life. Today the Home Unions are also taking up the challenge. In the British Union our lay physicians are working with the Temperance Secretaries on the "Five-Day

(Continued on page 23.)

Temperance Department

By C. D. Watson

In the early days of the preaching of the Adventist message, our Temperance principles were given a prominent place in preaching and Church activities. With the passing of the years it appears that this feature of our work receded into the background. During the past fifteen years the Temperance Department

has experienced a revival. While there are still some conferences and workers who are holding back in this work, we are pleased to report that in many parts of the Northern European Division territories the Temperance work has gone forward with leaps and bounds, and has brought many valuable contacts for our

denomination and has proved to be an entering wedge for witnessing and soul-winning work.

From the British Union we have a very encouraging report from Pastor B. F. Kinman who has pioneered in quite a number of new fields during the past two years. The British Temperance Society has exhibited in county shows and fairs. This has not only proved to be a valuable method of co-operating with other organizations, but has enabled us to get into contact with the indifferent masses on the subject of Temperance. Favourable impressions were given of our work, and from comments given by individuals who visited the stalls we recognize that a good impression was made. Invitations were received to lecture at schools, youth clubs, and other organizations, and clubs.

During the past twelve months, Pastor Kinman has been very active conducting "Five-Day Anti-Smoking" clinics in various parts of the British Isles. A tremendous amount of interest has been stirred up in national and local newspapers. Television coverage has been given and radio news announcements have mentioned the "Five-Day Anti-Smoking" clinics. Eighty per cent and more successes indicate that through this method we are able to offer help to the smoker to overcome his habit, which is away beyond any other organization's achievements. The British Temperance Society is becoming recognized throughout the country as the leading organization in this particular field, and there is a continual demand for about twenty-five films which are in constant loan from the British Temperance Society.

In collaboration with probation officers, the law courts, and a number of doctors and social workers, the British Temperance Society has been running a clinic in the New Gallery Centre twice a week, to help rehabilitate men who have serious personal problems as a result of drinking alcohol. Dr. Richardson, a Seventh-day Adventist physician of Watford, has rendered wonderful service in this clinic, and we are pleased to be able to report that all connected with the venture are very encouraged with the results that are now emerging. It is important for us to note that we have been advised by the messenger of the Lord that "in every city a place should be provided where the

slaves of evil habit may receive help to break the chains that bind them." (*The Ministry of Healing*, page 172; *Temperance*, page 127.) We would do well to experiment more in this field.

In the Netherlands Union, Pastor D. Vink has been in charge of the Temperance Department, and through the years has been able to build up considerable interest outside the denomination in our Temperance principles. Recently Pastor Vink has been relieved of a number of departmental responsibilities so is now able to devote more time to this growing department. Recently he applied to one of the government departments for material on the problem of alcoholism. They referred him to the B.O.T.A. which is the Seventh-day Adventist Temperance organization!

Pastor J. H. Woollan of the West Nordic Union has a very encouraging report. During the past two years more than 12,000 people in the West Nordic Union have seen the tobacco film. Now the new film "Verdict at 1.32" has been purchased, and will be used in a similar way. Eighteen large Temperance meetings have been conducted in co-operation with other Temperance organizations. Several of our pastors and laymen have been elected as members of important Temperance boards throughout the Union.

Each year the *Signs of the Times* prints a special Temperance number. Last year 48,000 copies of this magazine were sold in Norway. Plans are on foot for a number of regional meetings in the future which, it is hoped, will attract young people and help them to become aware of the dangers that they face in tobacco and alcohol addiction.

From the Icelandic Conference we have a report from Pastor Julius Gudmundsson. Large rallies have been arranged at the time of visits by Pastor Scully and Dr. Beaven. Very close co-operation has been enjoyed with other Temperance organizations in the island. The film "One in 20,000" has been shown, and is now being distributed on a country-wide scale for schools and Temperance meetings. Contacts which have been made through the Temperance Department are creating a very favourable impression among leading govern-

ment officials, education officers, and politicians.

In the Finnish Union, Pastor Pekka Peltonen has been experimenting with new ideas and methods very successfully. Large district meetings have been arranged where the principles of Temperance have been presented in a pleasing and interesting way with music and samples of food and drink being offered. Wholesale distribution of Temperance facts prepared in the format of newspapers is another method we can recommend.

Pastor J. H. Fridley reports that interest in the Temperance work is increasing in West Africa. Plans will soon be under way to re-activate all School Chapters and invite students in our schools to sign the Temperance Pledge. Latest figures show a subscription membership of about 2,300 in the Union and about 18,000 have signed the pledge. Pastor B. S. Christensen, Sierra Leone Mission President and Temperance Secretary, has been particularly active in Temperance work.

Four Temperance films "One in 20,000," "Cancer by the Carton," "Time Pulls the Trigger," and "Verdict at 1.32," are used in Liberia, Ghana, and Nigeria. Secondary Schools and Teacher Training Colleges welcome these films. During September, 1963, the Ghana Film Censorship Board passed censorship on all four without any editing. "One in 20,000" and "Cancer by the Carton" are restricted to adult audiences and Secondary School age children. Before the films went to the Censorship Board private showings were arranged with officials from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Welfare, School of Hygiene, Establishment Secretariate, and the Mayor of Accra represented the Accra City Municipal Council. All were favourably impressed so that when the Censorship Board was selected and the films censored, they were passed in spite of possible opposition from the growing alcohol and tobacco industries. One of the members of the Board, a State Attorney from the Justice Department, said after the viewing, "I'm not going to be a fool any more. I'm through. Here, take my cigarettes and matches. My wife will be happy now for

she's been trying to get me to stop for years."

We would like to thank the General Conference for the help they have given in this department, especially Elder Scharffenberg, Dr. Beaven, and Elder Scully.

In closing, here is a message from the president of the General Conference, Pastor R. R. Figuhr: "Adventists have long been champions of temperance. We not only believe in temperance for ourselves, and practise total abstinence, but we also hold that we have a responsibility to the world in warning everyone of the soul-and-body destroying effects of liquor and tobacco.

"To this task the Church is committed. For decades we have had the admonition of the Lord's messenger to proclaim temperance and assist this worthy cause in every legitimate way. This situation is so serious today that all must be enlisted in one way or another.

"Temperance is a part of our message. . . . It is, therefore, our duty to enlighten friends, neighbours, and all, placing before them the plain facts. Under the guidance of God, excellent, authoritative, and interesting material has been provided in printed form that should be given wide circulation. In many lands the temperance work is gaining momentum. **THIS WORK MUST GO ON.** It must be ever enlarging and ever reaching a greater number of people."

Called to Join Our Temperance Society.—"Temperance societies, and clubs have been formed among those who make no profession of the truth, while our people although far ahead of every other denomination in the land in principle and practical temperance have been slow to organize into temperance societies, and thus have failed to exert the influence they otherwise might."—*Letter 1*, 1882.

"The subject of temperance should be strongly and clearly presented. Let the people be shown what a blessing the practice of health principles will be to them. . . . One man should not try to do this work alone. Let several unite in such an effort."—*Manuscript 42*, 1905; *Evangelism*, pages 530, 531.

"I have heard some, when speaking in reference to temperance, say, 'I have not time. I have so much to do in preach-

ing here and there upon the third angel's message and the reasons of our faith, that I cannot take time to engage in the health and temperance work.' If these men would cut their sermons short by about one third, the people would receive more benefit from them, and they would then have time to speak upon this question."—*Review and Herald*, Feb. 14, 1888; *Temperance*, page 237.

A Part of the Third Angel's Message.—"Brethren and sisters, we want you to see the importance of this temperance question, and we want our workers to interest themselves in it, and to know that it is just as much connected with the third angel's message as the right arm is with the body. We ought to make advancement in this work."—*Review and Herald*, Feb. 14, 1888; *Temperance*, page 238.

Organize and Prepare for Effective Work.—"We need to work in the interests of temperance reform, and to make this question one of living interest. This is one way in which we may become fishers of men."—*Manuscript 99*, 1908; *Temperance*, page 252.

Our Place in the Forefront.—" . . . I feel distressed as I look upon our people and know that they are holding very loosely the temperance question. . . . We should be at the head in the temperance reform."—*Review and Herald*, Oct. 21, 1884; *Temperance*, page 233.

A Part of the Third Angel's Message.—"Every true reform has its place in the work of the third angel's message. Especially does the temperance reform demand our attention and support."—*Testimonies*, Vol. 6, page 110; *Temperance*, page 234.

Temperance Sermons in Every City Effort.—"In the advocacy of the cause of temperance, our efforts are to be multiplied. The subject of Christian temperance should find a place in our sermons in every city where we labour."—*Manuscript 61*, 1909; *Temperance*, page 239.

Educate, Educate, Educate.—"Ministers especially should become intelligent on this question. As shepherds of the flock, they will be held accountable for willing ignorance and disregard of nature's laws. . . . They should not ignore their

duty in this matter, nor be turned aside because some may call them extremists. At conventions, institutes, and other large and important meetings, instruction should be given upon health and temperance. Bring into service all the talent at command, and follow up the work with publications on the subject. 'Educate, educate, educate,' should be the watchword."—*Undated Manuscript 9*; *Temperance*, page 169.

Every Member Connected with the Temperance Association.—"From the light God has given me, every member among us should sign the pledge and be connected with the temperance association. . . .

"We should not work solely for our own people, but should bestow labour also upon noble minds outside of our ranks. We should be at the head in the temperance reform."—*Review and Herald*, Oct. 21, 1884; *Temperance*, page 220.

An Effective Entering Wedge.—"They will reason that if we have such sound ideas in regard to health and temperance, there must be something in our religious belief that is worth investigation."—*Evangelism*, page 514; *Temperance*, page 242.

Temperance Literature.—"We have a work to do along temperance lines besides that of speaking in public. We must present our principles in pamphlets and in our papers."—*Gospel Workers*, page 385.

Every Adventist to Circulate It.—"The temperance question is to receive decided support from God's people. . . . Literature bearing on this point is the helping hand of the Gospel, leading souls to search the Bible for a better understanding of the truth. . . . Every Sabbath-keeper should study and practise the instruction contained in our health periodicals and our health books. And they should do more than this: they should make earnest efforts to circulate these publications among their neighbours."—*Counsels on Health*, page 422; *Temperance*, page 249.

Schools of Health to Follow Public Meetings.—"There is a great work to be done in bringing the principles of health

reform to the notice of the people. Public meetings should be held to introduce the subject, and schools should be held in which those who are interested can be told more particularly . . . the need of total abstinence from all intoxicating liquor. Show the terrible harm that is wrought in the human system by the use of tobacco and alcohol."—*Evangelism*, page 534; *Temperance*, pages 239, 240.

Give First Attention to the Physical Condition.—"In every city a place should be provided where the slaves of evil habit may receive help to break the chains that bind them."—*The Ministry of Healing*, page 172; *Temperance*, page 127.

General Report of the Winter Council

(Continued from page 4.)

open the door to this ignorant Englishman who does not know that the buzz unlocks the door and means "Come in." Inside, there is a hive of activity. Two typewriters are going at full speed, a duplicator is turning out resolutions by the yard, and the ubiquitous Mr. Watson hovers around to collect the next pile of material and rush it to the council floor.

Back in the council chamber, the reports are flowing in. These reports, packed with statistics, are the bones of the council. "Membership in the Division increased by 14.39% in three years. Ethiopian membership up by 71.31% in the same period." What was that? Let me check my written copy of the report. Yes, that's right. 71.31%! A figure, just a percentage, but what a meaning. Just how many miles of travel did this take? How many foot-slogging miles, how many beatings, how many persecutions? How many times did the angels have to spread their protecting wings as these nearly three thousand souls groped their way from darkness to light? But just as light is breaking on our African fields, the darkness of materialism enwraps the population of Europe, until it is only by soaking the message in the oil of God's Spirit that any flame can be lit at all. Though the winning of souls is hard, those who are won are faithful: 93% of our mission offerings are contributed by the 50% of the membership found in Northern Europe.

So the reports and figures ebb and flow like the tides of the sea, showing progress, ever eroding away the cliffs of sin. Read these reports; they are not easy reading but they can be made to live, for they are the outlines of progress.

And so Friday comes. Nearly everything is completed. Plans, Policy and Finance Committees, Nominating Committee, Credentials and Licences Committee, all have reported. There remains just the Budget, but that will have to wait until Sunday. Appeals, urgent appeals, essential appeals, have come in. Not a tenth can be satisfied; the treasurers have stretched the funds beyond the limits, but many must go unhelpt. Many must wait to hear the Gospel; many schools cannot accept the scholars knocking at their doors; in mission lands more sick cannot be treated, led to Jesus. Small wonder, then, that treasurers are a harassed group.

But for the moment, the winter sun sinks toward the south, and the members meet in churches all about the city to worship God who giveth all, and whose stewards we are. In the morning the biting wind slaps you across the face as the sea begins to freeze. Walking to church we watch the mallards planing in to land on the ice or, in a little break, into the icy water. They seem to enjoy it. I wish I knew how! Elder Figuhr speaks at the Swedish church, Elder Elias at the Finnish church, and others scatter round the district so that God's people might be fed. In the afternoon three unions bring in their stories of needs and achievements, and Sabbath is soon over.

Sunday morning—the Budget!

What a wonderful report. Nearly three quarters of a million pounds. The actual figure—£735,659. 15s. 11d. Thank you, treasurers, for stretching the money so far, and thank you, faithful believers, for your generosity. These figures were possible because you increased your offerings this year, because you went out ingathering when you felt you needed to stay at home. But still, though there will be many who can be cared for now, for each one fed, nine must walk hungry away. What more could we do?

And so the council ends. Cold though

the weather had been, yet our hearts had been warmed. They were warmed by the fellowship of the brethren; the wonderful hospitality of the Finland Union—officers, workers, and members alike; but mostly by the love of God that shone into our hearts and made them glad.

Public Relations Department

(Continued from page 17.)

lieve that in this way we will multiply our outlets considerably without any expense.

We appreciated the excellent help and wise counsel which was given by Brother Weeks during his visit to each of the Home Unions shortly after the last Winter Council in Stockholm. We believe that the time is now ripe for conducting further conventions on a Union level which should be followed up by instruction sessions in every district throughout the conferences. Hundreds of Press Secretaries will be able to create goodwill for the Church and open many doors for Bible studies and evangelism.

"In these days . . . the opportunities for coming in contact with men and women of all classes and of many nationalities, are much greater than in the days of Israel. . . . God has wonderfully prepared the way. The agency of the printing press, with its manifold facilities, is at our command."—*Review and Herald*, January 25, 1906; *Evangelism*, page 702.

Let us grasp these wonderful facilities which are at our command.

Medical Department

(Continued from page 20.)

Plan to Stop Smoking" with good success. Our evangelists are utilizing the services of doctors and nurses to give health lectures. In Finland also I understand that medical/evangelistic teamwork is proving successful.

The medical workers of the Division stand shoulder to shoulder with our evangelists in the work of winning souls. This is what we are called to do. Soon the Master will come and the medical workers trust that they will be able to join educators, evangelists, and other helpers, in laying their sheaves at Jesus' feet.



Trial By Fire

OUR last issue, as was indicated on the message enclosed, was historic—a trophy from the fire which swept away, with almost unbelievable rapidity, a large portion of The Stanborough Press on Friday morning, January 3rd.

The B.B.C. reported that all was destroyed except the composing department, but, praise be, this was an exaggeration, due perhaps to a premature assessment of the damage. Actually the engraving, photo-litho, silk-screen, composing, and parts of the press-room and bindery departments still remain, but the dispatch department, the art department, the editorial department, the chapel, and the paper store were completely destroyed.

The accounts and circulation departments were charred and scorched, but just in time the savagery of the fire was stayed, and all the vital records were found to be intact.

"A lucky stop," the firemen called it. To the weeping, praying workers standing by, it was unquestionably the Hand of the Lord—a miracle.

The loss of the Editorial department was, of course, inestimable—priceless books, irreplaceable records, an extensive library of valuable pictures, a complete

file of everything the Press had ever printed since it began, to say nothing of what must have been the personal loss of the editors themselves.

The workers have shown a wonderful spirit of co-operation and self-sacrifice, working night and day to restore order among that which remains. Serviceable machinery is being quickly cleaned up and brought into use, and such as needed repair is having immediate attention. New machinery is already in process of installation to replace that which was destroyed. The whole worker force are determined that, to the limit of their resources, personal capability included, business will go on as usual, and working against tremendous odds they are accomplishing wonders.

In the interest of future issues of "Northern Light," however, we would be very grateful if our workers generally would come to our assistance in the rehabilitation of our picture files. Most of our pictures were housed in the files in the Editorial department. Hence they too, were destroyed. Any pictures, therefore, would be thankfully received—personal, mission headquarters, hospitals, publishing houses, schools, missionary en-

deavours—anything that is of mutual interest to our worker force, and which can be used on suitable occasions for the promotion of the work and our mutual responsibilities.

We are sure that the hand of the Lord is over His work, and await with joyful anticipation those beneficial results that ever attend any seeming calamity that the Lord allows to take place in the experience of His work or His people.

M.J.V.

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